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Council of Europe marks 20 years of action against cybercrime

Strasbourg, 09.11.2021 – Twenty years after it was adopted, the [Budapest Convention](#) remains the most relevant international treaty that protects individuals and their rights against crime online. The Council of Europe's annual conference on cybercrime, which every year brings together cybercrime experts from all over the world, will be held online from 16 to 18 November. It will begin with a special event, organised in co-operation with the [Hungarian Presidency](#) of the Committee of Ministers and dedicated to the [20th anniversary](#) of the Convention and to the forthcoming Second Additional Protocol on enhanced co-operation and disclosure of electronic evidence.

The Convention has had a global impact. It has helped strengthen and harmonise countries' legislation on cybercrime, enhance the effectiveness of international co-operation in investigating and prosecuting crimes committed via the Internet, and to foster partnerships between the public and private sectors (see [The Budapest Convention on Cybercrime: benefits and impact in practice](#)).

To date, 66 countries have ratified the Convention on Cybercrime, two have signed it and ten have been invited to accede (Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Guatemala, Mexico, Niger, Nigeria, New Zealand, Trinidad and Tobago, and Tunisia). More than 140 countries are working with the Council of Europe to reinforce their legislation and capacity to address cybercrime.

The purpose of the forthcoming Second Additional Protocol to the Cybercrime Convention is to provide sharper tools to investigate cybercrime and obtain justice for victims, by ensuring that perpetrators face a substantially greater risk of being held to account. It provides for direct co-operation with service providers and entities providing domain name registration services to obtain the disclosure of information for identifying suspects, expedited forms of co-operation for the disclosure of subscriber information and traffic data, expedited co-operation and disclosure in emergencies, additional mutual assistance tools and data protection and other rule-of-law safeguards. It is expected to be adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 17 November.

The Council of Europe conference will bring together representatives of governments, the police, the internet industry, the civil society and academia.

A series of workshops will take place on 17 and 18 November:

- Cybercrime strategies and capacity building (regional experiences);
- Covid-19-related cybercrime;
- Cybercrime and artificial intelligence;
- Judicial training on cybercrime and e-evidence;
- Cybercrime: who are the offenders, who are the victims?
- Automated detection of child sexual abuse materials;
- Ransomware and crypto currencies;
- Global state of cybercrime legislation;
- Outlook: cybercrime in 2022.

When participants gather on 16 November to mark the anniversary of the Convention, they will be addressed by the Council of Europe Secretary General Marija Pejčinović Burić, ministers, attorneys general and other senior officials from around the world.

[More information](#)

[Podcast](#) with Alexander Seger, Head of Cybercrime ([more videos](#))

Media accreditation

The high-level event is open to the press (Tuesday 16 November, 1 p.m.-7 p.m.). **The link to livestreaming will be provided upon request.**

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