Internet Referral Unit

European Counter Terrorism Center

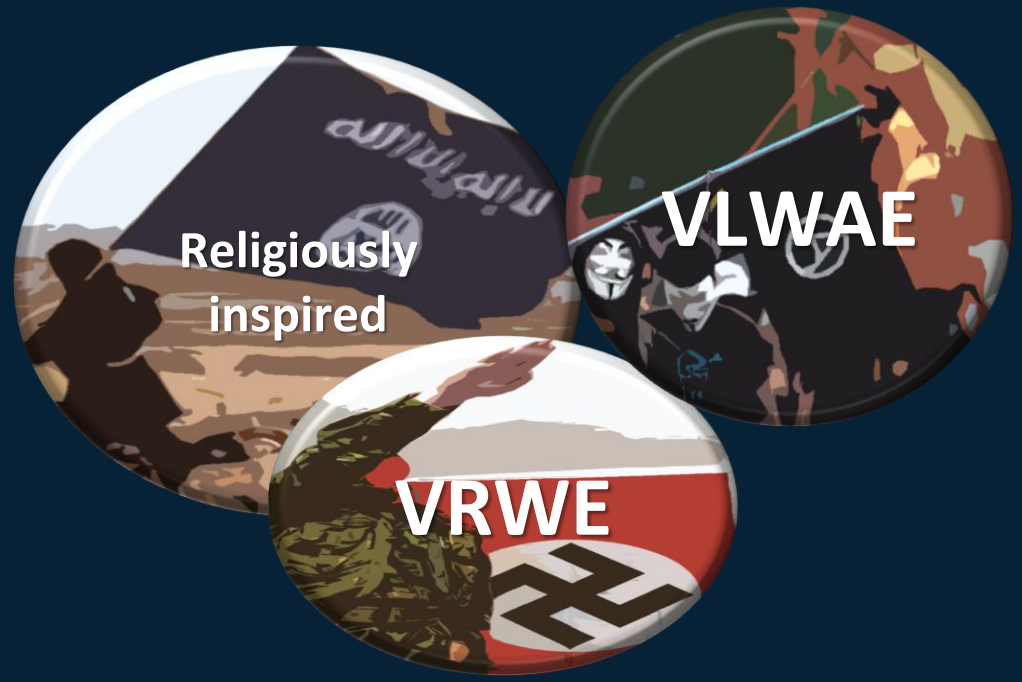
Prevention and Content moderation

1 October 2026

TERRORIST CONTENT ONLINE (TCO)

Younger violent extremist supporters

- Platforms used by minors, prime targets for extremist
- Algorithms snowball the user into more extreme content
- Radicalisation and recruitment takes place on secure communication platforms



TikTok

MINECRAFT

Mainstream to extreme

Discord

SESSION

Europol Public Information

TERRORIST CONTENT ONLINE (TCO)

Terrorist abuse of the Internet has exponentially diversified leading to an increase in the number of platforms where propaganda is located

2015

2026

Europol Public Information

EU Internet Referral Unit

Prevention stream – How the EU IRU tackles radicalisation online

Mandate

- Content flagging: Coordinate and share content identification with relevant partners;
- Carry out and support referrals in cooperation with the industry;
- Support competent authorities with strategic and operational analysis;
- Act as a European Centre for Excellence;

Tasks

- Conduct Referrals;
- Coordinate activity with MS;
- Outreach to Online Service Providers

PERCI

- Referrals to OSPs;
- Referral Action Days;
- Deconfliction;
- Whitelisting

Referral Action Day

Joining forces for a greater impact

04 JUL 2024

Taking action against antisemitism – close to 2 000 pieces of content flagged for removal

... 1222 off press release europol has successfully concluded a referral action day aimed at identifying and combatting ... working in tandem with europol s european union internet referral unit eu iru and major online service providers the referral action day targeted a wide range of antisemitic ...

NEWS

14 JUN 2024

Europol-coordinated operation tackles the threat of terrorist-operated websites

... terroristoperated websites which culminated in a targeted referral action this week to take them down image ten ... investigation and the removal of associated websites the referral of websites operated by terrorists violent ... operation was coordinated by the european union internet referral unit eu iru within europol s european counter ...

NEWS

21 DEC 2023

Crackdown on material designed to 'educate' future terrorists

... 1124 off press release on 18 december europol s eu internet referral unit coordinated a referral action day rad on terrorist online content the ... and explosives cbrne as well as weapons and explosives the referral process took place via the perci platform and ...

NEWS

05 OCT 2023

Europol and TikTok collaborate to bolster efforts against terrorist content

... off press release on 28 september a largescale voluntary referral action day between tiktok europol s european ... countries together with the ectc s european union internet referral unit eu iru performed an exercise to detect ... ireland malta portugal sweden and the united kingdom this referral action day is part of an ongoing publicprivate ...

NEWS

24 FEB 2023

17 countries join forces to prevent chemical terrorism on European soil

... 23022023 1728 off press release on 21 february a largescale referral action day targeting the misuse of dangerous ... and leftwing terrorist groups the findings of this referral action day will feed into the analysis of the ...

NEWS

19 DEC 2022

14 countries tackle violent extremism online in a coordinated referral action day

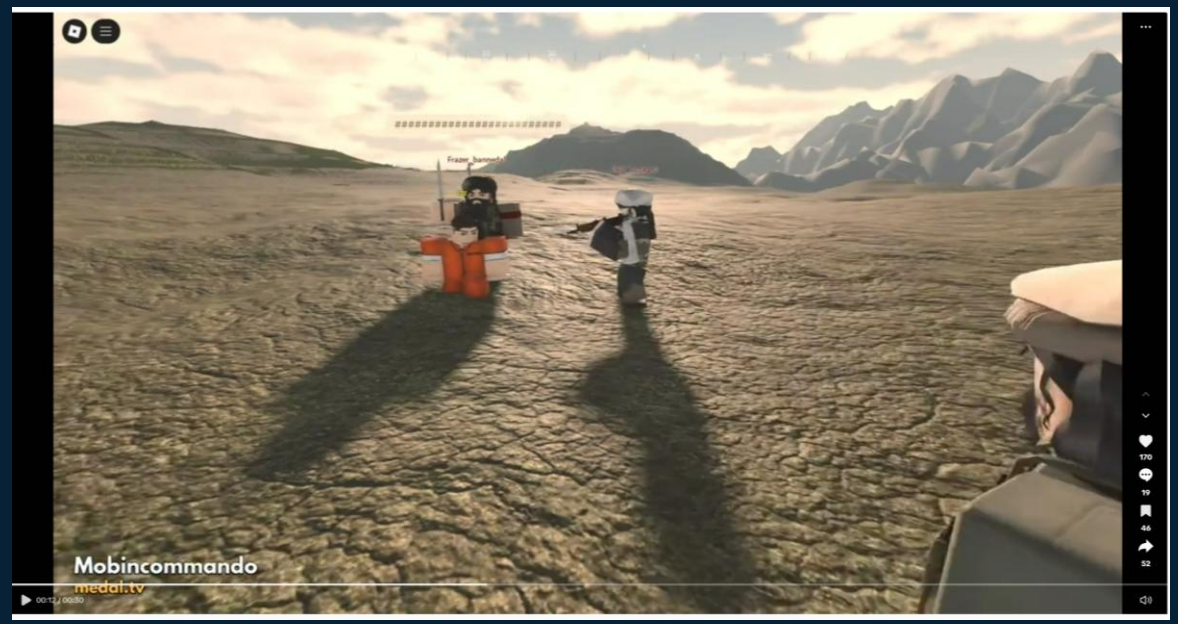
... countries tackle violent extremism online in a coordinated referral action day 14 countries tackle violent extremism online in a coordinated referral action day more than 800 items flagged to 34 ... release on 15 december 2022 the european union internet referral unit eu iru at europol coordinated the second ...

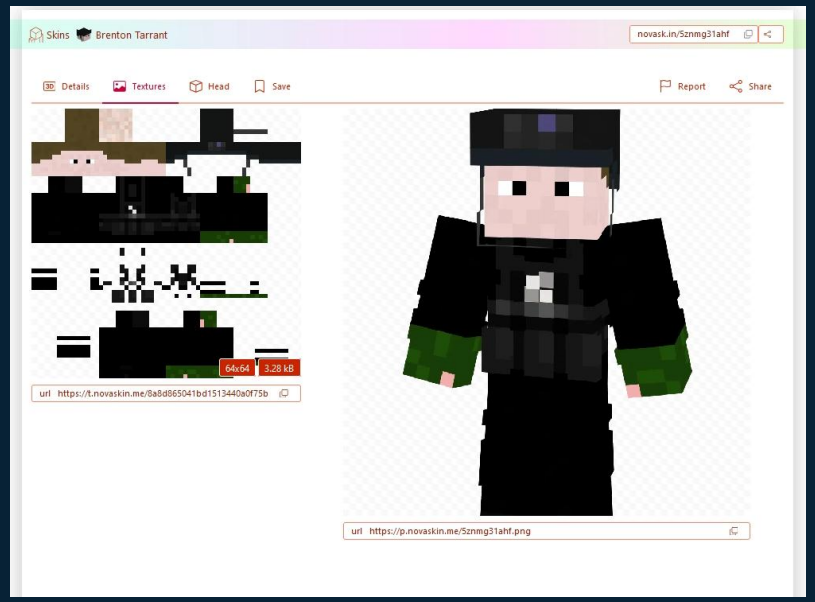
NEWS

RAD on Gaming platforms

13 November 2025

- **6836 URLS** (jihadist, VRWE and Hate speech)
- **Participants:** Denmark, Finland, Germany, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and United Kingdom
- **Press release generated 117 articles world wide** including **Forbes** (US), **Vecernji List** (Croatia), **Observador** (Portugal), **Europa Press** (Spain) and **Ekstra Bladet** (Denmark).





RAD on the COM

June & July 2026

- **4443 URLS** (Nihilistic Violent Extremist content)
- **Participants:** Finland, Luxemburg, the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Hungary, Ireland, Belgium and Sweden
- **Press release generated 190 articles world wide the first week** including El País (Spain), Rádio Renascença (Portugal), Vecernji List (Croatia), The Irish Examiner (Ireland) and Het Laatste Nieuws (Belgium).

TCO Detect – keywords and hashes

Sharing knowledge and expertise

What?

- To identify content online and also to be used for analysing seized technical devices
- Key words, logos, hashed values
- Updated every 6 months

To Whom?

- Shared with Hosting Service Providers(HSP)
- Law Enforcement Agencies in Member States and Third Parties

VCO Detect –Violent Content Online

- Keywords and emojis connected to organized crime

EUROPOL ECTC European Counter Terrorism Centre

TCO-DETECT+
TERRORIST CONTENT ONLINE

What Is TCO-DETECT+

TCO-DETECT+

The Terrorist Content Online "TCO"-DETECT+ is a product initiated and designed by the EU Internet Referral Unit (EU IRU), tailored for the Law Enforcement Agencies (LEA) of MS and TP members of the Analysis Project Check the Web (AP CtW). It is a collection of TCO identifiers related to **religiously and politically motivated terrorism and violent extremism**, delivered to support LEA in their efforts to detect TCO.

The identifiers include the following thematic areas within the context of terrorism and violent extremism:

- chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, and explosives (CBRNE),
- cryptocurrency addresses,
- 3D printed firearms.

Thank you for your attention

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