LICORICE

reLIable and sCalable tOols foR self-sovereIgn identity and data protection framEwork

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LICORICE Workshop Showcases Privacy-Preserving Innovations for Healthcare and Cybersecurity

The Horizon Europe-funded LICORICE project successfully held its workshop, **"Advancing Privacy-Preserving Technologies in Health and Cybersecurity,"** on 22 October 2026 at the Foundation for Research and Technology – Hellas (FORTH) in Heraklion, Greece.

Bringing together stakeholders from academia, industry, European research initiatives and standardisation organisations, the workshop showcased innovative approaches to secure digital identity management and privacy-preserving data sharing, with a particular focus on their application in healthcare and cybersecurity.

The event combined technical presentations, live pilot demonstrations, expert keynotes and interactive usability evaluation sessions, providing an opportunity to exchange knowledge and gather feedback on technologies being developed within LICORICE.



From Research to Real-World Applications

A central highlight was the demonstration of LICORICE's two pilot applications in **eHealth and Cyber Threat Intelligence (CTI)**.

The **eHealth pilot** demonstrated how Self-Sovereign Identity, federated learning and privacy-preserving technologies can enable individuals to exercise greater control over their electronic health data while supporting secure medical research and clinical decision-making. The pilot incorporates capabilities including secure wearable data collection, dynamic consent management and privacy-preserving clinical AI applications.

The **Cyber Threat Intelligence pilot** explored how organisations can benefit from AI-assisted cybersecurity analysis while protecting sensitive information. Through advanced data sanitisation, privacy-preserving

processing and secure authentication, LICORICE aims to enable more trustworthy threat intelligence sharing without compromising the usefulness of the information being analysed.

Both demonstrations illustrated the project's ambition to translate advanced privacy and security technologies into practical solutions addressing real-world challenges.

Expert Insights on AI Ethics and Trustworthy Digital Identity

The workshop featured two keynote presentations addressing key challenges in Europe's evolving digital ecosystem.

Gregorio López López, Associate Professor at Universidad Pontificia Comillas and founding member of the DIGNUM Center for AI Ethics and Data Rights, presented *"From Data Protection to Data Empowerment: The DIGNUM Center for AI Ethics and Data Right Approach."* His keynote emphasised the importance of placing people, their rights and ethical considerations at the centre of technological development.



Prof. Dr. Sotiris Ioannidis delivered the keynote *"Security and Privacy in Interconnected Digital Ecosystems: Challenges and Research Directions,"* examining the security requirements of interconnected digital identity systems, including the European Digital Identity Wallet. His presentation highlighted the importance of resilient architectures, lifecycle-wide security and verifiable protection mechanisms.



Stakeholder Feedback to Guide Future Development

Interactive usability evaluation sessions, facilitated by **Fondazione Bruno Kessler (FBK)**, provided valuable insights into the practical requirements of both LICORICE pilots.

For eHealth, participants identified priorities including clearer consent information, accessible onboarding, transparency in health data processing and better integration of AI-supported risk predictions into clinical workflows.

For cybersecurity, discussions highlighted the importance of reliable anonymisation, transparent privacy safeguards, intuitive authentication and maintaining the accuracy of AI-assisted threat intelligence analysis.

The feedback will inform the next phase of pilot evaluation and refinement, with opportunities identified for further engagement with clinicians, patients and cybersecurity professionals.

Strengthening Collaboration and Advancing Impact

The workshop also strengthened collaboration with related European research initiatives through a dedicated session featuring PRIVIDEMA, NextGEM and PAISES-6G. Particular emphasis was placed on the participation of PRIVIDEMA, a LICORICE sister project funded under the same Horizon Europe call. The

session provided opportunities for knowledge exchange, discussions on complementary research activities and the identification of potential synergies between European research projects.

Diana E. Jimenez Bejarano, LICORICE Project Coordinator, commented:

“People remain at the centre of privacy and security technology development. Usability is not only key to adoption, but also essential to ensuring the effective protection of users’ privacy and digital identities. In LICORICE, we take this responsibility seriously. Our Pilots Workshop represents an important step towards validating our solutions against real-world needs in healthcare and industrial cybersecurity, while ensuring that our developments remain aligned with ongoing research and evolving standards in this rapidly changing field.”

As LICORICE progresses towards its final year, the workshop's outcomes will support the continued development and validation of technologies designed to strengthen digital trust, protect sensitive information and enable more secure data sharing across Europe.



About LICORICE

LICORICE (reLIable and sCalable tOols foR self-sovereIgn identity and data proteCtion framEwork) is a Horizon Europe-funded research and innovation project developing advanced toolsets for Self-Sovereign Identity management and privacy-preserving data sharing and computation.

Through the integration and validation of innovative technologies in healthcare and Cyber Threat Intelligence environments, LICORICE aims to contribute to stronger cybersecurity, greater digital sovereignty and more trustworthy digital services across Europe.

Website: https://www.licorice-horizon.eu/