



e-Zine #5

13.12.2023



This project is co-funded by the European Commission's Internal Security Fund – Police (ISFP) (GA no. 101035878)

Table of Contents

03	MIRAD
04	The Updated IRS Tool
06	How Does It Work?
07	What is the IRS for?
08	Main Findings and Conclusions & Recommended Next Steps



MIRAD

Multi-Ideological Radicalisation Assessment Towards Disengagement

MIRAD's main goal is to foster expanded collaboration in the field of disengagement and reintegration programmes between governmental bodies and trustworthy community organisations. As project partners work together to attain this goal, they updated the Individual Radicalisation Screening (IRS) tool to reflect the role of ideology, specifically Islamist Extremism and Right-Wing Extremism, as well as making it more gender responsive.



The Updated IRS Tool

The Individual Radicalisation Screening (IRS) is a crucial element within the Radicalisation Risk Assessment in Prisons toolset (RRAP), a comprehensive collection of instruments designed to conduct a thorough assessment of individuals' vulnerabilities and risk of radicalisation.

The IRS is specifically tailored to the individual level, focusing on the assessment of one's beliefs, attitudes, behaviours, emotions and cognitions. The focus is to identify individuals who may be vulnerable to radicalisation.

MIRAD has updated the IRS to reflect the role of ideology, considering both Islamist Extremism and Right-Wing Extremism. Additionally, the tool has been made gender-responsive, allowing it to be used during the rehabilitative process.



Two expert boards, one focused on Islamist Extremism and one focused on Right-Wing Extremism, proposed ideology specific vulnerability factors (48 for IE and 42 for RW) and protective factors. The dimensions were similar but also unique. These contributed to a final score with three levels of vulnerability.



How Does It Work

The IRS utilises a 5-point Likert-type scale to evaluate dimensions spanning from pre-radicalisation to self-identification, indoctrination, and militancy phases. These dimensions



encompass a wide range of items contributing to an individual's vulnerability to radicalisation.

Trained technicians conduct the assessment and reference a coding and conversion sheet, which subsequently determines the level of vulnerability using a color-coded scale, either by dimension or by the phase of radicalisation.

The tool also includes a list of rehabilitation challenges (particularly relevant if the individual is engaged in a rehabilitation programme) and identifies protective factors.



This comprehensive approach provides a nuanced understanding of the individual's journey through different phases of radicalization, aiding in the development of targeted interventions and support strategies.

What is the IRS for?

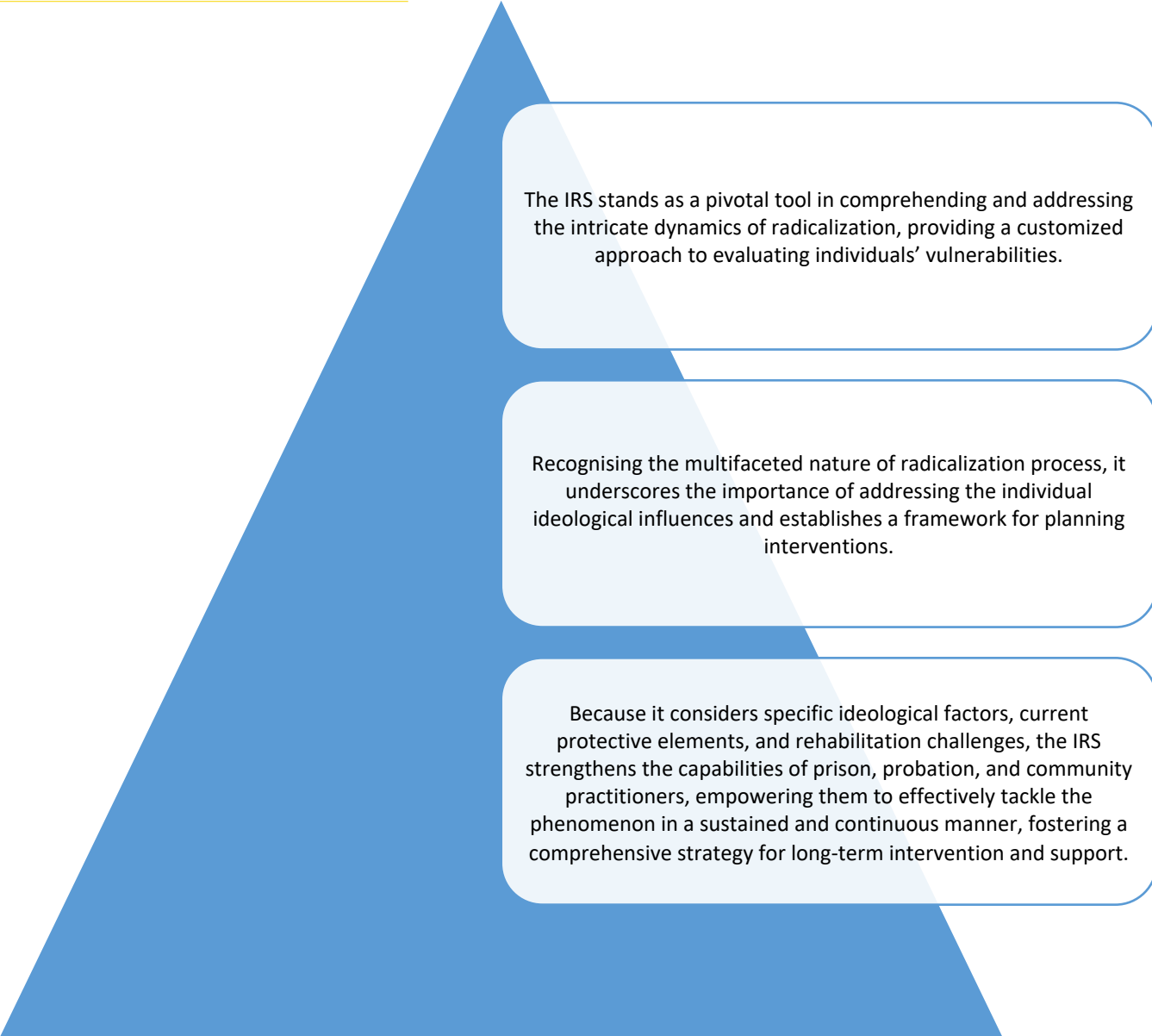
The IRS offers a comprehensive understanding of an individual's ideological beliefs, values, and principles, which significantly contribute to shaping their radicalization process.

By assessing these ideological factors, the IRS aims to support prison, probation, and community organisations closely aligned with the criminal justice system in making well-informed decisions about an individual's potential risk of engaging in violence driven by radical ideologies

The tool is not intended to dictate interventions but to offer a comprehensive assessment of an individual's vulnerability and radical belief system, facilitating tailored interventions based on the identified risk dimensions.



Main Findings and Conclusions



The IRS stands as a pivotal tool in comprehending and addressing the intricate dynamics of radicalization, providing a customized approach to evaluating individuals' vulnerabilities.

Recognising the multifaceted nature of radicalization process, it underscores the importance of addressing the individual ideological influences and establishes a framework for planning interventions.

Because it considers specific ideological factors, current protective elements, and rehabilitation challenges, the IRS strengthens the capabilities of prison, probation, and community practitioners, empowering them to effectively tackle the phenomenon in a sustained and continuous manner, fostering a comprehensive strategy for long-term intervention and support.

Recommended Next Steps

1. Further review by experts and front-line practitioners
2. Extensive testing of tools with prison and probation to check for:
 - Consistency in application according to the received training
 - Internal validity of items, consistency of algorithm and final vulnerability qualification
 - Actual effectiveness of the tool in the daily work of practitioners.



Contact



MIRAD-PROJECT.EU



CONTACT@MIRAD-PROJECT.EU

