

EU-CoE HELP Radicalisation Prevention, Judicial Response to Terrorism & International Cooperation in Criminal Matters (HELP RP-TERR-ICCM)

Seminar I: 'Judicial Response to Terrorism' and Cross-border launch of the HELP course on Radicalisation Prevention

Barcelona, 21 & 22 September 2020

Concept note

Date	21-22 September 2020
Location	Spanish Judicial School, Barcelona, Spain
Language	English
Participation	Judges & Prosecutors from EU Member States (participation is covered by the project)
Registration	Through National Training Institution

The [Council of Europe \(CoE\) Programme for Human Rights Education for Legal Professionals \(HELP\)](#) aims at supporting CoE Member States in implementing European human rights standards (CoE and EU) at national level, by raising the capacities of legal professionals to apply those instruments in their daily work.

HELP's objective is to provide high quality education on human rights to judges, prosecutors lawyers and other professionals through online courses that allow legal professionals to better apply and keep up to date with the ever-evolving CoE and EU standards and case-law.

Background and Rationale

Cross-border crime, risks to public security and the rise of radicalisation leading to violent extremism and terrorism in the EU Member States (MS) continue to occur, alongside violations of fundamental rights. The EU's increasingly open area of free movement could be abused by criminals (including terrorists) to pursue their objectives. The criminal justice response to these phenomena must be enhanced.

The EU and CoE work together in the area of criminal matters. Considering the global nature of cross-border crime, an effective response to such a challenge, while respecting human rights and allowing citizens to live in an area of freedom, security and justice, requires intense international cooperation. In this regard, it is essential to improve the coordination of investigations and prosecutions and the cooperation between the competent authorities in the MS, particularly by facilitating the execution of international mutual legal assistance requests and the implementation of extradition requests.

The Project

The HELP Project '**Radicalisation Prevention, Judicial Response to Terrorism & International Cooperation in Criminal Matters**' (HELP RP-TERR-ICCM) is funded by the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe through its HELP Programme **in partnership with the Confederation of European Probation (CEP)**.

The project's main objective is to improve justice cooperation in criminal matters and to contribute to the effective and coherent application of related European instruments through increasing capacities and mutual trust of justice practitioners. The emphasis is on transnational cooperation and the following priorities: mutual recognition of instruments; judicial responses to terrorism, notably on reinforcing the prevention of radicalisation, especially in prisons; issues related to pre-trial detention, in particular raising awareness of case law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR); the functioning of European and other international Treaties/legal instruments on international co-operation in criminal matters.

This project supports EU criminal justice systems via (i) the development and implementation in targeted EU countries of a series of cross-border seminars and ii) a high-level conference promoting mutual learning. These events will provide a **unique opportunity for justice professionals to exchange experiences and best practices with a multi-agency and transnational approach**.

Description of the Activity

This cross-border seminar is the first of a series of five to be organised under the Project (jointly by the CoE and the CEP), aiming at **mutual learning, exchange of good practices and cooperation**. It will focus on **Judicial Response to Terrorism** and will include the launch of the HELP course on Radicalisation Prevention.

The Seminar will be held in the premises of the Spanish Judicial School in Barcelona on **21-22 September 2020** and will gather approximately 80 international participants (judges, prosecutors and other experts in the field of counterterrorism) who will share information, views and best practices on the topic. The event will combine presentations and exchanges on content with an introduction to the HELP platform and to the course.

The HELP course on Radicalisation Prevention is open to judges and prosecutors, who will follow it with the assistance of a tutor, and includes 4 compulsory modules for judges and prosecutors:

- Module 1: Introduction -overview and concepts.
- Module 2: The International and European Legal Framework.
- Module 3: Concerning issues related to criminal procedure.

- Module 4: Gathering and use of evidence in counter-terrorism cases¹

It also includes supplementary modules focused on prison, probation and managing foreign national prisoners, for general information.

Organisational details

Selection of participants is done by the National Institution.

Attendance of participants to the seminar is covered by the HELP Programme, under the RP-TERR-ICCM Project.

Please find attached the draft agenda for your information (*please note that this may be subject to change*).

For further information, please contact the Project Coordinator, Eva Massa Arranz: eva.massa-arranz@coe.int

¹ Please note that some institutions may have an interest in this module as a stand-alone course however, being part of the HELP Radicalisation Prevention course, we offer it as such to allow participants to benefit from the full course.