



*“Better education is better prevention, protection and response to various types of terrorist threats and incidents that may occur in religious places, including attacks with chemical biological and radiological materials.”*

D 7.1 The strategy of the security awareness-raising campaigns

## How to react to an incident involving hazardous materials?

### Preamble

Religious sites are considered to be especially vulnerable to attacks due to their accessibility and the fact that there are usually limited security measures applied.

ProSPeReS project is aimed at increasing the level of protection in places of worship by keeping the balance between security measures and preservation of the open nature of religious sites.

### WARNING

This leaflet is not intended to replace the regulations in force. Its purpose is to provide practical advice. The content of this document represents the views of the author only and is his/her sole responsibility. The European Commission does not accept any responsibility for use that may be made of the information it contains.

*“We are all actors in our own safety and that of others.”*

React if you are exposed to hazardous materials! These behaviors can save your life, before help arrives:



**REMOVE**  
yourself from the area



**REMOVE**  
outer clothing



**REMOVE**  
the substance

*“Better to know.”*





# HOW TO REACT TO AN INCIDENT INVOLVING HAZARDOUS MATERIALS?

## 1. Remove yourself



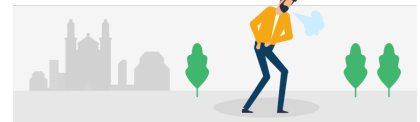
- **REMOVE** yourself from the area and get away from anything that may be dangerous like: unusual smells, unexplained vapor or mist clouds, dead or unwell people or animals, oily droplets or films on surfaces or water, unusual materials or equipment;
- Choose perpendicular way to the wind direction.

## 2. Don't sit or lie



- Even if you feel unwell, **DON'T** sit or lie down, you might not be able to get up again.

## 3. Go outside



- If inside, try to go outside into fresh air if possible.

## 4. Help other people



- If you see people who are unwell or passing out, help them leave the area without retracing your steps.

## 5. Carefully remove



- As soon as you get to a safer area, carefully **REMOVE** your outer clothing – it may be contaminated;
- **DON'T** touch the outside surface of the clothing with your hands;
- **DON'T** let the outside surface make contact with your face when you take off clothing;
- **IF POSSIBLE** try to isolate clothing in a plastic bag – like a garbage bag – or leave them on the ground and keep away;
- **IF POSSIBLE**, **REMOVE** any hazardous substance from your skin using a dry absorbent material to soak it up or brush it off;
- **RINSE** continually with water if the skin is itchy or painful.

## 6. Call 112



- Use your mobile phone to alert the emergency services on 112 about:
  - The location of the incident;
  - Your location (if different);
  - That hazardous materials might be involved.

## 7. Wait for emergency services



- **WAIT** for emergency services and follow their instructions;
- Tell emergency responders where they are when they arrive to help;
- **DON'T** go home because you may contaminate your family.

## 8. Don't visit medical facilities



- **DON'T** visit a medical facility, you may contaminate other people and emergency workers;
- The emergency services will organize a place nearby where you can receive medical treatment.

## 9. Don't touch



- **DON'T** touch your face;
- **DON'T** touch anyone;
- **DON'T** drink, eat or smoke.

