



BIOGRAPHY

Leif Villadsen

Mr. Villadsen has over 20 years of international experience with the United Nations in managing and leading criminal justice, drug control, crime prevention and counter-terrorism programmes, including programmes on strengthening international judicial, security and law enforcement cooperation, on countering radicalization and violent extremism and on promoting rehabilitation and social reintegration of violent extremist offenders and foreign terrorist fighters.

Mr. Villadsen has managed and coordinated technical cooperation programmes in several regions, including in countries of the Middle East and North Africa, Asia and Europe.

Currently, Mr. Villadsen acts as Deputy Director for the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI) and is responsible for the overall leadership and strategic planning, management and implementation of UNICRI programme, operations and research in the field of criminal justice, crime prevention, counter-terrorism, promotion of human rights and its contribution to socio-economic development.

Mr. Villadsen is overseeing UNICRI's tailored capacity-building activities, action oriented research, mentoring and technical assistance to Member States to build and implement rehabilitation and reintegration programmes for violent extremists and high-risk groups in the prison-settings.

Within UNICRI's research programme, Mr. Villadsen is also leading its analytical work to better understand how AI and related technologies may be introduced to improve rehabilitation activities in prisons.