PSCEurope

Public Safety Communication Europe

PSCEurope

PSC-Europe/003-2018

PSCE ANNUAL REPORT 2017

PREPARED BY: PSCE Secretariat

DATE: 19-02-2018

PSC Europe: Information

Table of Contents

Foreword

2017 has proved to be another extremely important and challenging year. PSCE's commitment in promoting practitioners' needs as well as its involvement in policy-making processes at EU level throughout the year shows that PSCE is and will remain recognised as one of the major actors in public safety communications in Europe.

The Board Members did their best to bring PSCE's leverage and expertise to a new level with the support from the Brussels Secretariat.

In addition to the five projects on which PSCE is currently working on with great implication, the year 2017 has been marked by the relaunch of a previous project. DRIVER+, which is the continuation of DRIVER, was relaunched in September and will be fully operational during the year of 2018

Two successful annual conferences and General Assembly meetings were held, in Munich and in Madrid, during which topics of interest and relevance to the community were discussed, including the use of UAVs in public safety and the Internet of things.

PSCE also took part in several events and workshops and continued its activities of dissemination and communication.

Involvement of PSCE members will be a key for a successful year and for PSCE's sustainability, for Public Safety's Communications and not at least for European citizens and their safety.

Executive summary

PSCE carried out a great deal of important activities throughout 2017 to strengthen cooperation in the field of Public Safety Communications.

To better represent the interests of its members, PSCE continued nurturing its relationship with the European Commission and Parliament as well as the national authorities responsible for civil protection.

Remaining a key player in the sector of Public Safety Communication demands both to stand at the forefront of current EU debates and to have significant awareness of the latest technological advances. In this regard, PSCE has intensively participated in debates and discussions on a variety of hot issues including: 3GPP, PPDR Broadband Networks, NIS (Network Information Security), the Horizon 2020 framework for Research and Innovation, the transition to 5G, and the Internet of Things (IoT). This was achieved through the:

(i)   organisation of two high-level conferences;

(ii)   participation in numerous external meetings, workshops and seminars;

(iii)   production of policy papers and other publications;

(iv)   work on the development of new and ongoing EU-funded projects

Moreover, owing to their strong links within European institutions and the PPDR sector in general, PSCE representatives have been invited to participate in numerous key meetings and talks on areas touching emergency communications.

PSCE remains an expert in providing accurate and timely information and delivers a range of regular publications offering news and information towards its constituency and stakeholders. PSCE also acts as a dissemination partner in some European wide projects to promote their results and raise awareness among target audiences.

After having been chaired by the Chair of the Research Committee Andrea Nowak (AIT) and following the annual rotation of the Board, Manfred Blaha, Chair of the User Committee, took over the presidency of Public Safety Communication Europe (PSCE) for the coming year on the 1st of June.

What is PSCE?

Public Safety Communication Europe Forum (PSCE) is a permanent autonomous organisation aiming at improving provision of public safety communications and information management systems and the safety of the citizens during crisis and emergency situations. PSCE provides a unique common platform for researchers, industry and users enabling regular exchange of ideas, information, experiences and best practices.

Our Mission

To achieve its mission, PSCE carries out in particular various activities including consolidation and validation of user requirements, raising awareness, identification of non-technological issues, promotion of common views, participation to EU funded projects, etc.

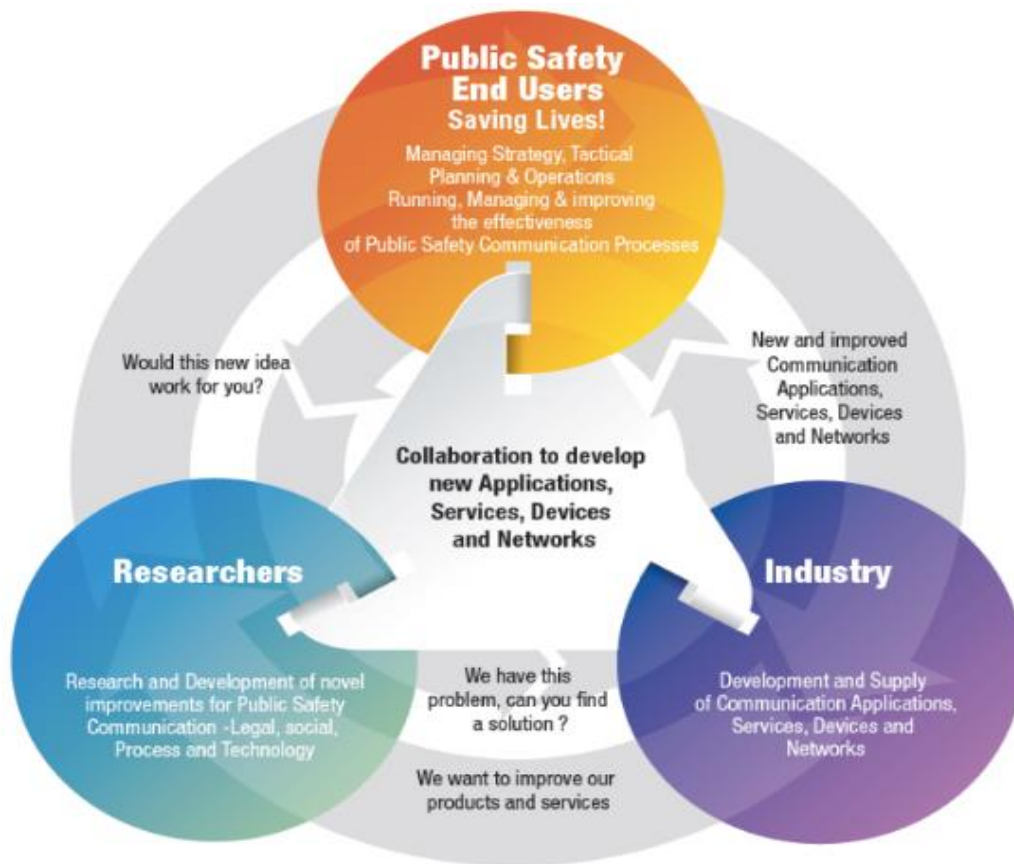The full information on PSCE's mission is available at:
http://www.psc-europe.eu/index.php?id=114

Our Structure

PSCE is a member-based organization with the following structure:

- ➢ The General Assembly;
- ➢ The Board of Directors;
- ➢ The Committees;
- ➢ The Working Groups;
- ➢ The Brussels-based Secretariat

More information on their respective roles is available at:
https://www.psc-europe.eu/about-us-2/forum-structure.html

Our Members

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

PSCE institutional membership is divided into three following categories:

➢ **Users** – National authorities or public bodies which are responsible for management, specification, design, installation, maintenance, operation and use of public safety communications systems and information management systems

➢ **Industrial members** – Companies and organisations involved in development of products and services related to public safety communications

➢ **Researchers** – Recognised research authorities such as an academic establishment or research consultancy that regularly conduct research into development and use of public safety communications and information management systems.

In 2017 PSCE welcomed two new members – StreamWIDE and Swissphone, bringing the current number of PSCE members to 61, out of which 17 are in the User committee, 26 in the Industry and 18 in Research.

The benefits of PSCE institutional membership include access to network and cooperation opportunities through networking with counterparts, access to enhanced and targeted information such as newsletters, presentations, papers and factsheets, access to the EU institutions and to EU-funded projects, as well as access to PSCE's own activities and a role within the functioning of the organisation.

A list of the benefits of PSCE institutional membership can be found here: https://www.psc-europe.eu/our-members/membership.html

PSCE Activities in 2017

Policy

In March 2017, PSCE published a policy paper that describes the need for the review of EU policy and regulation regarding mobile telecommunications. The paper proposes to review EU policy regarding Mission Critical telecommunications according to requirements for public safety communication and recommends changes to be made to the Telecom Framework Directive, as well as additional mobile critical infrastructure and a possible new piece of legislation to provide harmonised critical operation of mobile applications, networks and devices

International collaboration

Collaboration with FIRSTNET

Since 2016, PSCE has been working towards building a strong relationship between European actors in emergency communications and their counterparts around the world. The First Responder Network Authority or "FIRSTNET" builds, operates and maintains the public safety wireless broadband in the USA. On 17 October, PSCE participated on a meeting that brought FirstNet and operators from 14 European countries in Berlin to discuss current trends and challenges in critical communications. Participants signed a joint declaration where they agreed on a set of objectives that included promoting broadband standards and continued use of digital radio.

BroadMap presented at the CommsConnect conference in Melbourne, Australia

On November 21st 2017, David Lund (PSCE) presented the BroadMap project, as a major European Union effort to prepare for Public Safety Mobile Broadband in the EU, during a workshop at the CommsConnect conference for the Australia/New Zealand region taking place in Melbourne.

CommsConnect is the number one event for critical communications users and industry in the region. With a keen eye on trends, hot topics and the latest technology solutions in the critical communications sector, Comms Connect is a great event to get a grasp of the latest trends in critical communications and for networking opportunities.

PSCE at the third SafeNet Forum in South Korea

The third annual joint SafeNet Forum was held during the Korean K-Safety conference and organized along with UNISDR. The 2017 edition focused on Public Safety Networks and

Services and included expert presentations and discussants from around the world, including PSCE and several of its European and global partners. The main topics of the conference were based on how to resolve common issues of operation and deployment through collaboration, how to reduce disaster and business risk for mutual benefit and public-private partnership, and how to efficiently use and improve internationally recognized standards.

Internal Activities

Working Group on IoT/Narrow Band

During the year of 2017 a Working Group was set up on the topic of IoT/Narrow Band. This Working Group is led by PSE and includes nine other partners from seven European countries. The group is expected to produce a policy paper during the year of 2018 which will describe use cases that can be used for public safety.

5G and European Interoperable broadband for Public Safety Communication

PSCE took part in the Information day and Stakeholders event on 5G and European Interoperable broadband for Public Safety Communications which took place in Slovenia on 17 October. Represented by Mr. David Lund, a presentation was delivered on BroadMap that covered the phases of the project and 3GPP standards. At this event, PSCE also established a collaboration with several Slovenian stakeholders.

Communications Committee (COCOM) meeting

PSCE was invited to take part in the first meeting of the Communications Committee (COCOM) Working group 5G, which was held in Brussels on 21 September at the European Commission's DG Connect premises.

The meeting was based on four main topics: implications of the proposed European Gigabit Society / 5G objectives on the national 5G strategies and National Broadband Plans; removing administrative obstacles to the large-scale deployment of small cells; public services as pioneer 5G user/beneficiary (PPDR, on-line health services); exchange on state-of-the-art developments concerning 5G / fibre infrastructure investment stimulation.

PSCE Conferences in 2017

Munich 4 – 5 May

PSCE held its 16th biannual conference on **4 - 5 May 2017** in Munich. The conference was preceded on the 3rd of May by a Workshop on Standardization and on the importance for EU projects to put more efforts on standardization activities in order to bring innovation adapted to the fast-changing market.

The conference's programme featured a series of debates and discussions. The main themes were:

- Redundancy & Resilience in Public Safety Communications

- Future Broadband

- Cyber Considerations for Public Safety

- Internet of Public Safety Things

- Use(s) of UAVs (drones) in Public Safety

The PSCE General Assembly also took place in Munich on the 4th of May, during which an activity report was presented where PSCE's recent contributions and upcoming activities were discussed. The GA also discussed the 2017 accounts and approved them unanimously.

Madrid 28 – 29 November 2017

The second biannual conference of 2017 was held in Madrid on 28 and 29 November and was preceded on the 27th by a workshop in the framework of the EMYNOS project and an Open Hackathon, EMYHACK, on next generation emergency communications.

The main themes of PSCE's second biannual conference of 2017 were:

- First results of Broadband adoption (UK, US, Belgian & French perspectives)
- Regulatory barriers for PPDR (EU General Data Protection Regulation)
- Internet of Public Safety Things
- Use of Video in Public Safety

On 28 November PSCE's second General Assembly of 2017 was held, during which new members were introduced and the 2018 was adopted.

Ongoing projects

DRIVER +

DRIVER + is the continuation of DRIVER. It restarted on September 1st, 2017 and it seeks to drive the next stage of innovation in Crisis Management for European Resilience, and take better into account the needs of Crisis Management practitioners. DRIVER + will deliver a pan-European Test-Bed for Crisis Management capability development, a Portfolio of Solutions (PoS) and promote a shared understanding in Crisis Management across Europe. The relaunch of the project took place in September 2017, on occasion of a meeting in Rotterdam.

DRIVER and DRIVER+ starts from the experience that neither successful R&D nor strong end-user demand always lead to innovation in the Crisis Management (CM) domain. This is a problem since as societies become more complex increasing scope and unpredictability of potential crises and faster dynamics of major incidents put increasingly stringent demands on CM. European CM capabilities already constitute a mature System of Systems; hence wholesale redesign would often be too costly and might critically destabilise existing CM capabilities.

To achieve its overarching objective, DRIVER+ is committed to deliver and make sustainable by April 2020 (end date of the project):

• A pan-European Test-Bed for Crisis Management capability development enabling practitioners to create a space in which stakeholders can collaborate in testing and evaluating new products, tools, processes or organisational solutions.

• A Portfolio of Solutions (PoS) in the form of a database-driven website that aims at documenting all DRIVER+ solutions. These will be tested via trials during the project lifetime. Ultimately, the PoS will be opened up to any external organisations willing to share data and experiences of solutions.

• A shared understanding in Crisis Management across Europe, through the enhancement of the cooperation framework. This will be achieved, amongst others, by building a dedicated Community of Practice in Crisis Management (CoPCM), closely aligned to and supporting the Community of Users (CoU) initiative from DG HOME and the Disaster Risk Management Knowledge Centre (DRMKC).

PSCE will be mainly in charge of DRIVER+ Standardisation and Dissemination & Communication activities, as well contributing to the methodologies and evaluation of the upcoming four trials to be held during 2018 and 2019. For more information about DRIVER+ visit: http://www.driver-project.eu/

E2mC

Feasibility of social media analysis within Mapping and Early Warning Components of Copernicus Emergency Management Service. Under the E2mC project rapid mapping solutions were developed that improve emergency management services through social media and crowdsourcing analysis in near real time. This includes geolocating social media posts for emergency mapping and extraction of geolocated images from tweets.

For more information about E2mC visit: https://www.e2mc-project.eu/

EMYNOS

Next generation of emergency communications. The EMYNOS pilot took place in Graz, Austria, on December 20 2017, at the premises of the Austrian Red Cross. 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 centers' 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. A final pilot for the EMYNOS project is planned was for early 2018.

For more information about EMYNOS visit: https://www.emynos.eu

Concluded projects

BroadMap

The BroadMap project, coordinated by PSCE, came to an end in May 2017, one year after its launch as it was originally scheduled. this project, after validating PPDR (Public Protection

and Disaster Relief) organizations' existing requirements, paved the way to the next step - the future innovation procurement for an EU-interoperable broadband radio communication system for public safety and security, providing better services to first responders and police agencies.

A final Stakeholders workshop took place in Brussels on 6 April 2017 and the final assessment of the project is overall positive, as BroadMap project has successfully delivered the basis for the technical requirements for the Pre-Commercial Procurement call launched by the European Commission under the Horizon2020 programme beginning of March 2017.

The Transition Roadmap and Pre-Commercial procurement specification of the BroadMap project is now publicly available at http://www.broadmap.eu/download-final-deliverable .

As a follow-up PSCE also worked from January to August to establish a team of eleven procurers, completed by a further 49 supporting public safety organisations. It coordinated the intense work for the preparation of a proposal that will run the first Pre-Commercial Procurement in the field of Security. This large group of practitioners and procurers will ensure that the innovative solutions procured fit their needs and complement their national plans for transition to broadband for public safety and will enable a pan-European Interoperable Broadband mobile system for PPDR.

COncORDE

The Concorde consortium successfully demonstrated the results of the project at the final project review in Brussels in October 2017.

Over a total period of three and a half years, the COncORDE project researched needs, designed, developed, implemented and validated a system for improvement of coordination of Health Services in their response to different kinds of emergencies. At completion time of the project the partners have a clear exploitation plan and a roadmap with the necessary steps to bring the COncORDE system to implementation in practice.

For more information about COncORDE visit: http://www.concorde-project.eu/

EPISECC

The EPISECC project came to an end in November 2017 after three and a half years during which EPISECC contributed to develop a concept of a common "European Information Space" in operations of public safety and security services in disasters.

EPISECC also helped in developing a pan-European inventory of past critical events/disasters and their consequences focusing on the performance of processes, the data exchange and the organisational boundaries, as well as in developing a concept of a common information space, including appropriate semantic definitions.

PSCE was instrumental in bringing its members to the EPISECC project. 10 of the 12 partners that took part in EPISECC were PSCE members, attesting the benefits that come with membership of the organization. For more information about EPISECC visit: https://www.episecc.eu/

Future Priorities

In the future, and with the objective of remaining a key actor in emergency communications in Europe, PSCE will focus on the following:

- Continue to work to strengthen the voice of end users.

- Bring users requirements to 3GPP and other standardization bodies.

- Take an active role in the Community of Users animated by DG HOME.

- Follow the development of 5G by DG CONNECT as well as the revision of the telecoms framework.

- Stimulate dialogue between the 3 communities by:

    ➢ Being the bridge between needs and innovation

    ➢ Organise conferences, workshops with a focus on relevant topics for Users, Industry and Research

    ➢ Generating white papers and policies

Contact Us

General contact and information
39 Rue des Deux Eglises 1000 Brussels
Belgium
Tel: +32 2 738 07 63
fax: +32 2 738 07 64
www.psc-europe.eu
secretariat@psc-europe.eu