

30 November  
1 December  
Brussels

# CONVERGENCE 2023

TRUST  
IN  
DIGITAL  
LIFE

HESSSEN



With the friendly support of  
the Representation  
of the State of Hessen to the  
European Union



# Today's Welcome Address

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Representation of  
the State of Hesse  
to the EU

## Martin Friedrich Reinhardt

Head of Unit, Affairs of the Hessian Ministry of the Interior and for Sports,  
Representation of the State of Hesse to the EU

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*“Trust is fundamental to driving the digital future of Europe's society and economy by protecting the rights of citizens and stimulating business to flourish in the European Digital Single Market”*

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# WHO WE ARE

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Trust in Digital Life (TDL) is an association of members who exchange experience, share market and technology insights to make digital services in Europe trustworthy, reliable and safe.

Founded in 2009 as a consortium of major European industry corporates a not-for-profit association registered in Belgium since 2013

Over 40 members with representatives from industry, research institutes, universities, government agencies and SMEs

## *A Network Community*

*TDL members come together in person and online through webinars, conferences and working group meetings to discuss and learn from each other.*

# WHO WE ARE

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- Strategic Advisors
- Council of Experts
  - Individual experts contributing posts on hot topics
- Associate Members:
  - Companies wishing to take part

## *Leadership*

*TDL is building a community of experts from industry and academia to stimulate discussion and debate amongst Association members and other interested parties.*

# SCOPE

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- Cybersecurity including certification
- Data protection and privacy as well as data sharing and governance
- Digital identities, wallets and verifiable credentials
- Emerging technologies – security and other aspects of AI, virtual worlds / metaverses, quantum etc
- 5G / 6G
- Skills & education
- Smart cities

## *Mission*

*TDL members are shaping the security and trustworthiness that underpins Europe's digital society and economy. The Association's vision spans multiple technical, social and business domains.*

# WHAT WE DO

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- Policy
  - Open roundtable discussions on emerging issues
  - Update reports on regulatory progress and new initiatives
- Research
  - Thought leadership initiatives
  - Collaborative Horizon, Digital Europe and other projects
  - Webinars
  - Working groups
- Events and Networking
  - Conferences

**CONVERGENCE 2023**

30 November / 1 December  
rue Montoyer 21, Brussels

# WHY ARE WE HERE

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At the beginning of 2019 four research and innovation cybersecurity projects – CyberSec4Europe, SPARTA, CONCORDIA and ECHO – were funded for four years to pilot the proposed regulation to create for a new European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre and a network of national coordination centres.

The funding for those projects (sadly) finished over the course of the last year and the Competence Centre is getting established in Bucharest as are the national coordination centres across Europe.



# WHAT IS CONVERGENCE?

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**CONVERGENCE** was the name given to several concertation events that pro-actively brought together representatives from the European institutions and agencies, cybersecurity communities, ecosystem innovators, the other three pilot projects and other cybersecurity projects in order to achieve a fully sustainable competence network and comprehensive integrated European cybersecurity ecosystem for the benefit of European industry, the European research community and ultimately benefitting the European citizen.

# A LAST HURRAH?

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So, if the party is over, why *are* we here?

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# MOVING ON

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What we did in the four pilots was to build a working community across industry, research institutes, academia, governments and SMEs that came together to collaborate and share results and activities.

Their role post-pilot continues to be to strengthen the cybersecurity community in Europe

Working to that end, this event features representatives from the four pilots, TDL, as well as the EU-CHECK, CyberSecPro and ECCO projects.

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# TODAY @ 14:30

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## Skills & education

- **Christos Douligeris**, Professor, Department of Informatics, University of Piraeus Research Centre
- **Arnaud de Vibraye**, Junior Manager for Skills and Human Factors, European Cyber Security Organisation (ECSSO)
- **Vasia Liagkou**, Assistant Professor, Computer Technology Institute, Patras (CTI)
- **Marko Hölbl**, Associate Professor, Vice Dean for Research, University of Maribor

Moderator: **Kai Rannenber**g, Chair of Mobile Business & Multilateral Security, Goethe University Frankfurt

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# TODAY @ 16:30

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## Research & innovation

- **Arthur van der Wees**, Arthur's Legal B.V.
- **Fabio Martinelli**, Research Director, Italian National Research Council (CNR)
- **Theodora Tsikrika**, Senior Researcher, Information Technologies Institute (ITI), Centre for Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH)
- **Christos Douligeris**, Professor, Department of Informatics, University of Piraeus Research Centre

Moderator: **Evangelos Markatos**, Professor Head, Distributed Computing Systems and Cyber Security Research Lab, University of Crete and FORTH

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# TONIGHT @ 19:00

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## Challenges Facing the ECCC

*Welcome addresses:*

- **Martin Friedrich Reinhardt**, Head of Unit, Affairs of the Hessian Ministry of the Interior and for Sports, Representation of the State of Hessen to the EU
- **Svetla Nikova**, Trust in Digital Life chair and **Amardeo Sarma**, Trust in Digital Life Honorary President and former chair

*Keynote address:*

- **Tamara Tafra**, Minister Counsellor for Cyber Issues, Hybrid Threats & Disinformation at PermRep of Croatia to the EU

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# TONIGHT @ 19:00

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## Challenges Facing the ECCC

*Panel discussion:*

- **Tamara Tafra**, Minister Counsellor for Cyber Issues, Hybrid Threats & Disinformation at PermRep of Croatia to the EU
- **Katarzyna Prusak–Górniak**, Head of Digital Affairs Unit in Permanent Representation of Poland to the EU, Deputy Chair of the ECCC Governing Board
- **Ellen Stassart**, Head of the National Cybersecurity Coordination Centre (NCC – BE)
- **Panagiotis Marzelas**, European Security and Defence College
- **Claudio Teixeira**, BEUC Digital Rights Legal Officer

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# ENJOY CONVERGENCE!

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