

## ENISA and new EU Cybersecurity Act

The European Commission proposed to increase EU resilience and response to cyber-attacks via a permanent mandate and an enhanced role for the EU Agency for Network Information Security (ENISA), the EU cybersecurity agency. It also envisages creating the first EU cybersecurity certification framework for ICT products and services, where ENISA will play an important role. The European Parliament's Industry, Research and Energy Committee (ITRE) adopted its report on 10 July 2018, as well as a mandate to enter into interinstitutional negotiations. The Council adopted its mandate on 8 June 2018. During the fifth trilogue meeting on 10 December 2018 an agreement was reached. It is due to be voted by Parliament in plenary during March.

### Background

The number and diversity of cyber-threats is increasing fast, and expected to continue, given the growth of connected devices. Following the adoption of the [Network Information Security \(NIS\) Directive](#) in 2016, which is the first EU-level cybersecurity legislation, ENISA is expected to play a broader role in the EU's cybersecurity landscape, but is constrained by the end of its mandate in June 2020 and limited resources.

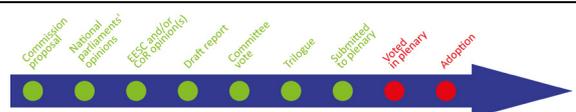
### European Commission proposal

The Commission's legislative proposal envisages a larger budget, more staff and a permanent mandate for ENISA, together with an enhanced role to provide, not only expert advice, but also to carry out operational and coordination tasks. The proposal also includes the creation of the first voluntary EU cybersecurity certification framework for ICT products. ICT security certification plays an important role in increasing trust and security for consumers and businesses, and achieving a genuine digital single market. At present, only a limited number of security certification schemes exist in the EU and some are only valid within their national territories, resulting in fragmentation and increased costs for businesses.

### European Parliament position

The ITRE committee voted its [report](#) on 10 July 2018, and its mandate for trilogue negotiations was confirmed by Parliament during the September 2018 plenary session. The committee supported the proposed enhanced permanent mandate for ENISA and the creation of a voluntary EU cybersecurity framework scheme for ICT products, services and processes, indicating it could become mandatory for some areas in the future. Council had adopted its [position](#) on 8 June 2018. During the fifth trilogue meeting, on 10 December 2018, agreement was reached on the text. This will give ENISA additional tasks and resources, broadening its role even further to improve the coordination and exchange of best practices among Member States on cybersecurity education, and to increase cyber-hygiene awareness for citizens and businesses. ENISA is also expected to organise biannual cybersecurity simulation exercises, to improve the Union's resilience and coordinated response to attacks, and to report on the state of cybersecurity. On the cybersecurity act, the agreement emphasises that ENISA needs to play a stronger role in establishing European cybersecurity schemes, together with the Member States and relevant stakeholders. The text reinforces stakeholder consultation and the role of industry. It also provides for the creation of a European Cybersecurity Certification Group of representatives of national cybersecurity certification authorities to control its implementation. Member States should not keep or introduce new national cybersecurity certification schemes except for national security purposes.

First-reading report: [2017/0225\(COD\)](#); Committee responsible: ITRE; Rapporteur: Angelika Niebler (EPP, Germany). For further information see our 'EU Legislation in progress' [briefing](#).



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