

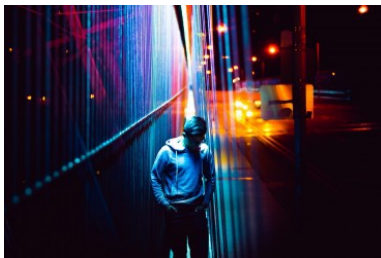


What HEADS-UP is about

Raising awareness of how radicalization happens for greater individual safety and country security

HEADS-UP will develop various educational tools and resources to inform and enlighten teachers and front line workers dealing with young adults in all educational settings and adults at risk of online threats and radicalisation.

What are the issues?



The internet is now the leading entertainment and research platform. Most people carry a smart phone and have access to tablets or laptops and, therefore,

have constant online access. Social media platforms are easy to use, free and fast, enabling individuals and organisations to reach into every home and to target their messages to millions.

This virtual cosmos provides unlimited opportunities for sexual predators, political and quasi-religious fanatics, and Internet trolls intent on grooming young people who are most often the primary target audience.

Extremist organisations have developed calculated and sophisticated strategies to radicalise, recruit and even train people through social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube and online gaming.

There is a perception that those at risk of radicalisation are vulnerable, poorly educated and disadvantaged young people but research has found that the demographics in relation to religion, age, sex, education and financial backgrounds vary.

What has been found is that many become radicalized in response to emotive messages and visuals and through frustration or outrage at

perceived injustice or inequality. Potential candidates for recruitment and radicalisation often make themselves known by 'liking' a particular post, donating to a cause, downloading information or even searching a particular topic.

Terrorist organisations are experts in engaging with these sympathisers by developing a relationship, often 'love bombing' the individual with positive and encouraging messages and fostering a sense of belonging and community.

Who will benefit?

These are all issues that front line educators and youth workers are expected to address with their target groups. Young adults need support in any type of education but the vast and ever developing online world poses many challenges and potential dangers.

How will we help?

HEADS-UP wants to build the skills of front line workers through in-service training and a series of simulated videos that explicitly demonstrate those online threats. This practical, user friendly set of resources will enable educators to support their target groups more effectively by teaching them how to identify and address potential radicalisation and grooming tactics.

What HEADS -UP will achieve

1. Production of simulation videos, tutor handbook and a series of on-line/off-line work-sheets
2. Production of the bespoke in-service training course-ware for front-line educators
3. Production of the induction training programme for parents
4. Creation of appropriate and accessible web based environments and media platforms
5. Implementation of in-service and induction training with front-line educators and parents
6. Pilot of the simulation resources developed with young people
7. Promotion and implementation of the resources we have developed

The HEADS-UP Partners: HEADS-UP is a consortium of 8 partners representing: United Kingdom, Ireland, Croatia, Cyprus, Spain, Czech Republic, Portugal and Finland



Erasmus+

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What has already happened

During a 2-day kick-off meeting in October 2017, the partners met in Lisbon, Portugal to get to know each other, discuss the project objectives and make plans. During the meeting the subject of how radicalisation happens in each partner country was shared resulting in some differences that were to be explored in the first activity which was to produce a 5 page report on radicalisation in their own country.

In January 2018, the partners met again in Rijeka, Croatia to review the results of their research and to identify the 12 tools that would be employed during the project. The outcome of what was a fruitful meeting was that there will be three target groups: young people, parents and older people (grandparents) as each of these are affected in different ways.



Tools and Topics

After a lengthy discussion, it was agreed that the most effective tools would be: Video; Audio (e.g. Podcasts, stories); Animation; Flyer; Pamphlet;

Comic; Infographic; Magazine; Workbook; Quiz. These are to be used where appropriate – comics work for younger people but magazines might be better for the older group.

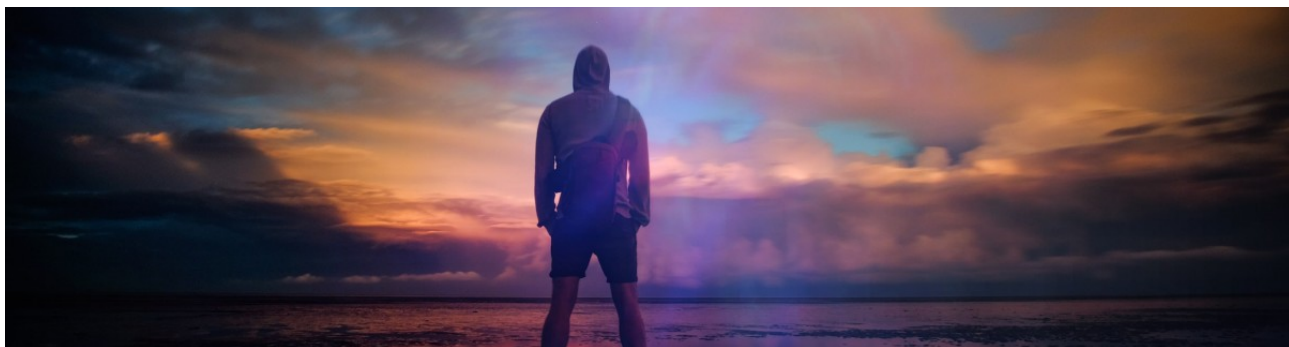
It was decided that the topics to be tackled are: Online Threats; Gaming; Social Media; Influence of vloggers.

Website and Facebook

The Finnish partner has set up a website which not only describes the project but will provide the resources that parents and educators will need once the project has developed. There is also a Facebook page which is being regularly updated with news and articles. Please visit [our Facebook page](#) and like us!

What's next?

We are starting to work with our Local Working Groups to understand how to reach our target audience. Our Irish partner is developing the first video about online threats based around what happened to one of their colleagues when she was researching the radicalisation subject. Thereafter, UK, Spain and Portugal will develop their videos on the the other topics.



How to get connected with HEADS-UP

If you would like to join the **stakeholder groups** please contact the partner in your home country or the coordinator for further information.

Visit our website: <https://heads-up.online/en/home/> and join our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/HeadsUp-435245653544091/>

