



## Researching radicalisation and violent extremism in times of Covid-19

### Online seminar held on 27 November 2020

On 27 November 2020, the CONNEKT project organized an online seminar on researching radicalisation and violent extremism, with the participation of external actors, experts and policy-makers.

This seminar was entitled *Researching radicalization and violent extremism in times of Covid-19*, and was held under Chatham House rule. Over 60 participants attended the event, where the theoretical and conceptual framework of the project was discussed. Three parallel sessions were organized, to examine how to research, from the macro, meso and micro perspectives, the seven potential drivers of radicalisation and violent extremism, in the eight MENA and Balkan countries analysed by the project.

A fourth parallel session was dedicated to prevention at the local scale. The project sees the local setting as the ideal scenario for the development of prevention initiatives, as social life is articulated in the context of a community. It is therefore at this level that interventions materialize, involving both institutions and social groups.

The event also addressed, in a final policy roundtable, how the CONNEKT project could better serve the European Union's challenges concerning the prevention and countering of violent extremism.

The seminar was the opportunity to gather and examine very useful experiences and insights, in order to ask the right questions needed to direct the project's research, by taking into account current knowledge, new or unexpected developments, as well as the main gaps, concerns and needs.