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Dear Reader,

Welcome to the RASMORAD P&P project's newsletter. We will provide you with a monthly issue on project's activities and reports. Please, feel free to disseminate contents, to share them with national and international stakeholders and to trigger benchmarking to underpin national policies on the topic.

## Workshop in BUCHAREST

on

## EXIT STRATEGIES Deradicalisation

On 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017, a Workshop took place in the Romanian Capital, where the Partners' representatives could exchange information and describe good practices in their Countries, with a focus on **deradicalisation**, **disengagement** and **exit strategies** from violent terrorism, both in Prison and Probation frameworks.

As an introduction of the Workshop, high Representatives of the Romanian Administration gave a wide overview of the Prison and Probation system in their Country, which has seen deep changes, since the promotion of new penitentiary laws and procedural code in 2014. Furthermore, they described the *National Strategy for social reintegration of imprisoned persons, 2015-2019*, an ambitious Government plan, involving different Departments and Ministries in a set of coordinated actions in favour of the prison population, concerning Health, Education and Training, Job policies, etc.



Picture: Massimo De Guidi

## Forthcoming Newsletter:

### Steering Committee Meeting and 3<sup>rd</sup> Workshop "Exit strategies and DERAD"

Bucharest,

12<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2017

The Bucharest Workshop will be an opportunity to learn and compare different experiences, some of them very advanced and scientifically supported, on Deradicalization programs, in prison and Probation systems of the Partner Countries.



... focus on ...

## Bucharest University - Contribution to the Workshop

### *Individual and Social factors*

#### *Scientific literature as a basis for Disengagement strategies*

Professor Adrian **Gorbanescu** from the Psychology Faculty, and professor Ioan **Durnescu** from the Sociology Faculty, described in their lectures two different and complementary approaches for the comprehension of the radicalization phenomenon, leading to possible strategies to encourage disengagement from violent behaviors and group dynamics.

Gorbanescu delivered a speech on the psychological mechanisms of behavioral change. He talked about the individual factors motivating radicalization and terrorism (identity crisis, relationship problems, personal characteristics). These can lead an individual to drop potentially healthy relationships – like family, friends, former social contexts, and replace them with a group identity that he may feel more satisfying.

Durnescu, from his sociological point of view, described the '*Life Cycle of Radicalization*' on the ground of Horgan theory (Becoming, Being, Leaving), and the social factors (push and pull factors), entailing a violent radicalization process. According to this theory, there is a phase in the Cycle, where it is more likely to intercept signals of a potential will of disengagement. It is necessary, at that point, to re-establish family and social links for the persons leaving the radicalization choice. In this pathway, the support of specialists is essential.

### The Steering Committee Meeting

The parallel Steering Committee Meeting (12<sup>th</sup> December) was an occasion to focus on the state of the art of the project, to plan the necessary future steps, and to answer some questions concerning organization and administration. During the meeting, the Committee was informed that Members of **the European Parliament had particularly appreciated Rasmorad P&P**, because of its wide, multi-agency approach, among the various projects on radicalisation prevention which are co-financed in Europe.

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