

EU-CIP NEWSLETTER

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EU-CIP in a nutshell

Launched in October 2022, EU-CIP is an EU-funded project under Horizon Europe (GA ID: 101073878) which brings together 20 partners under the coordination of Engineering Spa to establish a **novel pan European knowledge network for Resilient Infrastructures**.

EU-CIP will thus enable policy makers to shape and produce data-driven evidence-based policies, while boosting the innovation capacity of Critical Infrastructures (CI) operators, authorities, and innovators (including SMEs). In this direction, EU-CIP partners have already established the **European Cluster for Securing Critical infrastructures (ECSCI)**, which brings together 31 projects that collaborate in CI Resilience.

EU-CIP will leverage the achievements of the ECSCI cluster to establish an EU-wide knowledge network with advanced analytical and innovation support capabilities.

Its main objectives are to:

- Enhance **Europe's analytical capability** regarding research outcomes, technologies, and policies - fostering data-driven evidence based policy and innovation development;
- Maximize the impact of R&I CIP/CIR activities in Europe through **innovation support and solution validation services**;
- **Establish a knowledge-hub** and create a vibrant ecosystem of interested and committed stakeholders around the project's results.

EU-CIP Consortium

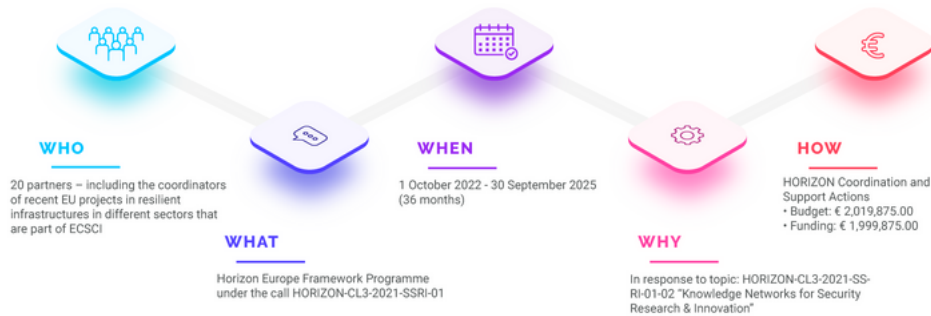


This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon Europe research and innovation programme under the grant agreement No 101073878.



Management and Coordination

EU-CIP held its Kick-off Meeting on 19th and 20th October 2022 in Rome. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss the contributions of the different partners in relation to their areas of expertise and to review the objectives and structure of the project.



All management and coordination policies have already been put in place, including the EU-CIP Data Management Plan which guarantees research integrity and reproducibility as well as data security. EU-CIP partners are committed to ensuring that the data collected, processed or generated by the project are **accurate, complete, authentic, interoperable and reliable**.

1st EU-CIP Annual Conference on Critical Infrastructure Protection: Reinventing European Resilience



We are pleased to invite you to our 1st Annual Conference on Critical Infrastructure Resilience which will be held at the Maison des Associations Internationales in Brussels, Belgium on 20-21 September 2023! You can now register using [this form](#).

The Conference is co-organised together with the European Cluster for Securing Critical Infrastructures (ECSCI) and will also include an ECSCI cluster workshop in its first day. The agenda also includes keynotes from the European Commission and panel discussions with CI, industry representatives and policymakers. It will be followed by the PRAETORIAN project's final event on 22 September 2023.

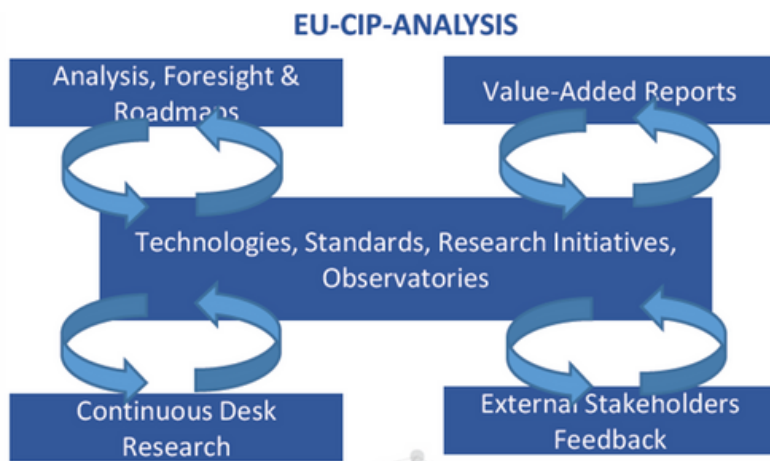
In that way, we aim to bring together a strong representation of CIP/CIR stakeholders and create a **flagship event** that will be a vehicle for animating, sustaining, and growing the CIP/CIR ecosystem.

The agenda and more information is available on our [website](#).





EU-CIP Open Call: Information Collection Process



The EU-CIP project foresees as an eligible activity the provision of financial support to third parties through an Open Call, as a means to achieve its own objectives. In its first project year, EU-CIP has launched **Open - Call Type A**, aiming to attract and engage CIP experts (e.g. CI operators/authorities, research organizations, SMEs, startups, security experts, security technology providers, CIP system integrators, natural persons) to analyse and validate the EU-CIP information collection process.

The call for applications closed on 14 June 2023. The EU-CIP consortium will now assess the applications received. Stay tuned for the results as well as more opportunities to consult the project on Critical Infrastructure Protection.

Preliminary Findings on CIP Capability Needs

EU-CIP is conducting desk research and analysis aimed at **identifying gaps in CIP capability and knowledge**. Relevant results will be soon shared with the community through white papers and the project's deliverables. The identified capability gaps concern the areas of:

- enhanced adaptability,
- reduced response times,
- increased transparency of CIP solutions,
- improved detection capabilities based on advanced analytics,
- improved risk assessment capabilities to address asymmetric and hybrid threats,
- capabilities addressing cascading effects across interconnected infrastructures,
- support for proactive identification of threats based on real-time functions,
- automated situation awareness based on multi-sensor inputs,
- risk prediction functionalities,
- investments in training, reskilling and upskilling of CIP professionals so that they can exploit and fully leverage innovative systems, processes and technologies.





The EU-CIP Knowledge Hub



EU-CIP is working towards **creating and sustainably managing the EU-CIP Knowledge Hub**.

The EU-CIP Knowledge Hub will serve as a central repository for sharing knowledge, best practices, and cutting-edge technologies. It will bring together experts, practitioners, and stakeholders from various fields, including cybersecurity, energy, transportation, telecommunications, etc.

The main activities of the team in the past 9 months were focused on specifying the reference model and key indicators (KIs) framework that will be used to structure the project's results and to monitor the accomplishment of the project's achievements, as well as on identifying the relevant Digital Infrastructure to be used. An initial version of this work has now been completed.

EU-CIP Reference Model and Key Indicators Framework

The reference model defines the stakeholders involved in the CIP/CIR ecosystems, the technologies utilized in CIP/CIR solutions, and the functionalities and capabilities that characterize a CIP/CIR system. This model will serve as a **structure for organizing information in the knowledge-hub** and as a **taxonomy for reports and outcomes in the project's analysis pillar**. The **taxonomy**, which provides a clear and comprehensive understanding of all assets and components, will support the EU-CIP objectives and contribute heavily to their successful achievement.

Finally, the key indicators framework provides a means to monitor project activities, achievements, and performance, including the project's value to users. The team has been working towards the establishment of indicators for policies, standards, capabilities, analysis activities, innovation management services, innovation support activities, solution validation activities, and more.

Knowledge Hub Information Structure and Digital Infrastructure

EU-CIP has identified the most suitable platform to host its knowledge hub and is now collecting an initial bundle of relevant contents to ensure a robust, interesting and (almost) complete platform when the time for releasing the Knowledge Hub arrives. In addition, a content management system is being developed. Next steps foresee **the development of the Knowledge Hub platform, the design of an appealing frontend, and the preparation of the launch of the EU-CIP Knowledge Hub**.

"We aim for the Knowledge Hub to be a place where users can find all the information about critical infrastructure protection, are able to download reports upon registration and have a strong community built around critical infrastructure protection."





EU-CIP Innovation Support Services

EU-CIP is designing and developing a set of services aimed at supporting innovators in their efforts to develop and offer novel products and services for Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP). **EU-CIP's innovation support services portfolio** includes:

1. A catalogue of training courses that enables innovators to access CIP-related training resources through a single entry point.
2. An on-line innovation consultation & support service that provides innovators with information relating to their products and services, including information for access to finance opportunities, training and marketing of their products.

These services will be made available through the EU-CIP Web Site and Knowledge Hub. Furthermore, EU-CIP will engage innovators in the validation and fine tuning of these services as part of the project's Open Call Type B for Small Medium Enterprises- stay tuned for this exciting opportunity.

Innovation and Exploitation Opportunities Analysis

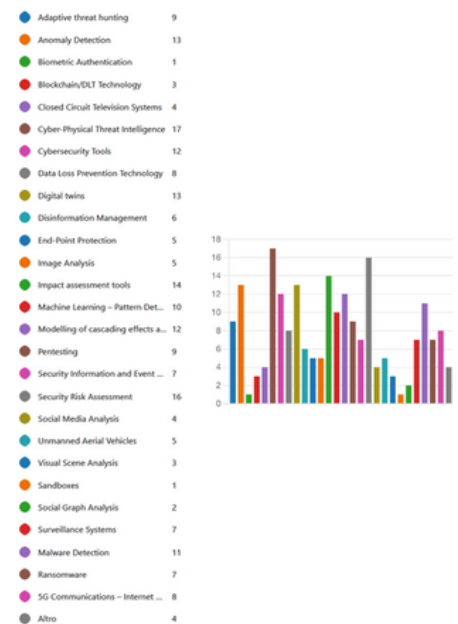
As a first step, EU-CIP is working identifying innovation opportunities in the development, deployment and operation of solutions for resilient infrastructures. An internal consultation has taken place to identify these innovation areas and related opportunities, which will then be used to define the kind of innovation management support and the content of the training and validation services to be offered.

Business Modelling, Exploitation and Innovation Support Services

A questionnaire (using the EUSURVEY tool) was disseminated throughout the ECSCI mailing list and partners' networks to understand the needs of those involved in the commercialisation of services in the CIP/CIR sector.

The survey aimed to establish who is involved in this kind of capacity, what problems they are seeing on your journey to commercialisation and what type of training and support they would like.

Early results indicate that **lack of experience and training in commercialisation** is a key barrier with regulatory barriers, lack of qualifications and lack of finance following. The EU-CIP consortium is currently assessing these results - more information will be published soon.





EU-CIP Blog Spotlight

The Importance Of A Structured And Automated Information Processing Pipeline: The EU-CIP Approach. One of the key objectives of the EU-CIP project is to enhance Europe's analytical capability regarding research outcomes, technologies, and policies – foster data-driven evidence-based policy and innovation development (EU-CIP-ANALYSIS). This work refers to the information collection, monitoring, curation, and analysis pillar of the project. Read more about our approach [here](#).

EU-CIP Knowledge Hub – A Step Towards An EU Resilient Community. EU-CIP is leading the way for the creation of a Knowledge Hub dedicated to critical infrastructure protection and resilience technologies, trainings, and policies. This [blog](#) explores the significance of establishing such a hub within the European Union (EU), considering its social, economic, and environmental impact.

Critical Infrastructure Security – Good Practices For Airports. Airport security today requires a holistic approach and a multi-focal viewpoint accommodating both physical and cyber threats, as well as the so called [hybrid threats](#). Five good practices have been identified in our [blog](#), which should be taken into consideration to maintain or increase the overall airports' security level.






CIP/CIR Events

- **[CERIS SSRI Workshop](#)**. 02/12/2022, Brussels, Belgium. EU-CIP participation in panel discussion on Innovation Uptake.
- **[CERIS SSRI Workshop](#)**. 27/04/2023, Brussels, Belgium. EU-CIP participation in panel discussion on Networks of Practitioners.
- **[SMI2G 2023](#)**. 10-11/05/2023, Paris, France. EU-CIP presentation and sponsorship of the event.
- **[PRECINCT EU project conference](#)**. 16-17/05/2023, Brussels, Belgium. EU-CIP presentation.
- **[RISE-SD 2023](#)**. 29-31/05/2023, Rhodes, Greece. EU-CIP presentation and booth.

Upcoming Events

- **[CRITIS 2023](#)**. 13-15/09/2023, Helsinki, Finland.
- **[CPS4CIP 2023](#)**. 25-29/09/2023, the Hague, the Netherlands.
- **[CIPRE 2023](#)**. 03-05/10/2023, Prague, Czechia.
- **[EU-HYBNET Innovation Knowledge Exchange & Standardisation Workshops](#)**. 07-08/11/2023, Valencia, Spain.

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