

## **CYBERFORT CONSORTIUM SUCCESSFULLY ORGANIZED THE 2<sup>nd</sup> GENERAL ASSEMBLY MEETING**

**3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2026, Carina Ioana NITA**

The CYBERFORT Consortium successfully organized the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly Meeting (GA) on 3<sup>rd</sup> of February 2026, which took place at the EXIMPROD ENGINEERING Offices, in Bucharest, Romania, with the option to participate online. The objectives of the *Strengthening Cyber Defenses of SMEs for Cyber Resilience Act (CRA) Compliance Project* are: aiming to simplify the process of CRA compliance for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs); enhancing the efficiency of compliance documentation processes through automation. The Project is delivering training to elevate the cybersecurity knowledge and practices among SMEs; ensuring the tools evolve in response to new cybersecurity challenges and feedback from users; and fostering collaborations with cybersecurity networks and initiatives across Europe.

The Agenda of the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly Meeting highlighted very important topics: CYBERFORT Project Objectives & Guidelines; the Progress of Management and Coordination; Amendment regarding the 2 months extension; Use Cases Definitions; CRA Compliance Automated Tool Development; CYBERFORT GRC Platform presentation and Requirements; and CYBERFORT Platform Evaluation through Pilots Execution.

More than 30 participants actively took part in the General Assembly meeting, contributing to dynamic discussions, meaningful exchanges of ideas, and collaborative decision-making. Their strong engagement and diverse perspectives made the event highly interactive and notably successful.

Dr. Mihai PĂUN – Founder of I-ENERGYLINK and Project Partner – opened the meeting by warmly welcoming all participants and formally introducing the current stage of the CYBERFORT Project.

In his address, Dr. PĂUN emphasized the strategic importance of the 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly, stating: *“This 2<sup>nd</sup> General Assembly marks a significant milestone for the CYBERFORT Project. It provides us with a timely opportunity to assess our current implementation status in a comprehensive and transparent manner, to carefully review and align the proposed two-month extension of the project timeline, and to define a clear, structured roadmap toward the Final Project Review. This moment is not only about progress reporting — it is about ensuring coherence, accountability, and strong coordination among all partners as we move into the Project’s final and most critical phase”*. He underlined that the GA meeting serves as both a reflection point and a forward-looking planning exercise, reinforcing the Consortium’s shared commitment to delivering measurable outcomes and maximizing the project’s long-term impact.

Dissemination, Exploitation and Stakeholders Involvement was underlined providing an overview of actions implemented to date, tools and channels used, and results achieved so far. Planned future activities were outlined, with the key messages and target audiences.

Business modelling and exploitation activities, along with replicability potential and comprehensive market analysis, were discussed. The conversation focused on sustainability strategies, commercialization pathways, and opportunities for scaling and replication in different contexts.

Moreover, dedicated Cybersecurity CRA-specific training sessions were organized, alongside targeted outreach to SMEs, with the aim of developing tailored training modules that simulate real-world cybersecurity scenarios and strengthen practical compliance capabilities.

CYBERFORT presents a comprehensive approach designed to strengthen the cybersecurity defenses of SMEs. It offers an integrated strategy to improve SMEs' cybersecurity by implementing the CRA requirements. The project emphasizes creating and sharing tailored compliance tools, best practices, and educational resources to help SMEs tackle the challenges posed by cybersecurity threats.

The Project’s development is driven by an International Consortium that is both complementary in expertise and united in its objectives. The CYBERFORT Project funded by the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre (ECCC), under the Digital Europe Programme, started its implementation on 1<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

The Project gathers experts from Cyprus and Romania - 8 Consortium Partners. The European Consortium is coordinated by I-ENERGYLINK (RO) working together with BOLTON TECHNOLOGIES (CY), CLONE SYSTEMS (CY), COLUMBIA SHIPMANAGEMENT (CY), DEALIO LIMITED (CY), ROMANIAN NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY DIRECTORATE (RO), ELIAS NEOCLEOUS (CY) and EXIMPROD ENGINEERING (RO).

