Cybersecurity@CEPS Summit 2026

The EU and the new frontier of cyber conflict: AI agents, strategic competition, and delivering Europe's cyber ambitions

Wednesday 2 December 2026

CEPS - Place du Congrès 1 - 1000 Brussels

The cyber landscape is entering a new era. As AI accelerates, scales up, and advances cyber operations, agentic AI marks a fundamental shift in the cyber threat landscape. It introduces new attack surfaces and operational dynamics that distinguish it from earlier forms of AI-enabled cyber activity. AI-enabled agents are emerging as a new frontier of both opportunity and risk. At the same time, intensifying strategic competition is reshaping the security environment in which Europe must protect its economies, institutions, critical infrastructure, and citizens.

Against this backdrop, **the 2026 Cybersecurity@CEPS Summit** brings together policymakers, industry leaders, cybersecurity experts, researchers, and strategic practitioners to examine how the EU can navigate the changing nature of cyber conflict and turn its ambitions for cyber resilience, technological sovereignty, and strategic autonomy into effective action. The Summit will explore what AI agents mean for cyber defence and security, how Frontier AI will impact Coordinated Vulnerability Disclosure policy, and how to secure AI agents. It will also examine how the strategies of state and non-state actors evolve and how cybersecurity, artificial intelligence, geopolitics, and economic security increasingly intersect.

The EU framework was designed for human operators and static software systems rather than for autonomous systems operating at machine speed within trusted environments. The Cybersecurity Summit will therefore address a fundamental question: **how can Europe move from ambitious strategies and regulation to the capabilities, partnerships, and operational tools needed to shape the cyber environment?**

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Agenda

08:45–09:15	**Registration and welcome coffee**
09:15–10:30	**Opening Session** **Lorenzo Pupillo**, Head of the Cybersecurity@CEPS Initiative **Despina Spanou**, Deputy Director General, DG CNECT, European Commission **Andrea Biggio,** Head of Solutions Engineering - Cyber & Security Solutions Division, Leonardo **Kareem Ghanem**, Senior Director, Government Affairs & Public Policy, Google
10:30-11:30	**Session I: Cybersecurity Global Governance: from humans to AI agents directed operations?** **Alessandro Politi,** Director of the NATO Defense College Foundation **Edoardo Giglio**, Partner, Deloitte Technology & Transformation Cyber Strategy, Government & Public Sector (GPS) **Benedetta Berti**, Secretary General of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly ***Chair:* Jakob Greiner**, Vice President European Affairs Deutsche Telekom
11:30-11:45	**Coffee Break**

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11:45 -12:45	**Session II: AI Agent Identity and Cybersecurity: Building Trust in the Agentic Web** **Allan Friedman**, Senior Technical Advisor, Institute for Security and Technology **Anni Lehari**, Project Manager, Reason Reserve / Aruait, Estonia **Scott Courtney**, Vice President, Engineering, GoDaddy **Alina Radu,** Acting Head of Unit Cyber Coordination DG CNECT ***Chair:*** **Noemie Honoré**, Manager, Wavestone
12:45-13:45	**Lunch**
13:45-14:45	**Session III: Frontier AI and CVD Policy: towards AI-assisted CVD Policy?** **Valery Vander Geeten**, Head of Legal and Data Protection Officer at the Centre for Cybersecurity Belgium **Francesca Spidalieri**, Cybersecurity & Vulnerability Services Program Manager, ENISA **Savvina Melina Papadaki,** AI Security Manager, Microsoft **Ghislain de Salins,** Global Lead for Cybersecurity, Digital Transformation, World Bank ***Chair:*** **Claudia Comandini**, Policy Manager, ECSO
14:45- 15:45	**Session IV: Open-Source Software Supply Chain in the Age of AI-Driven Threats** **Eli Noam,** Emeritus Professor of Economics & Finance, Columbia Business School, New York **Sachiko Muto**, Chair, Open Forum Europe & Senior Researcher, RISE

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Ioanna Georgiadou, Cybersecurity Officer, ENISA

Leslie Hawthorn, Sr. Principal Technical Program Manager, Office of the CTO, Red Hat

***Chair:* Elena Scaramuzzi**, Head of Global Research, Cullen International

15:45-16:00 **Coffee Break**

16:00-17:00 **Session V: Digital Hygiene in the Agentic AI Era: What's in It for Consumers?**

Michael Littger, Strategy Director, cyberintelligence.institute, Berlin

Simona Staikov van Bommel, Team Leader for Contracts in the Digital Economy, DG Justice and Consumers, European Commission

Mark Boris Andrijanič, Senior Advisor, Nord Security

Akvilė Šikšniūtė, Legal and Policy Officer in Digital Policy, BEUC

Till Sommer, Public Affairs and Policy Lead, The Cyber Helpline

***Chair:* Afonso Ferreira**, Director of Research, CNRS

17:00 **Closing**

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