

## Press Release

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## **ENCRYPT Hosts Productive Plenary Meeting in Thessaloniki, Greece**

The ENCRYPT project, dedicated to advancing scalable and practical privacy-preserving frameworks, held a very productive plenary meeting January 08 - 09, 2025, in Thessaloniki, Greece. Hosted at the Center for Research and Technology Hellas (CERTH), the meeting brought together consortium members to discuss progress, challenges and next steps in the project's development.

## **Key Activities and Discussions**

The meeting featured an in-depth review of the project's work packages and specifically the integration activities for ENCRYPT's three primary use cases - Fintech, Health and Cyber Threat Intelligence. Each session included focused discussions on the remaining activities which are needed and how ENCRYPT partners can collaboratively work towards this.

During the meeting, partners were also able to present the progress of the project's main work packages and discuss forthcoming activities. Specifically:

- Work Package 3: Led by CEA, the progress of the ENCRYPT privacy preserving technologies was presented to all WP3 participating partners. The technologies ENCRYPT is developing are Fully Homomorphic Encryption, Trusted Execution Environments, Differential Privacy, Hybrid Protection Services and Acceleration services. Partners were able to discuss the alignment of these technologies amongst them and a concrete plan for the next phase and their full integration into the ENCRYPT use cases was made.
- Work Package 4: Led by CERTH, progress of the ENCRYPT privacy supporting technologies was discussed. Tools providing these technologies include advanced data pre-processing, knowledge graphs, the ENCRYPT AI-based recommendation system and the ENCRYPT platform front-end and back-end services. Ways to improve these services as well as how to best utilize them in the ENCRYPT platform and user workflow were discussed, and a concrete plan towards this was made. Additionally, the team explored strategies to enhance the user experience through an intuitive and user-friendly user interface (UI) design, ensuring seamless interaction with the platform's features.
- Work Package 5: EXUS and TRUSTUP led discussions on the Integration, Validation and Evaluation
  process of all ENCRYPT privacy preserving and privacy supporting technologies to the ENCRYPT
  platform. ENCRYPT use cases were highlighted and partners identified the next steps for as many
  technologies to be tested and demonstrated for the ENCRYPT Fintech, Cyber Threat and Health



- use cases. Additionally, discussions included the MIRACUM and External use cases, focusing on aligning them with the requirements and expectations of stakeholders to ensure seamless integration with ENCRYPT services and technologies.
- Work Package 6: 8BELLS led the presentation of dissemination and communication activities which have taken place and paid particular attention to all upcoming activities which ENCRYPT needs to focus on as the project nears its end. Strategies for maximizing the impact and reach of the project's outputs both during and after the project ends, were discussed.

## **Looking Ahead**

This plenary meeting served as a vital checkpoint for ENCRYPT, setting a clear path toward the project's final stages. With the input and collaboration of all partners, ENCRYPT remains committed to delivering cutting-edge privacy-preserving technologies that address critical challenges in data security and user privacy.

A number of exciting activities are coming up in the next few months and for more information, visit <a href="mailto:encrypt-project.eu">encrypt-project.eu</a> or follow us on <a href="mailto:LinkedIn">LinkedIn</a> and <a href="mailto:X">X</a> to always be kept up to date.



Group photo of the ENCRYPT team who attended the plenary meeting

<u>ENCRYPT</u> is a 3-year Research and Innovation action (RIA), running from 2022 to 2025, funded under Horizon Europe. ENCRYPT is being realised by a multidisciplinary consortium of 14 partners, comprising six companies (including three SMEs, one start-up, and two enterprises), and eight research institutes/universities, covering the value chain for privacy-preserving computation technologies. For more information, please visit ENCRYPT Website at <a href="https://encrypt-project.eu/">https://encrypt-project.eu/</a> and connect at <a href="https://encrypt-project.eu/">LinkedIn</a> and X (Twitter).



