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Working for a Common Pilot Risk Assessment Tool

In the Report "*Common Methodology on Risk Assessment Strategy*", we can read – among much other information - a useful definition of a couple of important concepts, which we could consider as the elements of a two-steps procedure, aimed at detecting danger of violent radicalization in P&P contexts.

Let us see:

SCREENING versus RISK ASSESSMENT

Their objectives are not exactly the same, but they do not exclude each other, while they are complementary in a set of prevention tools.

The UNODC Handbook defines **risk assessment tools** as "*necessary to provide an estimate of the risk presented by an individual, its nature and degree of seriousness. This information assists decisions in order to best intervene with the individual in order to minimize risks and maximize the potential for positive change while responding to the individual needs of the inmate or the person on probation*". The objective is focused on the individual, his lacks and needs, and his potential to find a way out of violent behaviors.

On the other hand, the only goal of **screening tools** is to detect radicalized offenders among the inmates' or probationers' population. According to the Council of Europe Handbook, they "*require less time and training than comprehensive risk assessment protocols*". They can be used when a less formal risk assessment is required, and if necessary, following the results of the screening, a full-scale protocol of risk assessment can be undertaken as a second step.

In the following News Letters, we will focus on other issues in the Report.

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