



In partnership with



**Brussels International Center**  
**Interactive Dialogue**  
**Education and Youth Radicalisation**

31 January 2018 – 11 – 13:00  
Press Club, Rue Froissart, 95, 1040 – Brussels

The Brussels International Center for Research and Human Rights (BIC-RHR) invites you to a conversation with **H.E. Dr. Ali Rashid Al Nuaimi**, the distinguished Chairman of **Hedayah, the International Center of Excellence for Countering Violent Extremism**, to discuss the role of education in preventing youth radicalization and violent extremism.

Research generally agrees that education can have a pacifying effect on violence, largely by raising the opportunity costs of joining rebel and extremist groups.<sup>i</sup> However, many studies show that the effectiveness of education depends on mediating factors such as the type of education, income inequality, the country's level of natural resources, and unemployment.<sup>ii</sup> Some evidence shows, for example, that many radicalized youth are educated entrepreneurs who join extremist groups for access to financial services, such as small loans to grow their enterprises.<sup>iii</sup>

As our understanding of how and why youth become radicalized continues to evolve, it is ever more important to contemplate innovative solutions to prevent this phenomenon from spreading. For example, the arrival of a “post-truth” era, in which facts have unprecedented elasticity, presents new challenges and opportunities for the dissemination of information via social media.

This open dialogue will bring together leading experts, academics, think tank representatives, and EU officials, to develop and build upon strategies to mediate and prevent youth radicalization. The event will be held in the Press Club, Rue Froissart 95, 1040 Brussels, and will be held in a moderated, open-discussion format. Please see attached draft discussion questions.

**About Hedayah Chairman, H.E. Dr. Ali Rashid Al Nuaimi:**

Dr. Al Nuaimi has contributed enormously to the Educational Sector in the UAE for more than thirty years in his capacity as the Chancellor of the UAE University and as the Advisor to the Minister of Education, in which he made significant contributions to the development of higher and tertiary education in the UAE. As Hedayah's Chairman, Dr. Al Nuaimi will highlight the Center's main initiatives, and share his expertise on the importance of education in countering violent extremism.

**Confirmed Participants from the following organizations:**

1. Hedayah
2. European Commission
3. United Nations Liaison Office for Peace and Security
4. European Parliament Research Service
5. Radicalisation Awareness Network
6. European Policy Centre
7. European Network Against Racism
8. World Vision
9. European Movement International
10. European Foundation for Democracy
11. Unrepresented Nations and Peoples Organization
12. UNU-MERIT
13. Lifelong Learning Platform
14. European Volunteer Centre
15. Youth for Exchange and Understanding
16. Ceapire
17. GO! - onderwijs
18. Brussels International Centre

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<sup>i</sup> Gudrun Otsby, Henrik Urdal. "Education and Conflict: A Review of the Quantitative, Empirical Literature." 2011.

<sup>ii</sup> Ratna Ghosh, Ashley Manuel, W.Y. Alice Chan, Maihemuti Dilimulati, Mehdi Babaei. "Education and Security: A Global Literature Review on the Role of Education in Countering Violent Religious Extremism." Tony Blair Faith Foundation. (2016).

<sup>iii</sup> Mercy Corps. "Motivations and Empty Promises: Voices of Former Boko Haram Combatants and Nigerian Youth." (2016).