

**Issue 3 (2008) April**

Welcome to the April edition of the CEPIS newsletter. This month we provide you with various news items and highlight many opportunities, including various European IT initiatives, events and groups for you or your society to engage in. Included in this issue is an update on the activities of the e-Skills ILB, details on the formation of a European Internet Governance Forum, and also an article about the creation of the European Centre for Women and Technology.

At the Autumn Council, ATI presented their preliminary research into the area of Informatics Students and Young Informatics Professionals. The ISYP SIN was subsequently created and will present the outputs of their first meeting at the CEPIS Spring Council meeting in Ljubljana, Slovenia next week. In this issue we also highlight the data retention paper produced by the LSI SIN. As always, you will find informatics news from across Europe together with a listing of forthcoming IT events in Europe, and calls for papers and contributions.

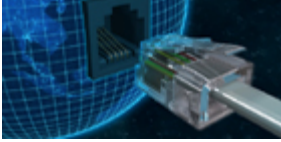
In this issue...[News](#)[Events](#)[Calls for Papers](#)[Your Suggestions](#)**e-Skills ILB commits to action to address the e-skills shortage**

On 4th March, the e-Skills Industry Leadership Board (ILB), in discussion with Vice President of the European Commission, Gunter Verheugen, reinforced its commitment to develop and implement a long-term e-skills agenda that will foster competitiveness and deliver an inclusive Information Society. At this meeting CEPIS Past President, Geoff McMullen, presented the CEPIS Foresights Study which shows that the EU could be facing an annual shortfall of 70,000 skilled IT professionals by as early as 2010.

[Read More](#)**Establishing a European Centre for Women and Technology**

CEPIS was recently identified as a potential key partner in establishing a European Centre for Women and Technology (ECWT). This initiative, supported by the International Task Force on Women and ICT, is establishing an ECWT that will connect to a global network and help support the full participation of women in our knowledge-based economy. Members interested in this topic are encouraged to express their interest to [Fiona Fanning](#).

[Read More](#)



[Supporting the Internet Governance Forum in Europe](#)

Issues such as access to the Internet, security, privacy and the preservation of an open and free Internet concern us all, yet the regional and national structures of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) are only emerging within Europe. This represents an opportunity, supported by the European Parliament, to strengthen the European dimension and to ensure that European values are promoted in the context of Internet governance.

[Click here to read more](#)



[Member feedback requested: LSI SIN paper on data retention](#)

The CEPIS Legal and Security Special Interest Network (LSI SIN) has produced a position paper on the data retention Directive of the European Commission. All CEPIS Members are invited to comment on this paper.

[Click here for the CEPIS LSI SIN position paper on data retention](#) or download it from the **[Member Societies area of the CEPIS website.](#)**

Please send your comments and suggestions to **[Eleni Kosta](#)** by 9th April.



[CEPIS Workshop on Informatics Students and Young Professionals](#)

Following ATI's presentation at the Autumn Council, Member Societies agreed that greater cooperation and sharing of experiences could help develop student and young professional membership. To this end, representatives from Asociación de Técnicos de Informática (ATI) established the Informatics Students and Young Professionals Special Interest Network (ISYP SIN).

The initial meeting of this SIN saw participants from the British Computer Society, the Cyprus Computer Society, the Swedish Information Processing Society and the John von Neumann Computer Society, attend a workshop in Brussels on 29th February to outline key principles of engagement for targeting this potential membership section. The conclusions and recommendations of this workshop will be presented at the Spring Council in Ljubljana.

If you wish to contribute to this valuable work please contact **[Rafael Fernández Calvo](#)**.



[Wikipedia](#)

As CEPIS looks to continually enhance its communication presence we encourage Members who are not already represented on **[Wikipedia](#)**, to create a presence for their Computer Society on this site. For those who already have a Wikipedia page, we would encourage you to mention that you are a CEPIS member and link to the **[CEPIS wiki](#)** entry.



ECDL France: Getting women back into the workforce

On 3rd March, [PCIE](#) - ECDL France, entered into a partnership with Force Femmes, Microsoft, Randstad and State Street to provide 1,500 women over the age of 45, with the skills, certification, and support needed to facilitate their reintegration into the workforce.

Alain Mutrelle, Administrative Director of PCIE, who spoke at this event, emphasised that 'this programme will provide not only the skills that are essential in helping these women re-enter employment, but also the confidence and sense of achievement that comes with the attainment of an internationally recognised high-quality ECDL certification'.

[Click here to read more.](#)



CEN creates a Research Helpdesk

CEN, the [European Committee for Standardization](#) has recently announced the creation of a research helpdesk. Any research projects or research centres that wish to contact CEN can now email research@cen.eu for direct access to the research helpdesk.

The new helpdesk will facilitate researchers' involvement with CEN standardisation activities, in particular the areas of informatics, and is also highly relevant to the issues discussed in the European Commission's '[Communication towards an increased contribution from standardisation to innovation](#)', which was published recently.

For more information, please see the [CEN Press Release](#) or contact [André Pirlet](#).



ENISA feasibility study on a European Information Sharing and Alert System (EISAS)

In response to a request from the European Commission, the European Network and Information Security Agency (ENISA) has published the first feasibility study on a European Information Sharing and Alert System (EISAS) to inform SMEs and citizens in the European Union on threats, vulnerabilities and attacks.

The study concludes that the most effective level of involvement for the EU in the establishment and operation of an information sharing system would be the role of a facilitator, a moderator of discussion, and a "keeper of good practice". The report closes with the proposed next steps to be taken.

[Click here to view the full study.](#)



[ENISA survey: Europe steps forward in network security and anti-spam measures](#)

The second annual ENISA survey of internet and e-mail service providers highlights a positive trend towards a more proactive defence of e-communication channels.

[Click here for more information.](#)

Another recent report on Business and IT Service Continuity provides a global perspective on emerging and existing standards for mitigating security risks to critical processes. Click on the link for more information on this report entitled: [Is your business prepared for network and information security threats?](#)



[The Accessibility Imperative](#)

The [Global Initiative for Inclusive ICTs](#), a flagship advocacy initiative of the United Nations Global Alliance for ICT and Development, has published 'The Accessibility Imperative'. This is the first attempt made to present one comprehensive volume on the challenges and opportunities of implementing [the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities](#) in matters of accessibility to ICT.

With already 104 countries signatory to the Convention, the scope of legislative and regulatory work which will take place over the next few years in matters of ICT accessibility is considerable. This edition is the first reference made available to policy makers and their constituents to facilitate the process of identifying the best path towards effective implementation of the Convention.

[Click here for more information.](#)

EVENTS



[Euro-Inf Project Workshop Cancellation](#)

The Euro-Inf project workshop planned for 21st-22nd April will not go ahead as planned. Efforts will instead be focused on the final dissemination event in early September. We will post information about this event as soon as it is available.

[Other Events taking place soon:](#)

- **9th-12th April**
[IADIS International Conference on e-Society 2008](#), Algarve, Portugal. Sponsored by: IADIS and KM Institute.
- **12th April**
[CEPIS Council](#)
Ljubljana, Slovenia. Organised by: CEPIS
- **14th April**
[e-Inclusion Ageing Well in the Knowledge Society Workshop](#), Brussels, Belgium. Organised by: European Commission.

- **16th-18th April**
[2nd International Computer and Instructional Technologies Symposium](#), Kusadasi, Turkey. Organised by: EGE Universities, Egitim fakultesi, ALMIRA.
- **21st-23rd April**
[BCS Health Informatics Conference 2008](#), Harrogate, UK. Organised by: the British Computer Society.
- **21st-25th April**
[The 17th International World Wide Web Conference](#), Beijing, China. Sponsored by Google, Microsoft, At&T, Yahoo, European Patent Office, EBay, NEC, and Nokia.
- **23rd-25th April**
[6th Eastern European eGovernment Days 2008](#), Prague, Czech Republic. Organised by: EPMA, Austrian Computer Society.
- **28th-30th April**
[4th Euro NGI Conf. on Next Generation Internet Networks](#), Krakow, Poland. Sponsored by: EU NoE Euro FGI; IFIP WG6.2; Communications Society.
- **7th-10th September**
[20th IFIP World Computer Congress](#), Milan, Italy
Organised by: IFIP & AICA (registration discount available before 30th April)

CALLS FOR PAPERS



[CEN/ISSS calls for 3 experts in Cyber Identity](#)

In electronic communications, certainty regarding the organisation's identity is necessary to gain the trust and confidence of transacting parties. Knowing exactly who the acting organisation actually is has become a matter of paramount importance. This issue is known as 'Cyber Identity'. The matter is often discussed in terms of secure authentication, but in reality goes far beyond this subject.

The CEN/ISSS Workshop - CyberID - wants to focus on the issues of Cyber Identity with the aim of producing a CEN Workshop Agreement on the subject, covering organisational and operational rules and processes to enable interoperability across multiple organisation identification schemes. The call for experts on this topic is now open.

Closing date for applications is 25th April 2008.

[Click here to view further information and the Terms of Reference for these positions.](#)



[Call for comments: Barriers and Incentives for Network and Information Security in the Internal Market for e-Communication](#)

ENISA commissioned a study to identify barriers and incentives for network and information security (NIS). The overarching aim of the report is to analyse the economic impact of NIS and to assess added value and contribution to the smooth functioning of the Internal Market

for e-communication.

Stakeholders are invited to provide feedback and comments on the final report and its recommendations.

[Click here to view the report and guiding questions for comments.](#)

Please send your views and comments to ENISA by 30th April 2008.



Call for papers: 11th International Conference on Interactive Computer aided Learning

24th–26th September 2008, Villach, Austria

This interdisciplinary conference will focus on the exchange of relevant trends and research results as well as the presentation of practical experiences in **interactive computer aided learning**. The call for papers is now open and pilot projects, applications and products are also welcome.

The 16th of May is the closing date for submission of extended abstracts (2 pages).

[Click here for more information.](#)



Call for papers: IT and Telecom Symposium 2008

9th -10th October 2008
Vienna, Austria

This event will cover topics like Broadband, Next Generation Media, Green IT, Compliance & Governance, Datacenter Management, Enterprise Intelligence, IT Performance Measurement and many more.

Submissions are welcome on any subject related to the symposium themes. Please keep in mind that submissions which look at the applications and implications of technology are more likely to be selected than those that are overly technical. The closing date for submission of abstracts is 30th April.

[Click here for more information.](#)

YOUR SUGGESTIONS



Your Suggestions

We welcome your suggestions on items for the newsletter or any additions or amendments to the website.

Please send your thoughts and comments to [Fiona Fanning](#).

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