Dear Reader

Welcome to the third issue of the EvoCS newsletter.

The current publication is presenting to you a brief overview of the case studies produced as a part of the EvoCS; and the final conference of the project, to which we wish to invite you with great pleasure.

The project's closing event comes at very hectic times for the EU security community.

That is why we believe the conference will provide an opportunity for policy-makers at all levels to look for solutions that respect the values of today, increase policy legitimacy and protect human rights.

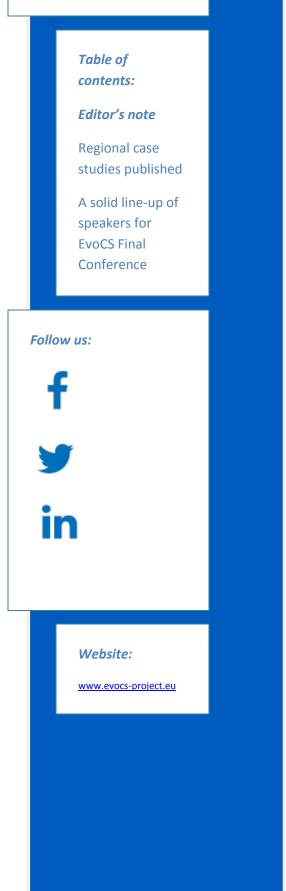Looking forward to meeting you and exchanging with you, I remain,

Yours sincerely,

Vesselin Petkov
Director Outreach

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EvoCS Newsletter

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Regional case studies published

North-Western Europe: Competing and Conflating Discourses in the North-Western Europe Security Agenda

In contrast to the other EvoCS regions, the case study (France, the United Kingdom and the Netherlands) displays a more homogeneous concept of security. However, whilst UK and Netherlands are quite similar, France is closer to West Mediterranean case study.

This translates in considerable commonalities as regards the security discourses in the three countries studied, the main issues discussed and the way they are discussed, notably the fact that security plays a major role in the popular discourse.

Physical safety and security stands out as the most salient core value in the region, while terrorism and cyber security are the most salient challenges.

The West Mediterranean: Under migratory pressure

The countries examined for the region of the West-Mediterranean EU were Malta, Italy and Spain.

Despite individual nuances, this case study region is characterised by the salience of physical safety and of economic prosperity, which were among the top three of values in the analysed countries.

Notably, social stability in Italy, information and cyber security in Malta, and environmental and ecological security in Spain stand very close to the most salient core values.

The common security challenges for the region are illegal immigration, and the effects of the economic and financial crisis, perceived to be linked to each other due to illegal immigrants' having additional negative effect on the economy of the region.

Eastern EU Border: Coherence on the Surface and Russia

On the surface, coherence is easily found in the Eastern EU Border region, represented by Hungary, Lithuania and Poland, with the most salient core values being territorial integrity and political stability.

In addition to that, the most salient security challenges identified as a result of the analysis are also similar, although they are addressed by and have an impact on different core values.

Notably, however, the Ukrainian crisis (as a litmus test on the way Russia is looked at) marks a telling difference in the security perceptions in the region.

South-Eastern Europe: We are all different

The case study of South-Eastern Europe, featuring coding data from Bulgaria, Serbia and Turkey and results from a workshop with security experts from the region, shows very heterogeneous perceptions of security.

Despite the fact that many surrounding aspects are similar, salience is attached to different core values and different challenges.

The main level for the security discourse is still the national one and the most prominent and active actors are the national governments but long-term solutions to important security challenges are missing.

All case studies are available for download at www.evocs-project.eu/deliverables

A solid line-up of speakers for the EvoCS Final Conference

A high-level line-up of speakers is taking part in the final conference of the EvoCS project, according to the [draft agenda](#) announced.

The conference, entitled "Evolving Concepts of Security – Values, Perceptions, Threats across Four European Regions," will be held on 10 November 2015 at BAO Centre (www.bao.be) in Brussels.

Stepahn Muller, Representative of Luxembourg in the Political and Security Committee of the EU; **Mariya Gabriel**, MEP (EPP, Bulgaria), Vice Chair of the EPP Group; and **Lius Amorim**, Head of Unit, Council Secretariat (Foreign Affairs, Enlargement, Civil Protection) will be joining the opening session of the event.

For their part, **Cyrille Schott**, Director, National Institute of Advanced Studies on Security and Justice of France; **Jorge Manuel Bento-Silva**, Counterterrorism Unit, DG HOME; and **Pete Fussey**, Department of Sociology, University of Essex will be sitting on the panel focusing on North-Western Europe.

Giovanni Faleg, Consultant at the World Bank is participating in the West-Mediterranean panel, together with **Han Entzinger** of Erasmus Universiteit Rotterdam and **Martin Xuereb**, Director of the Migrant Offshore Aid Station.

Dietrich Neumann, Head of Corporate Services, Europol; Prof. Dr. **Ali Resul Usul**, Chairman, Centre for Strategic Research, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkey; **Dennis Blease**, Senior Security & Justice Advisor, UK Stabilisation Unit; and **Antonella Valmorbida**, Secretary General, European Association for Local Democracy are all on board for the South-Eastern Europe panel.

Gabor Iklody, Director, Crisis Management and Planning Directorate CMPD, EEAS; and two former Ministers of Defence – **Janusz Onyszkiewicz** of Poland, and **Imants Lieģis** who is currently serving as the Latvian Ambassador to Hungary are joining the Eastern EU Border session.

More about the conference can be found at: http://evocs-project.eu/meetings

The EvoCS consortium