Message from the EISIC 2017 General Chair

We are very pleased to host the European Intelligence and Security Informatics Conference (EISIC) once again in Greece after the Athens conference in 2011 when EISIC first started to be organized annually in various cities across Europe. Until now, EISIC has hosted the research and scientific work of several researchers not only from Europe but also from overseas, becoming a premium venue for research relevant to counterterrorism and criminology. We hope that this tradition will continue this year and that the works to be presented by the participants will be innovative and interesting.

This year we have invited a diverse group of keynote speakers from academia, police, and army, emphasizing that the new geopolitical challenges require close collaboration between these three entities to produce novel cross-boundary technologies. In this respect, the Director of the Cyber Crime Center of the Hellenic Police, Greece, Mr. George Papaprodromou, and the Director of the Cyber Defence Directorate, Hellenic National Defence General Staff, Greece, Mr. Spyros Papageorgiou, will refer to the modus operandi of their groups and the challenges they face every day, while on behalf of the research community novel techniques for contemporary challenges will be presented by Prof. Christos Douligeris (University of Piraeus, Greece) and the recently awarded Dr. Vishal M. Patel (Rutgers University, USA). A novel feature in the conference this year is the organization of a very interesting and controversial panel titled “Ethical Dilemmas in Intelligence Analysis: Implications for Systems and Operations” with prominent speakers from academia and governmental agencies chaired by Prof. B. L. William Wong (Middlesex University London, United Kingdom) and Dr. Ioanna Lekea (Hellenic Air Force Academy, Greece) with Prof. Stelios Virvidakis (University of Athens, Greece), Dr. Ioanna Lekea (Hellenic Air Force Academy, Greece), Mr. Demosthenis P. Bakopoulos (Ministry of Maritime Affairs, Greece), Dr. Don Gotterbarn (East Tennessee State University, USA), Ms. Samantha Todd (West Midlands Police, United Kingdom) and Prof. Kai Kimppa (University of Turku, Finland) as invited speakers, and financial support from the VALCRI project. Following the panel, a tutorial titled “Ethical Dilemmas in Intel Analysis and Operations and Implications for Systems Design and Development: Individual Rights vs. Security of Society” will take place for the participants who are interested in the topic.

Another particular feature regarding the organization this year is the nature of the conference organizer. EISIC 2017 is organized by the Hellenic Air Force Academy, a military institute of Higher Education which provides education to Hellenic Air Force officers. As a military institute, it is located inside the Dekelia Air Base which was a challenge for the organization of the conference. However, with the support of Air Vice-Marshal Thomas Chatzieuthimiou, the previous Commander of the Hellenic Air Force Academy and now Commander of the Air Training Command, as well as the support of the current Commander of the Hellenic Air Force Academy, Air Vice-Marshal Ioannis Gkontikoulis, who both embraced the idea of organizing an international research and scientific conference in the premises of the Academy, the organization of this conference was rendered feasible. Special reference also needs to be made to the previous commander of the Hellenic Air Force, Air Chief Marshal Christos Vaitis, and the current commander of the Hellenic Air Force, Air Chief Marshal Christos Christodoulou, who both approved the organization of the conference and provided their full support concerning whatever resource was required for the endeavor. Without their support the organization of the conference would not be possible.

Special thanks also need to be attributed to the previous Academic Dean of the Hellenic Air Force Academy, Prof. Petros Kotsiopoulos, and the new Academic Dean, Prof. Anastasios Zagorianos, for their guidance regarding the interaction with the administration services, as well as to Group Captain Mr. Apostolos Moschos who undertook the communication with all the military personnel involved in the organization and to Flight Lieutenant Mr. Athanasios Ntellas for his support regarding the
financial services of the conference, Dr. Christos Pavlatos for attending to the preparation of the conference program, Dr. Ioanna Lekea for the local organization of the conference and all the Hellenic Air Force Academy personnel who supported this conference.

Last but not least, the scientific committee of the conference needs to be thanked and especially the Program Chair of EISIC 2017, Joel Brynielsson (KTH Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden), who coordinated the scientific work and the communication with the program committee with the assistance of the track chairs who contributed to the scientific preparation of the conference: Martin Boldt (Blekinge Institute of Technology, Sweden), Anton Borg (Blekinge Institute of Technology, Sweden), Lisa Kaati (Uppsala University, Sweden), Neesha Kodagoda (Middlesex University London, United Kingdom), Margit Pohl (TU Wien, Austria) and B. L. William Wong (Middlesex University London, United Kingdom). We are also grateful to our publicity chair Thirimachos Bourlai (West Virginia University, USA), who helped disseminate the call for papers in both Europe and the United States.

Once again, we cordially welcome you to our premises in Dekelia Air Base and we hope that you will enjoy EISIC 2017 and your stay in Athens, Greece.

Panagiotis Karampelas, Hellenic Air Force Academy, Greece
EISIC 2017 General Chair