

PSCE Newsletter n°2 / 2013

Headlines

Public Safety Communication Europe Forum / April 2013



Forum for Public Safety Communication Europe

In this issue:

The FULL VERSION of the PSCE Newsletter is available only for the Institutional Members.

- POLICY

- EC to launch the Network and Information Security Private Platform
- Climate change vs. insurance system in the context of disasters
- Biggest anti-terrorism exercise at EU level run by ATLAS Network
- Internet Service Providers fail to apply filters against big cyber attacks

- PSCE ACTIVITIES

- COSMIC project underway
- PSCE welcomes new institutional member
- CRISMA: The first end-users workshop
- PSCE Conference in Brussels: "Early-bird" registrations still available!



POLICY

European Commission to launch the Network and Information Security Private Platform

The European Commission will launch the Network and Information Security (NIS) Public-Private Platform on 24 June 2013. The output of the platform will feed into the Commission recommendations on cybersecurity to be adopted in 2014. Interested stakeholders are invited to express their interest in participating in the platform before 24 May 2013.

European Commission presents a package on adaptation to climate change and insurance system in the context of disasters.



The European Commission presented on 16 April 2013 a package consisting of two parts: The EU strategy on adaptation to climate change sets out a framework and mechanisms for taking the EU's preparedness for current and future climate impacts to a new level; and, in a related measure, the Commission also adopted a Green Paper on insurance in the context of natural and man-made disasters. The package also includes a public consultation which aims to launch a wide debate on the adequacy and availability of existing insurance options.

More information about the insurance of natural and man-made disasters is available here:

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/insurance/consumer/natural-catastrophes/index_en.htm

Public consultation is available here:

http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/consultations/2013/disasters-insurance/index_en.htm

More information about the conference on EU strategy on adaptation to climate change is here:

http://ec.europa.eu/clima/events/0069/index_en.htm

Biggest anti-terrorism exercise at EU level run by ATLAS Network

On April 17 and 18, 2013, the EU Member States anti-terrorist police forces were united as part of the European sponsored ATLAS Network, which carried out the most complex preparation and crises response simulation so far at European level. The simulation involved simultaneous terrorist attacks in 9 different EU Member States (Austria, Belgium, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden and Romania).

ENISA: Internet Service Providers fail to apply filters against big cyber attacks

According to the ENISA analysis published on 12 April 2013, Internet Service Providers (ISPs) have failed to apply well-known security measures which have been available for over a decade.

The analysis focuses on the large-scale cyber-attack that was mounted in March against the Non-Profit Organisation Spamhaus, which is based in Geneva and London. The digital assault caused noticeable delays for internet users, primarily in the UK, Germany and other parts of Western Europe. According to online media, the attack on Spamhaus, starting on March 16, was the biggest Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) attack in internet history. DDoS attacks work by "overloading" a site's ability to cope with incoming traffic. The attack on Spamhaus lasted more than one week. In its final phase, the enormous amount of traffic generated caused problems at the London Internet Exchange.

More information is available here:

<http://www.enisa.europa.eu/publications/flash-notes/flash-note-can-recent-attacks-really-threaten-internet-availability>

PSCE ACTIVITIES



COSMIC project underway

The kickoff meeting of the COSMIC (Contribution of social media in crisis management) project will be held on the 22nd of May 2013 in Athens.

In course of 24 months, the project will identify the most effective ways to utilise new information and communication technologies in crisis situations for the protection of ordinary citizens. It will ensure better linkages between prevention, detection, reporting and rescue in crisis situations as well as assist officials and first responders (i.e. police, law enforcement agencies, search and rescue and medical personnel) in using new ICTs and applications to be more effective and efficient during crises.

For more information, please contact secretariat@psc-europe.eu.

PSCE welcomes new institutional member

The Austrian Red Cross has recently joined PSCE as its institutional member.

PSCE Forum Membership is intended for those involved in Public Safety Organisations. Membership is comprised of three distinct categories:

- Institutional members, which are institutions, agencies, organisations or companies at international, national or local level.
- Individual members, which are any individual who wants to register to the Forum.
- Partnership member, which are international or national associations or organisations or entities working with public safety issues and which has common interest with PSCE on global public safety issues.

The current number of PSCE institutional members is 51.

More information about the Austrian Red Cross is available at:

<http://www.rotekreuz.at/>

For more information about PSCE membership, please contact secretariat@psc-europe.eu.

CRISMA: The first end-users workshop



The first CRISMA end-user workshop will be held on 30 May 2013 in Brussels, Belgium.

Organised in conjunction with the Public Safety Communications Europe (PSCE) conference, which is taking place during the previous two days, the workshop will bring together delegates from national authorities, research institutes and companies including IT specialists. European Commission will be also represented by Mr Philippe QUEVAUVILLER, DG Enterprise & Industry, who will deliver a speech.

CRISMA (Modelling Crisis Management for Improved Action and Preparedness) project would like to invite crisis management stakeholders, especially members of the end-user community, to come and learn about the project's benefits and provide feedback on the effectiveness of the technology and other aspects. The meeting showcasing the CRISMA System will take place at the International Association Centre (Maison des Associations Internationales, MAI), Rue Washington 40, 1050 Brussels, from 09:00 till 15:00.

More information regarding the programme, accommodation and registration is available here:

http://www.psc-europe.eu/fileadmin/files/docs/Events/2013/Brussels/CRISMA_First_end-user_workshop_-_Agenda_and_invitation.pdf

More information about CRISMA is available at:

www.crismaproject.eu

Next PSCE Conference

"Early-bird" registrations still available!

Deadlines for room reservations are approaching!

The next PSCE Conference will be held on 28-29 May 2013 in Brussels, Belgium. This time, the event will feature the following 5 thematic highlights:

1) EU civil protection mechanism 2) E-Call: state of Play 3) EU Radio Spectrum Policy 4) Horizon 2020 5) Crisis Modelling

Besides interactive presentations, conference will feature also two collaborative sessions on "crisis modelling" and "communications issues at major traffic incidents". The updated programme is available here:

http://www.psc-europe.eu/fileadmin/files/docs/Events/2013/Brussels/PSCE_Conference_May_2013_Agenda_17-04-2013.pdf

The conference will take place at the International Association Centre (Maison des Associations Internationales, MAI), Rue Washington 40, 1050 Brussels, Belgium.

Participants are advised to book individually and directly their hotel room at one of the following hotels in the meeting area vicinity where prior bookings have been made for this special event.

- 1) HOTEL CAPITAL BRUSSELS, a 3 star hotel (EUR 85,-Single / EUR 95,- Double)
- 2) NH BRUSSELS CITY CENTRE, a 4 star deluxe hotel (EUR 155,- Single / EUR 175,- Double)

The deadline for room reservation for the Hotel Capital Brussels is 30/04/2013 and for the NH Brussels City Centre it is 27/04/2013. After these dates, hotels will release the rooms and further bookings will be possible upon availabilities.

More information about registration and accommodation is available at: <http://www.psc-europe.eu/index.php?id=405>

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