

EU-HYBNET 5th Annual Workshop #AW2025



M.A.I.
Brussels, Belgium



11.00-18.30 CET

The EU-HYBNET Annual Workshop presents the project's 5th year findings and focuses on overall project results and networking. The event is addressed to the EU-HYBNET network members and pan-European stakeholders.

The EU-HYBNET consortium will hold its 5th Annual Workshop (#AW2025) on 12 February 2025 in Brussels, Belgium.

The programme includes high-level keynote speeches, a presentation of the project results and network activities from the final project year.

Who? The workshop is open to **project partners, network members and external participants** upon registration. The event aims at boosting cross-fertilization between the EU-HYBNET project activities, **other EU projects and institutional and industrial operators**.

When? The event will be held on the **12th of February 2025 from 11.00-18.30 CET**

Where? Maison des Associations Internationales, Rue Washington 40, 1050 Ixelles, Brussels, Belgium

Registration: Open online until 31 January 2025.

More information: Contact the event host at julien.theron@ec.europa.eu

5th EU-HYBNET Annual Workshop:

Wednesday, 12 February 2025 | 11:00 – 18:30 CET

At the Maison des Associations Internationales, Rue Washington 40, 1050 Ixelles

Time CET	Topic	Speakers
Welcome and registration		
11:00-11:30	Registration	
11:30-11:45	Welcome & Practical information	<p>Julien Theron, <i>Researcher in Hybrid Threats, European Commission Joint Research Council</i></p> <p>Isto Mattila, <i>EU-HYBNET Coordinator, Laurea University of Applied Sciences</i></p>
EU-HYBNET and the Big Picture		
11:45-12:30	Linking Hybrid Threats Needs and Gaps with the Defense and Security Domain	Antonios Platias , <i>Executive Director; Brig. General (ret.) Foreign Affairs Institute</i>
	Network-based Approach to Counter Disinformation: Political and Research Perspectives	Todor Tagarev , <i>Institute of ICT, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.</i>
12:30-13:00	Audience Q&A	Host: Isto Mattila , <i>EU-HYBNET Coordinator, Laurea University of Applied Sciences</i>
13:00-14:00	LUNCH	
EU-HYBNET's latest findings and results		
14:00-14:30	Gaps & Needs	Maxime Lebrun , <i>Deputy Director R&A, Hybrid CoE</i>
14:30-15:00	Technology and Innovation Mapping	Souzanna Sofou , <i>Senior Research Engineer & Innovation Manager, SATWAYS</i>
15:00-15:30	Recommendations for Innovation Uptake and Standardization	Afroditi Gagara Kozonaki , <i>Research associate, KEMEA</i>
15:30-15:45	Insights from Network Building	Maxime Lebrun , <i>Deputy Director R&A, Hybrid CoE</i>
15:45-16:00	Q&A	Host: Isto Mattila , <i>Laurea University of Applied Sciences</i>
16:00-16:15	Coffee break	
16:15-16:45	Session for Policy	<p>Julien Theron, <i>Researcher in Hybrid Threats, JRC</i></p> <p>Giannis Skiadaresis, <i>DG HOME</i></p> <p>Rolf Blom, <i>RISE</i></p>

16:45-17:15	Session for Practitioners	Sabina Magalini, <i>UCSC</i> Hans van Leeuwe, <i>NLD Ministry of Defence</i>
17:15-17:45	Session for Industry	Beth Lambert, <i>Logically AI</i> Frédéric Guyomard, <i>EDF</i>
17:45-18:15	Session for Academia – Articles written during the course of the project; avenues for further research.	Souzanna Sofou, <i>SATWAYS</i> Gunhild Hoogensen Gjørnv, <i>UIT</i>
	Q/A	Host: Julien Theron, <i>JRC</i>
18:15-18:30	Closing remarks Mr. Isto Mattila, EU-HYBNET Coordinator Dr. Julien Theron, JRC	
18:30 – 21:00	<i>Buffet and Social Dinner at the M.A.I. directly following the event</i>	

Speaker bios

Antonios Platias

Antonios Platias (MBA) is a retired Brigadier General and former National Defense Policy Director of the Hellenic Ministry of Defense, with extensive staff and field experience in NATO and EU positions and operations. He currently serves as Executive Director of the Foreign Affairs Institute (FAINST)—an Athens-based think tank that hosts an annual Forum on Hybrid Threats, Cyber Security, and Artificial Intelligence—and as a Member of the Advisory Council of OPEWI (Europe’s War Institute), a Brussels-based think tank. Deeply involved in raising awareness of hybrid threats since his active service, he continues to leverage his expertise as Managing Director of the European Defense Venture Studio and Chief Strategy & Innovation Officer at Seeders, a private Athens-based company that, along with his other affiliations, is a member of EU-HYBNET. Antonios regularly writes and speaks on geopolitics, hybrid threats, defense innovation and European integration.

Afroditi Gagara Kozonaki

Afroditi Gagara Kozonaki (MSc) is a research associate at the Hellenic Centre for Security Studies (KEMEA) of the Hellenic Ministry of Citizen Protection since 2020. She has obtained MSc in “Geopolitical Analysis, Geo-Strategic Synthesis and Defence and International Security Studies” from the National and Kapodistrian University of Athens (2021) and holds a BSc in Political Science from the University of Crete (2013). Her main research fields of interest include countering terrorism, political violence, and Grand Strategy issues. Her professional experience includes research work and involvement in EU and Nationally Funded R&D projects related to research & prevention policy regarding Organized Crime, Radicalization, Terrorism, Cybercrime and Combatting Trafficking in Human Beings.

Beth Lambert

Beth Lambert is Account Director at Logically, a tech company that works with democratic governments to tackle hybrid threats and foreign interference at scale using AI and expert OSINT investigators.

She is the former Head of Counter Disinformation for the UK Government's Department for Digital where she oversaw the department’s policy response to disinformation issues covering public health,

public safety and national security. In 2021 Beth was elected Chair of the Council of Europe's expert advisory committee on the integrity of the information environment.

In 2020 she was awarded a Churchill Fellowship for her research on international best practice in combating state-backed disinformation campaigns, including foreign interference and manipulation in elections. Her research showcased successful interventions in combating disinformation operations and FIMI campaigns.

Frédéric Guyomard

Frédéric Guyomard is an expert research engineer at Electricité De France (EDF-R&D-Lab ParisSaclay) and I have been working for 20 years in the field of computer and digital security. He graduated in Electronics and Telecommunication systems and with a Master degree in IT security and cybercrime (Troyes University of Technology). He has been specialised for 15 years in Digital Security and the assessment of industrial environments by participating in large-scale projects, both for the renovation of installations and in the concerns of new projects for the EDF group (AMI, Nuclear, Transport, monitoring, renewable energy, smart-grids and smart-charging).

In 2019 he was involved in the Important Project of Common European Interest – Cybersecurity items: two of my proposals selected to be recommended among the 6 workstreams to be prioritised. He is currently the Coordinator of the H2020 project "PRAETORIAN", a consortium of 23 partners in 7 EU countries, dealing with the combined cyber and physical threat to Critical Infrastructures in Europe. This grant-funded project aims to develop risk reduction and incident management tools on the cascading effects resulting from the realisation of these threats. He leads the EXERA Cybersecurity Technical Committee, and is a member of ECSO and ENCS. Furthermore, he is the author of the Cybersecurity research roadmap for EDF Lab.

Giannis Skiadaresis

Mr. Giannis Skiadaresis is the Area Coordinator for Strengthened Security research and Innovation (SSRI) in the Unit on Security Research and Innovation of Directorate General for Migration and Home Affairs (DG HOME) in European Commission. Mr. Skiadaresis holds an MA in EU International Relations and Diplomacy, from the College of Europe in Bruges where he was a laureate of ENP-EU scholarship awarded by the European Commission. He has also graduated from the Leadership programme of Harvard Kennedy School and from the Strategic Innovation Programme of University of Oxford. He has worked in the Cabinet of Commissioner Avramopoulos on Migration, Home affairs and Citizenship and in other posts at DG HOME in the European Commission. His experience also includes Industrial Policy, New Technologies and Innovation, International relations, security and defence policy, business development and coordination of EU-funded Projects.

Gunhild Hoogensen Gjørsv

Gunhild Hoogensen Gjørsv is Professor in Critical Peace and Conflict Studies (Security and Geopolitics) at the UiT- The Arctic University of Norway, and Arctic 5 Chair in Security Studies (arcticfive.org). Hoogensen Gjørsv's research examines comprehensive security dynamics in the context of hybrid threats and warfare, civil-military interaction (out of area operations, and Norwegian total defence), and Arctic perceptions of security focusing on "bottom-up" and intersectional approaches. She leads a variety of projects regarding hybrid threats and civilians.

UiT profile page: <https://uit.no/ansatte/gunhild.hoogensen.gjorv>

Hans van Leeuwe is head of the Counter Hybrid Unit of the Netherlands Ministry of Defence (MOD) since 2018. This Unit participates in HYBNET as practitioner since the start of HYBNET in 2020. On behalf of the MOD he also is Steering Board member of the European Hybrid CoE and of the NATO StratCom CoE. Before joining the Counter Hybrid Unit Van Leeuwe drafted the NLD Defence White Paper-2018. He represented the MOD at the UN-discussions on Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS) in Geneva in 2015-2018. Before that amongst other things he was the executive secretary of the Peace and Security Committee of the independent Advisory Council on International Affairs of the Netherlands during four years. Hans van Leeuwe started working for the MOD in 1996. He studied management and organizational science in 1988-1995.

Isto Mattila

Professor Isto Mattila works for international security research in the University of Turku, Finland in the Department of Information Technology. Prof. Mattila has wide working experience covering diverse assignments in different organisations national and international level. He is a Captain Navy, Finnish Border Guard. As from 2008 to 2014 he has worked for the European Commission, DG MARE. He was a second penholder for Maritime Security Strategy and designed new information sharing mechanism (CISE) between maritime authorities in EU, which is now hosted by EMSA. He has held the position of R&D Director at Laurea UAS and he was the project coordinator of the AI-ARC Horizon 2020 project, which aims to build information sharing and anomaly detection to Arctic stakeholders.

Julien Theron

Dr Julien Theron taught at the universities of Budapest (BME), Beirut (USJ, USEK), Paris (Nanterre, Panthéon-Assas). He also collaborated with the French Institute of International Relations (IFRI) and the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS). He is a former Senior Fellow in European Security of the Norwegian Institute for Defence Studies (IFS). In policy, he worked for the French government (MFA, MoD, INSP) as well as for the European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN). He is a lecturer in War Studies at Sciences Po's Paris School of International Affairs and a researcher in Hybrid Threats for the European Commission Joint Research Centre (JRC).

Maxime Lebrun

Prior to taking up his post as Deputy Director R&A at The European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats, Maxime worked at the Baltic Defence College in Tartu as a Lecturer in War and Conflict Studies and as Acting Department Director. During that time, he was also a Non-Resident Research Fellow at the International Centre for Defence and Security. Maxime holds a master's degree in International Relations from Sciences Po Lyon with a specialization in strategic, military and security studies from Sciences Po Aix-en-Provence.

Rolf Blom

Dr. Blom has since 2011 worked as a project leader and senior researcher in the Cybersecurity unit at RISE. Before that he held an Expert position in Mobile Communications Security at Ericsson Research. He has been active in OMA and 3GPP security standardization and has contributed to security standardization in the IETF. He has also been involved in different EU projects, e.g. SHAMAN on 3G security, SEGRID on smart grid security and 5G-ENSURE on security for 5G. Dr. Blom holds a M.Sc. (1972) in Electrical Engineering from the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm and a Ph.D. (1979) in Information Theory from Linköping University.

Sabina Magalini

Senior Surgeon of the Emergency and Trauma Surgery Unit at the Fondazione Policlinico Universitario Gemelli (FPG) and Assistant Professor of Surgery at the Rome Catholic University School of Medicine (UCSC). She is also an Associate Researcher of the Italian National Council of Research (CNR-IASI); Fellow of the American College of Surgeon, of the American Association for the Surgery of Trauma and of the European Society for Trauma and Emergency Surgery (ESTES).

Souzanna Sofou

Dr. Souzanna Sofou, Senior Research and Innovation Manager at Satways Ltd, serves as the EU-Hybnet WP3 Leader: Surveys to Technology, Research and Innovations. She is a Dipl. Mining and Metallurgical Engineer and a holder of an MBA in Engineering –Economic Systems. With respect to basic research, her Doctoral Thesis and most of her published research work fall in the fields of computational rheology, rheometry and polymer processing. In the area of applied research, she has worked in FP7 & Horizon 2020 projects in various fields, including security, new product development, metallurgy, polymer processing, RET modelling, software development and value management. She also has background and experience in Intellectual Property, as she has received relevant training and has worked in this field as a Product Design Engineer for a multinational company. Dr. Sofou has served as the innovation, exploitation and dissemination manager in several H2020, EDF and PCP projects and is an experienced research proposals writer and project manager. She is responsible for the Innovation Management of Satways products.

Todor Tagarev

Prof. Tagarev is Head of the Centre for Security and Defence Management, Institute of ICT, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. He has held several senior positions in Bulgaria's Ministry of Defence, including two terms as Defence Minister – March–May 2013 and June 2023–April 2024.

Prof. Tagarev combines governmental experience with theoretical knowledge and background in cybernetics, complexity, and security studies. Cognitive warfare is becoming an area of his research interest. He currently leads one of the work packages of a project aiming to strengthen the national ecosystem for countering disinformation.

He is author and co-author of over 150 books, articles and conference papers, with significant experience in leading national and international interdisciplinary research teams.

UiT profile page: <https://uit.no/ansatte/gunhild.hoogensen.gjorv>

Practical Information

VENUE

The “*Maison des Associations Internationales (M.A.I)*” will host the event. It is a unique meeting and networking place for international organisations in Brussels. EU-HYBNET’s FTW and AW will primarily take place in the “Brussels” Room, a fully equipped space with a capacity of 200 participants and with a state-of-the-art live streaming and videoconference equipment.



The venue is located in [Rue Washington 40, Ixelles, Brussels](#).

Arrival in Brussels

For those arriving from the **Brussels International Airport (Zaventem)**:

- By Taxi or Uber/Bolt (approximately 40-60 euro, 30 mins)
- By bus number 12 (Airport Line) from the Airport to Schuman. From Schuman bus number 60 (direction Uccle Calevoet) and get off at the bus stop Washington (1 hour, 12 euro)
- By train from the Airport to Gare Centrale.

From Gare Centrale you have few options:

- Bus 38 (direction Héros) and get off at the bus stop Vleurgat (25 mins, 2.10 / 2.60 euro)
- Tram 93 (direction Legrande) and get off at the tram stop Vleurgat (25 mins, 2.10/2.60 euro)

For those arriving from **Charleroi Airport**:

- By Taxi/Uber/Bolt (80 – 100 euro, 1 hour)
- By Flibco to Gare du Midi (1 hour, 14 Euro)

For Those arriving from **Gare du Midi (Train Station)**:

- Bus 136 (direction Groot-Bijgaarden – Alsemberg) and get off at the bus stop Lepoutrelaan (20 mins, 2.10/2.60 euro)
- Tram 81 (direction Montgomery) and get off at the tram stop Trinité (20 mins, 2.10/2.60 euro)

Please note that for Trains you need to buy the proper ticket at the vendor machines in the station. For bus and trams, it is possible to pay directly with your credit card on the voiture.

For more information, please visit the official Brussels Transports website [STIB-MIVB - Brussels Intercommunal Transport Company](https://www.stib-mivb.be)

SOCIAL DINNER

Following the 4th Annual Workshop, in the evening of 12th of February 2025, a social dinner will be arranged at a local venue. More information will be shared shortly.

HOTELS

Hotels



€160
Oct 21 - 23

Adagio Access Brussels Europe Aparthotel

4.3 ★★★★★ (1,274) ⓘ

Overview Prices Reviews About

Directions Save Nearby Share

CHECK AVAILABILITY

Compare prices

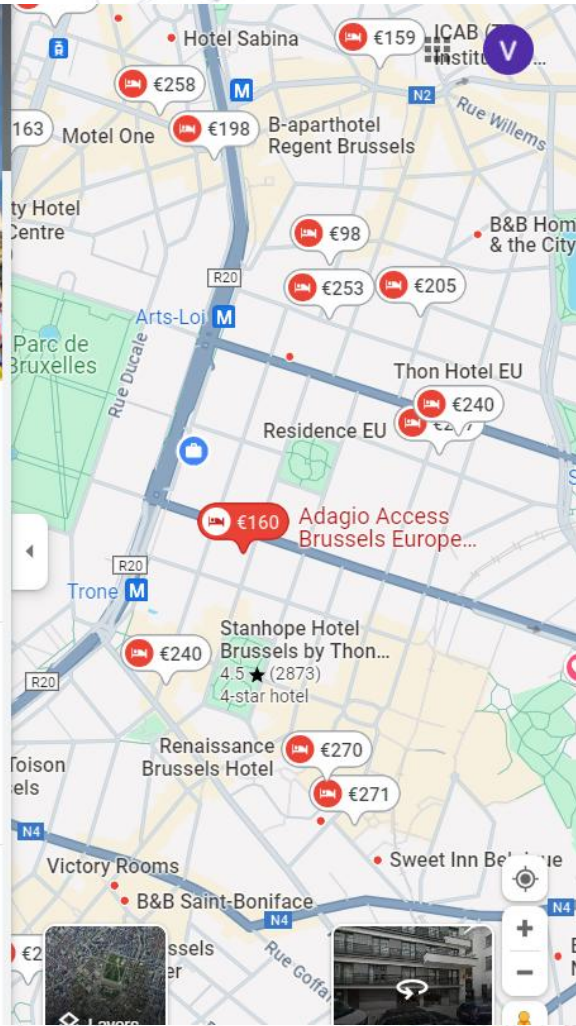
Free cancellation only

Check in / Check out

Mon, Oct 21

Wed, Oct 23

2



The screenshot displays a travel website interface. At the top, there are navigation tabs for 'Hotels', 'Vacation rentals', 'Guest rating', 'Brands', 'Neighborhoods', 'Amenities', and 'Free ca'. Below this is a search bar with a price filter set to '€207' and 'The Scott Hotel'. The main content area features a large image of a hotel balcony with a price tag of '€180' for 'Dec 30 - 31'. Below the image, the hotel name 'Le Châtelain Brussels Hotel' is shown with a 4.5-star rating and '(715)' reviews, labeled as a '5-star hotel'. There are tabs for 'Overview', 'Prices', 'Reviews', and 'About'. Below these are icons for 'Directions', 'Save', 'Nearby', and 'Share', followed by a blue 'CHECK AVAILABILITY' button. A 'Compare prices' section includes a date selector for 'Mon, Dec 30' to 'Tue, Dec 31' and a 'Free cancellation only' checkbox. A search bar prompts the user to 'Select your dates to see the best prices'. At the bottom of the search bar, it says 'Book for Wed, Jan 1 - Thu, Jan 2 to save €43'. To the right of the hotel listing is a map of Brussels showing various hotels and landmarks, with 'Le Châtelain Brussels Hotel' highlighted in red. Other hotels shown include 'Aparthotel AXL Flatotel...', 'Hotel Agenda Louise', 'B&B HOTEL Brussels Centre...', 'Canopée guesthouse', 'ibis Styles Brussels Louise', 'Animo Studios - Flagey', 'B&B Villa Louise', 'House Ninety Guesthouse', 'Le Grey', 'Be&Be', and 'La Luck Bruxelles'. The map also shows streets like 'Rue de la Vierge', 'Rue du Couvent', 'Rue de la Chapelle', 'Rue de la Loi', 'Rue de la Régence', 'Rue de la Vierge', 'Rue de la Chapelle', 'Rue de la Loi', 'Rue de la Régence', 'Rue de la Vierge', 'Rue de la Chapelle', 'Rue de la Loi', and 'Rue de la Régence'. The background of the entire page is a stylized, light blue geometric pattern of interconnected lines.



Hotels

Hotel NH Brussels Carrefour de l'Europe

4.0 ★★★★★ (911)

Overview Prices Reviews About

Directions Save Nearby Share

CHECK AVAILABILITY

Compare prices Free cancellation only

Check in / Check out

Mon, Oct 21 Wed, Oct 23 2

Map showing various hotels in Brussels with price tags:

- Sleep Well Youth Hostel
- Congrès
- Best Western Royal Centre
- Hotel Hubert - Grand Place
- Pillows City Hotel Brussels Centre
- HAPPY guesthouse
- Hotel NH Collection Brussels...

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about Brussels, you can consult the Brussels Tourist information website:
<https://www.visit.brussels/en/visitors>

For any questions around the event, you can contact Dr. Julien Theron (julien.theron@ec.europa.eu)



More info and updates on the EU-HYBNET project at:



euhybnet.eu



[EU-HYBNET LinkedIn Group](#)



[@EuHybnet](#)

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“ *Annual Workshops will foster network activities, raise awareness of the project and bring together relevant practitioners and stakeholders who may join the EU-HYBNET network and its activities.*