WOMEN 4CYBER

EUROPEAN CYBER SECURITY ORGANISATION

MONTENEGRO

Cyber excellence knows no gender

Newsletter

Volume 1, October 2023.

Dear Cyber Community of Montenegro,

We are thrilled to introduce the inaugural edition of Women4Cyber Montenegro Newsletter, a platform dedicated to championing diversity and inclusion in the cybersecurity landscape. Our mission is to unite professionals, enthusiasts, and students passionate about cybersecurity, transcending gender boundaries and fostering a thriving ecosystem.

In this first edition, we embark on an exciting journey to explore the world of cybersecurity, share insights from experts, celebrate the achievements of women in this field, and provide a space for dialogue and collaboration.

Join us as we pave the way for a more inclusive and equitable cybersecurity community in Montenegro. Together, we will demonstrate that excellence in cyber knows no gender.

Stay connected with us by following Women4Cyber Montenegro on LinkedIn and Instagram for the latest updates and opportunities.

Welcome to Women4Cyber Montenegro!

WOMEN 4CYBER
EUROPEAN CYBER SECURITY ORGANISATION
MONTENEGRO

Our journey thus far..

1 — Set in motion the initiative to establish Women4Cyber (W4C) Montenegro — MART 2023

APRIL 2023 — 2 — W4C Montenegro stands for the EU Security and Defence College values

MAY 2023 — 3 — W4C Montenegro is formally established

4 — W4C Montenegro representative attended the #V4WB seminar in Ohrid — JUNE 2023

5 — W4C Montenegro representative attended the W4C Serbia Forum — SEPTEMBER 2023

SEPTEMBER 2023 — 6 — W4C Montenegro representatives take part in the Her CyberTracks project

7 — W4C Montenegro was officially presented to the public — SEPTEMBER 2023

What is Women4Cyber Montenegro?

The non-governmental organization Women4Cyber Montenegro was established as the national chapter of the European Foundation Women4Cyber. Established in 2019 by the European Cybersecurity Organization (ECSO) and the European Commission, Women4Cyber Foundation has been at the forefront of advocating for greater gender equality and representation in the cybersecurity industry.

Our mission is to...

The mission of Women4Cyber Montenegro mirrors that of its European counterpart. Its primary objectives are:

1. **Identifying and Connecting**: Women4Cyber Montenegro seeks to identify and link individuals within the cybersecurity community, fostering invaluable contacts, visibility, and networking opportunities.

2. **Development and Growth**: The organization is committed to developing and growing the cybersecurity community by promoting awareness, education, training, and support within the job market.

3. **Shaping Policy and Actions**: Women4Cyber Montenegro actively works to shape local, national, and EU policies and actions in collaboration with the wider Women4Cyber network.

4. **Community Building**: Together with the Women4Cyber network, the Montenegrin chapter aims to work collectively to structure and grow the initiative, ensuring long-term sustainability and impact.

Launching event

Women4Cyber Montenegro officially launched at the Her CyberTracks Europe Forum, a remarkable initiative organized by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and German Agency for International Cooperation (GIZ) in collaboration with the Western Balkan Cyber Capacity Centre, hosted by the University of Montenegro.

Our representatives, Andreja Mihailović, Neli Rašović, Denisa Kurtagić, and Isidora Stanković, familiarized the participants with the vision, mission, and goals of W4C Montenegro.

During the presentation, it was underscored the critical importance of elevating cyber security awareness on a national scale. This effort stands as a fundamental prerequisite for fostering an environment conducive to ongoing economic growth and digital transformation. A significant spotlight was placed on the cyber security labor market, highlighting a substantial gap in both representation and income, particularly when comparing men and women in the field.

As a bonus, W4C representatives organized an interactive simulation during the Forum to acquaint participants with the complexities of the cyber crisis. This engaging exercise highlighted the major challenges and presented effective approaches for timely and coordinated cyber crisis resolution.
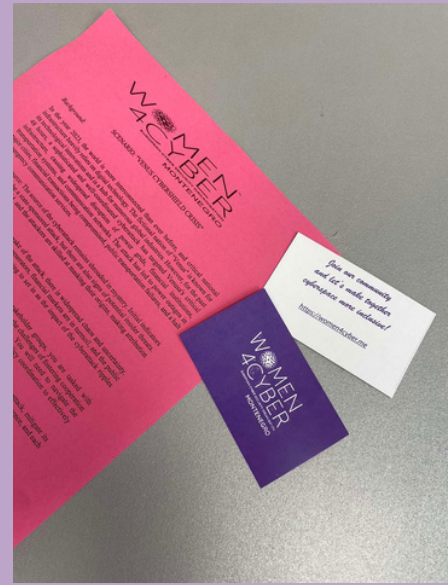
Elena Drago, the Chapters Coordinator at Women4Cyber Foundation, also honored the launching event with her presence

'Cyber Security in the Service of Business Improvement: Optimizing Risks for Competitive Advantage

We are thrilled to have applauded for the conference titled 'Cyber Security in the Service of Business Improvement: Optimizing Risks for Competitive Advantage', which was organized by the Science and Technology Park at the University of Montenegro and Sky Express Montenegro, in collaboration with ICT Cortex and WB3C. The panel moderated by Andreja Mihailović, the president of Women4Cyber Montenegro, focused on how to improve cyber security education through EdTech. Inspiring speakers, such as prof. Nikola Žarić, Andrej Nikitin, Predrag Puharić, Marko Lakić and Iva Lazić, shared their insights and experiences on cyber security.

The new interdisciplinary master program "Information Security" offered by the University of Montenegro, which aims to train experts who can tackle complex challenges in this field, was also presented.

We hope that this conference will inspire the future of cyber security education and contribute to the creation of a safer business and educational environment.

Gathering at the W4C Foundation event in Brussels

We are excited to announce that we had a successful gathering at the Women4Cyber Foundation event in Brussels last week. Our VP Denisa Kurtagić met with other colleagues from the Foundation, as well as from the Italian and Greek Chapters, and shared our progress and challenges in cybersecurity.

During the event, we discussed several topics, including the launch of W4C Montenegro Chapter and our participation in the ITU mentorship project (Her CyberTrack), where Denisa is a mentor for aspiring women in cyber. We also talked about modalities of collaboration and mutual benefit from expertise exchange, with the support of the W4C Foundation in our initiatives. Additionally, we discussed strategies for expanding our membership and partnerships, along with the identification of best practices for achieving these objectives. We also talked about the preparations for the upcoming W4C annual Conference "Hacking Gender Barriers", to be held in Madrid on 14-15 November 2023.

Finally, we discussed approaches to enhance visibility and attain recognition at the EU level, as well as methods to engage with various EU projects and programs.
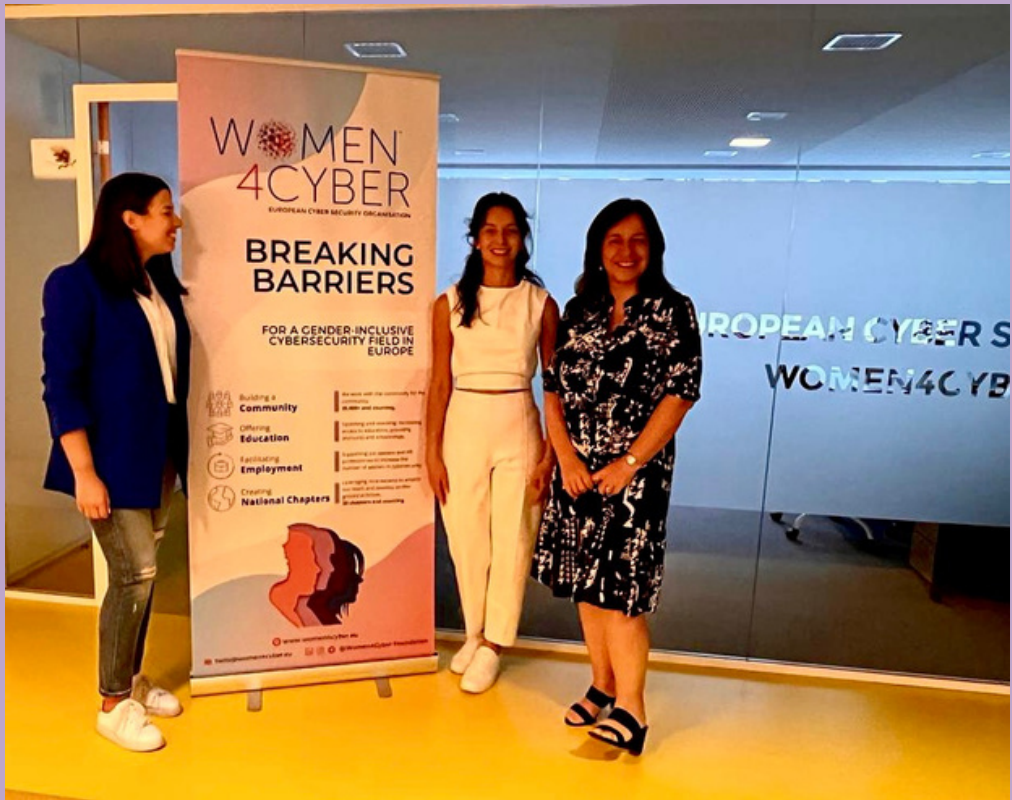
Other events we attended

Women4Cyber Montenegro has actively participated in a variety of events since its inception. Noteworthy among them are:

The Executive Academic Board for Cyber, hosted by the European Security and Defense College, where we engaged in discussions about the latest developments and challenges in cybersecurity.

The Women4Cyber Serbia Forum, which provided a platform for female experts and leaders from diverse sectors to exchange insights and experiences in the field of cybersecurity.

The workshop titled "Spreading Awareness of Hybrid Threats - Strengthening Resilience in the Western Balkans." This workshop aimed to raise awareness and promote collaboration among Western Balkan countries concerning hybrid threats and resilience.

The Her CyberTracks Europe Forum, a dynamic platform for women in the cybersecurity field to network, learn, and inspire one another.

Become a member

Joining Women4Cyber Montenegro offers a range of benefits, as well as opportunities for active engagement within our vibrant community. Here's what you can expect:

·**Networking**: Connect with like-minded professionals, experts, and enthusiasts in the cybersecurity field through our events, seminars, and online forums.

·**Professional Growth**: Participate in mentorship programs, workshops, and educational initiatives to enhance your cybersecurity knowledge and skills.

·**Advocacy**: Engage in policy advocacy efforts to influence cybersecurity decisions at local, national, and international levels.

·**Visibility**: Contribute to our blog with your insights and expertise, gaining recognition as a thought leader within the Women4Cyber community. Share your knowledge and help shape the cybersecurity discourse in Montenegro.

·**Impact**: Play an active role in initiatives that promote diversity and inclusion in cybersecurity, making a tangible impact on the field.

·**Leadership Roles**: Eligibility for leadership positions within Women4Cyber Montenegro, providing valuable leadership experience and opportunities to shape the organization's future.

Visit our website to find out more about the membership options we offer.

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

IN KIND

DONATIONS/ DISCOUNTS

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

EVENTS

AD-HOC SERVICES/CONTRI BUTIONS

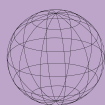SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

FINANCIAL

INDIVIDUAL

COMPANY

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

For more info, contact us at:
w4cmne@gmail.com

WOMEN 4CYBER™

EUROPEAN CYBER SECURITY ORGANISATION

MONTENEGRO

https://women4cyber.me/

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

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