

Assessing Risk of Violent Radicalization: The ERIS and the WRAW²

Risk for violent radicalization is an actual concern in nowadays society. The aim of this workshop is to learn to use research based, objective tools useful to better estimate the risk of violence with young adults and adolescents who increasingly become entrenched in radical thoughts and begin to see violence as a reasonable means to achieve their goals. The participants will familiarize themselves with two risk assessment tools, the Extremist Risk Intervention Scale (ERIS) and the Violence Risk Assessment of Written Word (WRAW²).

The ERIS is a practical scoring tool useful for objectively and comprehensively assessing a person who appears potentially in risk for extremist and terrorist violence, and guiding intervention planning in such situations.

The way to identifying risk individuals often starts in observing hints to violent ideation in written communications such as social media postings and fiction. The Violence Risk Assessment of Written Word (WRAW²) is a method for assessing the level of threat in written communication.

Learning Objectives

- Participants will review risk factors as they relate to a radicalized individual transitioning to violent, extremist action.
- Participants will review protective factors as they relate to mitigating an individual's transition to violence.
- Participants will review mobilization factors that increase the likelihood of activation.
- Participants will review the aspects of written communications that suggest increasing risk of actualizing the threat expressed
- Participants will review and discuss the scoring of the risk, protective and mobilization factors
- Participants will explore how results of assessments should be used to guide interventions.