

PRESS RELEASE

“CRA EUROPE 2026” conference brought together leaders from the European cybersecurity industry

Bucharest, 5th of March 2026

On March 4th, 2026, the CYBERFORT Project Consortium organized the conference “**CRA EUROPE 2026 - CYBER RESILIENCE IN ACTION - CYBERFORT CONFERENCE**” at the Romanian Parliament, with the support of The Romanian National Cyber Security Directorate (DNSC) and under the coordination of I-ENERGYLINK.

The event brought together institutional leaders at both national and European, regulatory and supervisory authorities, cybersecurity experts, technology providers, and representatives of the academic community, providing a relevant platform for dialogue, cooperation, and the exchange of best practices.

The conference aligned European policy priorities with national implementation frameworks and project-based instruments. Through dedicated panel discussions, pilot demonstrations, and applied case studies, “**CRA EUROPE 2026**” illustrated how legislative requirements, supervisory expectations, and technical capabilities converge within real-world operational environments.

The main objective of this initiative was to translate the requirements of the [Cyber Resilience Act \(CRA\)](#) into clear and practical guidance for SMEs and relevant stakeholders. The CRA represents a major shift in how the security of digital products is approached in Europe. Organizations are required to integrate cybersecurity by design in products and services, rather than handling it as a subsequent compliance measure. The implementation of the CRA will require close collaboration between public authorities, industry, academia, and technology providers.

During the event, European and national policy perspectives have been linked with operational implementation models and real pilot experiences developed within the [CYBERFORT](#) Consortium project. The discussions reinforced the strong interest in the implementation of the CRA at European level and highlighted that security of digital products is becoming a strategic priority for the European market.

Mihai PĂUN - Founder of I-ENERGYLINK and the CYBERFORT Consortium Coordinator, **presented the conference agenda and the main objectives of the CYBERFORT project:** “*This conference marks an important milestone for the CYBERFORT project, facilitating meaningful discussions to assess the progress, align strategic and technical priorities, and jointly define the next phases of implementation. Through this initiative, CYBERFORT strengthens its commitment to supporting SMEs in becoming better prepared, well-structured, and competitive in the context of the new legislation.*”

Mihaela CURCĂ - CYBERFORT Project Manager at DNSC highlighted the essential role of the **consortium in achieving the project’s objectives:** “*Our success is built on effective collaboration and a strong partnership between entities and experts from Romania and Cyprus, who are committed to strengthening cybersecurity resilience at the European level. In the context of the new legislation, SMEs need practical guidance, tools, and implementation models. The CYBERFORT pilot projects in sectors such as energy, finance, maritime, and cybersecurity services have highlighted both the real challenges and the applicable solutions for SMEs under CRA.*”

The CYBERFORT project, funded by the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC), under the Digital Europe Programme officially commenced implementation on 1 December 2024. The project brings together experts from Cyprus and Romania, comprising eight partner organizations within the consortium. CYBERFORT is coordinated by I-ENERGYLINK (RO), in collaboration with BOLTON TECHNOLOGIES (CY), CLONE SYSTEMS (CY), COLUMBIA SHIPMANAGEMENT (CY), DEALIO LIMITED (CY), THE ROMANIAN NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY DIRECTORATE (RO), ELIAS NEOCLEOUS (CY), and EXIMPROD ENGINEERING (RO).

