

Cyber Agency and JEDI announce strategic cooperation First joint project on automated security for critical infrastructure launched

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The Cyber Security Innovation Agency (Cyber Agency) and the Joint European Disruptive Initiative (JEDI) announce their cooperation. This includes the launch of joint projects, initially funded by the German Cyber Agency and then taken to the European level by JEDI.

This promising cooperation starts immediately with a major challenge on automated security for Critical Infrastructures (CRITIS), which is funded with 30 million euros. The project addresses how to better secure hospitals, power plants, energy grids, data centres and transport infrastructures in Europe, especially in these critical times.

Initial proposals are expected by 23 August 2022. Future joint collaborations will address the future of positioning systems, underwater communication, or quantum portability.

Prof. Dr. Christian Hummert, Director of the German Cyber Agency, said: *"The increasing interconnectedness and digitalization of society poses significant challenges to the protection of critical infrastructures, which can lead to major supply bottlenecks or threats to public safety. We are pleased to work with JEDI to make this a truly European project."*

Mr. André Loesekrug-Pietri, Chairman of JEDI, added: *"There is an urgent need to secure critical systems. In particular, AI-assisted vulnerability detection and remediation, timely detection of and efficient response to cyber-attacks, and improved data attribution will be explored. We are very excited to work with the Cyber Agency and bring the strength of our European deeptech ecosystem, our experience in Challenges, and our interdisciplinary approach."*

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About the Cyber Agency

The Agency for Innovation in Cybersecurity GmbH (Cyber Agency) was founded in 2020 as an in-house company of the Federal Government under the joint leadership of the Federal Ministry of Defence and the Federal Ministry of the Interior and for Home Affairs by the Federal Government with the aim of taking an application-strategy-related and interdepartmental view of internal and external security in the field of cybersecurity. Against this background, the work of the cyber agency is primarily aimed at the institutionalised implementation of highly innovative projects that are associated with a high risk with regard to the achievement of objectives, but at the same time can have a very high disruptive potential if successful.

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About the Joint European Disruptive Initiative (JEDI)

The Joint European Disruptive Initiative (JEDI) is the European initiative for Advanced Research Projects (ARPA) with the aim of bringing Europe and free societies to a leading position in new and disruptive technologies. JEDI launches GrandChallenges to push the boundaries of science and innovation with a radical approach based on focused research, speed, full focus on excellence, interdisciplinarity and bold risk-taking. JEDI is supported by more than 4600 technology and science leaders from academia, industry and deep tech start-ups in 29 countries, is fully independent and is funded by committed foundations, corporations, individuals and public institutions.

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