Conference "Resilient Cities: Countering Violent Extremism at Local Level"

City: Barcelona

Organisation responsible: CIDOB

Period/date: 9 June 2017

Activity: International experts discussion on how to implement effective programmes of counter-radicalization at local level.

CIDOB

Objectives

Analysing the terrorist threat in Europe, as well as the public policies designed to respond to the rise of violent extremism.

Presenting city experiences in preventing and countering violent extremism.

Description

The conference consisted of three blocks. In the first one, Diego Muro (University of St. Andrews, CIDOB), Rik Coolsaet (University of Ghent) and Bibi Van Ginkel (Clingendael) discussed the threat of violent extremism and the institutional responses in Europe.

In the second block, Toby Harris (House of Lords), Thorleif Link (Aarhus police), and Lorenzo Vidino (George Washington University) discussed best practices and evidence-based policies carried out at the local level. In the third one, Daniel Heinke (Bremen State Police) analysed the cities' tendency to develop coordinating institutions, while Daniel Koehler (Center for the Coordination of the Prevention Network against (Islamic) Extremism in Baden-Württemberg (KPEBW) presented tools to evaluate prevention programmes at the local level. Finally, Marije Meines (Radicalisation Awareness Network - RAN) discussed the building blocks of a European plan to counter radicalization and violent extremism.

Tim Wilson (Handa Centre for the Study of Terrorism and Political Violence at the University of St. Andrews) provided the concluding remarks on the role of cities in preventing violent extremism in urban environments.

Stakeholders and beneficiaries

CIDOB and the University of St. Andrews with the support of the Europe for Citizens programme. Open session.

OPEV PoA: **GOAL 9: Promote the adoption of local, regional and National Plans of Actions**
 (128) Advocate for the adoption of local, regional and national plans of action to prevent violent extremism and ensure that the process of definition and adoption will include multi- stakeholder spaces of debate, and the participation of civil society.
 critical research on the causes conducive to and drivers of ALL violent extremisms.