Yasen Tanev - Digital innovation hub Trakia

Introducing a New Cybersecurity Profession

Digital Innovation Hub Trakia
BULGARIAN CYBERSECURITY ASSOCIATION
СЪЮЗ ЗА СТОПАНСКА ИНИЦИАТИВА
UNION FOR PRIVATE ECONOMIC ENTERPRISE
ПРОГРАМА НАУЧНИ ИЗСЛЕДВАНИЯ, ИНОВАЦИИ И ДИГИТАЛИЗАЦИЯ ЗА ИНТЕЛИГЕНТНА ТРАНСФОРМАЦИЯ
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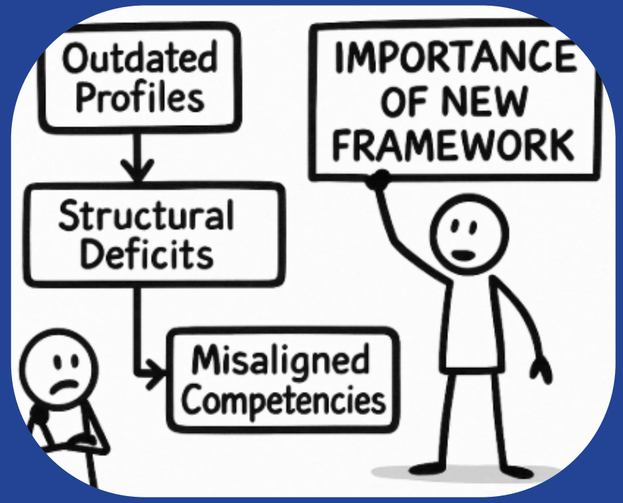
Addressing Structural Deficits

Importance of New Framework

The strategic significance of cybersecurity requires a **fundamental shift**.
Structural deficits, including outdated profiles and misaligned competencies:



highlight the **urgent need** for a comprehensive new model

Our Method and pilars

European Cybersecurity Framework

The ECSF provides essential guidelines to establish a common **cybersecurity framework** that enhances collaboration across Europe.

EQF Alignment

Aligning with the EQF enables clear **recognition of qualifications**, facilitating mobility and employment opportunities across the EU member states.

Future-oriented Reform

The national reform "Professions of the Future" aims to create **innovative educational pathways** that prepare professionals for emerging cybersecurity roles.

International Standards

ISO/IEC 27001 & 27002 standards ensure that our cybersecurity practices meet **global benchmarks**, promoting consistency and reliability in operations.

National Standards

Bulgarian national standards are integrated to address local **cybersecurity challenges**, ensuring relevance and effective responses to specific threats.

A New Professional Framework

Description of Roles and Skills

Operational Roles

The operational roles focus on hands-on cybersecurity tasks, including **real-time threat detection** and incident response, ensuring systems remain secure against evolving cyber threats in various environments.

Managerial Roles

Managerial roles encompass overseeing cybersecurity teams, formulating strategies, and implementing governance frameworks that align with **organizational goals** and compliance requirements, ultimately driving performance and effectiveness.

Strategic Roles

Strategic roles emphasize long-term planning and risk management, integrating cybersecurity into business objectives, ensuring a robust defense posture while adapting to emerging threats and **regulatory landscapes**.

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Qualification Levels

Understanding Operational and Strategic Focus Areas

Level III

Level III emphasizes an **operational focus**, aligning training to ECSF Levels 2–3. It prepares professionals for technical execution, monitoring, and incident handling, ensuring readiness in cybersecurity environments.

Level IV

Level IV focuses on **strategic and managerial** competencies, aligned with ECSF Levels 4–5. This level emphasizes security strategy, risk management, and team leadership to address complex cybersecurity challenges.

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Learning Outcome Units

Comprehensive framework for cybersecurity education and skills

Technical Block

This block focuses on critical **technical competencies** required for cybersecurity professionals, including network security and incident response expertise.

Management Block

The management block emphasizes **strategic and governance** skills essential for overseeing cybersecurity initiatives and aligning them with business objectives.

Ethical and Legal

This block addresses key **ethical and legal** considerations in cybersecurity, ensuring professionals understand compliance, privacy, and regulatory requirements.

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A New Examination Framework

Real-World Assessment Structure

Case-Based Assessment

The **thematic structure** of the new examination framework incorporates real-world case-based assessments that reflect current cybersecurity challenges.
By simulating authentic scenarios, candidates can demonstrate their knowledge and skills effectively. This approach ensures that examinations are relevant and focused on the practical application of competencies.

Strategic Management Tasks

Included in the examination framework are strategic management tasks designed to test candidates' abilities to navigate complex cybersecurity environments.
These tasks involve analyzing technical scenarios and developing crisis response strategies, thereby preparing candidates for leadership roles in cybersecurity. This ensures a thorough evaluation of both technical and managerial competencies.

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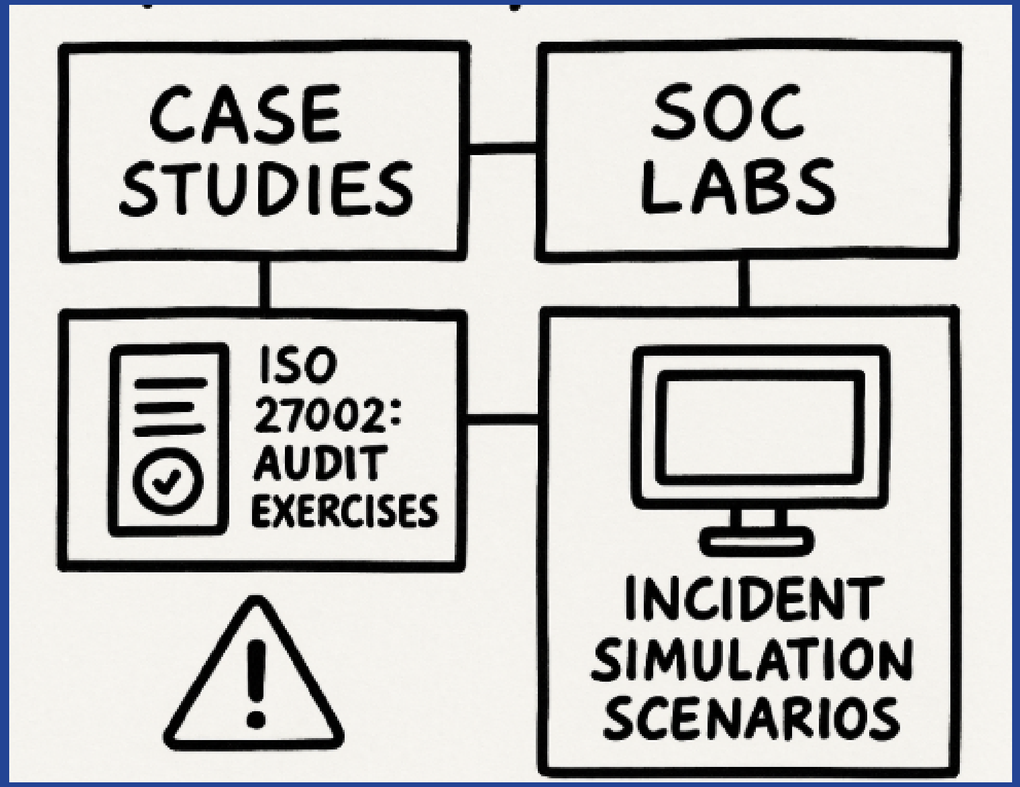
Learning and Teaching Materials

Practical Tools for Cybersecurity Education

This section highlights essential **case studies and SOC labs**, along with ISO 27002:2022 audit exercises and incident simulation scenarios, designed to equip learners with relevant skills and knowledge.



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Collaborative Project Team

Key Consortium Partners

The success of this initiative relies on the collaboration of key partners:
EDIH Trakia, **St. George College**, and the **Bulgarian Industrial Association**
each contributing unique expertise.

Multi-Institutional Effort

Safer – Educational and awareness initiative for the masses and
I**nstitute for Artificial Intelligence** emphasize collaboration to enhance cybersecurity education through innovative strategies and shared resources.

Closing Remarks

What This Means

Bulgaria is ready to contribute a **comprehensive model** aligned with ECSF and EQF III/IV, enhancing the cybersecurity framework across Europe for better resilience and collaboration.

Impact for Europe

Enhancing cybersecurity through a strategic national framework

Integrated Skills

This framework emphasizes the **integration of skills** across cybersecurity, ethics, governance, and AI, promoting comprehensive professional development.

National Examination

A fully developed national examination system ensures **standardized evaluation**, aligning education and training with European cybersecurity requirements and industry needs.

Scalable Model

The model is scalable and transferable, providing a **template for EU Member States** to enhance their own cybersecurity frameworks and practices.

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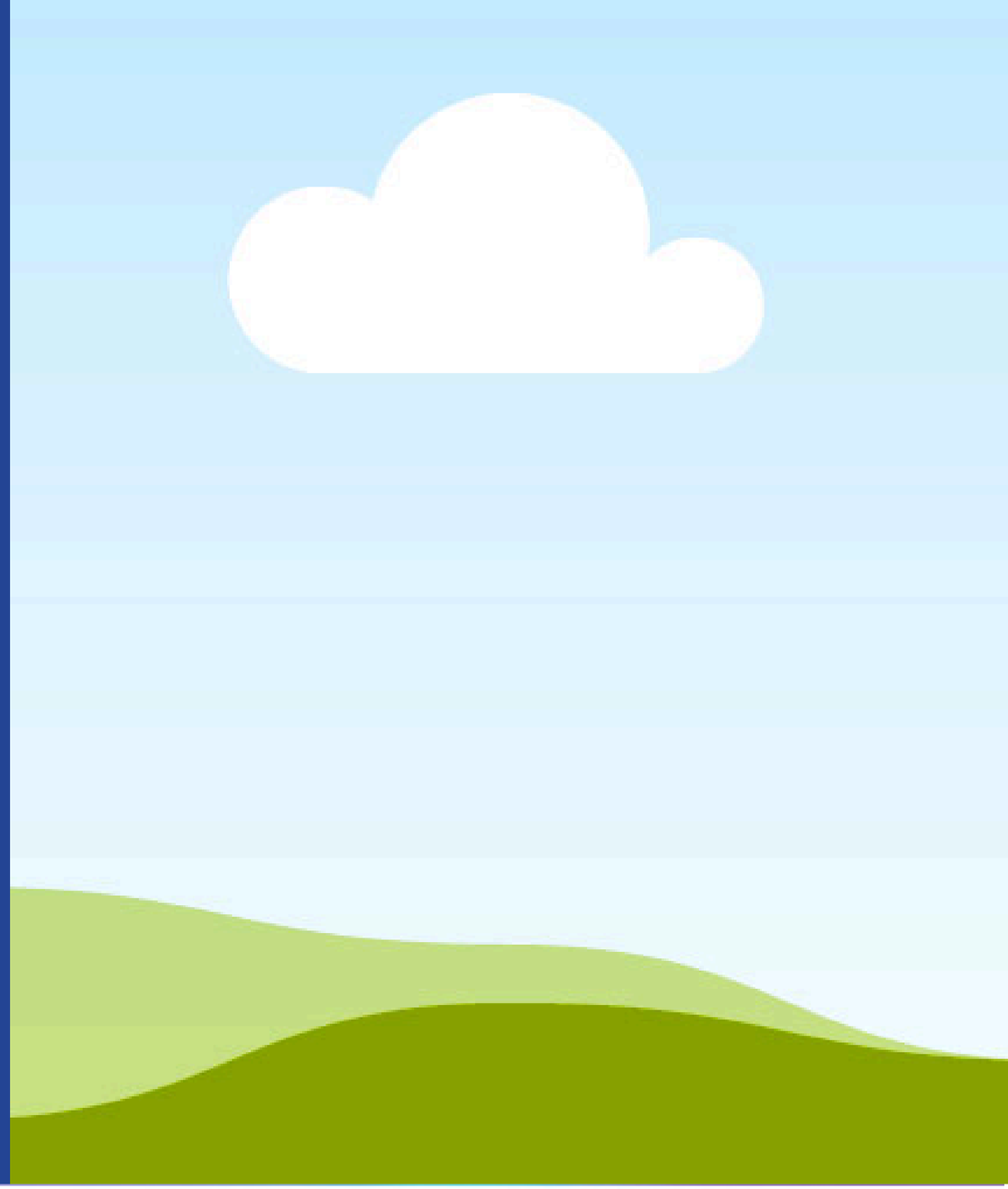
“Cybersecurity is no longer a technical problem, it's a societal challenge”

Thank You for Your Attention

Let's work together for a safer digital future



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