Spotlight on Police and Law Enforcement

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On 15 May 2023, the European Commission has published the RAN Practitioners Spotlight magazine on the importance of Police and Law Enforcement in preventing and countering violent extremism (P/CVE).

The magazine consists of a series of articles and an interview that address the role of police and law enforcement in preventing and countering violent extremism. The publication deals with the preventive role of services and the possibility of involving local communities in preventive activities and responding to manifestations of radicalisation, which could provide important support for police action. In addition, the issue of the legitimacy of adjusting the personnel structure of the services and the creation of positions for officers operating online in order to counteract threats in the Internet space is raised. The magazine points out the dangers associated with the growing role of digital technologies, which can be a carrier of extremist content and lead to radicalisation, in

particular of young people, who are the main recipients of the Internet. At the same time, the functioning of the web portal 'Check the Web' was raised, which, in the context of revealing symptoms of radicalisation, makes it possible to identify new sources, groups, threats or trends. The aim of the portal is to increase Member States' general knowledge of the Modus Operandi of terrorists operating online, spreading propaganda and countering online terrorism. In addition, the publication also sheds light on the RAN Police and Law Enforcement - RAN POL working group, explores how the police can work online, discusses what the rise of anti-government/anti-system extremism means and considers how to deal with violent protests.

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