



Welcome to the 5th PROTON newsletter

PROTON moves toward its conclusion at the end of September 2019. This third year is allowing partners to consolidate the intermediate methodological steps to arrive to the final result of the PROTON Wizard. It will allow policy makers to simulate the effects that preventive and control policies will have upon the recruitment processes of criminal and terrorist organizations. The “what if” question is the key to explain this wizard. For organised crime, the question will be declined as follows: “what will the impact on the recruitment processes be if countries involved will develop and implement primary, secondary socialization policies? And/or crime control policies?”

The time and resources spent on preparing the two Agent Based Models for Organised Crime and Terrorism and the experiments that have been developed in parallel are the input of the wizard. These were the only reliable methodological solutions for simulating reality, considering that no one will answer or explicitly show his/her attitude to be recruited by a criminal or a terrorist organization. The contribution of the policy makers involved in the project will help to focus more on the results reinforcing the dialog with the researchers that in PROTON have developed the intermediate steps.

By the end of March, the deliverable on ABM will be ready detailing inputs and rules for the simulation and wizard. This document will be the basis for the discussion with policy makers to be held in Palermo on the 17th and 18th June and hosted by the City of Palermo, partner in PROTON. After then, we will celebrate the project’s conclusion in Ghent on the 18th of September with a final conference in connection with the European Society of Criminology Conference, that will follow the day after. Therefore, colleagues of all Europe and policy makers, beyond those involved in the project, will have the opportunity to discuss the conclusions of the project, which will continue with the publications of its results.

Finally, we inform you that our Privacy Policy has been updated in compliance with the EU General Data Protection Regulation, no. 679/2016. To this regard, please see our [privacy policy](#). If you would like to un-subscribe, send an e-mail to [this address](#). You are also invited to follow PROTON’s [company page](#) and [discussion group](#) on LinkedIn.

Ernesto Ugo Savona,
PROTON Scientific Coordinator

News from the PROTON project



Filming the birth of an idea

A video outlining PROTON's innovative, science-based approach against organised crime and terrorist networks is now available

PROTON has released a video illustrating the ideas behind one of its main research output in the fight to recruitment to organised crime and terrorist networks, namely the development of PROTON-S.



Sharing the innovation of PROTON

The mission, concept and main aspects of PROTON were presented at a workshop on EU security projects in Brussels

On the 5th of December 2018 the PROTON project was presented at the Workshop [European Projects on Societal Security and Extremism: Exchanging Ideas and Practices](#) held at the Institute for European Studies of the Vrije Universiteit Brussel (VUB) in Brussels, Belgium.



Offering solutions to the world's effort against crime

A side event on lessons from PROTON was held on 18 October 2018 at the Conference of Parties to the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime

The PROTON project, its methodology and objectives were the focus of a dedicated side event of the 2018 [Ninth session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime](#).



Getting ready for the final step

The members of the PROTON project have met to organise future activities and discuss how to best develop Agent-Based Simulations for crime prevention

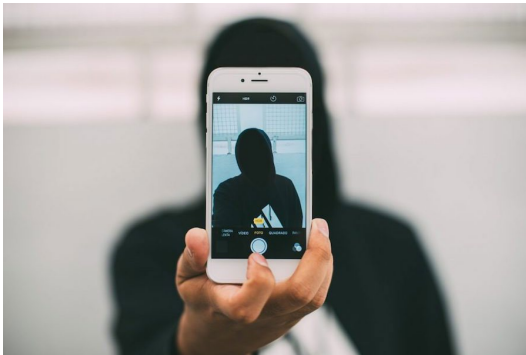
Partners of the PROTON Consortium have gathered in Milan (Italy) on the 15th and 16th of October 2018. The goal was to discuss the progress made during the first half of the project and organise the work to be done in the next months.



Terrorism recruitment on the dark web

How do terrorists recruit people on the anonymous corner of the internet known as the dark web? We asked security expert Michael Osborne

What kind of person is susceptible to being recruited into joining a terrorist group? How do internet users become involved in online markets selling weapons, drugs and other contraband?



Fighting terrorism online: prevention is better than cure

The EU launches the fight against online terrorism with new rules to tackle propaganda and recruiting on social media. But how effective could they be?

To what extent do internet and social media help to spread terrorist propaganda and recruiting? EU officials seem to think that they actually contribute a lot.

Recommended events



[2019 Criminology Symposium](#)

10 - 12 June 2019 | Stockholm,
Sweden



[ESA Conference 2019](#)

20 - 23 August 2019 | Manchester,
UK



[19th Annual Conference of the European Society of Criminology](#)

18 - 21 September 2019 | Ghent,
Belgium



[Social Simulation Conference 2019](#)

23 - 27 September 2019 | Mainz,
Germany



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