

Press release DC 153(2013)

Council of Europe and Microsoft sign partnership on cybercrime and rule of law safeguards

Strasbourg, 03.12.2013 – The Council of Europe and Microsoft have signed an agreement on Microsoft's contribution to the new Cybercrime@Octopus project. Through this project, the Council of Europe will assist countries in all regions of the world to implement the Council of Europe [Convention on Cybercrime](#) and strengthen data protection and rule of law safeguards. Activities from 2014 to 2016 include annual conferences on cybercrime.

Microsoft has partnered with the Council of Europe since 2006 in the framework of the Global Project on Cybercrime.

"Cooperation with the private sector is essential, not only to prevent and control cybercrime, but also to protect privacy and other fundamental rights. I am pleased to continue and develop the partnership with Microsoft that we started in 2006," said Council of Europe Secretary General Thorbjørn Jagland.

"We are pleased to continue our long-standing partnership with the Council of Europe to promote the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime. Creating a safer, more trusted and better protected computing environment is our priority. Safeguarding the privacy, security and safety of people is our commitment. Supporting the work of the Council of Europe in this important area is key to achieving both," said Dorothee Belz, Vice-President Legal and Corporate Affairs for Microsoft in Europe.

[More information](#)

[Note to editors](#)

Organised from 4 to 6 December, the 2013 cybercrime conference will address safeguards and data protection for criminal justice and national security, and protection of children against sexual exploitation online. The conference will bring together representatives from over 100 countries, public authorities, police, international organisations and Internet industry.

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