




DHS's Countering Violent Extremism and Active Shooter (CVE-AS) Mission

THE DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY (DHS) VISION

The vision of homeland security is to ensure a homeland that is safe, secure, and resilient against terrorism and other hazards. Three key concepts form the foundation of our national homeland security strategy designed to achieve this vision:

-  Security
-  Resilience
-  Customs and Exchange

DHS's VIOLENT EXTREMISM PREVENTION AND ACTIVE SHOOTER MISSION:

The threat posed by violent extremism is neither constrained by international borders nor limited to any single ideology. Additionally, the trends of Active Shooter individuals have grown more complex with numerous motivating factors. Groups and individuals inspired by a range of personal, religious, political, or other ideological beliefs have promoted and used violence. Accordingly, DHS has designed a Countering Violent Extremism and Active Shooter (CVE-AS) approach that applies to all forms of violent extremism, regardless of ideology; which focuses not on radical thought or speech, but instead on preventing violent attacks. Increasingly sophisticated use of the internet, mainstream and social media, and information technology by violent extremists and active shooters adds an additional layer of complexity.

To counter violent extremism and prevent active shooter incidents, the Department is working with a broad range of government and civilian partners to gain a better understanding of the behaviors, tactics, and other indicators that could point to potential violent and/or terrorist activity; and the best ways to mitigate or prevent that activity. Supporting communities and local law enforcement through collaboration, information sharing, and outreach efforts (e.g. 'See Something, Say Something'TM and 'Run, Hide, Fight') is imperative to bringing awareness to the public and accurate, appropriate, and relevant information to our federal, state and local partners. This approach supports our stakeholders to prevent, protect against, mitigate, respond to, and recover from threats or incidents.

Our approach to CVE and AS emphasizes the strength of local communities. DHS aims to enhance incident preparedness through a "whole community" approach by providing training, products, and resources to a broad range of stakeholders on issues such as active shooter awareness and violent extremism. We begin with the premise that well-informed and –equipped families, communities, and local institutions represent the best defense against violent and terrorist ideologies. And while our primary purpose is to prevent an active shooter incident or a terrorist and violent extremist attack by an individual or group recruited by violent extremist organization or inspired by a violent extremist ideology, we also support strong and resilient communities as important ends themselves.

CVE-AS MISSION PRIORITIES:

The Department's efforts are categorized into three broad objectives, listed below:

- ✚ Understanding Violent Extremism - Support and coordinate efforts to better understand the phenomenon of individual and group violent extremism, including assessing the threat it poses to the nation as a whole within specific communities;
- ✚ Support Local Communities - Bolster efforts to catalyze, prepare, and support non-governmental, community-based programs, and strengthen relationships with communities that may experience an active shooter event or be targeted for recruitment by violent extremists; and
- ✚ Support Local Law Enforcement – Disrupt and deter recruitment or individual mobilization through support for local law enforcement programs, including information-driven, community-oriented policing efforts that for decades have proven effective in preventing violent crime.

HSIN CVE-AS Web Portal:

One of the venues utilized by DHS to promote information and intelligence sharing on a broad range of topics is the joint DHS and FBI Countering Violent Extremism and Active Shooter (CVE-AS) web portal on DHS's Homeland Security Information Network (HSIN). The new CVE-AS portal provides a more user-friendly environment to promote information sharing and collaboration between Federal, State, Local, Private, civilian, and International entities working to counter the threat of violent extremists and help prevent active shooter incidents.

The portal provides a well-organized listing of topics so users can quickly locate and access the information relevant to their interests. The Portal provides videos and training resources as well as a document library with intelligence, federal, academia, and other resources covering numerous CVE and AS topics. It provides a forum for the exchange of Unclassified For Official Use Only (FOUO), Sensitive But Unclassified (SBU) and Law Enforcement Sensitive (LES) information to sworn, full-time, Federal, State and Local law enforcement officers; federal employees affiliated with the criminal justice system or intelligence communities; military personnel and government agencies associated with infrastructure protection of the United States. The CVE-AS web portal also shares Unclassified FOUO and SBU information with private sector partners, civilian security personnel, corporate executives, educational institutions/academia, international federal and Law Enforcement partners, community leaders and other State and Local partners, as appropriate. In addition, the portal includes information on outreach initiatives, subject matter experts and forums to provide feedback, share products and ask questions.

To implement this approach, we are working closely with our federal and international partners, as well as our many partners at the community, state, local, and tribal level across the country. We are an important partner in supporting the *National Strategy on Empowering Local Partners to Prevent Violent Extremism* and the *Strategic Implementation Plan (SIP) for Empowering Local Partners to Prevent Violent Extremism in the United States* which President Obama released in 2011 and the *Implementing Recommendations of the 9/11 Commission Act of 2007*.

For more information on the CVE-AS mission and who can obtain access to the portal, visit www.dhs.gov/cveas-portal.

Suspicious Activity Indicators

DEFINED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY AND POTENTIAL TERRORISM NEXUS ACTIVITY

Category	Description of Possible Indicator
Breach/Attempted Intrusion	Unauthorized personnel attempting to or actually entering a restricted area or protected site. Impersonation of authorized personnel (e.g. police/security, janitor).
Misrepresentation	Presenting false or misusing insignia, documents, and/or identification, to misrepresent one's affiliation to cover possible illicit activity.
Theft/Loss/Diversion	Stealing or diverting something associated with a facility/infrastructure (e.g., badges, uniforms, identification, emergency vehicles, technology or documents (classified or unclassified), which are proprietary to the facility.
Sabotage/Tampering/Vandalism	Damaging, manipulating, or defacing part of a facility/infrastructure or protected site.
Cyber Attack	Compromising or attempting to compromise or disrupt an organization's information technology infrastructure.
Expressed or Implied Threat	Communicating a spoken or written threat to damage or compromise a facility/infrastructure.
Aviation Activity	Operation of an aircraft in a manner that reasonably may be interpreted as suspicious, or posing a threat to people or property. Such operation may or may not be a violation of Federal Aviation Regulations.

POTENTIAL CRIMINAL OR NON-CRIMINAL ACTIVITY REQUIRING ADDITIONAL FACT INFORMATION DURING INVESTIGATION***

Category	Description of Possible Indicator
Eliciting Information	Questioning individuals at a level beyond mere curiosity about particular facets of a facility's or building's purpose, operations, security procedures, etc., which would arouse suspicion in a reasonable person.
Testing or Probing of Security Recruiting	Deliberate interactions with, or challenges to installations, personnel, or systems that reveal physical, personnel or cyber security capabilities. Building of operations teams and contacts, personnel data or travel data.
Recruiting	Building operations teams and contacts, personnel data, banking data, or travel data.
Photography	Taking pictures or video of facilities, buildings, or infrastructure in a manner that would arouse suspicion in a reasonable person. Examples include taking pictures or video of infrequently used access points, personnel performing security functions (patrols, badge/vehicle checking), security-related equipment (perimeter fencing, security cameras) etc.
Observation/Surveillance	Demonstrating unusual interest in facilities, buildings, or infrastructure beyond mere casual or professional (e.g. engineers) interest such that a reasonable person would consider the activity suspicious. Examples include observation through binoculars, taking notes, attempting to measure distances, etc.

Materials Acquisition/Storage	Acquisition and/or storage of unusual quantities of materials such as cell phones, pagers, fuel, chemicals, toxic materials, and timers, such that a reasonable person would suspect criminal activity.
Acquisition of Expertise	Attempts to obtain or conduct training in security concepts; military weapons or tactics or other unusual capabilities that would arouse suspicion in a reasonable person.
Weapons Discovery	Discovery of unusual amounts of weapons or explosives that would arouse suspicion in a reasonable person.
Sector-Specific Incident	Actions associated with a characteristic of unique concern to specific sectors (such as the public health sector), with regard to their personnel, facilities, systems or functions.

*****Note:** These activities are generally First Amendment-protected activities and should not be reported in a SAR or ISE-SAR absent articulable facts and circumstances that support the source agency's suspicion that the behavior observed is not innocent, but rather reasonably indicative of criminal activity associated with terrorism, including evidence of pre-operational planning related to terrorism. Race, ethnicity, national origin, or religious affiliation should not be considered as factors that create suspicion (although these factors may be used as specific suspect descriptions).

If you witness any of the above defined criminal activities or valid suspicious behaviors, please contact your local Police Station and/or local FBI Field Office.

18 PAGE(S) OF RECORDS

Referred to DHS S&T

40 PAGE(S) OF DOCUMENT(S)

Referred to Department of Justice

141 PAGE(S) OF RECORDS

Referred to DHS PRIVACY OFFICE

Middle East Broadcasting Networks, Inc.

Fast Facts

Audience	Weekly reach of more than 25 million
Headquarters	Springfield, Va.
Language	Arabic
Outlets	Alhurra TV, Alhurra-Iraq, Radio Sawa, Afia Darfur, RadioSawa.com and Alhurra.com

Overview

The Middle East Broadcasting Networks, Inc. (MBN) is a non-profit grantee of the Broadcasting Board of Governors that operates Alhurra Television and Radio Sawa. MBN is a multimedia organization that enables the U.S. to communicate to the Middle East via television, radio and the Internet.

Alhurra Television broadcasts objective and accurate Arabic-language news and information to 22 countries throughout the Middle East and North Africa. In addition to reporting on world

events, Alhurra provides context and analysis to give viewers a broader understanding of the actions impacting the region.

MBN also broadcasts a second channel specifically for Iraq. Alhurra-Iraq is broadcast via satellite, as well as via terrestrial transmitters in five Iraqi cities. Alhurra-Iraq's news and current affairs programs concentrate on issues facing the Iraqi viewers as they move into a new era, rebuilding their country.

Launched in 2002, Radio Sawa effectively reaches a significant portion of the influential under-35 population of the Middle East. Broadcasting 24/7, mostly on FM, Radio Sawa provides its audience with reliable and objective up-to-date news, interesting information and an upbeat blend of mainstream Western and Arabic popular music. Radio Sawa broadcasts more than six hours of news and information each day.

Alhurra and Radio Sawa's all news Websites provide the most up-to-date news and information in Arabic on the Web.

Mission

MBN's mission is to provide objective, accurate, and relevant news and information to the people of the Middle East about the region, the world, and the United States. MBN supports democratic values by expanding the spectrum of ideas, opinions, and perspectives available in the region's media.

Staff

MBN's Arabic-speaking editorial staff generates much of the news from a facility in Springfield, Va. Alhurra and Radio Sawa have bureaus and production centers in Baghdad, Dubai, Beirut, Cairo and Jerusalem, as well as correspondents and stringers throughout the Middle East and the United States.

Distribution

Alhurra and Alhurra-Iraq are distributed around-the-clock on Nilesat and Arabsat covering the entire Arab-speaking world from the Atlantic Ocean to the Gulf. Additionally, Alhurra-Iraq is also available terrestrially in Baghdad, Al Hilla, Basra, Tekreet, and Mosul. Alhurra HD is broadcast on Eutelsat Hotbird. Live streaming can be found at www.alhurra.com.

Radio Sawa broadcasts on FM in Jordan, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates, the Palestinian Territories, Qatar, Lebanon, Bahrain, Morocco, Sudan, Libya, Mauritania and Djibouti as well as in Iraq. It is broadcast on medium wave (AM) from transmitters in Cyprus (covering Egypt, Lebanon, Syria, Gaza and the Eastern Mediterranean), in UAE (covering parts of Saudi Arabia), in Kuwait (covering Iraq) and in Djibouti (covering Sudan, Yemen and parts of Saudi Arabia). Radio Sawa is also available on Arabsat, Nilesat and Eutelsat Hotbird. Streaming audio is available on the Internet at www.radiosawa.com.

For more information about MBN contact:
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Raise Your Voice

The Middle East Broadcasting Networks (MBN) *Raise Your Voice* campaign is designed as a platform that encourages Iraqi citizens to speak out and be a part of the discussion about the fight against extremism and the underlying causes of terrorism. MBN's brands have established their credibility in the highly biased media environment by presenting accurate and objective news and information. MBN brands reach nearly 41% of the adult Iraqi population weekly, and 85% of the audience say that Alhurra-Iraq and Radio Sawa's content is credible.

How *Raise Your Voice (RYV)* campaign is different:

- Instead of responding to daily news events, the *RYV* campaign focuses on the underlying conditions that have allowed Daesh to grow. *RYV* explores topics such as women's rights, free speech, sectarian tension, unemployment, lack of youth opportunities, religious intolerance, and the building of a fair and equitable civil society.
- *RYV* leverages the reach and credibility of MBN brands. When consuming Alhurra-Iraq and Radio Sawa, Iraqis know they are watching, listening and reading opinions and discussions without political and sectarian bias.
- *RYV* provides an opportunity for the Iraqi population to voice their opinions and discuss issues relevant to their daily lives. The campaign will crossover digital, television and radio making it accessible to all Iraqis.
- The goal is to encourage Iraqis to seek constructive solutions to the problems that afflict this troubled country.

The main components of the *RYV* campaign are:

DIGITAL

- ***www.irfaasawtak.com***-- This interactive website creates a community where the underlying causes for extremism are discussed openly and respectfully. The website concentrates on a different theme every week and will be a platform where essayists, reporters and the broader community can share their thoughts and opinions.

TELEVISION

- ***What is Your Opinion***—A weekly call-in program that would provide Iraqi citizens an outlet to share their thoughts and feelings towards the situation in Iraq. The show will host Iraqi government officials, religious figures and community leaders who can answer questions and share their perspectives with Iraqi callers.
- ***Your Question***—This monthly program serves as a platform where activists, young people and students can ask questions to people they do not normally have access to. Each episode will focus on a different topic such as freedom of expression, sectarian relationships and the importance of interfaith harmony.
- ***From Irbil***—Kurdistan is not well represented in the major Arabic-language satellite television networks. *From Irbil* will be a weekly program in Arabic that reports from the streets of Kurdistan and will focus on the plurality of Iraq, discussing issues that are important to Kurds, Shias and Sunnis.
- ***Light Among Us***—A weekly program coming from the streets of Iraq, it will be dedicated to stories of Iraqis who have overcome challenges and obstacles to better their lives and their country despite the current crisis.
- ***Delusional Paradise***—A weekly program from across the MENA region that features stories of families and communities who have suffered at the hands of Daesh. Whether it is a family member that has joined Daesh or a community that has lost loved ones at the hands of the extremist group, the program examines how people throughout the region are struggling to cope and tell the true story of the savagery of Daesh.

RADIO

- ***What is Your Opinion***—A daily call-in program on Radio Sawa's Iraq stream during evening drive time. The program's two Iraqi hosts will field calls and social media interaction throughout the program. Like its counterpart on TV, this program will discuss topics that serve as the root causes of Daesh.

For more information about MBN or Raise Your Voice contact:
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