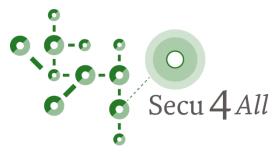
# A podcast series on ensuring the security of public spaces



This podcast series gives an insight into current risks and threats for public spaces in European cities, as well as ways to address and mitigate them. It provides the listener with a brief introduction to the topic and an overview of the challenges it presents, revolving around: **vulnerability assessment – urban planning, design and management for urban security – communication in crisis management – technologies for security in public spaces**.

#### Public spaces in urban security

Public spaces in cities are dense and rich places of exchange, culture, commerce and leisure. Because they are highly frequented and have an open nature, they can be subject to a number of threats. The link between public spaces and security has been central to <a href="Efus">Efus" work</a> since the organisation's creation in 1987. In its <a href="Security">Security</a>, <a href="Democracy and Cities">Democracy and Cities</a> Manifesto, Efus advocates that 'the design and management of public spaces have an impact on security and feelings of insecurity'.



The Secu4All project aims to empower local and regional authorities with theoretical knowledge and practical tools to ensure the security of public spaces and the protection of soft targets against potential threats.

Specific training programmes have been developed in four areas:

- Vulnerability assessment
- Urban planning, design and management for urban security (UPDM-US)
- Crisis management communication
- Technologies for security in public spaces

Through this training, we aim to foster the exchange of promising practices, innovative learning methodologies and real-life exercises, help detect shortcomings, and ensure the capacity of local authorities to respond in a timely and adequate way in cases of incidents threatening the public space.

#### Podcast 1 | Vulnerability assessment



In the <u>first podcast</u>, we discuss the **connection between vulnerability and public spaces** from an urban security perspective with Vivian Gravenberch from the <u>Dutch Institute for Technology</u>, <u>Safety & Security (DITSS)</u>.

Indeed, before being able to ensure the security of public spaces, we need to know what and where the vulnerabilities are, by carrying out a **vulnerability assessment**.

How do we define vulnerability, and how can we identify and assess it? Who should take the decisions based on the assessment? How do we increase the resilience of public spaces? What about the feeling of insecurity?

#### Resources

- <u>PRoTECT project</u>:
  - o Securipedia
  - o <u>Factsheets</u>
- EU Quick Guide to support the protection of Places of Worship (May 2021)

- <u>Safer Space for Safer Cities</u>
- JRC Science for Policy Report Review on Soft target/Public space protection guidance
- <u>CITY-WIDE PUBLIC SPACE ASSESSMENT TOOLKIT A guide to community-led digital inventory and assessment of public spaces</u>

### Podcast 2 | Urban planning, design and management for urban security

Launching on 14/03/2022

## Podcast 3 | Communication in crisis management

Launching on 11/04/2022

# Podcast 4 | Technologies for security in public spaces

Launching on 09/05/2022

#### > More information on Secu4All



This podcast series was produced with the German European Forum for Urban Security.