Topic HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-FCT-02:

Open topic on prevention, detection and deterrence of various forms of crime and terrorism through an enhanced understanding of the related societal issues

Offer of Expertise – Romain Huet

Associate Professor, habilitated to supervise research (HDR)
Information and Communication Sciences, University of Rennes 2, France
https://perso.univ-rennes2.fr/romain.huet

Scientific Expertise and Contribution

With over 10 years of immersive ethnographic fieldwork in conflict zones (Syria, Ukraine), I bring a unique, qualitative, and longitudinal perspective on radicalization processes and mechanisms of subjective hardening in extreme violence contexts. My research highlights the crucial role of what I term the "crisis of expressivity", a deep existential quest that often precedes violent engagement.

I am currently leading research on the inverse process: **mechanisms of disengagement and exit from violence**, which offers innovative analytical frameworks and practical tools for prevention, early detection, and training.

Alignment with HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-FCT-02 Objectives:

- Deep understanding of radicalization trajectories, beyond propaganda or socio-economic factors.
- Expertise in the production of operational tools and training modules for public authorities, security practitioners, NGOs, and policymakers.
- Proven experience managing national research projects (ANR EGR 2018-2024) and collaborating across disciplines.
- Complementarity with quantitative approaches for a comprehensive understanding of security challenges.

Proposed Role in Consortium

- Partner in charge of qualitative research and ethnographic fieldwork components.
- Contributor to tool development for early detection and prevention of radicalization.
- Designer and deliverer of training programs tailored to public and private stakeholders.
- Facilitator of knowledge exchange on radicalization and disengagement processes.

Added Value for the Consortium

- Rare expertise combining field immersion and academic rigour.
- Innovative conceptual framework addressing new dimensions of radicalization.
- Strong network within French and European research and security communities.
- Commitment to translating research findings into actionable policy and practice.

I am eager to collaborate with multidisciplinary teams and contribute meaningfully to advancing European research and security efforts under the Horizon Europe framework.