(Press Release) **December 2021**

PREVENTING, COUNTERING, AND INVESTIGATING TERRORIST ATTACKS THROUGH PROGNOSTIC, DETECTION, AND FORENSIC MECHANISMS FOR EXPLOSIVE PRECURSORS

On the 14th and 15th of October 2021 a Kick-off Meeting (KoM) took place regarding the Horizon 2020 **ODYSSEUS Project.** More than 30 representatives of the ODYSSEUS Consortium participated in the meeting, which was carried out in hybrid mode with physical and virtual presence. During the KoM, the partners discussed the planned activities and made decisions about actions to be taken in the near future as part of the project.

ODYSSEUS is a research project funded by European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program. ODYSSEUS aims **to increase the knowledge** on a continuously revised list of explosives and explosive precursors, including precursors not previously studied, and also develop **effective and efficient prognostic, detection, and forensic tools and solutions** to improve the capabilities of LEAs and competent authorities towards the **prevention, countering, and investigation of terrorist incidents** involving HMEs. The project will last for 36 months (1 October 2021 – 30 September 2023) and is funded with a total amount of about 5 Million Euros.

The ODYSSEUS project's scope is to:

1. **Discover** potentially hitherto unknown information about explosive precursors and HMEs (Home Made Explosives) based on (i) gathering, mining, and understanding HME-related multilingual and multimedia online content in order to extract knowledge about (possibly unknown) precursors, and (ii) the subsequent characterization and analysis of selected precursors, including precursors not previously studied, for the determination of their explosive properties, feasibility, and potential for becoming a threat through appropriate theoretical and experimental investigations and tests.
2. **Monitor** chemical supply chain operations in order to identify anomalous patterns that may predict future threats.
3. **Detect** potential threats in identified areas of interest, including detection of HMEs at the manufacturing stage.
4. **Facilitate** mobile detection of explosive precursors by using Unmanned Autonomous (Aerial and Ground) Vehicles (UAVs/UGVs) equipped with the developed sensors.
5. **Support** forensic investigations through automated sample collection by robotized tools.

This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation program under grant agreement No 101021857

ODYSSEUS will **achieve innovation** in multiple dimensions and examine, in a novel manner, the interplay among several factors affecting the **intelligence, detection, and forensic** aspects associated with explosive precursors, including aspects not previously considered (such as the chemical supply chains).

The ODYSSEUS consortium consists of 18 partners from academia and industry, namely Research (6), Academic (3), SME's (3), Industries (2) and LEA's (4) and reside in 11 European Countries and 1 in Observer State.

The Consortium

Coordinator: Bulgarian Defense Institute - BDI (Bulgaria) **Partners:** BAM (Germany), KEMEA (Greece), CERTH (Greece), AAWA (Italy), SEERC (Greece), CENTRIC (UK), FZU (Czech Republic), UNIVIE (Austria), T4i (Greece), TMR (Israel), ROB (Spain), INTRA (Luxemburg), MIRS (France), PSNI (UK), BayHFOD (Germany), SPP (Romania), HP (Greece)

Odysseus H2020 Project – Preventing, Countering, and Investigating Terrorist Attacks through Prognostic, Detection, and Forensic Mechanisms for Explosive Precursors (odysseus-h2020.eu)

https://www.linkedin.com/company/77608172/

https://twitter.com/Odysseus_H2020"

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