

Press Release

Brussels, 10 July 2013

CEN and CENELEC agree to collaborate with ENISA (European Union Agency for Network and Information Security) on cybersecurity issues

CEN (European Committee for Standardization) and CENELEC (European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization) have signed a collaboration agreement with ENISA (European Union Agency for Network and Information Security). The three organisations have committed themselves to working together during the coming years on a range of issues related to cybersecurity and standardization.

The collaboration agreement between CEN, CENELEC and ENISA was officially signed by Elena Santiago Cid, Director General of CEN and CENELEC, and Prof. Udo Helmbrecht, Executive Director of ENISA, at the CEN-CENELEC Management Centre in Brussels yesterday (9 July 2013). This agreement establishes a framework for cooperation among the three organisations, and gives ENISA the possibility to nominate experts who will participate in relevant standardization activities that are being supported by CEN and CENELEC, notably in areas related to Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

CEN, CENELEC and ENISA will develop their cooperation together with ETSI (European Telecommunications Standards Institute) in the framework of the CEN/CENELEC/ETSI Cybersecurity Coordination Group, which is chaired by Dr Christian Ehler (Member of the European Parliament). They are determined to make a significant and positive contribution to the successful implementation of the European Union's Cybersecurity Strategy, which was published by the European Commission on 7 February 2013.

The European Standardization Organisations (CEN, CENELEC and ETSI) will also develop their dialogue and cooperation with ENISA in relation to ongoing standardization activities in other relevant areas such as Smart Grids (intelligent electricity distribution networks that support the integration of renewable energy sources, etc.) and Smart Cities (using ICT to achieve greater energy efficiency, notably in relation to urban transport, etc.).

Speaking on the occasion of the signing ceremony in Brussels yesterday (9 July), **Elena Santiago Cid**, Director General of CEN and CENELEC, said:

"We are convinced that the collaboration between ENISA and the European Standardization Organisations will contribute to the successful implementation of the European Union's Cybersecurity Strategy. At the same time, we will continue to play a positive role in terms of promoting the international harmonisation of cybersecurity standards, notably in the [...]"

[...] framework of our ongoing cooperation with ISO (International Organization for Standardization) and the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission)."

Prof. Udo Helmbrecht, Executive Director of ENISA, said:

"Recognised standards for Europe's network and information security (NIS) activity help to improve security, and can enhance Europe's competitive edge as a provider of cybersecurity products and services. This is why ENISA's role includes reinforcing work on European NIS standards, working in close cooperation with the European Standardization Organisations - CEN, CENELEC and ETSI. Our new collaboration agreement with CEN and CENELEC puts measures in place to further increase impact, including participation in working groups, sharing information, and factoring ENISA's research results into relevant standardization activities that are being supported by CEN and CENELEC."

Notes

CEN (European Committee for Standardization) and **CENELEC (European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization)** are officially recognised organisations responsible for developing and defining standards at European level. These standards set out specifications and procedures in relation to a wide range of products and services.

The members of CEN and CENELEC are the National Standards Bodies and National Electrotechnical Committees of 33 European countries including all of the EU member states plus 3 EFTA countries (Iceland, Norway and Switzerland) as well as 2 EU candidate countries (Turkey and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia).

European Standards (ENs) are developed through a process of collaboration among experts nominated by business and industry, research institutes, consumer and environmental organisations and other societal stakeholders. These standards are accepted and recognised throughout all of the 33 countries covered by CEN and CENELEC members.

CEN and CENELEC work to promote the international harmonisation of standards in the framework of technical cooperation agreements with ISO (International Organization for Standardization) and the IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission).

For more information, please see: www.cencenelec.eu

The CEN/CENELEC/ETSI Cybersecurity Coordination Group (CSCG) met for the first time in Berlin on 2 December 2011. The CSCG acts as an advisory body to the Technical Boards of CEN, CENELEC and ETSI (European Telecommunications Standards Institute) on political and strategic matters related to cybersecurity standardization.

For more information see the CEN website:

www.cen.eu/cen/Sectors/Sectors/Security/citizens/Pages/CyberSecurityCoordinationGroup.aspx

ENISA (European Union Agency for Network and Information Security) is a centre of network and information security expertise for the EU, its member states, the private sector and Europe's citizens. ENISA works with these groups to develop advice and recommendations on good practice in information security. It assists EU member states in implementing relevant EU legislation and works to improve the resilience of Europe's critical information infrastructure and networks.

ENISA's head office is in Heraklion, Crete, where its research team is based, along with the Agency's Executive Director and support functions. The Agency's operational work is performed from its office in Athens, covering the main areas of computer emergency response teams, critical information infrastructure protection (CIIP) and resilience, privacy and trust, and risk management.

ENISA was established in 2004, under EC Regulation 460/2004, with a five year mandate. This mandate was subsequently extended, in 2008 and 2011. This year, the European Parliament and the Council of the EU approved a new EU Regulation (526/2013), which grants ENISA a seven year mandate with an expanded set of duties.

For more information about ENISA, please see: www.enisa.europa.eu

The Joint Communication on a '**Cybersecurity Strategy of the European Union: an Open, Safe and Secure Cyberspace**' was adopted on 7 February 2013 by the European Commission and the EU's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy.

For more information see the European Commission's Digital Agenda website:
<http://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/cyber-security>

See also the website of the European External Action Service:
http://eeas.europa.eu/policies/eu-cyber-security/index_en.htm

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