



## **“Social media: opportunities and threats to public security”**

### **Medi@4Sec Dissemination event**

City of Riga

Social media is omnipresent and has become a powerful mechanism driving social, economic and organisational change. New and emerging forms of social media (e.g., Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and other platforms) are open, distributed, digital communication platforms that enable people and social networks to create and share information and ideas. But it also has a dark side, where those outside the law have found new ways to organise and commit criminal acts, sometimes transnationally, while remaining (relatively) anonymous.

Medi@4sec focuses upon enhancing understanding of the opportunities, challenges and ethical consideration of social media use for public security purposes. In order to disseminate the main findings from the project, Efus organise four local dissemination events in four European cities. Setubal (Pt), Paris (Fr), Regione Emilia-Romagna (Ita) and Riga (Lv). Riga event will focus on the new security threats that are emerging from social media (cyberbullying, cyberhate, cyberstalking, cyberharassment, sextortion). It will also explore the link between online and offline illegal acts, and existing criminal activities which use social media as a platform to expand.

#### Objectives:

- Raise awareness among Efus Network members about the opportunities and challenges of using social media in urban security.
- Share experiences with other actors/stakeholders on the use of social media for security purposes specifically at the local level.
- Explore the needs and priorities of local authorities and other local security actors for whom social media can be useful.

#### Programme:

9:30-10:00am	Registration
10:00-10:15am	Welcome from Mr.Nils Ušakovs, Mayor of Riga (TBC)
10:15-10:45am	Medi@4sec project presentation (results, and recommendations) Myassa Djebara and Pilar De La Torre – Efus
10:45-11:00am	<i>Coffee break</i>
11:00-11:30am	Keynote-Social Media Analysis Rob Procter-University of Warwick
11:30-12:00	The online Hat Crime Hub in London DS Tony Bates-Forsyth, Metropolitan Police of London
12:00-12:30pm	How to raise awareness about risk online Maija Katkovskal- Latvian Internet Association
12:30-1:00pm	Local Experience-Police of Riga TBC
1:00-2:30pm	<i>Lunch</i>
2:30-4:00pm	Open discussion/workshop: What are role of local security actors to prevent risk and threads in social media and digital space? Myassa Djebara and Pilar De La Torre – Efus
4:00-4:30pm	<i>Coffee break</i>
4:30-5:00pm	Conclusion and questionnaire

Registration [Here](#)



*This project has received funding from the European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme under grant agreement No 700281*