

ARENAS

ANALYSIS OF AND RESPONSES
TO EXTREMIST NARRATIVES

Julien Longhi

PI



www.arenasproject.eu



This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 101094731



Although still in its first year, ARENAS has recently been included in the **Net4Society** feature on Horizon Europe Success Stories. This is a wonderful acknowledgement and endorsement of the work carried out by the consortium to date.

Net4Society is the transnational network for Cluster 2 “Culture, Creativity and Inclusive Society” (CL2) National Contact Points (NCPs) in Horizon Europe. Established in 2008, Net4Society is a network of National Contact Points for Socio-Economic Sciences and the Humanities (SSH). Its mission is to actively support networking within the SSH research community and provide assistance throughout the Horizon Europe consultation process. Net4Society includes National Contact Points from over 55 European and international countries. A key focus of Net4Society is promoting the seamless integration of Social Sciences and Humanities (SSH) across Horizon Europe.

The organisation is currently running a Success Stories series, highlighting projects of note it has identified in Horizon Europe’s Cluster 2. The cluster aims to strengthen democratic values, including the rule of law and fundamental rights, protecting our cultural heritage, and promoting socio-economic transformations that contribute to inclusion and growth.

Speaking to ARENAS Project co-ordinator Julien Longhi, Net4Society learned about the objectives, challenges and lessons learned to date, as well as the projects impact. You can read the full article [here](#).

Working as a team



Impact and Pluridisciplinarity





anr[®]

D506 - Sociétés innovantes, intégrantes et adaptatives

Analyse et traitement automatique de discours – TALAD

COORDINATION DU PROJET

Julien Longhi (AGORA - EA7392)



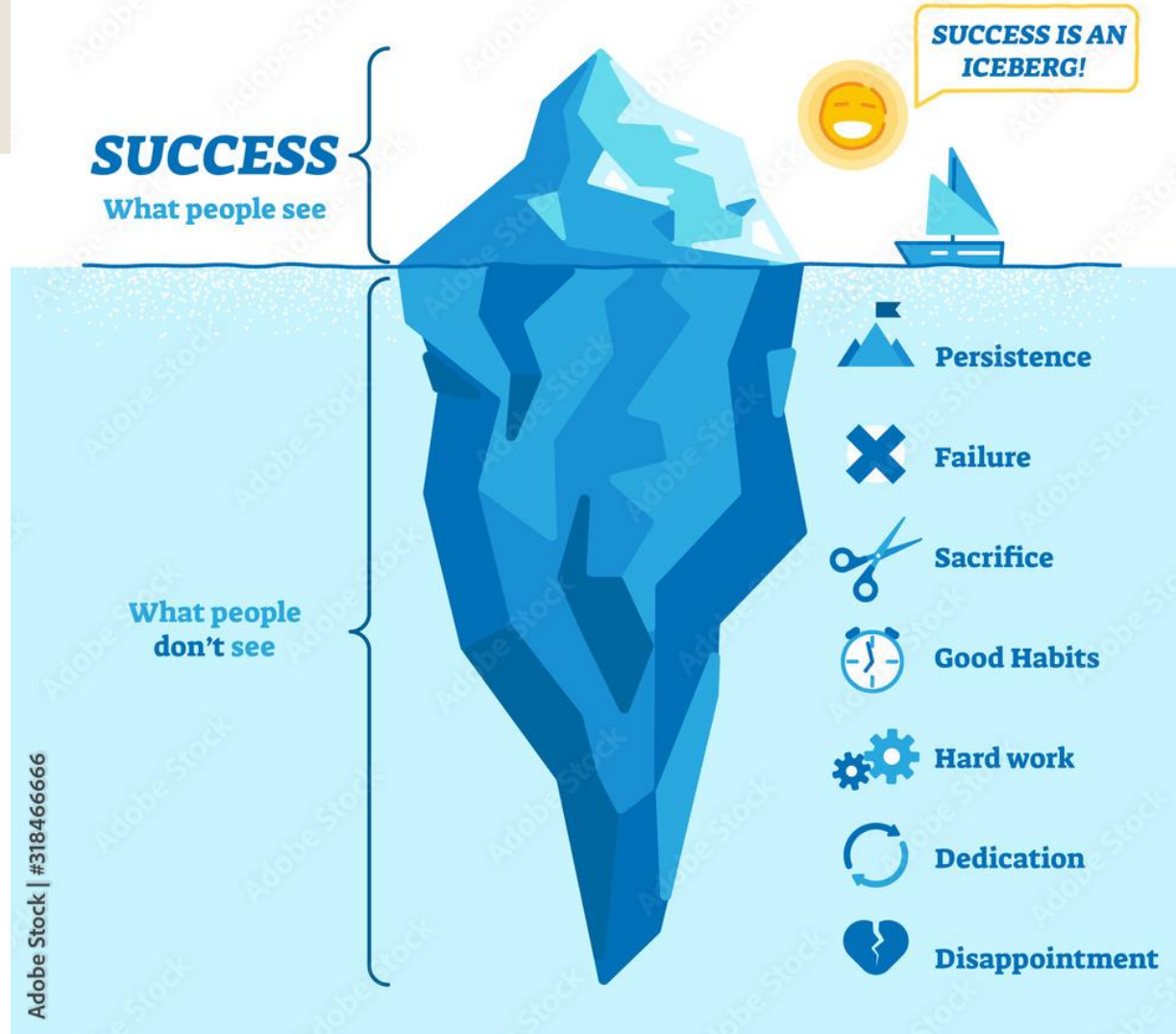
ANR AGENCE NATIONALE DE LA RECHERCHE

Appels à projets MRSEI



???

THE ICEBERG ILLUSION



Understanding calls

Horizon Europe

Page contents

About the programme

Funding opportunities

Funded projects and results

Budget and performance

Programme features

Documents

Contact

About the programme

Horizon Europe is the EU's key funding programme for research and innovation.

It tackles climate change, helps to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and boosts the EU's competitiveness and growth.

The programme facilitates collaboration and strengthens the impact of research and innovation in developing, supporting and implementing EU policies while tackling global challenges. It supports the creation and better diffusion of excellent knowledge and technologies.

It creates jobs, fully engages the EU's talent pool, boosts economic growth, promotes industrial competitiveness and optimises investment impact within a strengthened European Research Area.

Legal entities from the EU and associated countries can participate.

[Programme website](#)



Project selected in the framework of the call



Pillar 2, Global Challenges and European Industrial Competitiveness

Call: HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01 (Reshaping democracies)

Topic: HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-05, Evolution of political extremism and its influence on contemporary social and political dialogue.

Expected outcomes & impact

Topic description

ExpectedOutcome:

Projects should contribute to both of the following expected outcomes:

- In-depth understanding of the major factors contributing to the present rise of extremist narratives and of their influence on mainstream worldviews, discourses and policies across European countries in their local and global context.
- Formulation of multi-level policy recommendations to help counter these extremist narratives while limiting their spread and impact.

Scope:

The COVID-19 crisis risks further strengthening extreme political narratives that have already been rising starkly across Europe. These narratives fuel the demand for more protectionism, nation-state localisation of production and tougher frontier controls, while depicting foreigners as a threat to national wellbeing. On an ideological plane, political extremists often show disdain for the rights and liberties of others but resent the limitations of their own activities. More extreme forms embrace engagement in ideologically driven criminal activity and violence.

Some of the greater impacts of extreme narratives on society stem from their influence on mainstream political discourses and policies. This phenomenon is notably reflected by alarming outcomes in national and European opinion polls and elections. Therefore, the phenomenon seems to belong to a wider trend and should be analysed in its local and global contexts, including in connection with the strengthening of authoritarian, populist and extremist discourses in some countries. Certain anti-democratic sentiments also seem to be connected to and nurtured by conspiracy theories, possible bonds that could be flagged and examined for comprehensive understanding of all interacting factors.

Proposals are expected to address the following: Analyse the various forms of extremist discourses and narratives, their dynamics and disruptive potential. Take into account national specificities – embedded in their historical, social and cultural contexts – and transnational influences, within Europe and globally. Provide psychological, sociological and anthropological analyses of drivers behind violent political transformations. Explore the tension between tackling political extremism and human rights law on freedom of speech. Map the penetration of extremist ideology and argumentation into general media, social and political discourses. Proposals should analyse the drivers of such discourses, including the respective roles of the media, political spheres and popular sentiment and their interplay. They should propose evidence-based strategies to counter extremist discourses, prevent the spread of political extremism and limit its short and long-term impact. The action should develop corresponding policy recommendations.^[1]

Expected impact:

Proposals for topics under this Destination should set out a credible pathway to contributing to the following expected impacts of the Horizon Europe Strategic Plan:

- Democratic governance is reinvigorated by improving the accountability, transparency, effectiveness and trustworthiness of rule-of-law based institutions and policies and through the expansion of active and inclusive citizenship empowered by the safeguarding of fundamental rights.

Call & topic

HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-05	Evolution of political extremism and its influence on contemporary social and political dialogue	9 000 000	HORIZON Research and Innovation Actions	20/01/2022	20/04/2022	
----------------------------------	--	-----------	---	------------	------------	--

Projects funded under this topic

Results: 3



Search..

TITLE ↕

ACRONYM ^

PROJECT ID ↕

Analysis of and Responses to Extremist Narratives

ARENAS

101094731

Countering Oppositional Political Extremism through Attuned Dialogue: Track, Attune, Limit.

OppAttune

101095170

Social Media narratives: addressing extremism in middle age

SMIDGE

101095290

Call & topic

Topic updates

Apr 22, 2022 11:05:13 AM

The Call HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01 (Reshaping democracies) has closed on the 20th April 2022.

241 proposals have been submitted.

The breakdown per topic is:

- HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-01: **34** proposals
- HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-02: **50** proposals
- HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-03: **19** proposals
- HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-04: **51** proposals
- HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-05: **20** proposals
- HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-06: **14** proposals
- HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-07: **17** proposals
- HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-08: **12** proposals
- HORIZON-CL2-2022-DEMOCRACY-01-09: **24** proposals

Evaluation results are expected to be communicated in July 2022.

Guidelines

Structure of the Proposal

The proposal contains two parts:

- **Part A** of the proposal is generated by the IT system. It is based on the information entered by the participants through the submission system in the Funding & Tenders Portal. The participants can update the information in the submission system at any time before final submission.
- **Part B** of the proposal is the narrative part that includes three sections that each correspond to an evaluation criterion. Part B needs to be uploaded as a PDF document following the templates downloaded by the applicants in the submission system for the specific call or topic. The templates for a specific call may slightly differ from the example provided in this document.


Proposal template Part B: technical description

(for full proposals: single stage submission procedure and 2nd stage of a two-stage submission procedure)

This template is to be used in a single-stage submission procedure or at the 2nd stage of a two-stage submission procedure.

The structure of this template must be followed when preparing your proposal. It has been designed to ensure that the important aspects of your planned work are presented in a way that will enable the experts to make an effective assessment against the evaluation criteria. Sections 1, 2 and 3 each correspond to an evaluation criterion.

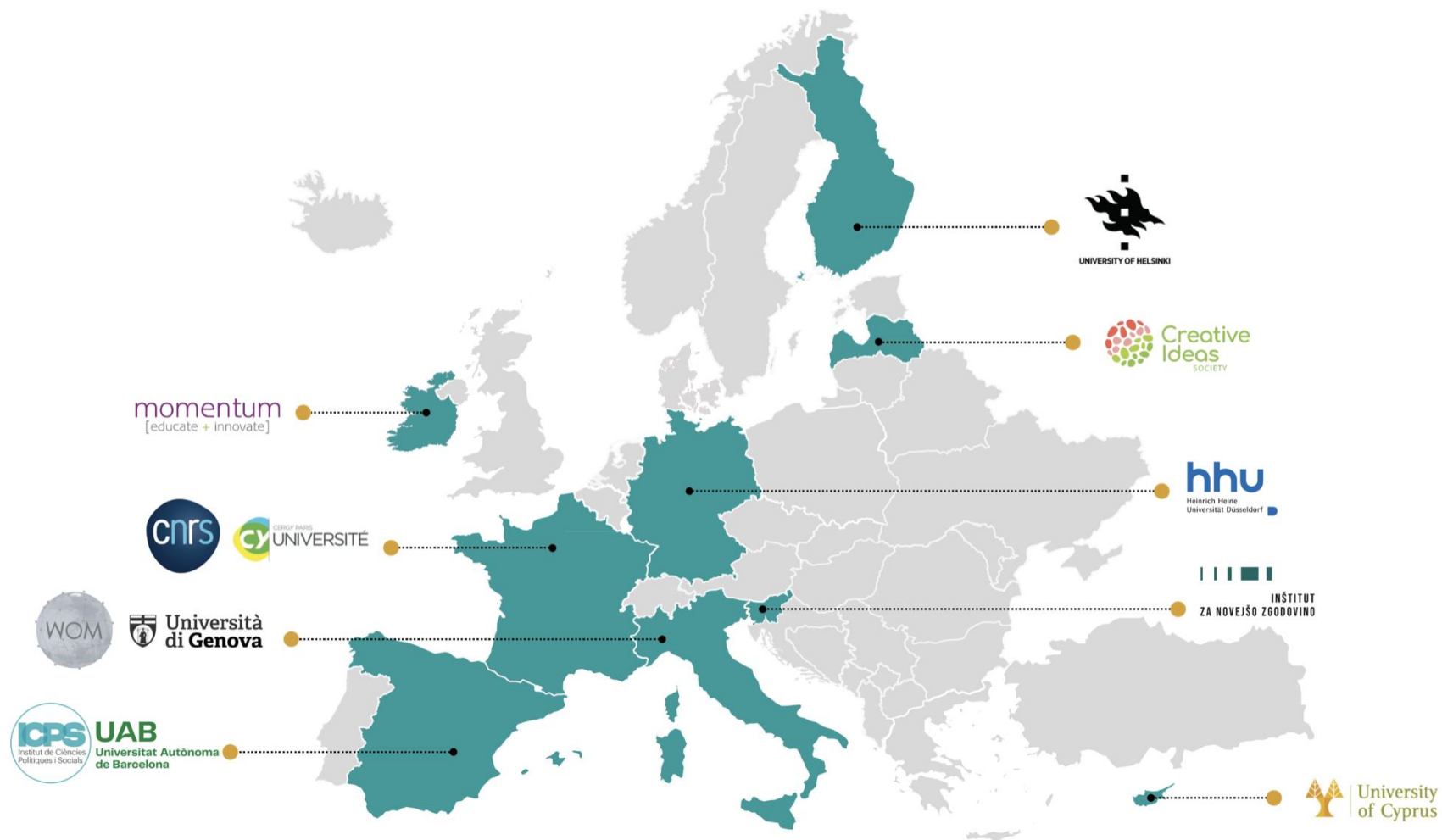
Please be aware that proposals will be evaluated as they were submitted, rather than on their potential if certain changes were to be made. This means that only proposals that successfully address all the required aspects will have a chance of being funded. There will be no possibility for significant changes to content, budget and consortium composition during grant preparation.

 **Page limit:** The title, list of participants and sections 1, 2 and 3, together, should not be longer than 45 pages. For topics using lump sum funding, the limit is 50 pages. All tables, figures, references and any other element pertaining to these sections must be included as an integral part of these sections and are thus counted against this page limit. The number of pages included in each section of this template is only **indicative**.

The page limit will be applied automatically. **At the end of this document you can see the structure of the actual proposal that you need to submit, please remove all instruction pages that are watermarked.**

Our Partners

Our partnership consists of 12 organisations from 9 countries, each bringing unique experience, expertise and skills to the project.




Guidelines

DEFINITIONS	
Critical risk	<p>A critical risk is a plausible event or issue that could have a high adverse impact on the ability of the project to achieve its objectives.</p> <p>Level of likelihood to occur (Low/medium/high): The likelihood is the estimated probability that the risk will materialise even after taking account of the mitigating measures put in place.</p> <p>Level of severity (Low/medium/high): The relative seriousness of the risk and the significance of its effect.</p>
Deliverable	<p>A report that is sent to the Commission or Agency providing information to ensure effective monitoring of the project. There are different types of deliverables (e.g. a report on specific activities or results, data management plans, ethics or security requirements).</p>
Impacts	<p>Wider long term effects on society (including the environment), the economy and science, enabled by the outcomes of R&I investments (long term). It refers to the specific contribution of the project to the work programme expected impacts described in the destination. Impacts generally occur some time after the end of the project.</p> <p><i>Example: The deployment of the advanced forecasting system enables each airport to increase maximum passenger capacity by 15% and passenger average throughput by 10%, leading to a 28% reduction in infrastructure expansion costs.</i></p>
Milestone	<p>Control points in the project that help to chart progress. Milestones may correspond to the achievement of a key result, allowing the next phase of the work to begin. They may also be needed at intermediary points so that, if problems have arisen, corrective measures can be taken. A milestone may be a critical decision point in the project where, for example, the consortium must decide which of several technologies to adopt for further development. The achievement of a milestone should be verifiable.</p>

Guidelines

Excellence – aspects to be taken into account.

- Clarity and pertinence of the project's objectives, and the extent to which the proposed work is ambitious, and goes beyond the state of the art.
- Soundness of the proposed methodology, including the underlying concepts, models, assumptions, interdisciplinary approaches, appropriate consideration of the gender dimension in research and innovation content, and the quality of open science practices, including sharing and management of research outputs and engagement of citizens, civil society and end users where appropriate.

 *The following aspects will be taken into account only to the extent that the proposed work is within the scope of the work programme topic.*

Guidelines

2. Impact #@IMP-ACT-IA@#

Impact – aspects to be taken into account.

- Credibility of the pathways to achieve the expected outcomes and impacts specified in the work programme, and the likely scale and significance of the contributions due to the project.
- Suitability and quality of the measures to maximise expected outcomes and impacts, as set out in the dissemination and exploitation plan, including communication activities.

Guidelines

KEY ELEMENT OF THE IMPACT SECTION

SPECIFIC NEEDS

What are the specific needs that triggered this project?

Example 1

Most airports use process flow-oriented models based on static mathematical values limiting the optimal management of passenger flow and hampering the accurate use of the available resources to the actual demand of passengers.

Example 2

Electronic components need to get smaller and lighter to match the expectations of the end-users. At the same time there is a problem of sourcing of raw materials that has an environmental impact.

EXPECTED RESULTS

What do you expect to generate by the end of the project?

Example 1

Successful large-scale demonstrator: Trial with 3 airports of an advanced forecasting system for proactive airport passenger flow management.

Algorithmic model:

Novel algorithmic model for proactive airport passenger flow management.

Example 2

Publication of a **scientific discovery on transparent electronics.**

New product: More sustainable electronic circuits.

Three PhD students trained.

Guidelines

TARGET GROUPS

Who will use or further up-take the results of the project? Who will benefit from the results of the project?

Example 1

9 European airports:
Schiphol, Brussels airport, etc.

The European Union aviation safety agency.

Air passengers (indirect).

Example 2

End-users: consumers of electronic devices.

Major electronic companies: Samsung, Apple, etc.

Scientific community (field of transparent electronics).

OUTCOMES

What change do you expect to see after successful dissemination and exploitation of project results to the target group(s)?

Example 1

Up-take by airports: 9 European airports adopt the advanced forecasting system demonstrated during the project.

Example 2

High use of the scientific discovery published (measured with the relative rate of citation index of project publications).

A major electronic company (Samsung or Apple) **exploits/uses the new product** in their manufacturing.

SO1

SO2

SO3

SO4

SO5



SO 5
**Provide policy recommendations
for the prevention of extremist
narratives**

**SPECIFIC DETAILED
RESULTS**

- ✓ Solutions and remediations for policy makers, civil society and general audience in daily work: good practices and trainings to improve living together
- ✓ Influence on political agendas
- ✓ Influence on laws and use of national and European directives
- ✓ Counter-speech and defence mechanisms

LATEST NEWS



Experts from the ARENAS consortium respond to European Election results

[READ MORE »](#)

June 17, 2024



ARENAS consortium receives official welcome to Heinrich Heine University

[READ MORE »](#)

June 12, 2024



ARENAS publishes the latest project E-zine

[READ MORE »](#)

May 30, 2024



Learning experimental methods: Insights from an arenas project workshop

[READ MORE »](#)

May 29, 2024



ARENAS consortium gathers in Dusseldorf for second annual meeting

[READ MORE »](#)

May 21, 2024



Media Literacy Ireland promotes the work of ARENAS

[READ MORE »](#)

May 13, 2024



SUCCESS STOP

Our experience to the importance of cooperation, with



Consortium composition



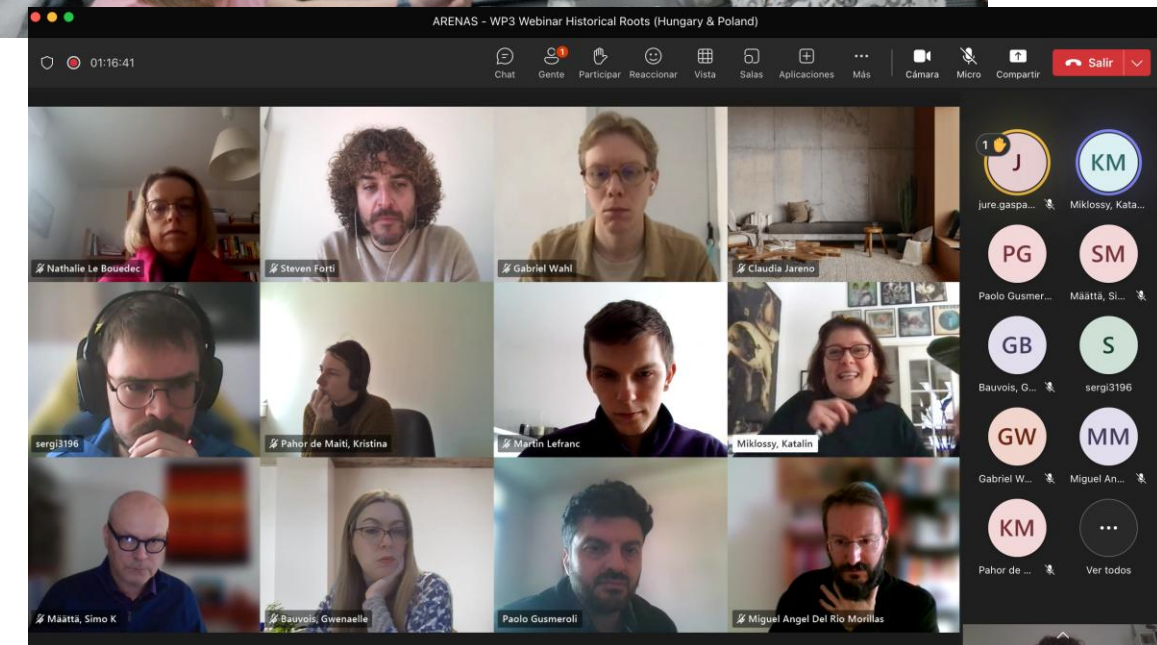
#	Participant organisation name	Acronym	Country	Role	Org. type
1	CY Cergy Paris Université	CY	France	BEN	RES
2	Institute of Contemporary History- Ljubljana University	INZ	Slovenia	BEN	RES
3	Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona	UAB	Spain	BEN	RES
4	<i>Institut de Ciències Polítiques i Socials</i>	<i>ICPS</i>	<i>Spain</i>	<i>Link UAB</i>	<i>RES</i>
5	University of Helsinki	UH	Finland	BEN	RES
6	CNRS	CNRS	France	BEN	RES
7	Heinrich Heine University Düsseldorf	UDUS	Germany	BEN	RES
8	Università degli studi di Genova	UNIGE	Italy	BEN	RES
9	Cyprus University	UCY	Cyprus	BEN	RES
10	Creative ideas-	Creative ideas	Latvia	BEN	NGO
11	Momentum Consulting	MOM	Ireland	BEN	SME
12	Water On Mars	WOM	Italy	BEN	SME
#	Associated partners	Acronym	Country	Role	Org. type
13	Università Degli Studi di Trento	UniTrent o	Italia	AP	Association
14	Fundacio OXFAM Intermon	OES	Spain	AP	NGO
15	Finnish Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres	FFS	Finland	AP	International Association

- **12** Beneficiaries + **3** Associated Partners
 - **9** academic / **6** non-academic partners (SME, NGOs, association)
 - **Leading experts** in extremist narratives and hate speech, social movements, history of extremism and informatic from **9** different countries
 - **Non-academic organisations** dedicated to data management, education, human rights, social inclusion and reduction of inequality and poverty.
- ARENAS will propose solutions for countering extremes narratives for developing more inclusive and respectful European societies.

Work packages

- WP1: Coordination and Project Management – Leader: CY
- WP2: Characterization and detection of extremist narratives – Leader: UDUS
- WP3: Circulation of extremist narratives – Leader: UAB
- WP4: Influence and spread of extremist narratives – Leader: Creative ideas
- WP5: Mediations and remediations for extremist narrative – Leader: CNRS
- WP6: Ethics, Norms and Politically Sensitive Science – Leader: UH
- WP7: Dissemination, communication and stakeholders' engagement – Leader: MOM
- WP8: Ethics requirements – Leader: CY









ARENAS

ANALYSIS OF AND RESPONSES
TO EXTREMIST NARRATIVES

Follow us



www.arenasproject.eu