

Register for 60<sup>th</sup> CEPIS Council, e-CF Briefing, New ECDL Foundation Paper, and

More – February 2018

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## Register for 60(18) CEPIS Council Meeting

The 60(18) CEPIS Council meeting will take place on Saturday 14 April in the [Kempinski Ciragan Palace Hotel](#) in Istanbul, Turkey from 09:00 to 16:00 approximately. There will be a welcome reception in the hotel at 19:00 on Friday 13 April, the evening prior to the Council meeting.

Registration for this Council meeting is now open. Please [register here](#). The draft agenda and additional supporting documentation will be circulated prior to the Council, as well as made available in the Members' Area of the CEPIS website. The draft minutes issued following the previous 59(17) Council can be downloaded [here](#).

Please note that, as Turkey is not a member of the Schengen zone, you may need a visa to enter the country. Equally, it may not be possible for you to travel with an ID card

– a passport may be required. We therefore kindly ask you to consult the travel requirements for your country and make all the necessary arrangements in a timely fashion.

Information concerning entry requirements may be found on the [website of the Turkish Ministry of Foreign Affairs](#). It is also often provided by each country's embassy in Turkey.

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### **PIPS to Host ITPE e-CF Briefing**

The Polish Information Processing Society (PIPS) will host a briefing on the e-Competence Framework in 20 February, supported by IT Professionalism Europe, which will be attended by participants working on IT professionalism issues such as the Polish Council for IT Professionals Competences, the Polish IT and Telecommunication Chamber, and the Polish Committee for Standardisation. The event will feature presentations on e-CF 3.0 and ICT Professional Profiles from Jutta Breyer, Project Leader of CEN; professionalism in IT from Boguslaw Debski of the Department of Digital Competence at the Polish Ministry of Digital Affairs; on the needs of business and the response of education from Jakub Gontarek of the Department of Labour, Dialogue and Social Affairs of the Polish Confederation Lewiatan, and Austėja Trinkunaite, Secretary General of CEPIS. More information can be found (in Polish) on the [website of PIPS](#).

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### **Big Gaps Between Perception and Reality of Digital Skills Found According to New ECDL Foundation Report**

New research by ECDL Foundation confirms that people consistently overestimate their digital skills. The latest edition of the Perception and Reality report, published earlier this month, brings together research from five countries in Europe, as well as Singapore and India. Significant digital skills gaps exist in all of the countries featured in the report, including among young people.

The key finding is that self-assessment is a poor measure of digital skills. To gain a real understanding of a person's digital skills, a diploma or certificate is necessary. In addition to this, the study also provided an insight into the skill levels of different groups in society. Notably, despite the widespread assumption that younger people instinctively understand technology, practical testing showed no digital skills advantage for younger age groups.

The report includes an opinion piece from CEPIS on accurate measurement of digital competence, emphasizing the importance of high-quality education and the fact that digital competences should be measured more empirically.

More information about the findings of the report is available on the [ECDL Foundation website](#), where you can also download a copy of the report.

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### **Call for Feedback on the e-CF 3.0 – Have Your Say**

A new edition of the European e-Competence Framework (e-CF) standard, EN 16234-1, is expected to be published next year. CEN's Technical Committee 428 (TC428) is working on the update to maintain and enhance the overall relevance and quality of the standard. A key part of the update process is the systematic gathering and consideration of feedback from ICT stakeholders on the current usability of the e-CF, as well as new and emerging business trends. Suggestions can be submitted to the update process using an [online survey](#) until

Monday, April 2, 2018.

Version 3.0 of the e-CF consists of 40 competence descriptions as applied in the professional ICT workplace. It supports a growing user community across Europe and beyond. Published by CEN in 2014 as a CEN Workshop Agreement (CWA) and transferred in 2016 to become a European Standard EN 16234-1, the e-CF provides an international tool that can be deployed by a broad range of individuals and organisations.

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### **Call for Papers for Annual Privacy Forum 2018**

The Annual Privacy Forum 2018 (APF2018) will take place on 13 and 14 June 2018 in Barcelona, Spain. The submission of papers for the APF is now possible, with the deadline of 30 March 2018.

The papers should present original work on the themes of data protection and privacy and their repercussions on technology business, government, law, society, policy and on law enforcement. Research/Opinion papers, student papers, and short papers are welcome. Find out about the specific topics and other requirements on the [APF website](#).

This yearly event is co-organised by the European Commission, the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA), Catalanian Polytechnic University, and Telefonica.

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### **Call for New Cybersecurity Pilot Project Proposals Issued by European Commission**

A new call for proposals for a pilot project to help create a network of cybersecurity competence centres across the EU has been launched by the European Commission. The call, which is open until 29 May 2018, is for a €50 million pilot project that will bring together cybersecurity research expertise from organisations including university labs and public or private non-profit research centres, with the aim of producing solutions that can help improve cybersecurity. Proposals can be submitted until 29 May 2018. More information is available on the [website of the European Commission](#).

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### **European Commission Seeks Input on Plans for Better Mutual Recognition of Qualifications and Diplomas**

The European Commission is seeking input on a new proposal to make it easier for people to move freely for research or study through mutual recognition of higher and upper-secondary education, as well as study periods abroad.

The proposals for a Council Recommendation, which have been made as part of the European Commission's efforts to create a European Education Area, received the endorsement of heads of state and government from EU Member States in December.

The European Commission is seeking input through an [online survey](#) until Monday 19 February.

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### **French Government Launches Digital Inclusion Strategy**

A national digital inclusion strategy has been launched in France by the Secretary of State for Digital, Mounir Mahjoubi. The strategy, which will see €1 billion spent over 7 years, will aim to

help approximately 13 million people in France who lack the skills to go online.

Noting the disadvantage that digital exclusion can bring, the Secretary of State said, “it’s as if you had a high-speed train that is going very fast, with plenty of passengers, but for you, the next station is 400 kilometres away.”

More information is available [here](#) (in French).

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### **EU Code Week 2018 Dates Announced**

The European Commission has announced that EU Code Week 2018 will take place from 6 to 21 October. EU Code Week brings together organisations to coordinate initiatives around Europe and beyond that promote coding. The annual week of activities is part of the Commission’s Digital Single Market strategy, which also includes the Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition. More information can be found on the [website of the European Commission](#).

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### **Majority of Businesses in UK Have Not Implemented Staff Training for Major Upcoming Data Protection Law Changes**

Just 21% of businesses and only 10% of charities in the UK have implemented additional staff training or communication to prepare for the EU’s major new data protection law, the GDPR. The data, which comes from the UK Government’s ‘Cyber Security Breaches Survey 2018’, conducted for the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, also reveals that just over a quarter of organisations surveyed have made changes to the way they work in advance of GDPR’s introduction on 25 May 2018. More information can be found on the [website of the UK Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport](#).

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### **Upcoming Events**

**20 February 2018** [IT Professionalism Europe Briefing](#). Warsaw, Poland.

**22-23 February 2018** [EU Industry Day Conference](#). Brussels, Belgium.

**28 February 2018** [Seminar on Work 4.0 – Digitalisation of the Labour Market](#). Prague, Czech Republic.

**9 March 2018** CEPIS Legal and Security Issues SIN meeting. Brussels, Belgium.

**27-28 March 2018** [Digitising European Industry Stakeholder Forum. Paris, France.](#)

**14 April 2018** 60(18)CEPIS Council Meeting. Istanbul, Turkey.

**25-26 June 2018** [Digital Assembly 2018](#). Sofia, Bulgaria.

**6-21 October 2018** [EU Code Week](#). Europe-wide.