

Flash report – meeting with

Bitkom

Participants:

Bitkom:

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(CAB SCHINAS)

- Focus of our efforts in Bitkom is to support women's engagement in the cyber field
 - o One year ago, Bitkom launched the initiative 'She transforms IT' to bring more women in the digitalisation field.
 - o Recently met with (secunet) at a conference organised by Women4Cyber in Berlin
 - o Working on enhancing the presence of women in the panels of the itsa conference in Nuremberg in October 2022
- Now seeking to connect the different initiatives in Germany and to engage in initiatives and activities at EU level

SPANOU

- Two-side approach in the Commission; one is diversity, and the other one is skills.
- We are now working on how to do more on cybersecurity skills.
 - o VP met with DIGITALEUROPE, who are working on an initiative on cybersecurity skills. We are looking on how to house this initiative. Need to see how Bitkom could contribute.
 - o We have the Pact for Skills, with the cyber dimension under aeronautics, defence and space
 - o We have the European Cybersecurity Skills Framework that is being prepared by ENISA

- How can industry and companies provide the right opportunities?

SPANOU

- What you need is to identify targets and profiles, with the skills needed.
- It is the role of the companies to come up with ideas, training opportunities, and contracts.
- The main issue is to find and retain the people.
- With the NIS2 covering more sectors, the demand for cybersecurity professionals will increase.
- We need to offer attractive career prospects for young people in the cybersecurity domain.
- This is where we need the help of the private sector.

- Big companies can retain talents, the issue is more for SMEs.
- Bitkom has produced studies on the shortage of experts in the IT sector in Germany, and the trend is that the gap is widening.
- More and more companies in Germany are working on having people training through apprenticeships.
- Suggested to use the it-sa conference to promote ENISA's European Cybersecurity Skills Framework.
- Raised the issue of the EU cybersecurity certification framework related to cloud, stressing that DE users companies working at international level are concerned by the sovereignty criteria, which might lead to unintended consequences.