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The third round of the NOTIONES Working Groups has concluded their work.

The third round of the NOTIONES Working Groups (WGs) concluded their activities last autumn. Over the course of a year, one WG focused on artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML), emphasizing their increasing significance in the future operations of law enforcement and the intelligence community. Another WG dedicated their efforts to privacy-enhancing technologies, highlighting their critical role in intelligence. Both WGs operated in a similar manner. They convened online approximately once a month, inviting experts to present on various topics, followed by Q&A sessions and discussions. The primary focus was on learning about the topics and sharing perspectives, fostering stimulating discussions across industry, academia, and the law enforcement and intelligence community.

The topics covered were highly relevant, as AI is rapidly evolving from a curiosity to a commonplace tool in all aspects of life and across all domains. The WG discussed how AI automates routine and laborious tasks, allowing employees to concentrate on more demanding work. They explored how AI reduces human error and enhances overall efficiency. By analyzing vast datasets, AI provides actionable insights, enabling more informed decisions and potentially reducing reliance on intuition. AI can also customize workflows, tasks, and develop training programs, thereby boosting engagement, productivity, and professional development. However, AI also raises critical questions regarding data privacy, fairness, and trust, which were thoroughly examined as well.

The WG meetings on privacy-enhancing technologies were arguably more technically oriented than those on AI. The WG delved not only into the principles of enhancing privacy but also into the intricacies of the technologies themselves. These meetings illuminated the complexity of the topic and highlighted the importance of robust technology in building trust with users. Trust is especially crucial for law enforcement and intelligence, given the frequent handling of sensitive data. Moreover, ensuring compliance with regulations (e.g., GDPR and LED) is vital, and technology can play a significant role in achieving this.

The WGs are continuing with new topics from end of 2024 onward.

NOTIONES aims to build a network of practitioners from security and intelligence service in order to support the needs of the security and intelligence services of the Member States & Associated Countries for future security research programming. NOTIONES consortium includes: (a) 14 practitioners from military, civil, financial, judiciary, local, national and international polices, coming from Latvia, Bulgaria, Poland, Slovakia, Ukraine, Georgia, UK, Sweden, Portugal, North Macedonia, and Germany. The project, led by TECNALIA, brings together the collective knowledge and capabilities of 29 partners spanning 21 countries. These partners encompass a diverse range of expertise, including military, civil, financial, and judiciary practitioners, as well as representatives from local, national, and international law enforcement agencies.

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