



Societal  
Security  
Network

VIRTUAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE FOR RESEARCH SUPPORT AND COORDINATION ON SOCIETAL SECURITY

## D9.14 VIDEO INTERVIEW FILM WITH STAKEHOLDERS

This project has received funding from the European Union's Seventh Framework Programme for research, technological development and demonstration under grant agreement no 313288.



Societal  
Security  
Network

01.01.2014  
31.12.2018

info@societalsecurity.net

Coordinator:  
PRIO



[www.societalsecurity.net](http://www.societalsecurity.net)



## D9.14 Video Interview Film with Stakeholders

**Abstract:** The following report presents the conception and realisation of short video interviews with various stakeholders on their perceptions on societal security, future security threats and key actors in addressing these threats.

**Contractual delivery date:** M20

**Actual delivery date:** M20

**Version:** 1

**Total Number of pages:** 15

**Author:** Olof Soebech (VUB)

**Contributors:** Louise Baduel and Christof Roos (VUB), Mirijam Huis in 't Veld (TNO)

**Reviewers:** J. Peter Burgess (PRIO)

**Dissemination level:** PU

Deliverable submitted 24 August 2015(M20) in fulfilment of requirements of the FP7 project, SOURCE – Virtual Centre of excellence for research support and coordination on societal security (SEC-2012.7.4-2: Networking of researchers for a high level multi-organisational and cross-border collaboration)© Copyright 2014 the SOURCE Consortium (PRIO, FOI, CIES, FhG, TNO, CEPS, VUB, VICESSE, KCL, EOS, TEC, Sciences Po). All rights reserved. This document may change without notice.



Introduction.....	1
1. Preparation for the video interviews .....	2
1.1 Selection of individuals to interview.....	2
1.2 Interview Questions .....	2
1.3 Display of video interviews .....	3
2. Interviewees.....	3
Table 1. List of people interviewed.....	4
2.1 Sebastian Denef.....	4
2.2 Ida Haisma .....	5
2.3 Leen Van Duijn .....	6
2.4 Elsa Ray.....	7
2.5 Merete Bilde .....	8
2.6 David Cronin.....	9
2.7 Yvan De Mesmaeker.....	10
3. Conclusions .....	10
Annex 1 – List of people invited for interview .....	12
Annex 2 – Generic Letter sent to invitees* .....	13
Annex 3 – background information sent to invitees .....	14



## Introduction

The aim of task 9.11, which translates into this deliverable 9.14, was to conduct short video interviews with various stakeholders on how they perceive societal security (civil society members/European citizens, scholars and researchers, industry representatives, NGO representatives and policy makers). Security experts from the various stakeholder groups were contacted and invited to participate in a filmed interview. A total of seven people were interviewed and their stories published on the SOURCE project YouTube channel and on the SOURCE project website [www.societalsecurity.net](http://www.societalsecurity.net). Interviewees included policy makers, researchers, civil society representatives, investigative journalists, and industry representatives. The focus of the interviews was to explore their opinions on Europe's future security threats, key actors in addressing these threats and to enquire on their position concerning the role of the concept of societal security. The output of these interviews highlights the diversity of stakeholders within the field, their broad level of expertise and the exciting dynamics of the European security actors.



## 1. Preparation for the video interviews

The first step in developing deliverable 9.14 was to decide on the format of the interviews as well as the number of interviewees. A decision was taken to make separate short videos, rather than creating one long film. The reason for that was both pragmatic, looking at time and budget limitations, but more importantly, it would be more appealing to viewers to watch bite sized episodes. This would also allow viewers to select which individuals to watch. Estimating the time for each interview, including the editing process with a cameraperson and a co-editor, transport, planning and contacting interviewees, a total of seven interviews seemed feasible within the timeframe of the project. Seven interviews also allowed for all the five key stakeholder groups to be covered, along with two additional interviews for enhanced viewing experience.

### 1.1 Selection of individuals to interview

The first method used in identifying key individuals to interview was to reach out to the SOURCE consortium members. Additional key suggestions came from the deliverable participants PRIO and TNO. Another method used to identify people was to participate in SOURCE related events, such as the CEPS led Expert Seminar on "Countering Radicalisation" where two interviewees were selected. Finally, a snowballing method led to further contacts being added to our invitee list.

A total of 28 people were contacted via email (Annex 1). At first ten people were contacted, and then followed further invitations. The reason for this was that we wanted to ensure that all stakeholder groups were covered and that we had a diversity of people represented. Due to some practical restrictions, the interviews conducted were in Belgium and the neighbouring countries, although an interview was conducted in Berlin, and contacts were made in Barcelona and Portugal. Out of the seven interviews conducted, four were outside of Belgium. Gender and age were also considered in ensuring diversity.

### 1.2 Interview Questions

The aim of the video interviews was threefold:

1. To showcase how broad and diverse the societal security stakeholder group is
2. To learn from experts about their views of main security threats for Europe and ways to address those
3. To explore whether, and if so, the concept of societal security is relevant to the interviewees' work, in order to get an idea of experts in the field's view on the concept.

Therefore, the questions asked related to these aims. Naturally, the first question was an introductory one, to see where in the spectrum of the security field that person fit. For researchers, a follow up question could be about interesting projects or research conducted, whereas for a policy maker we asked about interesting policy developments in the field. The following questions then narrowed in on the topic of security threats, key actors, and the



concept of societal security. During the interview sessions, which lasted between 1 and 2.5 hours, other questions came up that were specifically related to a person's field of expertise.

#### List of preliminary questions (Annex 2 and 3)

- How are you involved in the field of security /what do you do?
- In your opinion, what are the main security threats that Europe faces in the near future?
- Who do you think are the most important actors in preventing or addressing these threats?
- What does societal security mean to you? How, if at all, is societal security relevant to your work?
- In your opinion, how can societal security play a role in preventing or in minimizing the threats that Europe faces (if at all)?

### **1.3 Display of video interviews**

The output of deliverable 9.14 is seven 5-8 minute videos. One video was posted per week during the months of June/July and August 2015. A SOURCE project YouTube channel was created where all the videos are to be found.

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UckQTI\\_e8wOUvBewKQitPJgg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UckQTI_e8wOUvBewKQitPJgg)

The main point was though to add them to the SOURCE project website. A special page was created for the display of the videos <http://www.societalsecurity.net/video-interviews>. Additionally, with the assistance of WP9 leaders CEPS, the video interviews were shared through the projects social media channels.

Since the videos were debuted during the summer holiday months, an opportunity to further promote them will be decided on in the fall/winter 2015.

## **2. Interviewees**

The interviews were conducted in May, June and July in Brussels, Mol, Berlin, Paris and The Hague. Security topics covered ranged from counter-terrorism actions, and border security to drone technologies, cybercrimes, big data processing, and weapons. The interviews captured a diversity of views and emphasised the broad spectrum of the field. Interestingly, every interviewee did discuss the role of the individual, and the empowerment of citizens through technology. They stressed the role of citizens as key players in being active security providers through information sharing and preparedness to act. When discussing societal security, the definition appeared to vary, with most responses relating to local security, community security and relationships between local police forces and citizens themselves.

Table 1. List of people interviewed

Name	Title	Organisation	Type	City
Sebastian Deneff	CEO and founder	UBERBLIK	Technology/SME	Berlin
Ida Haisma	Director	Hague Security Delta	Industry	Hague
Leen van Duijn	TNO	TNO	Research	Hague
Elsa Ray	Spokesperson and project manager	Collectif contre l'islamophobie en France (CCIF)	Civil society	Paris
Merete Bilde	Policy Advisor - religion and security, counter radicalisation	European External Action Service (EEAS)	Policy	Brussels
David Cronin	Journalist	Independent journalist /writer	Journalist	Brussels
Yvan de Mesmaeker	Secretary General	European Corporate Security Association	End user	Mol

## 2.1 Sebastian Deneff



*"I have always been interested in technology and how it interacts with people. Rather than being the very techie guy, I was interested in how technology changes, and how it can influence organisations, people and societies"*

Sebastian Deneff is a researcher at Fraunhofer headquarters Berlin, and the CEO of his start-up Uberblik. Uberblik is a visual board that allows a team of people to simultaneously collect

date in one place. Moreover, the information on the board is securely stored and therefore can be used for security sensitive information and by safety critical markets.

Sebastian's key points on security developments in Europe is the ability of individual citizens to act as security providers through technological solutions. Additionally he discussed the need for applications to allow secure and safe sharing of content between people in the security field.

Interview direct link: <http://www.societalsecurity.net/video-interview/sebastian-denef>

Publication Date: Wed, 24 Jun 2015

## 2.2 Ida Haisma



*“The private sector is essential for innovation in safety and security as they are the ones who are willing to invest in R&D. If they come up with new solutions, they will gain a new market position”*

Ida Haisma is the director of The Hague Security Delta (HSD), the largest security cluster in Europe, where businesses, governments and knowledge institutions work together on innovation and knowledge in the field of safety and security. There she directs the HSD office that is directing various programmes and projects for the HSD partner organisations. Ida has been the director of the HSD soon after it was founded as a not for profit foundation in 2013. She left her job as the Director of Innovation for Safety and Security research at the TNO, to start at HSD. Prior to that, she was the Managing Director of the Netherlands Centre for Crime Prevention and Community Safety (the CCV). Ida Haisma is also member of the SOURCE Primary Network.

Ida stressed the need for collaboration between private and public actors, along with knowledge institutions in addressing security threats and in creating responsible innovative

solutions. She also highlighted the challenges and opportunities of drone technology, for various uses ranging from large-scale security measures and data collection, to providing safety updates at city organised events.

Interview direct link: <http://www.societalsecurity.net/video-interview/ida-haisma>

Publication Date: Thu, 02 Jul 2015

### 2.3 Leen Van Duijn



*“Organised crime has often an international character, and is not concerned with the normal national boundaries that local law enforcement agencies are bound by. Therefore international collaboration is essential and information sharing is key when it comes to combatting organised crime.”*

Leen is the Director of National Security and Crisis Management at TNO – The Netherlands organisation for Applied Scientific Research. The core research focus of the department is to develop concrete solutions to security and safety issues in the Netherlands and, increasingly, on an international level. Leen’s background is with the Dutch defence organisations. He was in leadership positions first in the armed forces, then with the military police force and thereafter he joined the Dutch national police force. His experience in particular in combatting organised crime is therefore based on years of practical field experience.

Leen discussed how the main barriers to creating good solutions are in bridging knowledge gaps. This is especially important in European and international collaboration, and in combatting organised crime. He also discussed the need to increase knowledge sharing of research and security institutions to make research results meaningful to security practitioners.

Interview direct link: <http://www.societalsecurity.net/video-interview/leen-van-duijn>

Publication Date: Wed, 08 Jul 2015

## 2.4 Elsa Ray



*"You cannot fight for freedom and security if you restrain the civil rights of your population"*

Elsa is a project manager and spokesperson of the Collectif Contre l'islamophobie en France (CCIF), a civil society organization that supports victims of islamophobia in France. CCIF conducts monitoring and reporting, provides legal assistance to victims, provides education to public bodies on islamophobia and participates in European and international projects that focus on countering islamophobia.

Elsa pointed out that counter radicalisation actions initiated by governments often result in increased levels of islamophobia and injustices towards minority groups. She criticised the repressive measures taken by policy makers and suggested focusing on prevention. Meaningful, non-discriminatory prevention measures would also counter islamophobia.

Interview direct link: <http://www.societalsecurity.net/video-interview/elsa-ray> Publication

Publication Date: Wed, 15 Jul 2015

## 2.5 Merete Bilde



*“Societal security to me, means inclusive societies, whether here in Europe or abroad”*

Merete Bilde is policy advisor at the European External Action Service (EEAS) of the European Union in Brussels. Prior to her current position, she worked in the Policy Unit of EU High Representative Javier Solana on issues related to political aspects of Islam and cross-cultural relations. Her expertise lies with issues at the cross section of religion and foreign policy

Merete highlighted the fact that although the drivers of radicalisations are not known, it has been established that religiosity is not linked with radicalisation of youth in Europe. She also mentioned the limitations of the impact of governmental organisations in diplomacy, as governments tend to talk to governments, and thereby do not get a full picture. Finally, Merete made the point that there is a need to further develop Europe as an inclusive European project where everyone has their place at the table.

*“It’s very difficult to legislate tolerance and respect. It is something that has to come through culture, education etc.”*

Interview direct link: <http://www.societalsecurity.net/video-interview/merete-bilde>

Publication Date: TBC

## 2.6 David Cronin



*“Unfortunately the welfare states of Europe are being demolished as we speak. The word being used is austerity. But it might be more accurate to say that we are living through quite an extremist capitalist experiment that is designed to widen inequality. I don’t think that’s a recipe for good security”*

David Cronin is a writer and independent journalist. He has written two books: *Corporate Europe: How Big Business Sets Policies on Food, Climate and War*, and *Europe’s Alliance With Israel: Aiding the Occupation*. He also writes for, amongst others, the Guardian, spinwatch and open democracy.

David is concerned with the lack of transparency and the power of private corporate lobbying at European level, especially the influence of the armaments industry in shaping policies that increase funding to military research and deregulate trade in arms. To David, migration and asylum should be regarded as a human rights issue, and therefore an agency such as Frontex, an organisation he views as using military technologies to conduct border control, might not be the correct agency for the issue.

Interview direct link: <http://www.societalsecurity.net/video-interview/david-cronin>

Publication Date: TBC

## 2.7 Yvan De Mesmaeker



*“The only way we can avoid having military in our streets and excessive checking is for society itself to increase its awareness its readiness to respond in case something happens. It is the only way in which a democratic society can react to the increased new threat environment”*

Yvan de Mesmaeker is the Secretary General of the European Corporate Security Association (ECSA) and Professor at the Belgian National College for Senior Police Officers. ECSA is an association representing over 300 security corporations that provides a trusted forum for discussions of mutual interest and to stimulate public private cooperation.

Yvan stressed the significant changes in our threat environment. Citizen empowerment due to technology gives room for lone wolves to conduct serious and very high impact attacks. Yvan discussed the need to train current security workers in being prepared for these extreme situations and also to engage society in reacting; by being aware, and able to respond to terrorist activities.

Interview direct link: <http://www.societalsecurity.net/video-interview/yvan-de-mesmaeker>

Publication Date: TBC

## 3. Conclusions

These seven video interviews give an easy to view introduction to the various security actors and the issues they work on. They show the diversity of the field, the viewpoints and the interpretation of the usefulness of societal security. This format of making short video



interviews is an effective way to reach people and to share information to many. As can be seen with these seven interviews, there are still many stories untold and interesting viewpoints to be explored. Continuing this series of interviews could prove to be worthwhile, especially in keeping the network growing and the [www.societalsecurity.net](http://www.societalsecurity.net) platform an interesting and lively platform.

## Annex 1 – List of people invited for interview

Name	Title	Organisation	Type	City
<b>Sebastian Denef</b>	CEO and founder	UBERBLIK	Technology/SME	Berlin
<b>Ida Haisma</b>	Director	Hague Security Delta	Industry	Hague
<b>Leen van Duijn</b>	TNO	TNO	Research	Hague
<b>Elsa Ray</b>	Spokesperson and project manager	Collectif contre l'islamophobie en France (CCIF)	Civil society	Paris
<b>Merete Bilde</b>	Policy Advisor - religion and security, counter radicalisation	European External Action Service (EEAS)	Policy	Brussels
<b>David Cronin</b>	Journalist	Independent journalist /writer	Journalist	Brussels
<b>Yvan de Mesmaeker</b>	Secretary General	European Corporate Security Association	End user	Mol
Ben Hayes	Writer	State watch	Civil society	UK
Claude Moraes	MEP	European Parliament	Policy	Brussels
Gemma Galdon Cavell	Policy analyst	Ethicas Consulting / University of Barcelona	Academia	Barcelona
Georges Lichtenstein	Cyber specialist	Antwerp computer crime unit	End user	Antwerp
Gilles de Kerchove	Counter-Terrorism Coordinator	European Commission, counter terrorism unit	Policy	Brussels
Ian brown	Professor of Information Security and Privacy at the OII	Oxford internet institute	Research	Oxford
Jan Albrecht	MEP	European Parliament	Policy	Brussels
Jean Lambert	MEP	European Parliament	Policy	Brussels
Judith Sargentini	MEP	European Parliament	Policy	Brussels
Laurent Dubost /Sebastien Sabatier	Project manager	Thales	Technology	Paris
Luigi Rebuffi,	Chief Executive Officer	European Organisation for Security	Industry,	Brussels
Luísa Proença	Project director innovation of information systems and IT	Polícia Judiciária	End-user	Lisbon



Malin Björk	MEP	European Parliament	Policy	Brussels
Maria Giovanni Manieri	Programme Officer	PICUM - Platform for International Cooperation on Undocumented Migrants	Civil society	Brussels
Melanie Newman	Journalist	The Bureau of Investigative Journalism	Journalist	London
Nicole Dwandre	Advisor for societal issues	European Commission, DG COMM	Policy	Brussels
Ska Keller	MEP	European Parliament	Policy	Brussels
Sonya Reines-Djivanides	Executive director	The European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO)	Civil society	Brussels
Sophie in t' Veld	MEP	European Parliament	Politician	Brussels
Stephan Auer	Director	European External Action Service (EEAS)	Policy	Brussels
Victoria Parsons	Journalist	The Bureau of Investigative Journalism	Journalist	London

## Annex 2 – Generic Letter sent to invitees\*

Dear *(title, first name, last name)*

I am contacting you as an expert in security, at the recommendation of *(title, first name, last name, institution)*

I would kindly like to request an interview with you for our European research project called SOURCE: Virtual centre of excellence for research support and coordination on societal security. The project is financed by the European Union FP7 program me.

The interview will be a video interview, published on the project's website (<http://societalsecurity.net/>) and YouTube channel. The duration of the filming and the entire interview is estimated around 1-1,5 hours. The final output will be around 4-8 minute video interview.

The questions will be quite general and investigate how you and your organisation understand the concept of societal security. In the realm of your field of expertise the interview tries to connect your practical experience with issues pertaining to societal security.



Would you be available and willing to share this time with us and your knowledge?

You will find further information on the interview and on the SOURCE project in the attachment.

I hope that you will be able to participate and I look forward to hearing from you

All the best  
Ólöf Söebeck

\* Letters were personalised and changed depending on connection with the recipient and his/her institution.

### **Annex 3 – background information sent to invitees**

#### **On the SOURCE project:**

The aim of the SOURCE Network of Excellence is to create a robust and sustainable virtual centre of excellence capable of exploring and advancing societal issues in security research and development. The SOURCE Network of Excellence is built upon five types of activities: networking activities, research, information gathering, education and training, and knowledge-sharing. Through an array of networking activities, meetings, scientific and popular publications, film, press and social media, a scholarly journal and the formation of an international association for the study and improvement of societal security, the SOURCE Network of Excellence will meet the goals of raising the awareness among policy makers and end-users, raising the competitiveness of the security industry by better applying it to the social layers of insecurity in society and, as a consequence, contribute to the improvement of the well-being and security of European citizens. (<http://www.societalsecurity.net/>)

Societal security can be defined as “the ability of society to persist in its essential character under changing conditions and possible or actual threats.”

#### **Practical information on the interview**

##### **On the interview**

We will be interviewing 7-10 people who are involved in different fields of security, such as critical infrastructure, military and information security. Interviewees include practitioners, researchers, civil society and policy makers. The aim of these interviews is to gain insight from experts in the field of (societal) security and to hear their views on the concept of (societal) security. We would also like to find out their views on future security threats facing Europe and possible ways to address those.

The interview will be a video interview, published on the project’s website and YouTube/vimeo channel. The duration of the filming and the entire interview is estimated



around 1-1,5 hour. The final output will be a 3-6 minute video interview. 1-1,5 hours of your time will be necessary in order to be able to shoot and re-shoot questions, the technical set up, and for eventually filming extra material and topics that you might wish to talk about.

We will come to your workplace, or a space of your choice where we can have a quiet well lit area. The reason for doing it at your work location is to have the opportunity to shoot extra visual material that is relevant to your work. If this is not possible, we can organise the interview at the Institute for European Studies (IES) at Vrije Universiteit Brussel.

Once we have edited the video, you will get the chance to see it and give your feedback before it goes public. We will give you some days to give us your approval, or comments for changes.

#### **Interview Questions:**

(these questions are preliminary, others might come up as the interview proceeds and questions might become more specific related to your field of work)

1. How are you involved in the field of security /what do you do?
2. In your opinion, what are the main security threats that Europe faces in the near future?
3. Who do you think are the most important actors in preventing or minimizing these threats? 3a) Can you prioritize actors? Politics, military, private actors, civil society?  
3b) who do you think should play a more important role? 3c) Role of industry and security technology?
4. What does societal security mean to you? 4a) How is societal security relevant to your work?
5. In your opinion, how can societal security play a role in preventing or in minimizing the threats that Europe faces (if at all)? 5a) Do you think the concept of societal security has an added value?