CONCORDIA OSG

The Observer Stakeholders Group

Introduction

Cybersecurity does not offer the luxury to be just a localized national interest concern. The inter-linked digital world necessitates a community solution. In this context, CONCORDIA[1] is developing an EU-wide Cybersecurity community and matching ecosystem to exchange and collate EU competences to become a potent coordinated force to address current and upcoming cyber threats at the EU level.

For this, a (draft) regulation[i] is proposed to strengthen the (development, build-up and deployment of) competitiveness and capacities in cybersecurity at EU and national level, and support research to facilitate and accelerate standardisation and certification processes, this all while reducing digital dependence.

In lieu of the above, a key objective for CONCORDIA is to inclusively and comprehensively engage diverse competencies/stakeholders to result in a high-impact EU-wide Cybersecurity ecosystem. Recognizing that different stakeholders (national or institutional) represent different levels of competencies and with associated differing levels of engagement, CONCORDIA has established dedicated processes to engage the initial set (to be expanded as needed) of stakeholders to the consortium as:

A. The National Cybersecurity Coordination Centres and Agencies Stakeholders Group (NSG);
B. The Liaison Stakeholders Group (LSG), and;
C. The Observer Stakeholders Group (OSG).

The Purpose of OSG

The OSG concerns current, upcoming and future stakeholders of the Cybersecurity Competence Community, not being national governmental bodies (who generally will be part of the NSG) or European institutions (who generally will be part of the LSG).

The purpose of the OSG is to support the development of the proposed network (including both the National Cybersecurity Coordination Centres ('NCCCs') and Cybersecurity Competence Community) including without limitation interconnecting existing, developing or to be developed ecosystem in and across the member states with the other stakeholders of this evolving network. The OSG will focus on the Cybersecurity Competence Community.

Based on the (draft) Regulation, and recognizing that cybersecurity is a broad dimension where various domains and stakeholders – also within the various sectors' perspectives in each member state and the European Union – should be identified in order to enable and facilitate each member state to work on, build and foster cybersecurity capabilities,

[1] https://www.concordia-h2020.eu/

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competences and sources, in consultation with the Commission we have made the distinction between four (4) main domains:

A. Sovereignty, CERT & NIS;
B. Economic Development & Competition;
C. Research & Innovation, and;
D. Education & Skills.

Other interests can also be indicated while an OSG member to join thematic workshops. The OSG is envisioned to have three main tasks, based on the main mission to help build a platform for trustworthy exchange of ideas, approaches, topics of joint actions and collaborations:

1. Build and maintain a trusted zone of dialogue and collaboration, including without limitation sharing, develop and sustain good practices and other information regarding the various objectives of the Cybersecurity Competence Community, the network, the proposed Regulation, and the public Cybersecurity Atlas, including without limitation mapping common state of play and state of the art and addressing relevant gaps;

2. Discuss how to coordinate, operationalize and sustain the various domains set forth above within scope of the proposed Regulation, including addressing both the numerous engagements as well as preconditions, also with the aim to add to the actual functioning of the Cybersecurity Competence Community of which the respective liaisons may or swill become part of;

3. Cooperate in the field of cybersecurity innovation, research, economic and societal implications encouraging cross-borders and other collaboratives programs, projects and event-driven developments.

Participation

The OSG is a restricted Stakeholder Group. CONCORDIA, also under the suggestions of the EC and our NSG members, will accept organisations to join the OSG.

We envision the stakeholder groups to primarily communicate via electronic means. The periodic meeting will be coordinated by CONCORDIA with an invitation to attend the yearly physical meeting organized by CONCORDIA for all the stakeholder groups. Only public information will be made available.

OSG members are under no obligation.

[i] https://oeil.secure.europarl.europa.eu/oeil/popups/ficheprocedure.do?reference=2018/0328(COD)&l=en. EUR-Lex status quo: https://eur-lex.europa.eu/procedure/EN/2018_328. Proposal 2018/0328 (COD): https://ec.europa.eu/commission/sites/beta-political/files/soteu2018-cybersecurity-centres-regulation-630_en.pdf. Commission Staff Working Paper to 2018/0328 (COD): https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/regdoc/rep/10102/2018/EN/SWD-2018-403-F1-EN-MAIN-PART-1.PDF

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