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Mathematical Models of Radicalization

Radicalization is the process by which people come to adopt increasingly extreme political, social, or religious ideologies. In recent years radicalization has become a major concern for national security because it can lead to violent extremism. It is in this context that this talk attempts to describe radicalization mathematically by modelling the spread of extremist ideology as the spread of an infectious disease. This is done by using compartmental epidemiological models. We try to use these models to evaluate the effectiveness of some strategies to counter violent extremism.