

Presentation title:

Local multiagency work in the Nordics: An institutional logic perspective

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In WP1 of the HEX-NA project, we analyze policy regulating the local multiagency approaches used in Nordic countries to prevent violent extremism. We explore three themes: (1) the organizational approaches proposed; (2) the practices advocated; and (3) the legal frameworks relevant. The data is then analyzed using an institutional logic perspective and a conceptualization of multiagency work as conducted in hybrid spaces, which helps to theorize how central policies on prevention of violent extremism inhabit two distinctive logics – a societal security logic and a social care logic - that compete, mix, and co-exist in these spaces. We show how the Nordic countries are highly similar in regards to the above themes, and that the differences in practice suggested by previous research and public debate instead can be contributed to the logic dominating a country's approach. Our framework provides a fertile theoretical base for the analysis of the character of the rationales, perceptions, discourses, and practices that are used in multiagency work to prevent both violent extremism and crime, and is used to analyze the data in WP 2 and WP 3 of the HEX-NA project.