EUROPEAN COMMISSION
RESEARCH EXECUTIVE AGENCY

Safeguarding Secure Society

Brussels, 06/12/2019
REA.B4/CLO/

Dr Bernhard JAEGER
SYNYO Gmbh
Otto-Bauer-Gasse 5/14
1060, Wien, Austria

Sent by formal e-notification only

Subject: **Result of the final review of your H2020 project TAKEDOWN – Grant Agreement Number 700688**

Dear Dr JAEGER,

The present communication follows the final review of your project TAKEDOWN held in Brussels on 29 October 2019.

In this respect, I hereby inform you that based on the enclosed review report drafted by the experts, the Research Executive Agency (REA) has decided to allow the project to be finalised without modifications. The REA approval of deliverables is set out in the enclosed review report. There are no rejected deliverables.

I would like to acknowledge the very good progress made by the project during the last reporting period and, in this respect, I would like to inform you that the REA has decided to flag your project as a success story.

Yours faithfully,

- e-signed -

Cristina Longo
Research Programme Administrator

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
RESEARCH EXECUTIVE AGENCY

B.4 Safeguarding secure societies

GENERAL PROJECT REVIEW CONSOLIDATED REPORT

Grant agreement (GA) number:	700688
Project[1] acronym:	TAKEDOWN
Project title:	Understand the Dimensions of Organised Crime and Terrorist Networks for Developing Effective and Efficient Security Solutions for First-line-practitioners and Professionals
Type of action:	RIA
Start date of the project:	1 September 2016
Duration of the project:	36
Name of primary coordinator contact and organisation:	Peter LEITNER, SYNYO GmbH
Period covered by the report:	from 1 March 2018 to 31 August 2019
Periodic report/Reporting period number:	2, final
Date of first submission of the periodic report (if applicable):	Nov 18, 2019
Date of latest version of Annex 1 to the GA (Description of the Action - DoA) against which the assessment is performed	Jun 8, 2017
Date of meeting with consortium (if applicable):	*29 October 2019*
Names of monitors:	Dr. Daniela Pisoiu, Prof. Almir Maljevic

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[1] 'Project' means the same thing as 'action'.

1. Overall assessment

Overall assessment

The project has fully achieved its objectives and milestones for the period.

Significant results linked to dissemination, exploitation and impact potential

The project has delivered exceptional results with significant immediate or potential impact (even if not all objectives mentioned in the Annex 1 GA were achieved).

The project has several exploitable results: the model to analyse, identify and address OC and terrorism, which has both a scientific and a practical value, as it helps LEAs and practitioners to better understand and tackle this issue, including through the connection to concrete solutions.

Another exploitable result is the reporting tool which can be used by citizens to identify the correct authority to contact.

The two obvious exploitable results are the two platforms: fightcrimeterrorism.com and firstlinepractitioners.com, which have both been created in close consultation with the stakeholders that are going to use them. The dissemination activities have been exceptionally broad among these target groups which will ensure an adequate impact.

General comments

The main scientific achievement of the project is the model to both understand individual involvement in, and tackle OC and terrorism, which is remarkable, given that these two literatures have traditionally development separately, and in spite of the occasional observations that there are parallels between the two involvement processes.

There is a clear impact on technology and society, as companies, including smaller ones, will have the possibility to market their products directly to potential users, while overall the improvement in the identification, detection and prevention work will contribute to a more safe and secure society.

The dissemination of activities and results has been particularly extensive, and the numbers of invitees, attendees and followers on the social media is very high.

The project has achieved its objectives – in terms of some of the KPIs even overachieved, deliverables and milestones have been submitted and concluded as foreseen.

The use of the resources has been dully explained and is good value for money.

Recommendations concerning the period covered by the report

The deliverables have generally achieved what was promised, and none is rejected at during this reporting period; however, some actions should be undertaken concerning the design and presentation of the platform firstlinepractitioners.com, in order to make it more useable for stakeholders and thus enhance the achievement of the objectives -see below.

Recommendations concerning future work

In the following are some concrete recommendations for the firstlinepractitioners.com platform. These are essential in order to ensure a high quality of this product and broad access to it.

- More precision should be applied with regard to the definition and contents of the categories: tools and practices/practices evaluation: classification rather than evaluation, as this is not entirely an evaluation in the classical sense of output, outcome, impact; narrow down examples, as strategy for example is not a practice, but an approach, a declaration of principles and future intentions.

- Tools and practices/practitioners toolkit: check and refine the selection of practices so that it fits the topic well; e.g. in Prison and Probation there are a number of practices that pertain to other fields. While there are obviously overlaps, the practices in one category should be clearly identifiable as pertaining to it. Also here, some of the practices are not practices but institutions, such as the various centres.

- Tools and practices/practitioners toolkit: there is a clear lack of relevant practices in the area of communication and media – se for example the large number of counter-narratives campaigns.

- Tools and practices/practitioners toolkit: check and refine the selection and/or denomination of public services; for example instead of 'Leitfaden Radikalisierung', which in fact is called Leitfaden Radikalismus, there should be the Fachstelle für Gewaltprävention, which is the actual service. In another instance, a strategy is not a service, etc.

- Tools and practices/practitioners toolkit: it is not clear how the cases and their details connect to the introduced tools and public services introduced.

- The reporting advisor should be placed in a separate button and visible from the very beginning, thus lowering the barrier for citizens to access this service.

- More communication with RAN should be undertaken to coordinate categories and content – one of the reviewers offered to help with establishing a better connection.

- The items under News and Knowledge need to be significantly increased to reflect the landscape, and not limit themselves to information and items derived from this project and other similar ones in which partners have been involved. An alternative would be to limit the kinds of news and knowledge by geography or some other criterion. One option would be to link it to existing libraries from other projects.

- Under Knowledge there is not section on terrorism.

2. Objectives and workplan

Is the progress reported in line with objectives and work plan as specified in the DoA? If there are significant deviations, please comment.	Yes

The objectives of the project have been achieved as follows:

- Analyse the body of scientific knowledge, outcomes from EU-projects as well as further data and indicators that address organized crime and terrorist networks, connected with an interdisciplinary review of existing models regarding their explanatory power and their usability; understand the social, psychological and economic aspects of processes that lead to

OC/TN and their impact on social cohesion by doing empirical research on first-line practitioners, policy makers and researchers, combined with interviews, focus groups and workshops with law enforcement agencies and other affected groups – through extensive literature reviews and collection of interviews, surveys and focus groups data with relevant stakeholders.

- Develop dynamic, multi-dimensional models for both organized crime and terrorist networks that reflect the complexity of individual and structural dimensions, geographical scale as well as the forms and levels of responses related to different stakeholder groups and practitioners – was achieved through the conceptualization of a model based on Situational Analysis Theory and which includes three main components related to individual gain, loss and indistinguishability. The model has been tested on real cases and discussed with stakeholders.

- Create a set of validated, research-based and multilingual TAKEDOWN Toolkits including action plans, response strategies, technological concepts, and best practices, with focus on specific needs of first-line-practitioners as well as professionals in law enforcement, and create policy recommendations and policy briefs for policy makers. – achieved through the creation of the two platforms firstlinepractitioners.com and fightcrimeterrorism.com, which include all the mentioned elements.

- Build a web based TAKEDOWN Open Information Hub with knowledge and public service modules, helpline navigators, toolkits and materials for practitioners, and a centralised, intelligent reporting tool on digital cases of OC/TN with modern crowd-tagging functionalities. – achieved through the firstlinepractitioners.com platform.

- Develop a modular TAKEDOWN Solutions Platform build as a flexible PaaS hosting digital security solutions for professionals with a centralised Security Solution Dashboard that is aggregating solution activity streams and includes digital reporting tool alert visualisations. – achieved through the fightcrimeterrorism.com platform.

- Leverage the collaboration between the research community, public agencies, practitioners and industry (especially SMEs) providing a digital TAKEDOWN Professional Advisor to support the selection of the right solutions providers, experts and approaches to tackle OC/TN challenges. – achieved through the data collection activities that included survey, focus groups and workshops with these stakeholders.

Are the objectives of the project still scientifically and/or technologically relevant?	Yes

The project continues to be scientifically and technologically relevant, as it remains an innovative model that combines OC and terrorism analysis and assessment in one, while the platform for LEAs allows the marketing and implementation of ever new technologies in their practical work.

Are the critical implementation risks and mitigation actions described in the DoA still relevant?	Yes

The GDPR risk mentioned in the previous review has been addressed.

Have the ethics deliverables due for the current period been adequately addressed and approved?	Yes

Yes, and ethics review has been successfully performed.

Have the comments and recommendations from previous project reviews been taken into account?	Yes
Yes.	

3. Impact

Does the work carried out contribute to the expected impacts detailed in the DoA?	Yes

The project fully addresses the following objectives:

- understanding organised crime and terrorist networks, through the extensive literature review, the model proposed to understand and target OC and terrorism, through the extensive dissemination activities and the close cooperation with end users, both from the perspective of needs assessment and the practical use of these tools in their daily work.

- identification, prevention and intervention through the collection and dissemination of effective tool for practitioners, by creating platforms where first line practitioners and law enforcement can access these tools, and by creating the possibility of newly developed tools to be disseminated to law enforcement.

- safety and security in European societies by collecting and disseminating effective tools and approaches to be used by practitioners and by including a reporting mechanism to be used by citizens.

The project addresses indirectly the impact items of: challenging social inequality and social cohesion, in that the tools and approaches proposed in the area of prevention also include addressing underlying causes for radicalisation at the societal level.

Does the work carried out follow the plan detailed in the DoA to enhance innovation capacity, create new markets opportunities, strengthen competitiveness and growth of companies, address issues related to climate change or the environment, address industrial and/or societal needs at regional level or bring other important benefits for society? Give information on the relevant innovation activities carried out (prototypes, testing activities, standards, clinical trials) and/or new product, service, reference materials, process or method (to be) launched to the market, if any. *[*	Yes

The project has the potential of increasing safety and security in European societies, through the broad access to the tools for practitioners and law enforcement on the two platforms. Given the close cooperation with these target groups, during the phases of research, development and dissemination, this usage can be assumed. Furthermore, the lead partner envisages the commercialisation of the platform in a number of ways, such as by collecting fees or advising the LEAs on choosing appropriate products.

Does the work carried out contribute towards European policy objectives and strategies and have an impact on policy making?	Yes

The project have an impact on security policies, by bringing policy stakeholders closer to concrete solutions and thus exploiting these new technologies for policy purposes.

Does (or will) the work carried out have an impact on SMEs?	Yes
The lead partner envisages to submit a bid for dedicated SME funding in order to commercialise the platform.	

4. Implementation

Has the project been efficiently and effectively managed?	Yes
The project has been managed in a very efficient way.	
Is the management of the project in line with the obligations of beneficiaries (including ethics and security requirements, risk and innovation management, if applicable)?	Yes
All the obligations of the beneficiaries such as ethics and security management have been well managed.	
Is the contribution of each beneficiary in line with the work committed in the DoA?	Yes
All partners have been actively engaged throughout the project. There have been some budgetary shifts within the consortium, which were dully justified.	
Have the beneficiaries disseminated project results (foreground) in scientific publications as planned in the DoA (including the deposition of publications in open access repositories)? Do they include a reference to EU funding?	Yes
The final period has seen a significant increase in the dissemination activities – both scientific and operational.	
Have the beneficiaries disseminated and communicated project activities and results by other means than scientific publications (social media, press-release, the project web site, video/film, etc) as planned in the DoA? Do they include a reference to EU funding?	Yes
The project has been proactive in the use of social media and other traditional communication channels (e.g. project website, videos and other information material). The very well-structured project website has been constantly updated with significant information following the progress made.	
Has the plan for the exploitation and dissemination of the results (if required) been updated and implemented as described in the DoA, in particular as regards intellectual property rights? Is it appropriate?	Yes
Yes, the exploitation and implementation plan is according to the specifications in the DoA, includes market uptake and the exploitation of outcomes, is very extensive and includes concrete initiatives of both the partner individuals and the consortium as a whole.	

Has the data management plan (DMP) (if required) been updated and implemented? Is it appropriate? *Give details if a (further) update is needed.*	Yes
A data management plan was submitted as deliverable and has been updated	

5. Resources

Were the resources used as described in the DoA and were they necessary to achieve its objectives? If there are deviations from planned budget, have they been satisfactorily explained? Have they been used in a manner consistent with the principle of sound financial management (in particular economy, efficiency and effectiveness)?	Yes
There have been deviations in the distributions of the budget among partners – this has been justified. Also, the overall spending has been higher, especially due to activities in WP8 (dissemination), which have been well explained and of exceptionally broad reach.	

Annex 1

Expert opinion on deliverables

Expert opinion on deliverables			
Deliverable number	**Deliverable name**	**Status**	**Comments**
D.2.7	Update of the stakeholders and key representatives collection	*Accepted*	The update of the initial collection of stakeholders and key representatives has been completed and includes 338 scholars, researchers and scientists, 96 training providers, 123 LEA/PPP, 107 NPO/NGOs, 105 first-line practitioners, 312 policy makers, 76 media channels and journalists and 51 security solution providers.
D.2.8	Update of the response approaches and policies documentation	*Accepted*	The update included as foreseen new responses by European countries and suggested revisions of current legislation, as well as policy recommendations.
D.2.9	Update of the solution and public services documentation	*Accepted*	The deliverable updated the solution ecosystem and the collection of public services reaching a number of 232 digital security solution and 135 public security services.
D.4.6	Validated practitioners-toolkits and policy recommendations	*Accepted*	The final version of the toolkit and policy recommendations (23) has been completed. The toolkit has been included on the website and constitutes an accessible mechanism to access information about practices and thus support practitioner decision making.
D.5.1	Documentation of the architecture and mockups	*Accepted*	Specify key use cases, define the technical platform architecture and design intuitive mockups for the Open information Hub: implemented.
D.5.2	Documentation of the content implementation	*Accepted*	Develop the OC/TN Open Information Hub and implement Response Navigators, Interactive Guidelines and public contents: implemented.
D.5.3	Documentation of the reporting tool integration	*Accepted*	Integrate a digital OC/TN Reporting Tool and implement connection channels to law enforcement agencies and related actors: implemented.
D.5.4	Documentation of public service modules	*Accepted*	Program additional TAKEDOWN Public Service Modules for various stakeholders on the gathered requirements and concepts – implemented.

D.5.5	Documentation of visualisations and video guides	*Accepted*	Provide interactive info-graphs, data visualisations and video guides on OC/TN Response and Actions and for citizens and the public: implemented.
D.5.6	Update on the public service modules	*Accepted*	Addition of new tools and services and description of functionalities.
D.6.1	Documentation of key use-cases, digital solutions and mockups (status report)	*Accepted*	Define key use cases, specify core digital security solutions and design mockups for the platform and the planned solutions: implemented.
D.6.2	Documentation of the architecture development (status report)	*Accepted*	Develop the TAKEDOWN Solutions Platform as a Service (PaaS) for professionals with intelligent APIs to include third party security solutions: implemented.
D.6.3	Documentation of the modules programming (status report)	*Accepted*	Program additional TAKEDOWN Digital Security Solutions focusing on intelligent OC/TN identification and threat management: implemented.
D.6.4	Documentation of the solution provider integration (status report)	*Accepted*	Integrate digital security solution providers via unique APIs into the TAKEDOWN PaaS acting as a huge demo pool for professionals: implemented.
D.6.5	Documentation of security dashboard development (status report)	*Accepted*	Provide TAKEDOWN OC/TN Security Dashboards aggregating the service information streams of native and third party solutions: implemented.
D.6.6	Documentation of the professional advisor implementation (status report)	*Accepted*	Implement the TAKEDOWN Professional Advisor supporting the selection of relevant approaches and security solutions to tackle OC/TN: implemented.
D.6.7	Update of the professional advisor implementation (status report)	*Accepted*	It includes the final report on this component, the database model as well as a comprehensive technical documentation of the market place, the registration and the data administration system and the smart product advisor
D.7.1	Test and validation plan	*Accepted*	Conceptualisation and methodology of the solutions: implemented.

D.7.2	Platform deployment	*Accepted*	Implemented. Demonstrator and an additional technical documentation.
D.7.3	Report on the validation and optimization	*Accepted*	Stakeholder, GDPR and security testing completed.
D.8.4	Communication program execution report 3	*Accepted*	Strong presence online (especially Twitter) and at international events.
D.8.5	Communication program execution report 4	*Accepted*	Trend continues, including the dissemination of newsletters.
D.8.6	Documentation of the scientific contributions (execution report)	*Accepted*	Broad dissemination at scientific events and publication of edited volume.
D.8.7	Exploitation plan	*Accepted*	
D.8.8	Symposium report	*Accepted*	High numbers of international experts and attendees, broad media coverage and online dissemination.
D.4.1	Final project documentation and financial reporting	*Accepted*	Documents the achievement of the objectives. The KPIs have been either achieved or overachieved, with one exception which was rather unrealistic in the proposal to begin with. It also includes recommendations for future research, as foreseen in the DoA.

Annex 2

Expert opinion on milestones

Expert opinion on milestones			
Milestone number	**Milestone name**	**Achieved**	**Comments**
M5	Models, toolkits, policy material and conceptualization finalized	Yes	Achieved.
M6	Status meeting and status report finalized	Yes	Achieved.
M7	Open Information Hub is developed	Yes	Achieved.
M8	TAKEDOWN Security Platform Hub is developed	Yes	Achieved.
M9	Validation is finalized	Yes	Achieved.
M10	Dissemination activities are finalized	Yes	Achieved.
M11	Project finalized and documented	Yes	Achieved.