

Public Safety Communication Europe (PSCE) is pleased to send you the second 2017 edition of the PSCE Newsletter Headlines. PSCE Headlines are abbreviated public versions of PSCE Newsletters which provide regular updates on PSCE activities, status of on-going projects and relevant policy news. PSCE Newsletters are available only to PSCE Institutional Members.

POLICY AND EU NEWS



New measures to strengthen EU Cybersecurity

On September 13, 2017, the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy published a Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council of the European Union on “Resilience, Deterrence and Defence: Building strong cybersecurity for the EU”. This Joint Communication is part of a package of EU documents adopted on the same date aimed at delivering a stronger EU response to cyber-attacks. In particular, the Joint Communication puts forward targeted measures to build greater EU resilience to cyber-attacks, better detect cyber-attacks, and strengthen international cooperation on cybersecurity.

The joint communication is available [here](#).



Launch of the European Defence Fund

On June 7th the EC announced the launch of the European Defence Fund. The fund has been created as a response to the increased instability and conflicts in the neighborhood of the EU and to the new security threats that are emerging. These new challenges cannot be addressed by member states alone, hence the need for a comprehensive strategy.

Defence policy has been identified as one of the priority areas of action in President Juncker's political guidelines. In 2016, the European Union laid the foundations for a stronger European defence policy. As part of a comprehensive defence package following up the EU Global Strategy in the security and defence area, the Commission adopted the European Defence Action Plan (EDAP).

[Click here](#) to view the European Defence Action Plan (EDAP)



Priorities of the Estonian presidency of the EU

Since 1st July, Estonia took over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union from Malta, which held the Presidency during the first half of 2017. For this period, the Estonian Presidency has recently presented its political priorities. Estonia will be the first country in the new presidency trio also including Bulgaria and Austria (first and second half of 2018 respectively), which had their trio programme approved by the General Affairs Council on 20 June 2017.

"A Safe and Secure Europe" as well as "A Digital Europe and the Free Movement of Data" are amongst the Estonian Presidency Priorities.

To see the full list of priorities and some associated video clips, click [here](#).



Europe to be hit hard by climate-related disasters in the future

Weather-related disasters could affect around two-thirds of the European population annually by the end of this century. This could result in a 50-fold increase in fatalities compared to today if no measures are taken, according to a new study by the Joint Research Centre - the science and knowledge service of the European Commission.

The study, which has just been published in the Lancet Planetary Health, combines information on documented disasters with hazard and demography projections until 2100. The weather-related disasters considered are those with the greatest impacts - heatwaves and cold spells, wildfires, droughts, river and coastal floods and windstorms.

If not curbed, rising temperatures and climate change could expose some 350 million Europeans to harmful climate extremes every year. This substantial rise in the risk of weather-related hazards is mainly due to an increase in the frequency of heatwaves. Other factors behind the projected increase in weather-related risks are population growth and urbanisation.

Download the study [here](#)



Public consultation on improving cross-border access to electronic evidence in criminal matters

The EU Commission has launched a consultation exercise, which is open until 27 October, seeking views on ways to improve cross-border access to electronic evidence in criminal matters.

The objective is to gather input from a broad range of interested stakeholders, including public authorities, judges, prosecutors, EU institutions and agencies, international organisations, private companies, professional and business associations, civil society, academics and the general public.

The aim is to collect information, views and experiences on current practices on obtaining cross-border electronic evidence in Member States as well as on practical and legal problems arising both at national and EU level from any gaps and weaknesses in existing regulations.

More info [here](#).



Success of the ETSI Mission-Critical Push To Talk Plugtests Event

On 23 June 2017 took place the ETSI Mission-Critical Push to Talk (MCPTT) Plugtests event, gathering 140 participants from 19 different vendors. The event took place at the ETSI headquarters in Sophia Antipolis, France. The test sessions were observed by seven government and public safety network operator organizations from Belgium, Finland, France, Norway and the UK.

Supported by the European Commission, these sessions are the first in the world to test the interoperability of MCPTT products and services, and are conducted to ensure that equipment from different vendors designed to support mission-critical users will work together. The full report on these Plugtests will be posted on the ETSI website in due course. The next MCPTT Plugtests sessions are planned for Q2 2018.

[Click here](#) for the original article from ETSI

PSCE ACTIVITIES



End of project BroadMap

Mission accomplished for the EU-funded flagship project taking the first step towards future procurement of interoperable next generation of broadband radio communication systems for public safety and security! That was the main message of the BroadMap Final Stakeholders' Workshop which took place on 6 April 2017, gathering more than 100 participants from 18 countries representing practitioners and all interested stakeholders of the Public Protection and Disaster Relief (PPDR) community: public authorities, industry, research, regulators as well as the finance sector!

This final Workshop was the opportunity for the attendees to learn more about the project activities and outcomes, now that the BroadMap project is coming to an end after a year of hard work. The BroadMap team presented in detail the methodology adopted throughout the lifetime of the project, to collect and validate practitioners' needs and requirements, to translate them into technical specifications, to elaborate candidate solutions and organization schemes, and finally to produce transition roadmaps towards interoperable broadband radio communication systems.



PSCE at the PSCR Meeting in Texas

On June 13th, David Lund (PSCE) successfully participated to the 2017 PSCR Public Safety Broadband Stakeholder Meeting in San Antonio, USA, as part of the International Public Safety Deployment Panel.

David Lund presented the challenges related to the deployment of a public safety network in Europe in front of a room full of international PPDR experts. He explained the role of PSCE as a platform for researchers, industry and practitioners to discuss & exchange good practices in the field of Public Safety and Security and presented the specific approach and characteristics of the H2020 BroadMap Project, funded by the EU to establish an interoperable PPDR Broadband Communication Network in Europe.

More info [here](#).



ConCORDE & EPISECC joint workshop

The workshop “optimizing real time information exchange in disaster & emergency management” successfully took place in Brussels on Monday September 11th.

As both projects will terminate in the next few months, this workshop was the opportunity to present the projects’ results as well as reflect on the work that has been done in the course of the past three years. This event gathered a wide range of stakeholders including experts from the public safety & medical emergency domains, researchers, actors from the industry and members of the European Commission (DG HOME).

PSCE Conferences: Upcoming and Past



Upcoming PSCE Conference in Madrid in November 2017

The 17th PSCE Biannual Conference will take place on 28-29 November in Madrid, Spain and be preceded by a workshop on Next Generation Emergency Communications by the EMYNOS project on the 27th.

Topics

- Consequences of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) on Public Safety
- International perspectives on Broadband Transition
- Use of Video in Public Safety
- Internet of Public Safety Things

These topics and many more will be presented and discussed by experts in the field along with roundtable discussions and collaborative sessions.

Special Features

For this edition, we have the honour to count **FirstNet** amongst our conference speakers. FirstNet is the independent authority mandated to develop, build and operate a nationwide, broadband network in the US. It also equips first responders to save lives and protect U.S. communities. In addition to the US perspective, the UK, French, Belgian and European-Wide perspective on Broadband transition will be presented at the conference. We are honoured to be the first event in Europe to propose such a rich and varied programme.

Find the complete preliminary programme and all practical information on the [PSCE website](#).

Registration

Please register via this [form](#) and send it to adm@psc-europe.eu.

For sponsorship and exhibition opportunities, please contact secretariat@psc-europe.eu.



Success of the latest PSCE Conference in Munich in May 2017

On 4 and 5 May 2017, another PSCE conference successfully took place at the Leonardo Munich City South Hotel. The conference was preceded on 3 May by a workshop on Standardization organized as part of the EPISECC project.

The Munich edition was focused on IoT applications for public safety, future broadband, on the ethical considerations embedded in the exchange of information in emergency situations, on cybersecurity, redundancy & resilience, the development of Apps in PPDR and on the use of UAVs (drones) in public safety missions.

In addition to the outstanding presentations given by the key-note speakers, the conference provided an outstanding platform to share information and to exchange points of view in the field of public safety communications. It brought together around 60 participants including top-level policymakers, academic researchers, industrial experts and other interested stakeholders.

This edition was marked by a fascinating guided tour in a mountain rescue simulation center in the vicinity of Munich, which allowed conference delegates to immerse in real life emergency situations and to receive precious feedback from first responders volunteering for the Bavarian mountain rescue.

[Click here](#) for a comprehensive conference report

[Click here](#) for an overview video of the conference presentations

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