CONCORDIA

Cyber security cOmpeteNCe fOr Research anD InnovAtion

Stakeholders' Newsletter

Your summer reading

With summer officially started, it's always important to stay up-to-date with the cybersecurity landscape. Check out the minutes from the 2nd NSG meeting. However, we are already getting ready for the cybersecurity month and our annual event **CONCORDIA OPEN DOOR in Munich on the 26th and 27th of October 2022**. Save the date!

Enjoy your reading, and don't hesitate to **provide feedback**.

This issue

CONCORDIA News

Suggested Articles from European Institutions

Pan-European Cybersecurity Start-up Community (PECS-UP)

Next Events

www.concordia-h2020.eu

Anomaly Detection with Privacy-preserved Peer-to-peer Federated Learning

In the context of IoT, the augment of the computational power and capacity of edge devices enables the use of distributed ML approaches, pushing the computation of the models to these edge devices. Federated Learning (FL) has emerged as a very promising paradigm for training distributed ML models.

Read more at:

https://www.concordia-h2020.eu/blog-post/anomaly-detection-with-privacy-preserved-peer-to-peer-federated-learning/
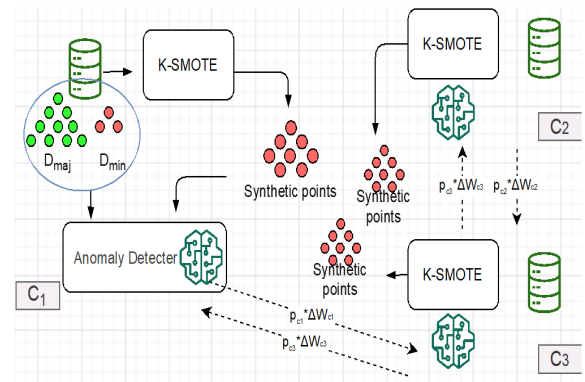
On the Cybersecurity Planning and Investments: An Approach with Economic Bias

Many of the problems plaguing cybersecurity are technical in nature, but they may have an economic motivation (e.g., to obtain financial profits) and certainly, an economic impact. The primary motivation (besides espionage and destruction) behind cyberattacks is making financial profits.

Read more at:

https://www.concordia-h2020.eu/blog-post/on-the-cybersecurity-planning-and-investments-an-approach-with-economic-bias/
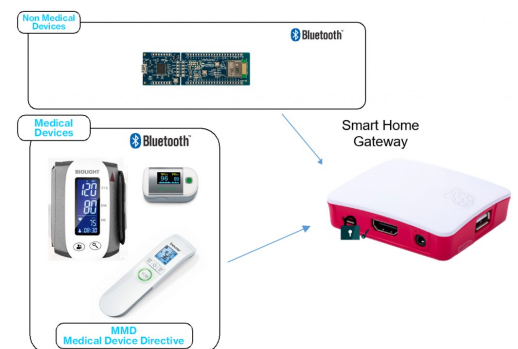
Smart home and remote health service, use case in CONCORDIA

The developed demonstrator from Y1 and Y2 get progress in Y3 on the following aspects: a smart-card reader, user management, and secure communication with the cloud.

Read more at:

https://www.concordia-h2020.eu/blog-post/smart-home-and-remote-health-service-use-case-in-concordia/

Visualization helps clear the fog of Cyberwar

The phrase "fog of war" is often used to convey the uncertainty prevalent during military operations where unit commanders have to make decisions without having a clear picture of the battlefield, or the movements of both friendly and hostile forces.
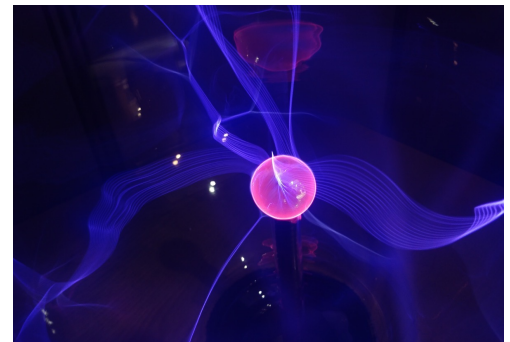
Read more at:
https://www.concordia-h2020.eu/blog-post/visualization-helps-clear-the-fog-of-cyberwar/
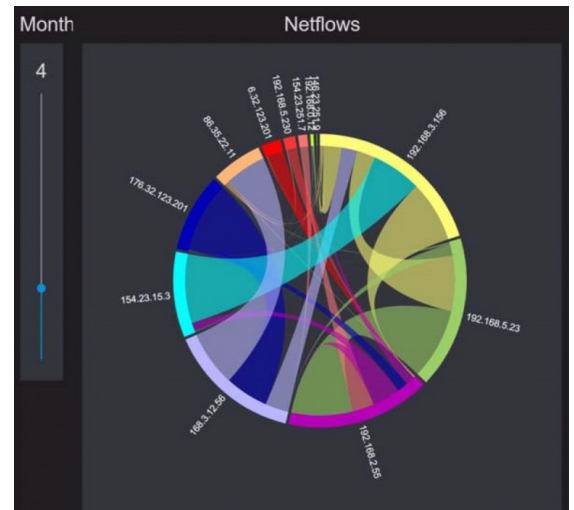
Preparing for a Quantum Era

A very common buzzword frequently being used throughout the tech industry is the inevitable rise of quantum computing. These novel computers, by taking advantage of properties derived from quantum physics, have the ability to surpass computing barriers imposed by the already established and traditional way today's computers operate.

Read more at: https://www.concordia-h2020.eu/concordia-highlights-in-legal-aspects-of-cybersecurity/

Initial analysis on the Russo-Ukrainian War corpus on Twitter

Twitter consists one of the most popular social networks, attracting millions of users, including malicious entities. In this study, we delve into a recent dataset regarding the Russo-Ukrainian war in order to analyze malicious activity and suspension of users from Twitter. The scope of this work is to investigate online malicious activity on Twitter.

Read the blog post at:
https://www.concordia-h2020.eu/blog-post/initial-analysis-on-the-russo-ukrainian-war-corpus-on-twitter/
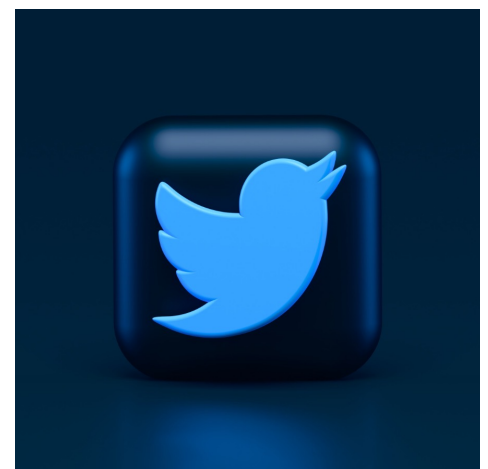
Second NSG Meeting

What? Last week, on the 27th of June, CONCORDIA National Stakeholders Group members, from the public sector per member state, met for the second time to (a) convene and connect in a round table setting, (b) identify cybersecurity challenges, focus areas, and joint-actions, and (c) share ideas, lessons learned, good practices regarding the European cybersecurity and digital sovereignty landscape. In short, the NSG is to inspire and get inspired by peer colleagues from other member states in a trustworthy Chatham House Rule environment. (more about NSG at https://www.concordia-h2020.eu/concordia-service-community-pact/.

Who? Next to participation and intervention by the chairman of the ECCC governing board, as well as by the CONCORDIA consortium, one or more representatives per member state participated in this June 2022 NSG Round Table: (in alphabetical order) Austria, Croatia, Cyprus, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, and the Netherlands.

About What? The discussion followed two branches, focussing on the "How". First, the participants shared their respective focus areas and priorities, furthering the focus areas priorities identified during the previous NSG meeting and finding inspiration. Secondly, the NSG members shared ideas, suggestions, and recommendations on CONCORDIA's query about how to build, achieve and sustain a European community catering to cybersecurity and digital sovereignty. The participants also considered the current roadmap recommendations in the (draft) CONCORDIA Cybersecurity Roadmap for European Digital Sovereignty.

2nd NSG Takeaways? A shift of interest was evident, pushing the focus area "jointly building interdisciplinary NCCs, communities, and ecosystems" to the top, together with the focus area 'SMEs', particularly the demand-/procurement side, as the economic heart of member states. The latter, for once, to minimize surprise and red tape, and most of all, to share more and empower them. SMEs were mentioned several times, and the same goes for "by-design" system- thinking and doing, as well as the lack of resources. The NSG participants openly and kindly shared various ideas, suggestions, and recommendations. The willingness to (further) join forces was quite well felt. Also, the CONCORDIA Open Door events were beneficial for mixing experts from different cybersecurity and related backgrounds. Other takeaways are in the process of being structured and then to be shared with the NSG members.

Digital Assembly 2022: A closer look into the digital future

Read the press release at:
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_3898

European Defence Fund: €1 billion to boost the EU's defence capabilities and new tools for defence innovation

The Commission announced the adoption of the second annual work programme of the European Defence Fund (EDF). The EDF 2022 work programme will allocate up to a total of €924 million in funding.

Read the press release at:
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_3283

Commission welcomes political agreement on new rules on cybersecurity of network and information systems

The Commission welcomes the political agreement reached today between the European Parliament and EU Member States on the Directive on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the Union (NIS 2 Directive) proposed by the Commission in December 2020.

Read the press release at:
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_2985

Cybersecurity of 5G networks: EU publishes report on the security of Open RAN

EU Member States, with the support of the European Commission and ENISA, the EU Agency for Cybersecurity, published a report on the cybersecurity of Open RAN. This new type of 5G network architecture will in the coming years provide an alternative way of deploying the radio access part of 5G networks.

Read the press release at:
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_2881

Digital Services Act: Commission welcomes political agreement on rules ensuring a safe and accountable online environment

The Commission welcomes the swift political agreement reached today between the European Parliament and EU Member States on the proposal on the Digital Services Act (DSA), proposed by the Commission in December 2020.

Read the press release at:
https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_22_2545

Pan-European Cybersecurity Start-up Community (PECS-UP)

The European Cyber Security Organization (ECSO) together with the Cybersecurity Agency of Catalonia organized the **13th edition of the Cyber Investor Days on May 12, 2022 in Barcelona**. Cybersecurity presentations included start-ups such as 360CyberSec.io, Apolo Analytics, Circe, Omnios, onBRANDING, Numentech, Save the proof and Tranxfer. You can learn more about these companies at: https://ecs-org.eu/newsroom/cyber-investor-days-in-barcelona. And do not forget that the next edition of Barcelona cybersecurity congress is already scheduled for 31 OF JANUARY-2 FEBRUARY 2023!

The **European Champions Alliance (ECA)** is a non-for-profit initiative lead by a group of French, German, Austrian, Dutch and Swiss entrepreneurial and multi competences experts. They have different Focus groups such as Governance, GreenTech, Smart Industry, and one cybersecurity focus group, all of those working to develop pan-European ecosystems between the stakeholders.

As we go to press, ECA has published a mapping of the Investment Funds active in Cybersecurity, and is about to publish its version 3 of mapping of the European Cybersecurity start-up and scale-up offerings. You can check the version 2 at: https://european-champions.org/blog/mapping-the-european-cybersecurity-ecosystem-v2/

CODEAN is a Dutch start-up company and a member of CONCORDIA start-up community. It has built a review environment that helps security experts in code review in many ways. They have recently received a €1M investment to increase their team. At their new website https://www.codean.io/ you can find the technology behind it and learn more about their vision on software security review.

EIC - EIT Digital Venture Acceleration Programme is designed for European technology scaleups with international growth ambitions. There are many services, such as financing needs assessment, investment-readiness coaching, investor meetings, exclusive investor events, qualified sales introductions, go-to-market coaching, network of 500+ corporate clients and others. Besides, there is support from the EIT Digital Accelerator worth €50.000 to scale up and support to further raise Series A or Series B funding. Programme is free of charge for the selected EIC companies for its duration, 12 months. For deals closed after the said 12 months, a success fee will apply. The last submission deadline closed in May, but we encourage you to keep track of announcements at: https://www.eitdigital.eu/eic-eit-digital-venture-acceleration-programme/

ENISA cybersecurity skills conference

Athens, Greece: 20th and 21st September 2022

National, European and international stakeholders will share best practices in building a cybersecurity workforce.

Read more at: https://www.enisa.europa.eu/topics/cybersecurity-education/european-cybersecurity-skills-framework

CyberHOT Summer School
(Defensive Strategies & Offensive Techniques)

Chania, Creete, Greece: 29th and 30th September 2022
Early registration until 31/8/2022

The Cybersecurity Hands -On -Training (CyberHOT) Summer School will take place on Thursday 29th and Friday 30th of September 2022 under the auspices of NATO Maritime Interdiction Operational Training Centre (NMIOTC). This event is part of the NMIOTC's Cyber Week . You can find out more here.

Read more at:
https://www.cyberhot.eu/

> Do you want to promote your cybersecurity academic programme and attract talented students from all over the world?
>
> The Cybersecurity Higher Education Database (CyberHEAD) provides an easy-to-access portal where European universities can list their cybersecurity academic programmes.
>
> Don't miss the opportunity to promote your programme by filling the form.

26th and 27th of October 2022

CONCORDIA Open Door (COD) is an opportunity stakeholders of all backgrounds (such as IT, entrepreneurship, education, economy, and policy) can discuss societal and technological needs in the cybersecurity field participants can discover others' competencies for potential collaboration with more than 100 partners (universities, industries, and public bodies).

COD2022 is our fourth edition and, after two years of virtual meeting, we are finally going to meet again in Munich.

More information will arrive soon on our social media and website:
https://opendoor.concordia-h2020.eu/

Meanwhile, you can check the previous editions:
- https://opendoor.concordia-h2020.eu/2021/
- https://opendoor.concordia-h2020.eu/2020/
- https://opendoor.concordia-h2020.eu/2019/

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antonioken.iannillo@uni.lu

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