



Extremism, Radicalisation, Citizenship

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Mapping of problem areas for extremism ?

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Contents

Mapping what and what for?.....	4
Technical issues of mapping.....	4
Issues with mapping “problem areas” and social cohesion.....	5
The process of mapping and use of maps for analysis.....	6

— Mapping what and what for?

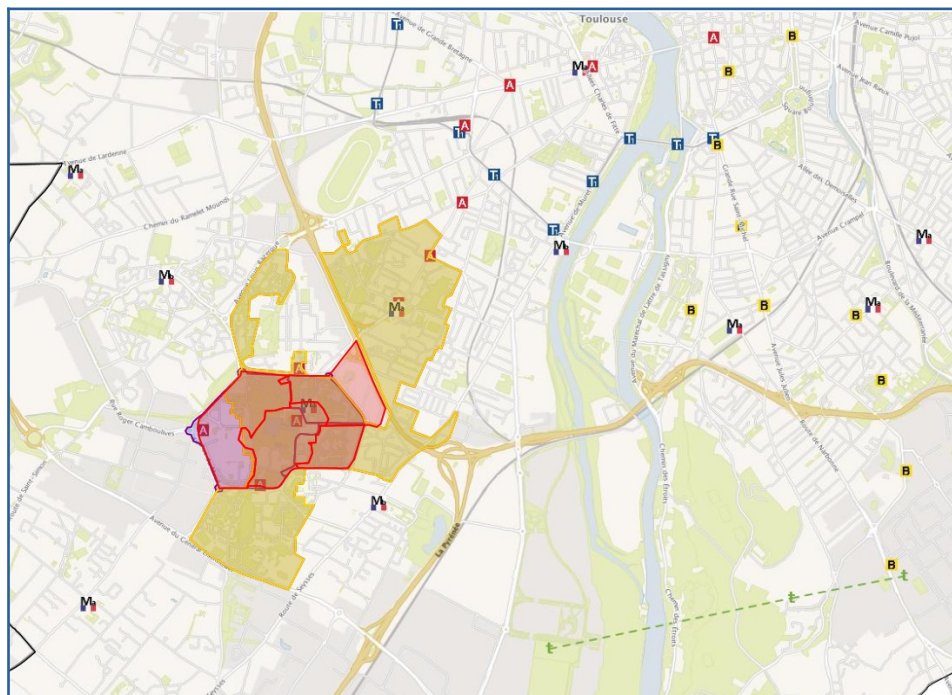
We will undertake an analysis of statistical data, such as criminality, sociodemographic aspects, etc. To do so, we will conduct interviews with local experts (local politicians, public services, scientists, educators, social workers, etc.). This analysis will include mapping of the local situation, highlighting the lines of conflict and the state of social cohesion in the various parts or districts of a city, and the local and sub-local dynamics. At the same time, we will analyse the perception of extremism by young people in these areas.

The original description of what this deliverable would be about quoted above gives us general lines of understanding of the concerns and demand. However, two issues appeared while preparing this deliverable: a technical issue on the translation of the data into maps, and a relevance issue of designing such a cartography.

Technical issues of mapping

First of all, it should be stressed that mapping is only one way of making data visible. Not all data are suitable for spatialization, and not all spatializations are relevant for the same type of data. The trade-offs we had to make concerning quantitative data are a good example, and the porosity of scales highlighted between local, municipal and metropolitan are another.

The map that follows show the extent to which comparability and analysis of data is affected by cartographic issues, as we have highlighted in D.3.3.-3 and -4.



The map presented above shows in yellow the delimitations of the QPV, in red the delimitation of the voting stations used to produce the data, in blue the IRIS for data from INSEE. As you can see, the QPV is very big, and it actually regroups at least 4 districts. The IRIS and voting stations are smaller than the district itself, so we needed to add 3 or 4 up, but the added part or IRIS do not match with the added parts of voting stations.

Mapping “lines of conflict and the state of social cohesion” is also particularly difficult because these “lines” do not exist as concrete borders or even symbolic borders but are much more struggles between specific actors. Moreover, these lines of conflict, while they may impact on the sense of security, do not necessarily have clearly identifiable consequences for particular areas. Their effect is generally more diffuse, more rooted in the bodies of the people involved than in the territory itself.

An exception to this could be made for some of the dynamics of territories linked to drug trafficking, but these dynamics are particularly moving and informal and therefore it is difficult to obtain reliable and perennial data to make them visible.

Available resources could be identified by address on a map. However, a relevant cartography on social cohesion should not aim to simply put vulnerabilities and resources in relation to each other, but rather to point out particular configurations between these elements which are constitutive of the forms of social cohesion but are difficult to spatialise.

From a technical point of view, therefore, the territories, mobilities and resource points of the territories are elements that we have encountered and analysed, but formalising them in a map poses technical questions that risk making these elements lose their relevance by isolating them from one another.

Issues with mapping “problem areas” and social cohesion

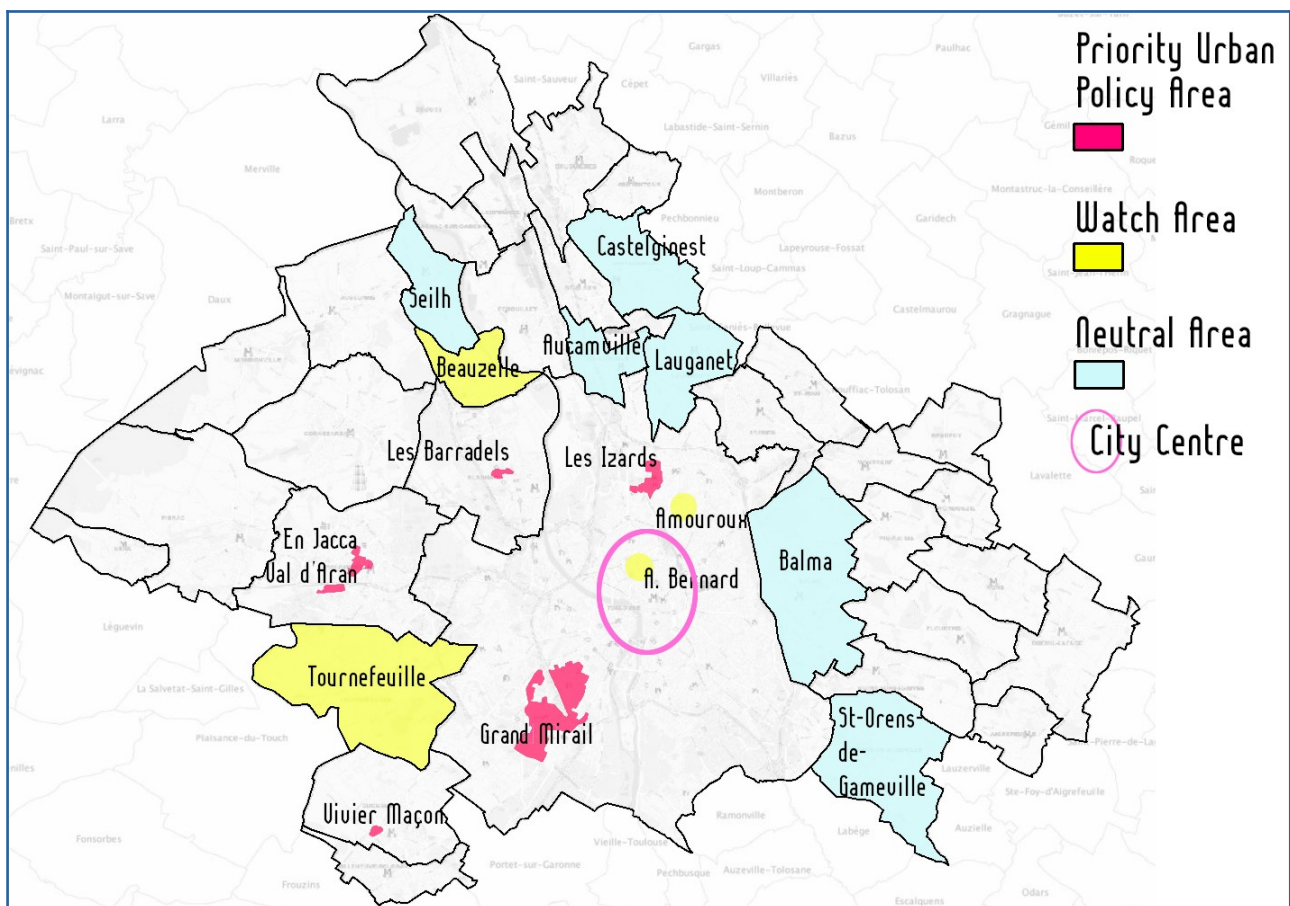
Beyond the difficulty of accounting for the complexity of the forms of social cohesion on the territory, the very notion of “problem areas” must be handled with care. To consider a given area as “problematic” is to risk reducing it to these problems, which on the one hand would reinforce a form of stigmatisation, and on the other hand would make it more difficult to identify existing resources and solidarity networks.

But mapping social cohesion also involves some difficulties: as we pointed out in D3.3.-6, social cohesion is a relatively vague notion and it is rather its forms that interest us than an excessively vertical gradation.

For all these reasons, we have preferred, for this deliverable, to take stock of the contributions of cartography to the description and understanding of territories in terms of social cohesion and radical violence.

The process of mapping and use of maps for analysis

The writing of the project included the identification of a series of 18 territories divided into three categories: the QPV or priority zones, the so-called "watch" zones, and the so-called "neutral" zones. The QPVs, two of which are classified by the Ministry of the Interior as quartiers de reconquête républicaine (QRR), have the advantage of being based on a clear classification, based on the low incomes of the people living there. The QRRs, on the other hand, respond to a more precise discernment by the Ministry relating to the type and volume of offences committed. The QRRs have not been used to define territories as such. The so-called 'watch districts' are also part of the priority geography, i.e. public urban planning policy. Their definition of these areas is more fluid, and not directly correlated to its sociology or to the actual phenomenon that takes place. Finally, the "neutral" areas were selected mainly for comparison and to widen our view. Here follows the initial map.

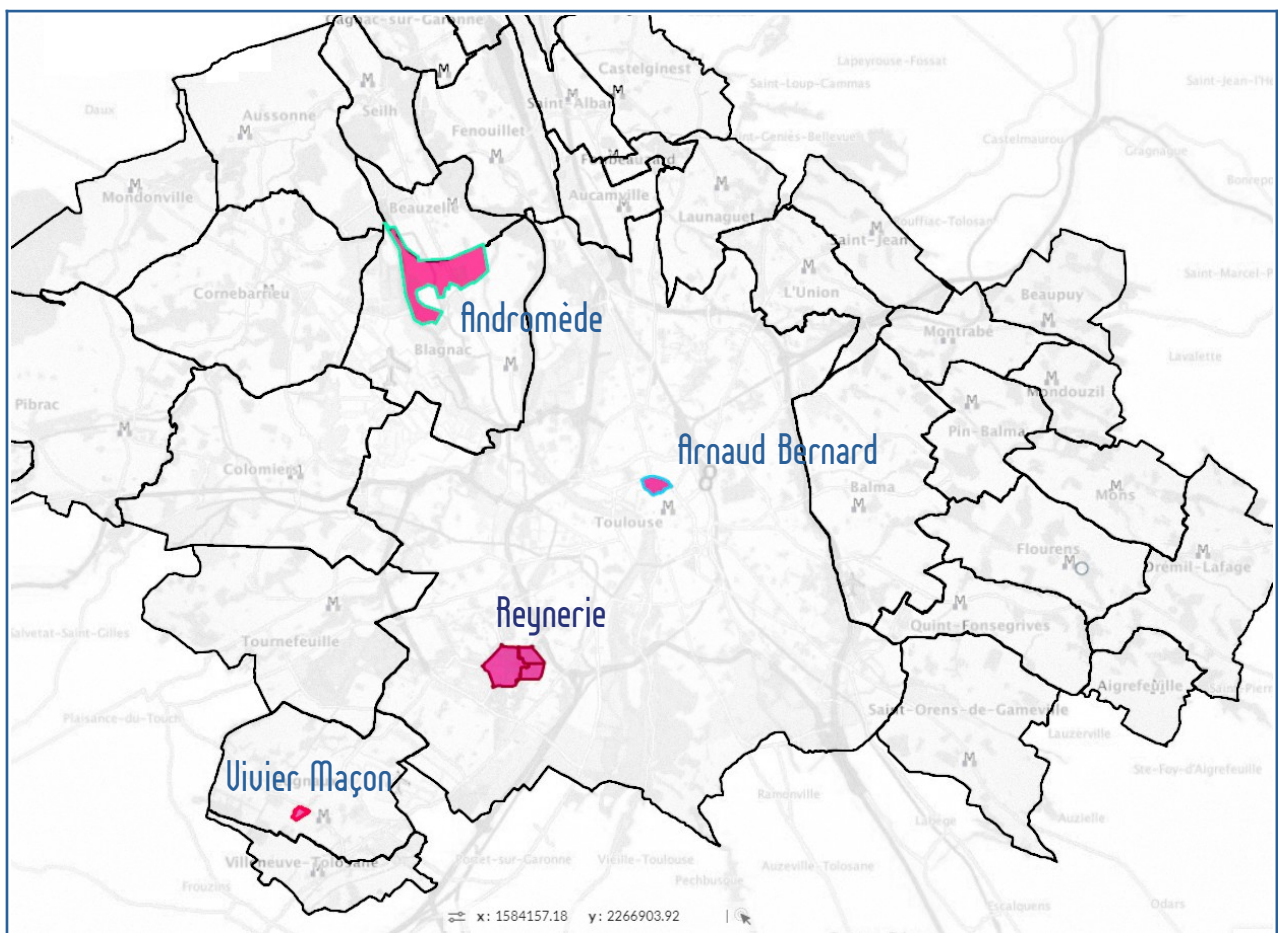


This map was quickly revised for several reasons. Firstly, the quantity of territories to be explored was not in line with a quantitative methodology which takes time and which proved to be fruitful but particularly slow due to the thematic approach. But the division into three seemingly progressive categories elegantly revealed some limitations. Firstly, once again, the stigmatisation of the QPVs by the implicit gradation presented by this map did not seem to us to be consistent with the project's approach, which aims to provide understanding and prevention for all forms of radical violence, regardless of the type of territory. Secondly, the 'neutral' territories have very different characteristics that should be better taken into account, between more rural areas and rapidly expanding territories.

We therefore worked on a second map that firstly met the methodological objectives of the project. The neutral and watch territories have disappeared, but we have kept the QPVs for the time being to underline both their particular characteristics and the importance of the resources deployed there. A third step was to develop the final map.

On analysis, it proved difficult to group the territories into categories as they respond to different dynamics. Reynerie with its history, its numerous solidarity networks and the influence of criminal organisations. Vivier Maçon with its close proximity to the centre of Cugnaux and its distance from the Toulouse. Andromède with its recent population and rapid development to which services are struggling to respond, and Arnaud Bernard with its strong political identity, coupled with a multiplicity of uses linked to its position in the city centre.

However, the following map shows the scale of the territories and their distribution, highlighting a particular dynamic of the centre in connection with the west of the territory, which could partly explain the references, in all the territories, to the Mirail and its influences.



In addition to the maps produced by the project, there were many maps that fed into the analysis and certainly guided it. This is the case, for example, of those produced by the Toulouse Métropole neighbourhood indicators but also in the Metropolitan Observatory.

The former provide precise information on certain services present in the district and can help to understand certain development issues

The later give a particularly striking view of the major demographic, socio-economic and housing dynamics at play on a metropolitan scale.

