



Gemeente Amsterdam
Bestuursdienst

Amsterdam approach towards Radicalisation and Polarisation

October 3rd 2016

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- 1. Context and analysis**
- 2. Approach Amsterdam**
- 3. Activities and policy measures**



Context

- Extremism and radicalization occurs in Amsterdam
- Sense of increasing polarization, islamophobia, antisemitism and distrust in the established political institutions
 - Extreme right (not very apparent)
 - Extreme left and single issue movements
 - Religious radicalization



International context

- International developments have an impact on the city
 - Foreign fighters is an issue but seemingly decreasing
 - Recent Turkish political developments
 - Small amount of returnees
 - Israel / Palestine conflict
 - Refugee crisis



Recurring elements

- Search for identity
- Problems with authority
- Anger management issues – unable to control emotions
- Celebrity culture – social media influenced
- Underdog position – western suppression
- Recklessness – teenage behavior



Approach Amsterdam

- Approach first developed in 2004
- Reorientation in 2015 under pressure of continuing and sustainable threat
- Three policy guidelines: protection of vulnerable groups and individuals, connect different/opposing groups in the city (creating dialogue) and targeting of individuals, groups and networks that pose the biggest threat
- Focus on early detection, develop knowledge and expertise and building of community networks



Activities

- Report and advice centre for radicalisation
- Early detection by cooperation in an integrated approach towards specific cases
- Training of professionals
- Facilitating strategic networks for professionals



Activities

- Key figures program

- Preventive projects focusing on vulnerable and isolated groups and communities
 - Mothers
 - Fathers
 - Youth

- Creating dialogue

- Peace protocol