



APPRAISE

Facilitating public & private security operators to
mitigate terrorism scenarios against soft targets

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EDITORIAL

Dear colleagues, Happy New Year! Welcome to the APPRAISE newsletter. Unbelievably, we have officially entered the second year of the project, and what a productive first year it has been!

We kicked-off in September 2021, with 27 partners from 9 different countries, all coming together to ensure safety in public spaces and protect soft targets from an evolving range of cyber and physical terrorist threats.

Despite the project commencing during the COVID-19 pandemic we have, over the last year, successfully launched the project and made significant progress against our milestones.

We'll be providing many more updates, if you would like to receive future newsletters, connect with us on social media or join the APPRAISE community we'd love to hear from you, please find how to do this on the last page.

PROGRESS SUMMARY SO FAR...

- 15 project deliverables were successfully submitted.
- 2 project meetings and 4 pilot site visits took place.
- We've established the Ethics and External advisory boards.
- The project was presented at 7 different events and has established a collaboration with H2020 project's [AIDA](#) , [S4AllCities](#) and [STARLIGHT](#).



APPRAISE Pilot visit and General Assembly, Turin, October 2022.



WHAT IS APPRAISE?

APPRAISE is a H2020 project funded by the European Commission under the 'Secure societies - Protecting freedom and security of Europe and its citizens' action. The project began in September 2021 and will run until February 2024 with a budget of almost €9.5 million.

APPRAISE will build on the latest advances in big data analysis, artificial intelligence, and advanced visualisation by creating a robust security framework that will improve both the cyber and physical security and safety of public spaces.



Ensuring safety in public spaces while preserving the freedom of citizens.



Protecting soft targets from an evolving range of cyber and physical terrorist threats.



Providing an integrated security approach bringing together public and private security operators.

BACKGROUND & APPROACH...

In recent years, criminals and terrorists have increasingly exploited the open nature of easily accessible soft targets for malicious attacks to maximize casualties, chaos, and social impact.

Terrorist attacks at shopping malls (Munich 2016), airports (Brussels 2016), transport systems (Madrid 2004, London 2005), squares and streets (Paris 2015, Berlin 2016, Stockholm 2017), and sports events (Boston 2013) have highlighted the vulnerabilities of public venues and the challenges posed.

These attacks all have similar characteristics in that they are often coordinated and/or simultaneous, they follow deployment tactics, the people affected are not immediately aware and there is an overall lack of situational awareness.

APPRAISE will produce more effective and proactive operational security of public spaces and soft targets in Europe by **improving the current capabilities of public and private security practitioners** establishing a successful **collaboration framework to take advantage of their complementary resources.**



PROJECT DETAILS



Partners: 27

Duration: 2021 - 2024

The consortium brings together 27 partners of excellence from 9 countries (France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain and UK). Together this provides excellent geographical coverage, cross-cutting and complementary competences and proven track records in European projects and project topics.

APPRAISE PILOTS

Each pilot identified for APPRAISE considers highly diversified soft targets, in terms of: accessibility, existing security measures, current infrastructure, people density, level of criticality, and their societal impact. Each pilot will be utilised to evaluate and validate the solutions developed within the project.



ATP Finals - Turin



**Cross border cycling event -
Basque country**



Shopping mall - Ljubljana



International fair - Gdansk



PILOTS

Pilot 1 will be organised around the **Itzulia Basque Country** event. In preparation of this several project partners attended this year's event that took place from 4th - 9th April. The Tour of the Basque Country (officially known as: Itzulia Basque Country) is an annual cycling stage race and is one of the many races that make up the UCI World Tour calendar.

During the visit, hosted by project partner's OCETA (race organisers), partners were given the opportunity to examine two stages of the race. The first day of the visit took place at Hondarribia, where the Itzulia race began with a time trial stage. This provided a golden opportunity for partners to perform an assessment of security, technical and organizational aspects of all the relevant zones of the race.



From October 11th – 13th the APPRAISE consortium were in the city of Turin to visit the pilot site of **Pilot 2 - the ATP finals at the Pala Alpitour**.

On the first day, partners presented the pilot and the technologies to local external stakeholders, including police officers and private security operators who shared their experience and provided valuable feedback. In the following days, all 4 pilot scenarios were presented in turn and partners were able to exchange live with project end-users, further understand their constraints, and make the scenarios as realistic as possible. Legal and ethical constraints were also discussed.





From the 14th - 15th June, partners met at **BTC City in Ljubljana** to discuss and present **Pilot 3**. Slovenian project partners BTC City and ICS Ljubljana organised the event with the purpose of APPRAISE partners becoming acquainted with the planned activities for pilot 3, which will take place at the BTC City premises.

The technical partners presented their innovative solutions, that are specifically aimed at ensuring increased security of the so-called "soft targets", which have been the target of terrorist attacks in recent times.



In September we were hosted by partners AMBEREXPO at the **International Fair in Gdansk**, Poland to discuss **Pilot 4** and present the project's innovative technologies to a group of interested stakeholders, this included; local institutions, companies, and the local media.

A number technologies currently under development by APPRAISE were presented to the stakeholders, these were:

- Crowd management and communication tools;
- Video & sound-based detection of anomalies;
- Cyberattacks surveillance system;
- Geo-spatial intelligence & online content analysis;
- AR tools for raising situational awareness and AI decision support system for Law Enforcement Agencies and private security operators.

The goals and ambitions of the project were also presented to the participants and a interesting discussion on technologies expectations and characteristics took place. Stakeholders were also informed on how they could become more involved in the project by joining the APPRAISE community.





Join the APPRAISE community.

APPRAISE encourages a wide range of stakeholders to join its community, email us at appraise-h2020@csgroup.eu and get involved with the project pilots, receive project updates and news relevant to the protection of public spaces.



Contact us



appraise-h2020@csgroup.eu



appraise-h2020.eu

Social media



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