



### ***Importance of social inclusion strategies to deradicalization***

Social inclusion strategies are critical in preventing radicalization and promoting deradicalization. Radicalization often occurs in individuals who feel marginalized or excluded from mainstream society. By providing opportunities for social inclusion, such as education, employment, and community engagement, individuals can feel a sense of belonging and reduce their vulnerability to radicalization.

Social exclusion can lead to a sense of alienation, anger, and resentment towards mainstream society. Individuals who feel excluded may turn to extremist groups or ideologies to find a sense of belonging and purpose. These groups may offer a sense of community, identity, and belonging that individuals feel they cannot find elsewhere. The attraction of extremist ideologies can be particularly strong for young people who are searching for a sense of purpose and meaning in their lives. However, promoting social inclusion can help to prevent radicalization by providing alternative sources of community, identity, and belonging. Social inclusion strategies can help to promote a sense of belonging and connectedness to mainstream society, reducing the appeal of extremist groups and ideologies.

Social inclusion strategies can take many forms. For example, educational opportunities can help to equip young people with the skills and knowledge necessary to succeed in mainstream society. Employment opportunities can provide a sense of purpose and financial stability, reducing the appeal of extremist groups that offer economic support. Community engagement can help to build social connections and promote a sense of belonging. In addition to preventing radicalization, social inclusion strategies can also be an important aspect of deradicalization efforts. For individuals who have already been radicalized, promoting social inclusion can be a crucial aspect of helping them to disengage from extremist groups and ideologies. By promoting social inclusion, individuals can develop a sense of belonging to mainstream society and reduce their reliance on extremist groups for community, identity, and purpose. This can be a powerful tool in helping individuals to disengage from extremist groups and ideologies.

In conclusion, social inclusion strategies are critical in preventing radicalization and promoting deradicalization. The OPEN MINDS project recognizes this fact and aims to provide interventions that promote social inclusion and prevent radicalization. By providing alternative identities and promoting community engagement, individuals can feel a sense of belonging and reduce their vulnerability to radicalization. The interventions proposed by the project can be a valuable tool in promoting social inclusion and preventing radicalization.