FESTOS
Project ID: 217993
Funded under: FP7-SECURITY

Foresight of Evolving Security Threats Posed by Emerging Technologies

From 2009-03-01 to 2011-12-31, closed project | FESTOS Website

Project details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total cost:</th>
<th>Topic(s):</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EUR 971 799,62</td>
<td>SEC-2007-6.3-01 - Research in broad societal foresight to capture new and emerging threats as well as other aspects of security as an evolving concept (e.g. ethical and economic aspects)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>EU contribution:</th>
<th>SEC-2007-6.4-02 - European Security Indicator: methodological research to provide a few select indicators of security and security policy in Europe measuring the effects of both insecurity and security policies on the economy</th>
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<td>EUR 824 552,70</td>
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<tr>
<th>Coordinated in:</th>
<th>Call for proposal:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>FP7-SEC-2007-1</td>
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<tr>
<th>Funding scheme:</th>
<th>See other projects for this call</th>
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<td>CSA-SA - Support actions</td>
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Objective

"The FESTOS goal is to identify and assess evolving security threats posed by abuse or inadequate use of emerging technologies and new S&T knowledge, and to propose means to reduce their likelihood. Almost all such knowledge can be abused or cause damage through inadequate use. In a free society this should not hinder free generation and exchange of knowledge. As the pace of science-based development accelerates, there is a pressing need for continual scanning of the unfolding technology landscape for potential security threats. Looking ahead to 2030, the foresight study will identify and assess security threats that could stem from future technologies. Robotics, Cognition, New Materials, Nano and Biotechnologies are some of the fields to be scanned. FESTOS will stimulate an "out of the box" anticipatory thinking and construct threat scenarios by analysing the impact of the identified threats on the background of envisioned “security climates” (societal context of security issues). The threat scenarios will be evaluated in terms of their levels of impact and uncertainty. In conjunction with each scenarios critical early-warning indicators will be identified, namely signals that hint at a growing likelihood of specific scenarios and thus provide basis for possible prevention means. Societal issues will be discussed, as well as the controversial issue of controlled dissemination of scientific knowledge in the context of necessary trade-offs between security and the freedom of research and knowledge. Finally policy recommendations will be derived, aiming at novel means of preparedness. Adequate mix of Foresight methods will be employed, e.g. horizon scanning, weak signals analysis, expert surveys, brainstormings, “futures wheel”, interactive scenario building, STEEPV analysis. Key European stakeholders are addressed in the project’s dissemination plan. The impact of successful foresight in FESTOS could be the initiation of a continuous anticipatory process in Europe."

Related information

<table>
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<th>Result In Brief</th>
<th>Security risks of emerging technologies</th>
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| Report Summaries | Final Report Summary - FESTOS (Foresight of Evolving Security Threats Posed by Emerging Technologies) |
Coordinator

INTERDISCIPLINARY CENTER FOR TECHNOLOGICAL ANALYSIS AND FORECASTING
TEL AVIV UNIVERSITY Ramat- Aviv
69978 RAMAT AVIV TEL AVIV
Israel

**EU contribution:** EUR 316,949.54

**Activity type:** Research Organisations

**Administrative contact:** Tal Soffer
Tel.: +972 3 6407571
Fax: +972 3 6410193

[Contact the organisation]

Participants

TURUN YLIOPISTO
YLIOPISTONMAKI
20014 Turku
Finland

**EU contribution:** EUR 149,504.68

**Activity type:** Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

**Administrative contact:** Heljä Kajander
Tel.: +358 2 4814266
Fax: +358 2 4814292

[Contact the organisation]

FUNDACJA EUROPEJSKIEJ WSPOLPRACY NAUKOWEJ
MODLINSKA 105
05110 Jabłonna
Poland

**Participation ended**

**EU contribution:** EUR 12,449

**Activity type:** Research Organisations

**Administrative contact:** Tadeusz żółtowski
Tel.: +48 22 782 53 98
Fax: +48 22 793 81 17

[Contact the organisation]
EU contribution: EUR 125 900,48

Activity type: Private for-profit entities (excluding Higher or Secondary Education Establishments)

Administrative contact: Myer Morron
Tel.: +972 8 9322405
Fax: +972 8 9327362
Contact the organisation

EU contribution: EUR 159 509

Activity type: Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

Administrative contact: Roswitha Koskinas
Tel.: +49 30 31421371
Fax: +49 30 31421121
Contact the organisation

EU contribution: EUR 60 240

Activity type: Higher or Secondary Education Establishments

Administrative contact: Ewa Rokicka
Tel.: +48426355252
Fax: +48426355094
Contact the organisation

Subjects

Economic Aspects - Security - Social sciences and humanities

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