



Cobra in brief

COBRA or Confrontation of CBRN-Terrorism Threats project aims to increase preparedness and response capabilities of South-East Europe LEAs against terrorist attacks and CBRN threats.

This is an initiative addressing wide range of complex challenges and asymmetric threats with focus on Law Enforcement Agencies. Training, equipment and security for citizens and infrastructures (both critical and public spaces) is the main focus of the project.

AIMS OF THE PROJECT



The COBRA project, intends to improve South-East Europe LEAs' readiness and reaction capacities against terrorist attacks and CBRN threats.



This effort focuses on Law Enforcement Agencies while tackling a wide variety of complex challenges and asymmetric threats.



The project's primary focus is on providing citizens with training, equipment, and protection for infrastructures (both critical and public spaces).



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Objectives

Raise awareness and increase preparedness and response capabilities of South-East Europe LEAs against terrorist attacks to public spaces and CBRN threats.

Provide specialized training to personnel involved in detecting and mitigating the impact of attacks to open public spaces and managing CBRN risks of critical infrastructures

Share good practices and lessons learnt to efficiently align relevant SOPs in case of cross jurisdictional incidents.



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Key events 2019–2023

Kickoff Meeting in October 29 – 30, 2019, Heraklion (Crete island), Greece. The team has scheduled its future activities. It has approved the format of the possible structure of the event.



A meeting of the national representatives of Bulgaria, was held at SOBT headquarter in June 19 2020. It was discussed the capacities of the individual structures and services in COBRA project along with their responsibilities in cases of CBRN threats.



On January 26, 2023, a police scenario to prepare for a terrorist attack was staged at the GSP stadium in Nicosia. On January 27, 2023, a workshop was held to introduce the Cobra project and next generation equipment tools used in the events of CBRN attacks.





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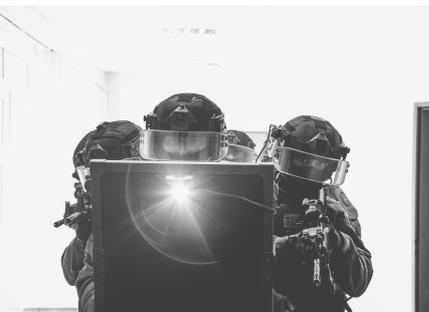
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Key events 2019–2023

On February 28 to March 2, 2023, a field exercise was held at Sofia Airport in case of use of a "dirty bomb" and the kidnapping of hostages. On March 2nd, an analysis of the exercise was conducted to highlight the strengths and flaws in its execution.



On 3 to May 4 2023 field exercises counter terrorist attacks were held in Thessaloniki at the Concert Hall and in a critical infrastructure. The purpose of the scenario is the national and international cooperation of the SIU to seizure again this critical infrastructure and also in hostage setting, because if not the social health and economic consequences will have many negative impacts. It was organized a workshop with the participating organizations and the consortia members - major outcomes and results achieved during the two days of trainings were discussed.



Achievements

In conclusion, we hope this newsletter has provided you with valuable insights and information. From exploring the core of the project through values and objectives to sharing important events for the lifetime of Cobra project, our aim has been to keep you informed and engaged. We believe that staying connected and well-informed is key to success in today's rapidly evolving world. Remember, knowledge is power, and we encourage you to leverage the information shared here to enhance your personal and professional growth. Stay curious, stay inspired, and keep pushing boundaries as we have tried for the last 4 years.

Best regards,
Cobra project.

COBRA PROJECT

Project title: Confrontation of CBRN-Terrorism Threats

Project acronym: COBRA

Type of funding scheme: ISF-Police Action Grant (Call: ISFP-2018-AG-CT)

Topic addressed: Protection

Start date of the project: 1st Oct 2019

End date of the project: 31st May 2023

Total Cost: EUR 1 644 529.01

Total EU Contribution: EUR 1 454 075.12

Grant Agreement No: 861789

Co-ordinator organization name: The Center for Security Studies (KEMEA), Greece

Partners: KEMEA (Greece); SOBT and IICT-BAS (Bulgaria) ; EUC and CP (Cyprus)

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL MIGRATION
AND HOME AFFAIRS



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CONSORTIUM



KEMEA - THE CENTER FOR SECURITY STUDIES



SOBT - SPECIAL COUNTER TERRORISM UNIT



EUC - EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY CYPRUS



IICT - INSTITUTE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES AT THE BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCE



CP - CYPRUS POLICE