

Project name: Countering Oppositional Political Extremism through Attuned Dialogue: Track, Attune, Limit.

Project acronym: OppAttune

OppAttune is a project funded by the European Union. OppAttune tracks the evolution of oppositional extreme ideologies and protectionist decision-making, develops an innovative attunement model and tests a series of interventions at the national and transnational levels which limit the spread of extremism. OppAttune revitalises trust in key democratic institutions. Its actions involve an on-line I-Attune self-test interactive to build democratic capacity across diverse publics. OppAttune will create an OppAttune Summer Academy for students and researchers (2025) and an OppAttune Winter Academy for practitioners and policymakers (2026). OppAttune provides micro, meso and macro level evidence-based recommendations and strategies designed to counter the potential of extreme narratives to disrupt democratic growth. It delivers this via a multi-disciplinary consortium of 17 countries across the EU and its periphery. Democracies and the European project are under threat by extremism and lack of political and social dialogue. Existential insecurities arising out of economic and refugee-related crises have been exacerbated by Covid-19 to create re-bordering e.g., xenophobic-nationalism and re-shoring e.g., the localisation of production.

Oppositional worldviews, narratives and dissensus within public debate are all vital to a functioning democracy. However destructive polarisation of oppositional us/them logic is at the core of the rise of extremist narratives. Disruptive actors polarise oppositional logic using disinformation, emotions, hot cognitions, conspiracy theories and mistrust to create new forms of direct action. This direct action is understood to many as direct democracy. This direct action cultivates unlikely coalitions creating attractive alternative on-line/off-line worlds which spread extreme narratives into the mainstream via deep rooted sociological and historical pathways. OppAttune will track, attune and limit extreme narratives to foreground EU transnational freedoms and multilateralism.

Project Partners:

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7. OZYEGIN UNIVERSITESI (OzU), Turkiye.
8. ISTANBUL BILGI UNIVERSITESI (BILGI), Turkiye.
9. UNIVERSITY OF CYPRUS (UCY), Cyprus.
10. INSTITUT JOZEF STEFAN (JSI), Slovenia.
11. UNIVERSIDADE DE COIMBRA (UC), Portugal.
12. FONDACIJA CENTAR ZA MEDJUNARODNE I BEZBEDNOSNE POSLOVE (ISAC Fund), Serbia.
13. KOSOVAR CENTRE FOR SECURITY STUDIES (KCSS), Kosovo * UN resolution.
14. HAMMURABI HUMAN RIGHTS ORGANIZATION (HHRO), BAGHDAD, Iraq.
15. UDRUZENJE PRONI CENTAR ZA OMLADINSKI RAZVOJ (PRONI), Bosnia and Herzegovina.