

Cybersecurity in the DIGITAL Europe programme

The Digital Europe Programme will help the EU achieve a high common level of cybersecurity.



As more and more services move online, cybersecurity has become crucial to the digital world. A strong common level of cybersecurity protects us from malicious cyber activities, which threaten our economies and our way of life.

Cybersecurity is also an economic opportunity: the global market for products and services grows by 15-20% annually. And, it is a prerequisite for Europe to achieve digital sovereignty.

The Digital Europe Programme offers a chance to boost the common level of cybersecurity across the EU, underscoring the EU's Cybersecurity Strategy.

The Digital Europe Programme is an investment programme that helps the EU achieve a values-based framework for technology. This includes the GDPR, new proposals on the Directive on Security of Network and Information Systems (NIS), artificial intelligence, and the Digital Services and Digital Markets Acts.

It will invest in building European cybersecurity infrastructures – the 'cyber shield'. And, it will promote the widespread deployment and take-up of state-of-the-art cybersecurity practices and equipment. This is crucial to building the EU's digital sovereignty, which relies on the integrity and resilience of data infrastructure, networks and communications.

The Digital Europe Programme's cybersecurity section will be managed by the future European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre that is being setup in Bucharest. This Competence Centre will work in collaboration with a Network of National Coordination Centres. Together, they will also coordinate cybersecurity investments by the EU, Member States and

industry.

Operational objectives

The Regulation establishing the Digital Europe Programme seeks to support the following operational objectives:

- advanced cybersecurity equipment, tools and data infrastructures, together with Member States;
- knowledge, capacity and skills related to cybersecurity; best practices;
- wide deployment of effective state-of-the-art cybersecurity solutions, paying special attention to public authorities and SMEs;
- capabilities within Member States and the private sector in support of the NIS Directive;
- resilience, risk-awareness, at least basics levels of cybersecurity;
- enhancing synergies and coordination between the cybersecurity civilian and defence spheres, by facilitating the exchange of knowledge and best practices and more.

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On Monday, the Commission welcomed the political agreement between the European Parliament and the EU Member States on the first EU programme that aims to accelerate the recovery and drive the digital transformation of Europe. Trilogue negotiations have now concluded, pending the final approval of the legal texts by the European Parliament and the Council.

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Connecting Europe Facility 2021-2027: Have your say on CEF2 Digital

The Connecting Europe Facility (CEF) funding programme will enter its second generation in 2021, for the seven-year period of 2021-2027. The European Commission's Directorate General for Content Networks and Technologies is organising a public consultation to gather the views of stakeholders on the priority areas for EU digital infrastructure investments and the best ways to

address existing connectivity needs with
Connecting Europe Facility support.

PRESS RELEASE | 06 June 2018

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The DIGITAL Europe programme will open up the use of artificial intelligence by businesses and public administrations.

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