

CYBERCRIME@COE UPDATE

October - December 2023

Highlights October - December 2023

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The [Cyberviolence portal](#) aims to provide information on existing policies, strategies, preventive, protective and criminal justice measures taken by public sector, civil society and private sector organisations, following up on the [T-CY Mapping Study on Cyberviolence](#).

UPDATE: Budapest Convention and Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY)

Budapest Convention on Cybercrime

Opened for signature: 23 November 2001

Parties as of 9 January 2024: 69

Signatories and States invited to accede as of 9 January 2024: 22

T-CY

Members as of 9 January 2024: 69 Parties

Observer States as of 9 January 2024: 22

Observer Organisations as of 9 January 2024: 11

STRASBOURG, FRANCE, 4 October 2023

Rwanda and São Tomé and Príncipe invited to join the Convention on Cybercrime



On 4 October, Rwanda and São Tomé and Príncipe were invited to accede to the Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest Convention). This invitation to accede is valid for five years from its adoption. With these new invitations, 68 States are Parties, two have signed it and 21 have been invited to accede to the Convention. These 91 States are members (Parties) or observers in the Cybercrime Convention Committee (T-CY). [\[READ MORE\]](#)

STRASBOURG, FRANCE, 16 November 2023

Armenia becomes 43rd State to sign the Second Additional Protocol to Convention on Cybercrime

On 16 November 2023, Mr Arman KHACHATRYAN,



Permanent representative of Armenia to the Council of Europe, signed the [Second Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime, on enhanced co-operation and disclosure of electronic evidence](#).

The event took place in Strasbourg in the presence of Marija Pejcinovic, Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

This accounts for 43 signatures (2 ratifications and 41 signatures not yet followed by ratification). [\[READ MORE\]](#)

BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, 15 December 2023

Cameroon becomes 69th Party to Convention on Cybercrime



On 8 February 2023, Cameroon was invited to accede to the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime. This invitation to accede is valid for five years from its adoption.

On 15 December, on the occasion of a ceremony on the last day of the Octopus Conference 2023 in Bucharest, Cameroon became Party to the Cybercrime Convention. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, 8 December 2023

The global state of cybercrime legislation in December 2023

An updated cursory overview of the Global State of Cybercrime Legislation prepared by the Cybercrime Programme Office of the Council of Europe (C-PROC) indicates that by mid-December 2023, 95% of the UN Member States had engaged in reform of their legislation on cybercrime and electronic evidence, with 131 States (or 68% of UN Member States) considered to have criminalised offences against and by means of computers largely in line with the Convention on Cybercrime. These findings remain highly relevant for the current negotiation of a "Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes" by the United Nations. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

UPDATE: Multi-Project Initiatives

GLACY+, iPROCEEDS-2, CyberEast, CyberSouth and Octopus projects

Funding: Joint projects of the European Union and the Council of Europe, as well as voluntary contributions

Participating regions: Europe, Latin America and Caribbean, Africa, and Asia-Pacific

BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, 12 December 2023

In person | More than 500 global cybercrime experts to attend Octopus Conference 2023

Held every 12 to 18 months by the Council of Europe, the [Octopus Conference](#) constitutes one of the biggest and finest platforms of exchange in cybercrime gathering experts from more than 100 countries, international organisations, private sector, representatives of civil society and academia.

On 13 December, the Parliament of Bucharest opened its doors to more than 500 participants for the 2023 edition of the conference, focused this year on securing and sharing electronic evidence and celebrating 10 years of the Cybercrime Programme Office (C-PROC). [\[READ MORE\]](#)



BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, 5 December 2023

C-PROC at 10: Ten years of capacity building by the Cybercrime Programme Office of the Council of Europe

C-PROC became operational in April 2014 and has since supported well over [2000 activities](#) for more than 130 countries in all regions of the world. Ten years later, by December 2023, C-PROC had projects running with a combined budget of some EUR 40 million: [GLACY+](#) (global); [Octopus Project](#) (global); [CyberEast](#) (Eastern Europe); [iPROCEEDS-2](#) (South East Europe); [CyberSouth](#) (Southern Mediterranean).

C-PROC will remain closely linked to the Budapest Convention and the [Cybercrime Convention Committee](#) (T-CY) as part of the “dynamic triad”. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS, 18-19 October 2023

In person | Annual Conference of the European Cybercrime Centre (EC3)

The Cybercrime Programme Office of the Council of Europe (C-PROC) supported the participation of over 60 participants from 37 countries in the [European Cybercrime Centre’s Annual Conference](#) held at the Europol Headquarters in The Hague. The theme of the 2023 edition was “10 Years of Joint Support to Operations Against Cybercrime – Building Tomorrow’s Partnerships”. [\[READ MORE\]](#)



THE HAGUE, THE NETHERLANDS, 20 October 2023

In person | The seventh Annual Meeting of the 24/7 Network of Contact Points



On 20 October 2023, the Council of Europe organised the seventh Annual Meeting of the 24/7 Points of Contact. The meeting was held at the Europol premises in The Hague, Netherlands.

Under Article 35 of the Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest Convention), the 24/7 Network facilitates immediate assistance for cybercrime investigations and the collection of electronic evidence, with expedited data preservation as a distinctive element made available to States Parties. Over 130 participants from more than 60 countries attended the event, in person and online. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

ANTALYA, TÜRKIYE 10-12 October 2023

***In person* | Regional Workshop on Co-operation and Information Sharing between Financial Investigations and Cybercrime**

The joint projects of the European Union and Council of Europe iPROCEEDS-2 and CyberEast organised a Regional Workshop on Co-operation and Information Sharing between Financial Investigations and Cybercrime, in Antalya, Türkiye, on 10-12 October.



Over 60 participants from Southeast Europe, Türkiye and the Eastern Partnership region attended the event. Representatives of criminal justice authorities, Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs), Central Banks and Banking Associations, participated in extensive discussions related to Moneyval and FATF (Financial Action Task Force) recommendations. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

KAKHETI, GEORGIA 24-27 October 2023

***In person* | iPROCEEDS-2 and CyberEast: Regional Cybercrime Co-operation Exercise between CSIRTs and Law Enforcement Officers from the Eastern Partnership, South East Europe and Türkiye**

The joint projects of the European Union and of the Council of Europe, iPROCEEDS-2 and CyberEast, alongside Leonardo and Cyber 4.0, organised the Regional Cybercrime Co-operation Exercise between CSIRTs and Law Enforcement.



The scope of this joint exercise was to address the use of cyber tools to pursue political, economic financial and strategic interests, in line with the Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest Convention) and its [Second Additional Protocol on enhanced co-operation and disclosure of electronic evidence](#). [\[READ MORE\]](#)

CHISINAU, REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA, 14-15 November 2023

***In person* | iPROCEEDS-2 and CyberEast: Regional Meeting on the protection of critical information infrastructure during CyberWeek 2023**

iPROCEEDS-2 and CyberEast, joint projects of the European Union and of the Council of Europe, supported the participation of some 20 stakeholders from the countries/area of the Eastern Partnership, South-East Europe and Türkiye at the [2023 Regional Cybersecurity Symposium](#) - Ensuring Cyber Resilience: Securing Our Connected Future.



Tadeusz CHOMICKI, Ambassador for Cyber & Tech Affairs at the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, highlighted the necessity of a coordinated approach between various cybersecurity actors to effectively address cybercrime.

He noted that "there is no other dimension of security which is so transnational." [\[READ MORE\]](#)

LILONGWE, MALAWI, 17-19 October 2023

***In person* | GLACY+ and Octopus projects: Advisory mission on cybercrime and electronic evidence legislation**



During 17 - 19 October 2023, the Council of Europe, through the GLACY+ and Octopus projects, in collaboration with the Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority, organised a workshop to discuss the potential reforms of the national legislation on cybercrime and electronic evidence, necessary to align the legal framework of Malawi with the Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest Convention), while ensuring human rights and rule of law principles. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

SANTIAGO, CHILE, 13-14 November 2023

***In person* | GLACY+ and Octopus projects: Enhancing public-private cooperation in Latin America on cybercrime and e-evidence**



Law enforcement officers and prosecutors from 14 LATAM countries – Parties or invited to adhere to the [Convention on Cybercrime](#) (Budapest Convention) – joined the discussions with representatives of Microsoft, Meta, TikTok, Uber, Binance, Lemon Cash, in a regional workshop organised in Santiago de Chile on 13-14 November 2023, focused on strengthening co-operation between criminal justice authorities in the Latin American region and international providers of communication services active in the region. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

PARIS, FRANCE, 8-9 November 2023

***In person* | GLACY+ and Octopus projects: Selected African countries attend the Regional Workshop on Judicial Training Strategies**



Between 8 and 9 November 2023, the GLACY+ project, in co-operation with the Octopus and OCWAR-C projects, organised the Regional Workshop on Judicial Training Strategies.

The workshop gathered around 32 delegates from 20 African countries that confirmed the need to develop national judicial training strategies and action plans on cybercrime and electronic evidence.

The delegates agreed on a set of next steps to be taken by each delegation to ensure mainstreaming the topics of cybercrime and electronic evidence in the training strategy for judges and prosecutors at a domestic level, comprised in a declaration.

[\[READ MORE\]](#)

BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, 12 December 2023

***In person* | C-PROC: Meeting of the International Network of National Judicial Trainers on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence**



The plenary meeting of the International Network of the National Judicial Trainers (the Network) on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence was held on 12 December 2023 in Bucharest, Romania, with the participation of the priority countries where the Cybercrime Programme Office of the Council of Europe (C-PROC) is leading capacity building activities. Additional selected countries were also in attendance.

The Network meeting addressed the 2022-2023 activity of its members, the status of the initiatives launched in 2022 and facilitated the discussions on the priorities and the calendar for 2024. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

ONLINE, 26 October 2023

***Online* | C-PROC: The last 2023 P2P workshop of the third series of workshops of the International Network of National Judicial Trainers**

On 26 October, around 45 practitioners participated in the fourth webinar of the third series of events dedicated to sharing experiences on cybercrime and electronic evidence. Three cybercrime practitioners from Brazil, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Costa Rica shared their knowledge and experience on cryptocurrency, the main theme of the webinar. They addressed, among others, the challenges of assets recovery, the relation between virtual currencies and traditional crimes and the international standards available. The members of the audience were actively engaged in the examination of the national case studies presented and gained insight from the best practices presented. The series of practitioners-to-practitioners workshops aim to facilitate the sharing of experiences and to eventually ignite professional collaborations between the members of the Network. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

UPDATE: Octopus Project

Octopus Project basics

Duration: January 2021 – December 2027

Budget: EUR 10 million

Funding: Voluntary contributions by Canada, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom, USA

Participating countries/regions: Global

STRASBOURG, FRANCE, 25 October 2023

Octopus Project: voluntary contributions by the United States



The Government of the United States has made voluntary contributions of more than US\$ 1.3 million to the Octopus Project of the Council of Europe in order to support countries worldwide in the implementation of the Convention on Cybercrime and its Second Protocol on electronic evidence. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

STRASBOURG, FRANCE, 25 October 2023

Octopus Conference 2023: Japan makes a voluntary contribution

The Government of Japan has made a voluntary contribution to support the [Octopus Conference](#), held from 13 to 15 December 2023 in Bucharest.



The agreement was signed on 25 October 2023 by Ambassador Hiroyuki Uchida, Permanent Observer of Japan to the Council of Europe, and Bjørn Berge, Deputy Secretary General. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

PRISTINA, KOSOVO*, 14 November 2023

In person | Octopus Project: CYBERKOP Launching Meeting

On 14 November, in Pristina, the [Octopus Project](#) launched CYBERKOP – Enhanced Action on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence in the distinguished presence of the Deputy Minister of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the US Ambassador to Pristina and the Head of the Cybercrime Division of the Council of Europe.

The Council of Europe, together with the US Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) are partnering in this action, aimed at supporting the domestic authorities through a set of activities dedicated to further enhance the legal frameworks and criminal justice capacities on cybercrime and electronic evidence, in line with the standards of the [Convention on Cybercrime](#) (Budapest Convention) and its [Second Protocol](#).



The event provided an opportunity to introduce the objective and the workplan of the new action to the domestic team and to the representatives of the Ministry of Justice, Prosecution, Police, Financial Intelligence Unit, CERT and Academy of Justice. The meeting served as a platform for local counterparts to express commitment, present institutional capacities and legal frameworks. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

**All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations' Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.*

STRASBOURG, FRANCE, 28 November 2023**United Kingdom makes a further voluntary contribution to the Octopus Project**

The Government of the United Kingdom, as represented by the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office, made a further voluntary contribution to the [Octopus Project](#) implemented by the Council of Europe.

The contribution amounts to GBP 180 000 and is dedicated to supporting activities to be implemented from 20 November 2023 to 31 March 2024, in particular the [Octopus Conference](#) and [Cybercrime Convention Committee \(T-CY\)](#)'s work. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

STRASBOURG, FRANCE, 10 December 2023**Cybercrime and freedom of expression: discussion paper**

In recent years, most countries around the world have undertaken legislative reforms on cybercrime and electronic evidence. In a number of countries, such legislation on cybercrime includes provisions on criminalising the “dissemination of false information”, “offensive messages”, “causing annoyance”, “spreading of rumours” and other conduct.

In some instances, such provisions appear to be vague and overly broad, and raise concerns of whether such restrictions to the freedom of expression are consistent with human rights and rule of law requirements. [Comments are welcome.](#) [\[READ MORE\]](#)

STRASBOURG, FRANCE, 1 December 2023**Countering online xenophobia and racism: new study underlines increased relevance of the First Protocol to the Budapest Convention**

The Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime, concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems was opened for signature in Strasbourg, France, on 28 January 2003.

In the light of its 20th anniversary, a study was prepared to facilitate implementation and increased membership in this Protocol.

The study underlines the relevance of this Protocol given increasing hate speech and hate crime online; documents good practices by Parties to this Protocol and other States; explains key issues and concepts; promotes synergies between this Protocol and related instruments, tools and initiatives; and concludes with a set of recommendations.

It was prepared by the Octopus Project and co-authored by Alexander Brown (University of East Anglia, United Kingdom). It reflects primarily the experience of Brazil, France, Germany, Norway, Serbia, Slovakia and Spain that contributed to it.

The First Protocol, stressing the need to ensure a proper balance between the freedom of expression and an effective fight against acts of a racist and xenophobic nature, requires its Parties to criminalise online xenophobia and racism by taking into consideration established principles relating to the freedom of expression under domestic law, giving flexibility to Parties to address certain types of conduct through criminal law or other means. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

Read the study: [Implementing the First Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime on Xenophobia and Racism: Good practice study](#)

UPDATE: iPROCEEDS-2

iPROCEEDS-2 basics

Duration: January 2020 – December 2023

Budget: EUR 4.945 million

Funding: Joint project of the European Union and the Council of Europe

Participating countries: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye and Kosovo*

*All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions, or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations' Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

SARAJEVO, BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, 3-4 October 2023

SKOPJE, NORTH MACEDONIA, 16-18 October 2023

PODGORICA, MONTENEGRO, 24-25 October 2023

***In person* | Second round of performance assessment workshops completed in Bosnia and Herzegovina, North Macedonia and Montenegro**



Within the scope of the iPROCEEDS-2 project that is nearing its completion, performance assessment workshops are being carried out in the project countries/area to evaluate the progress made during the implementation period 2020–2023. [[READ MORE](#)]

BELGRADE, SERBIA, 15-16 November 2023; ANKARA, TÜRKIYE, 22-23 November 2023

***In person* | Third round of performance assessment workshops completed in Serbia and Türkiye**

Two assessment visits were conducted in Belgrade, Serbia on 15-16 November and in Ankara, Türkiye on 22-23 November, in collaboration with the relevant national authorities.

Representatives of the Ministry of Justice, Prosecutor's Office, cybercrime police units, financial investigation units, Financial Intelligence Units (FIU), CERTs, training institutions and other project target institutions presented the progress made in legislation, investigation, prosecution and adjudication of cybercrime cases, as well as the status of inter-agency, public-private and international co-operation. [[READ MORE](#)]

BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, 14 December 2023

***In person* | iPROCEEDS-2 Closing Conference**



With over 300 capacity-building and supporting activities aimed at strengthening the capacities of criminal justice authorities in South East Europe and Türkiye to search, seize and confiscate proceeds from online crime, to prevent money laundering on the Internet and to secure electronic evidence, the Joint Project of the European Union and of the Council of Europe, iPROCEEDS-2, concluded its four-year implementation period. The Closing Event took place on 14 December 2023 in Bucharest, Romania, during the Octopus Conference 2023.

The event brought together key partners from the seven project countries/area, alongside the project team and the representative of the European Commission, to discuss the progress made in strengthening legislation in view of the effective investigation, prosecution and adjudication of cybercrime cases. Improvements in inter-agency, public-private and international co-operation were also highlighted.

Recognizing the positive impact in the region of the Convention of Cybercrime (Budapest Convention) and its First and Second Additional Protocols, the project team members emphasized that further support is needed for the ratification and implementation of the Second Additional Protocol at domestic level.

The event served as a platform for the project partner institutions to present successful cases involving international, public-private or inter-agency co-operation in combating cybercrime. [[READ MORE](#)]

UPDATE: Global Action on Cybercrime Extended (GLACY+)

GLACY+ basics

Duration: March 2016 – February 2024

Budget: EUR 18.89 million

Funding: Joint project of the European Union and the Council of Europe

Participating countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Brazil, Cabo Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Fiji, Ghana, Mauritius, Morocco, Nigeria, Paraguay, Philippines, Peru, Senegal, Sri Lanka, Timor Leste, and Tonga

Implementation: Cybercrime Programme Office (C-PROC) of the Council of Europe and INTERPOL

BUCHAREST, ROMANIA 14 DECEMBER 2023

In person | Closing Conference of the GLACY+ project and Launching Event of the GLACY-e project



More than 160 participants from 20 countries from all around the world met in Bucharest, on 14 December, on the margins of the Octopus Conference 2023, to mark the transition between GLACY+ and GLACY-e, the two joint global projects of the European Union and of the Council of Europe.

Gradually, since its launch in October 2016, the GLACY+ project served 20 priority countries and reached an additional number of 109 countries, due to the implementation of more than 1000 activities. It benefitted from the support and co-operation of more than 20 partners. With the project's support, its priority countries put in place legislation and strategies on cybercrime, created pools of national police and judicial trainers and developed their cybercrime units. A factsheet of the results and impact of the project can be found on the project page.

The event also marked the launch of the new GLACY-e project on Global Action on Cybercrime Enhanced. GLACY-e will lead capacity-building initiatives in countries across Africa, Asia/Pacific and Latin America that are either Parties to the Convention on Cybercrime or that have requested accession and have been invited to accede. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

ONLINE AND KIGALI, RWANDA, SEPTEMBER – OCTOBER 2023

Online, In person | GLACY+: Legislative drafting workshop in support of Rwanda's legislative reform on cybercrime and electronic evidence



The GLACY+ project facilitated two sessions of Legislative drafting, on 11 – 13 and 15 September (online) and 23 – 27 October (in presence) in Kigali, Rwanda. The Legislative drafting meetings concluded with a detailed structure of the proposed amendments to the 2018 Cybercrime Law, laying the foundations for the legislative changes on cybercrime and electronic evidence, according to international standards. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

LAGOS, NIGERIA 14–16 November 2023

In person | GLACY+: Legislative drafting workshop organised in Lagos



On 14 – 16 November 2023, the GLACY+ project facilitated the organisation of a Legislative drafting workshop in Lagos, Nigeria, for 30 representatives of the national task force. The discussions held during the Legislative drafting course concluded setting the main reform strategy for amending the legislation on cybercrime and electronic evidence, in line with international standards. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

ACCRA, GHANA, 24-26 OCTOBER 2023***In person* | GLACY+: Second national delivery of the Introductory Course on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence for criminal justice professionals of Ghana with TAIEX support**

The European Commission's TAIEX instrument, along with the OCVAR-C and GLACY+ projects joined forces for the second time with the aim of enhancing the capacities of the criminal justice authorities of Ghana to apply legislation on cybercrime and electronic evidence. Organised with the support of the Cyber Security Authority of Ghana (CSA), this activity is the second instalment in a series of three introductory trainings for 19 criminal justice professionals beyond of the capital. [[READ MORE](#)]

**TAKORADI, GHANA 7-9 November 2023*****In person* | GLACY+: Ghana's Joint Regional Introductory Judicial Training on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence**

21 law enforcement professionals from key institutions of Western and Accra regions (the National Intelligence Bureau, Ghana Police Service, Criminal Investigations Department, Economic and Organised Crime Office, the Financial Intelligence Centre (FIC), and the Department of Public Prosecutions) benefited from the activity.



The Regional Introductory Judicial Training on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence underlined the substantive provisions at a domestic and international level, procedural powers (including the legislative improvements brought by the Second Additional Protocol), and international co-operation.

[[READ MORE](#)]

FREETOWN, SIERRA LEONE, 13 November 2023***In person* | GLACY+: Workshop on the role of policymakers and raising awareness on the Convention on Cybercrime**

50 stakeholders from of the Ministry of Communication, Technology and Innovation, the National Cybersecurity Coordination Centre, the Financial Intelligence Unit, the Judiciary of Sierra Leone and service providers from Sierra Leone participate in a workshop on the benefits of the Convention on Cybercrime. Needs and priorities of the key authorities in terms of capacity building were also discussed, considering the future inclusion of the country as a priority for the Global Action on Cybercrime Enhanced (GLACY-e) project.

The need to mainstream human rights and rule of law standards in both the legal framework and capacity building plan was acknowledged by the key stakeholders. [[READ MORE](#)]

CIUDAD DE MEXICO, MEXICO, 10 NOVEMBER 2023***In person* | GLACY+: Support to Mexico's legislative reform on cybercrime and electronic evidence**

The GLACY+ project supported the organization of an Advisory workshop on cybercrime legislation, in Mexico, on 10th November 2023, hosted by the Senate of Mexico and attended by senators and other representatives of Mexican public institutions, civil society, and the private sector.

The Council of Europe's experts offered a comprehensive perspective on cybercrime legislation based on the Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest Convention) with a view of encouraging Mexico to complete its accession to this treaty and to improve its internal legislation in line with the convention's provisions. [[READ MORE](#)]

SANTO DOMINGO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC, 8 November 2023***In person* | GLACY+: The Dominican Republic takes further steps towards aligning with the Second Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime**

On 8 November 2023, the GLACY+ project organised an Advisory mission on legislation in the Dominican Republic, with the aim to assess the existing domestic legislation on cybercrime and electronic evidence, as well as draft legislative amendments, with respect to the Convention on Cybercrime and its Second Additional Protocol.

The mission consisted in official meetings with the Presidents of the Chamber of Deputies and of the Senate and members of the respective Commissions in charge of analysing the draft legislative proposal on cybercrime and electronic evidence.



The team of Council of Europe consultants, including Pedro Verdelho, Chair of the Cybercrime Convention Committee, and Ariel Urbina, Executive Secretary of the Forum of Presidents of Legislative Bodies of Central America and the Caribbean (FOPREL), conveyed the main conclusions and recommendations on the draft law, in view of achieving a better alignment with the provisions of the Second Additional Protocol.

[\[READ MORE\]](#)

UPDATE: CyberSouth

CyberSouth basics

Duration: July 2017 – December 2023

Budget: EUR 5.005 million

Funding: Joint project of the European Union and the Council of Europe

Participating countries: Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia

Implementation: Cybercrime Programme Office (C-PROC) of the Council of Europe

BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, 14 December 2023

In person | CyberSouth: Closing event



On 14 December 2023, during the Octopus Conference 2023, the Cybercrime Programme Office of the Council of Europe together with representatives from the priority countries - Algeria, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco and Tunisia, met for the Closing event of the CyberSouth project, the joint European Union/ Council of Europe initiative in the Southern Neighbourhood.

Project partners (project Interpol Momentum) also attended and shared their experiences and initiatives.



As the CyberSouth project is in its final implementation stages, its results were evaluated, by focusing on the activities undertaken and the objectives achieved. On this occasion, project stakeholders discussed lessons learned and focused on the strengths that facilitated its smooth implementation, such as: regional approach with possibility to tailor national activities based on country's priorities; exchange of best practices; connecting MENA networks with global ones; Council of Europe international legal instruments accompanied by concrete actions; ownership and sustainability. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

TUNIS, TUNISIA, 4-5 December 2023

In person | Exchanges on the accession to the Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest Convention)



Assemblée des représentants du peuple of Tunisie Facebook page. (2023) [Photograph]

On 4 and 5 December 2023, representatives of the [Cybercrime Programme Office of the Council of Europe \(C-PROC\)](#) and of the [Council of Europe Office in Tunis](#) met the Assembly of People's Representatives as well as representatives of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs, of Justice, of the Interior, and of Communication Technologies of the Republic of Tunisia to discuss current and future cooperation on cybercrime, and in particular the accession of Tunisia to the Budapest Convention. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

TUNIS, TUNISIA, 5 December 2023

In person | Participation to the Arab Cybersecurity Days in Tunisia



Organised by the Arab Information and Communication Technologies Organisation (AICTO), under the aegis of the League of Arab States, this edition of the Arab Cybersecurity forum focused on the latest updates on threats and vulnerabilities that the Arab countries are currently facing. [\[READ MORE\]](#)

UPDATE: CyberEast

CyberEast basics

Duration: June 2019 – December 2023

Budget: Budget: EUR 5.33 million

Funding: Joint project of the European Union (European Neighbourhood East Instrument) and the Council of Europe

Participating countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine

Implementation: Cybercrime Programme Office (C-PROC) of the Council of Europe

BUCHAREST, ROMANIA, 14 DECEMBER 2023

In person | Closing Conference of the Project



After four and a half years of implementation, marked by more than 250 successful capacity-building and supporting activities ensuring cyber resilience through action on cybercrime and electronic evidence in the Eastern Partnership Region, CyberEast, the joint project of the European Union and of the Council of Europe, held its Closing Event during the [Octopus Conference 2023](#). A new set of [Strategic Priorities](#), replacing the [document from 2013](#), have been discussed and adopted by the Conference delegates.

[\[READ MORE\]](#)

Inventory of activities (October - December 2023)

October 2023

iPROCEEDS-2	Sequence of six workshops aimed at facilitating the implementation of final assessments in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 3-4 October 2023
GLACY+	Lecture for Spanish judges - Cybercrime and e-evidence: international cooperation, Spain, <i>online</i> , 5 October 2023
Octopus	Internet Governance Forum 2023, Kyoto, Japan, <i>in person</i> , 8-12 October
Octopus	Launch of the HELP Course on Cybercrime for Moldovan lawyers, <i>online</i> , 9 October
CyberEast/ i-PROCEEDS-2	Regional Workshop on cooperation and information sharing between FIU and cybercrime, Antalya, Türkiye, 10-11 October 2023
iPROCEEDS-2	Sequence of seven workshops aimed at facilitating the implementation of final assessments in North Macedonia, North Macedonia, 16-18 October 2023
iPROCEEDS-2	ETSI Cyber Security Conference, France, 16-19 October 2023
GLACY+	Advisory mission on legislation, Malawi, <i>in person</i> , 17-19 October 2023
GLACY+	Roundtable with LAC Embassies on the capacity building options, Belgium, <i>in person</i> , 17 October 2023
GLACY+	International Advanced Training Institute for the prevention of and the fight against organized crime (support for hub countries to attend specialized courses), Italy, <i>in person</i> , 17-27 October 2023
GLACY+	6th ASEAN Cybercrime prosecutors' Roundtable meeting and Singapore international cyber week, Singapore, <i>in person</i> , 17-19 October 2023
GLACY+	EU CyberNet Stakeholder Community Day, Belgium, <i>in person</i> , 18 October 2023
Octopus	Launch of the HELP Course on Cybercrime for Hungarian prosecutors, Budapest, Hungary, <i>in person</i> , 18 October
C-PROC	Annual Conference of the European Cybercrime Centre (EC3), The Netherlands, <i>in person</i> , 18-19 October 2023
GLACY+	
CyberEast, iPROCEEDS-2 CyberSouth	Side event ICANN and CoE on Internet Governance, Netherlands, <i>in person</i> , 19 October 2023
Octopus	Cross-border launch of the HELP Course on Cybercrime for Irish lawyers and legal professionals, Dublin, Ireland, <i>in person</i> , 19 October
C-PROC	Annual Meeting of the 24/7 Points of Contact Network, The Netherlands, <i>in person</i> , 20 October 2023
GLACY+	Legislative drafting workshop - part 2, Rwanda, <i>in person</i> , 23-27 October 2023
CyberEast, iPROCEEDS-2	Regional Technical Exercise on cybercrime/security coordination, Georgia, 23-27 October 2023
iPROCEEDS-2	Sequence of six workshops aimed at facilitating the implementation of final assessments in Montenegro, Montenegro, 24-25 October 2023
GLACY+	Support for national delivery - Introductory course on cybercrime and electronic evidence for judges and prosecutors - SUNYANI (domestic regional), Ghana, <i>in person</i> , 24-26 October 2023
C-PROC	INNJT Practitioners-to-practitioners workshop on cryptocurrencies, <i>online</i> , 26 October 2023
Octopus	Further development of the cyberviolence resource, <i>online</i> , October
Octopus	Further development of the CYBOX platform resource, <i>online</i> , October

November 2023

Octopus	Launch of the HELP Course for Spanish judges, prosecutors and lawyers in cooperation with Escuela Judicial, Madrid, Spain, <i>in person</i> , 6 November
CyberEast	OSINT tools course for the Ministry of Finance investigators, Georgia, online, 6-10 November 2023
iPROCEEDS-2	Regional Conference on Combating Organized Crime, 18th edition, Constanta, Romania, 7-9 November 2023
GLACY+	Support for national delivery - Introductory course on cybercrime and electronic evidence for judges and prosecutors - TAKORADI (domestic regional), Ghana, <i>in person</i> , 7-9 November 2023
GLACY+	Support for the INTERPOL Americas Working Group, Dominican Republic, <i>in person</i> , 7-10 November 2023
Octopus, T-CY	Conference on "The Role of the EU Cyber Ecosystem in Global Cybersecurity Stability, Brussels, Belgium, <i>in person</i> , 7-9 October
GLACY+	Advisory mission on legislation (in cooperation with FOPREL), Dominican Republic, <i>in person</i> , 8 November 2023
GLACY+	Regional meeting on judicial training strategies, France, <i>in person</i> , 8-9 November 2023
GLACY+	Advisory workshop on cybercrime legislation (in cooperation with FOPREL), Mexico, <i>hybrid</i> , 10 November 2023
Octopus, T-CY	CYBERKOP Launching meeting "Enhanced Action on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence", Pristina, <i>in person</i> , 13-14 November
GLACY+	E-evidence training for first responders (pilot delivery), Peru, <i>in person</i> , 13-17 November 2023
GLACY+, Octopus	Regional Workshop on public/private cooperation in Latin America on cybercrime and electronic evidence, Santiago de Chile, Chile, <i>in person</i> , 13-14 November
GLACY+	Support for meeting of LAC CERTS and Heads of Cybercrime Units (police), Dominican Republic, <i>in person</i> , 13 November 2023
GLACY+	Workshop to promote Budapest Convention and cybercrime policing, Sierra Leone, <i>in person</i> , 13-14 November 2023
GLACY+	ToT E-FIRST ECTEG Course, Cybercrime and digital forensics specialized training for law enforcement officers (Week 1- IDC; WEEK 2- E-First Course development), Philippines, <i>in person</i> , 13-24 November 2023
iPROCEEDS-2, CyberEast, Cybersecurity EAST	Regional Meeting on cooperation between CSIRTs and law enforcement: focus on critical information infrastructure protection, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova, 14-17 November 2023
GLACY+	Legislative drafting retreat, Nigeria, <i>in person</i> , 14-16 November 2023
iPROCEEDS-2	Sequence of eight workshops aimed at facilitating the implementation of final assessments in Serbia, Serbia, 15-16 November 2023
GLACY+	Support for participation in the meeting of Chiefs of Police in LATAM, Colombia, <i>in person</i> , 15-16 November 2023
T-CY	Anti-Phishing Working Group Symposium, Madrid, Spain, <i>in person</i> , 17 November
T-CY	SIRIUS Conference on Electronic Evidence Across Borders, The Hague, The Netherlands, <i>in person</i> , 21 November

iPROCEEDS-2	Sequence of six workshops aimed at facilitating the implementation of final assessments in Türkiye, Türkiye, 21-22 November 2023
Octopus	15 th Plenary meeting of the European Judicial Cybercrime Network, <i>online</i> , 27-28 November
GLACY+	Kenya and the Budapest Convention: meetings with key stakeholders on potential cooperation on cybercrime, Kenya, <i>in person</i> , 27 November 2023
T-CY, GLACY+	Global Conference on Cyber Capacity Building, Accra, Ghana, <i>in person</i> , 29-30 November
GLACY+	Global Conference on Cyber Capacity Building 2023: Session on Sustainability of LEA capacity building through country-driven training, Ghana, <i>in person</i> , 29-30 November 2023
GLACY+	Global Conference on Cyber Capacity Building 2023: Lessons learned and what is next in CCB?, Ghana, <i>in person</i> , 29-30 November 2023
T-CY, GLACY+	Budapest Convention accession meeting, Nairobi, Kenya, <i>in person</i> , 30 November – 1 December
GLACY+, iPROCEEDS-2	Developing a Guidebook on Judicial Training Strategies on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence, <i>online</i> , November
CyberEast	Study on gaps, limitations and capacities to collect and process electronic evidence of war crimes and related offences in Ukraine, desktop study, November-December 2023
Octopus	Further development of the cyberviolence resource, <i>online</i> , November
Octopus	Further development of the CYBOX platform resource, <i>online</i> , November

December 2023

T-CY	Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI), Strasbourg, France, <i>in person</i> , 1 December
GLACY+	Stakeholder webinar on the role and responsibilities of 24/7 POC, Fiji, <i>online</i> , 4-5 December 2023
GLACY+	Advisory Mission on Search, Seizure and Confiscation of Online Crime Proceeds, Colombia, <i>in person</i> , 4-7 December 2023
CyberSouth	Exchanges on the accession to the Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest Convention), Tunisia, <i>in person</i> , 4-5 December 2023
iPROCEEDS-2	Workshop on current challenges on cybercrime investigations (delivered by national trainers), Tirana, Albania, 4 December 2023
CyberSouth	Arab Cybersecurity Days, Tunisia, <i>in person</i> , 5 December 2023
C-PROC	29 th T-CY Plenary Session, Bucharest, Romania, <i>hybrid</i> , 11-12 December
C-PROC	Plenary meeting of Judicial Training Network on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence, Romania, <i>in person</i> , 12 December 2023
C-PROC	Octopus Conference 2023, Bucharest, Romania, <i>in person</i> , 13-15 December
CyberEast	Octopus 2023 / Side event on connections between Budapest, Istanbul and Lanzarote Conventions / High-level Regional Meeting on cybercrime policies / Closing event for the project, Romania, <i>in person</i> , 13-15 December 2023.
CyberSouth	CyberSouth: Closing event, Romania, <i>in person</i> , 14 December 2023
iPROCEEDS-2	iPROCEEDS-2 Project Closing Meeting, Bucharest, Romania, 14 December 2023
GLACY+/GLACY-e	Closing conference of the GLACY+ project/Opening conference of the GLACY-e project, Romania, <i>in person</i> , 14 December 2023

C-PROC	Survey/Study on cybercrime strategies, <i>online</i> , by 30 December 2023
C-PROC	Research on cybercrime victims: understanding of the landscape in the Global South, <i>online</i> , by 30 December 2023
C-PROC	Peer review of the FRA-CoE Handbook on Cybercrime and Fundamental Rights, <i>online</i> , by 30 December 2023
iPROCEEDS-2	Closing activities of the project, 31 December 2023
Octopus	Further development of the cyberviolence resource, <i>online</i> , December
GLACY+	Desk study on the cybercrime legislation, Cameroon, <i>online</i> , 30 November 2023
Octopus	Further development of the CYBOX platform resource, <i>online</i> , December

Coming next (January - March 2024)

January 2024

T-CY, GLACY-e	Meetings with the EU (DG INTPA, DG FPI and EEAS), Brussels, Belgium, <i>in person</i> , 15 January 2024
GLACY+	Refresher on Introductory course and Advanced Training on Cybercrime and electronic evidence for judges and prosecutors (ToT), Philippines, <i>in person</i> , 15-24 January 2024
GLACY+	Training of Trainers - training skills and certification programme for CoE judicial trainers, Philippines, <i>in person</i> , 15-24 January 2024
GLACY+ GLACY-e	Support for participation to the Ad Hoc Committee on new UN Treaty: concluding session, USA, <i>hybrid</i> , 29 January-9 February 2024
Octopus	
Octopus	Advisory mission on cybercrime legislation, Mauritania, <i>in person</i> , 29-31 Jan TBC
Octopus	Further development of the cyberviolence resource, <i>online</i> , January 2024
Octopus	Further development of the CYBOX platform resource, <i>online</i> , January 2024
Octopus	Further development of the Octopus platform resource, <i>online</i> , January 2024
GLACY+	Support for the legislative reform - review of the draft amendments to the Criminal Code and Criminal Procedural Code, Mozambique, <i>online</i> , January 2024 TBC

February 2024

GLACY+ GLACY-e	E-evidence training for first responders (pilot delivery), Senegal, <i>in person</i> , 5-9 February 2024 TBD
GLACY+	Support on the development of a national cybercrime strategy - review of the diagnosis analysis, Ecuador, <i>in person</i> , by 15 February 2024
GLACY-e	Workshop on the draft cybercrime bill, Malawi, February 2024, date TBC
GLACY-e	Workshop on the draft bill on cybercrime and electronic evidence, Cameroon, February 2024, date TBC
GLACY+	Survey/ Study on cybercrime strategies, <i>online</i> , by 15 February 2024
GLACY+	Research on cybercrime victims: understanding of the landscape in the Global South, <i>online</i> , by 15 February 2024
GLACY+	Digital Security Challenge 2023, the Philippines, <i>in person</i> , 19-23 February 2024
GLACY+ GLACY-e	E-evidence training for first responders (pilot course), Fiji, 19-23 February 2024

Octopus	Further development of the cyberviolence resource, <i>online</i> , February 2024
Octopus	Further development of the CYBOX platform resource, <i>online</i> , February 2024
Octopus	Further development of the Octopus platform resource, <i>online</i> , February 2024
GLACY+	Consultation workshop on the draft bill on cybercrime and electronic evidence Rwanda, <i>in person</i> , February 2024 TBC
GLACY-e	Training of Trainers - training skills and certification programme for CoE judicial trainers (prosecutors), Brazil, 26-27 February 2024
GLACY-e	Introductory course for national trainers (prosecutors), Brazil, 29 February – 8 March 2024
GLACY-e	Desk study on data protection bill in collaboration with the Data Protection Unit of the Council of Europe, Mozambique, <i>online</i> , February 2024
GLACY+	Guidebook/ Toolkit on Cybercrime Training Strategies, <i>online</i> , by the end of February 2024
GLACY-e	Development of a specialised training on gendered aspects of cybercrime, Ecuador, end of February 2024

March 2024

Octopus	Further development of the cyberviolence resource, <i>online</i> , March
GLACY-e	Advisory workshop on cybercrime strategies, Ecuador, 4-6 March 2024
GLACY-e	Support for the legislative process on electronic evidence, Sierra Leone, March TBC
Octopus	Further development of the CYBOX platform resource, <i>online</i> , March
Octopus	Further development of the Octopus platform resource, <i>online</i> , March
GLACY-e	Comparative analysis between the data protection bill and Convention 108+, Maldives, by end of March 2024

Inventory of capacity building projects

Octopus Project

Duration: January 2021 – December 2027
 Geographical scope: Global
 Budget: EUR 10 Million
 Funding: Voluntary contributions by Canada, Hungary, Iceland, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, United Kingdom, USA

CyberEast

Duration: June 2019 – December 2023
 Geographical scope: Eastern Partnership region
 Budget: EUR 5.33 million
 Funding: Joint project of the European Union (European Neighbourhood East Instrument) and the Council of Europe

iPROCEEDS-2

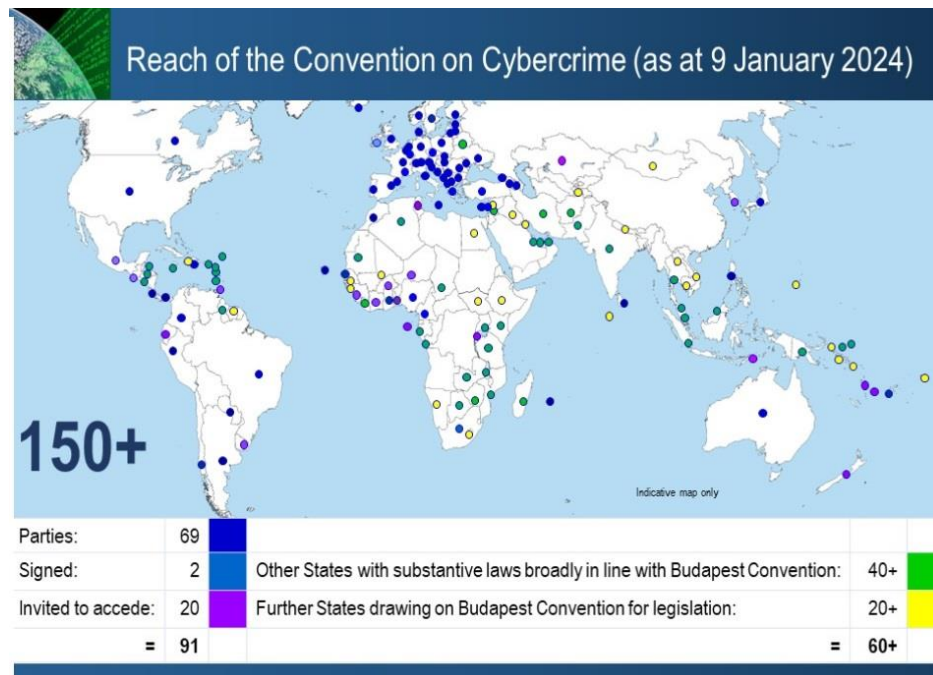
Duration: January 2020 – December 2023
 Geographical scope: South-eastern Europe and Turkiye
 Budget: EUR: 4.945 Million
 Funding: Joint project of the European Union and the Council of Europe

CyberSouth

Duration: July 2017 – December 2023
 Geographical scope: Southern Neighbourhood region
 Budget: EUR 5.005 million
 Funding: Joint project of the European Union (European Neighbourhood Instrument) and the Council of Europe

GLACY+

Duration: March 2016 – February 2024
 Geographical scope: Global
 Budget: EUR 18.89 million
 Funding: Joint project of the European Union (Instrument Contributing to Peace and Stability) and the Council of Europe



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