



## PSCE Conference in Brussels, Belgium



On 28-29 May 2013, PSCE organised already its 7<sup>th</sup> biannual conference since its transformation from the FP6 project to an independent association in 2009. Held in Brussels, the conference was built up on 5 thematic pillars, each of them addressing unique aspects of public safety communication sector. Spread across two full days, conference participants had a chance to get acquainted with the latest developments in the field of EU Civil Protection Mechanism, E-Call, Radio Spectrum Policy, Horizon 2020 and Crisis Modelling domain.

Gathering high level policymakers, EU officials, academic researchers and industrial experts, PSCE events make Europe's policy issues lively and relevant also to people outside the 'charmed circle' of Brussels-based specialists. The conference featured a diverse programme composed of targeted presentations as well as debates, in which the speakers answered interesting questions from the floor. The roundtable discussions and collaborative session between the committees offered interesting exchange of views with important conclusions.

The conference material is now available for all participants on temporary platform. PSCE Institutional Members have opportunity to download all presentations at any time from the restricted part of the PSCE website. The next PSCE biannual conference will be held in Bucharest, co-organised with **Special Telecommunications Service**, PSCE institutional member.

*Forum for Public Safety Communication Europe is to foster, by consensus building, excellence in the development and use of public safety communications and information management systems as well as to improve the provision of public safety services and the safety of the citizens of Europe and the rest of the world. The PSCE provides a common platform for researchers, industry and users to meet and network, learn about technologies used for public safety and influence policy makers at European level.*

# Summary of presentations and debates

## OPENING SPEECH

- ❑ **09.00 – 09.10 – Welcoming – Helmut SCHWABACH, PSCE President**

The conference commenced with the opening speech of Helmut SCHWABACH, PSCE President, who began by welcoming and thanking over 50 guests with different background for engaging in the dialogue within the field of public safety communications. He expressed a gratitude to continuous commitment of users, industry and research communities with special accent on the concept of best practices sharing.

## EU CIVIL PROTECTION MECHANISM

- ❑ **09.10 – 09.40 – Presentation on the EU Civil Protection Mechanisms – Juha AUVINEN, DG ECHO: Emergency Response Unit, European Commission**
- ❑ **09.40 – 10.10 – Role and experiences of the Red Cross - Leon PROP, Red Cross EU Office**

Juha AUVINEN, Head of the European Commission's Emergency Response Unit of DG ECHO, provided the latest news related to the EU Civil Protection Mechanism. In his presentation, he underlined the fact that his unit is aiming for a rapid, effective and coherent EU response to major disasters occurring inside and outside the EU. He recalled the establishment of the Emergency Response Centre (ERC) which replaced the Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC) in May this year. The ERC collects and analyses real-time information on disasters; it monitors hazards; it prepares plans for the deployment of experts and equipment; and it works together with Member States to map the available assets and coordinate the EU's disaster response efforts. The Centre is able to deal with up to three simultaneous emergencies in Europe and beyond, and is operational at any time. It is activated also for humanitarian aid purposes.



**Helmut SCHWABACH**



**Leon PROP**

Leon PROP, Director of the Red Cross EU office, talked about the role and experiences of institution. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) is the world's largest humanitarian network that reaches 150 million people in 187 National Societies through the work of over 13 million volunteers.

## **RADIO SPECTRUM POLICY**

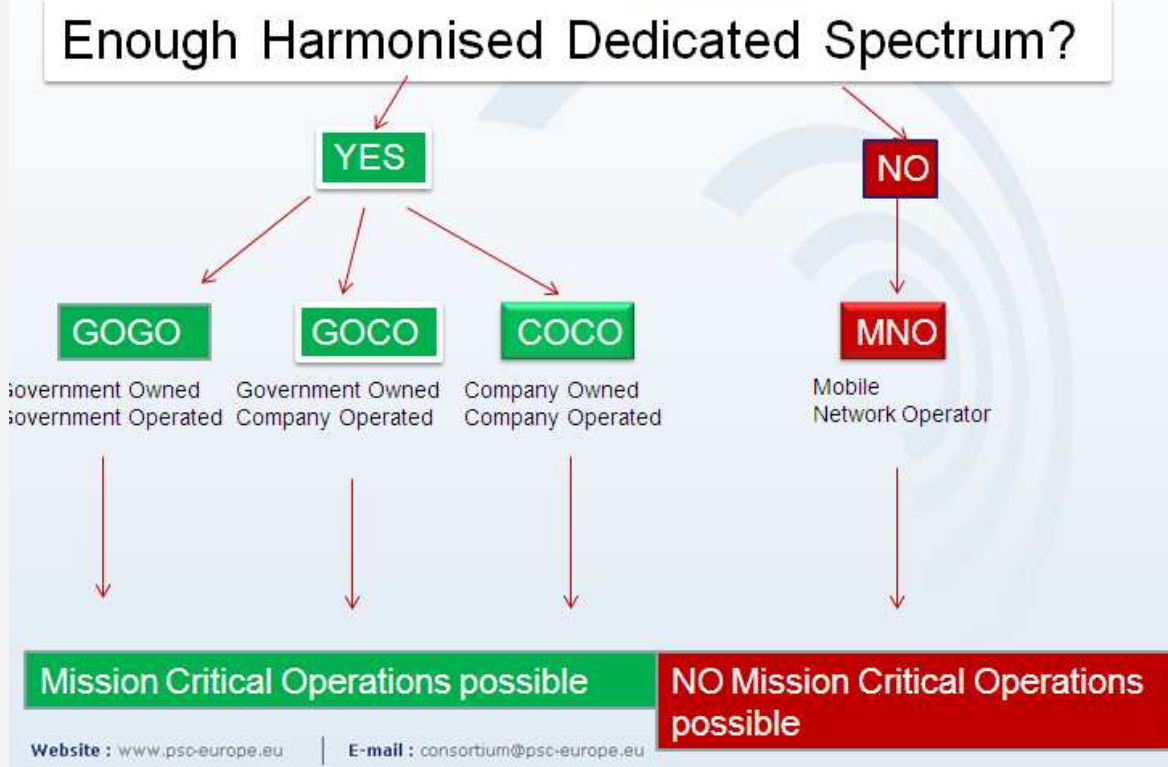
- ❑ **10.10 – 10.20 – Update on PSCE activities – Manfred BLAHA, PSCE**
- ❑ **10.20 – 10.50 – Ales BRABINEK, Radio Spectrum Policy, DG CONNECT, European Commission**
- ❑ **10.50 – 11.20 – User driven analysis of PPDR broadband spectrum requirements – David CHATER-LEA, Chairman of ETSI TC TETRA WG4**
- ❑ **11.40 – 12.10 – Jeppe JEPSEN, Chair of PSCE WG on Spectrum Harmonization Initiative**
- ❑ **12.10 – 12.40 – Belgian Federal Police and mobile communications with a focus on Heli TV – Etienne LEZAACK, Belgian Federal Police**

Following a brief overview of recent PSCE activities in the arena of radio spectrum presented by Manfred BLAHA, PSCE Board Member, the floor was given to Ales BRABINEK from DG CONNECT of the European Commission. He explained the role which Member States and the Commission play to fulfil the goals of the Radio Spectrum Policy Programme (RSPG) in relation to PPDR (Article 8.3) with a focus on the availability of spectrum under harmonised conditions and internal market aspects including free circulation and interoperability of PPDR applications and devices. He underlined the importance of wireless PPDR communications for EU Civil Protection. Furthermore, he mentioned ongoing work on "Sectoral spectrum needs" in the RSPG which also covers PPDR sector as well as the interaction with current CEPT's activities to find suitable spectrum for future broadband PPDR networks.

David CHATER-LEA, Chairman of ETSI TC TETRA WG4, stated that dedicated broadband wireless systems for PPDR will require harmonised spectrum to permit interoperation between systems, and also to provide sufficient scale to enable a competitive market for suppliers. He described the work carried out in TC TETRA WG4 in conjunction with the Law Enforcement Working Group Radio Communications Expert Group (LEWP RCEG) to analyse the LEWP matrix of PPDR broadband requirements and to calculate the amount of spectrum needed to fulfil those requirements. This work has then been presented in CEPT WGF4 PT49 to validate the calculated requirements for harmonised PPDR spectrum, and the methodology could be reused to allow further calculations of spectrum requirements, for example on a national basis.

Jeppe JEPSEN, Chair of PSCE WG on Spectrum Harmonization Initiative, reminded PSCE members and other participants that the main mission of this WG is to encourage governments, through their regulators, to recognise the societal needs for effective emergency services and to ensure early release of a harmonised frequency allocation for PPDR broadband after World Radio Conference in 2015. He invited PSCE to join forces with FEU, TETRA and Critical Communication Association, British APCO, EENA, FSC and other associations to reach their common objective in this area.

# Decision tree

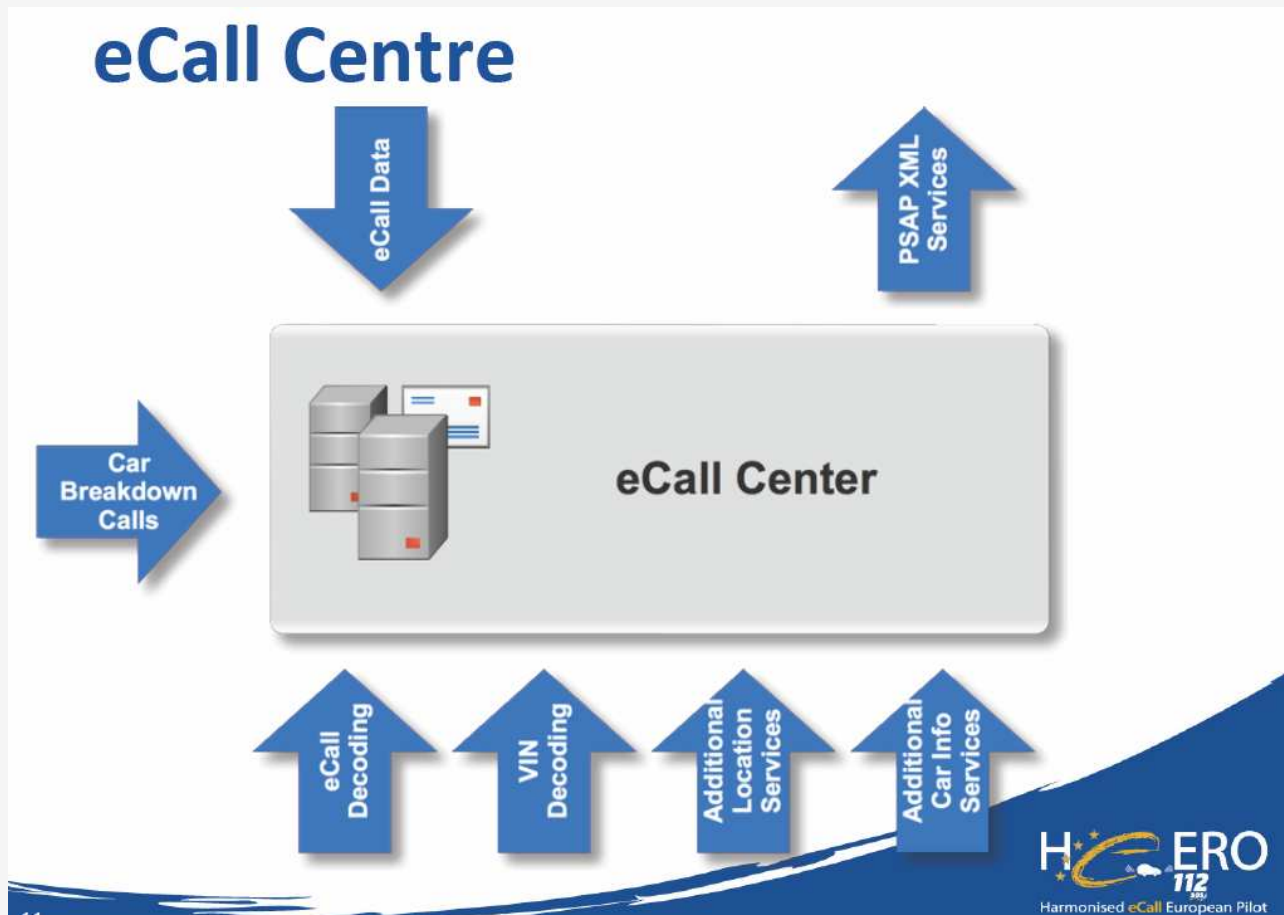


Etienne LEZAACK talked about mobile communications used by Belgian Federal Police while placing special emphasis on “Heli TV” project. As part of the integrated police and under the command and responsibility of the authorities, the federal police contribute to improving security and quality of life within the society. Belgian National Police carries out, at national and international level, special and supra-local police missions and supports the local police authorities and services. Mr LEZAACK provided an overview of voice communications and mobile data applications in both present and planned contexts.

## E-CALL: STATE OF PLAY

- ❑ 13.30 – 14.00 – Juhani JÄÄSKELAINEN, DG CONNECT, European Commission
- ❑ 14.00 – 14.30 – Deployment of the eCall system within the HeERO (Harmonised E-Call European Pilot) project, Jérôme PARIS, EENA
- ❑ 14.30– 15.00 – UK perspective on E-Call – Paul HIRST, BAPCO
- ❑ 15.00 – 16.20 – *“Discussions on E-Call/ Communication issues during Road Traffic accident”*, Collaborative session

Jérôme PARIS, who took the floor after the intervention of Juhani JÄÄSKELAINEN from DG CONNECT, presented the HeERO (Harmonised E-Call European Pilot) project which is addressing the pan-European in-vehicle emergency call service "E-Call". For three years (January 2011 to December 2013), the nine European countries forming the HeERO 1 consortium (Croatia, Czech Republic, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Romania and Sweden) carried out the start-up of an interoperable and harmonised in-vehicle emergency call system. The second phase of the HeERO project - HeERO 2 - started on 1st January 2013 and will last 2 years. 6 new countries (namely Belgium, Bulgaria, Denmark, Luxembourg, Spain and Turkey) have joined the other 9 pilot sites of HeERO 1.



Paul HIRST, representing BAPCO, explained the current UK situation with regards to E-Call. He mentioned that the Directive was discussed with the Department for Transport and it had to initially face significant reluctance. Home Office is now gathering relevant departments together in order to agree a way forward. In UK, E-Call directive affects several Government Departments, service providers and emergency services, e.g. Ambulance (Department of Health), Fire (Department for Communities & Local Government), Police (Home Office), Ofcom (Dept. For Culture, Media & Sport), Civil Contingencies (Cabinet Office), Vehicles & eCall (Dept. for Transport). In conclusion, it was stated that at EU level, UK has agreed to accept the directive but they will probably have to wait for the Ofcom mandate. However, the network upgrades to support E-Call flag will be necessary even though the cost is currently unknown.



**Juhani JÄÄSKELAINEN**



**Jérôme PARIS**



**Paul HIRST**

The conference then continued with the collaborative session between the committees with the emphasis on communication issues during road traffic accident and the implementation of E-call system. The discussions brought clarifications on the ways to organise the work of the Public Safety Answering Points (PSAP), the possible role of third party services and ultimately the importance of preserving confidentiality.

## **HORIZON 2020**

- ❑ **10.15 – 10.35 – *New perspectives for security research under Horizon 2020 – Philippe QUEVAUVILLER, DG Enterprise, Security Research & Industry, European Commission***
- ❑ **10.35 – 10.55 – *Austria in Security Research KIRAS and ESRP Ralph HAMMER – Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology, Austria***
- ❑ **10.55 – 11.15 – *European Research and Innovation in Security Tania VAN LOON – Enterprise Europe Network, Belgian National Contact Point for FP7 Security Call***
- ❑ **11.15 – 11.35 – *Andrea NOWAK, Research perspective, AIT***
- ❑ **11.35 – 12.30 – *Interactive roundtable***

The second day of the conference was opened by Philippe QUEVAUVILLER from DG Enterprise and Industry, who presented new perspectives of the European Commission for security research under Horizon 2020. The speech addressed main policy drivers and FP7 achievements. Particular attention was paid to the mission areas of the “Secure Society” pillar as well as to the industrial policy. According to the speaker, Horizon 2020 will be user-oriented, innovation-driven and market-structuring.



**Philippe QUEVAUVILLER**

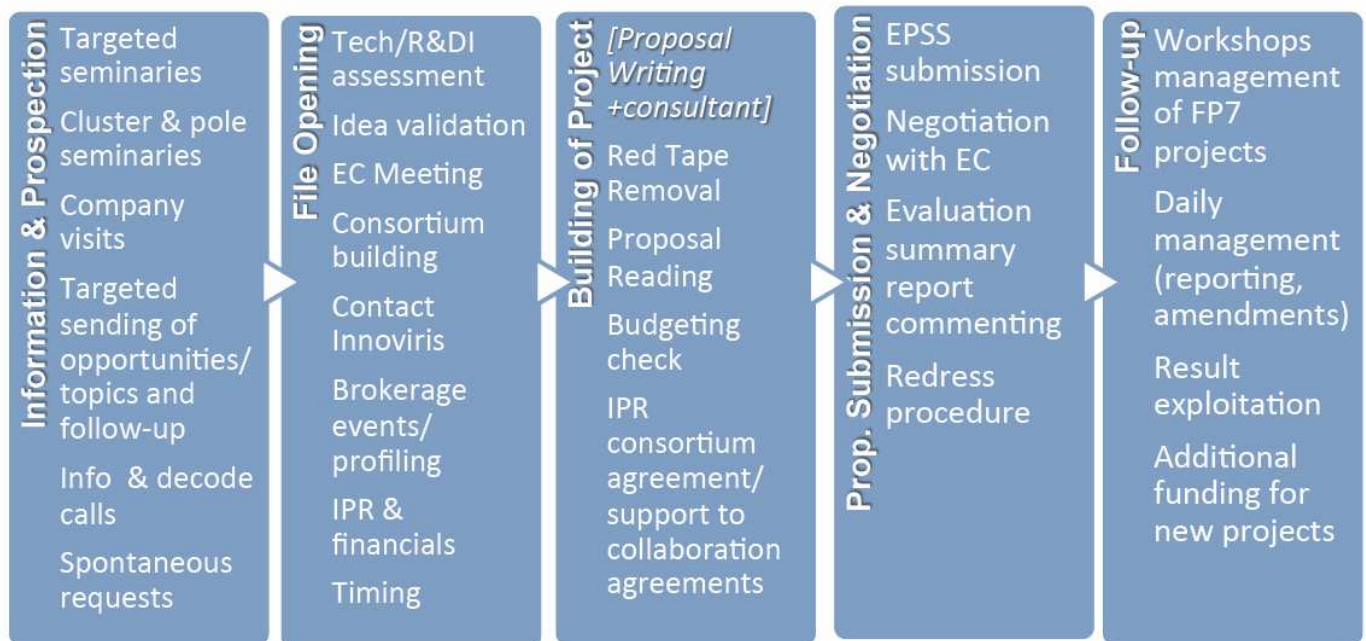


**Ralph HAMMER**

Ralph HAMMER, Austrian Federal Ministry of Transport, Innovation and Technology, stressed that his country has a history in security research dating back before the first European Security Research Programme (ESRP) in FP7. The Austrian national security research programme KIRAS was launched as the first of its kind in Europe in 2005 and represents a showcase in successfully dealing with this complex societal challenge. The strategic setup of KIRAS including the activation of all relevant actors for security research enabled Austria together with other activist Member States to play a central role in shaping security research on the EU-level during FP7. It was acknowledged that now, at the dawning of Horizon 2020, Austria is looking forward to a new chapter in European security research in the societal challenge “Secure Societies”. The speaker gave a concise overview on the concept and the mechanics of the Austrian security research programme KIRAS, lessons learned from security research in FP7, and expectations for Horizon 2020.

Tania VAN LOON, representing Enterprise Europe Network, provided insights into European Security Research calls from the current programming period (2007-2013) from the viewpoint of a National Contact Point (NCP) and of its main clients: SMEs. Practical experience and feedback from NCPs supporting enterprises, universities and other organisations in the small but centrally located region of Brussels was shared. The presentation included comments and suggestions on Horizon 2020 in the current state of play, which might facilitate the successful implementation of the new programme under preparation. The figure below illustrates the NCP guidance for (potential) participants.

### Individual and personalised services throughout the whole idea-project cycle



The subject of Horizon 2020 was further addressed by Andrea NOWAK from Austrian Institute of Technology who oriented her speech on industrial drivers, challenges for a secure society and AIT’s R&D Topics. It was argued that 1) Growing complexity of ICT systems; 2) Industry trends towards open network architectures; 3) The shift in user behaviour; 4) Penetration of sensors – distributed intelligence and 5) Increasing network of systems, are perceived as 5 main industrial drivers. She also discussed future challenges for a secure society, namely security of citizens and critical infrastructures, cyber and border security as well as resilience against crises and disasters.



**Tania VAN LOON**



**Andrea NOWAK**

## **CRISIS MODELLING**

- ❑ **13.15–13.45 – Modelling of floods – Christophe COULET, Artelia**
- ❑ **13.45 – 14.15 – Use of GIS in crisis modelling – Wojtek GAWECKI, ESRI**
- ❑ **14.15 – 14.45 – Users’ perspective – Giulio ZUCCARO, Director of the Study Centre “PLINIVS” (Hydrologic, Seismic and Volcanic Engineering), University of Naples Federico II**
- ❑ **14.45 – 15.15 – Mapping human exposure and social vulnerability – A key aspect for disaster and crisis management – Christoph AUBRECHT, AIT**
- ❑ **15.15 – 15.45 – Wildfires modelling – Joaquin RAMIREZ, Tecnosylva**
- ❑ **16.15 – 16.45 – Presentation of CRISMA project (Modelling Crisis Management for Improved Action and Preparedness) & introduction to the workshop to be held on 30 May 2013 – Anna-Mari HEIKKILÄ, VTT**

The last thematic focus of the conference was dedicated to “crisis modelling” issues, bridging the CRISMA first end users’ workshop which took the next day after the conference. Keynote speakers respectively covered modelling of floods; use of GIS in crisis modelling; users’ perspective; mapping human exposure and social vulnerability as wildfires modelling. Individual presentations, which complemented each other very well, raised many practical issues related to disasters which occurred recently in Europe and world-wide.



**Christophe COULET**



**Wojtek GAWECKI**



**Giulio ZUCCARO**





**Christoph AUBRECHT**



**Anna-Mari HEIKKILÄ**

At the end of the conference, Anna-Mari HEIKKILÄ (VTT) presented the CRISMA project which focuses on large scale crisis scenarios with immediate human, societal and economic consequences often irreversible. It will develop a CRISMA System to model crisis management scenarios, improve action and preparedness. The software developed by the CRISMA Consortium should help decision makers and crisis managers to model possible crisis scenarios, assess the consequences of an incident and optimise the deployment of resources necessary to resolve the crisis. More information is available at: [www.crismaproject.eu](http://www.crismaproject.eu).

For more information about this conference, please contact [secretariat@psc-europe.eu](mailto:secretariat@psc-europe.eu).

## Sponsors of the conference

<b>Silver Sponsor</b>	<b>Silver Sponsor</b>	<b>Silver Sponsor</b>
<a href="http://www.cassidian.com"><u>www.cassidian.com</u></a>	<a href="http://www.esri.com"><u>www.esri.com</u></a>	<a href="http://www.motorolasolutions.com"><u>www.motorolasolutions.com</u></a>
		