Preparedness against CBRNE threats through Common Approaches between security practitioners and the Vulnerable civil society

Topic SU-FCT01-2018:
Human factors, and social, societal, and organisational aspects to solve issues in fighting against crime and terrorism

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PROACTIVE aims to increase practitioner effectiveness in managing large and diverse groups of people in a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear and explosive (CBRNe) environment.

The main goal is to enhance preparedness against and response to a CBRNe incident through a better harmonization of procedures between various categories of practitioners, and a better articulation with the needs of vulnerable citizen groups.

**SCOPE**

**SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES**

**IDENTIFY**
behavioural issues associated with responding to a CBRNe incident and potential shortcomings in existing practitioner procedures and tools with respect to members of vulnerable groups.

**IMPROVE**
real-time communication and collaboration with the use of new tools such as mobile apps for better situational awareness and better response coordination.

**TEST**
combinations of selected tools in joint field exercises which deliberately involve a diverse population that encompasses vulnerable citizens and non-trained staff.

**PROVIDE**
human-centred recommendations for EU standards concerning the integration of CBRNe technologies and innovations that are better adapted to the needs of all citizens.
PROACTIVE tests common approaches between European safety and security practitioners, in particular Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) and CBRNe First Responders. For example, a benchmark study between LEAs will identify common approaches in assessing CBRNe threats and the protocols and tools used to help citizens.

These approaches are evaluated and validated against the needs and requirements of civil society, especially considering vulnerable groups of citizens reflected in the European Security Model.

To ensure accountability and extend the representation of both sides in the project activities, a Practitioner Stakeholder Advisory Board (PSAB) and a Civil Society Advisory Board (CSAB) have been created and are under continuous expansion.

The project activities and research methods include several systematic reviews, surveys, focus-groups, workshops and field exercises.

Liaising with the eNotice H2020 project, three joint exercises are planned. They include role play volunteers recruited by PROACTIVE who evaluate the acceptability and usability of existing procedures and test new tools developed within PROACTIVE. This will provide innovative recommendations for policy-makers and safety and security practitioners.
The consortium is reinforced through a large Advisory Board which ensures that the PROACTIVE outcomes meet both the needs of LEAs and of the vulnerable civil society. The Advisory Board is being extended throughout the life of the project through a permanent recruitment process of new members.

The Practitioner Stakeholder Advisory Board (PSAB) includes a high-level international panel of experts from different areas of knowledge and practitioner stakeholders: LEAs, First Responders (e.g. medical, fire brigades), the military (including the European Defence Agency), rail security experts, government agencies, etc.

The Civil Society Advisory Board (CSAB) includes a diverse panel of representatives of vulnerable groups of citizens to best represent human diversity: Local Authorities, Resilience Teams, Private Sector Teams managing public resources, representatives of mental health organisations, associations of the elderly, children, passengers with disabilities, etc.

The expected results are in line with the the overall Security Union approach to fight crime and terrorism. Our results will provide valuable inputs to the EUROPOL initiative to develop a knowledge hub for CBRNe activities and help consolidate the EU Action Plan to enhance preparedness for CBRN threats.
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