

## Choosing an expert as part of the European project “BRIDGE”

- Call for applications -

The European project “Bridge - Building resilience to reduce polarisation and growing extremism”, led by the European Forum for Urban Security (Efus), aims to raise awareness among local actors and strengthen their capacity to reduce individual and collective vulnerability to radicalisation and extremism while at the same time mitigating the phenomenon of polarisation. It brings together local authorities and civil society organisations from 6 countries that exchange on the European level, conduct assessments of polarisation at the local level, and implement local pilot actions. As part of this project, Efus is looking for an expert to support the development of local polarisation audits, the implementation of local actions and the production of topical guidance for European local authorities and other stakeholders.

### Who we are

Created in 1987 under the auspices of the Council of Europe, the European Forum for Urban Security (Efus) is the eldest international non-governmental organisation gathering local authorities working in the field of urban security and crime prevention. The network aims to strengthen crime prevention policies and to promote the role of elected officials in national and European policies.

Efus works on all the themes linked to urban security and develops links between local authorities in Europe through the exchange of practices and knowledge, cooperation and training. The forum also serves as a link between local authorities and national, European and international institutions.

### Context

Polarisation can be understood as a process of sharpening differences between groups in society that can result in increased tensions. It is a potential amplifying cause of the diverse psychological and social factors that make people vulnerable to radicalisation.

In order to effectively prevent radicalisation we need to understand the dynamics of polarisation: how do ‘us-and-them’ thinking, social division and hostility gain ground in our communities? And how can we effectively intervene into such extremist dynamics and build bridges to foster social cohesion?

## **Project Objectives**

The overall objectives of this project are to raise awareness among local actors and strengthen their capacity to reduce individual and collective vulnerability to radicalisation while at the same time mitigating the phenomenon of polarisation:

- strengthen local polarisation detection and management tools
- assist local authorities in the development of actions to tackle tensions and social unrest trends
- promote community-based initiatives that imply cooperation between different public services and private actors
- bring together European local authorities and experts willing to address polarisation at the local level

## **Project Activities**

Four stages are planned throughout the project:

- Development of tools to assess and monitor polarisation at the local level
- Design and implementation of 13 local actions in 7 European countries
  - Assessment of polarisation, using a methodological framework and tailor-made tools
  - development of targeted prevention actions to mitigate local phenomena of polarisation
- Project meetings and seminars in order to enable an accurate follow-up of local actions' state of progress and exchanges between the 13 cities
- Production of recommendations disseminated in a publication and webinar

## **Subject matter of the contract**

The terms of collaboration between Efus and the expert chosen as part of the "BRIDGE" project will be as follows. The expert will:

- 1) Attend regular virtual meetings (phone/video conference calls) with the project team to discuss issues relating to the project and upcoming activities;
- 2) Contribute to the development of an assessment methodology and practical tools that will allow the partner local authorities to assess and monitor polarisation processes in their territories;
- 3) Support the partner local authorities in implementing their local polarisation assessments and pilot projects;
- 4) Attend and contribute to all 4 coordination meetings / seminars organised in the framework of the project as well as at least one additional expert meeting at the project start with Efus and expert partners;
- 5) Contribute, in cooperation with Efus and the project partners, to the project publication, a guidebook including: the methodology and assessment tools developed during the project, summaries of the local audits and pilot projects activities by the partner local authorities, and policy and methodological recommendations for European local and regional authorities, EU Member States and EU institutions.
- 6) Contribute to the development of the content of a webinar on the prevention of polarisation at the local level.
- 7) Contribute to further project activities on request.

### Profile of the expert

- The expert must demonstrate extensive knowledge and understanding of the themes and methodologies relating to urban security (criminology, local security policy and urbanism), radicalisation and violent extremism, and processes of polarisation and increasing social tensions;
- The expert must demonstrate a strong interest in the European dimension, as well as a strong ability to adapt to information being exchanged in a transnational context;
- The expert should possess strong analytical and writing skills;
- The working languages of the project are French and English: for the project meetings, interpretation services will be provided. While it is not necessary to be bilingual, a good command of these two languages is an asset.

### Funding and duration

A contract (terms of reference) will be drawn up by Efus, the starting date of which will be set when the two parties sign it (February 2019) and it will be valid until the end of the project (31 December 2020).

The project's funding covers:

- A salary based on a daily rate for carrying out the activities stipulated in the contract. The salary will vary according to the experience of the expert. It is estimated that the contract will be completed in between 100 and 120 days maximum.
- Travel and subsistence costs, which will be reimbursed on the basis of real costs for 4 coordination meetings and 13 local pilot projects. The expert will be responsible for organising their own travel as part of the programme of visits set out by Efus. All the justification concerning the meetings (boarding passes, receipts, etc...) will have to be compiled in a financial report sent to Efus after each visit.

Three payments will be made on receipt of the invoice issued by the expert and sent to Efus. The first invoice will correspond to 40% pre-financing at the signing of the contract (February 2019), the second invoice corresponding to 20 percent at mid-term (January 2020), and the third and final invoice corresponding to the remainder after completion of all tasks agreed upon in the contract (January 2021).

### Selection Procedure

Efus invites those interested by this call to send their application by email to **Moritz Konradi**, programme manager: [konradi@efus.eu](mailto:konradi@efus.eu), **before Monday 18 February 2019.**

- A **detailed CV** including recent publications;
- A **cover letter** summarising why you want to be part of this project.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. The expert mission may be split into two or more parts.

For further information concerning the call for applications, contact Efus at +33 (0)1 40 64 49 00 or [konradi@efus.eu](mailto:konradi@efus.eu).