HORIZON EUROPE AND CLUSTER 3 NOVELTIES



eNewsletter APRIL/MAY 2025



FUNDING INFORMATION



NEWS AND EVENTS



RELEVANT INITIATIVES



SUCCESS STORIES
AND MORE



CONTENT:

- WHAT IS VERY USEFUL FROM FUNDING INFORMATION?
- WHICH NEWS AND EVENTS ARE ONGOING OR RELEVANT?
- DO I KNOW WHICH WEB PAGE IS USEFUL?

What APRE can advise:

You are sincerely welcome to read our 11th Newsletter and we look forward to share our forthcoming activities and services for applicants and NCPs in the real of Cluster 3.

In the light of 2025 Work Programme, a series of upcoming events at both at EU and national level, are aimed to inform about the topics and general information about calls and novelties in 2025 topics. Events such as the SMI2G 2025 and the official Info Day and BE are only two examples of occasions to present project ideas, to collect information about the funding opportunities and to build the consortia with new partners.

Furthermore, SEREN5 organises the Pre Info Day on 16th May (online) to officially open this season of Cluster 3 related events.

We would like to remind you that SEREN5 is available to support both applicants and NCPs with dedicated services, towards the proposal submission in November 2025.

SEREN5 coordinator, APRE Flavia La Colla, <u>lacolla@apre.it</u>

WHAT IS VERY USEFUL TO KNOW FROM FUNDING INFORMATION?



These are some useful information to support you in preparation of your proposals.

New WP 2025 is now published and new calls and topics are ready to be announced soon on June 2025, but you can find them in our list to be well prepared for the scope and impacts discussion with your stakeholders to find a way in your first project ideas.

20 YEARS OF EU FUNDED CIVIL SECURITY RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

Study on strengthening EU-funded security research and innovation

European Union (EU) has considerably reshaped its approach to security policy, and in this context, the EU has taken up an increasingly more active role in supporting research and innovation (R&I) initiatives within the context of civil security over the past 20 years.

Over the past two decades, this investment has supported technological advancements, strengthened policies, and created real impact across Europe.

The new study "20 years of innovation, impact, and success" provides a comprehensive assessment of the contributions, benefits and potential shortcomings of the research and innovation efforts, the investments made have been analysed and benchmarked against other national civil security research programmes around the globe (both within and outside of the European Union), as well as other areas of research funded by the EU. Finally, the delivered impact and added value (including knowledge generation, value creation and market uptake) have also been identified. The significant point of discussion entails the scope of the projects, with stakeholders holding opposing views on the focus of EU-funded research projects, with one group prioritising fundamental research, and the other highlighting the need for higher TRL-oriented projects to ensure market uptake.

Conclusion and recommendation part provide statement including make EU societies more resilient towards civil security threats; contribute to establishing, deploying and steering relevant key technologies and resilient critical (digital an physical) infrastructure; contribute to the EU's competitiveness in global markets in regard to foreign technologies etc.

As discussions on the next MFF progress, this study provides valuable insights into why continued investment in research and innovation for security and border management matters for Europe's future and keeping us safe. The current Multiannual Financial Framework (MFF) runs until the end of 2027. In 2025, the Commission will put forward comprehensive proposals for the post-2027 MFF and for the next generation of financial programmes.

The study "20 years of innovation, impact, and success" was prepared for EC Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs by agency Delloite and thanks to all who decided to participate with theirs feedbacks.

PRE-PUBLICATION OF WORK PROGRAMME 2025: WORK PROGRAMME CL3 2025 AND 25 NEW TOPICS

The 2025 Horizon Europe Work Programme for Cluster 3 is now pre-published!

Finally, after quite long discussion and necessary comments we have a new one year Work Programme 2025 with strong support to security research for civil application. It is very useful to be familiar with destinations description as well as with all topics conditions, including eligibility criteria. Do not miss all information you need to be ready for 2025 topics!

Call – Civil Security for Society: HORIZON-CL3-2025-01

Destination – Better protect the EU and its citizens against Crime and Terrorism

- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-FCT-01: Open topic on modern information and forensic evidence analysis and on frontline policing
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-FCT-02: Open topic on prevention, detection and deterrence of various forms of crime and terrorism through an enhanced understanding of the related societal issues
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-FCT-03: Open topic on improved intelligence picture and enhanced prevention, detection and deterrence of various forms of organised crime
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-FCT-04: Humanitarian demining / Unexploded Ordnance Disposal (UXO) of civil areas and unexploded ordnance risk education

Overall indicative budget: 43, 50 mil. €

Destination – Effective management of EU external borders

- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-BM-01: Open topic on efficient border surveillance and maritime security
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-BM-02: Open topic on secured and facilitated crossing of external borders
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-BM-03: Open topic on better customs and supply chain security

Overall indicative budget: 28,00 mil. €

Destination – Resilient Infrastructure

- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-INFRA-01: Open topic for improved preparedness for, response to and recovery from large-scale disruptions of critical infrastructures
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-INFRA-02: Open topic for role of the human factor for the resilience of critical infrastructures

Overall indicative budget: 22, 00 mil. €

Destination – Increased Cybersecurity

* Under this Work Programme, the Commission intends to conclude a contribution agreement entrusting the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC) with the implementation of call topics related to Increased Cybersecurity. Please refer to "Indirectly managed action by the ECCC" in the section "Other Actions" of this Work Programme part – including the Appendix providing the call specifica tions for information purposes.

Destination – Disaster-Resilient Society for Europe

- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-DRS-01: Open topic on citizen and regional and/or local authorities' engagement in enhanced disaster risk awareness, including education, and preparedness
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-DRS-02: Open topic on Improving disaster risk management and governance to ensure self-sufficiency and sustainability of operations in support of enhanced resilience
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-DRS-03: Open topic on testing / validating tools, technologies and data used in cross-border prevention, preparedness and responses to climate extreme and geological events and chemical, biological or radiological emergency threats
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-DRS-04: Advancing autonomous systems and robotics for high-risk disaster response, strengthening disaster resilience in conflict-afflicted crisis zones

Overall indicative budget: 41, 0 mil. €

Destination – Strengthened Security Research and Innovation

- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-SSRI-01: National Contact Points (NCPs) in the field of securityandcybersecurityfosteringthelinkswithNationalCommunitybuildingforSafe, Secure and Resilient Societies
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-SSRI-02: Uptake Acceleration Services
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-SSRI-03: Open grounds for pre-commercial procurement of innovative security technologies
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-SSRI-04: Accelerating uptake through open proposals for advanced SME innovation
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-SSRI-05: Data repository for security research and innovation

• HORIZON-CL3-2025-01-SSRI-06: Demand-led innovation for civil security through Pre-Commercial Procurement (PCP

Overall indicative budget: 21, 5 mil. €

Specifications of the 'Increased Cybersecurity' call to be launched by ECCC

Call – Increased Cybersecurity: HORIZON-CL3-2025-02-CS-ECCC

Destination – Increased Cybersecurity

- HORIZON-CL3-2025-02-CS-ECCC-01: Generative AI for Cybersecurity applications
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-02-CS-ECCC-02: New advanced tools and processes for Operational Cybersecurity
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-02-CS-ECCC-03: Privacy Enhancing Technologies
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-02-CS-ECCC-04: Security evaluations of Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC) primitives
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-02-CS-ECCC-05: Security of implementations of Post-Quantum Cryptography algorithms
- HORIZON-CL3-2025-02-CS-ECCC-06: Integration of Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC) algorithms into high-level protocols

Overall indicative budget: 90, 55 mil. €

Total **2025 CL3 calls Budget (EUR million)**:

Call HORIZON-CL3-2025-01: 156.00 mil. €

Indirectly managed action (Call HORIZON-CL3-2025-02-CS-ECCC): 90.55 mil.€

Estimated total budget: **247, 83** mil. € More information about WP CL3 2025 here.

PUBLIC CONSULTATION — EU FUNDING FOR CIVIL PROTECTION, PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE TO CRISES

<u>Have your say! – Public Consultations and Feedback</u>

The European Commission is preparing for the next multiannual financial framework (MFF), the EU's long-term budget, which will start in 2028. Following President von der Leyen's Political Guidelines for the 2024-2029 European Commission, the Commission aims to create a simpler, more focused, and responsive budget that reflects European strategic priorities. To achieve this, seven public consultations are launched to gather views from interested parties on how to make the most of the EU budget. The consul-

tations will cover various policy areas, including cohesion policy, agriculture, and home affairs, with the goal of creating a more effective and efficient budget that delivers on key objectives.

You can also contribute to this consultation by filling in the online questionnaire. If you are unable to use the online questionnaire, please contact us using the email address below.

Questionnaire on EU funding for civil protection, preparedness and response to crises is available in some or all official EU languages. You can submit your responses in any official EU language.

Do not miss this great opportunity to reply with you feedback!

SEREN5 & IDEAL-IST – NCP TRAINING: EUROPEAN CYBERSECURITY COMPETENCE CENTRE (ECCC)



<u>SEREN5</u> & Ideal-ist NCP Training European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC) was organised on 13th February 2025 fully online.

After a short Introduction the training started with SEREN5 presentation "The network of Cluster 3 National Contact Points" presented by Flavia La Colla, SEREN5 Coordinator, Cluster 3 NCP – Italy, Agenzia per la Promozione della Ricerca Europea (APRE), the next – Ideal-ist: The network of Cluster 4 – Digital National Contact Points Judith Bloch, Ideal-ist Coordinator, Israel Innovation Authority – ISERD was presented their possibilities and European Cybersecurity Competence Centre with the Role and activities by Alexandra Asgari, Project Officer, ECCC, National Coordination Centre: national activities Ludovica Coletta, NCC-IT, Agenzia per la Cybersicurezza Nazionale (ACN) presentation was as final before a Final discussion incl. Q&A.

SEREN5 – EEN AERONAUTIC SPACE AND DEFENCE SECTOR GROUP ONLINE TRAINING

The EEN "AeroSpace and Defence" (ASD) Sector Group and the COSMOS4HE Space NCP Network SPACE NCP Online Training and SEREN5 organised on 28th March, online NCP training for NCP and stakeholders interested in Aeronautic in general and safety.

SEREN5, the Cluster 3 NCP network, supports the training as well.

The training was organised by <u>COSMOS4HE</u> (the Network of Cluster 4 Space NCPs) in collaboration with the EEN SG ASD. The main invited speakers: Simone Sparano Chair of the Aeronautic, Space and Defence Sector Croup ASD (ASD-EEN) Title: "Enterprise Europe Network – Sector Group: Aeronautic Space and Defence" – Services for Clients (and HE Applicants), Rosalia Vicente Vice Chair ASD-SG (EEN) and Defence sub-sector group coordinator Title: The ASD Sector Group in Spain and Defence connections, Daniela Cena EEN ASD Member Title: The ASD Sector Group in Italy and Defence connections, Johannes Böhmer EEN ASD Member Title: The ASD Sector Group in Germany and Defence connections Presented and next possible cooperation which are Coordinated by COSMOS4HE, Space NCP, FORTH/PRAXI Network Updates from COSMOS4HE.

SEREN5 TRAINING - FRONTEX ROLE AND ACTIVITIES

SEREN5 after Consortium meeting on April found a way to organise the **3rd onsite training for NCPs "FRONTEX: role and activities"** which took place on Wednesday 9th April 2025, in Warsaw, Poland.

The training was very successful and <u>SEREN5</u> partners have a great possibility to be directly in the centre of FRONTEX premises, and THANKS for this great opportunity to be there.

We simply got review of Agency's role and activities, main issue of Unit Research and Innovation and Sector Research and Technology, briefing on FRONTEX Research and Innovation projects, plans and activities on border security research, FRONTEX Research grants programme and Calls for proposals on novel technologies for border management, including open discussion.

We can learn more about important mandate of Frontex – the European Border and Coast Guard Agency, supports EU Member States and Schengen-associated countries in the management of the EU's external borders and the fight against cross-border crime but also practical cases of testing centre in management system, capability road map, situational picture approach etc.

Thank you **Vaya Piteli from PRAXI Network**, Thessaloniki, Greece and SEREN5 partner to prepare such topic for NCPs.



And thank you **Renata Rycerz and Piotr Świerczyński** from NCBR Poland, SEREN5 partner for hosting SEREN5 meetings in Warszaw.

DUAL APPROACH FOR CIVIL & DEFENCE RESILIENCE BY EARTO

EARTO Working Group Security & Defence Research, security & Defence experts precisely elaborate the previous EU Reports (Draghi report on EU Competitiveness, report "Safer Together — Strengthening Europe's Civilian and Military Preparedness and Readiness" the essential need for a resilient society) and based on security research he "whole-of-society" approach outlined in the Niinistö report underscores this necessity, emphasizing preparedness, cooperation, and dual-use potential within a comprehensive security framework that actively involves civil actors, businesses, local communities, and citizens seems to be close to reality o ensure Europe's security.

EARTO presents its recommendations to strengthen Europe's Security:

- o In parallel to increasing its investments in its Defence capabilities, Europe needs to invest in further developing its civil security capabilities for strong European society and economy, the narratives of preparedness and resilience
- o Establish **Defending Europe Facility (DEF) & Securing Europe Facility (SEF)** to streamline resources future EU RD&I funding should maintain and strengthen the focus on collaborative research in security and create clear pathways from fundamental and applied research to innovation and implementation
- o Europe needs to further strengthen its dual-use capabilities and civil-military cooperation, that future EU RD&I funding should focus on optimizing the benefits in both (civil and military) directions. -EU RD&I funding for security preparedness
- o Strengthen **dual-use capabilities** and innovation pipelines from civil to defence applications

Some questions and solutions will be needed regarding how to best treat technologies with dual-use potential in the future EU RD&I programming, but EARTO group si open to provide further discussion. <u>EARTO</u> Working Group Security & Defence Research stands ready to support the EU Institutions in shaping future RD&I policies for a safer, more resilient Europe.

For more information: EARTO – Strengthening Europe's Security.

PROJECT IDEA CHECK

During the upcoming SMI2G 2025 (Paris, 6-7 May 2025), <u>SEREN5</u> offers a free idea check service. You can meet with a National Contact Point to review your project idea. As the national representatives responsible for the Civil Security calls the National Contact Points are experienced in supporting applicants and you can benefit from meeting the SEREN5 team members.

This is a great opportunity to ask questions about the application process, review the compatibility of your idea with the calls, and discuss the next steps in your idea development.

To participate please fill out the 2-page form attached here/available in this link and send it to Yotam Beit-Yannai at yotam@iserd.org.il. SEREN5 members will contact you to schedule a meeting during SMI2G.

This form to action a free check on your project idea, by your country's Civil Security for Society National Contact Point (NCP).

To get the best advice and assistance from your NCP please submit this form in a timely manner and provide as many details as possible about your project idea.

Once completed, email to your local NCP and to yotam@iserd.org.il and an NCP will contact you to arrange a virtual meeting.

- ✓ Ideas about how you intend to address the challenges within the call topic
- √ Security: addressing potential security issues
- √ Receive feedback on your ideas from NCPs Ideas check

Fill out the form found on the SEREN5 website and submit.

CFRIS

CERIS event planning for 2025

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Home Affairs and Migration and its Unit for Innovation and Security Research organise, under the banner of CERIS, a number of events each year on different topics related to civil security research. Please find below the list of CERIS events planned until the end of this year.



The link to the registration page for each CERIS event will be opened several weeks before the date of the event. To receive additional information about each event as well as the link to the registration page, please register under the CERIS mailing list here.

Please note that due to unforeseeable circumstances, we reserve the possibility of changes in the planning.

- o Missing persons. Date: 19 March, Brussels.
- o Solutions for first responders. Date: 27 March, Brussels.
- o Online identity theft and countering fake information online. Date:15 May, Brussels
- o Disaster resilient societies days. Date:19-21 May, Brussels
- o 2025 Projects to policy seminar. Date:4-5 June, Brussels
- o Dialogue with industry on secure communication. Date: 9 July, Brussels.

- o Fight against crime and terrorism, including resilient infrastructure protection annual event. Date: 30 September & 1 October, Brussels
- o Resilient infrastructure protection projects uptake event. Date: 28 October, Brussels
- o Joint annual event of CERIS and the EU Innovation Hub for Internal Security.

 Date: 19-21 November, Brussels
- o Drugs trade and impact on other crimes. Date: 2 December, Brussels



Which news and events are ongoing or relevant?

PRE-INFO DAY 2025 – PAVING THE WAY TO PARTICIPATION

Pre-Info Day event organised by <u>SEREN5</u> <u>EU-funded project</u> in close cooperation with DG HOME and REA.

16 May 2025 (10:30-13:00) (online)

Horizon Europe Cluster 3: Civil security for society is expected to be adopted and published soon.



On 12 June 2025, the 2025 Calls of *Cluster 3 Civil Security for Society* will officially open. To help prepare potential applicants, an **online event** will be held on **16 May 2025** to raise awareness of the upcoming funding opportunities in Cluster 3 and the tools available to support collaboration.

Collaborative projects offer a key opportunity for companies, researchers, SMEs, practitioners, and others to make the most of their innovative potential and work with international partners. While the event is open to all stakeholders, it is particularly aimed at newcomers, especially SMEs and practitioners, as they play a crucial role in driving the uptake of project results and fostering innovation.

The event will present the main priorities outlined in the upcoming **2025 Work Programme** and provide participants with practical guidance on how to approach a topic and build a consortium ahead of the official **Cluster 3 Info Days on 11 June 2025**.

Presentations will include an introductory overview of the 2025 Cluster 3 Calls under Horizon Europe, key steps for proposal preparation, tools available to applicants, and insights from participants who have successfully taken part in EU-funded Cluster 3 projects. For more: <u>SEREN5</u>

Register here

SMI2G BROKERAGE 2025 EVENT

The Security Mission & Information Group (SMI2G) event will soon be held!

SMI2G will be held soon on May 6.-7.5.2024 in the Paris Conseil Régional d'Île-de-France (Paris / St-Ouen-sur-Seine), Paris.

SMI2G brokerage event will again provide a unique networking platform to stimulate innovative ideas and facilitate the creation of consortia.

<u>SMI2G</u> brokerage event is organised by: The EARTO Working Group Security and Defence research, the <u>SEREN5</u> network, EOS, IMG-S, <u>CMINE</u> and is supported by the Ministère de l'Enseignement Supérieur et de la Recherche and ENLET. Like previous years, this edition of the SMI2G event is again free of charge thanks to our sponsors. All security topics of CL3 HE will be represented.

Check out the latest version of the updated agenda.

We have keynotes from Nicolas Bessot and from the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC). Furthermore, there will be two panel discussions, on "Communities of users in the European research arena" and "Towards a Whole of society approach for a secure Europe".

The SMI2G brokerage event gathers European-wide innovators and practitioners who are looking for consortium partners by presenting game-changing ideas and novel technologies addressing the challenges of the Horizon Europe's Civil Security for Society 2025 Work Programme.



CLUSTER 3 INFO DAY AND BROKERAGE EVENT 2025 - 11 - 12 JUNE 2025

11 - 12 June 2025 Brussels and online

Join us for a two-day <u>info session</u> and boost your chances of winning EU security research funding.

The event will provide an overview of the 2025 Horizon Europe Cluster 3 calls for proposals, covering key areas such as disaster-resilient societies, fight against crime and terrorism, border management, cybersecurity, and infrastructure protection. Participants will also benefit from practical information on how to apply, as well as opportunities to network and build consortia for future project proposals.

Event is organised by <u>SEREN5</u>, in close cooperation with the European Commission's Directorate-General for Migration and Home Affairs and the European Research Executive Agency.

The reasons to attend the event:

- Having a deep insight into the 2025 funding opportunities of Cluster 3
- Understanding the horizontal issues in applying for Cluster 3 topics
- Participate in the **Brokerage event** (12.06) to enlarge your network of contacts
- Present your organization and/or your project idea during the dedicated Pitch Session
- Participate in the training for stakeholders on the "Financial Support to Third Parties"

REGISTRATION FOR YOUR **PHYSICAL PRESENCE IN BRUSSELS**: <u>Home | Cluster 3 Infoday</u> and Brokerage Event 2025

REGISTRATION FOR THE **ONLINE PARTICIPATION** HERE: https://forms.office.com/e/5YW58vdGFw



FEINDEF 2025 - SPAIN

CLUSTER 3 INFODAY AND BROKERAGE EVENT, FEINDEF 2025 "Civil Security for Society", Horizon Europe 2025 Call for Proposals

IFEMA will take place at IFEMA-MADRID (Spain) from the 12th May 2025 to the 14th May 2025, the Spanish delegation in Cluster 3 Horizon Europe "Civil security for society) will organize a series of activities: A National Info day on Cluster 3 2025 Calls for Proposals and a EU Brokerage event associated to the call.

In the frame of FEINDEF 2025 (International Defence and Security Exhibition – https://feindef.com/index.php/en/), which will take place at IFEMA-MADRID (Spain) from the 12th May 2025 to the 14th May 2025, the Spanish delegation in Cluster 3 Horizon Europe "Civil security for society) will organize a series of activities: A National Info day on Cluster 3 2025 Calls for Proposals and a EU Brokerage event associated to the call.

We encourage different Security stakeholders interested in Cluster 3 calls, industry, academia, Research and technology organizations, public R&D centers and Security end-users to participate in these activities specially conceived to enhance information exchange and to facilitate proposal preparation under 2025 Cluster 3 call.



What more to expect at FEINDEF 25?

International Participation (35% of international stands, from the 5 continents, 100 official delegations, 65 countries represented Creating a Single Defence market ...

For more information: SEREN5 web page and for Registration: here.

And B2MATCH link: https://www.b2match.com/e/feindef-2025

SECURITY RESEARCH EVENT (SRE) 2025

The next edition of the <u>Security Research Event</u> will be held on 24 and 25 June in Warsaw

"We are very happy to let you know that the dates are confirmed for this year's Security Research Conference.

This edition of the SRE will be taking place in Warsaw on 24 and 25 June.

The Security Research Event is the biggest event organised by DG HOME and it gathers around thousand policy makers, security practitioners, researchers, industry, and civil society representatives. It combines panels with an exhibition of EU-funded security research projects, demos, and The Security Innovation Award " – very interesting invitation from organising SRE team.

The Security Research Event (SRE) is the **forum** where industry, policy makers, safety and security practitioners, knowledge institutions and critical infrastructure operators discuss security threats and challenges, and how EU **research and innovation can contribute** to tackle them.

Don't miss this great opportunity to learn as much as you can about both security research and successful actors and stop by our <u>SEREN5</u> booth and we will be happy to introduce you to our <u>SEREN5</u> project.



CYBERSECURITY B2B MEETINGS 2025

Webinar: Call on Horizon Europe AAP on Cybersecurity – Cluster 3

In the framework of the collaboration between Enterprise Europe Network and <u>SeREN5</u> (the Horizon Europe NCPs Network for Cluster 3 research (Civil Security for Society), we are glad to invite the participants of the **Virtual Cybersecurity B2B event** and any other interested player to attend a hands-on, awareness-raising webinar on the forthcoming calls.

<u>The webinar</u> will focus on topics related to the cybersecurity (Destination – Increased Cybersecurity) and effective way to set-up consortia and good proposal with the help of both Enterprise Europe Network and Horizon Europe Cluster 3 NCPs and will take place before the starting of the meeting sessions planned during the Virtual Cybersecurity B2B event.



For more information: here

Registration: https://www.b2match.com/e/virtual-cybersecurity-b2b-2025

SECURING EUROPE'S DIGITAL FUTURE: FROM CYBER RESILIENCE TO POST-QUANTUM CRYPTOGRAPHY

Strengthening Europe's Cybersecurity with Post-Quantum Cryptography

This event organised online focused on 18 March, 2025 as online Pitching event on Cybersecurity.

Cybersecurity has become a top priority in today's digital landscape, driven by the increasing need to reinforce Europe's strategic autonomy and defend against sophisti-

cated cyberattacks. These challenges are further exacerbated by the rapid advancement of technology and the complexities of the global geopolitical environment.

One promising solution is post-quantum cryptography (PQC)—a ground breaking approach designed to protect sensitive data from the immense computational power of future quantum computers. Unlike traditional encryption methods, which could be easily broken by quantum machines, PQC offers advanced security mechanisms to safeguard digital infrastructure in the coming years.

Recognizing the urgency of these cybersecurity challenges, the Lithuanian <u>RDI Liaison</u> <u>Office (LINO)</u>, the Research Council of Lithuania NCPs, and Innovation Agency Lithuania organized a dedicated event to bring together experts, researchers, and industry leaders from across Europe. The event began with an insightful overview of the topic by Ms. Fabiana Da Pieve (DG CONNECT), who provided critical insights into Europe's strategic efforts in quantum-safe encryption. This was followed by 11 short pitches from researchers and companies across Europe, each presenting their work in PQC and outlining potential collaborations to strengthen the continent's digital defences.

As cyber threats continue to evolve, initiatives like this event are essential in fostering innovation, collaboration, and preparedness. By investing in post-quantum cryptography today, Europe is taking proactive steps to secure its digital future against the challenges posed by emerging quantum technologies.(https://www.seren-project.eu/invitation-to-an-online-pitching-event-on-cybersecurity/) as **leva Budrienė** from RLC, NCP — Lithuania just informed us.



SEREMA PLATFORM IS OPEN

Still open for all potential applicants to participate in this platform.



Take into the account that the purpose of the Security Research Map (SeReMa) is to increase the visibility of security related research in Europe and to optimize the networking between research facilities, universities, public authorities, end users, suppliers of security solutions and operators of critical infrastructures and is an important communication tool.

Information link: https://security-research-map.b2match.io/

You can every time stay in contact with SEREN5:

Newsletter: Subscribe to Seren5 Newsletter

Send to us useful contribution directly (Dr. Marta Kollárová, marta.kollarova@cvtisr.sk)

SEREN5 provides among other things the following services:

- SeReMa partner search tool
- Brokerage events
- European Information Days
- Training stakeholders
- Promoting synergies with Security key players
- Promoting synergies with Enterprise Europe Network
- Information materials for stakeholders



Do I know which web page is useful?

Visit <u>SEREN5</u> website and <u>Funding and Tenders Portal</u> to get relevant information.

Get involved in European Research and Horizon Europe.



Follow us and discover our news and Cluster 3 and SEREN5 actions!

Stay connected for our future events and opportunities!

Follow us online
Please subscribe to our YouTube channel and join
our LinkedIn group









For more information: seren5@apre.it