



ECCCC 
EUROPEAN CYBERSECURITY
COMPETENCE CENTRE

ECCCC & Cybersecurity DEP WP 2025-2027 and HE 2025

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Overview

□ About ECCC

- Mission & objectives
- Overview of the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC)

□ Financing cybersecurity

- The ECCC Work Programme for 2025-2027 implementing the cybersecurity parts of the Digital Europe Programme
- Horizon Europe Programme 2025 with actions for ECCC

□ Next steps



ECCC in a nutshell

- ❑ Regulation (EU)2021/887 of 20 May 2021 establishing ECCC
- ❑ Mission
 - strengthen EU leadership & strategic autonomy in cybersecurity
 - support Union technological capacities, capabilities and skills
 - increase the global competitiveness of the Union's cybersecurity industry
- ❑ Overall objective of promoting research, innovation and deployment in the area of cybersecurity
 - enhancing cybersecurity capacities, capabilities, knowledge & infrastructure
 - promoting cybersecurity resilience, the uptake of cybersecurity best practices
 - contributing to a strong European cybersecurity ecosystem
- ❑ Premises @ Campus/Polytechnic University in Bucharest

EU Cyber Competence Centre and Network of NCCs



❑ European Cybersecurity Competence Centre

- Manages the funds foreseen for cybersecurity under Digital Europe and Horizon Europe 2021-2027
- Facilitates and helps coordinate the Network and Community to drive the cybersecurity technology agenda
- Supports joint investment by the EU, Member States and industry and support deployment of products and solutions

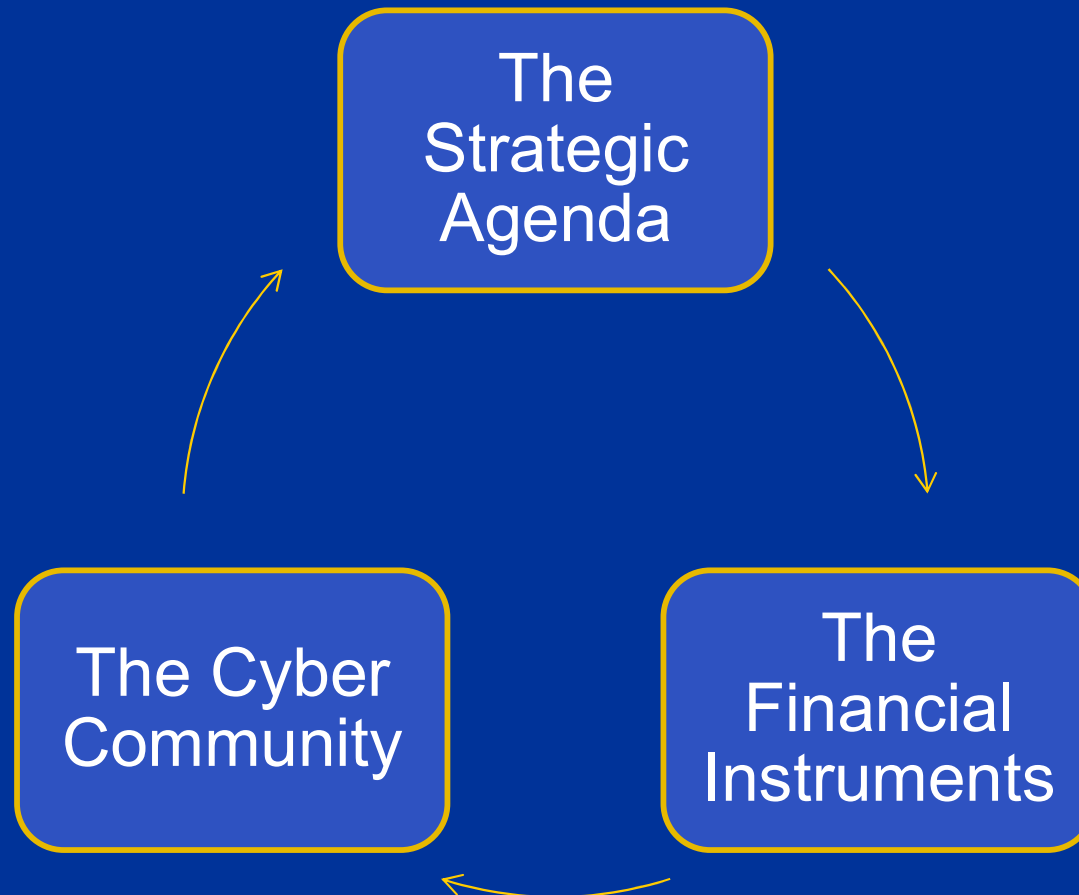
❑ Network of National Coordination Centres

- Nominated by Member States as the national contact point
- Objective: national capacity building and link with existing initiatives
- National Coordination Centres may receive funding
- National Coordination Centres may pass on financial support

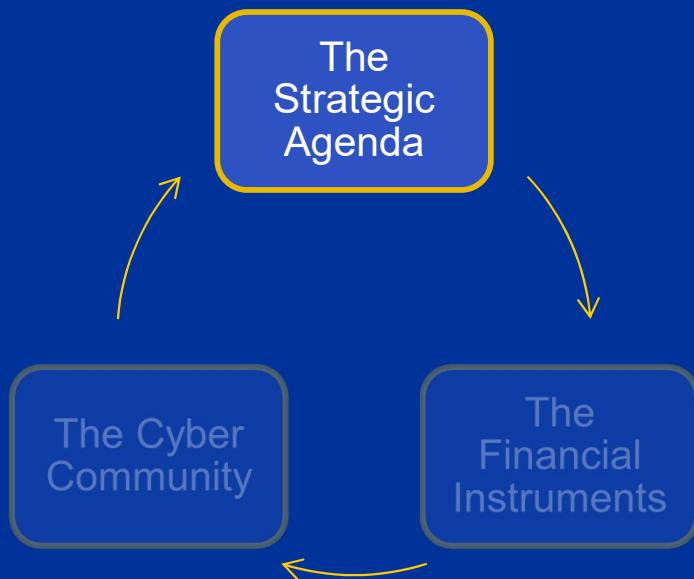
❑ Competence Community

- A large, open, and diverse group of cybersecurity stakeholders from research and the private and public sectors

ECCC – the three levers of implementation



ECCC – the Strategic Agenda



What is the Strategic Agenda?

It's "a comprehensive and sustainable cybersecurity industrial, technology and research strategy which sets out strategic recommendations for the development and growth of the European cybersecurity industrial

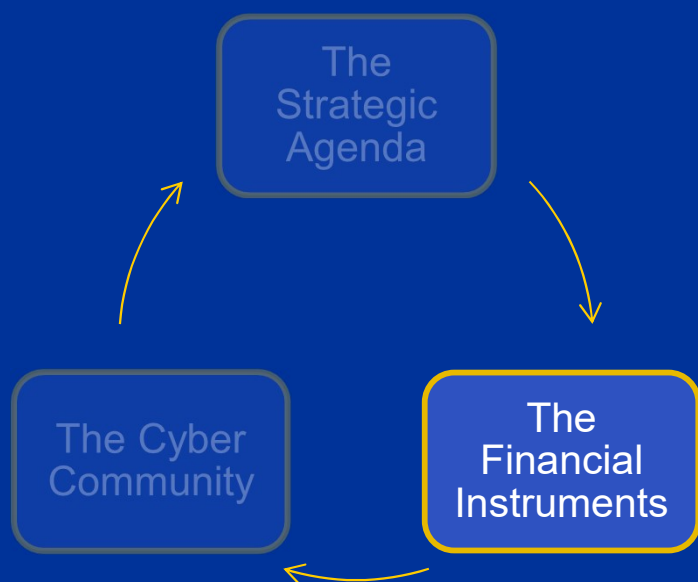
The Work Programme

What the aim of the Strategic Agenda?

Is to create a unified and common vision to the EU investment in cybersecurity required to fulfil the objectives set in the EU Cybersecurity Strategy

https://cybersecurity-centre.europa.eu/strategic-agenda_en

ECCC – the Financial Instruments (DEP/HE)



Ongoing DEP and HE projects

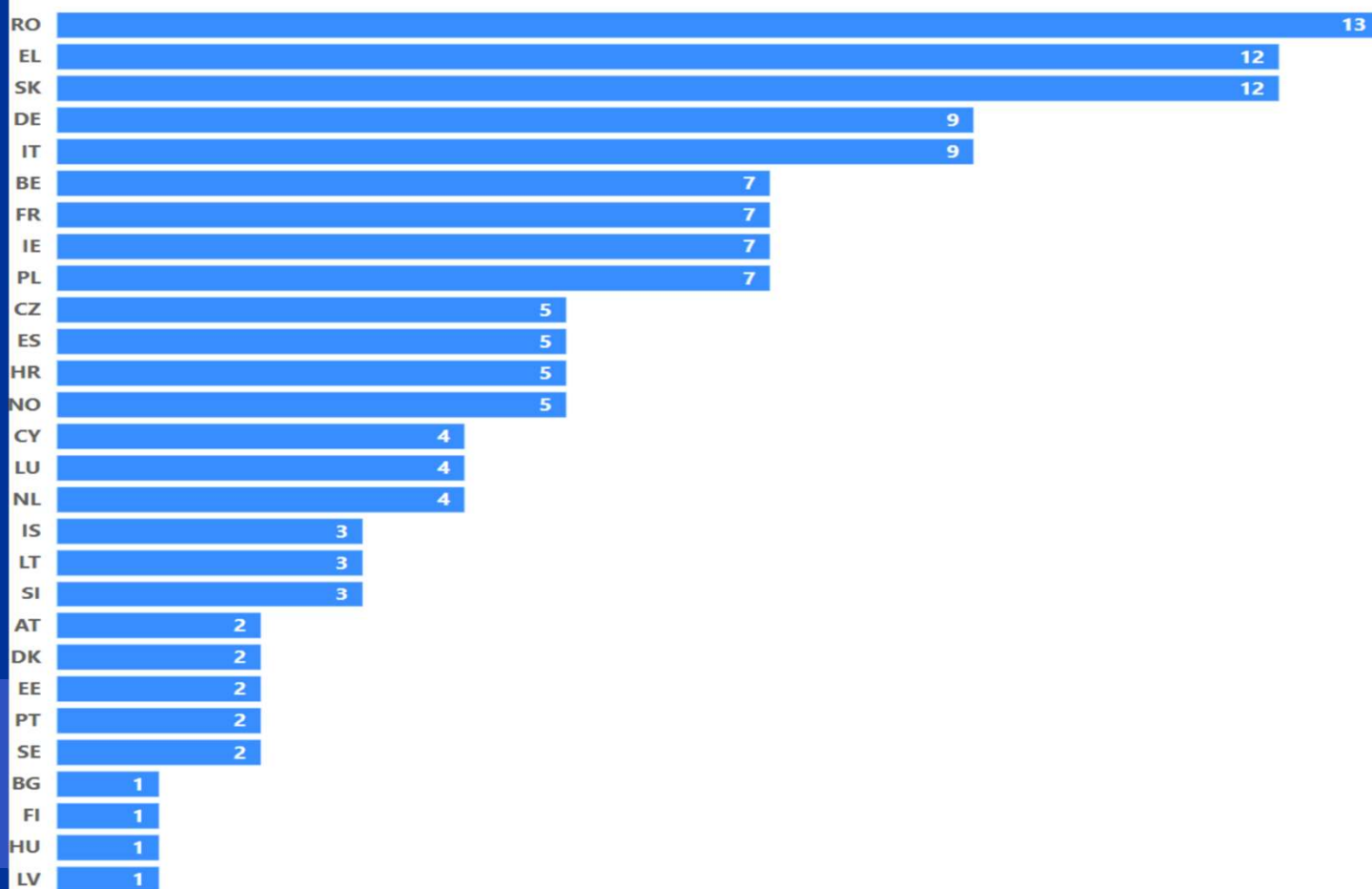
- 6 calls for a total of **370 M€**
- 138 projects
-
- 2 calls HE for a total of **129 M€**
- 25 projects
- Call DEP 7 for a total of **102 M€** in preparation

Next DEP and HE programmes/calls

- DEP Cybersecurity WP 2025-2027 – **390 M€**
- Calls HE 2025 – **90,5 M€**

Current ECCC DEP Portfolio

Number of Grants by Country of Coordinator



370.60M

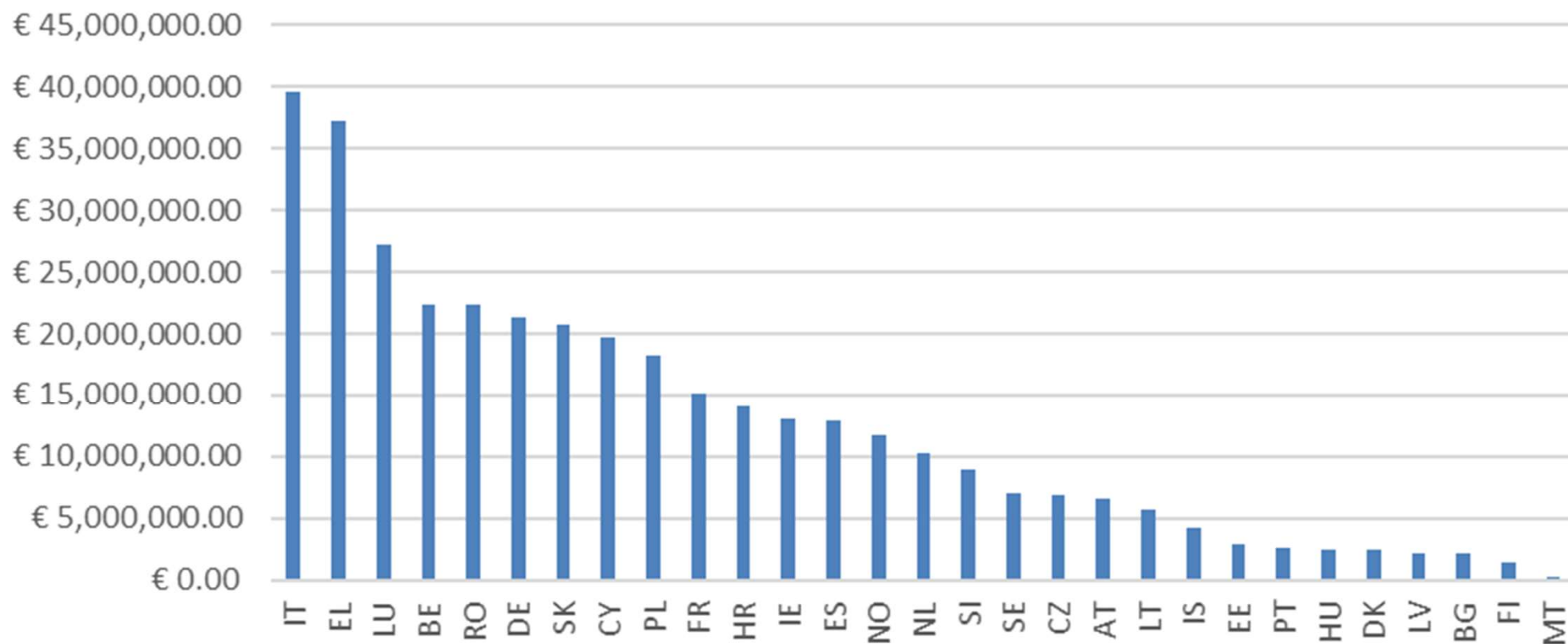
EU Contribution

138

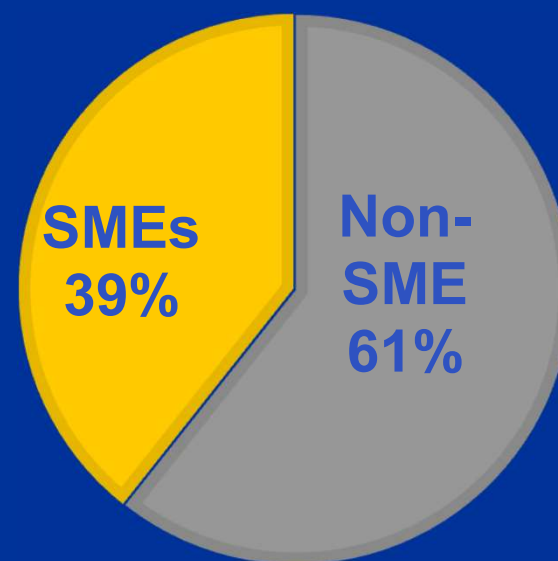
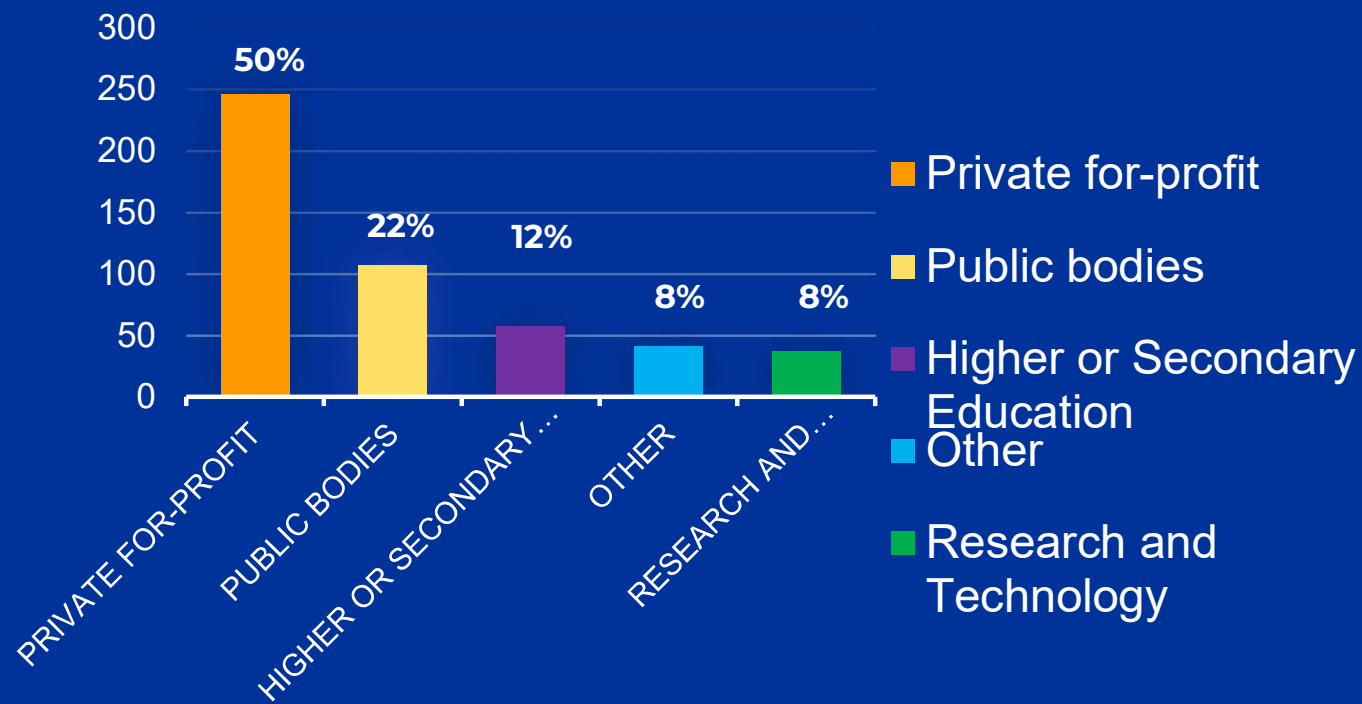
Count of Grant Number

Current ECCC DEP Portfolio

EU contribution per country DEP

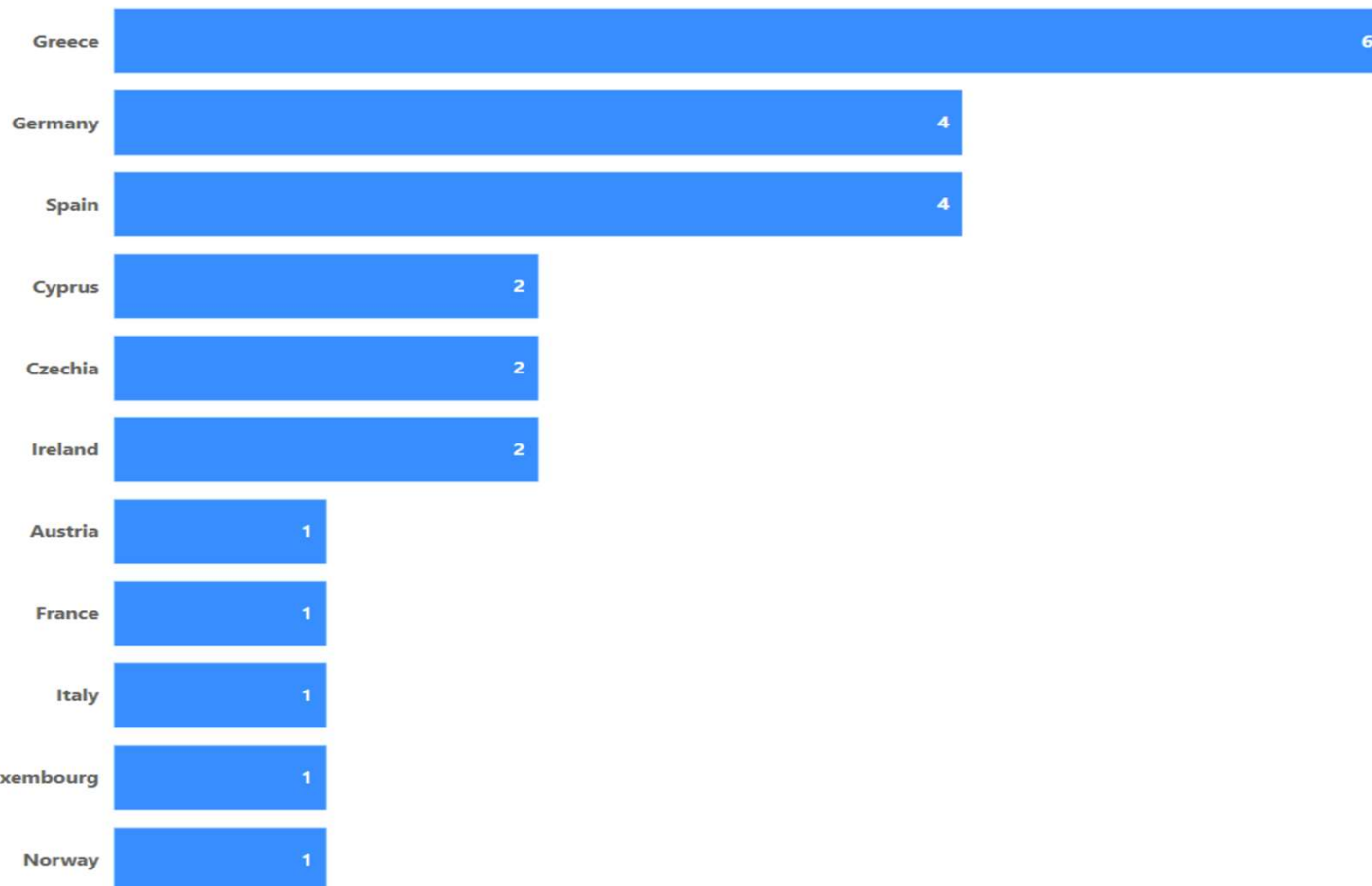


DEP CYBERSECURITY – current type of beneficiaries



Current ECCC HE Portfolio

Number of Grants by Country of Coordinator



25

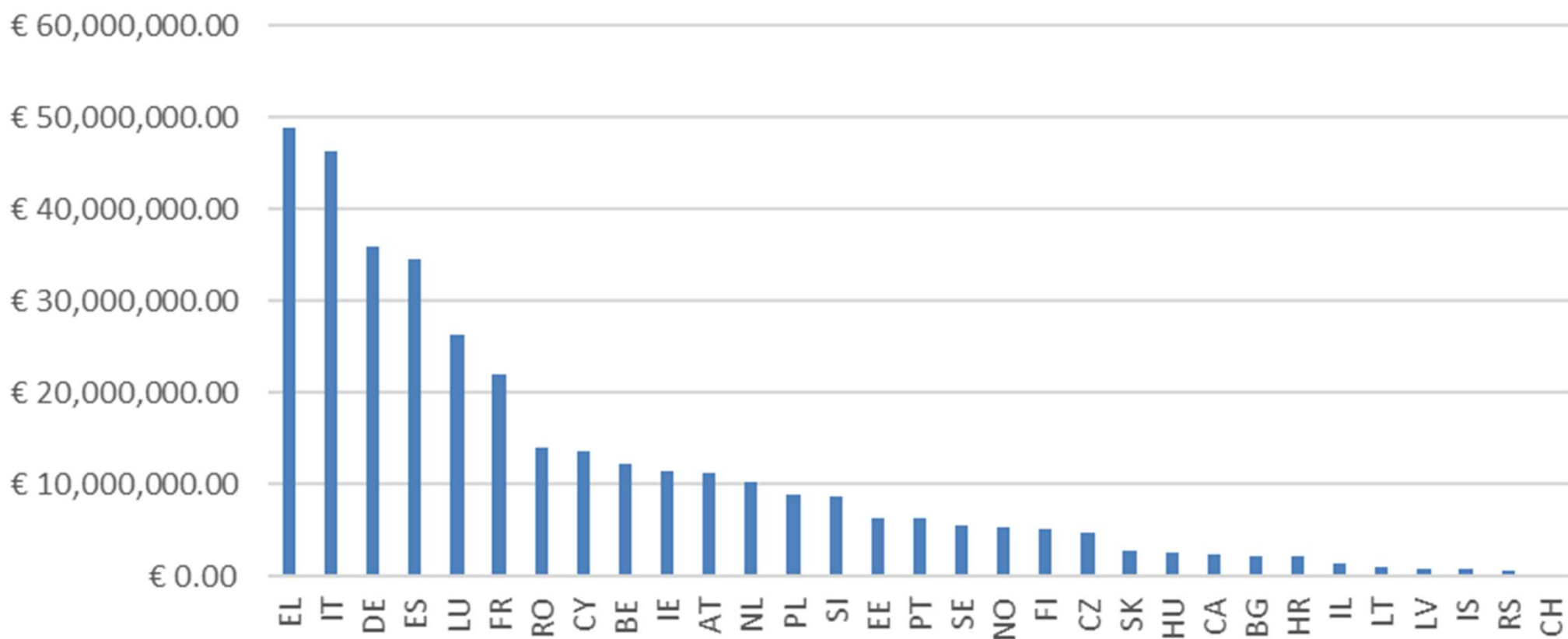
Number of Grants

€ 129M

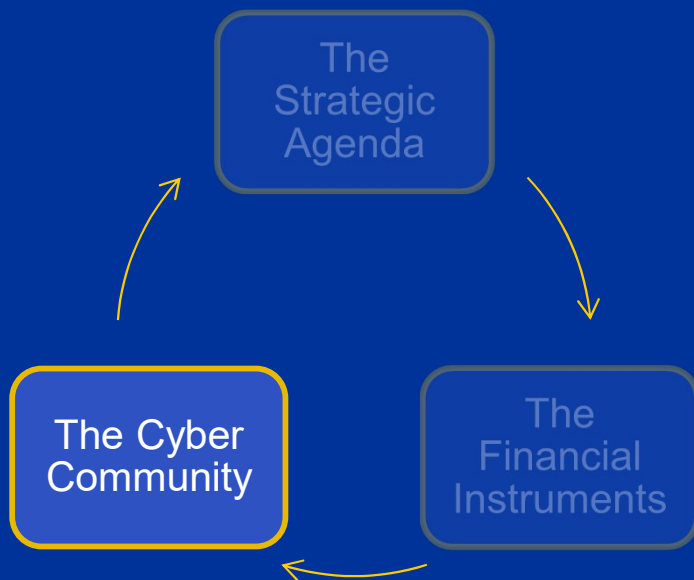
EU contribution

Current ECCC HE Portfolio

EU contribution per country HE



ECCC – the Cyber Community



The Network

The Network should be made up of one national coordination centre (NCC) from each Member State. NCCs shall engage and coordinate with the industry, the public sector and the research community.

The strategic Advisory Group

Twenty members appointed by the Governing Board. Advises the Governing Board on working groups. Organises public consultations to collect input for the ECCC agenda and work programme

The ECCC, the Network and the Community should:

- Help advance and disseminate the latest cybersecurity products, services and processes.
- Promote the cybersecurity capabilities, in particular by supporting developers and operators
- Support the standardisation and deployment of cybersecurity products, services and processes

The graphic features a dark purple background with a large, irregular, lighter purple shape in the center. This central shape is surrounded by several concentric, wavy lines in a slightly lighter shade of purple. Four stylized human figures are positioned around the central shape: a woman in a yellow shirt and dark skirt on the top left holding a tablet; a woman in a white lab coat and dark pants on the top right holding a yellow folder; a man in a white shirt and light blue pants on the bottom left holding a smartphone; and a man in a yellow shirt and light blue pants on the bottom right sitting on a white folding stool and using a laptop. In the center of the graphic, the text "DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME" is written in white, with "DIGITAL" in a bold, sans-serif font and "EUROPE PROGRAMME" in a regular, sans-serif font. Below the text, there is a row of five white icons: a server rack, a heart with a pulse line, a factory with a smokestack, a shield with a lock, and a building with a flag.

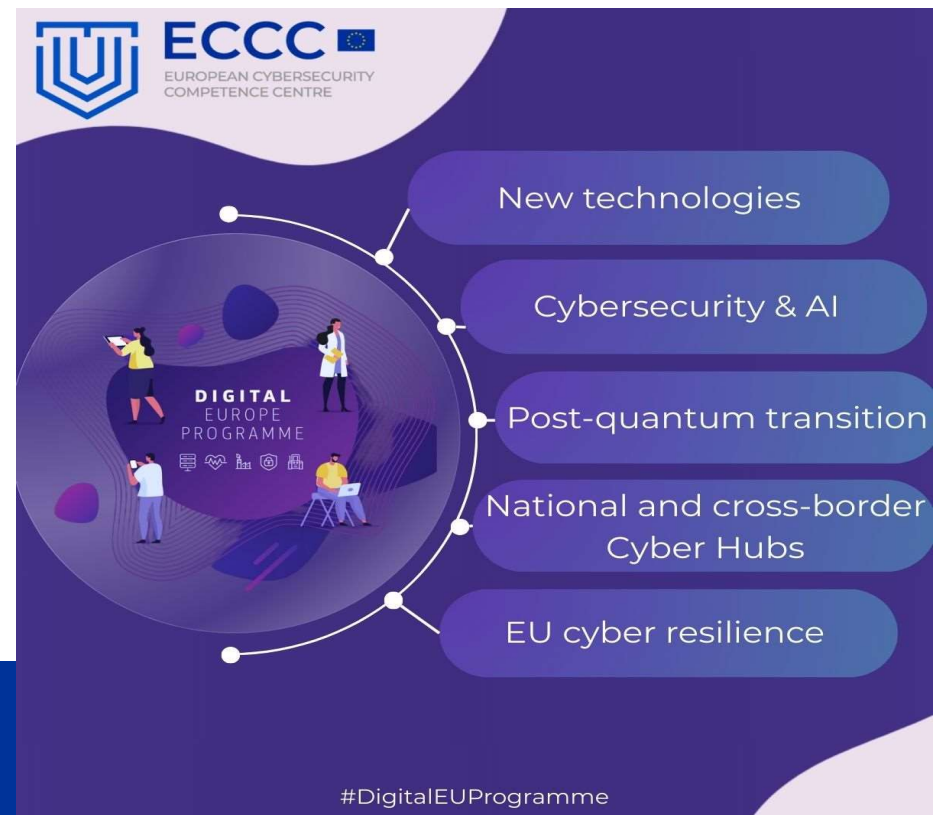
DIGITAL EUROPE PROGRAMME



First ECCCC DEP Work Programme

□ ECCCC DEP WP 2025-2027, covering Cybersecurity

- adopted in March 2025 by ECCCC GB



The ECCC WP 2025 - 2027 is considering...

- ❑ DEP Specific Objective 3: Cybersecurity and Trust
- ❑ The Strategic Agenda adopted by ECCC GB in March 2023
 - Internal Action Plan developed also together with the NCCs
- ❑ Legal obligations from ECCC regulation
- ❑ Legislative context
 - Cyber Solidarity Act, NIS 2 directive, Cybersecurity Act, Cyber Resilience Act, etc.
- ❑ EC updated priorities
 - I.e., president-elect Von Der Leyen presented in her Political Guidelines 2024-2029 in front of the European Parliament Plenary on 18th July 2024
 - The action plan on the cybersecurity of hospitals and healthcare providers published in January 2025

ECCE DEP Work Programme 2025 - 2027

□ Budget

- ~ EUR 390 million, distributed across 3 years 2025-2027

□ Structured on 3 main areas, based on prioritization

- New technologies. AI & post-quantum transition
- Cyber Solidarity Act implementation
- Additional actions improving EU cyber resilience

+ Programme support actions

The ECCC at forefront of new technologies

- ❑ Support for public bodies to address their needs for cybersecurity, enabling Cybersecure solutions and transition to PQC.
- ❑ Topics open for all types of beneficiaries aiming to strengthen their tools, products, solutions and infrastructures relying on cyber secure AI solutions or support transition to post quantum.
 - Focused on reliable, secure and resilient AI models and algorithms to be used and deployed.
 - Tackle the challenges of an effective integration of PQC algorithms in infrastructures and services, to offer efficient migration strategies and strong business continuity guarantees.
- ❑ Support for SMEs. Actions aimed at improving industrial and market readiness for the cybersecurity requirements for SMEs as specified in relevant EU cybersecurity legislation, to ensure the development and use of more secure hardware and software products.

The ECCC implementing the Cyber Solidarity Act

- ❑ **The European Cybersecurity Alert System (ECAS)**
 - pan-European network of Cyber Hubs are established, to build and enhance coordinated detection and common situational awareness capabilities. Includes the development and consolidation of the National Cyber Hubs and the Cross-Border Cyber Hubs.
- ❑ **The Cybersecurity Emergency Mechanism**
 - (1) coordinated preparedness testing of entities operating in sectors of high criticality across the Union (aligned with NIS 2 Directive) and
 - (2) other preparedness actions for entities operating in sectors of high criticality and other critical sectors.
- ❑ **The mutual assistance support**
 - Covers technical assistance of one Member State to another Member States to support responding to the significant or large-scale cybersecurity incidents.

The ECCC contributing to a resilient EU

□ The ECCC supports the implementation of the cybersecurity legislation

- Considering reinforcing NCCs and their efforts at national level; providing flexibility on the way NCCs work and build their activities.
- Support the integration of relevant cybersecurity requirements steams from several regulations and directives: NIS 2 directive, Cyber Resilience Act, CSA, DORA, GDPR, AI Act as required.
- Work on EC priorities, including to support the cybersecurity of hospitals and healthcare providers in alignment with the Action Plan. In addition, it is envisaged support to improve the resilience and security of the infrastructure critical for global communications, solutions to cover the surveillance and protection of critical undersea infrastructure, such as submarine cables, and the detection of malicious activities around them.
- Acknowledging the need for enhance cooperation between the civil and defence spheres regarding dual-use projects, services, competences and applications in cybersecurity in line with the DEP Regulation. Cross fertilization and spill-over effects from synergies between the civil and defence spheres have proven to be an important driver for innovation, industrial deployment and market uptake. In the area of cybersecurity, the results could lead to increased resilience to cyber threats and better protection of both civilian and defence critical infrastructures.

Horizon Europe WP 2025



□ Budget

- ~ EUR 90 million, distributed in 2025

□ Topic areas

- Generative AI for Cybersecurity applications
- New advanced tools and processes for Operational Cybersecurity
- Privacy Enhancing Technologies
- Integration of Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC) algorithms into high-level protocols
- Security of implementations of Post-Quantum Cryptography algorithms
- Security evaluations of Post-Quantum Cryptography (PQC) primitives

Indicative timelines 2025-2026

Call process	Horizon Europe	DEP 8	DEP 9
Call opening	June 2025	June 2025	September 2025
Deadline for submission	November 2025	October 2025	January 2026
Evaluation	January 2026 – February 2026	November - December 2025	March - May 2026
Information on evaluation results	April 2026	February 2026	June 2026
GA signature (target)	July 2026	July 2026	December 2026

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Thank you!