



PRoTECT Newsletter

Newsletter IV
30 June 2021

Dear all,

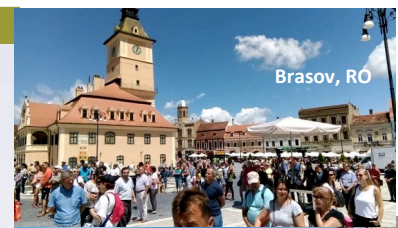
All good things come to an end and this goes for our PRoTECT project too.

Over the last 32 months the PRoTECT consortium has achieved a lot of results with many reports, seminars/webinars, workshops, demonstration days, white papers, websites and video production. All can be found on our [website](#).

I am glad to mention that the expertise built in PRoTECT will be used and extended in several other EU-ISFP projects. Also excited to mention the start of a new ENLETS Technology Interest Group 'PUBLIC' that will also focus on protecting public spaces. ENLETS being the initiator of PRoTECT project.

We as DITSS wish to thank all consortium partners and DG Home for a great cooperation with valuable results for local governments who want to protect their public spaces and soft targets.

Peter van de Crommert
Project Coordinator



Brasov, RO



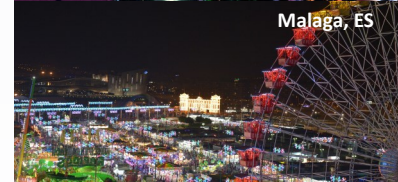
Eindhoven, NL



Larisa, GR



Vilnius, LT



Malaga, ES

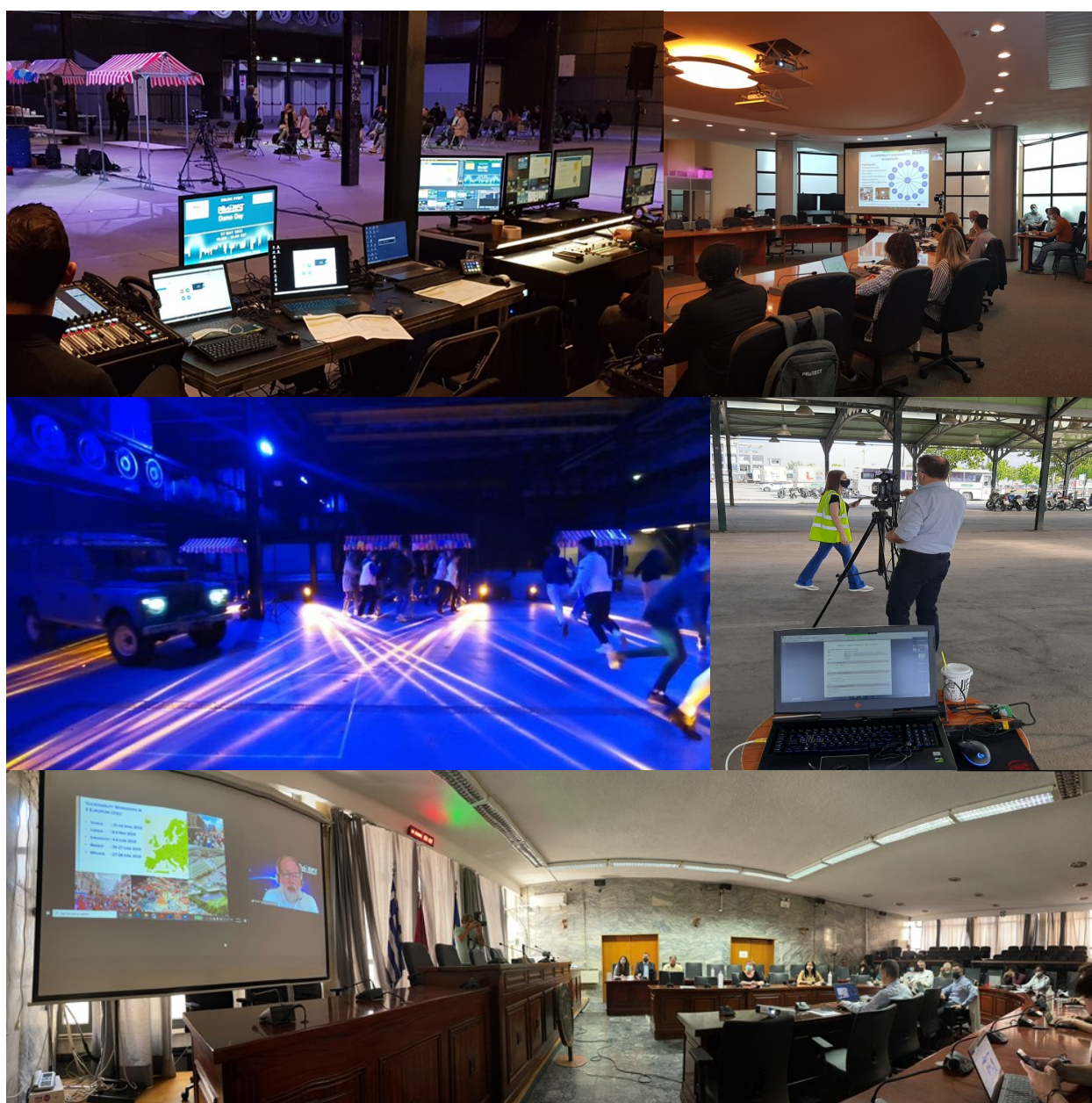
In a nutshell

- ◆ 6 countries / 5 cities
- ◆ 13 partners
- ◆ 10 General Assemblies
- ◆ 3 Seminars / Workshops
- ◆ 5 Vulnerabilities Assessments
- ◆ 1 Request for Information for Technology Solutions
- ◆ 33 Solutions submitted
- ◆ 1 Technology Evaluation Framework
- ◆ 5 Evaluation Sessions
- ◆ 5 Demonstration Events
- ◆ 21 demonstrated solutions
- ◆ 1 Technology Roadmap
- ◆ Urban Securipedia
- ◆ Manual for EU

Five Demonstration Events



During the period from 25th May until 7th June 2021 the five partner municipalities of the project hosted their local demonstration events of the technological solutions whose providers were invited accordingly as part of the preceding Request for Information (RFI) process. Despite the ongoing covid 19 imposed restrictions, the municipalities of Larissa, Brasov, Malaga, Eindhoven, Vilnius successfully organized a series of solution demos, that in many cases were delivered using a hybrid approach (remote streaming of limited physical demos), triggering interesting discussion and leading stakeholders to useful conclusions as to current market maturity for addressing their security concerns for protecting public spaces of interest. In this context, demonstrations were mostly staged on the basis of a hypothetical operational scenario selected by each city that encompassed specifically selected threats. A relevant video documentary is currently under preparation and will shortly become available through the project [website](#) (stay tuned).



Updates on the Urban Securipedia

The [Urban Securipedia](#) is a knowledge base for urban planners, security professionals and local municipal authorities on security within urban areas. The PRoTECT project has updated this website with relevant developed knowledge on security, specifically on countering terrorism and protecting public spaces that can be viewed as soft targets. The PRoTECT project has added knowledge such as what security is in general, what different security threats there are, including terrorism and countering it, insights into different measure types and what type of technological solutions are relevant, and information on a relevant concepts like vulnerabilities, public spaces and soft targets.

The Urban Securipedia is an online platform that is structured like Wikipedia. It is a result of the VITRUV project and now of PRoTECT. The dutch institute TNO hosts and edits the content. One can find content by clicking through different pages and wonder from topic to topic. A structure of the Urban Securipedia is present, to always find your way. We invite all of you to wonder.

For more information, please email: puck.vandenbrink@tno.nl.

Welcome to Urban Securipedia

Urban Securipedia is an urban safety and security knowledge base for local government and other organisations responsible for or involved in the safety and security of people and objects in the urban area. Examples of Securipedia users are: urban planners, municipality staff and law enforcement agencies responsible for the security of public space, and public event planners.

Urban Securipedia provides a structured approach to managing risk, providing practical tools for security concept development, security risk assessment and security technology evaluation, among others.

The knowledge within Urban Securipedia can be accessed either by selecting the aspect of interest, the urban area of interest or simply by searching for a keyword.



Urban Securipedia came into existence under the EU FP7 project VITRUV and was designed to provide extensive security-related information and tooling for those involved in the design of urban areas (i.e. urban planners). Later, as a result of the EU ISF project PRoTECT, Urban Securipedia was updated to include information and tooling for protecting events held in public space against terrorist attacks.

An outline of the Urban Securipedia content is given in a [Structure of the knowledge base](#).



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Future steps

PRoTECT managed to propose a holistic methodology for local governments to enhance security at specific public spaces of interest in an end to end approach. Municipal organisations that have participated in the project organising (among others) the demonstration events outlined, could further “build” upon the results of the project for inheriting / integrating its outcomes into their own security policy and practices. In this context an initial set of potential actions could be summarised as following:

Investigate regulatory framework

Operational exploitation requires a prior investigation of how, when and on what grounds this could be realized. As such municipalities may proceed to decoding the obligations streaming from the pliable legislation and decide whether any internal reforms are necessary prior to proceeding.

Assess internal organisation / structure efficiency

It may be needed to assign new responsibilities to existing and or create new organisational structures. In addition, potential interoperability requirements with other responsible stakeholder (e.g., Police, Fire Brigade, Emergency Services) need also to be investigated and priorly established.

Evaluate Infrastructure Pre-requisites

Demonstrated solutions have shown to build upon the existence of a prerequisite technical infrastructures, municipalities, based on their internal technical capacity could proceed in sizing both technically and financially the necessary additions for the considered solution(s) to become operational.

Three Web Conferences

As part of promoting the exchange of experiences, EFUS, in the framework of PRoTECT, organized a series of web conferences on the protection of public spaces and soft targets. The aim of these online sessions has been to discuss and raise awareness of the role of local and regional authorities in the protection of public spaces, as well as to propose tools to prevent these types of risks.

- ◆ Session 1: Vulnerability assessment of a potential target: How can local authorities make informed decisions on the necessary security provisions for public spaces?
- ◆ Session 2: How to choose the most relevant technologies to protect urban public spaces?
- ◆ Session 3 : How can technology protect public spaces and ‘soft targets’?

The undermentioned series of online sessions were attended by about 180 participants in total including representatives from European cities, law enforcement agencies, local security practitioners, tech companies, and national, European and international stakeholders. The event has contributed towards creating wider awareness through focusing on key aspects that concern the protection of public space and encompassed the development of minutes that outline the key points from the experts’ presentations and the discussions held with participants. Finally, Efus aimed to disseminate widely the work done by PRoTECT consortium, to learn from other initiatives, and to identify ways to transfer PRoTECT knowledge.

PRoTECT Final Event

The final event, titled **“Mitigating security gaps: How to support local and regional authorities in adopting a comprehensive methodology to identify vulnerabilities and evaluate solutions?”** was divided into three sessions, one session per day, each lasting a total of one and a half hours.

- ◆ Session 1: institutional discussion focusing on the cities’ progress in developing tools to prepare for and counter terrorist threats
- ◆ Session 2: sharing PRoTECT tools and their applications at the local level by local authorities.
- ◆ Session 3 : opportunity to exchange tools and experiences between the different projects funded by the EC

The final event aimed to share with other cities and actors involved in the work of protecting public spaces the tools developed in the framework of the project and their lessons learned, as well as to propose a platform for exchange with other projects aiming at the same objective **“helping cities to better protect their public spaces and soft targets”** and who do not have many opportunities to know what is being done by other peers and how their results can be used by end-users or as a starting point for future research. The event also promoted an institutional discussion exploring local, European and international institutions’ work to support relevant actors in the protection of public spaces.

In total, across the three sessions, 98 people participated in the final event, representing more than thirteen countries (Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, UK, Greece, Netherlands, Romania, Poland, Portugal, Sweden, Israel, South Africa). The participants included representatives of law enforcement agencies, city representatives, local security practitioners responsible for the protection of public spaces, researchers, national and European stakeholders as well as the private sector. In total the event hosted 13 speakers, who presented and shared audience their experiences and practices, both at the political and strategic level and at the technical/practical level.

Hellenic Police Academy of North Greece, 4th March 2021.

As part of the Final Practitioners Workshop of **STEPWISE** project, that took place as on 4th March 2021 through a hybrid approach (physical presence of local police officers and virtual connection of other Greek stakeholders and the STEPWISE consortium); a clustering event with other ISF funded projects has been organized by KEMEA in the Hellenic Police Academy of North Greece, in Veroia. During this event projects such as COBRA (coordinated by KEMEA) as well as PROTECT, MASC-CBRN, Secu4All and DroneWISE (where KEMEA is a consortium partner) were presented along with the STEPWISE outcomes to operational stakeholders within the scope of these project(s).

The event was attended by representatives of regional Police Services and Fire Department with a total of approximately 20 people participating in the event physically and remotely. In this regard, an overview of the objectives, implementation methodology, achievements as well as future activities of the PROTECT project was delivered, triggering significantly fruitful discussions regarding the protection of public spaces and soft targets.



EUPROTECT “Development of New Solutions for the Protection of European Citizens and Infrastructures Against Terrorist Threats” , 14th June 2021

On Monday the 14th of June, in the context of the ISFP project EUPROTECT (<https://www.euprotect-project.eu/>), PROTECT was invited to deliver a short presentation of the project overview, research objectives and achieved outcomes. The event was attended by numerous security partitioners and urban planers that showed particular interest in the project and its implementation methodology and results, triggering interesting discussions.



EUPROTECT “Development of New Solutions for the Protection of European Citizens and Infrastructures Against Terrorist Threats”

Webinar #2

14th June 2021

Venue: <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/281266213>

Time	Topic	Speakers
9:30 - 9:35	Welcome	Umberto Battista (STAM)
9:35 - 9:45	EUPROTECT project overview	Umberto Battista (STAM)
9:45 - 10:05	Needs and Requirements	Zuzanna Tobi-Jeffery (PP) Riccardo Quaranta (UNITOV) Davide Ottone (STAM)
10:05 - 10:25	Scenarios Definition	Ottavia Credi (IAI)
10:25 - 10:55	Modelling and Simulation of Use-Cases	Pietro De Vito (STAM)
10:55 - 11:10	Break	
11:10 - 11:30	Design Solutions for Protection of Public Spaces	Javier Garcia Salas (APF)
11:30 - 11:40	Next steps	Riccardo Quaranta (UNITOV)
11:40 - 11:50	PROACTIVE project overview	Laura Petersen (IUC)
11:50 - 12:00	PROTECT project overview	Ioannis Chasiotis (KEMEA)
12:00 - 12:10	DroneUnit project overview	Federico Benelli (SAFE)
12:10 - 12:25	Comments and discussion	ALL
12:25 - 12:30	Conclusions and Closure	Umberto Battista (STAM)

Please confirm your attendance, by sending an e-mail to: u.battista@stamtech.com

 This project was funded by the European Union's Internal Security Fund – Police, under Grant Agreement No 861727.

Project Details

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

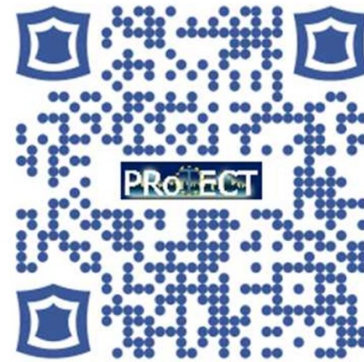
Starting Date: 1st November 2018
End Date: 30th June 2021



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