

e-CF Briefing in Poland, Women in the Digital Sphere, Cybersecurity, and More –

March 2018

In this issue

- [CEPIS Proposes Amendments to the EU Cybersecurity Package](#)
- [Reminder: Register for 60\(18\) CEPIS Council Meeting](#)
- [PTI Presents the e-CF and ITPE to Stakeholders in Poland](#)
- [Reminder: Call for Feedback on the e-CF 3.0 - Have Your Say](#)
- [Commissioner Gabriel Announces New Strategy for Women in Tech](#)
- [European Commission Publishes New Study on Women in Tech](#)
- [Commissioner Gabriel launches "No Women No Panel" Campaign](#)
- [European Commission to Establish Expert Group on AI](#)
- [Call for New €50 million Cybersecurity Pilot Project Proposals](#)
- [EESC Proposes New Actions to Improve Cybersecurity in Europe](#)
- [Call for Proposals on Boosting Digital Services Across Europe](#)
- [CEDEFOP Evaluates Qualification Frameworks in Europe](#)
- [EU Industry Day Takes Place in Brussels](#)
- [World Economic Forum on Transitioning to the Jobs of the Future](#)
- [EIF Report Looks at Transatlantic Digital Transformation](#)
- [All Digital Raise Awareness of Digital Skills](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)

CEPIS Proposes Amendments to the EU Cybersecurity Package

After review, CEPIS has proposed several amendments to [the EU's Cybersecurity Package](#) to increase the representation of stakeholders in

the [European Union Agency for Network and Information Security](#) (ENISA). In a letter drafted by CEPIS's Legal and Security Issues Special Interest Network (LSI SIN), several changes to ENISA's management board have been proposed to increase the organisation's effectiveness and efficiency. The letter focused on several changes to the [European Commission's proposal on ENISA](#).

1. ENISA should amend Recital 40 to increase the representations of stakeholders on its management board to ensure accurate representation.
2. ENISA should amend Article 13 to include representatives from all its stakeholder areas, especially a representative from the European Standardisation Organisation, to ensure the Agency's effectiveness.
3. ENISA should add new articles, and amend Article 12, to establish a Standardisation and Certification Group with a different composition from the Permanent Stakeholder's group. A separate Standardisation and Certification Group would provide a balanced representation of the various stakeholders in the standardisation and certification industry.

CEPIS has already distributed the letter to the European Parliament's rapporteurs of the Cybersecurity Package, and we invite and encourage all computer societies to approach their Council representatives regarding ENISA's representation of stakeholders.

[The full letter can be found on the website of CEPIS.](#)

Reminder: Register for 60(18) CEPIS Council Meeting

Thank you to those of you who have already registered for the 60(18) CEPIS Council meeting, which will take place on Saturday 14 April at the [Kempinski Ciragan Palace Hotel](#) in Istanbul, Turkey from 09:00 to 16:00 approximately. If you have not done so yet, please [register here](#) until Friday 27 March 2018. If you are unable to attend, you can appoint a proxy to another Member Society. The [proxy form](#) should be returned to the CEPIS Secretariat by email until Monday 9 April. The meeting agenda is available on [CEPIS members' area](#).

There will be a welcome reception in the hotel at 19:00 on Friday 13 April, the evening prior to the Council meeting.

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.

PTI Presents the e-CF and ITPE to Stakeholders in Poland

CEPIS Secretary General, Austėja Trinkunaite, presented IT professionalism at an e-CF briefing session in Warsaw, Poland, on 19 February 2018, that was co-organised with the [Polish Information Processing Society](#) (PTI). The event provided an overview of the [European e-Competence Framework](#)(e-CF), an overview of IT Professionalism

Europe (ITPE), and an overview of the current state of IT professionalism in Poland.

Speakers at the event included the president of PTI Włodzimierz Marcinski, who welcomed the guests and covered the programme for the day, Austeja Trinkunaite, who gave a presentation on ITPE, and e-CF expert, Jutta Breyer. Other speakers included representatives from PTI, the Polish Ministry of Digital Affairs, the Lewiatan Confederation, the Rzeszów University of Technology, and the IT Sector Competence Board. After the presentations, the speakers and the participants started a seminar discussion to exchange experiences and knowledge. After this, Austeja invited all stakeholders interested in IT professionalism topic [to join ITPE](#).

If you are interested in more information on hosting an e-CF Briefing, please contact us at info@itprofessionalism.org.

[To learn more about the event please see our full summary](#)

Reminder: 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.

Comissioner Gabriel Announces New Strategy for Women in Tech

The Commissioner for the Digital Economy and Society, Mariya Gabriel, marked International Women's Day 2018 by announcing her new strategy to increase the number of women in the digital sector. The strategy comes as a response to the growing need to encourage more women to get into tech, and coincides with the release of a new study from the Commission, titled, "[Women in the Digital Age](#)".

The strategy outlines three main actions, which are, to challenge the stereotypes that women face, to promote digital skills among women, and to foster the growth of women entrepreneurs. Furthermore, through these actions, the Commission hopes to offset the gender imbalance in the digital sector, which has 3.1 times more men than women. Addressing the gender gap in the digital sector is a priority for Europe, as it contributes to the high shortage of digital skills that is projected for 2020.

Indeed, Europe will need to build a gender-balance within the digital sector if it wants to boost innovation and benefit the European economy.

[The full strategy can be read on the website of the European Commission.](#)

European Commission Publishes New Study on Women in Tech

The European Commission marked International Women's Day by publishing a new

study on Women in the Digital Age. The study identifies the gender gap in the digital sphere and illustrates how the gap has increased since 2011.

The study provides useful facts on the gender gap in Europe and presents four key findings on the topic:

1. The study identifies that there has been a decrease in women taking up ICT related higher education when compared to 2011.
2. The study found that the share of men working in the digital sector is 3.1 times greater than the share of women.
3. The study shows that the annual loss in productivity caused by women leaving their digital jobs, to become inactive, is about €16.2 billion.
4. The study showed that while women owned start-ups are more likely to succeed, there has been a decrease in investment in the entrepreneurial digital sector.

Finally, the report reflects the growing concerns for women in Europe's digital sphere, and it demonstrates the need to make this issue a priority.

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

Comissioner Gabriel Launches "No Women No Panel" Campaign

Commissioner of Digital Society and Economy, Mariya Gabriel, has launched a new campaign titled, 'No Women No Panel'. The campaign commits Commissioner Gabriel to ensure that every panel or public event that she is invited to has at least one other woman. The campaign aims to raise awareness of the importance of having a gender-balance in panels and public events.

The campaign has already received support from several other Commissioners including Commissioner Corina Cretu, Commissioner Violeta Bulc, Commissioner Tibor Navracsics, Commissioner Neven Mimica, and the Vice-President for the Euro and Social Dialogue, Valdis Dombrovskis.

The European Commission has also endorsed the initiative, as they strongly support promoting gender equality in Europe, which has become a high priority.

[Find a full article about the campaign on the Commission's website.](#)

European Comission to Establish Expert Group on AI

The European Commission has called for the establishment of an expert group on artificial intelligence, on 9 March 2018. The group's composition will represent a broad range of stakeholders, such as businesses, academics, policymakers, consumer organisations, trade unions, and other representatives of civil society.

The group will aim to provide advice on AI-related challenges and opportunities, to support the Commission in further engagement and outreach mechanisms with stakeholders, and to propose a set of AI ethics guidelines. Furthermore, over the coming months, the group will also be responsible for developing a comprehensive European strategy on AI.

The high-level expert group will also serve as a steering group for the new European AI Alliance, a multi-stakeholder forum to engage in a broad and open discussion of all

aspects of AI development and its impact on the economy and society.

The deadline for applications to join the group is on 9 April 2018, and the procedure on how to apply can be [found in "APPLICATION PROCEDURE" section of the call](#).

[See the full article on the Commission's website](#).

Call For New €50 Million Cybersecurity Pilot Project Proposals

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 can be found on the European Commission's website](#)

EESC Proposes New Actions to Improve Cybersecurity in Europe

The [European Economic and Social Committee](#) (EESC) has adopted an opinion, agreeing with the European Commission to make the mandate of the [European Union Agency for Network and Information Security](#) (ENISA) permanent, and has set forward a list of proposed actions.

The actions proposed include: providing more strategic investments, creating an EU cybersecurity competence network, establishing an EU cybersecurity certification framework, establishing a labelling system for both hardware and software at a European level, improving cyber skills among individuals and businesses, and increasing security regarding the Internet of Things.

The EESC argues that making ENISA's mandate permanent would help solidify their role and enable them to better support the Member States in implementing the 'Security of Network and Information Systems Directive'. Furthermore, the mandate allows ENISA to counter threats more actively by becoming a centre of expertise on cybersecurity certification.

[Read the full article on the EEC's Website](#).

Call for Proposals on Boosting Digital Services Across Europe

Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) recently launched a call for the first of three rounds of funding in 2018. The call, which is supported by a €30 million budget, is for projects in the areas of increasing access to [e-identification](#) and e-signatures across Europe, ensuring more access to the [Europeana platform](#), and promoting [safer internet service infrastructure for children](#).

If you are interested in getting involved, you should submit your proposal through the [dedicated proposal submission system](#). The deadline for the proposals is set for Tuesday, May 15 at 17:00 (Brussels time). Furthermore, future calls from CEF will provide support in the remaining areas of connectivity and digital public services, such as [cybersecurity](#), [eHealth](#), and the [European eJustice Portal](#).

[For more information, please visit the European Commission's website.](#)

CEDEFOP Evaluates Qualification Frameworks in Europe

CEDEFOP has published a new briefing note on qualifications frameworks, which provides an overview of the progress achieved in 2017 and outlines the challenges that remain. Qualification frameworks are based on learning outcomes, and they are designed to define and link the credit values of different qualifications.

In the briefing note, CEDEFOP evaluates the usefulness of qualification frameworks and examines how they have been received in their home countries. The report does this by examining the development of qualifications frameworks across the EU and makes several recommendations to improve their effectiveness.

The recommendations in the briefing note include: promoting a holistic approach to qualifications, integrating non-formal qualifications, promoting stakeholder cooperation, validating non-formal and informal learning, making higher VET more visible, triggering institutional reforms, supporting VET cross-border mobility, and increasing the visibility of qualifications frameworks to reach more end users.

[The full briefing note can be read on the website of CEDEFOP.](#)

EU Industry Day Takes Place in Brussels

The European Commission marked EU Industry Week by hosting the EU Industry Days conference in Brussels on 22 and 23 February 2018. The event, which brought over 600 stakeholders working on European industrial competitiveness, focused on the Commission's strategic approach to industrial policy and its actions to further develop industrial competitiveness within Europe.

In the area of technology and industry, it was noted that digital skills were vital for keeping Europe competitive in innovation, jobs creation, and economic growth. This sentiment was supported by Jyrki Katainen, Vice-President of the European Commission for Jobs, Growth, Investment & Competitiveness, who firmly stated that establishing a digitally skilled workforce in Europe is a top priority for the EU as it would help to further establish the Digital Single Market, which could contribute €415 billion annually to the European economy.

[Find a summary of the event on the European Commission's website](#)

World Economic Forum on Transitioning to the Jobs of the Future

The World Economic Forum has released a new report on the future job market. In the report, they outline the context that will define the job market of the future, and they highlight the need to transition the current labour force skills to meet the demands of tomorrow.

The report explores the current labour market and argues that there will be a shift in the types of skills that will be demanded in the future. To illustrate this point, the report uses numerous examples, such as the structural employment decline of 1.4 million redundant jobs against structural employment growth of 12.4 million new jobs in the US by 2026. The report builds on this and argues that companies will need to adopt reskilling and upskilling strategies to secure talent in the future.

Finally, the report calls for policy-makers to recognise the importance of reskilling and retraining strategies, as they are necessary to fuel economic growth, they enhance social resilience in the face of technological change, and they pave the way for future.

[The full report can be downloaded from the website of the World Economic Forum.](#)

EIF Report Looks at Transatlantic Digital Transformation

A new report from the European Internet Forum (EIF) has been published, looking at the future of transatlantic digital transformation. The report considers the views of EIF members in both Europe and the United States, making recommendations on five priority areas, including the future of work.

Highlighting the significance of digital transformation for the future of work, the report states that, "Failure to recognise and address the work-related consequences of digitally-driven transformation threatens to undermine public and political support for trade and market integration on both sides of the Atlantic and globally."

The EIF is a network of political and industry stakeholders with an interest in digital transformation. It is non-partisan and led by political members, who are all Members of the European Parliament, with membership also open to businesses and organisations.

[The full report can be downloaded from the website of the EIF.](#)

All Digital Raise Awareness of Digital Skills

Save-the-date, [All Digital Week 2018](#) will take place from 19-25 March 2018. Every year, [All Digital](#) organise All Digital Week to raise awareness of the importance of Digital Skills in Europe. The week is supported by many virtual and offline activities that are organised throughout Europe and attract over 100,000 individuals every year. The goals of the week are to give people the tools to enhance their digital skills, to build their trust in technology, and to share a lifelong learning approach to enhancing digital skills.

Since 2010, All Digital Week has helped to improve the digital skills of over 1,000,000 Europeans, in over 36 countries, with over 60 organisations. Moreover, All Digital's efforts to improve the digital skills of Europeans is growing in importance as recent reports show a growing digital skills gap in Europe, including the fact that 37% of the European workforce has an insufficient level of digital skills.

If you would like to get involved in All Digital Week 2018 to help improve Europe's Digital skills, [please visit their website](#).

Upcoming Events

19-25 March 2018 [All Digital Week](#). Europe-wide.

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.

4-6 December 2018 [ICT 2018](#). Vienna, Austria.