Empowering a Pan-European Network to Counter Hybrid Threats

Hybrid threats and Critical Infrastructure Protection

Dr. Päivi Mattila/ Laurea, EU-HYBNET Coordinator

20/9/2023

EU-CIP Project & ECSCI Cluster 1st Annual Conference on CI Resilience

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No. 883054

Project in Nutshell

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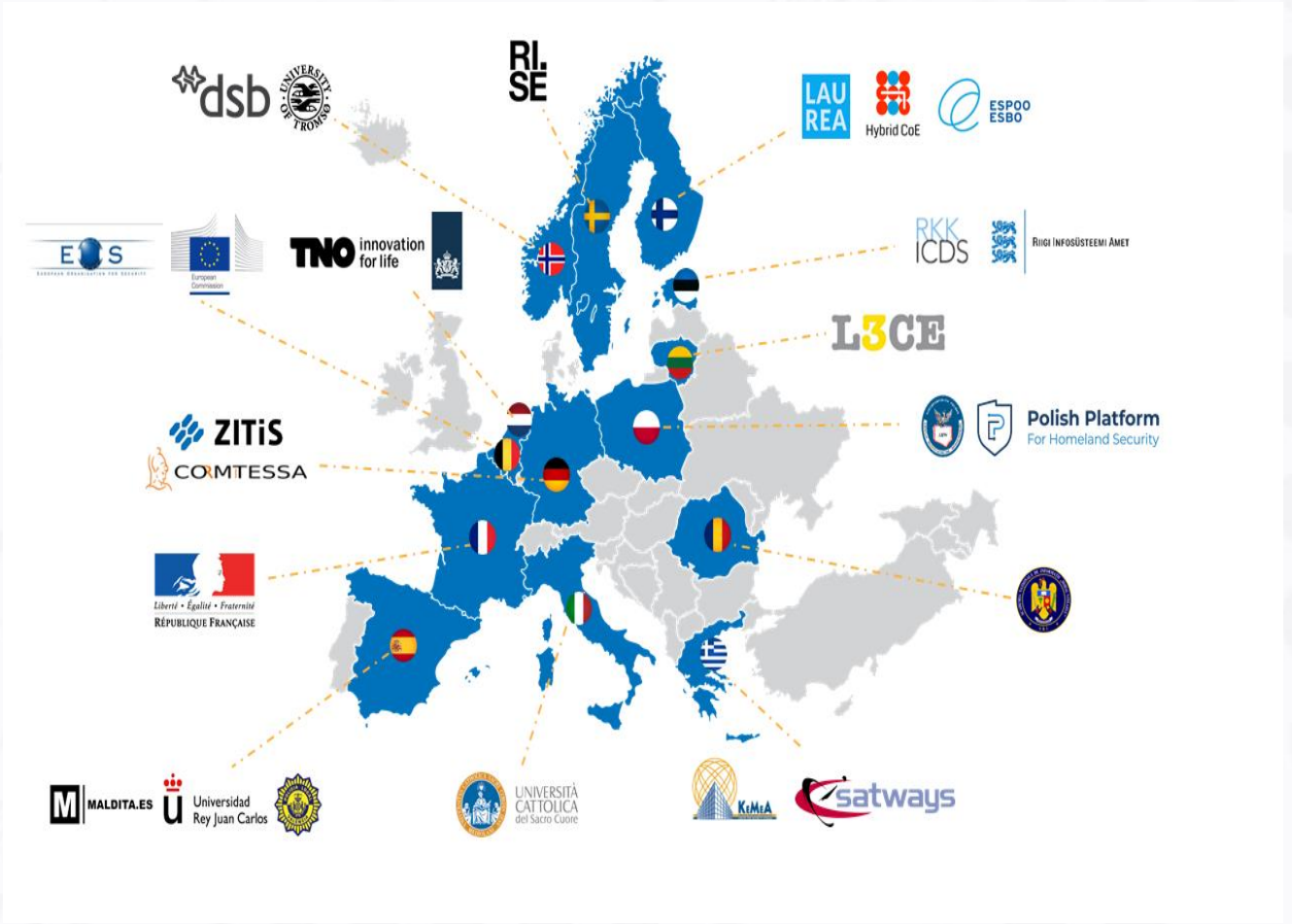
General information

- Consortium 25 partners/ 13 EU MS & Norway
- c.120 pan-European Network members
- Duration 2020-2025
- Network of Security Practitioners –Project, CSA
- 3.500.000 €



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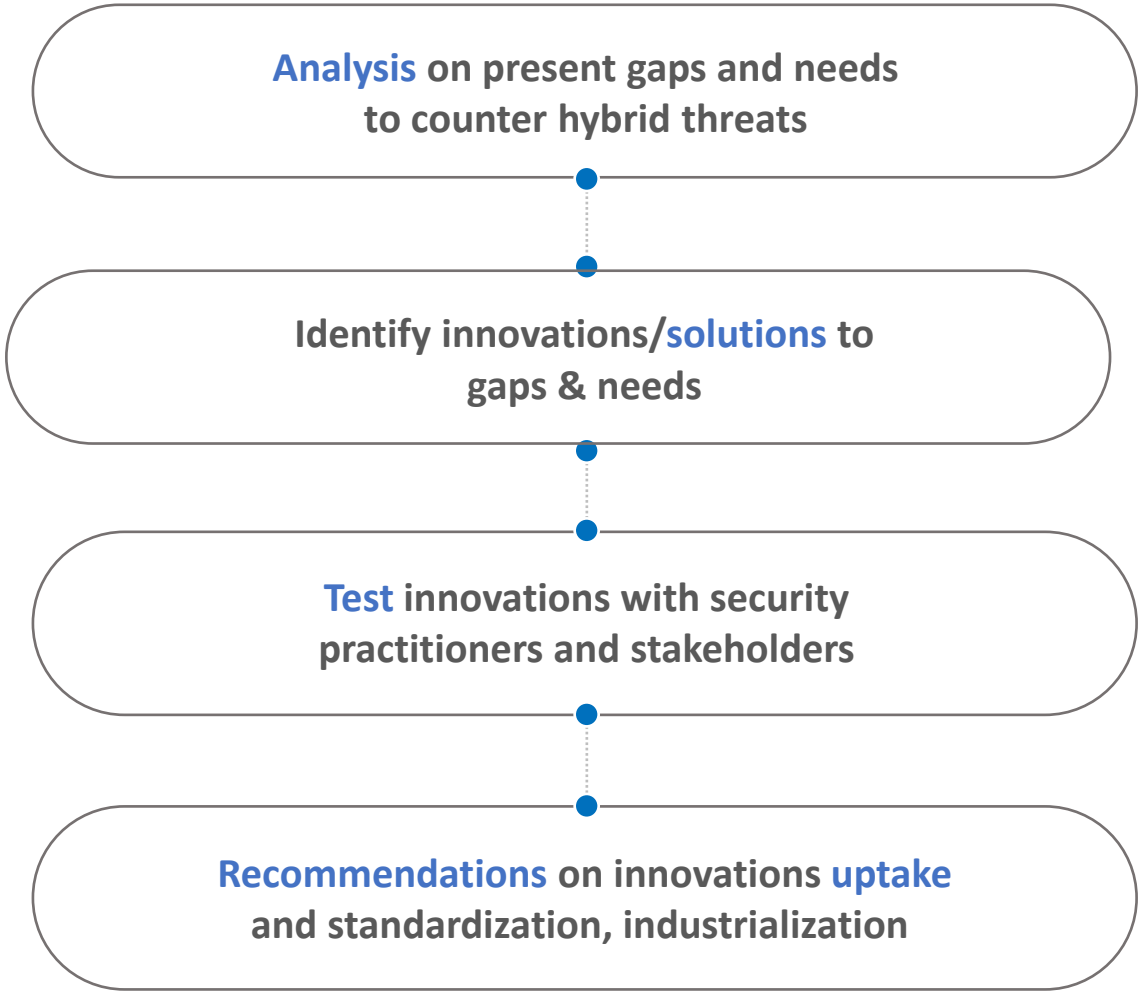
Core Activities of EU-HYBNET



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EU-HYBNET structure – process and content

Project Cycle 1 (May 2020 – Sept 2021)

Project Cycle 2 (Oct 2021 – Feb 2023)

Project Cycle 3 (March 2023 – Aug 2024)

Project Cycle 4 (Sep 2024 – April 2025)

Employ measures to identify needs & bridge gaps:
- Research (R)
- Trainings (T)

Innovations (I) – current & future
- Technological
- Social and non-technical

Employ measures to identify possibilities for:
- Standardisation
- Policy and Innovation
- Industrialization

New European Actors join the Network and participate in its activities
- Practitioners including regional and municipal
- Industry and SMEs
- Academics
- Concerned organizations

EU-HYBNET membership continually increases with new actors

Final outcome of EU-HYBNET

- Increased membership of practitioners, industry, SME and academic actors in the European network against hybrid threats
- Research results that foster European actors to take measures against hybrid threats
- Innovations that support European actors to take measures against threats
- Industrialization and standardization recommendations
- Results feed into EU procurement and investment processes
- Trainings, training material & trained personnel that enhance European capabilities to act against hybrid threats

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Definitions and Approaches

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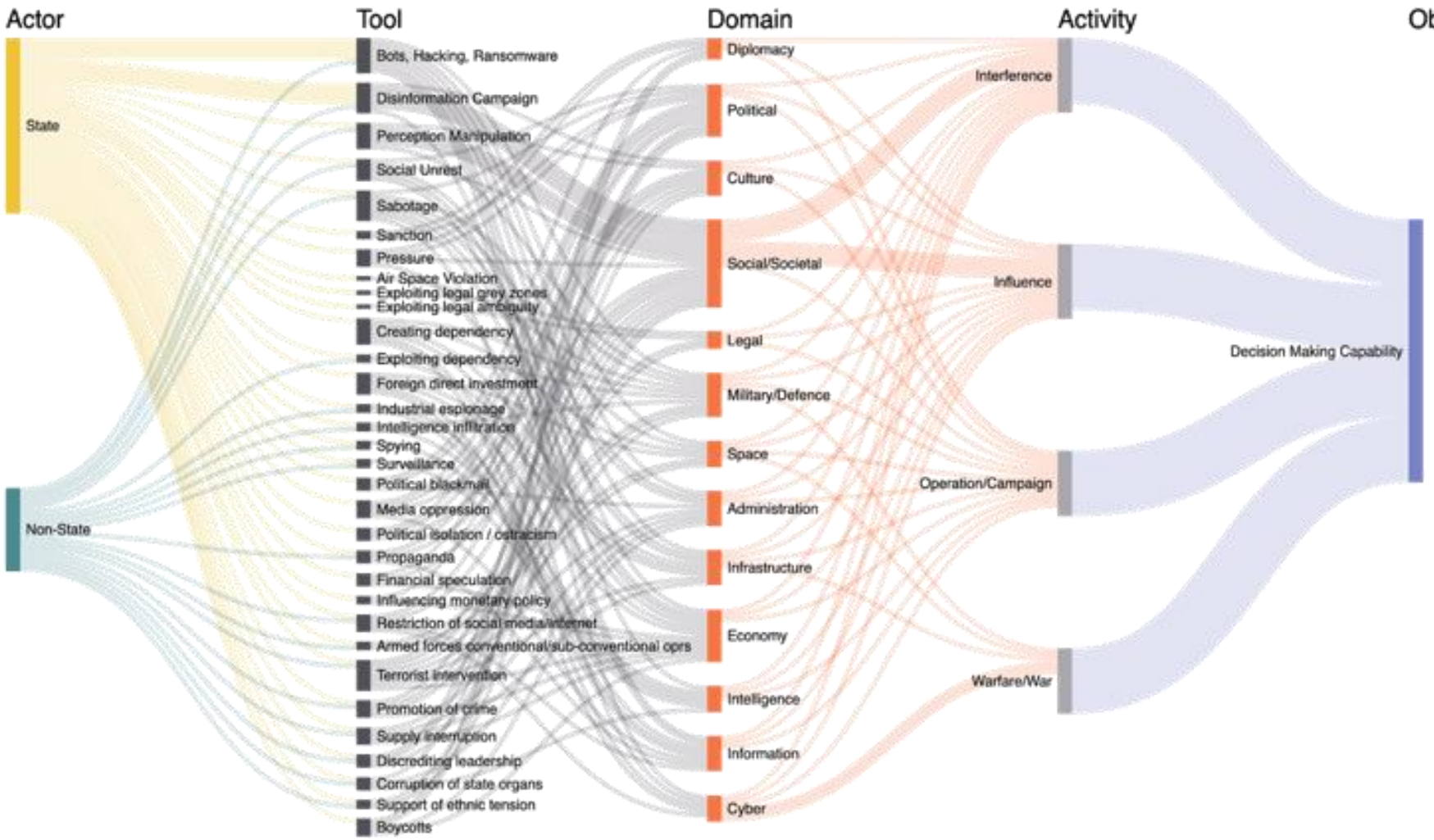
The Conceptual Model to Characterise Hybrid Threats



Conceptual Model: https://publications.jrc.ec.europa.eu/repository/handle/JRC123305

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Conceptual Model - domains of Hybrid Threats

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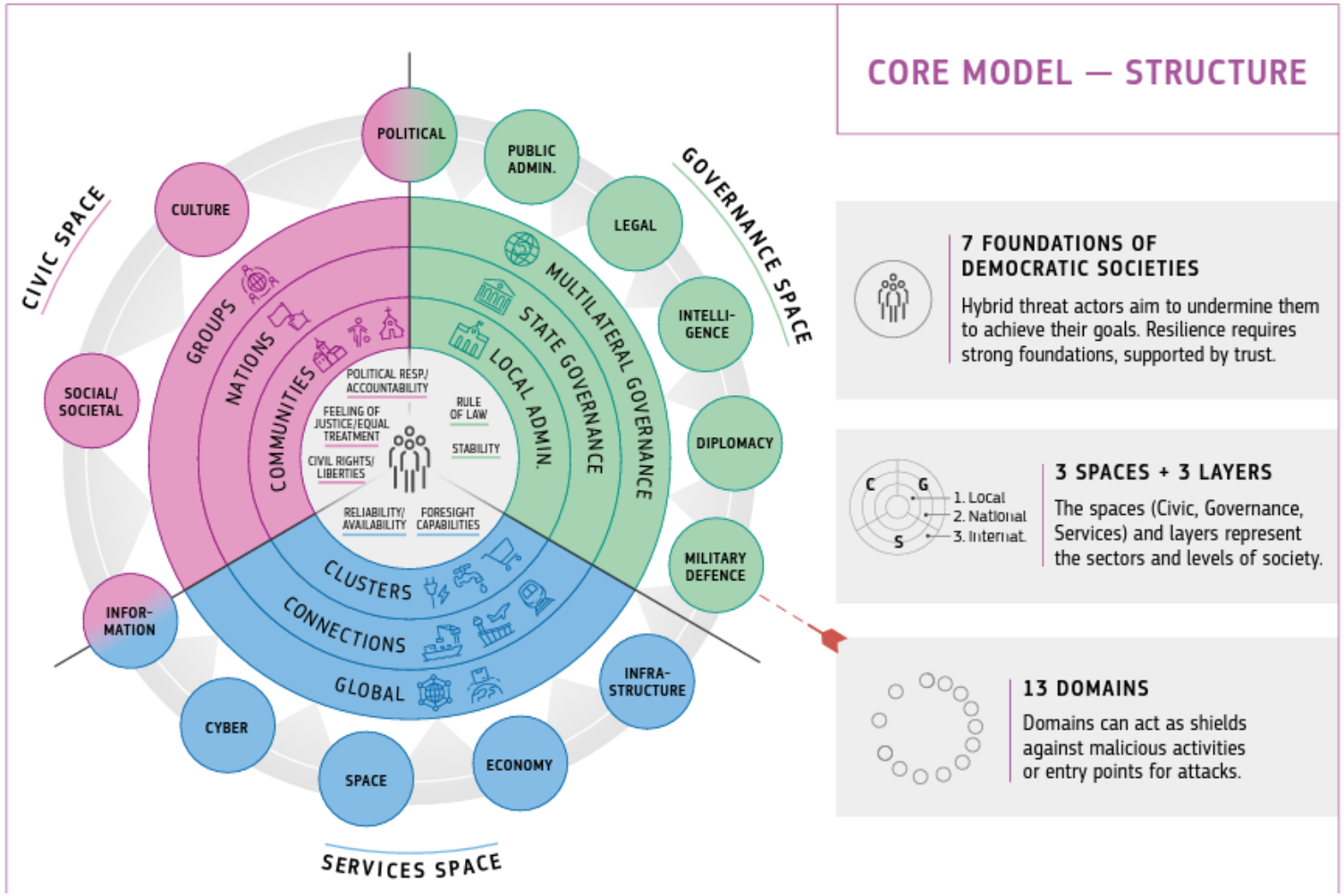
The CORE Model to Characterise Hybrid Threats



https://joint-research-centre.ec.europa.eu/jrc-news-and-updates/new-method-help-policymakers-defend-democracy-against-hybrid-threats-2023-04-20_en
https://www.hybridcoe.fi/publications/hybrid-threats-a-comprehensive-resilience-ecosystem/

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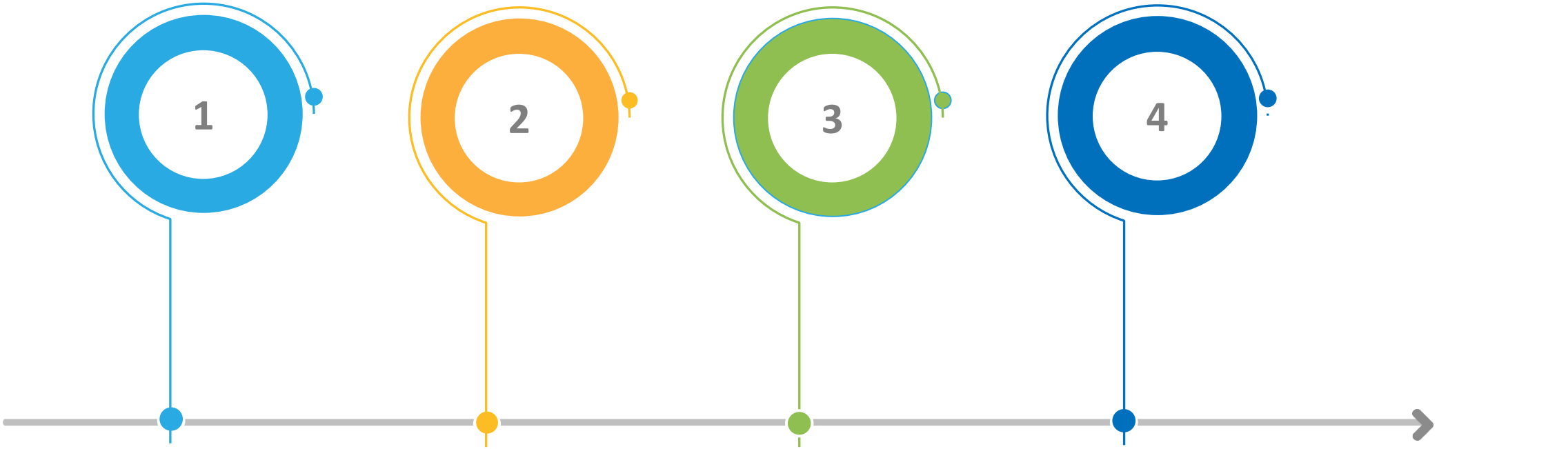
Project Core Themes



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Gaps and needs
&
Innovations

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Identified main Hybrid Threats to counter/ 2nd project working cycle (2022-2023)

Core Theme: Resilient Civilians, Local Level and National Administration

Threats	Domains
Exploitation of existing political cleavages	*Political, Public administration, Social/societal*
Exploitation of critical infrastructure weaknesses & economic dependencies	*Infrastructure, Economy, Cyber*
Exploitation or investment in companies by foreign actors	*Political, Economy*

Core Theme: Cyber and Future Technologies

Threats	Domains
Space interference and counter-space weapons	*Space, Cyber, Military/defence*
Offensive cyber capabilities	*Cyber, Infrastructure*
Disruptive innovation (5G, AI)	*Political, Social/societal, Military/defence*

Core Theme: Information and Strategic Communication

Threats	Domains
Information manipulation with the aim of destabilization	*Information, Cyber*
Foreign interference in key information institutions	*Political, Culture*
Promoted ideological extremism and violence	*Information, intelligence, Legal*

Core Theme: Future Trends of Hybrid Threats

Threats	Domains
Geopolitical heavyweight of domestic policy	*Political, Economy, Infrastructure*
Digital escalation and AI-based exploitation	*Cyber, Military/defence, Political*
Rise of populism	*Political, Social/societal, Information*

Based on EU-HYBNET Report/D2.10 (JRC) and Conceptual Model

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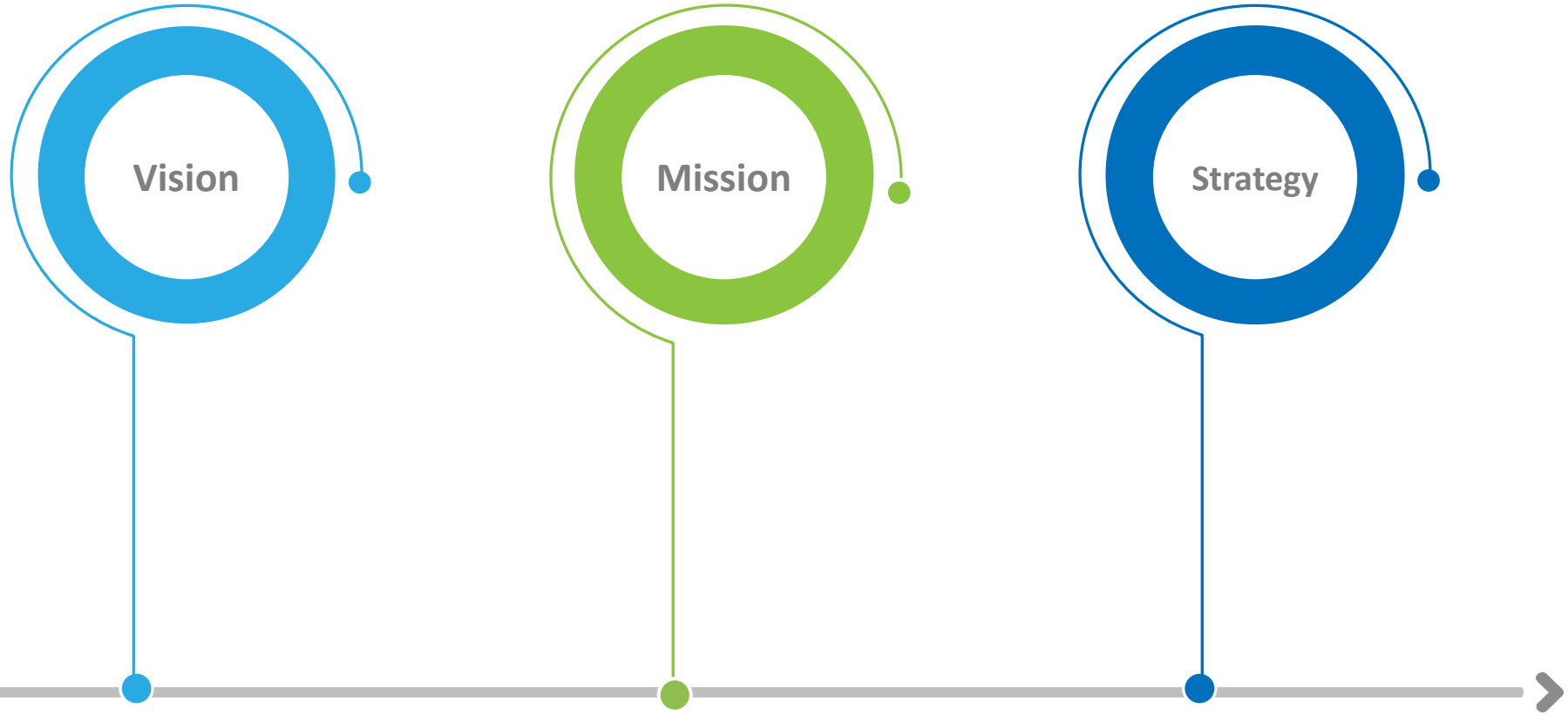
Every innovation need vision, mission and strategy. Innovations in 2022-2023



Innovations:

- ✓WINS
- ✓EESCM
- ✓MIMI
- ✓GECHO

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Results 2023: Promising Innovations to Counter Hybrid Threats

WINS

- ✓ **What Information Needs to be Shared between CI entities to detect hybrid threats – methodology**

EESCM

- ✓ **Enhanced and Extended Supply Chain Management – methodology**

MIMI

- ✓ **A Market place for Information Manipulation and Interference Information –technological solution**

GECHO

- ✓ **Gatekeeping ECHO chambers. A solution that monitors the online environment, identifies where and how interventions are needed, thereafter launching the appropriate actions to build resilience in vulnerable young people against possible entrapment in violent extremism and terrorism**

More information about 2023 results you can find under this link

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WINS Innovation

- ***WINS*** is a ***methodological approach*** **to discover what information needs to be shared in order to enhance Critical Infrastructure (CI) entities resilience to counter hybrid threats & to be prepare for them**
- ***WINS*** builds on **CISAE** innovation; CISAE was identified as promising innovation and solution during the 1st EU-HYBNET project working cycle to support CI entities to counter hybrid threats
- ***CISAE*** (A common Information Sharing and Analysis environment) is answering to the question of **how to share CI information between CI stakeholders**.

CISAE - CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE INFORMATION BUILDING BLOCKS

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WINS Innovation

- In the core: **detection of anomalies** gives **early indicators of compromise/attack**.

- This **systemic anomaly detection** solution **allows CI providers** to ***early detect hybrid threats*** and *early prevent larger effects on the European CI.*

- Even though it is not part of CI entities duties to detect that something what occurs is in fact that part of a broader hybrid threat campaign, *still* **this information discovery** may now be reached and **support CI entities to be prepared for further challenges** and/or support **to reduce and cut the strength of the hybrid threat campaign.**

E.G.

- *By knowing that certain foreign direct investments together with cyber espionage and riots have in other similar CI entities cases followed by exploiting thresholds, gaps and uncertainty in law and harming in this way CI entities functions and society* ***may provide situational awareness on emerging risk and hybrid threat campaign***

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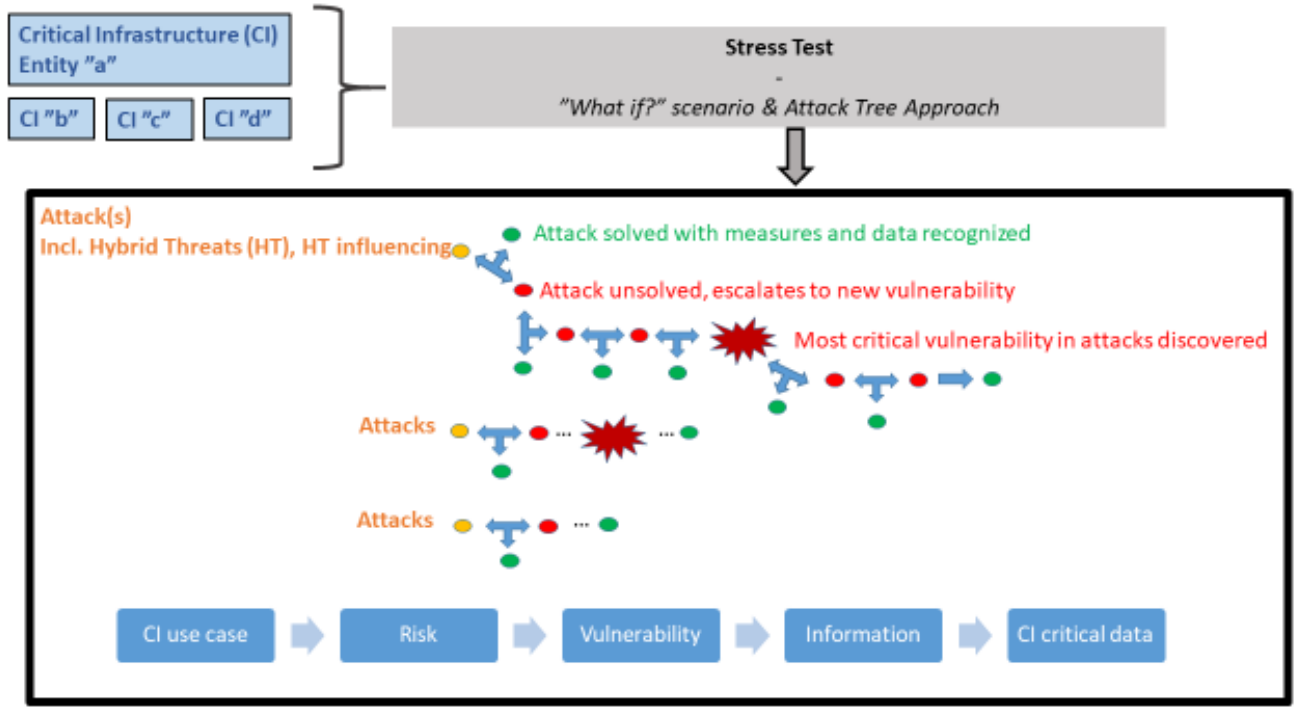
WINS Innovation

- *WINS (what to share?) builds on CISAE "Honey Comb" Approach (how to share?)*
- *WINS promotes use of: (i) Stress Tests, (ii) "What If?" Scenarios, (iii) Attack Tree Approach*

CISAE – Honey Comb Approach

WINS – Stress Tests, "What If?" Scenarios, Attack Tree Approach



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Identified main Hybrid Threats to counter/ 3rd project working cycle (2023-2024)

Core Theme: Resilient Civilians, Local Level and National Administration

Threats	Domains
Spreading violence	*Intelligence, Social/societal, Culture*
Attack on social structures	*Social/societal, Culture Legal, Intelligence*
Undermining institutions' internal organisation	*Political, Social/societal, Legal, Administration*

Core Theme: Cyber and Future Technologies

Threats	Domains
Stealing data attacking individuals	*Cyber, Information, Cyber*
Online manipulation attacking democracy	*Cyber, Information, Political*
Attack on services	***Infrastructures, Cyber, Military/Defence, Social/societal, Administration***

Core Theme: Information and Strategic Communication

Threats	Domains
Media conundrum	*Information, Cyber, Social/societal*
Antagonizing victimization narratives in the informational space	*Information, Political, Culture*
Attack on information	*Information, Intelligence, Legal*

Core Theme: Future Trends of Hybrid Threats

Threats	Domains
Political deficiency	*Political, Information, Administration*
New agit-prop	*Cyber, Military/defence, Political , Legal*
Substitutive reality	*Social/societal, Information*

Based on EU-HYBNET Report/D2.11 (JRC) and Conceptula & CORE Model

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Events – Join!

3rd Innovation and Knowledge Exchange Workshop

Valencia, 7th NOV 2023

- Goal: to present and have further analysis on promising innovations to the identified pan-European gaps and needs to counter Hybrid Threats
- Arranged by EOS & PLV, more information angeliki.tsanta@eos-eu.com

2nd Innovation Standardization Workshop

Valencia, 8th NOV 2023

- Goal: To develop recommendations for activities regarding the development & implementation of most promising EU-HYBNET's identified four innovations to counter hybrid threats
- Innovations representing (i) critical infrastructure & (ii) Information Manipulation and Interference
- JOIN & PRESENT your Case-Study!
- Arranged by PPHS & PLV, more informaiton malgorzata.wolbach@ppbw.pl

https://euhybnet.eu/events/

Role of LEAs in Combating Hybrid Threats

ON-LINE, 26th OCT, 13.00-15.00 CEST

- Arranged by PPHS together with CyberSpace LEA Project Cluster
- Register https://euhybnet.eu/events/

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Network

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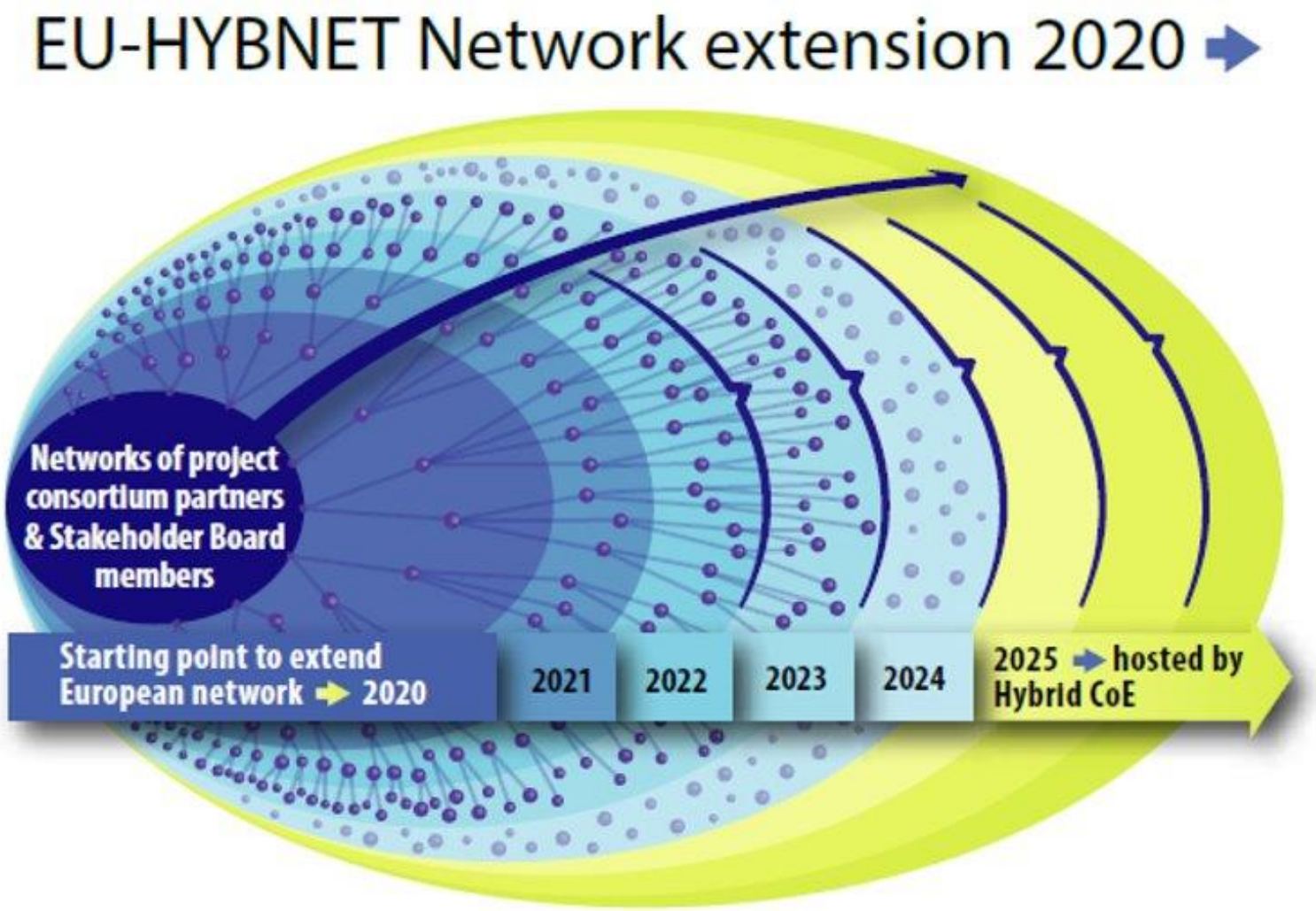
Project Timeline and Network Extension



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EU-HYBNET Network Members in Spring 2023 – Welcome to join!

Practitioners

- 24 institutions
- 10 in consortium
- from 14 countries:

Italy, Germany, Slovakia, Poland, Sweden, Luxemburg, Georgia, France, Finland, Netherlands, Norway, Romania, Belgium

Academic & RTO

- 32 institutions
- 11 in consortium
- from 16 countries:

Italy, Germany, Austria, Poland, Georgia, France, Finland, Netherland, Norway, Romania, Belgium, Greece, Spain, Ukraine, Croatia, Bulgaria

Industry / SME

- 21 institutions
- 2 in consortium
- from 9 countries:

Sweden, Germany, Austria, Belgium, France, Netherlands, Romania, Finland, Spain

NGOs

- 16 institutions
- 2 in consortium
- from 12 countries:

Czech Republic, Slovakia, Latvia, Poland, Belgium, France, Lithuania, Italy, Finland, Portugal, Croatia, Romania

Welcome to join the Network!

More details about Members & how to join: here.

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Thank you!

Päivi Mattila/ Laurea

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PRAETORIAN

Protection of Critical Infrastructures from advanced combined cyber and physical threats

EU-CIP
European Knowledge Hub and Policy Testbed for Critical Infrastructure Protection
& ECSCI CLUSTER

1ST ANNUAL CONFERENCE ON CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION & ECSCI WORKSHOP

PRAETORIAN Project Overview

Lazaros Papadopoulos – ICCS/NTUA

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 Research and Innovation programme under Grant Agreement No 101021274

PRAETORIAN AT A GLANCE

- Coordinator: EDF
- 23 partners from 7 EU countries
- 3 pilot sites in 4 EU Member States
- Total budget: 9,04 M€
- Total funding: 7,58 M€
- Start date: 01/06/2021
- End date: 30/09/2023

“

PRAETORIAN strategic goal is to increase the **security and resilience** of European CIs, facilitating the **coordinated protection** of **interrelated CIs** against **combined physical and cyber threats**.

PRAETORIAN OBJECTIVES

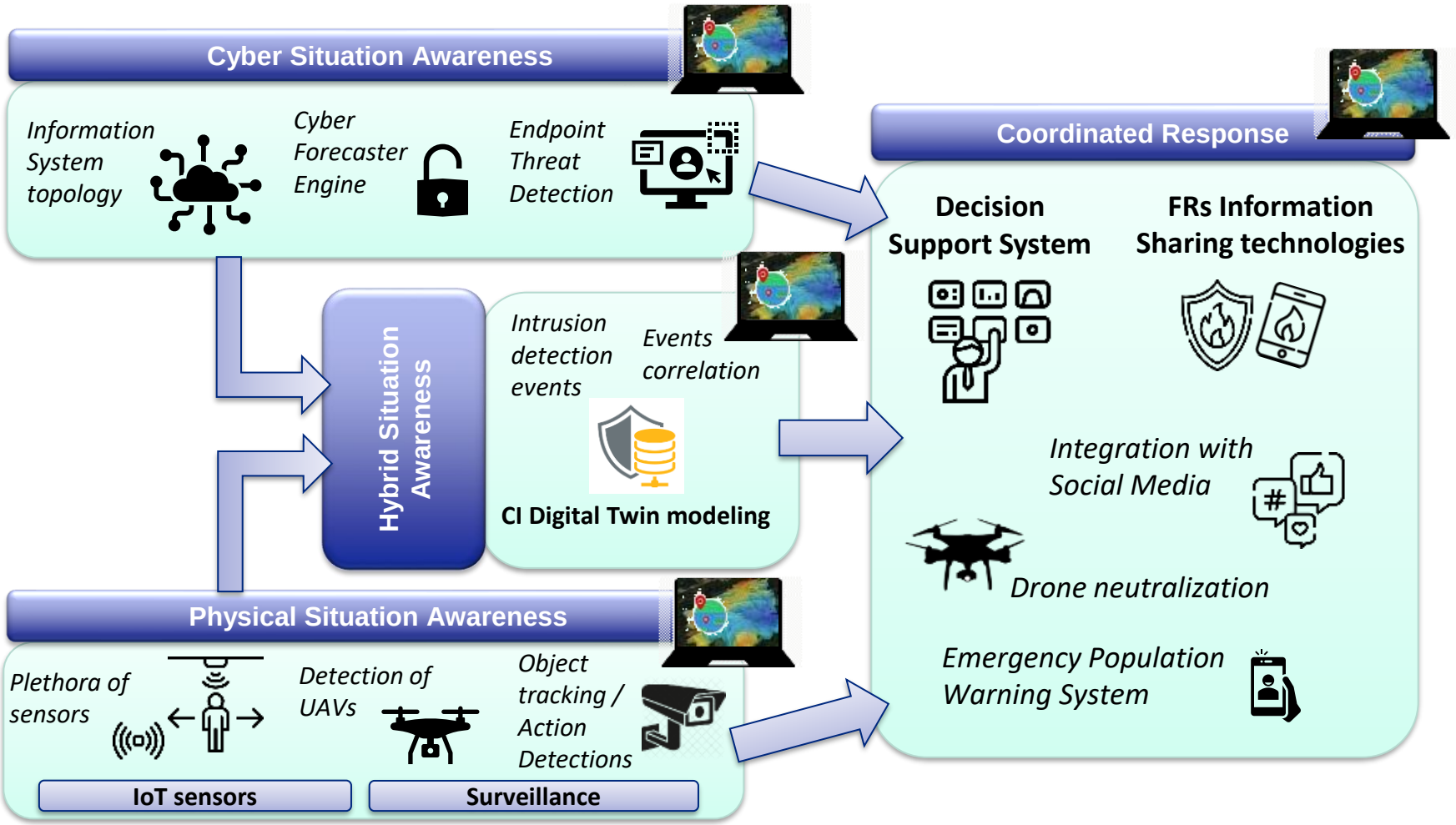
- **Technological objectives**

Evaluate hazards and minimize their level of risk	Improve the understanding of any physical or cyber threat	Improve the resilience of the CIs, enable coordinated response to attacks	Share with the public information on the risks

- **Impact and user-oriented objectives**

Validate in real contexts of interdependent CIs	Ensure compliance with legal, ethical, privacy, and societal principles	Disseminate results to relevant communities of users

PRAETORIAN SOLUTION

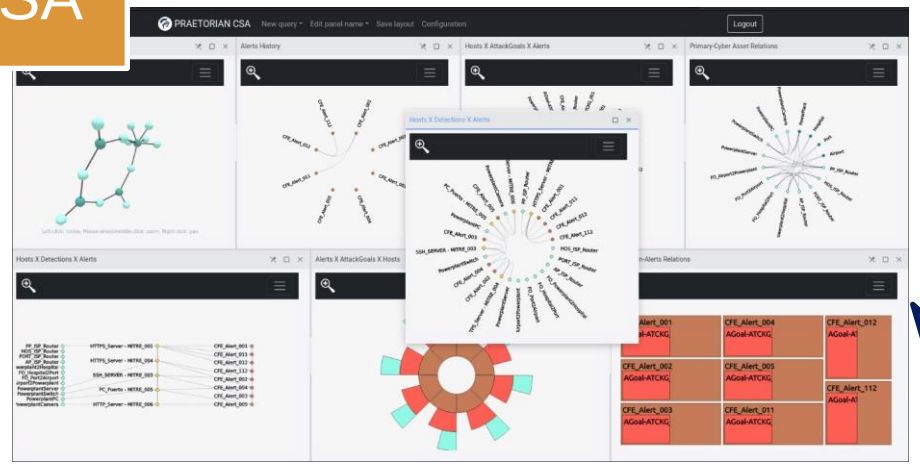


End users of the tools:

- Critical Infrastructure (CI) operators
- First Responders (FRs)

PRAETORIAN Dashboards

CSA



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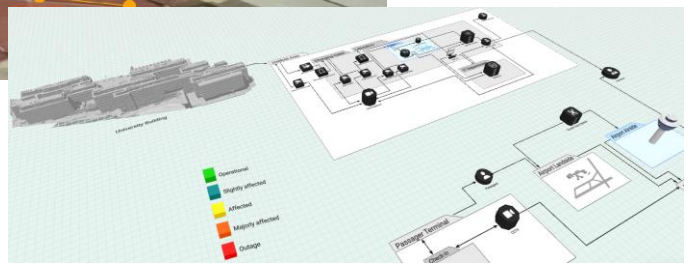

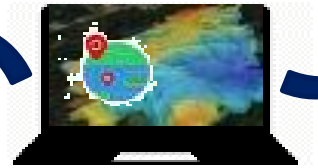

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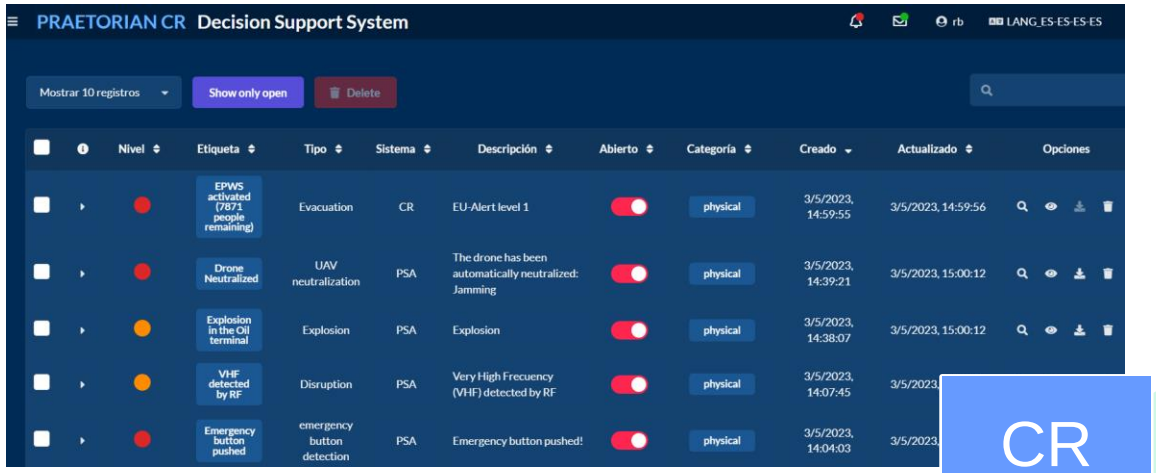

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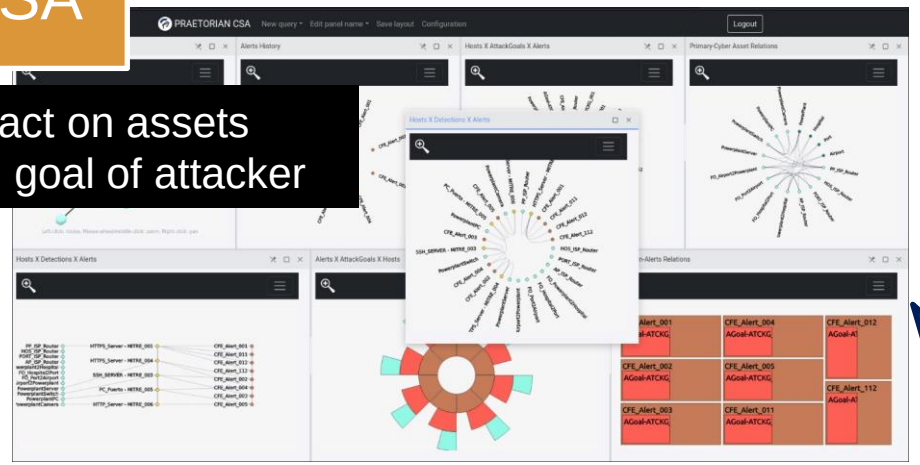
PRAETORIAN Dashboards

CSA

Impact on assets
End goal of attacker



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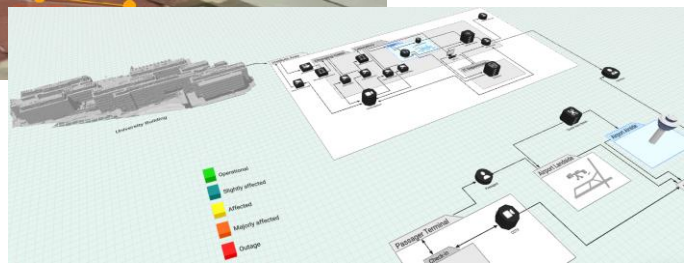

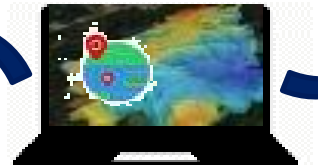

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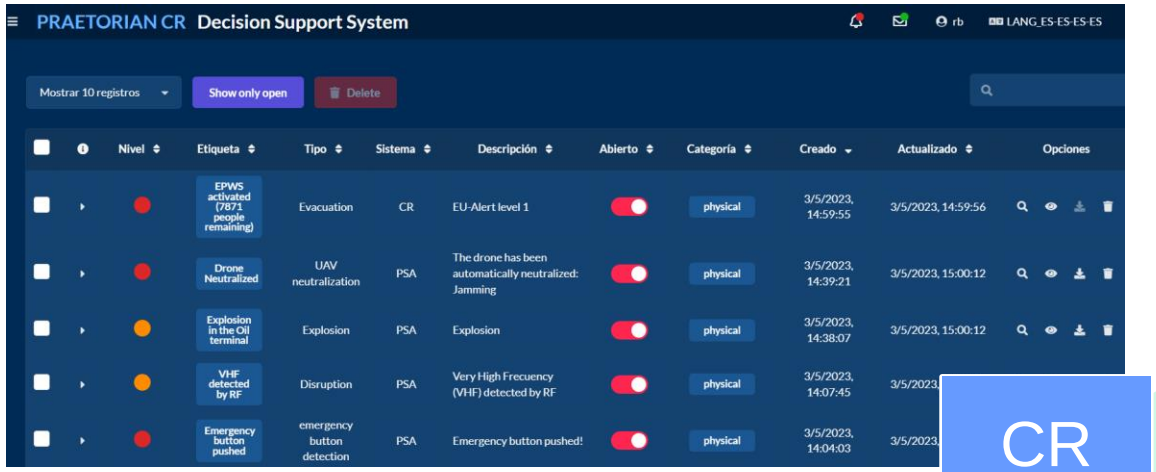

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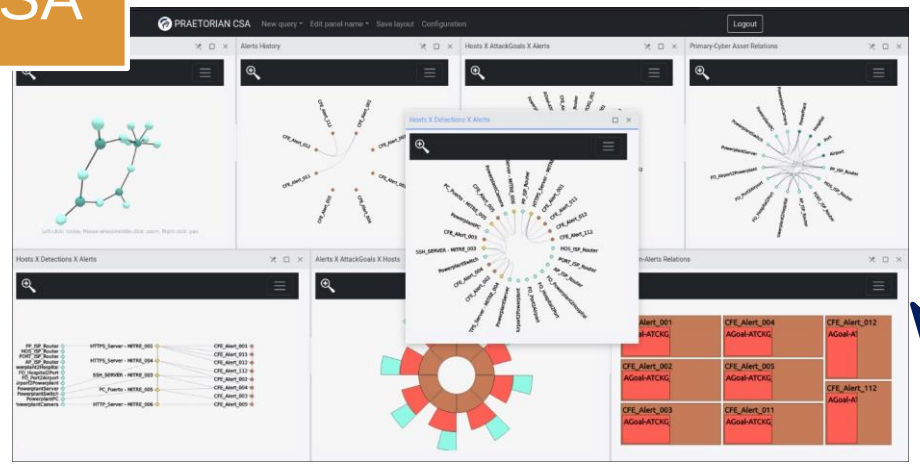

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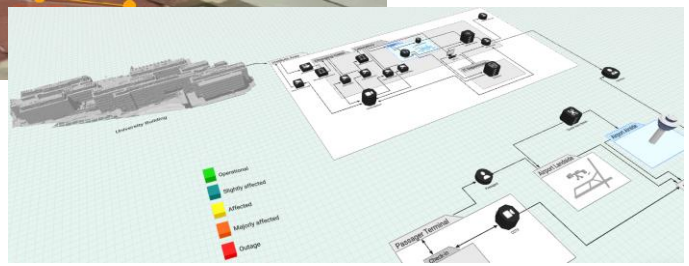

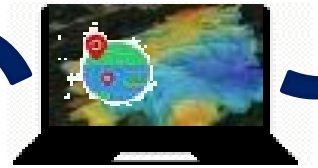

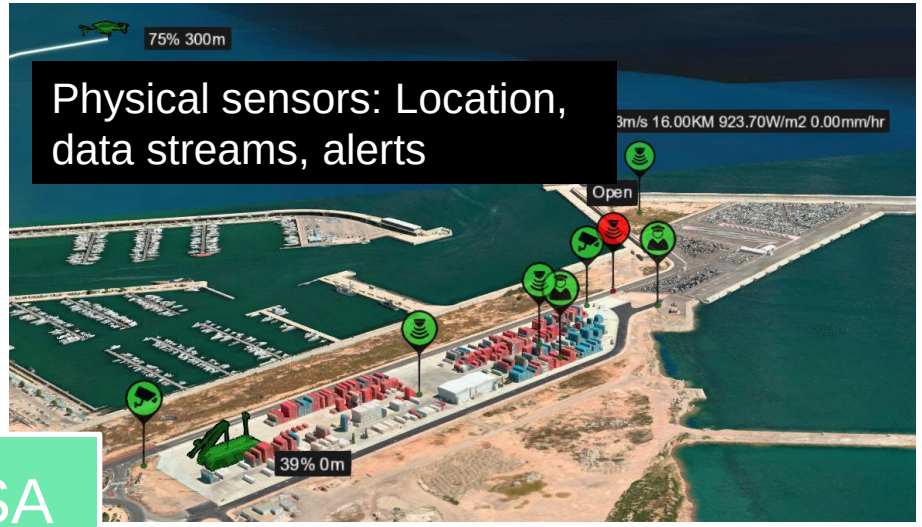

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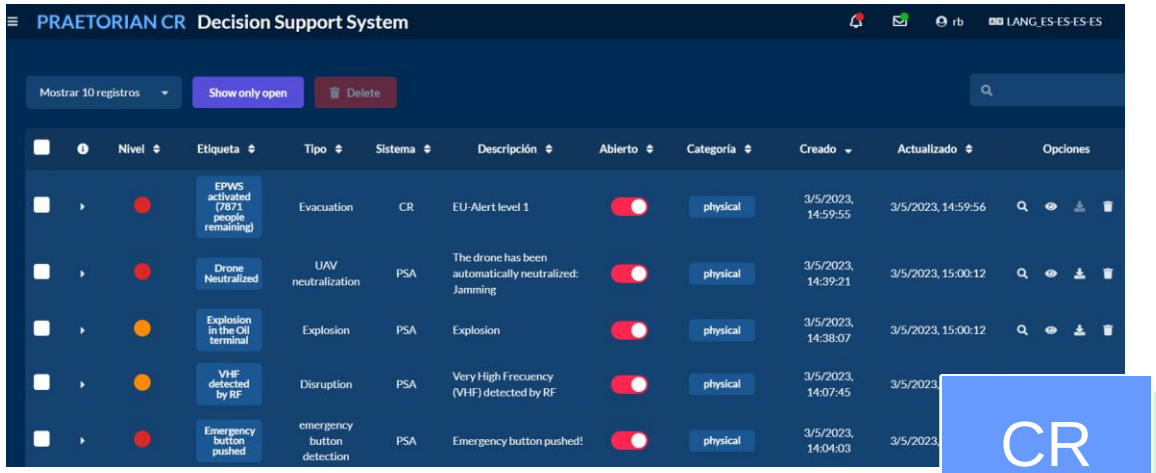

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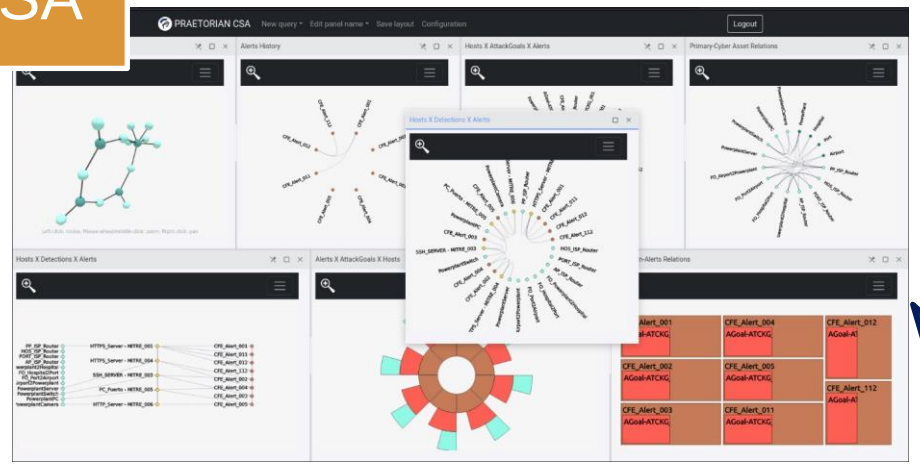

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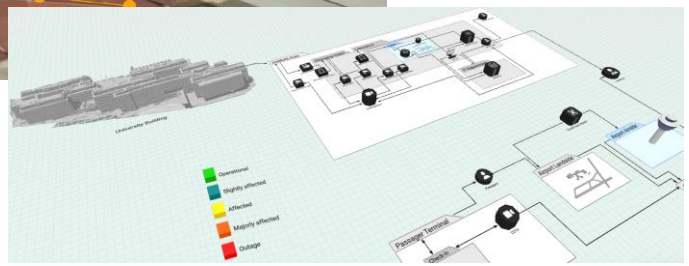

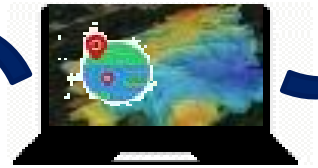

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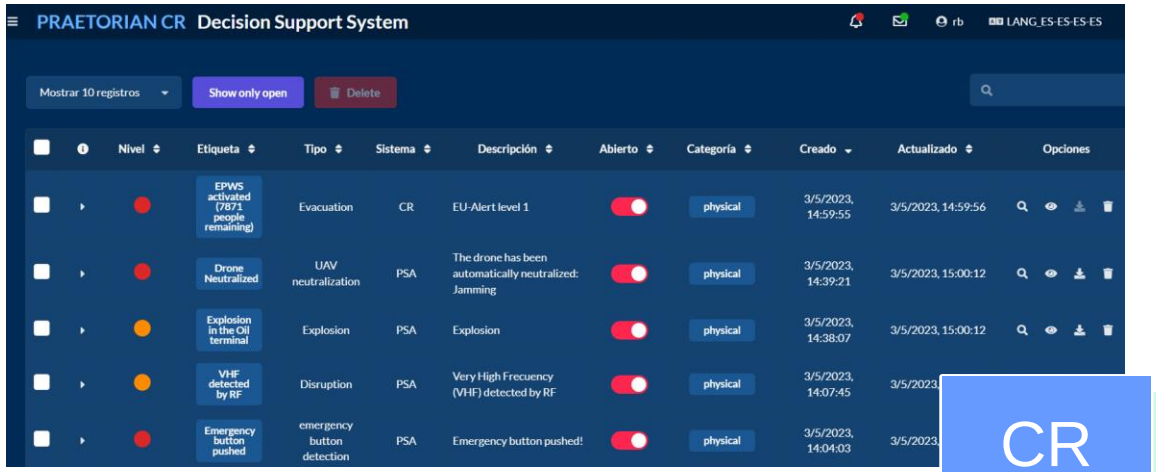

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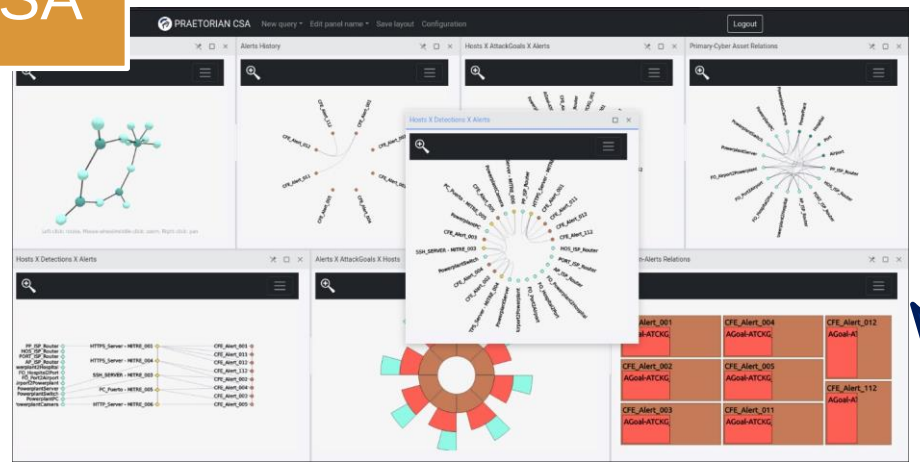

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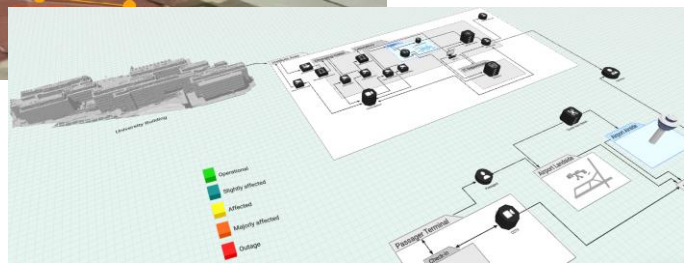

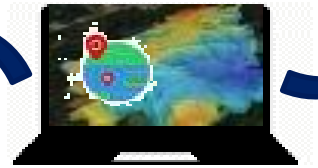

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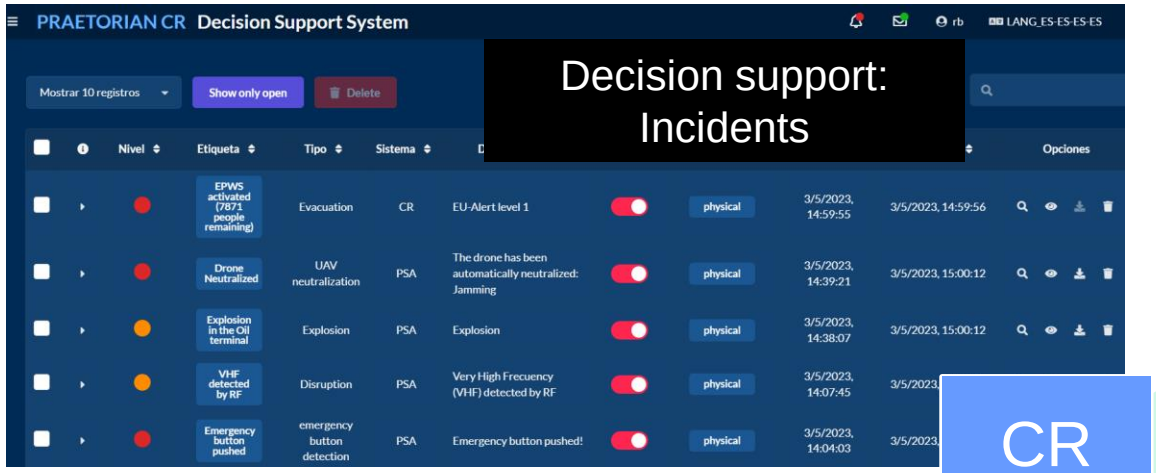

Decision support: Incidents

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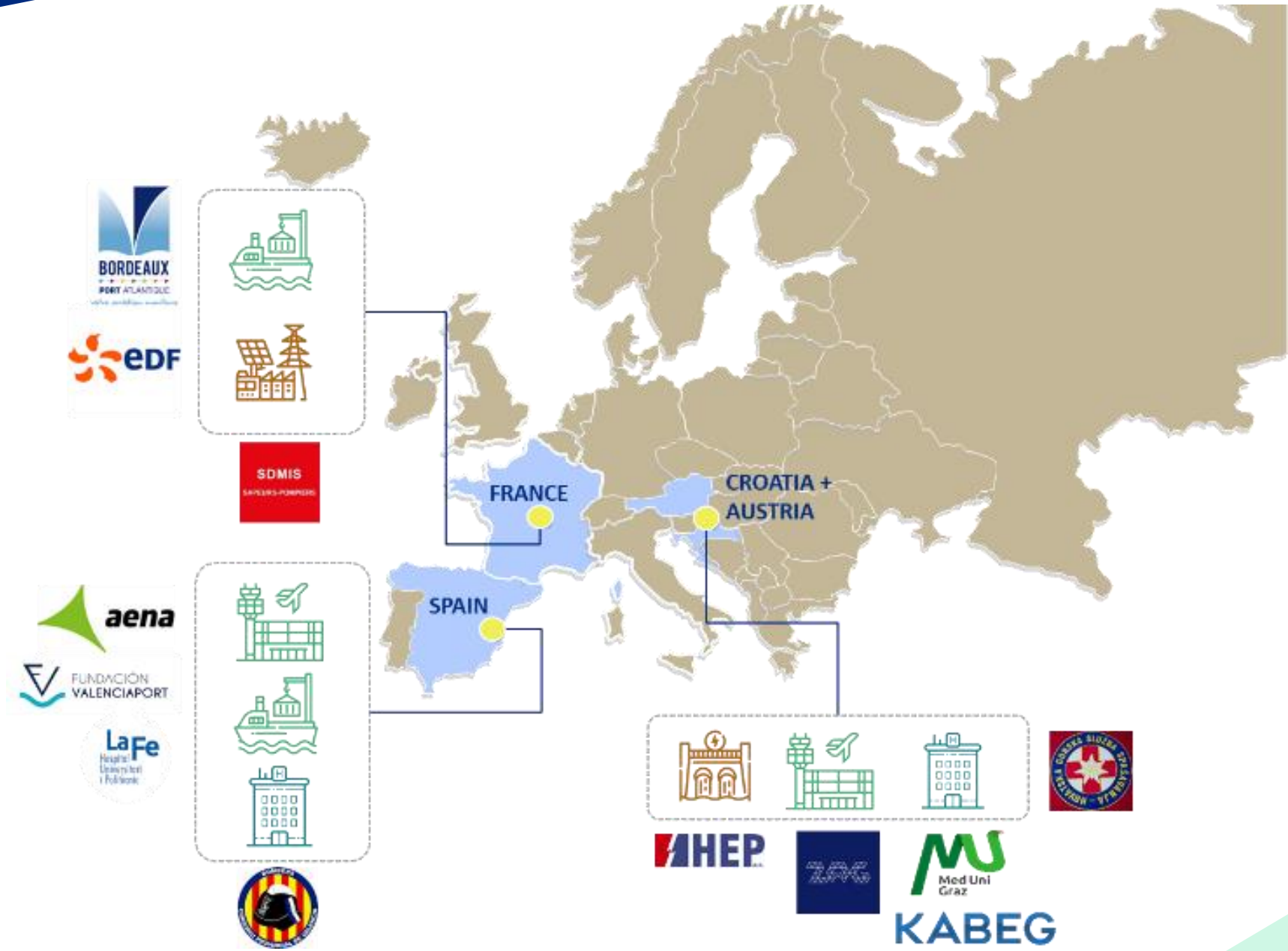
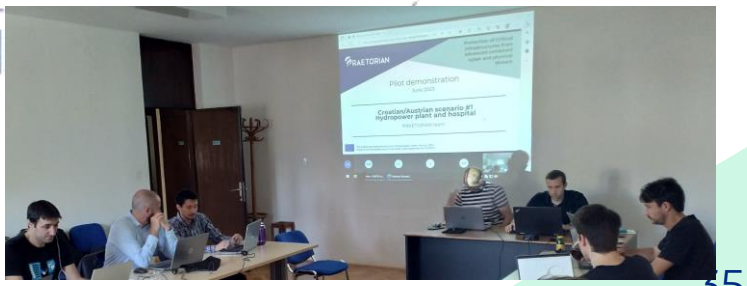
PRAETORIAN DEMO SITES

- 9 CI Operators
- 3 First Responders



Success story

- 3 First Responders



All recordings available at PRAETORIAN YouTube channel

PRAETORIAN

Any questions or comments

Thank you!

Lazaros Papadopoulos - lpapadop@microlab.ntua.gr

https://praetorian-h2020.eu/

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PRECINCT

Preparedness and Resilience Enforcement for Critical INfrastructure Cascading Cyberphysical Threats

PRESENTED BY.

Kevin Fleming (ICP, project coordinator)

Outline

01. PRECINCT Challenge & Vision

02. PRECINCT Digital Twin

03. Video Demonstration

04. Key Takeaways

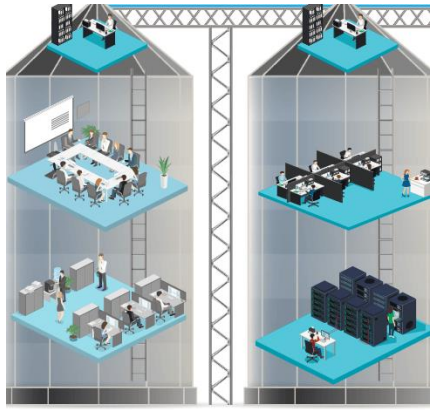
01

PRECINT
Challenge & Vision

The Challenge

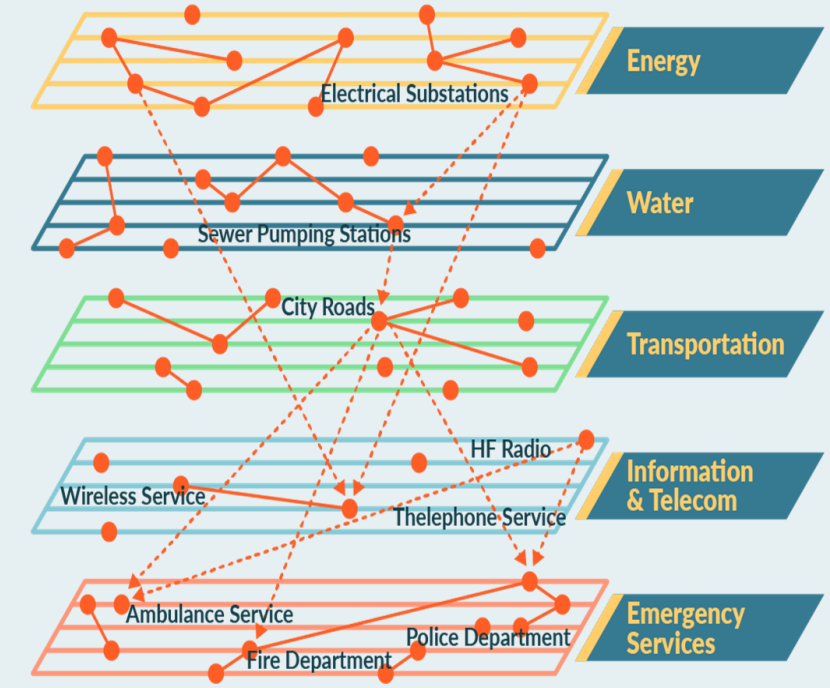
Lack of Information Connectivity across Critical Infrastructure systems

- Multiple stakeholders –> **siloed operations**
- Lack of **global situation awareness**
- Limited preparedness on **incident cascading effects** across systems



Information Silos

- Suboptimal **crisis management**
  - → Siloed operations prevent **timely and coordinated response actions**



A single incident can have severe impact on multiple services

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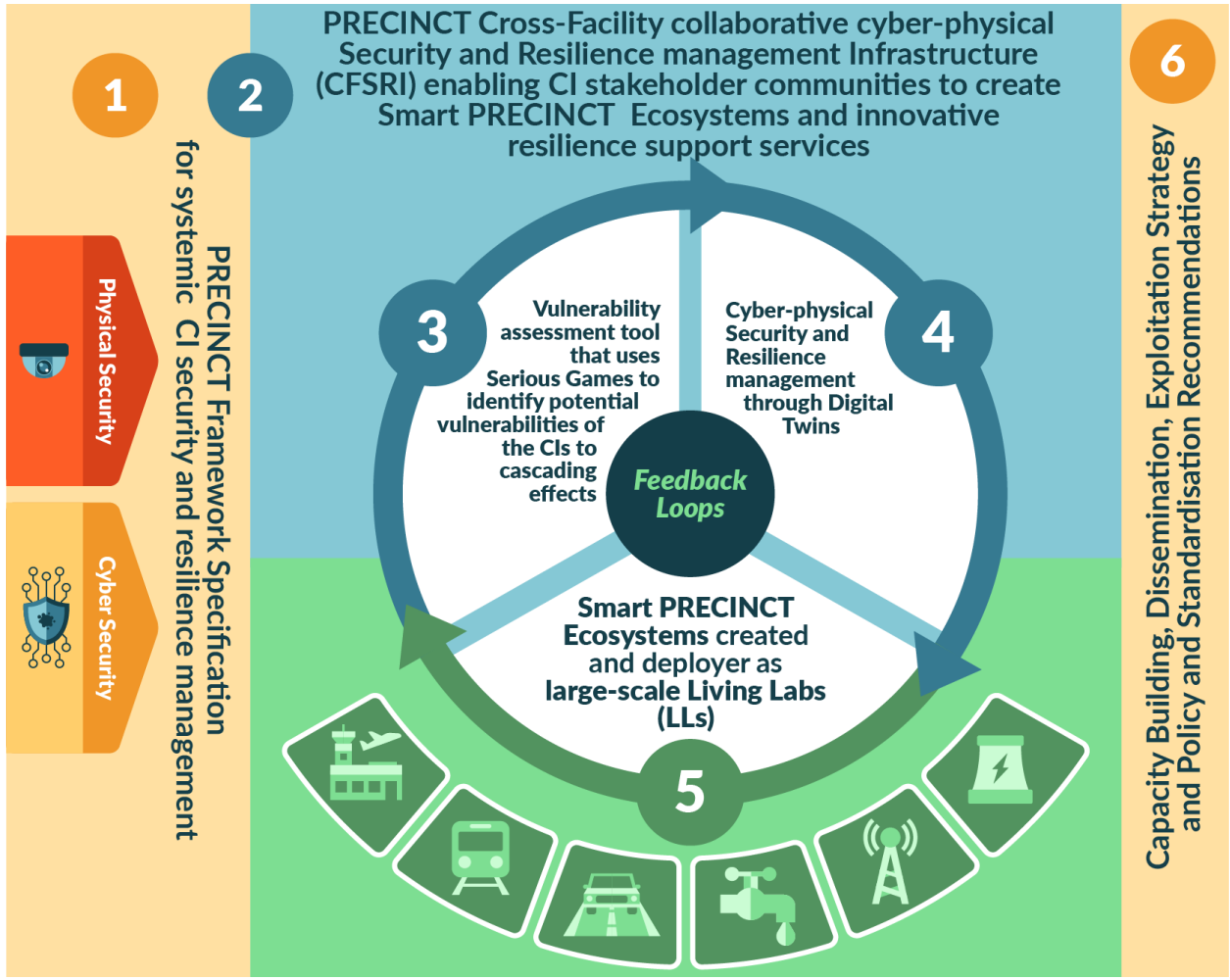
PRECINCT Vision

- PRECINCT aims to **connect private and public CI stakeholders** in a geographical area to **a common cyber-physical security management approach** via **Digital Twins**
- **Enable interdependent CIs and Public authorities** to plan for, prevent, absorb, recover from and adapt efficiently and effectively to **cyber-physical threats / attacks** as well as **impede their cascading effects**.



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PRECINCT partners

PRECINCT

Prometni institut Ljubljana d.o.o.
Institute of Traffic and Transport Ljubljana l.l.c.

Barcelona Supercomputing Center
Centro Nacional de Supercomputación

TECHNOLOGY
GRUPPO FERROVIE DELLO STATO ITALIANE

EUROPEAN ORGANISATION FOR SECURITY

LPP
Zapelji se na www.lpp.si

ATHENS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
ELEFTHERIOS VENIZELOS

Tallinn

POLIS
CITIES AND REGIONS FOR TRANSPORT INNOVATION

KEMEA

ITL
ISTITUTO sui TRASPORTI e la LOGISTICA

Slovenske železnice

ATTIKO METRO S.A.

ATTIKES DIADROMES S.A.

ICS
INSTITUTE FOR CORPORATIVE SECURITY STUDIES

AKKA
PASSION FOR TECHNOLOGIES

NUROGAMES

ENGINEERING

CONCEPTIVITY

360° SECURITY

TelekomSlovenije

Aeroporto di Bologna
Aeroporto Guglielmo Marconi di Bologna S.p.A.

Elektro Ljubljana

imec

UITP
ADVANCING PUBLIC TRANSPORT

VLTN

UCD DUBLIN

tecnalia
Inspiring Business

lepida
CUP2000

montimage

AIT
AUSTRIAN INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

water-link

inlecom

KU LEUVEN

dlr

Comhairle Contae County Council

LUXEMBOURG INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
LIST

CORTE
Confederation of Organisations in Road Transport Enforcement

VAS
institute

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PRECINCT Living Labs

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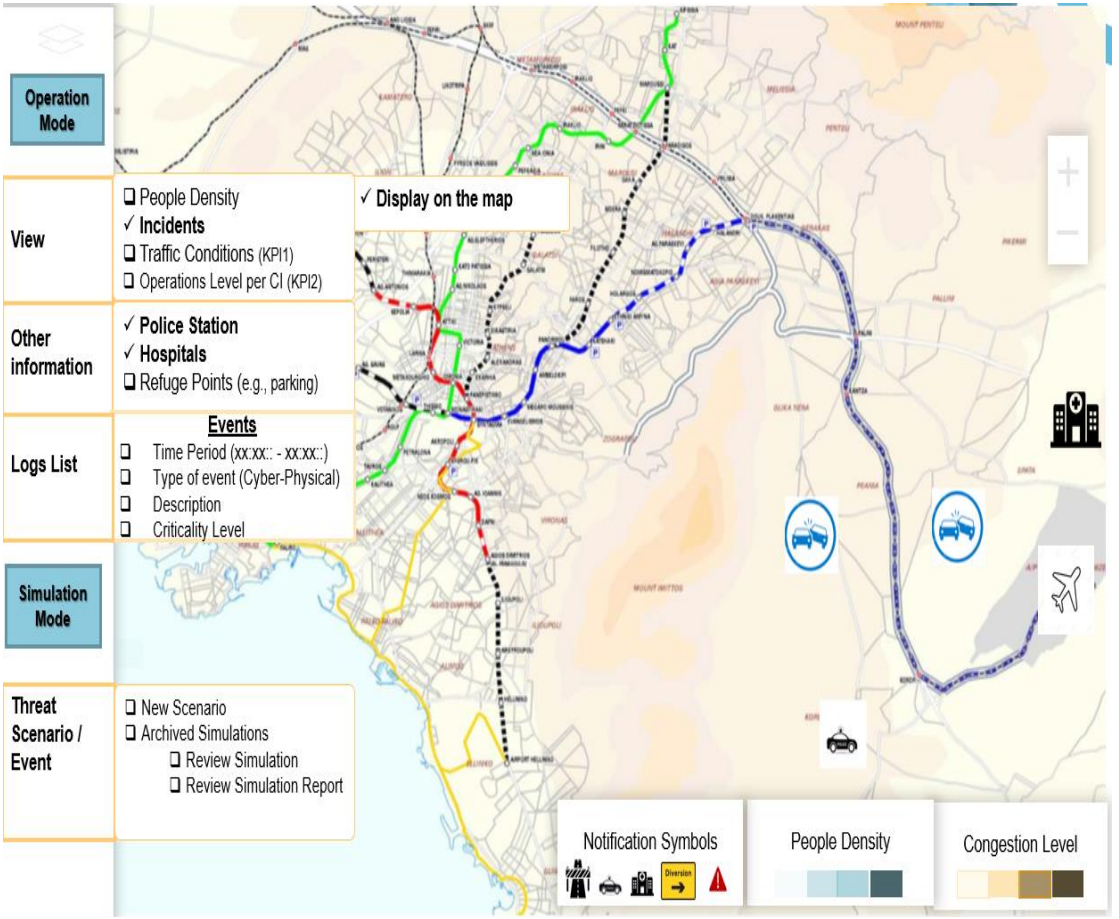
02

PRECINCT Digital Twin

Digital Twin Goals

Build a software solution consolidating:

- ✓ Data across CIs in a **common representation**
- ✓ Inter-CI **incident dynamics**
- ✓ **Resilience** metrics
- ✓ **Incident detection & simulation** tools
- ✓ **Decision-support** for crisis management



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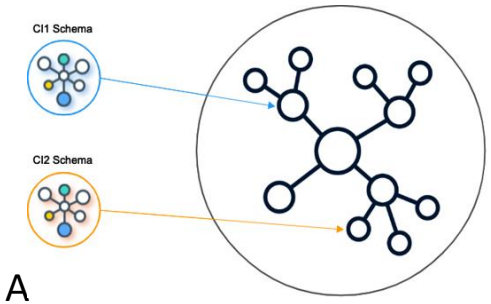
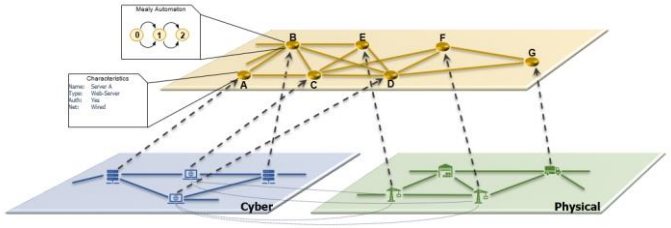
Building the Digital Twin



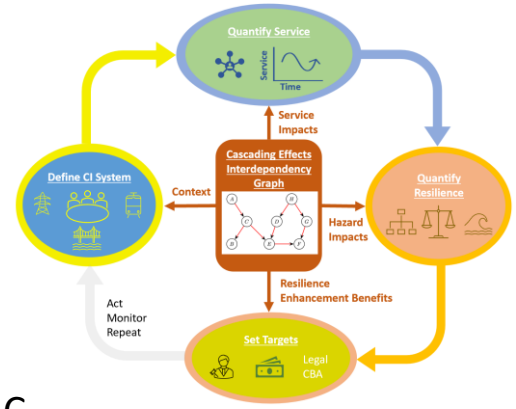
A

Define a **common representation** for CI data ingested from **different systems**



B

Model **incident dynamics** and **cascading effects** for simulations

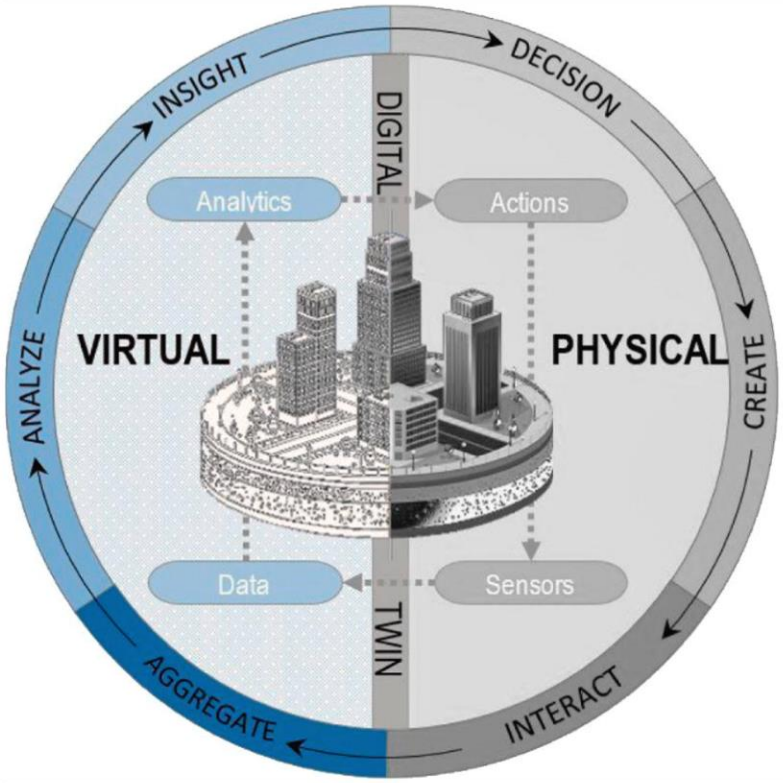


C

Quantify **operational resilience** for **decision-support**

D

Expose in **unifying user interface**



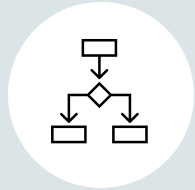
Digital Twin

Digital Twin Features

Live Situational Awareness

Simulation of Cascading Effects

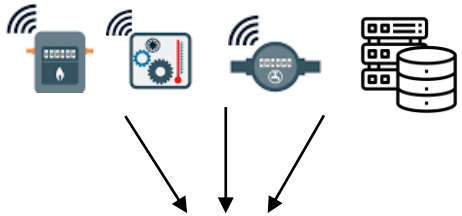
Incident Detection & Reporting

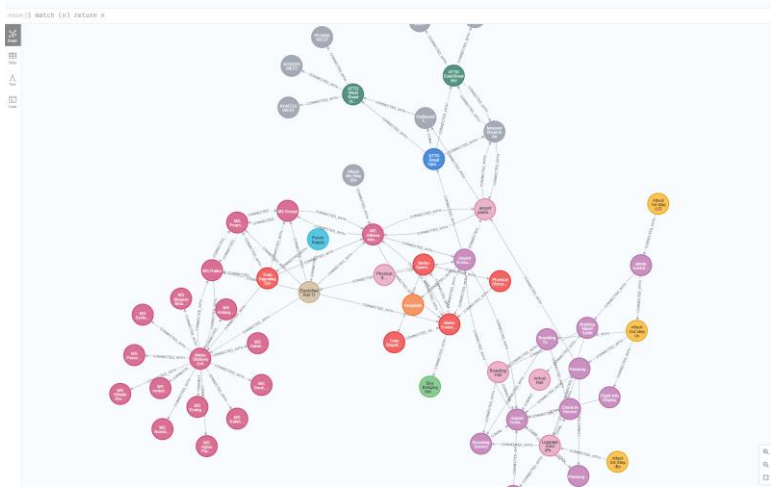


Decision-Support for Crisis Management

Live Situational Awareness

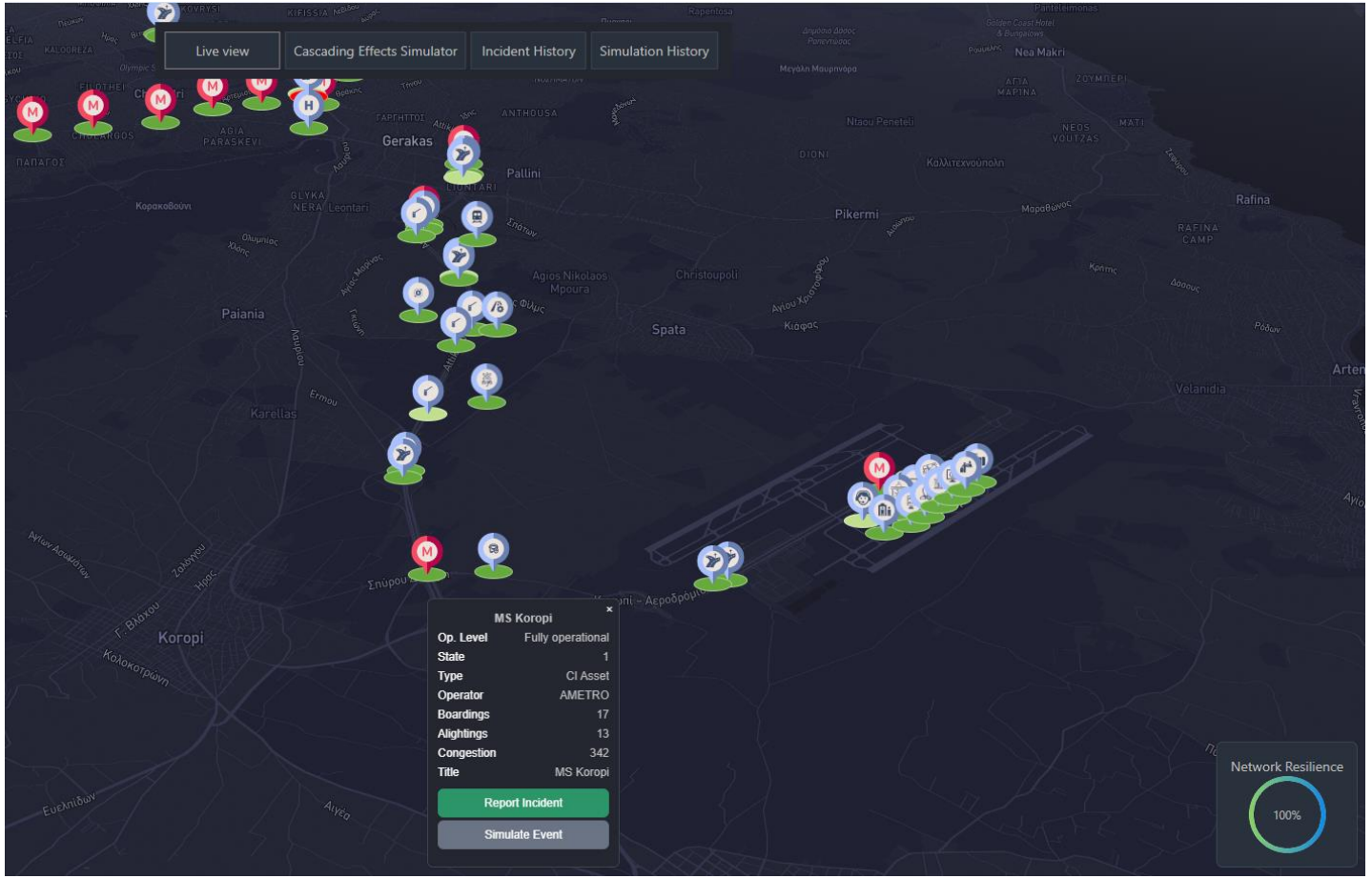
CI Systems





neo4j

Multi-CI
Knowledge Graph



Digital Twin Dashboard

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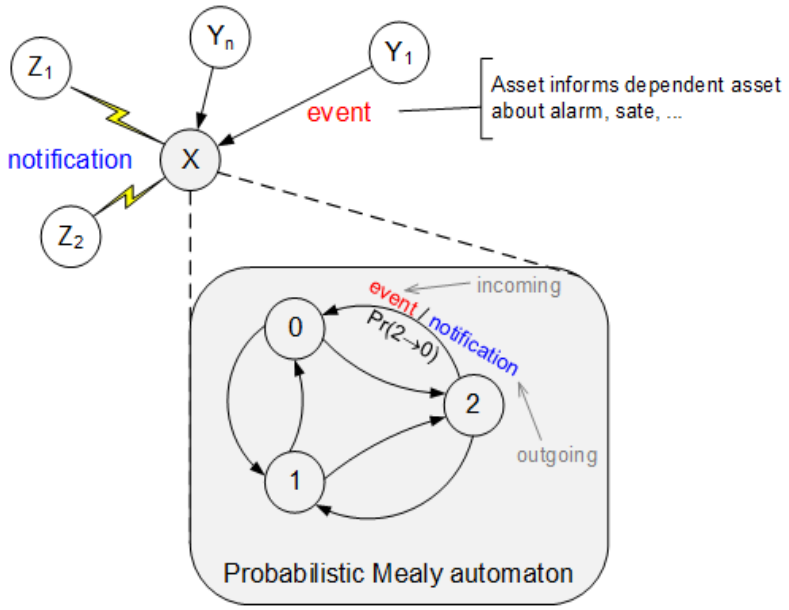
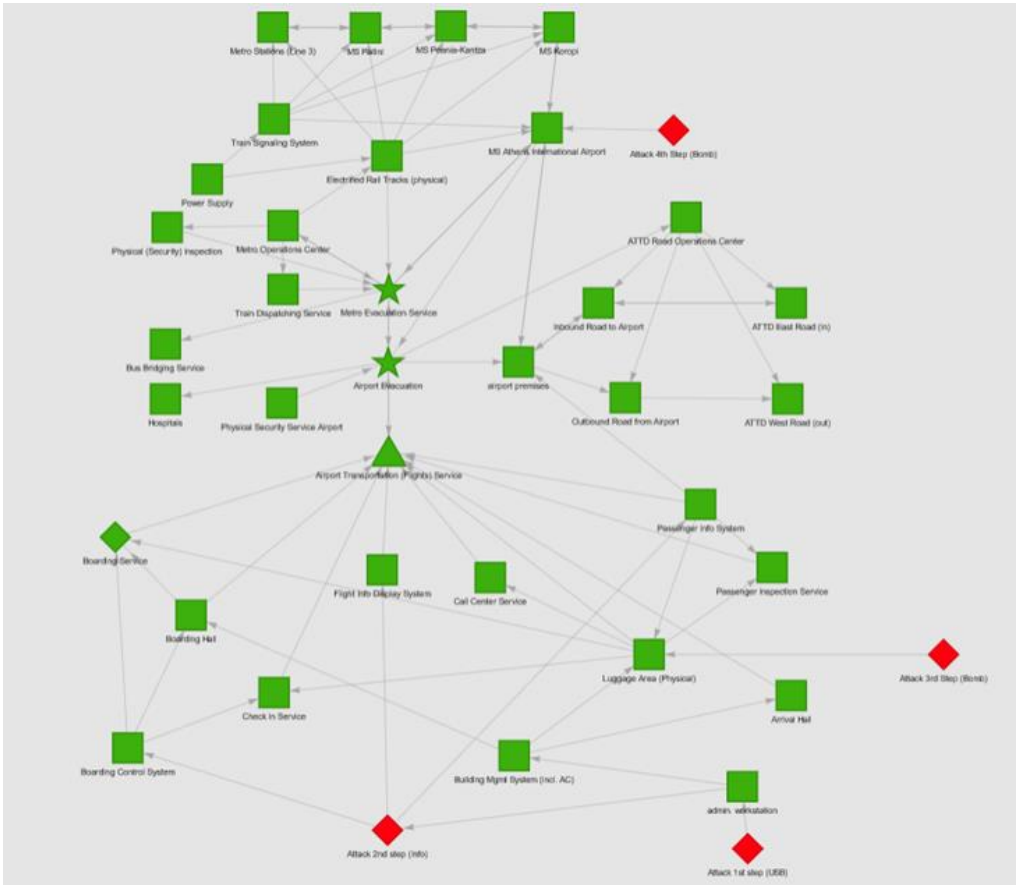
Simulation of Cascading Effects

PRECINCT

- Building of **Interdependency Graph**



Modelling of incident propagation



Graph of CI assets and their interdependencies

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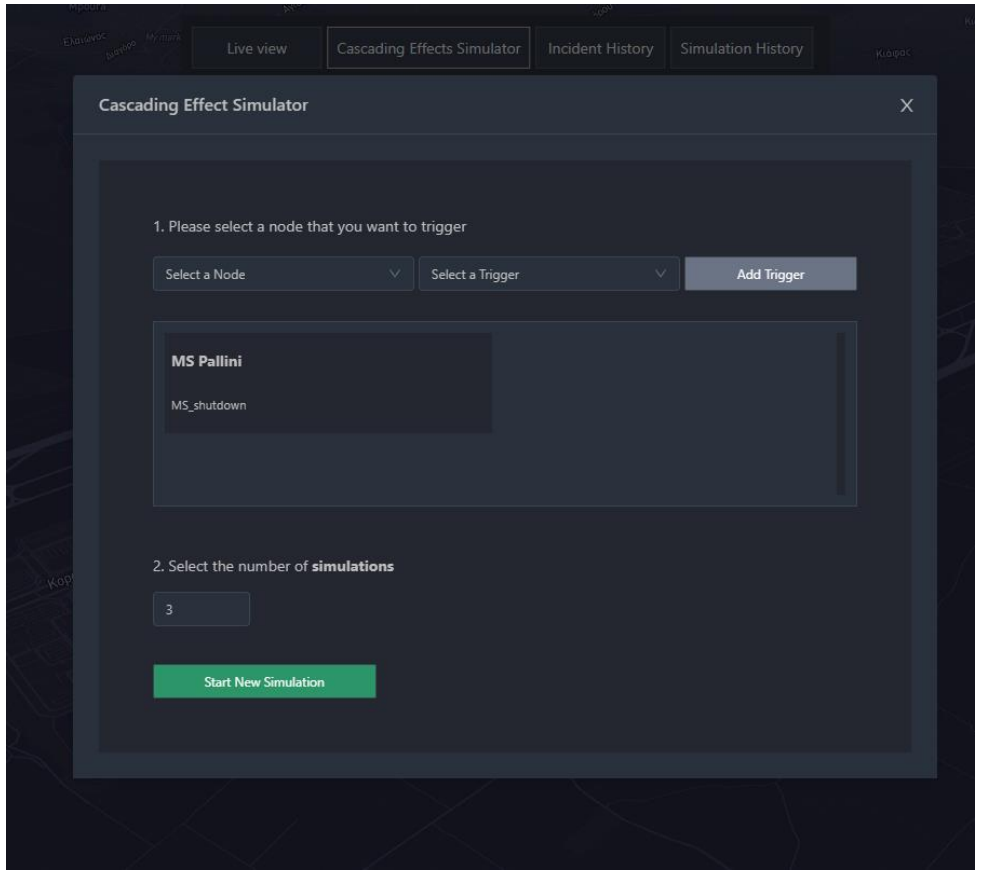
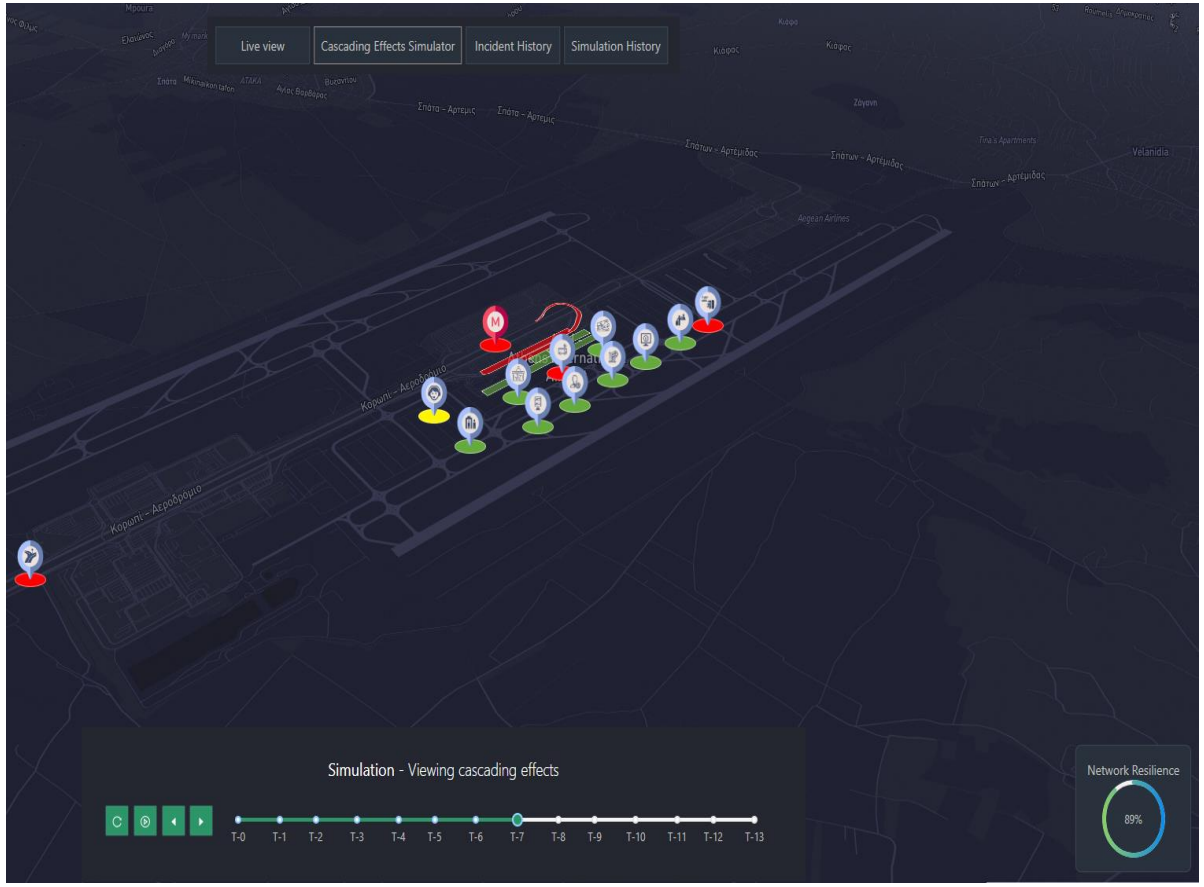
Simulation of Cascading Effects





✓ Simulation parameterization

✓ Visualization of Cascading Effects

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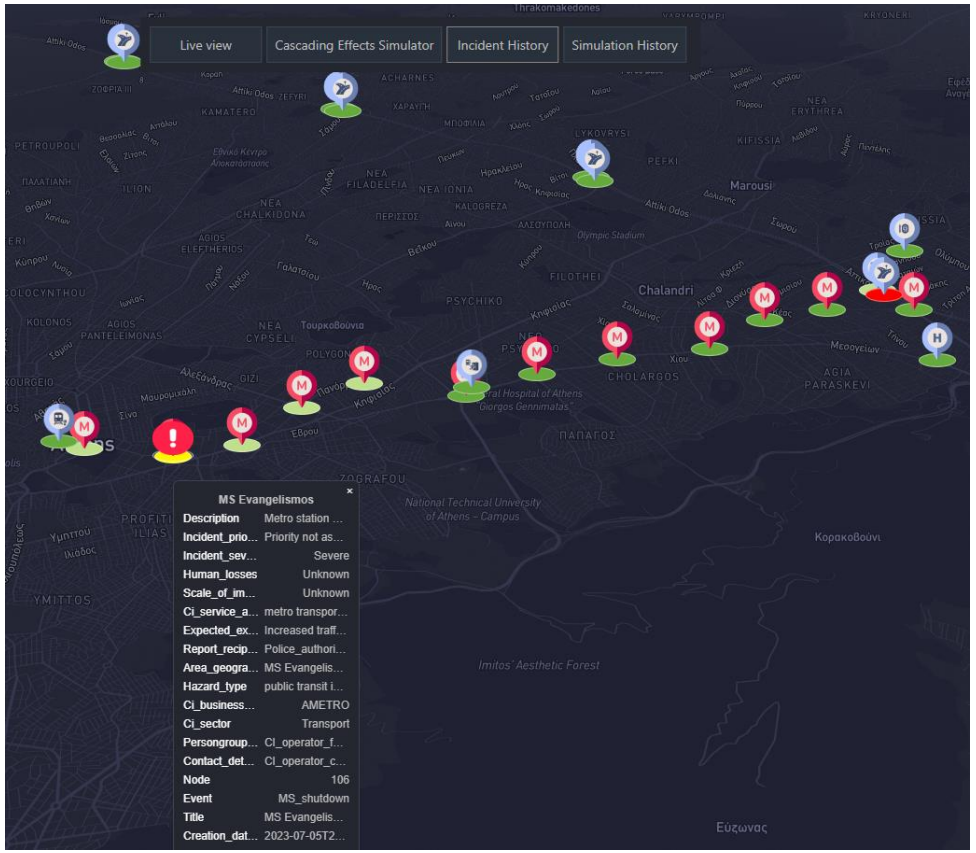
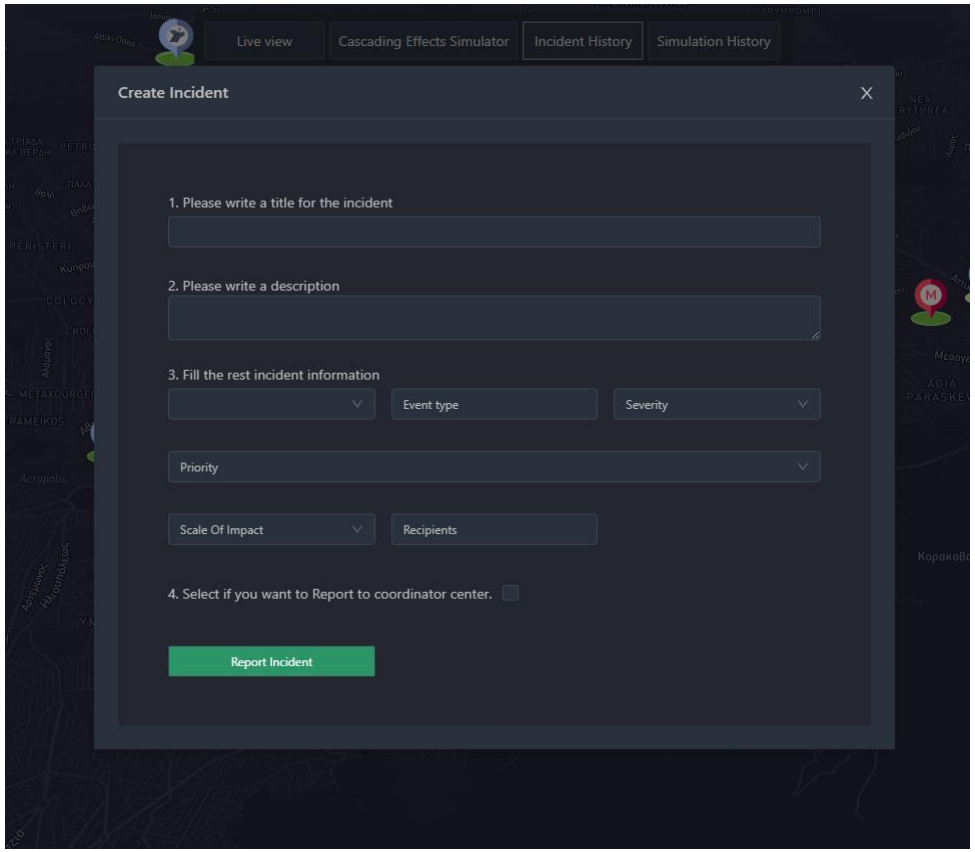
Incident Detection & Reporting

PRECINCT





- ✓ Incidents detected by PRECINCT security monitoring tools
- ✓ Manual reporting of incidents by CI operators

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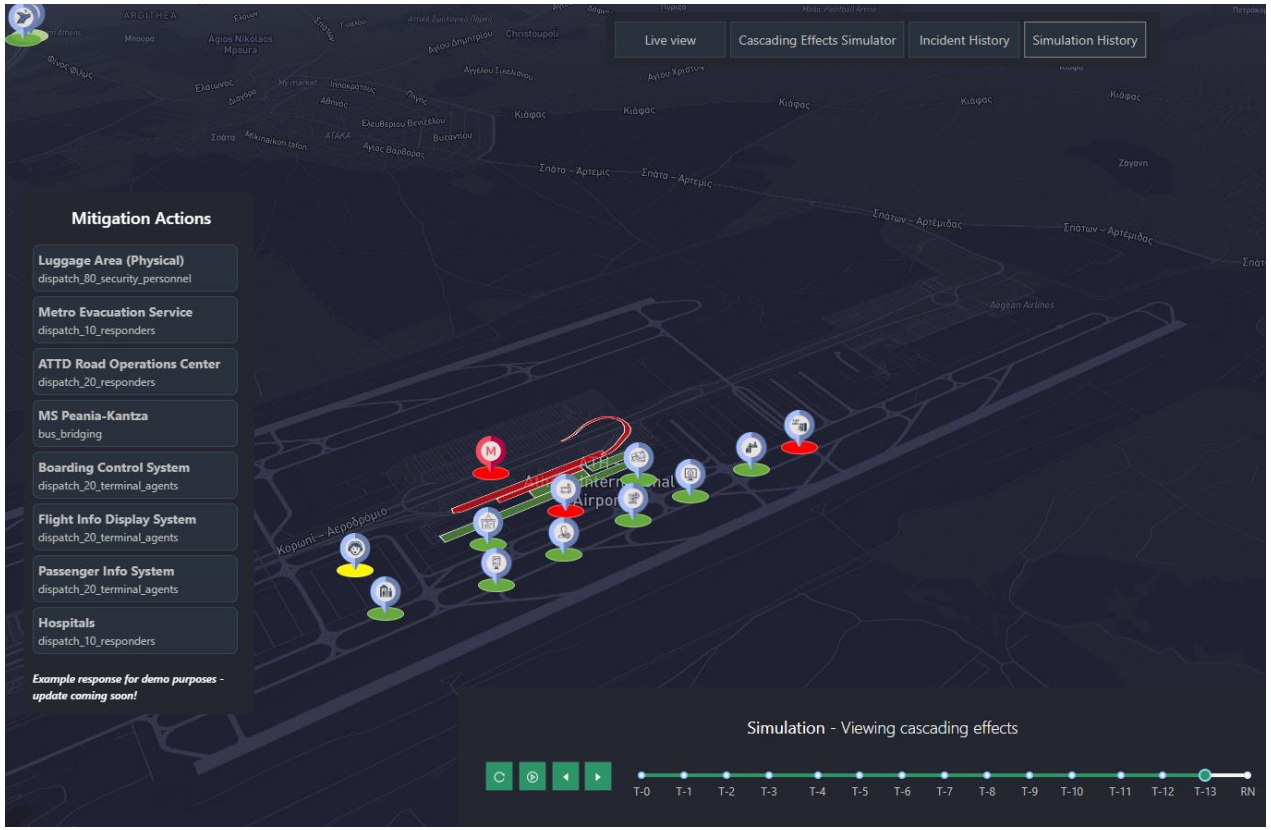
Decision-Support in Crisis Management

PRECINCT

✓ Calculation of optimal mitigation actions to restore resilience



✓ Feature integrated in the CI DT

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03

Video Demonstration

PRECINCT LL3 - Athens Digital Twin

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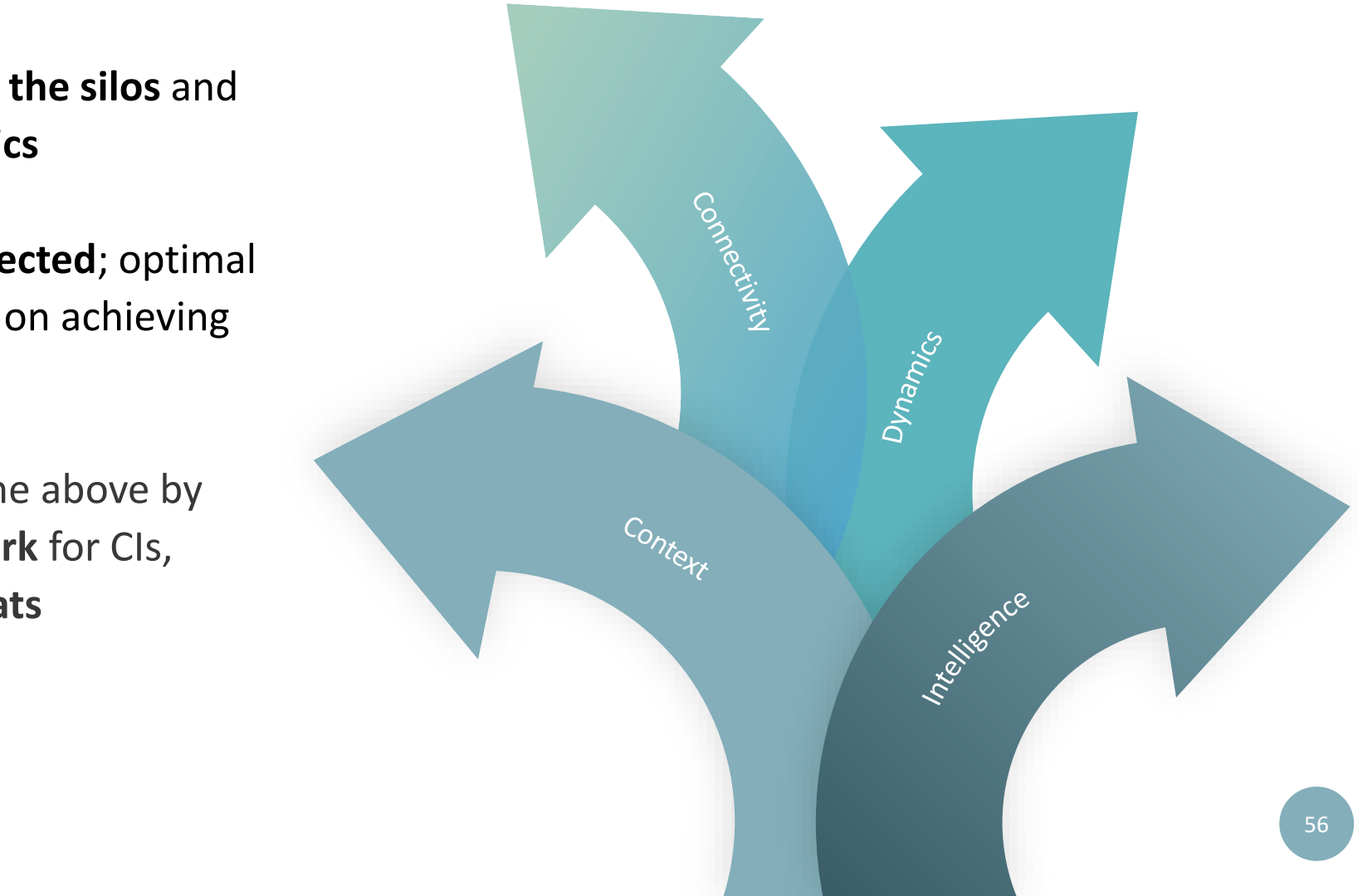
04

Key Takeaways

Key Takeaways

- Significant value lies in **bridging the silos** and leveraging **inter-system dynamics**
- CI systems are **highly interconnected**; optimal **operational resilience** depends on achieving **connected intelligence**
- The **PRECINCT** project tackles the above by building a **unifying DT framework** for CIs, focused on **cyber-physical threats**



Questions

Thank you

THE END

Konnecta systems