

Agenda of the European Commission ***10 – 16 February 2014***

**Background notes from the Spokespersons' service for journalists.
The European Commission reserves the right to make changes.**

Monday 10 February:

European Cybercrime Centre – one year on

Monday 10 February:

Paving the way for the EU Strategy for the Alpine region

Tuesday 11 February:

Safer Internet Day - Let's create Better Internet together

Monday 10 February:

European Cybercrime Centre – one year on

The news:

On the occasion of the first anniversary of the launch of the European Cybercrime Centre (EC3), the first EC3 report will be presented to media by the European Commissioner for Home Affairs, Cecilia Malmström and the Head of the Centre, Troels Oerting. It will evaluate how the EC3 has contributed to protect European citizens and businesses and what the main future online threats and challenges to be addressed are.

The background:

The main task of the European Cybercrime Centre is to disrupt the operations of organised crime networks that commit a large share of the serious and organised cybercrimes.

Concretely, the EC3 supports operations and investigations conducted by Member States' authorities in several areas.

Recent examples include:

- Dismantling high-tech crimes networks (cyber-attacks, malware)
- Disrupting a network of paedophiles involved in online child sexual exploitation
- Dismantling international networks of organised crime in the area of payment fraud

The event:

- Cecilia Malmstrom and the Head of the Centre, Troels Oerting will present the EC3 report during a press conference in the Commission's press room. A press release will be available on 10 February.
- Available on EbS

The sources:

- Information on Commissioner Malmström:
http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/malmstrom/index_en.htm
- Information on DG Home Affairs:
http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/index_en.htm

The contacts:

Michele Cercone	+32 2 298 09 63	michele.cercone@ec.europa.eu
Tove Ernst	+32 2 298 67 64	tove.ernst@ec.europa.eu

Monday 10 February:

Paving the way for the EU Strategy for the Alpine region

The news:

On 10 February Commissioner for Regional Policy, Johannes Hahn, will meet foreign and Europe ministers in Brussels to plot the way ahead towards the implementation of a new macro regional strategy for the Alpine region. The meeting will be dedicated to outline key requirements for making the Strategy a success and to establish a detailed timetable. The high level meeting will be attended by the foreign ministers of Italy, Slovenia, Austria and Lichtenstein, the Europe ministers of Germany and France and the ambassadors of Switzerland and Lichtenstein.

The background:

In December 2013, the European Council invited the Commission formally to develop an EU Macro-Regional Strategy for the Alpine Region. The deadline for presenting a proposal for the strategy is mid 2015.

The Strategy for the Alpine Region will build on the experiences of the already existing macro-regional strategies (European Strategy for the Danube Region and European [Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region](#)). According to the political resolution adopted by the representatives of States and Regions of the Alpine region in Grenoble in May 2013, the new strategy will focus mainly on the following thematic priorities:

- Ensuring sustainable growth and promoting employment, competitiveness and innovation
- Promoting a territorial development that is focused on an environmentally friendly mobility
- Promoting sustainable management of energy and natural and cultural resources

As for the implementation, the Strategy will be based on the key principles applied for the existing macro-regional strategies: no new EU funds, no additional EU formal structures and no EU legislation, while relying on a coordinated approach, synergy effects and a more effective use of EU funds and other financial instruments. The aim is to produce a clear added value based on jointly identified objectives.

The event:

- 10 February, Brussels, Berlaymont/S9: Commissioner for Regional Policy, Johannes Hahn, meets foreign and Europe ministers to pave the way for the EU Strategy of the Alpine Region.
- A press release (espresso) will be available on 10 February. There will be a photo- and film opportunity at the beginning of the meeting. Commissioner Hahn will be available for short interviews after the meeting, i.e. at about 19.00 p.m.(upon request, contact via press team)

The sources:

- http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/cooperate/macro_region_strategy/index_en.cfm
- Twitter: [@EU_Regional](#) [@JHahnEU](#) #EUSAIR

The contacts:

Shirin Wheeler	+32 2 29 665 65	shirin.wheeler@ec.europa.eu
Annemarie Huber	+32 2 29 933 10	annemarie.huber@ec.europa.eu

Tuesday 11 February:

Safer Internet Day - Let's create Better Internet together

The news:

The European Commission's vice president Neelie Kroes will launch a Youth Manifesto on how to make a better Internet and will award the creators of the [best online content for kids](#). This year the Safer Internet Day for the first time is celebrated not only in Europe but around the world, including US, in [over 100 countries](#) under the theme - Let's create Better Internet together. There will be games and competitions, radio and television shows, conferences, events in thousands of schools organised by the network of Safer Internet Centres.

In Brussels, vice president Kroes will award 12 creators of the best online content for kids. The winners include adults and children from Belgium, Czech Republic, Hungary, Iceland, The Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia and The United Kingdom.

The background:

Safer Internet Day aims at promoting a safer and better use of the internet, online technologies and mobile phones, and the fight against illegal or harmful content and conduct.

The [INSAFE network](#) that coordinates the participation of EU and third countries in Safer Internet Day 2014 has been established by the Commission's EU Safer Internet Programme to raise awareness of online uses and risks while addressing children, parents, schools, and media.

The event:

- IP will be available on the day. [#betterinternet](#), [#SID2014](#)
- Tuesday 11 February: Conference, award ceremony and launch of youth manifesto on better internet in Belaymont, Brussels.
- Available on EbS

The sources:

- [Safer Internet Day](#)
- [Safer Internet Day 2014 video](#)
- [Best content for kids award](#)
- [Better internet for kids in the EU](#)
- [Vice President Neelie Kroes' website](#)

The contacts:

comm-kroes@ec.europa.eu, tel: +32 229 57361, Twitter: [@RyanHeathEU](#)