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Helene Thorsen Rønning is research manager for the Chemical Threats and Explosives program at the division of Total Defence, Norwegian Defence Research Establishment (FFI). This also includes the national CBRE emergency preparedness laboratory, an important asset within the Norwegian total defence.

Rønning has extensive experience in research and analysis of chemical threat agents and other compounds of concern. At FFI she has been involved in and led several CBRNE projects related to scientific threat analysis and CBRN-protection. She holds a PhD in Analytical Chemistry from Norwegian University of Life Sciences where she worked within food safety and addressed issues related to foodborne poisoning and harmful compounds in food and the environment. She has published numerous peer-reviewed articles in this field.