

**EUROSINT
FORUM**

The European Open Source Intelligence Forum (EUROSINT Forum)

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EUROSINT Forum
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www.eurosint.eu

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- Presentation
 - Example of GOV-NGO cooperation in an EU security research project (VIRTUOSO)
 - Next activities

Facts

- Founded following recommendations made by EU officials at the EU Commission conference “Faster and More United” (DG RELEX), in November 2005
- Established in 2006 by a small group of individuals and headquartered in Brussels
- Not for profit association (Belgium ASBL)
- Funded solely by annual membership fees
- Staff work on a voluntary basis
- Does not undertake commercial work

Our Aims

- Facilitate public-private dialogue on OSINT
- Promote new thinking at the European policy level on the use of OSINT in national and regional security
- Network and connect public and private sector actors working in European security, defence and intelligence sectors
- Encourage public-private partnerships to create consortia that can bring forward new projects
- Identify global best practices and encourage their uptake across the EU

Our Members

- EU institutions and Agencies
- International organizations
- National defence, security and intelligence agencies
- Private sector providers of intelligence
- Technology developers
- Universities, think tanks and research institutes
- 65% of members are from the public sector; 35% are from the private sector

Activities

Since September 2006, the EUROSINT Forum has:

- Organized 11 working group meetings - between 20 - 50 participants each - and two annual conferences (100 participants):
 - Technological gaps
 - Training and best practices
 - Specific workshops (“OSINT and counter-terrorism”, “OSINT and military/strategic intelligence”, “OSINT and critical infrastructures: maritime security” etc...)
 - Networking events – Annual Speed Dating in Brussels

- Joined an FP7 security research project (VIRTUOSO)

- Served as a “nest” for several projects between members (training, IT development, joint research)

The VIRTUOSO Project

- Versatile InfoRmation Toolkit for end-Users oriented Open-Sources exploItation
- The forthcoming VIRTUOSO Project demonstrates the EUROSINT Forum's capacity for cooperation with governments
- FP7 – Security research – Call 2 (2008)
- Activity 10.3: Intelligent surveillance and enhancing border security
- Topic SEC-2009.3.2.3 Exploitation of open source information in support of decision making processes

VIRTUOSO – Key Facts

- Duration: 36 months
- Coordinator : CEA (French atomic energy commission, public body)
- A European consortium of 18 OSINT actors
- An end-users Advisory Board (public sector)
- Contract negotiation with EC: end of June 2009
- Beginning: February 2010
- EC co-financing: €8 million

N.	Proposer name	Country
1	COMMISSARIAT ENERGIE ATOMIQUE CEA	FR
2	EADS DEFENCE AND SECURITY SYSTEMS	FR
3	ATOS ORIGIN SOCIEDAD ANONIMA ESPANOLA	ES
4	Mondeca	FR
5	Newstin a.s.	CZ
6	SAIL LABS Technology AG	AT
7	AALBORG UNIVERSITET	DK
8	THALES COMMUNICATIONS SA	FR
9	bertin technologies	FR
10	STICHTING KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT BRABANT UNIVERSITEIT VAN TILBURG	NL
11	NEDERLANDSE ORGANISATIE VOOR TOEGEPAST NATUURWETENSCHAPPELIJK ONDERZOEK - TNO	NL
12	INGENIERA DE SISTEMAS PARA LA DEFENSA DE ESPANA SA-ISDEFE	ES
13	EUROSINT FORUM ASBL	BE
14	Hawk Associates Limited	UK
15	Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich	CH
16	Compagnie Européenne d'Intelligence Stratégique	FR
17	UNIVERSITA DEGLI STUDI DI MODENA E REGGIO EMILIA	IT
18	COLUMBA GLOBAL SYSTEMS LIMITED	IE

VIRTUOSO – Project Overview and Objectives

- The project is intended to create a pan-European platform for the collection, analysis and dissemination of open source information
- The platform will integrate different methods and technologies and ensure greater interoperability among information and technology providers
- The platform will provide EU actors with real-time OSINT aggregation as well as text mining, early warning and decision support tools
- The EUROSINT Forum will organize 20 working groups with end-users (public authorities) to gather and evaluate project requirements, to validate the demonstrator

VIRTUOSO – End-Users Advisory Board

<i>Members of the End-Users advisory board</i>			
See part 7	Joint Situation Centre – Council of Europe	SITCEN	UE
See part 7	Ministry of Interior	French MoI	FR
See part 7	Atlantic Maritime Authority	PreMar Atl	FR
See part 7	Federal Department of Defence, Civil Protection and Sport	DDPCS	CH
See part 7	Action against Terrorism Unit of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe	OSCE-ATU	AT
See part 7	Centre for the Protection of National Infrastructure	CPNI	UK
See part 7	Stockholm International Peace Research Institute	SIPRI	SW
See part 7	Government Situation Centre, Prime Minister's Office	GSC	FI
See part 7	Institute of International Affairs	IAI	FI
See part 7	Criminal Assets Bureau (Ireland)	CAB	IE

Next activities

- Brainstorming meeting : EUROSINT Forum's participation to the FP7 call 3 (to be published by end of July 2009)
- Technology Gaps WG: An interactive journey into the future of OSINT, Vienna, 3-4 September 2009 (hosted by the Austrian Military)
- Training and Best Practices WG (exact timing to be confirmed)

Thank You!

Our mission is to create a European “intelligence ecology” that is dedicated to provoking thought on open source intelligence (OSINT) and its use in the intelligence and security spheres by public and private sector organisations

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