



Budapest, Prague, Warsaw, December 8<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## **Support of Digital V4 Group for Poland's candidacy to seat the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Center**

As the organisations from the digital and modern technology industries of the Visegrad Group countries: the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland, we support Poland's efforts to hold the seat of the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Center.

Supporting the Polish candidacy is in our common interest, because locating of his Center in Warsaw will strengthen political, scientific and industrial cooperation in our region of Europe and accelerate cybersecurity development, which will benefit all of the EU. The European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Center will aim to improve the coordination of research and development projects at the European cybersecurity level, support the implementation of innovative solutions in Europe and the distribution of cybersecurity funds from the Digital Europe and Horizon Europe programs.

As digital industry organisations from the V4 region, we have many converging interests, such as building digital infrastructure and research and development potential as a technical and scientific background in our region. There are already many significant industrial, research and development entities in Poland which provide digital services. In addition, Poland has a large expert base as well. Among them, there are Digital Poland Association (ZIPSEE) and #CyberMadeinPoland Group, which brings together 44 innovative companies from the cybersecurity industry. There are about 30 IT hubs and over 20 research institutes, including, for example, the NASK Institute, the National Institute of Communications or the Military Academy of Technology. In addition, Poland runs a fully state-funded research and development program called CyberSecIdent. Since 2017, Poland has invested over EUR 60 million in research and development projects in the area of cybersecurity, including the country's first laboratory for testing and evaluating ICT products.

We appreciate the fact that Poland is very active in the area of cybersecurity at the EU level. We believe that the seat of the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Center in Poland will have a positive impact on the development of the entire region of Central and Eastern Europe and will be a great opportunity to develop and strengthen cybersecurity. It will also ensure better opportunities for cooperation with partners around the world. At the same time, the countries of the region will have the



opportunity to more actively participate in the decision-making process at the Center, thanks to which they will have an even greater influence on the directions of its work and activities. Therefore, we express our full support for Poland's candidacy for hosting the seat of the Center in the field of Industrial, Technological and Research Cybersecurity is located in Warsaw.

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**About Digital V4**

*Digital V4 is a project by organisations from digital and advanced technologies industry in Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia and Hungary with a goal of cooperatively creating a policy supporting development of innovativeness and digitisation in Central and Eastern Europe. The initiative refers to political and economic collaboration between the four countries in scope of the Visegrád Group (V4).*

*The enterprise has been established in October 2019 during Congress 590 in Rzeszów (Poland). The project is created in cooperation by four organisations: Digital Poland Association, IT Association of Slovakia – ITAS, Consumer Electronics Association in Czech Republic – ASE and ICT Association of Hungarian – IVSZ.*