

NEWSLETTER

VOL. 3, DECEMBER 2023

WOMEN4CYBER MONTENEGRO



TOP NEWS

- A NEW ALLIANCE FOR A SAFER CYBERSPACE: W4C AND ASSOCIATION OF SECURITY MANAGERS OF MONTENEGRO
- THE CAPITAL PODGORICA AND WOMEN4CYBER MONTENEGRO: CYBER RESILIENCE THROUGH INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
- REPRESENTATIVES FROM MONTENEGRO AT THE ITU CYBERDRILL: MONTENEGRO'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE DEVELOPMENT OF GLOBAL CYBERSECURITY STANDARDS



A NEW ALLIANCE FOR A SAFER CYBERSPACE



Women4Cyber Montenegro and the Association of Security Managers of Montenegro officially inked a Memorandum of Collaboration in Podgorica and joined forces to advance national cybersecurity goals.

This strategic partnership will support the implementation of key cybersecurity policies, especially the National Cybersecurity Strategy and the Information Security Law of Montenegro.

The Memorandum outlines various areas of cooperation, such as raising awareness, developing educational programs, providing expert guidance, and organizing events. Women4Cyber Montenegro and the Security Managers Association will collaborate closely to build capacities, share knowledge and experiences, and innovate solutions to combat cyber threats.

THE CAPITAL PODGORICA AND W4C: CYBER RESILIENCE THROUGH INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

President Andreja Mihailović, Ph.D. and Vice-President Denisa Kurtagić recently had a productive meeting with mayor of Podgorica, Prof. Olivera Injac, Ph.D.

The discussion revolved around several key areas, such as developing cyber capacity, raising awareness of cyber risks, building cyber resilience, emphasizing the importance of international cooperation.

Mayor Injac, who has a respectable expertise in the field of cyber security, pointed out the strategic importance of synergy with international partners for the development of advanced cyber defense mechanisms, since in an era where cyber threats have no borders, cyber resilience depends on our ability to cooperate across borders.

We are thrilled to announce that we have agreed on some exciting initiatives that will help us advance our cybersecurity agenda and make a positive impact on our society.



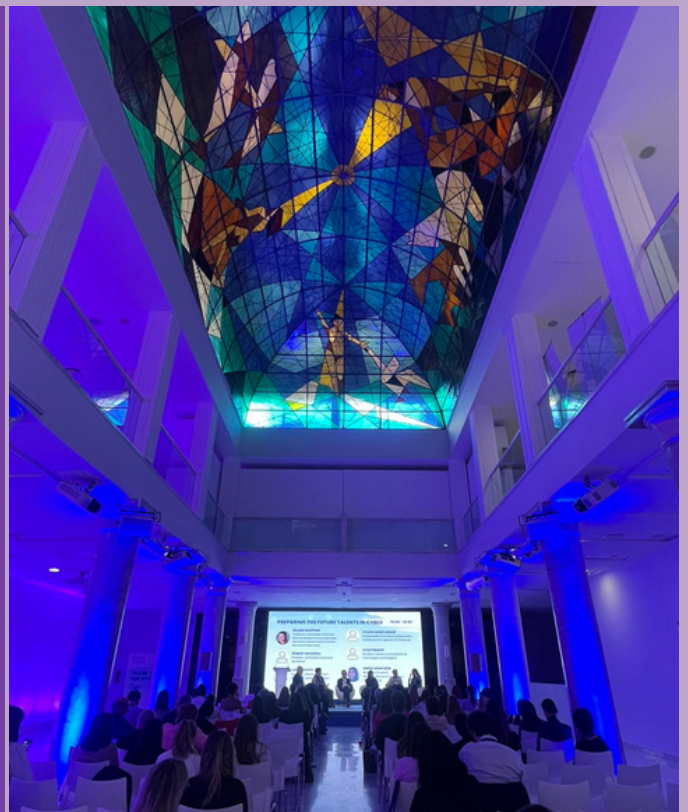
W4C CONFERENCE “HACKING GENDER BARRIERS”



The Women4Cyber conference in Madrid proved to be an exhilarating experience for our delegation led by President dr Andreja Mihailovic and Vice President Denisa Kurtagic. Over the course of two days, the team actively participated in valuable discussions, connected with representatives from various chapters, and engaged with leading cybersecurity experts.

The conference provided a platform for insightful discussions on current cyber threats and strategies. Two days filled with brilliant panels allowed our team to connect with like-minded individuals and establish meaningful connections.

The Women4Cyber conference in Madrid proved to be an exhilarating experience for our delegation led by President dr Andreja Mihailovic and Vice President Denisa Kurtagic. Over the course of two days, the team actively participated in valuable discussions, connected with representatives from various chapters, and engaged with leading cybersecurity experts. The conference provided a platform for insightful discussions on current cyber threats and strategies. Two days filled with brilliant panels allowed our team to connect with like-minded individuals and establish meaningful connections.



WOMEN4CYBER MONTENEGRO AT ITU CYBERDRILL



Montenegro played a prominent role at the ITU Cyberdrill event held from November 28 to December 1, 2023, in Limassol, Cyprus.

Organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the UN's body for information and communication technologies established in 1865, the event brought together experts from leading global institutions and companies. Our President Andreja Mihailović highlighted the importance of educational programs in the development of cyber diplomacy and global cybersecurity on a dedicated panel, while Marinela Lazarević from the Ministry of Economic Development and Tourism, presented Montenegro's government experience in safeguarding critical information infrastructure.

Attendees included representatives from the Council of Europe, the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA), leading national cybersecurity agencies and institutes, and companies like Microsoft. This exceptional opportunity facilitated discussions on the world's major cybersecurity challenges, knowledge exchange, and experiences in best practices and cyber safety.

Events like CyberDrill play a crucial role in global efforts to secure cyberspace, emphasizing Montenegro's commitment to international collaboration and joint efforts in this critical sector. Montenegro's participation not only underscores the importance of global cooperation but also confirms the nation's dedication to enhancing cybersecurity capacities and actively contributing to the development of global information security standards.



A PARTNERSHIP FOR INNOVATION AND DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION



Our President, dr Andreja Mihailović and Vice President Denisa Kurtagić recently attended a high-level meeting with the NATO Allied Command Transformation delegation, led by General Philippe Lavigne. The meeting was an opportunity to learn more about NATO's strategic vision and initiatives in fostering innovation and next-generation technologies to address emerging challenges. We are honored to be recognized as a potential partner in promoting NATO's DiANA acceleration program, which aims to support digital transformation and innovation in Montenegro and beyond. We look forward to collaborating with NATO and other stakeholders in advancing the digital transformation, innovation, new technologies, AI...

CORPORATE SECURITY DAYS 2023

Our Vice President Neli Rašović was a speaker at the 9th International Conference "Corporate Security Days" 2023, held in Fruška Gora, Serbia, organized by the Serbian Association of Corporate Security Managers, a leading organization in the field of corporate security in the region.

Neli gave an insightful presentation on the importance of inclusion and participation of women in the cyber security industry. She discussed the current trends and challenges in cyber space, the level of commitment and readiness of the Western Balkans countries to digital transformation and cyber security, as well as the vulnerabilities and risks posed by cyber threats.

Neli also highlighted the role and mission of the Women4Cyber Montenegro association, which aims to make the cyber environment more inclusive and safer for everyone.



VERITYCON2023: NAVIGATING THE DISINFORMATION ERA



VerityCon2023 was a remarkable event that we had the pleasure to attend, hosted by the Western Balkans Fund and supported by the Embassy of Japan to Albania and the Visegrad fund.

Our Vice President, Neli Rašović, moderated lively and insightful discussions with distinguished speakers from various fields of media and journalism: Mr. Ognjen Janeski, Media Professional; Ms. Ola Xama, Investigative Journalist; Mr. Norbert Sinkovic, Professor of Journalism; Mr. Berat Buzhala, Journalist and Publicist and Mr. Alec Klein, Investigative Journalist.

The conference gathered experts from the Western Balkan region, Europe, and Japan, who shared their perspectives and experiences on how to deal with fake news and disinformation, which pose serious threats to stability and democracy in the region.

HYBRID WARFARE AND NEW CHALLENGES FOR THE EFFECTIVE PROTECTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Our representative, Andela Simonović, participated in a panel on the challenges of hybrid warfare, organized by Crveni krst Crne Gore. Andela focused her presentation on the key area of cyber security, highlighting its gender dimensions.

Citing a European Commission study that reveals that only 11% of women work in the security sector, she stressed the need for joint efforts to overcome this gender gap.

Andela emphasized that connecting security experts across the world is crucial for empowering women and raising awareness about the key role of inclusive teams in increasing efficiency and effectiveness.

Andela's call for a unified approach to cyber security becomes a strategic imperative for enhancing our collective security.



WE ARE PROUD OF OUR MEMBERS ALSO BECAUSE OF...



Our VP, Denisa Kurtagic, has been selected as the first-ever National Point of Contact for Montenegro by the Space Generation Advisory Council (SGAC).

As a National Point of Contact, Denisa will act as a liaison between the SGAC and the Montenegrin Space community, as well as coordinate local events and activities that support the SGAC's vision and mission. Denisa is passionate about the peaceful use of outer Space and the advancement of safe cyber and quantum technology in Space. She will contribute to the global efforts of the SGAC in these areas, as well as share her expertise and insights with other members of the organization.

This is a huge honor and a great opportunity for Denisa, our organization, and our country to be part of the global Space community. We are proud of her achievement and we look forward to supporting her in this new role.

Vasilija Velfel, our Communication & Marketing Coordinator, has embarked on a new journey in the field of cybersecurity, mentored by Dr. Albesë Demjaha. Dr. Demjaha highlights the alarming gender gap in cybersecurity, where less than 30% of the global workforce are women, according to the latest Microsoft Digital Defense Report.

To tackle this issue, programs like HerCyberTracks are essential.

"Throughout the project, I have met many amazing women who work or aspire to work in cybersecurity. In the past few months, I have also had the privilege of mentoring Vasilija Velfel who has joined

Women4CyberMontenegro and HerCyberTracks – I am eager to follow and further assist her cyber journey", said Albesë.



**WOMEN
4CYBER™**

EUROPEAN CYBER SECURITY ORGANISATION

MONTENEGRO

THE LATEST STORIES FROM AROUND THE WORLD



Secretary General wraps up meeting of Foreign Ministers (28–29 November).
NATO faces the most dangerous world in decades with growing global competition. Allies will focus on what more NATO can do to prevent crises and enhance stability while addressing the importance of technological advancement.

Cyber Defense remains a crucial part of NATO deterrence and defence, so the NATO's first-ever Quantum Strategy is approved.
Quantum technologies can strengthen our cyber security and capabilities, but can also be used to crack them. The new Strategy will help to seize the opportunities presented by the quantum technologies while preventing competitors from using them against Allies.

The European Commission has come to an agreement about the implementation of the revolutionary cyber legislation – Cyber Resilience Act.

The Cyber Resilience Act aims to protect the digital devices and systems that we use every day, from smartphones and laptops to critical infrastructure and public services. It will establish a set of standards and ensure its exclusive application to all the digital devices, from simple gadgets to essential infrastructure.

The Act addresses emerging cyber risks by mandating all EU-market products to apply cybersecurity and making manufacturers provide timely security updates and ensure informed customer choices by informing them on cybersecurity at all times.



W4C Montenegro funding comes from donations

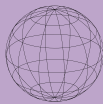
These are the different kinds of donations you can opt to give, check how you can help us raise awareness and funds towards a gender-inclusive cybersecurity community



Donations can be public or anonymous. Benefits include: logo on web, targeted actions, information, promotion and visibility in our community and more.

WOMEN 4CYBER™

EUROPEAN CYBER SECURITY ORGANISATION
MONTENEGRO



<https://w4c.me/>



<https://www.instagram.com/women4cyber.me>



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/women4cyber-montenegro>

Copyright © Women4Cyber Montenegro //
All rights reserved.