

Workshop on Informatics education in schools, new LSI SIN statement & more –

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Workshop in Brussels to focus on Informatics education in schools

The *Informatics for All Coalition*, consisting of ACM Europe, Informatics Europe and CEPIS will host a workshop focusing on informatics education in schools on **February 20, 2019 in Brussels**.

The aim is to help promote a change to educational systems in line

with current digital developments, and it is envisaged to create an action plan to move the work forward in Europe. The workshop is also a response to the concern about current workforce planning not meeting the demands of digital transformation foreseen in the 21st century.

To register, please [contact Wendy Hall](#), by January 21, 2019.

CEPIS highlights insecure ICT hardware and software in Europe

The CEPIS LSI SIN has released a statement highlighting the insecurity of marketable PC and server processors and software. This comes as findings by German Member Society, *Gesellschaft für Informatik* (GI), have shown that most server processors have built-in microcontrollers ('engines') that are inadequately documented and, therefore, present an unknown vulnerability for users.

The LSI SIN group call for the introduction of new EU legislation as well as boosting own production to help control the issue, adding that this approach would also put Europe in a more competitive position in the future.

Read the full paper on [CEPIS's website](#).

CEPIS to co-host international conference on diversity in ICT

Together with JP Morgan, All Digital and empirica, CEPIS is co-organising a conference titled, 'Inclusive opportunities in ICT – Skills training and job placement for a diverse ICT workforce'.

The event will take place on 7 February 2019 in Brussels. Stakeholders will meet and discuss effective ICT programs with a focus on diverse target groups, including women, vulnerable youth, migrants, as well as unemployed adults changing careers. The conference is part of JP Morgan's 'Chase New Skills at Work' programme, which supports solutions that help improve labour market infrastructure and develop a skilled workforce globally.

The panel discussion about the way forward for inclusive ICT training

will also feature Priska Altorfer, member of CEPIS Women in ICT Task Force, who will emphasise the importance of the potential that women bring to the ICT sector.

To register, or to see more information, please go to the [event website](#).

ICS promotes ‘Career Plus’ to enhance potential of IT professionals

The Irish Computer Society (ICS) is launching a new professional register, Career Plus, which is aimed at helping IT professionals to identify their relevant skills in a new coordinated effort. The register is meant to provide vital intelligence about the national IT workforce for all involved stakeholders, including government, educators, employers and recruiters. The tool is partly based on the e-Competence Framework (e-CF), and seeks to efficiently enable a stronger IT workforce that will meet the demand of the digitalising labour market.

Watch the full promotional video [here](#).

‘Women4IT’ project launched in Brussels

On December 12, 2018, the first project signed under the EEA and Norway Grants Fund for Youth Employment, YOUNG-ICT WOMEN, was launched in Brussels. The initiative, also known as Women4IT, aims to develop digital competences and the employability of young women between 15 and 29 years of age. The project’s partners will assess the digital skills of 1,000 women and seek to train 700 of them in collaboration with employers by August 2021.

DIGITALEUROPE and ICS (Ireland) are among the nine key partners, while organisations such as All Digital, STEM Alliance, and CEPIS, were involved in setting up the event and panel discussions of the launch. CEPIS Secretary General, Austeja Trinkunaite, moderated the first panel of the day, outlining the context of why more women should be included in ICT.

For more information on the initiative and launch event, please contact the CEPIS secretariat.

Expert group on AI seeks feedback on Ethical guidelines

The High-Level Expert Group on Artificial Intelligence, appointed by the European Commission in June 2018, has released the first draft of its ethics guidelines for the development and use of AI. The guidelines are now open for comments until 18 January and discussions are taking place through the European AI Alliance, the EU's multi-stakeholder platform on AI.

In March 2019, the expert group will present their final guidelines to the Commission, where they will be analysed and a proposal for taking the work forward will be developed.

For more information and to provide your input, please see the [Commission's website](#). The Director General of DG Connect has also published a blog post on the initiative, which may be found [here](#).

Political agreement reached on Cybersecurity Act

The European Parliament, the Council and the Commission have reached a political agreement on the Cybersecurity Act, which reinforces the mandate of the EU Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA) to better support Member States with tackling cybersecurity threats and attacks. This includes giving a permanent mandate for the EU Cybersecurity Agency to replace its limited mandate that would have expired in 2020, and a stronger basis for ENISA in the new cybersecurity certification framework to assist Member States in effectively responding to cyber-attacks with a greater role in cooperation and coordination at Union level.

The full press release can be found on the [Commission's website](#).

Mobile data usage in Europe surges after end of roaming charges

According to the European Commission's interim results on the effects of the end of roaming charges on 15 June 2017, published on 14 December 2018, the use of mobile data has grown five times on

average compared to the levels before June 2017. The number of phone calls made by travellers has roughly doubled compared to the previous period.

A comprehensive report on the review of the 'roam like at home' rules will be published in December 2019. More information can be found on the [Commission's website](#).

AI-demand platform kicks off in Barcelona

On January 10 the 'AI4EU' project officially started in Barcelona, where 79 research institutes, SME's and large enterprises in 21 countries will discuss how to set up a focal point for artificial intelligence. This is meant to offer services and provide support to potential users to help them integrate AI solutions in their processes. The project is led by French company Thales, and will receive a total of €20 million in funding. The aim is to set up the platform during 2019.

More information can be found on the [Commission's website](#).

Upcoming Events

7 February 2019 [Inclusive opportunities in ICT. Skills training and job placement for a diverse ICT workforce](#). Brussels

8-9 February 2019 [UTmessan](#). Reykjavik, Iceland.

20 February 2019 Informatics for All Coalition Workshop. Brussels, Belgium.

8 March 2019 Legal and Security Issues SIN meeting. Brussels, Belgium

11 May 2019 62(19) CEPIS Council. Brussels, Belgium.

13 – 14 June 2019 [Annual Privacy Forum 2019](#). Rome, Italy.