Federal Ministry of Education and Research

HIGHTECH STRATEGIE 2025
Köpfe. Kompetenzen. Innovationen.

Detection of radicalization signs from social media (Erkennung von Radikalisierungszeichen in Sozialen Medien, ERAME)

Motivation

Extremist actors use popular video platforms and channels to spread their worldview.
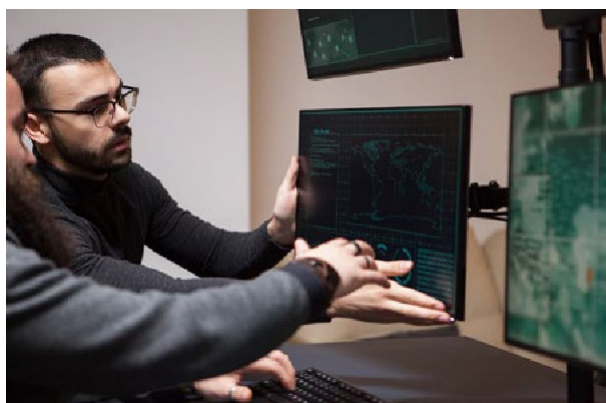This allows them to reach a large number of people. Extremist content spreads quickly both via videos and comments on social media. Given the multitude of channels and the speed at which videos are published, security authorities are faced with the challenge of quickly detecting and assessing extremist content.

Goals and procedure

As part of the ERAME project, an innovative process is to be developed with which users can use specially developed software to check and analyze extremist content on video platforms, such as YouTube. For this purpose, a scheme is created using computer linguistic methods, which can be used to identify and classify evidence of extremist content. In addition to the social science and technical developments, the project places particular emphasis on the law-conformity of the project . This ensures that the capabilities and possibilities of the software are clearly within the legal framework.

Innovativeness and potential

With the development of a software demonstrator, the analysis of social media platforms such as YouTube, which had been carried out by hand up to now, will be significantly accelerated. This enables faster and more in-depth analysis of conspicuous videos and channels. The software can become in the future an important tool with which extremist content on the Internet can be recognized and evaluated more precisely and quickly.

Program
Research for civil security
Program: „Civil security – research cluster for the early identification, prevention and combat of Islamic extremism – module 2"

Grant value
990 000 Euro

Project duration
December 2020 – November 2022

Project partners
• Institut für Sicherheitspolitik an der Universität Kiel gGmbH, Kiel
• Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg - Centre for Security and Society, Freiburg
• Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V. – Fraunhofer-Institut für Intelligente Analyse- und Informationssysteme (IAIS), Sankt Augustin

Associate partner
Domestic intelligence services of the German state Baden-Württemberg (Landesamt für Verfassungsschutz Baden-Württemberg)