

# COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

## SYMPOSIUM

Disrupt. Reimagine. Redefine.



Washington, DC

April 6-7, 2016

Ronald Reagan Building

The CVE Symposium promises to be one of the most important gatherings of its kind to advance the substantive outcomes from the White House Summit on Countering Violent Extremism and the United Nations General Assembly.

The two-day CVE Symposium will open the doors and facilitate global conversation where governments, civil society, business, and academia can delve into the “how” aspects of countering these global threats:

- how we disrupt the agendas of violent extremist groups;
- how we reimagine interventions to undermine the attraction and messaging of extremist movements and ideologies; and
- how we redefine our future.

Today’s leading thinkers, policymakers, digital pioneers, religious leaders, military experts and development practitioners will gather at the CVE Symposium to discuss the toughest challenges in countering and preventing violent extremism.

Presenters and participants will engage in an inclusive exchange of information through conversations and interactive workshops focused on topics related to countering and preventing violent extremism and how technical expertise, methodologies and lessons learned, all of which can be applied and adapted to address the ever-evolving nature of extremist movements.



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The CVE Symposium will serve as a bridge between closed-door meetings, existing silos, and real-life experiences within the CVE field. Participants and speakers will drive the agenda through interactive discussions, knowledge sharing and workshops. The outcomes of these conversations will further advance the evolving foundation of this field, establishing a new point of departure.

#### Whole of Society: CVE in Context

This segment explores relevant factors affecting the current state of CVE and the distinct dimensions impacting extremist movements. Based on an extensive survey of experts in the field, Symposium organizers have developed a comprehensive agenda that includes the following themes:

- Defining global extremism and the current actors
- Radicalization, recruitment and reintegration
- The influence of youth, women and communities in countering extremist activities
- The intersection of the individual, technology and counter messaging

ed to facilitate open and intensive dialogue among the diverse attendees. This exercise focuses on exploring CVE themes rather than problem-solving. Ultimately, the World Café leverages the collective intelligence in the room at the individual level, encouraging participants to build off of each other's ideas and experiences to develop new theories, approaches, or applications.

This forum equalizes the power relationships between participants in order to understand and learn from multiple perspectives. Similar to speed networking, participants will discuss their perceptions and experiences in response to questions focused on breaking down the existing silos of approaches to CVE.

#### “Unconference Open Space”: Mapping the state-of-the-art in CVE

The CVE Symposium will also feature an “Unconference Open Space,” a tactic successfully used by organizers to facilitate more interaction among attendees. The Unconference segment sets aside curated open space for attendees to drive the conference agenda and to participate in topic-specific discussions that require more in depth analysis - at their pace and on their schedule.

#### Experiential Workshops

The experiential element of the CVE Symposium is designed to focus attention on specific programming themes through a series of workshops. These technical workshops will give participants access to practical applications in CVE programming. Each workshop will be facilitated by a leader from the field. Among the scheduled workshop themes:

#### World Café: CVE Silo Busting

Though a great deal of work is taking place in the CVE space, much of it currently exists in silos. To break down these walls, the CVE Symposium is organizing the “World Café,” which is a structured process intend-

- Kaleidoscopic Conflict: A New Conflict Paradigm
- Cutting Edge Community Resilience Models
- Effective Partnerships: Navigating the Religious Landscape
- Counterterrorism vs. CVE
- Monitoring & Evaluation: What does CVE success look like?