



## Upcoming Activities\*

**23-25** Role of Families  
**MAY MAY** in P/CVE Expert  
UAE Workshop

**31-3** National  
**MAY JUN** Assessment Visit  
TUNISIA

*\*Dates subject to change or cancellation.  
Kindly email us at [info@hedayah.ae](mailto:info@hedayah.ae).*

# Hedayah E-Newsletter

## Updates

- **Counter Narratives Compendium for Southeast Asia**  
Read the recent report on the “Counter Narratives for Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) in Southeast Asia” produced as one of the outcomes of the “[Expert Workshop on Southeast Asia Collection of Counter-Narratives for CVE](#)”. [Click here to view.](#)
- **Expert Workshop on “The Role of Families in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism”**  
From 23-25 May 2016, Hedayah will host an expert workshop on “The Role of Families in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism” in Abu Dhabi, UAE. The meeting will be held under the auspices of the GCTF’s Initiative to Address the Life Cycle of Radicalization to Violence. The aims of this workshop are to identify good practices and lessons learned on the role of families in CVE, to catalogue specific programmatic approaches to empowering families and to create practitioner resources.

## Activities

### Hedayah and IIJ Capacity Building on Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters (RFTF)

From 9-13 May 2016, Hedayah and the International Institute of Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ) convened a strategic meeting in Valetta, Malta. The meeting brought together relevant experts and authorities and served as a platform to design the joint program for Kosovo.

### Hedayah and the Global Center Workshop on National CVE Strategy for Somalia

From 3-6 May 2016, Hedayah and the Global Center for Cooperative Security met with senior officials from the Somali Government in early May. The interactive workshop in Djibouti included the introductory work for the drafting of the National CVE Strategy for Somalia as part of the EU-funded Blueprint Somalia Program. This is the latest of many activities in Hedayah and the Global Center’s PCVE National Action Plans Program, with plans in place to expand this work to a number of other partner countries.





## **Hedayah and UNODC organize International Conference on “Preventing and countering radicalization and violent extremism as related to the Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF) threat”**

From 26-28 April 2016, Hedayah and UNODC co-hosted an international conference on “Preventing and countering radicalization and violent extremism as related to the Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTF) threat”. The conference brought together senior officials from the GCC and neighboring countries.

Participants discussed strengthening national and regional capacity to prevent radicalization to violent extremism, both from a criminal justice and CVE perspective, and presented the challenges and lessons learned in their different country contexts. Topics discussed included developing national strategies, challenges in investigating and prosecuting violent extremism, the misuse of the internet as a tool for radicalization, reinforcing international cooperation in criminal matters, the importance of civil society and countering radicalization to violence in prison settings.

## **Hedayah participates in Security Jam 2016**

On 25 April 2016, Hedayah hosted a live-chat on Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) during the Security Jam 2016, an online brainstorm organized by Friends of Europe. The brainstorm gathered several thousand participants from various sectors, including government officials, NGOs and academia to discuss pressing security challenges.

Hedayah’s live-chat focused on how to best design preventive programs to reduce the global phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters. The chat will feed into the final report to be presented to EU and NATO leadership to inform the EU’s new Global Strategy and the Warsaw Summit.

## **Hedayah and the IIJ Returning Terrorist Fighters (RFTFs) Joint Program**

From 4-8 April 2016, Hedayah and the International Institute for Justice and the Rule of Law (IIJ) organized a set of meetings for the first phase of the Returning Terrorist Fighters (RFTFs) joint program in Pristina, Kosovo.

Hedayah and the IIJ representatives met with a variety of government stakeholders and international organizations to collect information on existing efforts focused on reintegrating returnees into communities. The discussions were particularly helpful to grasp the current security situation and to discuss their specific needs and priorities in preparation of the program development. Hedayah and the IIJ are keen to further work on the program and will continue to foster the initiative in the next months.





## Outreach

### **Hedayah presents at the “Constructions of Terrorism: Confronting the Challenges to Global Security Created by Daesh/Islamic State”**

On 28 April 2016, Hedayah presented in the “Constructions of Terrorism: Confronting the Challenges to Global Security Created by Daesh/Islamic State” conference organized by TRENDS Research and Advisory, the Orfalea Center for Global and International Studies of University of California and the Stimson Center in Washington D.C., U.S.A.

The conference is the second one held within the [Constructions of Terrorism Project](#). The conference brought together leading researchers, analysts, and policy makers to discuss the challenges posed by violent extremist groups and ways to formulate concrete responses against the threat.

Ms. Sara Zeiger, Hedayah Senior Research Analyst, was a panelist on the topic of “Female migrants, Daesh and countering violent extremism (CVE) response”. She highlighted key good practices and lessons learned from existing programs and policies related to the role of women in countering terrorism and violent extremism. She focused on areas of intervention around counter-narratives and programs targeted towards women as potential recruits and potential preventers of violent extremism.

### **Hedayah participates in GCTF CVE Working Group Plenary Meeting**

From 13-14 April 2016, Hedayah took part in the “GCTF Countering Violent Extremism Working Group Plenary Meeting” in The Hague, The Netherlands. Mr. Ivo Veenkamp, Hedayah Deputy Executive Director, and Mr. Patrick Lynch, Hedayah Director of Capacity Building Programs presented the ongoing programs, initiatives and strategic priorities of Hedayah.

Hedayah and the Global Center for Cooperative Security made a joint presentation on CVE National Strategies. They reflected on the recent UN Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, which calls for countries to develop these comprehensive responses. The presentation also showcased the Hedayah Guidelines and Good Practices Document on CVE National Strategies and updated participants on the expanding global program that both organizations are running on this theme.

### **Hedayah presents at the Ninth GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting**

From 12-13 April 2016, Hedayah provided its updates to the ninth “GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting” held in the Hague, The Netherlands. The meeting provided an opportunity for the assessment of the Forum and its Working Groups activities, provide updates on





newly launched initiatives, in addition to marking the transfer of the co-chairmanship of the Republic of Turkey to the Kingdom of Morocco. Mr. Ivo Veenkamp, Hedayah Deputy Executive Director, presented an overview of Hedayah's accomplishments since the previous eighth "GCTF Coordinating Committee Meeting" in 2015 and its upcoming activities and programs.

### **Hedayah intervenes at the "PVE – The Way Forward" Conference**

From 7-8 April 2016, Hedayah participated in the "Preventing Violent Extremism (PVE) – The Way Forward" high-level conference, co-organized by the Government of Switzerland and the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland. The conference brought together senior officials of governments, the UN, international and regional organizations and provided a platform for them to share experiences in addressing the drivers of violent extremism and to comment on the UN Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism.

Mr. Maqsoud Kruse, Hedayah Executive Director, gave an intervention on the topic of "Priorities for National PVE Plans of Action". He highlighted the prominent role of Hedayah in supporting the development and implementation of National CVE Action Plans and the different Hedayah activities to advance our understanding of violent extremism and our capacity to counter it. [Watch full intervention here.](#)

