



# Hedayah E-Newsletter

## Updates

- **Hedayah launches new website!**

We are pleased to share with you Hedayah's new and improved website, your go-to hub to know all about Hedayah, keep up-to-date on our activities, get to know the team, gain access to Hedayah channels, including our libraries, social media platforms and many more. [Click here to browse through its new features.](#)

- **Hedayah to publish a How-To Guide on Undermining Violent Extremist Narratives in South East Asia**

In July 2016, Hedayah will publish the South East Asia Compendium in collaboration with Australian Attorney-General's Department. The Compendium is a practical and tangible outcome of [Australia's CVE Summit](#), and builds on the work underway globally to implement the [United Nations Security Council Resolution \(UNSCR\) 2178 \(2014\)](#) addressing foreign terrorist fighters, the Follow-On Action Agenda commenced by the White House CVE Summit and the UN Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism. The Compendium will illustrate existing good practice approaches to counter-messaging informed by key bodies of research, reflect diverse regional practices and include multiple case studies of effective counter-narrative campaigns drawn predominantly from the South East Asia region (and abroad). The Compendium will be available and accessible through Hedayah's Counter-Narrative Library, stay tuned.

- **Security Jam 2016 Official Report**

On 30 June 2016, the [Security Jam 2016](#) "Beyond Conventional Security Challenges" official report was published. The report contains top ten recommendations for a safer world, following the global online brainstorm organized by Friends of Europe from 25–28 April 2016. Hedayah hosted the only live-chat on Foreign Terrorist Fighters (FTFs) attracting a number of security experts to discuss the challenges posed by the phenomenon. [Click here to read the full report.](#)

## Activities

**Hedayah and the Global Center convene "A Man's World? Exploring the Roles of Women in Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism" book launch**

On 12 and 14 July 2016, Hedayah and the Global Center on Cooperative Security launched the book "A Man's World? Exploring the Roles of Women in Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism" in New York and Washington





D.C., U.S.A. The publication is a collection of short essays from various perspectives reflecting on the questions of the roles women play in terrorism, violent extremism and efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism.

H.E. Yousef Al Otaiba, Ambassador of the U.A.E to the U.S. and Melanne Vermeer, Executive Director of Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security opened the book launch in Washington D.C., while H.E. Lana Nusseibeh, U.A.E. Ambassador to the U.N. gave the opening remarks in New York. Their Excellencies highlighted the publication as an important contribution to better understanding the roles of women in CVE, in hopes of mobilizing “both men and women to work for peace and equality, and continue to assist in the fight against extremism.” [Click here to view the full publication.](#)

### **Hedayah and USIP facilitate “Empowering Communities: Strategies for Fostering Resilience” workshop**

From 13-15 June 2016, Hedayah and the United States Institute of Peace (USIP) co-facilitated a capacity building workshop on “Empowering Communities: Strategies for Fostering Resilience” in Washington D.C., U.S.A. The workshop included experts from Hedayah, USIP, Kenya, Morocco, Tunisia and Somalia.

The aim of the workshop was to study the effect of violence on communities, the position of communities in relation to government CVE efforts and the use of system mapping tools to identify sources of vulnerability and resilience. Many of those present applied these approaches through a range of programs to be delivered in partnership with Hedayah, including the ongoing [Returning Foreign Terrorist Fighters Program](#), the [STRIVE Global Program](#) and the PCVE National Action Plans Program.

### **Hedayah soft-launches its Counter-Narrative Library**

On 9 June 2016, Hedayah announced the initial launch of its new project the “Counter-Narrative Library”. The Library is a website dedicated to collecting and collating existing open-source counter-narratives to violent extremism. The key objectives of the Library are to establish a comprehensive portal where governments, front-line workers and civil society can access information used to counter the narratives of all forms of violent extremism, provide practitioners with the most relevant and recent content to counter existing threats and promote good practice sharing and provide practitioners with relevant resources and tools to counter the narrative of violent extremists.

The Library was initially developed on the margins of a United Nations Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF) working group on “Use of the Internet for Terrorist Purposes.” The first Library was support-





ed by 8 countries, led by the government of the Netherlands, and initially focused on open-source counter-narratives to Al Qaeda. Since Hedayah took ownership of the Library in July 2015, two additional collections have been added: a regional collection on South East Asia, and a collection of Daesh defector counter-narratives. Hedayah plans to expand the Library through three additional collections on the Middle East and North Africa, West Africa and the Sahel, and Horn of Africa.

## Engagements

### **Hedayah on the role of women and youth in CVE at the 5th Annual Interfaith International Conference**

From 31 May – 2 June 2016, Hedayah took part in the 5th Annual Interfaith International Conference on “The Role of Women in Promoting Interfaith Dialogue and Countering Violent Extremism (CVE)” in Prishtina, Kosovo. The conference brought together government officials, community and civil society representatives, faith leaders, diplomats, journalists, artists and academics from different parts of the world to bring forward the role of women in promotion of interfaith dialogue, CVE and conflict resolution.

Hedayah shared its key findings, existing programs and initiatives while advancing one of its key themes in Community Engagement. As a key panelist on the “Focusing on Families: The role of women and young people in CVE” panel, Mr. Maqsoud Kruse, Hedayah Executive Director, highlighted the roles of women and youth in CVE and shared good practices in eliminating the threat within families. These initiatives include the recent publication of “A Man’s World? Exploring the Roles of Women in CVE and Terrorism”, a collection of essays and analysis on the international frameworks of women in preventing and countering violent extremism.

### **Hedayah stresses the importance of interfaith dialogue at the Danish-Arab Interfaith Dialogue Confronting Extremism**

On 27 May 2016, Hedayah presented at the “Interfaith Dialogue Confronting Extremism” conference convened by the Danish-Arab Interfaith Dialogue in Copenhagen, Denmark. The conference focused on developing a sense of common values and goals among different religions and brought key government and religious figures to share their experiences from both the Arab and European context.

Mr. Maqsoud Kruse, Hedayah Executive Director, exemplified the crucial role of interfaith dialogue in community engagement and in advancing effective CVE counter-narratives. Other key areas discussed include the importance of tolerance in confronting extremism, religious freedom and good practices in preventing radicalism.

