



## PRoTECT Newsletter

Newsletter III  
30 April 2020



Dear all,

Security is identified as a key priority in the Joint Declaration on the EU's legislative priorities for 2018-19. The Commission will continue to drive progress ahead as announced in the Informal Leaders' meeting on security, paving the way towards an effective and genuine Security Union. ENLETS, as subgroup of the Council's the Law Enforcement Working Party (LEWP) and reporting to the Standing Committee of Operational Coordination and Internal Security (COSI), holds a network of 28 Member states that are sharing best practices, co-creation and activates security research.

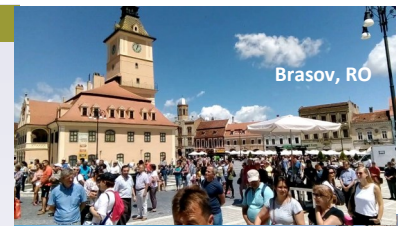
In close cooperation with DG Home and the European Forum for Urban Security (EFUS), PRoTECT project has

been utilising the draft version of the Vulnerability Assessment tool, developed by DG HOME in order to provide the Policy group, the Commission, the Practitioners network and the to be established Operators Forum with tangible results, such as valuable feedback and practical recommendations based on the technology and soft target site assessment tool.

We are proud to deliver tangible results after the completion on the Vulnerability Assessment related to the protection of public spaces in five European cities (EINDHOVEN, MALAGA, LARISA, VILNIUS and BRASOV) along with the findings of the 1st PRoTECT Seminar that took place on 17th of July in the city of BRASOV in Romania.

We will continue this second project year with pilot testing of innovative solutions in these five cities enhance security and increase resilience. So, stay tuned and follow PRoTECT developments.

**Patrick Padding**  
Project Coordinator



Brasov, RO



Eindhoven, NL



Larisa, GR



Vilnius, LT



Malaga, ES

### Save the date!

#### 18th May 2020

Request for Information (RFI)  
proposal submissions deadline.

#### Between May 18th 2020 and beginning of July

Each PRoTECT's participant city will organize an Evaluation workshop by utilizing the Technology Evaluation Framework and the RFI document.

#### Early June

PRoTECT Seminar new date or implementation of a webinar

PROTECT consortium, in the context of searching for available solutions and ideas oriented in protecting public spaces against terrorist threats and its effects as regards to open public spaces, proceeded to the publication of a Request for Information (RFI), based on hypothetical threat scenarios as defined by the cities of:

- Brasov (Romania),
- Eindhoven (Netherlands),
- Larisa (Greece),
- Malaga (Spain) and
- Vilnius (Lithuania)

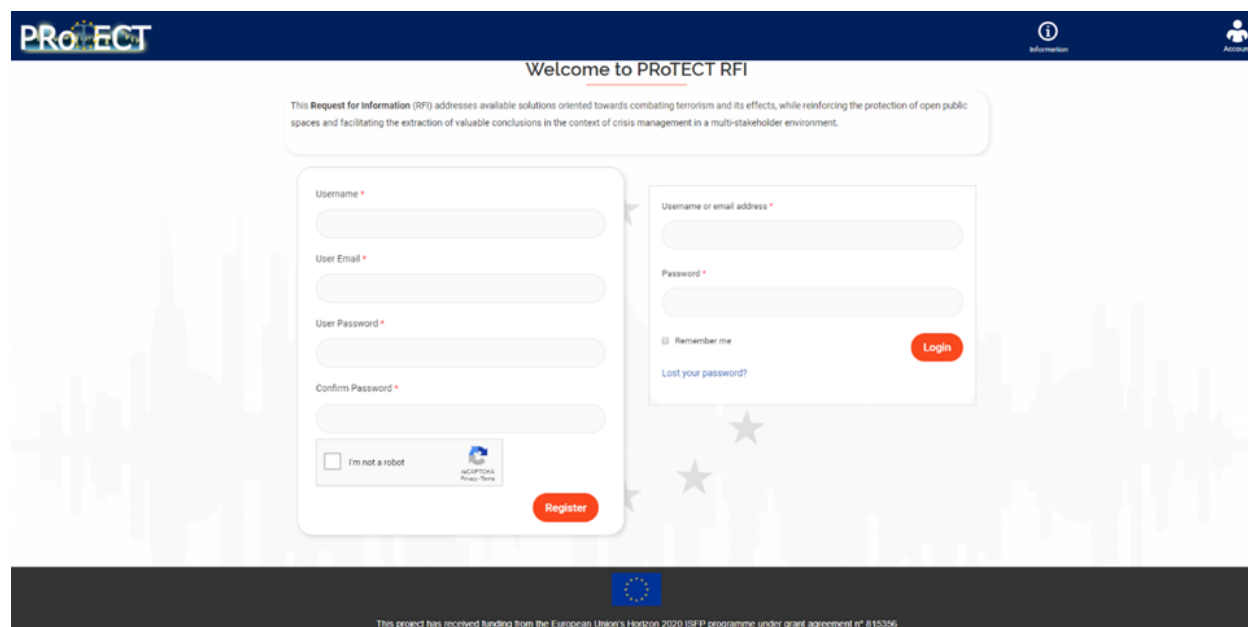
The process aims at investigating all benefits of potentially utilizing available solutions towards preventing / mitigating specific types of terrorist attacks within their city boundaries. This will be realized through the delivery of live demonstrations of selected solutions.

**This RFI is open for submitting relevant solutions from 1st April till 18th May 2020**

In this context, following a relevant evaluation process, highly ranked solutions will be invited to provide a live demonstration (proof of concept) in the 5 cities with relevant expenses being compensated.

**All necessary details and material** regarding the specific process are **available upon registration** in the following **site**.

<https://protect.kemea-research.gr/rfi/>



The screenshot shows the 'Welcome to PROTECT RFI' page. At the top, there's a dark blue header with the PROTECT logo on the left, and 'Information' and 'Account' links on the right. Below the header, a white box contains the text: 'This Request for Information (RFI) addresses available solutions oriented towards combating terrorism and its effects, while reinforcing the protection of open public spaces and facilitating the extraction of valuable conclusions in the context of crisis management in a multi-stakeholder environment.' The main content area features two white boxes. The left box is for registration, with fields for 'Username', 'User Email', 'User Password', and 'Confirm Password', each with a red asterisk. Below these is a checkbox for 'I'm not a robot' and a 'CAPTCHA' image. A red 'Register' button is at the bottom. The right box is for login, with fields for 'Username or email address' and 'Password', each with a red asterisk. Below these is a 'Remember me' checkbox and a 'Lost your password?' link. A red 'Login' button is at the bottom. The background of the page has a faint city skyline and stars. At the bottom, a dark blue footer contains the European Union flag and the text: 'This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 ISFP programme under grant agreement n° 815396.'

## Note:

*It should be made clear that the process does not (in any way) aim at procuring solutions nor does it constitute a pre-requisite for participating in a future procurement process should it be decided individually by the cities. The RFI is formally addressed to all entities, enterprises, research centres, universities and organizations that possess, fully or partially (upon submitting a relevant declaration for participating) the rights regarding the solution for which the interest in participation is being expressed.*

Given the concern surrounding the COVID- 19 outbreak and the worldwide effort currently taking place to mitigate the transmissibility of the virus, combined with the safety measures, which include the restriction of people's movement, PRoTECT has decided to postpone certain planned activities, which require the project's stakeholder's physical presence and adjust some procedures that will allow the project to continue its given course with a minimum negative impact.

Based on the above the following **actions have been decided**:

1.

The physical General Assembly (GA) and PRoTECT Seminar scheduled on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of June in Larissa-Greece are cancelled. However, the consortium is currently in discussion for feasible alternative solutions regarding the organization of the 2<sup>nd</sup> PRoTECT Seminar, including new dates or the implementation of a webinar.

2.

The Request for Information (RFI) will be opened until the 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020 for proposal submissions. Between May 18<sup>th</sup> 2020 and end of June:

- Each PRoTECT's participant city will organize an Evaluation workshop by utilizing the Technology Evaluation Framework and the RFI document, both developed in PRoTECT. The participant cities may consider that due to COVID-19 the workshop will potentially take place online through teleworking.
- In addition, the five cities will prepare their local ranking and selection sessions for the most eligible technological solutions (submitted during the RFI process) to be demonstrated in the cities. The ranking process will require a whole day e-General Assembly followed by a joined final decision on the future demonstrations of the solutions.





# PRoTECT Results

## Description of Best practices and Technologies—Results D3.1

Deliverable 3.1 constitutes the first tangible outcome of WP3 whose aim is to capture and assess the technology landscape underpinning PRoTECT. In this deliverable entitled “Description of Best practices and Technologies” industry-strength tools as well as good/best practices are distilled based on a systematic literature review (SLR) with a focus on the protection of public spaces for safe and secure cities.

In particular, the deliverable reports on the results of a systematic literature review on the state-of-the-art and the state-of-practice of technologies, methods and techniques, and associated good- and best-practices for the protection of urban spaces.

In Part I, of the document a systematic literature review provides the state of art technologies, techniques and design solutions for the protection of urban areas. In this context, not only academic outlets have been taken in consideration, but also, “grey” literature stemming from industrial papers, reports, outlets, websites. Part II uses a survey to collect and analyze best practices from the Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) and cities - members of the European Forum for Urban Security (EFUS). The literature survey is then complemented in Part III with a thorough overview of projects from the European-Community to further emphasize, analyse and understand the problem of protecting public spaces, as well as to present initial results from the identified projects. Lastly, there is an overview of existing commercially available technological solutions for the protection of public spaces tailored to different types of threats.

## Technology Evaluation Framework – Results D3.2

One of the activities in the project was to develop a framework to assist municipalities in finding and evaluating technological and social innovative solutions for mitigating identified vulnerabilities against terrorism in public space. This European Technology Evaluation Framework (EU TEF) offers eight steps that guide a municipality through various processes of soliciting information on solutions from multiple providers (with a Request for Information), evaluating the solutions based on the acquired information, carrying out evaluation exercises in workshops, and conducting live demonstrations of the (most) relevant solutions. The EU TEF can be used to evaluate any form of solutions, e.g. technological and social innovative solutions.

The EU TEF is meant for municipal staff who are responsible for safety and security in public space and their stakeholders, such as municipal police, urban planners, security department or crime prevention unit, event organizers, tourism and transport operators etc. The EU TEF can be used after performing a vulnerability assessment, which narrows down the focus on requesting information for solutions. The EU TEF was developed to suit the needs of the five PRoTECT municipalities, however it can be used by any other city that wants to gather information on and evaluate technological and social innovative solutions for protecting public space against terrorism. In addition, the EU TEF could be used as a starting point for further elaboration and/or adjustment towards facilitating any future procurement processes should they be decided by any municipality within the same concept (i.e. solutions for combating terrorism threats in public spaces.)



# Project Meetings

## Participation in MSE 2020, 29-31 October 2019

PRoTECT participated in the Mediterranean Security Event 2019 (<https://mse2019.kemea-research.gr/>), between the 29th and the 31st of October 2019, in Heraklion, Crete (Gr), with approximately three hundred (300) attendees from across the EU. Thirty-six (36) European R&D projects co-organised this joint initiative disseminating the results of their scientific work. Among them there was PRoTECT, participating with a presentation to the audience, an active booth providing networking opportunities to the project and live interaction with the attendees on the project's outcome, including the distribution and promotion of dissemination material.

The 4th General Assembly (GA) meeting of the consortium took place in 30th October in the same venue. Details about the progress of work regarding the Description of Best practices and Technologies, the development of the Technology Evaluation Framework as well as the future steps regarding the opted process on the expected delivery of demonstrations, were discussed.



## 5th General Meeting in Malaga, 4-5 February 2020

The partners of PRoTECT met for the project's fifth meeting on 4-5 February 2020, in Malaga (Spain).

During the two-day meeting an analysis was made on the main goals of the project, the management procedures and the way ahead for the next six months with a focus on the Request for Information (RFI) procedure and the processes that will be followed for the organization of the five Evaluation Workshops that will be conducted in Eindhoven, Larissa, Malaga, Vilnius and Brasov in order to select the technological solutions that best cover the specific requirements for each city. In this context, an extensive exchange of opinions took place among the participants regarding the process to be followed for evaluating candidate solutions, leading to useful procedural conclusions. Top evaluated solutions will be then invited to provide a demonstration (proof of concept) on ground that will be selected by the aforementioned partner municipalities.



### Project Details

The PROTECT project has received funding from the European Union's Internal Security Fund — Police under Grant Agreement n° 815356.

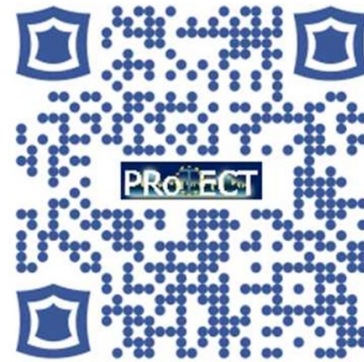
Starting Date: 1st November 2018  
Duration: 26 months



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### Beneficiaries

