



I-ENERGYLINK REPRESENTATIVES ARE THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE THE COORDINATION OF A NEW EUROPEAN PROJECT – CYBERFORT

20th December 2024, Carina Ioana NITA

I-ENERGYLINK Representatives are pleased to announce the Coordination of a New European Project – CYBERFORT „*Strengthening Cyber Defenses of SMEs for Cyber Resilience Act (CRA) Compliance*”. The Project objectives are: aiming to simplify the process of CRA compliance for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), making it more accessible and manageable; enhancing the efficiency of compliance documentation processes through automation, thereby reducing the administrative burden on SMEs; creating flexible tools that not only serve SMEs but are also adaptable to the needs of a broader range of stakeholders; offering focused training to elevate the cybersecurity knowledge and practices among SMEs; ensuring the tools evolve in response to new cybersecurity challenges and feedback from users; and fostering collaborations with key cybersecurity networks and initiatives across Europe to maximize impact.

The CYBERFORT Project funded by the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC), under the Topic: DIGITAL-ECCC-2024-DEPLOY-CYBER-06-COMPLIANCECRA, started its implementation on 1st December 2024, and gathers 8 Consortium Partners Organizations from Cyprus and Romania. The European Consortium Partners is coordinated by I-ENERGYLINK (RO) working together with BOLTON TECHNOLOGIES (CY), CLONE SYSTEMS (CY), COLUMBIA SHIPMANAGEMENT (CY), DEALIO LIMITED (CY), ROMANIAN NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY DIRECTORATE (RO), ELIAS NEOCLEOUS (CY) and EXIMPROD ENGINEERING (RO).

CYBERFORT Project introduces a comprehensive concept aimed at bolstering the cybersecurity defenses of SMEs, particularly focusing on micro and small businesses. CYBERFORT proposes an integrated approach to enhance SMEs' cybersecurity through the implementation of the Cyber Resilience Act requirements. It emphasizes the development and dissemination of tailored compliance tools, cybersecurity best practices, and educational resources to support SMEs in navigating the complexities of cybersecurity threats. CYBERFORT Project represents an innovative and key program designed to equip European SMEs with the tools to strengthen their cybersecurity measures and achieve adherence to the Cyber Resilience Act (CRA) as well as other relevant cybersecurity compliance standards.

Strengthening Cyber Defenses of SMEs for Cyber Resilience Act Compliance Project will envision new ideas and new possibilities to the different Energy stakeholders in Europe, especially in Southeastern Europe. The Project Communication will disseminate the vision to inspire the leaders in different fields to take advantage of the CYBERFORT project's contributions. CYBERFORT will develop free and open-source programs that will support and automate the internal compliance procedure according to the CRA. Workshops, Hackathons and Conferences will be organized during the implementation of the Project in order to disseminate the results and the outcomes.

CYBERFORT aims to establish a robust support framework. This includes cascade financing mechanisms for targeted financial aid, an open platform for CRA-related resources, and comprehensive training and upskilling programs. The initiative also focuses on fostering a collaborative ecosystem for knowledge exchange, standardization efforts, and the sharing of cybersecurity best practices. Through CYBERFORT, the project seeks to create a resilient, aware, and compliant SME sector, significantly contributing to the overall cybersecurity infrastructure of Europe.

I-ENERGYLINK is an **Innovation and Development** focused **Organization**, active in the **Energy Sector Development and Digitalization** at European and International level. I-ENERGYLINK's mission is accelerating clean energy by supporting innovative solutions that most effectively increase energy efficiency, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, consolidate the regulatory framework and improve overall power systems reliability.

