

## Swiss Webacademy and its Cybersecurity activities. A short description

### A. Swiss Webacademy (Sibiu, Romania)

The Swiss Webacademy (SWA) (legal name Swiss Web School) is a Professional Association NGO established in Romania since 2002, known before 2012 as "*Romanian-Swiss Multimedia Institute*", when it was founded thanks to a huge investment of the Swiss Confederation and the Republic and Canton of Jura, in partnership with the **University of Applied Sciences of Western Switzerland, Engineering faculty, Neuchâtel (HE-ARC Ingénière)**, joined later by other academic bodies. Its primary goal was to propose and adapt to the local market the courses made by the University, mainly delivering Swiss Academic & Romanian Ministry of Labor Diplomas on Web-programming, Web-design and Web-expert

Before and after Romania's accession to the EU, the Swiss Webacademy managed with a 120% success rate 7 PHARE projects (in education) as well as 2 major POS-CC/ POSDRU projects (applicative research) for more than 1.2 million EUR from 2004 to 2010.

Since 16 years, all SWA professors are regularly assessed by the Swiss academic authorities and long-haul courses final exams are realized by Professors of the **HE-ARC Ingénière**.

Since 7 years, a protocol linking SWA with **Sibiu State University** allowed to multiply courses led by SWA professors in the frame of the regular curricula of the State University.

Since 5 years, a protocol signed with the **Institut Universitaire Technique of the Bourgogne-Franche Comté University** led to a multiple-faced collaboration : each year, SWA professors teach web-marketing modules at Belfort while from 5 to 8 French students in their final year of Master class make their 3-months international stage at SWA's headquarters in Sibiu.

Since 3 years, a contract twinned SWA with the **University of Applied Sciences of Western Switzerland, Engineering and Gestion faculty, Yverdon (HEIG-VD)**. In this frame, SWA conceives and teaches in Switzerland cybersecurity basics courses integrated in the curriculum of the Bachelors aiming for a Marketing or Gestion university diploma.

Besides those long-haul courses, making its own researches and projects led the SWA to become a fully independent NGO delivering state-of-the art products (complex websites and databases), professional trainings on highly demanded software and is also leading international cyber-security PPP activities.

### B. International Cybersecurity PPP events, networking and publications

This is the specific case of Cybersecurity. In 2010 and 2011, on demand of the Romanian National Police and the Ministry of Justice, SWA led two forums and 2-days capacity building sessions for members of those Institutions, in collaboration with the Institute of Countering Economic Criminality (ILCE, Neuchâtel) with the constant support and aegis of the Swiss Embassy.

From those national projects, in 2013, the Central-European Public-Private Dialogue Networking Platform "**Cybersecurity - Romania**" (<https://cybersecurity-romania.ro>) was born after a proposal

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made by the International Telecommunications Union (the UN agency in charge of the topic) (ITU). Since, SWA's yearly 2-days congress is one of the only two NGO-organized events in Europe to be supported and to benefit of the technical aid of the ITU.

Now at its 6<sup>th</sup> edition, the After Sibiu-held congress held has, as permanent partners, the highest Romanian Institutions concerned, i.e. the General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police (IGPR/DCCO), The *Cyberint* Center of the Romanian Intelligence Service, the CERT-Ro as well as the National Telco Regulator, the ANCOM together with regular speakers from Jandarmeria and Special Telecommunication Services. Among the prestigious International partners we can quote the French National Gendarmerie, its Research Center (CREOGN), the French Institute of Higher Studies for National Defense (IHEDN), the International Air Transport Association (IATA), the Ministry of Economy of Geneva as well as the Geneva State Police, and the Global Cyber Security Center (Rome).

Since 2015, the congress, following an ITU's wish, launched its quarterly free awareness journal, **Cybersecurity Trends**, dedicated to Romanian-speaking adults desiring to acquire in a clear and pleasant way basic knowledges on the main cybersecurity issues. The same year, the ITU awarded the congress and the journal the title "**Best Practices Example for the European Continent**", making the journal the only one with a permanent section written by the ITU Cybersecurity Department.

The success continued as the ITU as well as number of International partners asked SWA to adapt and multiply both the congress and the journal. Since January 2017, in addition to its Romanian edition *Cybersecurity Trends is published in Italian, English, French and (soon) German editions*, each one being calibrated to the ecosystem they address to and made with some of the most prominent national specialized organizations in Italy, France, UK and Switzerland. In 2019, the Spanish and Portuguese version should see their birth, too ([issuu.com/cybersecuritytrends](https://issuu.com/cybersecuritytrends)).

Coming back focal point, the original Sibiu congress (better said Networking Dialogue Platform) is now part of a triptych where he constitutes the "**Central European part**". Two other vital ecosystems for our continent are dealt in Switzerland (**Cybersecurity Western Europe**) (<https://cybersecurity-switzerland.ch>) and in Italy (**Cybersecurity-Mediterranean**) with successful premières launched respectively in December 2017 at Porrentruy and May 2018 at Noto (<https://cybersecurity-mediterranean.it>).

### **C. Awareness events and publications for all publics :**

The Swiss Webacademy was contracted by the ITU and the Romanian, respectively Italian governments to deliver a complete translation into Romanian and Italian languages and a fully paginated version of the two *ITU "Child Oline Protection" guidelines*, works achieved with success in 2015, respectively 2016. In addition, to fit better the Romanian ecosystem, the Swiss Webacademy was helped by several Romanian Institutions to translate and edit for free the 2 best School Guidelines made by the Polish NGO "Safer Internet". They are now actively disseminated online by Romanian (printed edition), Republic of Moldova's and Italian specialized institutions (digital editions).

<http://moldova.md/ro/content/protejarea-copiilor-online-o-problema-globala-care-necesita-un-raspuns-global> ; <https://www.distretto cybersecurity.it/linee-guida-itu/>

Besides, the *ITU-endorsed prevention exhibition "Heroes and Victims. From Hieroglyphs to Facebook"*, made by the Swiss Webacademy is on show since 2013 in more than 7 countries in its 5 languages and has been visited by more than 2 million kids in school visits during its display in almost 70 different cities (<http://social-media-victims.eu>).

Finally, all our congresses are preceded by an ***awareness day for school kids and teens***, made of presentations, movies and a quiz with prizes, in collaboration with the national police and school inspectorates. In this frame, the 2017 edition at Sibiu was crowned by the Central-European record of attendance, gathering 1'059 school children, while the 2017 edition at Porrentruy obtained the Swiss record with 620 school children.

#### **D. The Cybersecurity activities manager : Laurent Chrzanovski, Prof. Univ. Dr. Habil. PostD**

Entered in the field of cybersecurity since 2010, Laurent Chrzanovski is the founder and manager of the triptych of congresses, as well as the founder and editor-in-chief of the free cyber security quarterly journal, Cybersecurity Trends.

With a PhD in Roman Archaeology obtained at the University of Lausanne, a Postdoctoral Research Degree in History and Sociology at the Romanian Academy of Sciences, and an EU Habilitation to direct PhDs in History and related sciences, Laurent Chrzanovski is Professor at the doctoral Schools of the Universities Lyon II and Sibiu. He regularly holds postdoctoral courses within several major EU Universities. He is the author/editor of 24 books, of more than a hundred scientific articles and of as many articles dedicated to a general audience.

Swiss and Italian citizen, Laurent worked and lived in 12 European, North American, North-African and ex-USSR countries, being hence fluent in 5 languages (FR/IT/EN/ES/RO) and comfortable in three more (DE/RU/PT).

Specialist in rendering attractive and simple the essential fruits of complicated researches, Laurent Chrzanovski won the 2 most prestigious ICOM-UNESCO prizes for Central Europe : the Best Itinerant Exposition award ("*From the first writings to Multimedia*", 2013), and the Special Jury Award for Attractiveness ("*Lumen est Omen. Art, History and Spirituality of artificial lighting through the ages*", the 1<sup>st</sup> exhibition and catalogue in SEE/CEE with augmented reality).

In the frame of cyber security, Laurent Chrzanovski focuses his researches on the relationship between human behaviors and the digital ecosystem as well as on solutions for finding the right balance between security and privacy for the e-citizens.

He is member and contractual consultant of the ITU roster of experts for cybersecurity and participated to several think-tanks mainly on awareness and privacy.

He is regularly called in by National Law Enforcement Institutions of four European countries (RO/IT/FR/CH) to give trainings on cybersecurity basics for strategic companies (critical infrastructures) Administration boards, CEOs and decision-makers.

He is also Professor and Member of the board of directors of the new Postgraduate Cursus (MAS) of the Sibiu University "*Security of IT&C systems and beyond*" (starting this academic year).

His achievements in Humanities, Cybersecurity and Transdisciplinarity have been awarded in March 2018 by the *Gold Medal of the Société d'Encouragement au Progrès* (nicknamed "the French Nobel").