

ENISA CTI EU Meeting, Brussels, 5/6 November 2018 – Carol Cosgrove-Sacks, OASIS

This was one of a regular series of meetings convened by ENISA, financed by the EU, to bring together the cyber security community across Europe to examine current threats and relevant technologies to deal with them. There was a special session on 6th November on the role of standards. (I had been invited as a follow up to my visit to the ENISA operational HQ in Athens for OASIS last September where we discussed broad issues of cooperation. I participated on Day 2, 6th November)

The list of participants, the detailed programme and most of the presentations are on the ENISA events page - <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/events/2018-cti-eu-event/cti-eu-2018>

The participants were all specially invited, many from national bodies – the “CERTS” -and from associated public sector agencies concerned with cyber issues throughout Europe. Many of them were young, what one might call typical tech sector guys (rather few females), mixed with distinguished older guys who were perhaps military, special services, police.

TREY DARLEY gave an excellent presentation on CTI standards, especially STIX 2.0. All his slides carried the OASIS logo and many also referred to aspects of OASIS work. His comments were very well received and the audience was delighted that from Monday 12 November next he would be “one of them” working in CERT.Belgium and based in Brussels.

He summarized the work of the CTI TC, the role of its standards, the goals regarding STIX and TAXII, and their relevance to all aspects of cyber security in Europe – there seemed little dispute about that. One or two questions asked about liaison between OASIS and ETSI and the way in which STIX and TAXII could be seen as a little more “European”. I informed the audience about the EU MSP decision to accept STIX 1 and TAXII 1 for public procurement, but there was pressure for a similar recognition of version 2.0 and hopefully soon 2.1

Trey announced that CERT Belgium would organise a conference in Brussels on 18-19 March 2019 and hoped that new versions of STIX and TAXII would be done by then. He and I encouraged the audience to look at the OASIS website and to join the CTI TC.

ENISA people spoke about good cooperation with OASIS and genuinely seemed keen to encourage the take up of STIX and TAXII.

One of the most interesting presentations for me was from Christian Doerr of the Delft Technical University Cyber Threat Intelligence Lab – it seems they may have benefitted from EU finance. He also advocated using STIX and TAXII.

There was consensus in the meeting that more training is needed on CTI standards and perhaps OASIS could link with ENISA and maybe ETSI to help?

In direct discussions with ENISA staff , I was asked how OASIS might contribute to the ENISA “Crystal Ball” discussion on the future of CTI standards. We are asked if we could nominate one or two individuals who could participate in a reflection group – Trey made it clear it could not be him in view of his new role.

ENISA is currently planning its 2019-2020 conference/events programme and hoped OASIS might cooperate, especially based on the expertise of the CTI TC.

For more on ENISA see <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/> and note that the official HQ of ENISA is moving from Crete to Athens.