

A large version of the EU-HYBNET logo is centered on the page. It consists of the text "EU-HYBNET" in large, bold, blue letters. Behind the text is a grey map of Europe, and overlaid on the map is a complex network diagram with nodes in various colors (green, orange, blue, red) and connecting lines.

Newsletter - April 2021

Dear EU-HYBNET Partners and Readers,

Welcome to the second EU-HYBNET Newsletter, one of the latest EU-funded projects (under grant agreement No. 883054). In May 2020, the EU-HYBNET project started its 60 months of implementation, 12 months of which have now passed. The project's first year has been full of activities and it is a pleasure to present you what has happened during past 6 months since the first EU-HYBNET newsletter.

The EU-HYBNET network has been open for new members to apply since January 2021 and the project welcomes interested practitioners, industry, academia and NGOs to join the network. Furthermore, EU-HYBNET has continued to provide both technical and social-science based innovations to identified pan-European gaps and needs to counter hybrid threats. The evaluation of these innovations has resulted in innovation uptake recommendations and standardization, and this work continues to progress well within the project.

Furthermore, a selection of the core pan-European gaps and needs are currently under further research, from which four articles will be published in upcoming months and will highlight some solutions to the identified challenges. The most promising innovations are currently being tested during the EU-HYBNET training and exercise events and will provide an even more in depth understanding of the innovation needs among pan-European actors.

In general, EU-HYBNET has been very active in event arrangements for a pan-European audience. During the past six months, the following three project

events were organized which highlighted solutions, innovations and future needs to counter hybrid threats in Europe:

- The Innovation Knowledge Exchange Event in January 2021
- The Future Trends Workshop of Hybrid Threats in March 2021
- The EU-HYBNET 1st Annual Workshop in April 2021
- The EU-HYBNET Stakeholder Group Meeting in April 2021

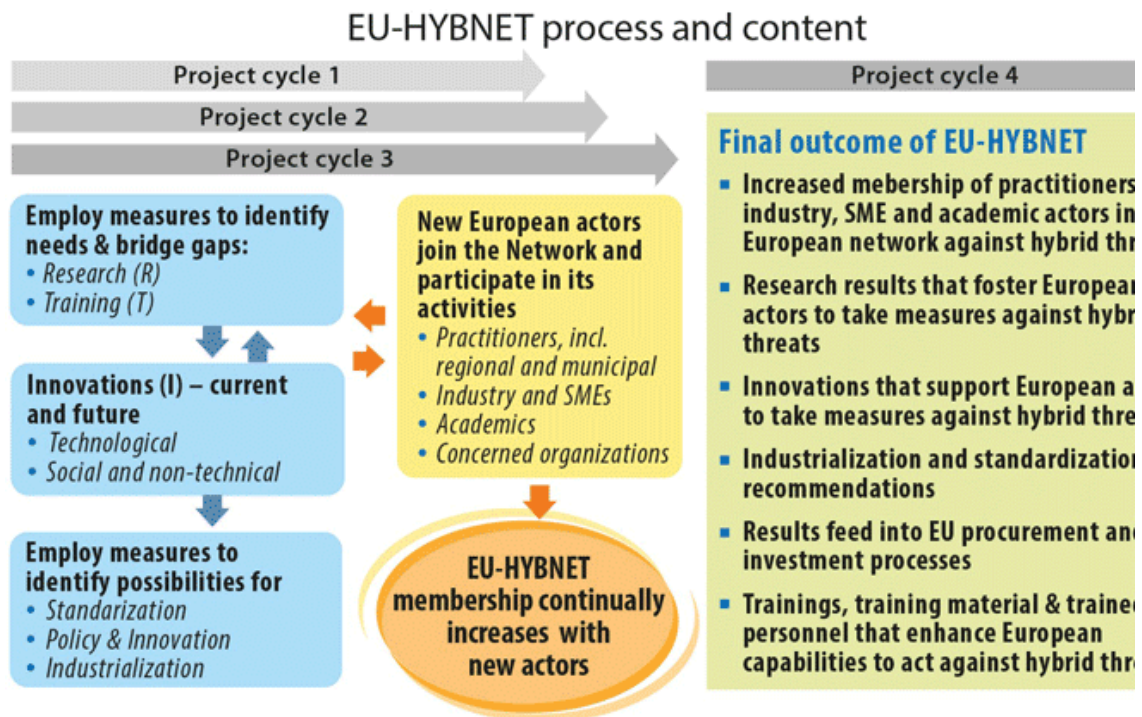
All four of these events have welcomed new EU-HYBNET network members and other interested pan-European practitioners, industry, academia and NGOs to share their insights. EU-HYBNET is a network building project and hence its activities also serve this goal.

I hope you will enjoy the newsletter and follow us on this thrilling adventure

Best regards,

Dr. Päivi Mattila
EU-HYBNET project coordinator

OVERVIEW OF EU-HYBNET ACTIVITIES



EU-HYBNET General Project Coordination, Management and Network Extension Activities

Since January 2021, EU-HYBNET opened its doors to new network member applicants, and welcomes interested organizations to learn more about network membership from the EU-HYBNET webpage <https://euhybnet.eu/about/network-and-vision/> and to apply.

Since February 2021, roughly 30 new members have been accepted to the network representing practitioners, industry, academia and NGOs. As a member of the network, you gain more information about pan-European hybrid threats, measures to counter them and you may also share your views with the EU-HYBNET consortium regarding needed focus areas and innovations.

EU-HYBNET has also been active in cooperation with the European Commission DGs, agencies and offices, alike with other European Commission funded security projects.

In March, EU-HYBNET had the pleasure to participate in a Policy Kick Off Seminar arranged by DG HOME and REA and will also strongly contribute to an upcoming DG HOME CERIS workshop which focuses on Critical Infrastructure Protection and Hybrid Threats, the event is planned to take place on late May or early June. Additionally, EU-HYBNET provided a short disinformation presentation in April during a DG HOME Workshop focusing on pandemics, security, and safety issues, including hybrid threats and disinformation.

EU-HYBNET's cooperation with other EC funded security projects has also been fruitful in many ways.

EU-HYBNET has planned a survey together with the [iLEAD project](#) to address European wide procurement landscape issues. In addition, the cooperation with the [SPARTA project](#) continues in the scope of events – EU-HYBNET was invited to present its network possibilities during the SPARTA Brokerage Day in April. Finally, EU-HYBNET and the [INCLUDING project](#) are sharing ideas on training and exercise scenarios topics focusing on radiological and nuclear emergencies and hybrid threats. EU-HYBNET was also invited to join and to follow [MEDEA's](#) innovation procurement event.



SPARTA



INCLUDING



i-LEAD

Gaps and needs of European actors against Hybrid Threats

During the last months, the partners dealing with the gaps and needs of European actors have been building a scenario-based exercise to train EU-HYBNET network members. The scenario development was led by KEMEA, who designed a background scenario depicting a pandemic, which would serve an opportunity for a hybrid threat actor in the future. The four sub-scenarios/vignettes were developed by other project partners, and they describe the hybrid threats evolving and escalating in the framework of the core themes (the EU-HYBNET four core themes are future trends of hybrid threats, resilient civilians and local administration, cyber and future technologies, and information and strategic communication).

In April, the stakeholders are challenged to respond to the threats in online Disruptive Technology Assessment Game, built on the basis of the scenario by TNO. The exercise draws together the outcomes of the gaps and needs mapping and innovation mapping, by testing the defined innovations in the given hybrid threat scenarios. The exercise features challenges in strategic inter-agency coordination, financial sector, sanitary restrictions and state-citizen relationships.





EU-HYBNET



EU-HYBNET



1st Training
Event

22nd &
29th
April
2021

SAVE
THE
DATE

4 hours on both days



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Surveys to Technologies, Research and Innovations

WP3 aims at monitoring and selecting innovative solutions that can be organized to counter hybrid threats, based on the priorities identified for the latter in WP2. Also, WP3 aims at mapping current and future needs for innovations across the different operational areas, focusing on practitioners and relevant actors.

WP3 has so far identified more than 25 innovations to counter hybrid threats, each of them selected to counter a specific primary context of each of the EU-HYBNET Core themes. For each innovation proposed, details have been provided, among others, regarding enabling technologies, restrictions for use, and potential countermeasures that could degrade the effectiveness of the solution.

Additionally, a thorough scanning was conducted with respect to the scientific research landscape for the gaps and needs identified by practitioners in the hybrid threats field. This has contributed to a deeper understanding of the research outcomes expected, as well as to the identification of areas, which apparently lack research of the phenomena.

A thorough assessment of the innovations proposed is currently carried out, based on excellence, impact, and implementation criteria. Successful events have also been organized, that aim in facilitating the interaction with providers of innovations (of technical and non-technical nature).

Communication, Dissemination and Exploitation Activities

Among other actions, dissemination and Communication activities were conducted for the First Innovation Knowledge Exchange Workshop (#IKEW), which took place on the 19th of January 2021, and the Future Trends Workshop (#FTW), hosted on the 31st of March 2021. WP5 participants successfully communicated the events' outcomes on EU-HYBNET website and social media. Indeed, the projects online platforms have gained in importance:

- EU-HYBNET Twitter account is now followed by more than 400 accounts



- EU-HYBNET LinkedIn account has more than 250 connections

In the following months, these platforms will keep supporting network extension efforts.

In the past few weeks, EU-HYBNET partners were fully involved in the organization of the first EU-HYBNET Annual Workshop event that took place on the 13th of April. Overall, the first EU-HYBNET Annual Workshop was a successful event and provided a fruitful exchange between the audience, the consortium and the keynote speakers. The event provided a promising platform for future engagements between the growing EU-HYBNET community.

If you are interested in joining EU-HYBNET's network, you can read the associated information and apply on the project's [website](#). For further information on the EU-HYBNET, you can follow the project through [Twitter](#) and [LinkedIn](#).



Thank you for attending!

 www.euhybnet.eu
 [@EuHybnet](https://twitter.com/EuHybnet)
 [EU-HYBNET](https://www.linkedin.com/company/eu-hybnet)

EU-HYBNET UPCOMING EVENTS

EU-HYBNET is already working on new events for the next 6 months, such as the [CERIS workshop](#). With the start of Horizon Europe, the Community of Users will be transformed into the new Community of European Research and Innovation for Security (CERIS). DG HOME continues its workshop programme with a first event on **critical infrastructure protection** and **countering Hybrid Threats**. EU-HYBNET is participating to the events arrangements.



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