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## Strasbourg's multi-agency P/CVE strategy

European Conference on  
Preventing Polarization & Violent Radicalisation  
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# EU Cities against Radicalisation

As of 2019 – bringing mayors to the table

Comprehensive support aiming at complementary actions to **organisations** such as Nordic Safe Cities, Strong Cities Network, Efus

Links **between cities** and between them and **EU/national level**

Shaping EU support to cities through conferences, workshops, study visits and counselling



## The importance of a city-based approach

In other words, what is P/CVE à la française?

- A new public policy
    - First national action plan, 2014
    - *Prevent to protect*, 2018
  - A centralized public policy
    - The role of the CIPDR and State agencies
  - A national strategy dominated by security
  - A public policy that (heavily) focuses on jihadist radicalisation
    - The *Stop Jihadism* campaign
- Can we approach P/CVE from a different angle?

## The P/CVE strategy of the City of Strasbourg

- The root causes or « breeding ground » of radicalisation and violent extremism
  - Focus on early, primary prevention
  - Address all forms of radicalisation and violent extremism
  
- Five-part action plan:
  1. Communication
  2. Training
  3. Mobilisation (the local networks)
  4. Detection and referral
  5. Action

## Setting up local prevention networks

- How can frontline practitioners contribute to P/CVE at a very local, neighbourhood level?
  - A decentralized, generalist approach
- Experiment 2017-2019 in three different areas, then expansion
  - Handbook published September 2020
- A wide range of partners
  - City services (social, education, sport, culture, prevention...), State agencies, schools, sport clubs, churches, CSOs...
- A flexible, capacity-building approach
  - How can local actors collectively better understand and better intervene in P/CVE issues at primary and (to some extent) secondary prevention levels?

## A step-by-step methodology

1. Collective training
    - The CPRLV's *Hexagon*
  2. Shared diagnosis
  3. Identification of priorities
  4. Definition of objectives
  5. Collective actions (existing or new)
  6. Information sharing
- Not a recipe but a flexible methodology: final result will vary depending on the context, the actors, the issues, etc.

## Lessons learned and points of attention

- Everybody agrees with the notion of partnership, but then everybody has a valid reason *not* to participate
- P/CVE is a sensitive, controversial subject
  - The social cohesion approach
  - The importance of trust
- Invest in training, with a focus on multi-actor cooperation
- Every team needs a leader: municipal service, youth centre...
- Articulate social cohesion, prevention, and security
- Be patient !
  - Dare to experiment, accept failures and setbacks

**Thank you for your attention !**

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