



Dear Women4Cyber community,

Welcome to the seventh edition of the Women4Cyber newsletter!

Our Secretariat and Council Members continue their efforts to raise awareness towards a gender-inclusive cybersecurity community, and we're excited to share news of our work with you.

A lot has happened since our last newsletter: we are about to publish our book "Hacking Gender Barriers", we started our Mentorship Pilot Programme, we participated in numerous events, and much more!

As the end of the year is coming closer, we'd like to say thank you for following along and being part of this great community! Make sure to follow our Twitter, LinkedIn, and Instagram, join our LinkedIn group and check out our website to keep up to date on all the W4C news.

Wishing you happy holidays and a happy new year!

Women4Cyber Secretariat

What's new?

Mentorship Pilot Programme

In November we officially launched our Mentorship Pilot Programme aimed at helping women improve their skills and advance their cybersecurity careers at all levels. During the six-month programme, mentors coming from all around Europe and across sectors, including private, public and academia, will provide personal and professional guidance, share their experience, and help mentees identify and achieve their career goals. 19 mentors have been matched with 24 mentees who also come from a variety of backgrounds and with different levels of expertise.

We look forward to seeing how the programme will evolve!



Women4Cyber Masterclasses Series with a role model

On 29 October, we held a W4C Masterclass with Lise Fuhr, ETNO Director-General, in which she talked about 5G and cybersecurity. She explained the difference between 4G and 5G and used some case studies to illustrate how 5G is deeply changing our society, such as the use of 5G technologies in ambulances or for distance medical visits. As Lise said: "5G technologies should be there because they can do amazing things for our society and make our lives easier".

Lise also shared with us the ETNO's "5G Guide for Local Communities". The guide provides an overview of 5G mobile technology, including answers to frequent questions. It also provides a variety of examples that show how 5G is already helping solve some of the most pressing challenges for citizens and businesses.

**5G and Cybersecurity:
How it will impact
society**

Free Online Masterclass

With **Lise Fuhr**
Director General of ETNO

[REGISTER NOW!](#)

October 29
2PM -
3:30PM



5th Women4Cyber Council Meeting

The fifth Women4Cyber Council meeting took place online on 3rd December. Since part of the Council has been renewed in the last few months following the end of their first mandate, this was the first occasion for everyone to meet. We welcomed our new Council Members and thanked the re-elected Members for their ongoing support (you can consult the list of our Council members on our [website](#)).



We discussed the activities of the Foundation during the past six months and the priorities for the coming months which include a new mentorship programme in partnership with cybersecurity companies and the creation of the European Women4Cyber Academy.

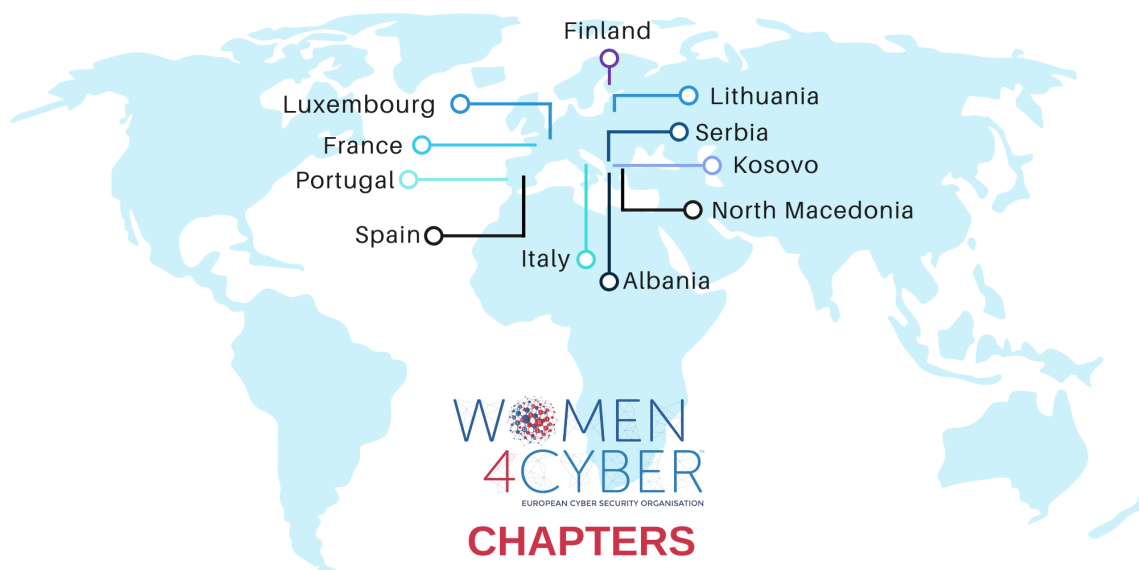
Operational Committee

After our first Operational Committee Meeting held on 25th May, the coordinators of the 11 Women4Cyber Chapters met again on the 30th November to share best practices, lessons learned, ideas, establish collaborations among chapters, and strengthen the Women4Cyber network across Europe. The activities in which the Chapters seem most interested include mentorship programmes and physical networking meetings or events. Additionally, partnerships with universities and other training providers seem to offer great opportunities for Chapters.

If you would like to partner with our national chapters do not hesitate to contact us.



News from our chapters



Women4Cyber Spain

W4C Spain Members' regularly participate in events on cybersecurity,. They closed the first W4C Spain mentorship programme a few days ago which lasted 6 months and are currently working on its second edition which will be launched in February 2022. Additionally, every month the Chapter organises Cyber Talks with specialists from different backgrounds. And finally, the Chapter has signed several agreements with education and training providers that offer scholarships and trainings discounts in cybersecurity to the Chapter's members.

Women4Cyber North Macedonia

W4C North Macedonia started an intense 6-months Interns program, engaging young girls interested in helping the women's cyber family to grow. In October and November 2021 W4C North Macedonia organized 2 Master classes with women on leading executive positions in Information and technology companies. W4C North Macedonia became part of the Digital Transformation Council, to support the process of digital transformation of the Western Balkans countries. As members of the National Platform for Women Entrepreneurship, W4C North Macedonia was represented at the first Summit for women entrepreneurship in cyber and information security. Finally, W4C North Macedonia has established a cyber hub from the members of our organization, as an incubator for the exchange of ideas between women active in the cyber sphere.

Women4Cyber Albania

It's been officially one year since Women4Cyber Albania was launched. W4C Albania has identified many talented women in the field of cybersecurity and is creating and implementing mentoring and professional growth programmes. The Chapter is also working on various campaigns aimed at students and young professionals, showing them how they can join the cybersecurity industry and which certifications are needed. In 2021, W4C Albania has implemented 2 "Capture the Flag activities" with students from Albania and Kosovo. Moreover, the Chapter provided training and certification for more than 200 members and invited more than 15 national and international speakers to its events. Finally, the Chapter conducted workshops and mentoring cycles to showcase women role models.

Women4Cyber Luxembourg

During the past month the Chapter has offered trainings to companies on cyber risks and artificial intelligence and organised events in high schools to talk about cybersecurity with young women. Looking at 2022, W4C Luxembourg also has the objective to launch a mentorship programme and the creation of specific interest domains in their Slack collaboration tool to foster engagement and participation.

Women4Cyber Serbia

In May, W4C Serbia organised a cybersecurity hackathon together with Swiss partners and recently the Chapter also organised a regional panel session during the Women's Leadership Summit on "Gender and Talent Gap: Cyber Security Missing Female Leaders" which gathered female leaders in cybersecurity. You can watch it [here](#).

Women4Cyber Lithuania

After the launch of the Chapter in May, W4C Lithuania organised a series of "cyber picnics" with its members to share personal stories, discuss the challenges faced in cybersecurity and objectives for the Chapter. The Chapter releases monthly articles on different topics and participates in different events in partnership with Lithuanian companies.

Women4Cyber Italy

W4C Italy was launched in July 2021 and since then it has participated in different events on cybersecurity and has been working on its programme for 2022. Their programme so far includes a role model campaign, partnerships with universities, public and private institutions. Other projects include working in schools to teach STEM competencies to women and establishing an award for the best master thesis in cybersecurity in Italy.

Women4Cyber France

The French Chapter was launched on the 29th October 2021. Its roadmap will be presented on the 16th December at the Assemblée Nationale, with the aim of creating a Board of Directors.

In November, the Chapter participated at the "Governance & Cybersecurity: which are the consequences for companies?" event and at the European Cyber Week roundtable titled "France: where are we? Towards a new model of management and recruitment".

Coming soon:

Three other chapters - Portugal, Kosovo, and Finland - have been approved and will be officially launched in the next months!

Women4Cyber Portugal

W4C Portugal was approved a few months ago and has already grown a big community on LinkedIn. They are losing no time and are also participating in many events sharing their objectives and advocating for a gender-balanced field. For 2022, the Chapter is organising its official launch event and different activities, and they will also explore how to establish partnerships with companies to support their activities.

Women4Cyber Kosovo

Following its approval, W4C Kosovo organised some events to grow their community, one of which saw the participation of the former president of Kosovo. The launch event, which had to be postponed because of COVID regulations, is expected to take place in the beginning of next year. They also plan to organise seminars for women interested in cybersecurity and build partnerships with cybersecurity companies. In the meantime, the Chapter is active on social media and sees as a priority young girls studying in high school or at university.

Women4Cyber Finland

As the community grows in preparation for the launch event which is planned for January 2022, the Chapter has launched its social media channels which you can check [here](#), and [here](#). In February 2022, they will start a rolling monthly article series called "Role Model of the Month" in which women selected by the Board of W4CFI will be interviewed. They are also planning lots of events, roundtable talks, workshops and networking events together with the support members & collaboration partners.

Further information about the [Women4Cyber Chapters here!](#)



What's next?

The book "Hacking gender Barriers: Europe's top Cyberwomen"

Our book featuring over 100 women in cybersecurity in Europe will be published in December with the title "Hacking gender Barriers"! It will be available for sale on our website, and we think it will make the perfect holiday gift 😊.

We cannot wait for you to get your hands on a copy and learn all about the Role Models in the book!



Next Women4Cyber Mentorship Programme

We plan to launch our next mentorship programme in spring 2022! The new programme will see a collaboration between cybersecurity companies and Women4Cyber in order to provide mentors from our industry partners. The call for applications will open in March 2022 and the start of the programme is foreseen for May 2022.

Cyber Investors Day

Women4Cyber is partnering with ECSO's Cyber Investors Day initiative to launch a new award as of next year: the women-led startup award! The launch of the award will be announced at the next Cyber Investors Day which will take place at the end of April 2022 in the Hague. The application to participate in the competition will open soon! We will let you know through our social media channels, so stay tuned!



Past Events

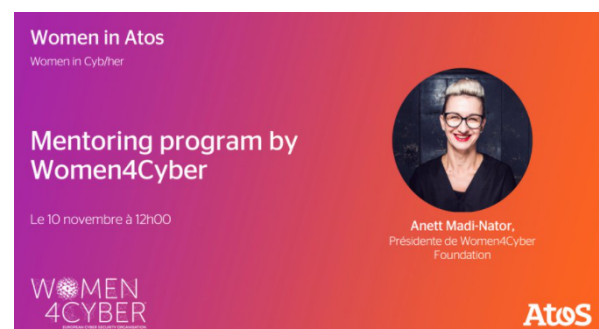
BeNeLux Cyber Summit

Our Secretary-General Luigi Rebuffi and our President Anett Madi-Nator participated in the panel discussion "A year in review: emerging cyber trends in 2021", where they discussed the current cyber threat landscape, how criminals are refining their techniques and security best practices to adopt.



Women in ATOS

Our President Anett Madi-Nator participated in the ATOS event "Women in ATOS", where she presented our activities and discussed the importance of the mentorship programme to create a community and share best practices and advice.



News from the EU



Cybersecurity of wireless devices

On 29th October, the Commission took action to improve the cybersecurity of wireless devices available on the European market. As mobile phones, smartwatches, fitness trackers and wireless toys are more and more present in our everyday life, cyber threats pose a growing risk for every consumer. The delegated act to the adopted Radio Equipment Directive aims to make sure that all wireless devices are safe before being sold on the EU market. This act lays down new legal requirements for cybersecurity safeguards which manufacturers will have to consider in the design and production of the concerned products. It will also protect citizens' privacy and personal data, prevent the risks of monetary fraud as well as ensure better resilience of our communication networks.

Digital Europe Programme

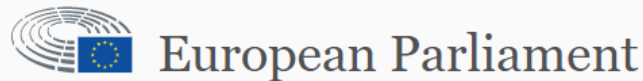
On 10th November, the Commission adopted three work programmes for the Digital Europe Programme, outlining the objectives and specific topic areas that will receive a total of €1.98 billion in funding. The Digital Europe Programme aims to bolster Europe's technological sovereignty and bring digital solutions to the market for the benefit of citizens, public administrations, and businesses.

Public Consultation on EU Digital Principles

On 23rd November, the Commission published the results of the public consultation on a set of digital principles. The results show broad support for the proposed EU values in the digital space. These principles range from high-speed internet for all, full access to digital skills and education, making sure that children and young people are protected online, to an open, secure and trusted online environment.

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Digital Market Act Proposal

On 23rd November, the IMCO Committee of the European Parliament voted in favour of the Digital Market Act Proposal. The proposed regulation will apply to the major companies providing “core platform services” most prone to unfair practices. These include online intermediation services, social networks, search engines, operating systems, online advertising services, cloud computing, and video-sharing services, which meet the relevant criteria to be designated as “gatekeepers”. MEPs are also included in the scope of the DMA web browsers, virtual assistants and connected TV.



Data Governance Act

On 30th November, the Parliament and the Council reached an agreement on the Data Governance Act. It aims to increase trust in data sharing, create new EU rules on the neutrality of data marketplaces and facilitate the reuse of certain data held by the public sectors, especially in the field of healthcare, agriculture and environment. This will boost data sharing through trust, giving more control to citizens and companies.



NIS2

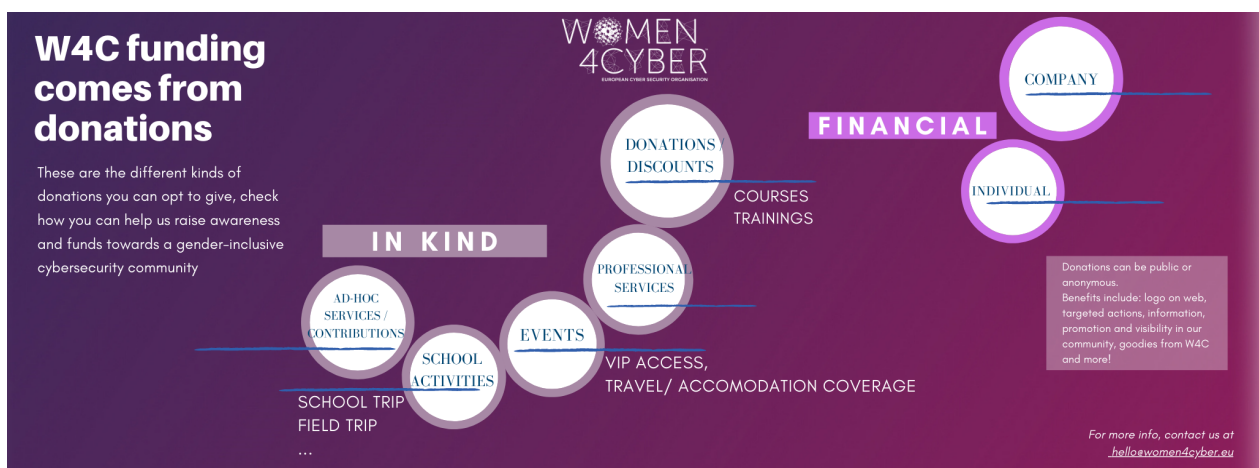
On 3rd December, the Council agreed on its position on measures for a high common level of cybersecurity across the EU, to improve the resilience and incident response capacities of both the public and private sector and the EU as a whole. Once adopted, the new Directive, ‘NIS2’, will replace the current Directive on Security of Network and Information Systems (NIS Directive).

How to get involved?

Easy! You can choose which kind of involvement is most suitable for you based on the different possibilities below (or all of them):

- Donate to the Women4Cyber Foundation [here](#). All contributions, financial or in-kind, large or small, help us achieve actionable results from our Roadmap and you can be a part of the adventure!
- Join the [Women4Cyber Registry of Experts](#) to receive news, speaking opportunities, event invitations and many other cool things!
- Contribute to the [workstreams](#) to implement concrete actions
- Create your local/national/pan-regional [W4C Chapter](#).
 - If you wish to establish and lead one, get in touch with us to share your vision and we'll provide you with an application form that can be used to explain the set of actions (to be taken from the W4C Roadmap of Actions) that you wish to be carried out by your Chapter, and we will support you in your endeavour!

Send us an email at hello@women4cyber.eu



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