ECHO

EUROPEAN NETWORK OF CYBERSECURITY CENTRES AND COMPETENCE HUB FOR INNOVATION AND OPERATIONS

Newsletter ●●●

A look back at 2020: a year like no other before

by Matteo Merialdo
Project Implementation Coordinator, RHEA Group

2020 was the second year for the ECHO project. It was an extremely successful year: all our activities progressed on time and on budget, including a very successful Review with the European Commission and many collaboration activities with the other Pilot projects. The team is about to release the first consolidated version of the Early Warning System and the Federated Cyber Range. First versions of the Multisector Assessment framework, the Certification Framework and the Skills Framework are also issued or about to be issued.

We worked hard on technology roadmaps and on multiple over-the-state-of-the-art prototypes, and we enlarged the network of ECHO cyber ranges. In general, ECHO, in 2020, started working almost as a single, coherent organization: the recent establishment of the Centre of the EU Cybersecurity Competence Network in Bucharest will open new, exciting possibilities for our technologies and our efforts!

2020 gave us, and the entire society, several challenges: the ECHO groups was highly social, with monthly physical meetings among all the work packages and the different teams. Suddenly, this was not possible anymore, but we are proud to highlight that the team brilliantly overcome the issue, with a constant communication process and flow which made all the activities possible. From the Coordination, we could not be more proud!

We asked our experts what 2020 was like for them and what do they expect from 2021?

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Meet ECHO's Expert - MARIA VITTORIA MARABELLO

Functional Analyst at Innovation, Marketing & Technology
Exprivia S.p.A. Italy

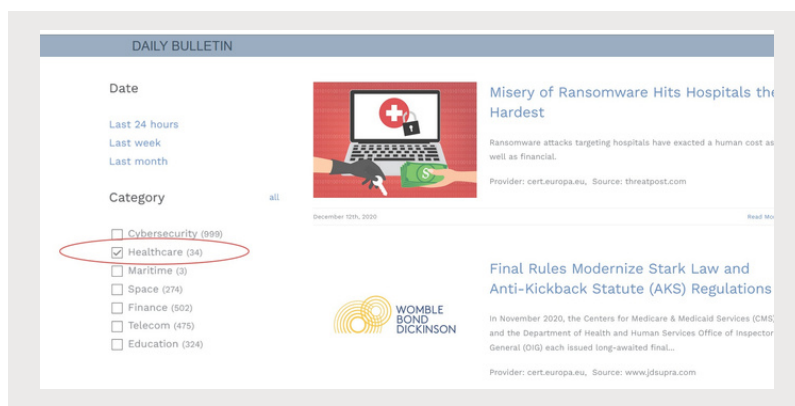**How would you introduce yourself and your role within the ECHO Project?**
I work for the Innovation Lab of Exprivia, the backbone of Exprivia's research, development and technology integration activities. In ECHO, as IT experts, we are first of all involved in the multi-sector needs analysis, working to define the ECHO sector –specific scenarios and use cases and the ECHO Cybersecurity certification scheme.
We are then involved in the development of the ECHO Early Warning System, where we lead the integration and test activities. We also cooperate in the development of the ECHO Inter-sector Technology Roadmaps and of the Federated Cyber Range.

Why do you think cybersecurity is important nowadays?
Cybersecurity is important because it deals with protecting citizens, companies, governments all over the world from attacks by criminals who, guided by different purposes, intend to steal, damage sensitive, critical information in the most diverse areas of human activities. Its importance is increasing in parallel with the growth of the available variety and quantity of digital assets, a growth that is undergoing a further acceleration in recent months, due to the problems and consequent needs caused by the worldwide Covid-19 health emergency.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF ECHO

ECHO's free service, the cybersecurity Daily Bulletin has a new feature!

 Readers of the bulletin are able to use the sector specific filters, which helps providing more relevant news from the cybesecurity world.

CONVERGENCE

Making The European Cybersecurity Competence Network A Reality

The Cyber Competence Network, comprising the four pilots CyberSec4Europe, SPARTA, CONCORDIA and ECHO, had a two-day concertation event from 9-11 December hosted online with the friendly support of the Representation of the State of Hessen to the EU.

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IMPACT PRODUCT
The ECHO Federated Cyber Range at a glance

Written by
Kaarel Hanson, Technical Project Manager - Guardtime Tallin, Estonia
Csaba Virág, - Head of Capacity Building - Guardtime Tallin, Estonia

The ECHO Federated Cyber Range (E-FCR) is an engaging marketplace promoting European cyber services, bridging EU cyber security providers and customers. But where E-FCR excels is the cyber range and cyber exercise domain, distinguishing between cyber range and content providers. This way it maximizes the offering of those with a cyber range for hosting services, and those providing services that utilise the capacity of an ECHO Federated Cyber Range.

E-FCR addresses the gap currently on the EU cybersecurity market. It contributes to the dissemination of high-quality European cybersecurity solutions, provides visibility for European service providers and brings together various stakeholders. We foresee E-FCR as a central hub when it comes to European cyber range and cyber exercise proficiency. E-FCR adds to the European cyber sovereignty development through its outreach and offers easy access to various cybersecurity solutions meeting the European standards.

E-FCR acts as a sales channel, providing an efficient way to reach potential customers. It serves as a knowledge hub, service platform and a validated source when looking for quality European cybersecurity solutions. The consumers of services can easily access multiple offerings, leverage built-in skills framework to better express their requirements, and get their constraint equations solved in an optimised way.

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Demonstration videos of E-EWS and E-FCR are out!

At the CONVERGENCE conference 2020 the ECHO project was introduced via an overview of the results of the first two years and demo videos of its products and services: the ECHO Early Warning System and the ECHO Federated Cyber Range.

The demonstration videos of E-EWS and E-FCR are available on ECHO's YouTube channel.

THE LIGHTER SIDE

On behalf of the Communication and Dissemination team
of ECHO we wish you a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We hope for a better year in 2021 and can't wait
to see you outside of the online world!

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