Dear CYBERSEC Friends,

On November 6, Poland has delivered the formal offer to become the host of the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre. Achieving that goal is one of our priorities and we would greatly appreciate your support.

Poland is a strong candidate to host the new ECCC. Our ecosystem of R&Ds, manufactures and providers of digital services and competences is growing wider and stronger year by year. Organizations such as the Kosciuszko Institute are facilitating further advancements and developments in this area by bringing together relevant stakeholders and members of the digital community, as we all could experience during CYBERSEC Forum events in the past few years. Our country has both the human capital and great conditions to host such an institution. The well-organized and well-functioning cyber community paired with blooming ICT sector (employing over 250 000 people) make a strong and stable base for further developments in the European cyber ecosystem. Our close relations and bilateral ICT business and scientific cooperation would benefit both Poland and other Member States.

#CyberMadeinPoland, the largest ICT security cluster in Poland and the CEE region, incorporates 44 innovative cybersecurity companies (both start-ups and SMEs) along with the country's ICT leaders. The Kosciuszko Institute is a proud leader and initiator of this professional gathering.

There are several technological areas in which Poland specialises, including some of the most promising and key branches of cybersecurity like security of industrial control systems, security of software code, development of advanced web applications, identity verification solutions and cryptography.

Poland has been carrying out a fully State-funded R&D programme called CyberSecIdent (Cybersecurity and Identity). Since 2017, Poland has invested more than EUR 60 million in R&D projects in the area of cybersecurity, including the country's first laboratory for researching and evaluating ICT products managed by experienced researchers.

As an active member of the EU cybersecurity sphere, Poland is one of the leaders in implementing regulations concerning the cybersecurity, 5G security and standardization of ICT solutions. We are committed to maintain this level of engagement and cooperation within the Union's strong digital ecosystem.

Poland also has a long experience of effective implementation of the EU funds. We succeeded at creating an environment where the private sector, local and central administrations, and other stakeholders developed a well-functioning system of distributing and using EU funds for bigger and smaller projects. Therefore, we can guarantee excellent connectivity, security and interoperability with IT facilities in handling EU funding – naturally open for all applicants from all Member states.

The choice of Warsaw as the seat of the Centre is not coincidental. The city offers top-class technical, scientific, academic and socio-economic facilities. It provides exceptional living conditions and accommodation options, high level of security, international educational facilities and job opportunities, great medical care facilities and a close-knit expats community.

Warsaw is a European transport hub which can be easily reached through two international airports, offering 120 scheduled routes to 65 countries. Notably, Warsaw offers non-stop scheduled flights to all EU Member States. Moreover, the location for the Centre is well-connected with the rest of the city and only 15 minutes away from the

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airport. We are also offering competitive conditions in terms of financing costs of office space rental for the Centre, as well as covering costs of education for children of the Centre's personnel.

The Kosciuszko Institute believes that Warsaw, Poland is truly a great choice for the new ECCC. As the leading, non-governmental and non-profit think tank and research institute, we are determined to empower developments in the digital ecosystem of our country and the EU as a whole. We believe that establishing the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre here, in Poland brings a plethora of new opportunities for the entire Union's community.

With this letter, the Kosciuszko Institute expresses its support for the formal offer from Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki for Poland to become the host of the European Cybersecurity Industrial, Technology and Research Competence Centre. Our mission is to take action in developing a stronger and more cybersecure Union, and with your support we could take a great leap in doing so.

Yours sincerely,
Izabela Albrycht

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