

Countering Violent Extremism in the European Union

<u>Title of course in Hungarian:</u>	Az erőszakos szélsőségek elleni fellépés az Európai Unióban
<u>Language of instruction:</u>	English
<u>Department:</u>	International Law
<u>Type of course:</u>	ERASMUS course
<u>Form of course:</u>	full time
<u>Level of programme:</u>	
<u>Number of lessons:</u>	2 hours/week
<u>Semester</u>	spring semester
<u>Credit point value:</u>	6 credits
<u>Code of course:</u>	
<u>Prior course(s) required:</u>	-
<u>Course supervisor:</u>	Dr. Krisztián Manzinger
<u>Lecturer(s):</u>	Hanga Horváth-Sántha

Course description, purpose of the course:

The course aims to develop an understanding of the violent extremist environments and the radicalisation process of individuals linked to these milieus in the Member States of the European Union, and the challenges they pose to European security. As lone actors remain the primary perpetrators of violent extremist attacks in the European Union, the course analyses the root causes of violent radicalisation and explains the new demands put on European states and the European Union (EU) in terms of preventing and countering violent extremism potentially leading to acts of terrorism. The course seeks to increase the understanding of the role of the online environment in facilitating the process of radicalisation, further it analyses the driving forces behind violent radicalisation, the extremist narratives and the contemporary tools of recruitment, and evaluates the balance between human rights and security measures. By outlining the current strand of extremist movements across the European Union willing to use violence as a tool in order to reach the societal change desired, the course aims to enhance the knowledge on the underlying ideologies, such as jihadist, far-right, left-wing and anarchist, ethno-nationalist and separatist and other types of violent extremism. Finally, it discusses current efforts on national as well as on European levels to prevent and counter the threat emanating from violent extremism.

Course outline, description of acquired knowledge, skills and competences:

1. Violent extremism and terrorism: an introduction
2. The radicalisation process
3. Threat assessment – what threat does violent extremism pose to European security?
4. Jihadist terrorism
5. Far-right extremism
6. Far-left and anarchist extremism
7. Ethno-nationalist and separatist extremism
8. Preventing violent extremism (PVE) – good practice
9. EU programming in the area of CVE

10. Deradicalisation and disengagement

11. Presentations

12. Presentations

Interim course requirement(s): attendance of classes, individual assignment (presentation)

Type of evaluation: exam evaluation / course performance evaluation

Method of evaluation: written / oral exam

Obligatory course materials:

Ranstorp, Magnus (ed.) (2010) Understanding Violent Radicalisation – Terrorist and Jihadist Movements in Europe, Routledge.

Material of lectures

Europol Terrorism Situation and Trend Report 2022

Recommended additional sources:

Koehler, D. A (2019) Threat from Within? Exploring the Link between the Extreme Right and the Military. Perspective, The International Centre for Counter-Terrorism, 7 October 2019 [available online]

Pantucci, Raffello (2011) What Have We Learned about Lone Wolves from Anders Behring Breivik? Perspectives on Terrorism, Volume 5, Issue 5-6, 2011 [available online]

van Dongen, Teun (2021) We Need to Talk About Left-Wing Extremism. Or Do We? The International Centre for Counter-Terrorism, 24 November 2021 [available online]

Petter Nesser, Anne Stenersen and Emilie Oftedal (2016) Jihadi Terrorism in Europe: The IS-Effect, Perspectives on Terrorism, Volume 10, Issue 6 [available online]