Regional Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs – CIRTs - CSIRTs)
(Present cooperation among regional CERTs, and how it could be further enhanced)
(IRC-05-P)

Date 05-08 May 2014
Location RACVIAC-Centre for Security Cooperation, Rakitje, Stari Hrast 53, 10437 Bestovje, Croatia

Background This activity is a continuation of a series of events dedicated to the topic of cyber threats and critical information protection where CERTs (CIRTs, CSIRTs) are recognized as key instrument as they act as security service providers for the government. A very good level of cooperation among CERTs (CIRTs, CSIRTs) and different entities, in terms of critical information protection, exists but still there is room for improvement of cooperation between CERTs (CIRTs, CSIRTs) on the national and regional level. Knowing that the Internet doesn’t recognize national borders this cooperation has become a necessity with regard to information sharing and incident response. Trying to implement their capabilities, it is understandable that CERTs (CIRTs, CSIRTs) face some challenges or barriers regarding their cooperation, which are mainly political, financial, organizational and legal in nature.

This event aims to promote and increase cooperation by using dialogue and exchange of information, transfer of knowledge, views and ideas, as well as dissemination of international standards. Furthermore, the event’s conclusions and proposals will be used for further development.

Purpose & Objectives The purpose of this event is to bring together representatives and equivalent representatives of CERTs (CIRTs, CSIRTs) from the SEE region in order to facilitate the exchange of experience and regional cooperation. Moreover, the aim is to expose the participants from the SEE region to experiences of experts from the international organizations and countries of the region.

The objectives are:
- To update participants on new developments in cyber security,
- To enable participants to exchange knowledge, experience and know-how, as well as to facilitate networking among them (possible associations),
- To raise awareness of the importance of cooperation in response to cyber threats on the national and regional level.

Participants The total number of participants should be up to 25. Two participants should be invited from each of the following countries: AL, BA, HR, ME, MK, RO, RS, TR. The participants should be representatives of the CERTs (CIRTs or CSIRTs) from the SEE countries, and senior cyber security experts, which includes civilian or military officials dealing with policy development. Representatives of the other MAG countries and relevant organizations are also to be invited.

Methodology The conference will last for two working days and will be conducted as a combination of presentations and speeches, followed by Q&A sessions. The official working language will be English.

Point of Contact:
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