

Public Safety Communication Europe (PSCE) is pleased to send you the first 2018 edition of the PSCE Newsletter. We keep you updated on our activities and provide you with the latest EU news and initiatives in Public Safety Communications!

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EU Policy

➤ The rescEU proposal

rescEU is a new European system to tackle natural disasters that was presented by the European Commission in November 2017. It comes in the background of a larger proposal to improve European responses to disasters, following a series of emergencies that have caused tragic human losses and significant material damages in several European countries. During 2017, over 200 people were killed by natural disasters in Europe and over one million hectares of forest have been destroyed.

rescEU consists of a European-level reserve of civil protection capabilities such as aerial forest fighting planes, special water pumps, urban search and rescue and field hospitals and emergency medical teams. These capabilities will complement national assets and be managed by the Commission to support countries hit by disasters such as floods, forest fires, earthquakes and epidemics. All of rescEU's costs and capacities are to be covered by EU financing and the Commission is to retain operational control over rescEU's assets and decide on their deployment. rescEU's capacities will cover four areas of action: firefighting aircraft, high capacity pumping equipment for floods, urban search and rescue capacities, and field hospital and emergency medical assistance.

Immediately after an EU Member State activates the EU Civil Protection Mechanism in the follow up of a disaster the Commission will assess if the Mechanism's means are sufficient to respond – if they are not, the Commission would then decide to deploy its own means under rescEU.

- ❖ The European Parliament's Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety (ENVI) published its draft report on this proposal on 8 March (available here: <http://www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//NONSGML+COMPARL+PE-616.870+02+DOC+PDF+V0//EN&language=EN>) and discussed the report on 20 March. The proposal is currently awaiting the committee's decision.
- ❖ To know more about rescEU click here: https://ec.europa.eu/echo/news/resceu_en

➤ GDPR

The EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) is the most important change in data privacy regulation in 20 years. Following its approval by the European Parliament in April 2016, GDPR is set to come into force on 25 May 2018 and it will replace the 1995 Data Protection Directive (Directive 95/46/EC). The Regulation *“was designed to harmonize data privacy laws across Europe, to protect and empower all EU citizens' data privacy and to reshape the way organizations across the region approach data privacy”*.

This will be an issue of major importance for PSCE in 2018. GDPR and its consequences for the public safety sector was discussed in the Madrid Conference of 2017. The biggest change GDPR will bring to data privacy rules derives from its jurisdiction, which applies to all companies processing personal data of subjects residing in the EU, regardless of the company's location.

GDPR will apply to the processing of personal data by controllers and processors in the EU, regardless of whether the processing takes place in the EU or not. The regulation will also apply to the processing of personal data of data subjects in the EU by a controller or processor not established in the EU.

One of GDPR's most important elements is Data Erasure, also known as "the right to be forgotten", which imposes the condition that the data of a subject who wishes to have their personal data deleted must no longer be disseminated and processed by third parties.

❖ To access the text of the Regulation click here: http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=uriserv:OJ.L_.2016.119.01.0001.01.ENG&toc=OJ:L:2016:119:TOC

Past Events

➤ European Civil Protection Forum 2018

The European Civil Protection Forum 2018 was held on 5 and 6 March at the European Commission's premises and under the theme of "*Civil Protection in a Changing Risk Landscape*". During the Forum's two days over 900 participants, representing practitioners, academics, local and national governments, EU institutions, NGOs and other stakeholders, took part in the event and engaged in fruitful and productive discussions about building shared resilience mechanisms, exchanging experiences and learning from past events. PSCE attended the Forum, where several projects – including DRIVER+ - were also on display.

The Forum developed on four strategic pillars:

- Strengthening Preparedness
- Simplifying Response
- Scaling up Prevention
- Fostering Resilience in Europe's Neighbourhood

Key-note speakers included the Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management, Christos Stylianides, the Commissioner for Climate Action and Energy, Miguel Arias Cañete, the Bulgarian Deputy Minister of Interior, Milko Berner, as well as other high-level government and EU officials, academics, practitioners and representatives of civil society.



You can find more details about this year's edition of the Civil Protection Forum, including the participations of the speakers and the discussions, on the event's website:

https://ec.europa.eu/echo/partnerships/civil-protection-partners/civil-protection-forum_en

➤ Success of the PSCE Conference in Madrid on 28 and 29 November 2017

On 28 and 29 November 2017, a PSCE conference successfully took place at the headquarters of the Spanish National Police in Madrid.

On this edition, the H2020 BroadMap project enjoyed a great exposure as the development of a pan-European interoperable public safety network was further presented. Other topics included the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the use of Video in Public Safety and IoT for Public Safety.

Overall the event brought together around 90 participants including public safety practitioners, policymakers, academic researchers, industrial experts and other interested stakeholders.

- ❖ A comprehensive conference report can be found here: https://www.psc-europe.eu/images/PSCE_Madrid_Conference_Report.pdf
- ❖ A video overview of the conference presentations can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cBw6B5wh4SY>

Upcoming Events

➤ Preparation for the PSCE Conference in Brussels

The next PSCE Conference will take place in Brussels on 23-24 May 2018 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel. Its key themes will be:

- Next Generation Control Room

- Use of Satellites during Critical Situations
- Future First Responders - An international perspective

Within these topics, the E2mC project will be part of a discussion on improving rapid mapping with integration of social media and crowdsourcing. The future of public safety in Australia will also be discussed, as well as global trends on first responders' innovation, in the framework of the international perspective of future first responders. Other relevant topics to be covered by the Conference include the applications of Blockchain in the PPDR sector, 5G and its benefits to public safety and the launch of BroadWay's pre-commercial procurement project. The Deputy Director-General for Security of DG HOME, Mr. Olivier Onidi, will be a guest speaker at the Conference.

- ❖ A provisional agenda is available on the PSCE Website: <https://www.psc-europe.eu/news-events/events/psce-conference-in-brussels-2018.html>



➤ Community of Users

The 11th Community of Users Plenary Meeting & Thematic Workshops on Secure, Safe and Resilient Societies will take place in Brussels from the 4th to the 7th of June. The Community of Users is supported by the European Commission and intends to reduce the current fragmentation in security research and to facilitate information exchanges among and between policy-makers, research, industry (including SMEs), practitioners (first responders, civil protection units etc.), and the general public.

PSCE will take an active role in the next meeting of the Community of Users on the theme of Communication / Interoperability, along with the European Commission with a focus on communication aspects related to crisis management and interoperability. Within this theme, several projects on which PSCE is taking part in will be presented, including DRIVER+ and BroadMap.

- ❖ More information on the Community of Users can be found here:
<https://www.securityresearch-cou.eu/>

EU News

➤ Priorities of the Bulgarian presidency

Since January the 1st, Bulgaria took over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union from Estonia, which held the Presidency during the second half of 2017. For this period, the Bulgarian Presidency has presented its political priorities. Bulgaria is the second country in the current presidency trio and will be followed by Austria in the second half of 2018. The trio programme was approved by the General Affairs Council on 20 June 2017.

Some of the priorities announced by the Bulgarian Presidency are focused on innovation and security:

- improving resilience and maintaining high standards in the area of cyber security in view of the vulnerability to cyber-threats of the web-based economy and society
- accelerating the process of completing a competitive and fair Digital Single Market; supporting connectivity within the EU; updating the regulatory framework for telecommunications; enhancing the credibility and security of personal data in the digital space and the development of a European data-based economy
- seeking balanced and compromise solutions on the regulatory framework in the area of telecommunications, including the Directive establishing the European Electronic Communications Code and the proposal for a Regulation establishing the Body European Regulators for Electronic Communications (BEREC)
- A Digital Assembly will take place in Sofia on 25-26 June, co-organised by the Bulgarian Presidency and the European Commission to take stock and look ahead at how Europe and its partners around the world are preparing for the main digital policy challenge.

- ❖ For the document containing the complete programme of the Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of the European Union click here:
https://eu2018bg.bg/upload/1079/PROGRAMME_BG_PRESIDENCY_EN.pdf

➤ DRIVER+

Launched in May 2014, DRIVER (Driving Innovation in Crisis Management for European Resilience) is a project funded under the 7th Framework Programme of the European Commission that intends to cope with the challenges posed by natural disasters and terrorist threats.

Following necessary improvements and taking the needs of Crisis Management practitioners better into account, DRIVER returned in September 2017 as DRIVER+. Its objectives are to develop a pan-European Test-Bed for Crisis Management capability development which will enable practitioners to create a space in which stakeholders can collaborate in testing and evaluating new products, tools, processes or organisational solutions.

After the definition of gaps from a practitioners' perspective, a workshop was held in Warsaw under the name of Workshop 0, to which external solution providers were invited to participate in the preparation of a selection process for a series of four Trials, whose goals are to address the gaps identified by the practitioners. As one of the partners of the DRIVER+ project, PSCE will regularly inform on these activities.

- ❖ More information on the Trial 2 call for solutions can be found here: <http://www.driver-project.eu/collaborate-with-us/call-for-applications-2/call-applications-2/>
- ❖ Two External Cooperation Platforms for solution providers and practitioners have also been launched: <http://www.driver-project.eu/collaborate-with-us/external-cooperation-platforms/>
- ❖ More information on the upcoming activities of the DRIVER+ project can be found here: <http://www.driver-project.eu/driver-project/objectives-and-activities/>

➤ From BroadMap to BroadWay

Following the positive evaluation of the European Commission, the BroadWay proposal entered into a preparatory phase for the launch of a Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP) activity due on 1st May. As the first PCP in the security area, BroadWay is generating a lot of attention

BroadWay was presented at the 10th Community of Users meeting in Brussels by David Lund during the "Procurement and Innovation" panel session as part of the 10th Community of Users meeting on March 5th, 2018.

Mr Lund described the progress made from the one-year BroadMap project, which represented the interests of 15 European countries and prepared the ground for a PCP activity, to the BroadWay project, just validated by the European Commission to implement a PCP to develop technologies to enable a pan-European interoperable broadband mobile system for public safety.

Through 5 different stories, the aim of the “Procurement and Innovation” session, was to provide an insight on the new instruments for the acquisition of innovation, identify the strengths and weaknesses of such instruments from the perspective of both sides of the market, identify success stories under the frame of EU funded research and innovation framework and, finally, to propose lines of action for the improvement of the market uptake of security research and innovation outcomes.

- ❖ A video of the session can be watched on the following link: <https://youtu.be/O2XFgd8wwM0?t=2h12m47s>
- ❖ Mr. Lund also made a presentation of the BroadWay project on the occasion of the annual conference of the British Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (British APCO) which was held in Coventry on 20-21 March, under the title of “*BroadMap to BroadWay: steps towards European Interoperable broadband for public safety*”.
- ❖ **The technical deliverables of BroadMap have just been made available and can be downloaded from <http://www.broadmap.eu/download-final-deliverable>**

➤ **Successful end of EU project EMYNOS**

The EMYNOS pilot took place in Graz, Austria, on December 20 2017, at the premises of the Austrian Red Cross, followed by a final demonstration on January 31 2018 in Bucharest, Romania. During the pilot, the project’s use cases were presented, allowing the participants to know the multiple applications developed by EMYNOS. The pilot demonstrated application of Next Generation emergency services technology as well as their integration with the current emergency call centres’ systems. This event particularly showed IP based emergency calls, with various features such as audio, video, Real-Time Text, accurate location and sensor data, integrated and tested with the current (legacy) system of the Austrian Red Cross. In Bucharest, the EMYNOS system was successfully integrated with the legacy Emergency System managed by the Romanian Special Telecommunications Service.

- ❖ A White Paper on the EMYNOS project will be released by PSCE before the end of May 2018.
- ❖ For more information on Emynos please click on <https://www.emynos.eu>

➤ **E2mC**

E2mC (Evolution of Emergency Copernicus services) project aims at demonstrating the technical and operational feasibility of the integration of social media analysis and crowd-sourced information within both the Mapping and Early Warning Components of Copernicus Emergency Management Service (EMS). The Project will develop a prototype of a new EMS Service Component (Copernicus Witness), designed to exploit social media analysis and crowdsourcing capabilities to generate a new Product of the EMS Portfolio.

E2mC therefore can bring a significantly innovative improvement to the Copernicus EMS, as it considers social media and crowdsourcing from different perspectives at the same time, and with an integrated approach. E2mC will also allow to establish a unique EU access point to filtered social

media and crowdsourced data as an innovative European service platform (CROWD4EMS) oriented to support emergency responders in collecting coordinated and structured Volunteer Geographic Information (VGI) input from their qualified crowd of volunteers, as well as directly from citizens in a working and validated operational framework.

PSCE is a partner of the E2mC project and will release a dedicated White Paper in the month of April based on the results of the solutions developed under the project's guidelines and Use Cases. A demo will also be presented in Brussels where the contribution of E2mC will be presented.

- ❖ For more information about the E2mC project visit: <https://www.e2mc-project.eu/>
- ❖ A White Paper on the added value of E2MC for disaster management is available on <https://www.psc-europe.eu/white-papers/psce-white-paper-8-using-crowdsourced-information-to-improve-disaster-management/download.html>

➤ **CiProVoT**

PSCE took part in the Kick-off Meeting of the CiProVoT project which was held in Foligno, Italy, on 27 and 28 March. CiProVoT (Civil Protection Volunteers Training) aims to develop a Trans-national training course module for Civil Protection Volunteers and Vocational Education and Training Learners and PSCE is one of the project's six partners. As an ERASMUS+ project, CiProVoT's main objective is based on training and learning skills in the civil protection sector.

- ❖ For more information about CiProVoT visit: <https://ciprovot-project.eu>

➤ **Narrowband working group on the Internet of Things**

A working group on the topic of narrowband and the Internet of Things (IoT) was set up during 2017. Led by PSCE and including nine other partners from seven European countries, this working group will produce a White Paper that will describe a selection of use cases of IoT that can be used for public safety.

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