



# EUCPN

EUROPEAN CRIME PREVENTION NETWORK

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## NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2022

Dear network,

"We are living a European moment. [...] Our union is never as successful as when we defend our values and interests". (E. MACRON)

The European Crime Prevention Network falls within this perspective of union and sharing, praised by the President of the French Republic. Newsletters are a concrete outcome of our contributions and the pooling of our best practices.

As chair of the Network, I am honored to present to you the February's newsletter. It is dedicated to the French topic: the violence between gangs. This phenomenon has not been chosen at random, it is a scourge that several European countries are experiencing, and it is increasing on the French territory. It jeopardises the future of our nations: our youth. Because taking into account minors is the bedrock of every crime prevention policy, the French government has come up with a "Gang Plan". It is a comprehensive and inter-ministerial strategy, which aims at preventing and tackling the entrance of youngsters in these violent gangs. Therefore, you will find, in this newsletter, a French good practice, extracted from the Gang Plan. Finally, our contributions to this topic enlightens us, they play a part in the everyday improvement of our actions and we are thankful for that. We also wish to highlight the constant involvement of the Secretariat, and the quality of their work, which allows these newsletters to exist.

We look forward to meet you and we wish you a good reading.

Christian GRAVEL



The European Crime Prevention Conference is the EUCPN's biennial conference and offers a forum to share knowledge and experiences regarding crime prevention across the European Union. The main topic of 2022 is partnership approaches in crime prevention. Other topics are urban youth violence, domestic burglary, the administrative approach, ....

[Discover the full programme](#)

### France: Gang Plan - extra school time

The French government has released a "Gang Plan" to tackle street violence, especially among minors.

One of the solutions in the plan is to target extra school time, in order to foster children's commitment in positive activities. The objective is to fight against teenagers' bad influences, providing teenagers with additional academic support, preventing school dropout, and encouraging the development of bonds of friendship and solidarity between residents of rival disadvantaged district, to prevent the gear of collective violence.

[More info](#)

### Spain: Hate Crime Group and Master Plan for coexistence and improvement of security in schools and their environs

The Hate Crimes and Violent Radicalisation Group works on the prevention of radical or violent movements that could attract minors and young people.

The Master Plan includes a series of activities (meetings, talks, exhibitions) to inform minors and the rest of the educational community of the social, family and police problems involved in gang membership. They also learn about the characteristics of gangs, the activities they carry out, how they recruit new members and their ideologies so that they can detect them and prevent them from joining.

[More info](#)

### Portugal: Safe School Programme - International Day for Non-Violence and Peace in Schools

The Programme aims to ensure safety in the school environment and its surroundings, through the prevention of risky behaviour and the reduction of unsafe acts in the school environment.

In this context, during the current school year 507 awareness-raising actions on this issue were developed, of which 328 were related to "Peer Violence", 146 to "Violence in Schools" and 33 to "Cyberbullying", involving a total of 14 119 students and 507 schools.

[More info](#)

### EUCPN webinar: Youth street gangs

Youth street gangs, a predominantly (sub-)urban phenomenon, constitute a particular type of semi-organised crime. While members may be involved in other criminal activities, they are characterised by their allegiance to a geographically defined group (the gang) and their rivalry towards other such groups, which may lead to violence. The webinar (and the upcoming toolbox) will investigate the phenomenon as it presents in the EU and zooms in on what can be done to prevent that young people become gang members.

The webinar takes place on Tuesday 28 June 2022 between 14.00 - 15.00 CET. Participation is free but [registration](#) is mandatory.

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