



HellasQCI - Quantum Communication Infrastructure for Greece

HellasQCI

Deploying advanced national QCI systems and networks in Greece

HellasQCI project kick-off meeting report 19-20/1/2023, Athens, Greece

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Abstract:

The HellasQCI project kick-off meeting took place in Athens, Greece at the Ministry of Digital Governance in January 2023. The project was officially launched by the political leadership of the Ministry highlighting Greece's commitment to the EuroQCI initiative. This report includes quotes by the Minister of State and Digital Governance and the Secretary General of Telecommunications and Posts, minutes of the fruitful discussions that took place among the partners and the analysis of the multiple channel dissemination activities. Moreover, the report comprises a variety of on-line, video and press media editorials that were published and aired in the news (in total 55 pieces of media publications).

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1. Report Analysis



On January 19-20th 2023, the HellasQCI project kick-off meeting took place, marking the beginning of the implementation for this strategic project for Greece.

HellasQCI, as part of the EuroQCI initiative, is co-funded by the European Union under the Digital Europe Programme grant agreement No. 101091504.

The HellasQCI project aims to deploy advanced national QCI systems and networks in Greece. The advancement in technologies that will be achieved by the realisation of the HellasQCI initiative will:

- reinforce Scientific and Technological capabilities in cybersecurity,
- improve industrial competitiveness,
- strengthen European digital sovereignty

This project on behalf of Greece, together with other EU Member States, the CSA project PETRUS and the European Commission will achieve the co-creation of the EuroQCI.

The HellasQCI kick-off meeting was held at the premises of the Ministry of Digital Governance, Athens, Greece. Members from all of the fourteen (14) partners participated in the meeting, representing the Public services (Government, Military, National Intelligence Service and Law Enforcement), Industry and SMEs (Energy, Telecoms and Cybersecurity sectors) and Research domain (Research Institutions, Academy and Observatory ground Stations).

Moreover, there was a collaborative session with the Associated Partners (AP) SETU Waterford (WIT), the IrelandQCI project coordinator, and the University of Luxembourg (Uni.LU), the Lux4QCI project coordinator, to explore synergies between Greece's, Ireland's and Luxembourg's National QCI projects (NatQCIs).

The meeting was officially launched by the political leadership of the Ministry of Digital Governance, highlighting Greece's commitment to the EuroQCI initiative and the support to the HellasQCI project, followed by welcoming remarks by high level representatives from all the consortium partners.

The first part of the meeting was publicly open to all interested parties to attend either face to face, or via livestream through the GRNET DIAVLOS service. Approximately 60 representatives attended the meeting face to face, and 105 people attended the meeting via DIAVLOS web streaming service.

In the beginning of the meeting, **the Minister of State and Digital Governance, Kyriakos Pierrakakis**, addressed a welcome note to commence the kick-off project meeting. Within his message, the Minister highlighted: "*It is with great pleasure that HellasQCI project is officially launched. We are facing challenges around cybersecurity, challenges which are constantly increasing, and it is important for Greece to be able to enter into the map of new technologies such as Quantum technologies that can enable secure data transmission and protection of critical infrastructures*".

The Secretary General of Telecommunications & Post at the Ministry of Digital Governance, Dr. Athanasios Staveris, at his welcoming speech stated: "*The Greek government has committed to support the development of a secure National telecommunication network. Quantum communication allows us to communicate and process information differently than the traditional technologies, because it is based on the laws of physics. HellasQCI, Greece's project for the development of national quantum infrastructure networks involving fourteen of the best research institutions and Industrial partners in Greece, was evaluated and found technically sound by the European Union. The next step is to further develop the network in cooperation with other EU Member States as part of the EuroQCI Initiative. Congratulations to the team which worked very hard to submit this proposal*".

The **CEO of GRNET, Aristeidis Sotiropoulos**, at his opening remarks emphasised the expertise of GRNET that implemented in total 180 digital services and supports the Gov.gr portal that served 230 million transactions since it was launched. Dr Sotiropoulos also noticed that "*it is a great honor for GRNET, that the Ministry of Digital Governance has entrusted us with the role of the HellasQCI project coordinator, establishing the National Quantum Communication Infrastructure, and this day marks the beginning of the implementation phase and becoming part of EuroQCI. The project will enable the upgrade of the security communication networks at National and EU level. GRNET also holds a key role in all European projects relating to cloud and service infrastructures such as EOSC, EUDAT, EGI, GÉANT, PRACE and EuroHPC and we are proud to be at the forefront of implementing this new quantum network infrastructure*".

The purpose of the meeting was to kick-start the project, introduce the team members, establish goals and expectations, and discuss actions for the next period, based on the project timelines and milestones.

During the meeting, all participants were introduced, as well as their respective roles within the project. This was followed by a discussion on the scope of the project and the goals the project aims to achieve. Moreover, a timeline for next actions was established for each phase of the project and identified milestones to track the project progress.

The discussion was very productive, and helped to identify potential risks and challenges that might be encountered throughout the project and mitigation actions that might be needed. Technical knowledge

concerning the implementation of the project and best practices were shared, including information about the:

- design of the quantum communication architecture, the use-cases and the QKD (quantum key distribution) technologies that will be used throughout the implementation phase, as well as the initial steps for the trainings,
- national QCI proposals from Ireland and Luxembourg, and their aim to build networks using QKD technology within the EuroQCI framework.

Additionally, a main topic for discussion was the importance of communication and the key National stakeholders who will need to be informed about our progress and get engaged through the HellasQCI community were also identified.

The kick-off meeting gained intense publicity, as a press release was published, and social media announcements were made prior, during and after the event at GRNET and HellasQCI channels. Press and TV Channel journalists attended the event.

Via multiple channel dissemination activities, a variety of on-line, video and press media editorials were published and aired in the news, and you can find at section three the 55 media publications and at the [link](#) the Alpha TV cover story about the HellasQCI Kick-off meeting.

Useful information about the HellasQCI project kick-off meeting and the project's objectives:

- DIAVLOS, GRNET's web streaming service recording or the high level welcome remarks:
<https://diavlos.grnet.gr/room/611?eventid=13639>
- Meeting agenda and partners available here : <https://bit.ly/3JkDcZ9>
- Videos from welcome remarks, in GR language:
 - Welcome key note speech for the HellasQCI kick-off project meeting, Minister of State and Digital Governance, Kyriakos Pierrakakis: <http://bit.ly/3xWJ8Au>
 - Keynote speech for the HellasQCI kick-off meeting, Secretary General of Telecommunications & Post - Ministry of Digital Governance, Dr. Athanasios Staveris: <http://bit.ly/3EKXBDz>
 - Keynote speech for the HellasQCI kick-off meeting, CEO, GRNET, Dr. Aris Sotiropoulos: <http://bit.ly/3J0NAEO>
 - List of videos on GRNET YouTube account of all Keynote speeches from the kick-off meeting : <https://bit.ly/3SA4tt3>
- Editorials are available in GR language only:
 - [Netweek editorial November 2022](#), by Journalist J.Rizopoulos
 - Press Release for the event Kick off <https://bit.ly/3Z9iOKC>
 - Press Release for the Project: <https://mindigital.gr/archives/4958>
 - List of Media Publications for HellasQCI Kick-off meeting: <https://bit.ly/3HCtUGs>
 - Alpha TV cover story about HellasQCI Kick-off: <https://bit.ly/3IBT5bM>

Other useful links and info:

- HellasQCI info page on GRNET website: <https://grnet.gr/business-directory/hellasqci/>

- [EuroQCI](#) info website page
- HellasQCI Social Media Channels: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [YouTube](#)
- [HellasQCI portal \(Home - HellasQCI\)](#)
- Official project Hashtag: #HellasQCI
- Official kick-off meeting Hashtag: #HellasQCIkickoff2023
- GRNET Social Media Channels: [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Instagram](#), [YouTube](#)

2. Kick-off Photo material



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3. Kick-off Media publications

1. [Kathimerini– Money Review](#) HellasQCI: Εκκίνηση για το έργο αναβάθμισης ασφάλειας σε data και υποδομές
2. [Imerisia](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
3. [ALPHA TV](#) - "HellasQCI": Ασφάλεια ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και υποδομών
4. [SKAI TV](#) - Πιερρακάκης: Σε εξέλιξη έργα για την αναβάθμιση της κυβερνοασφάλειας
5. [Iefimerida](#) - Πιερρακάκης: Ελλάδα και ΕΕ αναβαθμίζουν τις υποδομές κυβερνοασφάλειας
6. [Capital](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
7. [Insider](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
8. [Liberal](#) - Κ. Πιερρακάκης: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει τις υποδομές της στον τομέα της κυβερνοασφάλειας
9. [Αθηναϊκό Μακεδονικό Πρακτορείο Ειδήσεων \(ΑΠΕ-ΜΠΕ\)](#) - Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
10. [Indicator](#) - Κ. Πιερρακάκης: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει τις υποδομές της στον τομέα της Κυβερνοασφάλειας
11. [Newsbeast](#) - Πιερρακάκης: Αναβαθμίζουμε τον τομέα της κυβερνοασφάλειας, ξεκινά το έργο HellasQCI
12. [Reporter](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και υποδομών
13. [Businessdaily](#) - Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων
14. [The Daily Post](#) - Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
15. [ToManifesto](#) - Αναβαθμίζεται η κυβερνοασφάλεια σε δεδομένα και κρίσιμες υποδομές-Ξεκινά το έργο "HellasQCI"
16. [Energymag](#) - HellasQCI: Αναβαθμίζεται η ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
17. [NewMoney](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
18. [Sofokleousin](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
19. [Fibernews](#) - HellasQCI: η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών



20. [Pentapostagma](#) - Πιερρακάκης: "Αναβαθμίζουμε τον τομέα της κυβερνοασφάλειας"
21. [Lykavitos](#) - Πιερρακάκης: Σε εξέλιξη έργα για την αναβάθμιση της κυβερνοασφάλειας
22. [Powergame](#) - HellasQCI: Έργο που αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των δεδομένων
23. [Epixeiro](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
24. [EMEA](#) - Το μέλλον των τηλεπικοινωνιών ανήκει στην Ελλάδα
25. [Startupper](#) - HellasQCI: Το έργο που «θωρακίζει» την Ελλάδα απέναντι στις κυβερνοεπιθέσεις
26. [Infocom](#) - HellasQCI: η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
27. [BuisinessNews](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
28. [Voria](#) - Πιερρακάκης: Αναβαθμίζονται έργα για την κυβερνοασφάλεια με το νέο έργο «HellasQCI»
29. [Rizopoulos Post](#) - Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
30. [Ελλάδα 24](#) - Ξεκινά το έργο "HellasQCI" - Αναβαθμίζεται η κυβερνοασφάλεια σε δεδομένα και κρίσιμες υποδομές
31. [NOW – Net Over World](#) - HellasQCI: η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
32. [Politic](#) - Πιερρακάκης: Αναβάθμιση στις υποδομές στον τομέα της Κυβερνοασφάλειας
33. [ICTPlus](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
34. [ThessToday](#) - Πιερρακάκης: Σε εξέλιξη έργα για την αναβάθμιση της κυβερνοασφάλειας
35. [Koinή Γνώμη](#) - HellasQCI: η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
36. [Koinoniki](#) - Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
37. [Agrinioreport](#) - HellasQCI: η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
38. [5minutes](#) - Θωρακίζονται από χάκερ οι κρίσιμες υποδομές της χώρας – Σε εξέλιξη έργα για την αναβάθμιση της κυβερνοασφάλειας
39. [FinUpNews](#) - Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών

Υποδομών



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40. [EptaNews](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
41. [Emvolos](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
42. [Mykonospost](#) - Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
43. [Techwar](#) - HellasQCI: η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
44. [GOVnews](#) - Πιερρακάκης: Ελλάδα και Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση αναβαθμίζουν τις υποδομές κυβερνοασφάλειας
45. [Forin Σταματόπουλος](#) - Υπουργείο Ψηφιακής Διακυβέρνησης Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων
46. [MoveD](#) - HellasQCI: η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
47. [The Times](#) - HellasQCI: η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
48. [SEPE](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και υποδομών
49. [CircoGreco](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
50. [OENET](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
51. [TyposThes](#) - Αναβαθμίζεται η κυβερνοασφάλεια στην Ελλάδα με το Ευρωπαϊκό έργο «HellasQCI»
52. [Analitis](#) - Η Ελλάδα Αναβαθμίζει Την Ασφάλεια Των Ευαίσθητων Δεδομένων Και Των Κρίσιμων Υποδομών
53. [EL](#) - Πιερρακάκης: Σε εξέλιξη έργα για την αναβάθμιση της κυβερνοασφάλειας
54. [MyOTA](#) - HellasQCI: η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών
55. [Odelalis](#) - HellasQCI: Η Ελλάδα αναβαθμίζει την ασφάλεια των ευαίσθητων δεδομένων και των κρίσιμων υποδομών

4. Annex 1 – Full media publications (PDF)

5. Annex 2 – Kick-off agenda