



BEYOND
THE HORIZON

behorizon.org

Activity Report

2025

“Promoting glocal peace and security”

Message from
**Beyond the
Horizon ISSG**

Dear Readers,

As we reflect on 2025,
we present this annual
activity report with
pride and a deepened
sense of purpose.

The world we operate in remained complex, war in Europe, shifting great-power dynamics, technology reshaping conflict and democracy. These are not abstract challenges; they are the very issues that drive our work and make our mission more urgent than ever.

In 2025, we delivered 7 projects reaching more than 5,000 people. We produced 153 research outputs and held 27 events with more than 1,000 participants..

We launched W.A.R on the Horizon, a weekly newsletter tracking European security developments, and published 49 Asia on the Horizon monitoring reports. Our 140+ partnerships across Europe and beyond continued to underpin everything we do.

Looking ahead, we remain committed to promoting global peace and security through research, training, and action. The challenges are evolving. So are we.

Thank you for your continued trust and support.

Sincerely,

Beyond the Horizon
Team



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Who **We are**



Beyond the Horizon International Strategic Studies Group (BtH) is an **independent next-generation think & do tank** in Belgium.

BtH aims to **promote glocal** (global & local) **peace and security** by its strong in-house capacity and extensive network of partners throughout the world.

Achievements in 2025



27
Events

We organised workshops, conferences, webinars, panel discussions, living labs with more than **1000** participants



7
Projects

We implemented projects at European, national and regional levels reaching out to more than **5000** people.



153
Publications

We published researches, policy briefs, infographics, commentaries, reports, journal issues, etc.

What we do

Our activities



⇒ Think



- Research & Analysis
- Monitor
- Forum

⇒ Do



- Training & Consultancy
- Projects & Partnerships
- Digital Enabling

Activities

Research & Analysis

We empower decision and policymakers and practitioners with data-driven & evidence-based research and analysis including our quarterly journal 'Horizon Insights'.

Monitor

We keep a watchful eye on the globe and crisis zones to bring emerging critical issues to the attention of professionals and the general public.

Forum

We serve as a forum for debate on our focus areas by organising different kinds of events and our annual landmark event 'New Horizons Summit'.

Training & Consultancy

We provide world-class training and consultancy services based on our focus areas through our Horizon Global Academy.

Projects & Partnerships

We develop and employ innovative and sustainable solutions by making a combination of research, innovation and action projects in collaboration with selected partners.

Digital enabling

With our in-house capacity Horizon Lab, we transform our deliverables into data-driven products and enable our activities with digital tools and solutions.

Departments



Meet our team



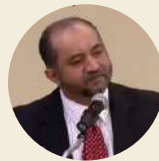
Advisory Board



Steven Blockmans, Prof



Hall Gardner, Prof



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Swielande, Prof



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Çlirim TOCI,
PhD



Rodrigo Alvarez
Valdes, Prof



Ahmad Wali Ahmad Yar,
PhD

Meet our team



Staff



Furkan Akar
Project Officer
Research Fellow



Pierre Roberts
Project Assistant



April Holm
Project Assistant



Aaron Centrangelo
Social Media
Assistant



Ayhan Eker
HR & Financial
Manager



Jessica Freitas
Marketing | Business
Development Assistant



Timuçin İbu
Director



Derek Metivier
Research Assistant



Klara Migout
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Sarah Wolf
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Eric Malin
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Digital Marketing



Onur Sultan, PhD
Non-Resident Senior
Research Fellow



Hasan Suzen, PhD
Founder | Senior
Research Fellow



Adina Tiittula
Project Assistant



Tuba Yalinkilic, PhD
Senior Research Fellow |
Project Coordinator



Fatih Yilmaz
Director of Projects &
Partnerships | Research
Fellow



Saban Yuksel
Director of Horizon Global
Academy | Research Fellow
| Project Manager



Samet Coban
Research Fellow |
Project Manager



Adrian Noren
Project Assistant



Asha Pieper
Project Assistant

Our Focus

Focusing on challenges to our peace & security and their solutions from policy- and society-based perspectives, BtH covers the following topics in its activities:

01

Societal Challenges

- Diversity & Inclusion
- Gender & Equalities
- Migration & Integration
- Democracy & Rule of Law
- Radicalisation & Polarisation

02

Global Challenges

- Geopolitics & Great Power Politics
- Energy Security
- Environment & Climate change

03

Digitalisation

- Disruptive Technologies
- Cyber security
- Artificial Intelligence



04

Peace & Conflict

- Peace & Conflict Management
- Defence & Security
- Political & Hybrid Warfare
- Maritime & Naval Security
- Fighting Organised Crime and Terrorism

Our Sustainability goals



Quality Education

Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.



Gender Equality

Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.



Reduced Inequalities

Reduce inequality within and among countries.



Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.



Partnerships for the Goals

Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalise the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development.

BtH believes that its strength lies in **diversity** and it is committed to nurturing an **inclusive culture** within the organisation and the community.

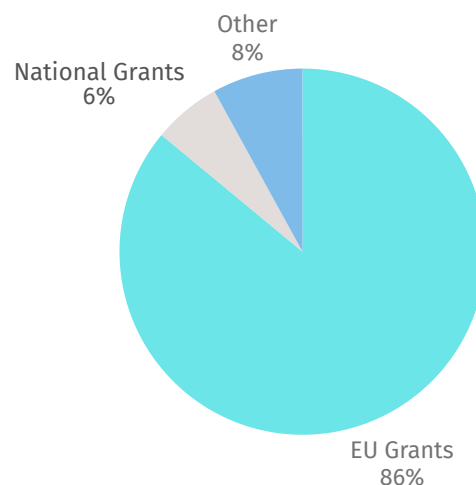
BtH is committed to promoting **gender equality** in its activities through its [Gender Equality Plan](#).



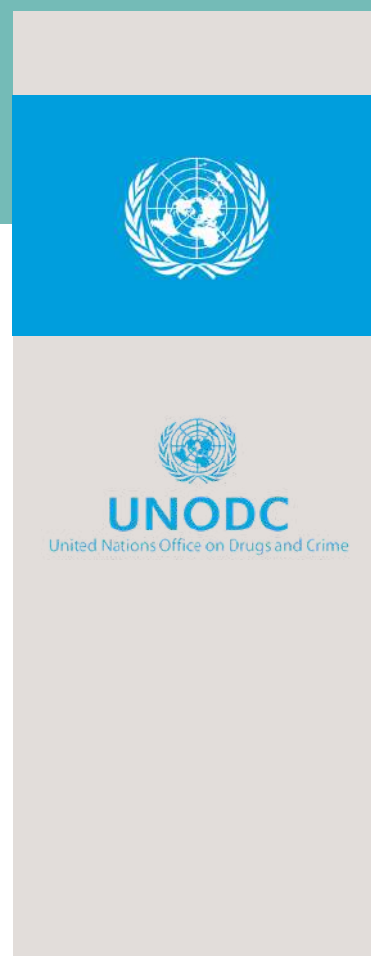
Financing

Chart & Funders

To maintain independence and objectivity of its publications and activities, BtH mainly derives its resources from projects funded primarily by the EU grants, and other national/international organisations. Besides, a small part of its revenue is generated by fees and donations.



Our Funders



Our quality

Beyond the Horizon ISSG received BC 9022 quality label from Brand Compliance, and Work and Social Economy quality label from the Flemish Government which prove the quality of its organisational structure and activities.



WSE Quality
registration

WSE
Kwaliteits
registratie

Work and Social Economy
Quality Registration Number:
[KDB000000933](#)



BC 9022
Quality label

BC **BC 9022**
Kwaliteitslabel
Hét label voor WSE
Gecertificeerd door Brand Compliance

BC 9022 Quality Label
BE005/V1 - Certify number:
[BE 057.1.1](#)



EU Transparency
registration



[European Union Transparency](#)
[Register Identification Number:](#)
[832553048975-48](#)



Organisation registration number:
[0688.914.586](#)

Partners & networks

Think-tanks & NGOs

↑ 47

Leading international and national think-tanks and NGOs at European, national or local levels.

We formed 140+ **partnerships** in 2025 with organisations throughout Europe and beyond to realise different projects, research activities and events.



Universities & Research Centres

↑ 35

Higher education institutions and various private research centres throughout Europe and beyond.

Public Institutions

↑ 29

Municipalities from Europe, government agencies for employment, law enforcement, asylum, etc.

Companies

↑ 24

Companies contributing to innovative and sustainable solutions for societal challenges

Networks

↑ 8

Membership of networks at European level and beyond.

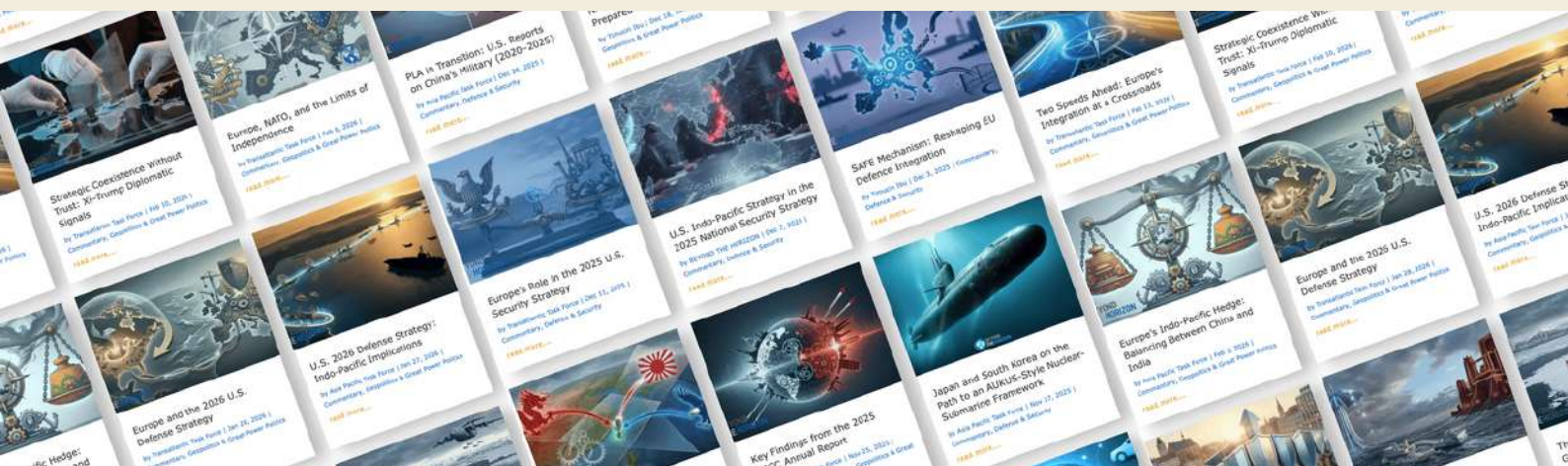
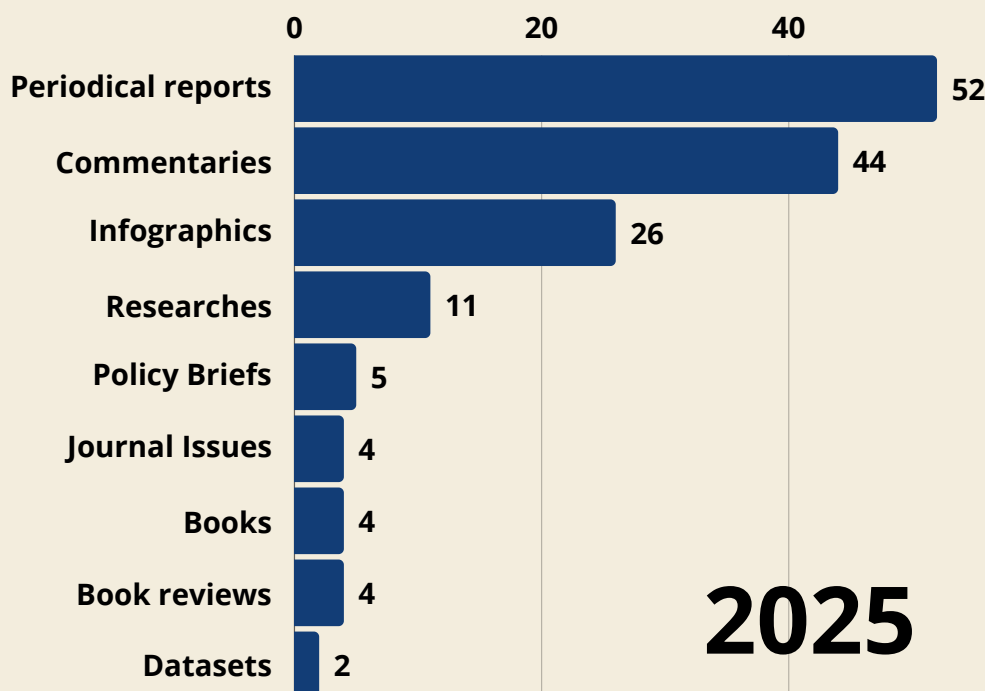


Research & analysis activities

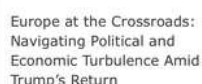


We empower decision and policymakers and practitioners with data-driven & evidence-based research and analysis. Our research and analysis activities are carried out by our department “Horizon Research”.

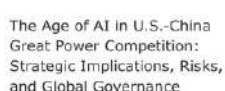
153 Publications



Policy briefs, commentaries..



February



March



South Korea's Democracy Tested: Impeachments, Power Struggles, and a Nation in Flux

The End of an Era: What the US Retreat from European Security Means for the World

NATO at a Crossroads in Trump's Second Term

➤ **August**



The Transactional Turn in U.S. Foreign Policy: Trump's Ukraine Policy Shift and Its Implications for Asia-Pacific Alliances

Culture's Role in Navigating Technological Change:
The KT4D perspective on recent developments in European AI pol.

China's Economy in H1 2025: Resilience Amidst Uncertainty

September



European Defence Readiness
2030: A New Blueprint for
Strategic Autonomy

All publications on: <https://behorizon.org>

Publications

Policy briefs, commentaries..



April



Implications of the Second Trump Administration (2025–2029) on Global Geopolitics

by Transatlantic Task Force | Apr 4, 2025 |
Commentary, Geopolitics & Great Power Politics



Collision Course in Kashmir: Can India and Pakistan Step Back from Conflict?

by Asia Pacific Task Force | Apr 29, 2025 |
Commentary, Peace & Conflict Management



Around the World in 80 Days: Trump's Return and the Rewriting of Global Order

by Transatlantic Task Force | Apr 15, 2025 |
Commentary, Geopolitics & Great Power Politics

May



Xi Jinping's May 2025 Visit to Russia: Geopolitical Significance and Strategic Implications

by Asia Pacific Task Force | May 12, 2025 |
Commentary, Geopolitics & Great Power Politics



Trump's 2025 Gulf Tour: Deals, Diplomacy, and Dilemmas

by Middle East Task Force | May 19, 2025 |
Commentary, Geopolitics & Great Power Politics

June



European Democracy Shield

Open Public Consultation
Policy Recommendations by
the Horizon Europe project
INNOVAD

INNOVAD-democracy



The Rising Importance of the Global South in 2025: A New Pillar of Multipolar Power

by Asia Pacific Task Force | Jun 3, 2025 |
Commentary, Geopolitics & Great Power Politics

July



NATO Summit The Hague 2025: Strategic Outcomes and Key Issues

by Transatlantic Task Force | Jul 2, 2025 |
Commentary, Defence & Security, Geopolitics & Great Power Politics



Emerging Security Dynamics in the Indo-Pacific

by Asia Pacific Task Force | Jul 14, 2025 |
Commentary, Geopolitics & Great Power Politics



Pakistan's Strategic Importance in the Eyes of the US and China: Interactions, Initiatives and High Level Contacts

by Asia Pacific Task Force | Jul 28, 2025 |
Commentary, Geopolitics & Great Power

November



The Strategic Squeeze: Rare Earths in the 21st Century

by Transatlantic Task Force | Nov 3, 2025 |
Commentary, Defence & Security, Disruptive Technologies



EuroHub4Sino
European Hub for Contemporary China

ALMANAC 2025

Funded by the European Union

October



A Turning Point in the Middle East? The Strategic Stakes of the Gaza Peace Plan

by MENA Task Force | Oct 14, 2025 |
Commentary, Geopolitics & Great Power Politics, Peace & Conflict Management



Protecting Our Foundations: Europe's New Democracy Shield

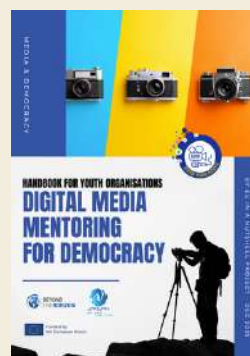
by Asia Pacific Task Force | Nov 13, 2025 |
Commentary, Geopolitics & Great Power Politics, Infographic

December



**IMMUNE2
INFODEMIC
TOOL
CARDS:**

Boost your immunity to
misinformation and
disinformation with
critical thinking, media
literacy, and digital
literacy.



**HANDBOOK FOR YOUTH ORGANISATIONS
DIGITAL MEDIA
MENTORING
FOR DEMOCRACY**

EUROPEAN UNION
EUROPEAN COMMISSION
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
EUROPEAN COUNCIL
EUROPEAN COURT OF JUSTICE
EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN
EUROPEAN PUBLIC PROSECUTOR
EUROPEAN REGULATOR
EUROPEAN UNION

All publications on: <https://behorizon.org>

Publications



Horizon Insights

Horizon Insights is BtH's quarterly open-access journal that features most insightful research articles and policy briefs to cover some of the most important issues, mostly ending with policy recommendations for policy makers and those in the field. Each issue also discusses a book, visiting a debate around a recent conspicuous subject. We published **Volume 8** of the journal in 2025 with **4 issues**.



➤ **VOL 8 / ISSUE 1**
Jan-Mar 2025



➤ **VOL 8 / ISSUE 2**
Apr-Jun 2025



➤ **VOL 8 / ISSUE 3**
Jul-Sep 2025



➤ **VOL 8 / ISSUE 4**
Oct-Dec 2025

All issues: <https://behorizon.org/horizon-insights/>

We monitor **W.A.R. and Asia on the Horizon**



In 2025, we ran two weekly monitoring products covering security & defence developments across the Euro-Atlantic and Indo-Pacific regions: "W.A.R. on the Horizon," launched in 2025, tracking crises, conflicts, and strategic debates in Europe; and "Asia on the Horizon," covering the Indo-Pacific, in total with 52 weekly reports backed by data, maps, and infographics.



We published **49 weekly "Asia on the Horizon" reports**, supported by data, maps, and infographics, as well as the **"Asia on the Horizon Almanac 2025"**.

In addition, we published policy briefings assessing emerging security challenges in Asia. Leveraging regional partnerships and advanced analytical tools, we provided timely insights into geopolitical shifts, military developments and economic trends.

All issues: <https://behorizon.org/asia-on-the-horizon/>



We launched W.A.R on the Horizon weekly reports and **policy briefings** to assess emerging and ongoing security crises with direct implications for the Europe and wider international order. Drawing on regional partnerships, open-source intelligence, **data-driven monitoring, maps and infographics**, we provided timely analysis of geopolitical shifts, military dynamics and economic pressures shaping conflict environments.

<https://behorizon.org/w-a-r-on-the-horizon/>



Our Training activities

We developed new trainings and e-learning modules in 2025.

We organised online and in-person training activities based on our focus areas through our [Horizon Global Academy](#).

Our training activities received BC 9022 Quality Label.

➤ Trainings for professionals



➤ Digital Transformation Training

Aim: Raise awareness of non-technical staff about the opportunities and challenges of cybersecurity and AI

2 blended modules:

- AI-Centric Transformation
- Cybersecurity Risk Management

Advantages

- 32 hours
- Modular
- EN, NL
- Certification
- Registered to Flemish database

Participation

Training leave or training cheques can be used. ([Link](#))

[Link](#)



➤ Immune 2 Infodemic e-learning and Corporate Training

Unlock your ability to analyze and evaluate information in today's digital landscape. Develop essential critical thinking and media literacy skills. You will be guided by our local heroes Truth Seeker, Fact Hacker and Super Curious.

9 e-learning modules (3 NEW Boosters added)

- **Vaccine 1** - Critical Thinking
- **Vaccine 2** - Media Literacy
- **Vaccine 3** - Digital Literacy
- **Booster 4** - FIMI
- **Booster 5** - Climate
- **Booster 6** - AI-enabled

Advantages

- FREE access to 31 tools
- Available on mobile application

Participants

- Vrouweninfo Herentals
- Cultural Centre of Baarle
- Public Libraries of Lille and Geel
- Municipality of Vorselaar
- Rebelle vzw

[Link](#)

Our Training activities in 2025



➤ Trainings for public (FREE e-learning)



➤ Supermentor blended learning for supporting jobseekers

Super-mentor is a [blended certified online training](#) for mentors and mentoring organisations who support jobseekers with migrant background to find a job in Belgium.

4 blended / e-learning modules

- What's Mentoring?
- Mentoring process
- Mentoring skills.
- Flemish Labour market

Advantages

- Modular
- Certification
- Free e-learning.
- Community messaging
- EN, NL
- Application for mobile use

Participants

- FEDASIL
- CAI Namur
- FMDO
- More than 200 mentors

Trainings can be organised for mentor groups.

[Link](#)



➤ Mentor+ e-learning for youth mentors

Mentor+ offers an e-learning for mentors of justice involved youth. It also offers a rich source for youth organisations dealing with justice involved juvenile.

4 e-learning modules

- The Basics of Mentoring
- Justice-involved youth
- Enabling Change

Advantages

- In 6 languages (EN,NL,FR,PT,IT,GR)
- Free e-learning
- Application available for mobile use

Participants in 2025

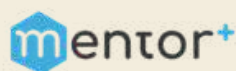
- More than 10 youth organisations across Europe

[Link](#)



Our projects in 2025

We develop and employ innovative and sustainable solutions on societal challenges by making a combination of research and innovation action projects in collaboration with selected partners.



MENTOR+

Funded by the EU (ERASMUS+)

Mentor+ is focused on designing an intervention of non-formal education, offering the mentoring methodology to engage, connect and empower young people in conflict with the law. The main idea is to use law-abiding adults to support juveniles in the process of developing positive attitudes and behaviours.

Focus Area: *Fighting Organised Crime & Terrorism*

<https://www.mentorplus-euproject.org/>



EU in a Nutshell

Funded by the EU (ERASMUS+)

“EU in a Nutshell” is a digital media mentoring initiative designed for young adults with migration backgrounds in Germany and Belgium. It combines skill-building and practical engagement to foster active participation, intercultural understanding, and inclusion.

Focus Area: *Migration & Integration, Democracy & Rule of Law, Diversity & Inclusion*

<https://behorizon.org/projects/eu-in-a-nutshell-eu101/>



INNOVADE

Funded by the EU (Horizon Europe)

Digital transformation is revolutionising democracy. INNOVADE (INNOVAtive DEMocracy through digitalisation) drives this shift by addressing the challenges and risks associated with digital platforms. The project delivers advanced tools and frameworks to empower inclusive, transparent, and effective e-participation across Europe.

By leveraging existing knowledge and exploring emerging trends, INNOVADE provides innovative, scalable, and replicable solutions, fostering a digitally enhanced public sphere and strengthening democratic governance.

Focus Area: *Democracy & Rule of Law, Digitalisation*

<https://innovade-democracy.eu>



Our projects in 2025



Immune 2 Infodemic 2

Funded by the EU (CERV)

IMMUNE 2 INFODEMIC 2 aims to immunise EU citizens against the disinformation and misinformation on selected themes: AI-enabled disinformation, Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI), and environmental and climate change.

Focus Area: *Democracy & Rule of law*

<https://immune2infodemic.eu/>



KT4D

Funded by the EU (Horizon Europe)

Knowledge Technologies for Democracy (KT4D) will foster civic participation in democracy by capitalising on the benefits of developments in AI & Big Data Technologies. To do this project develops and validates tools, guidelines and a Digital Democracy Lab Demonstrators platform.

Focus Area: *Democracy & Rule of law*

<https://kt4democracy.eu>



NOTIONES

Funded by the EU (Horizon 2020)

NOTIONES aims to build and maintain a pan-European ecosystem of security and intelligence practitioners in order to (1) monitor technologic opportunities and advancements and best practices and (2) define and refine requirements and standardisation needs.

Focus Area: *Fighting Organised Crime & Terrorism*

<https://www.notion.es/>



EuroHub4Sino

Funded by the EU (Horizon Europe)

Led by Beyond the Horizon, EuroHub4Sino brings together leading European researchers to foster independent European knowledge on China, alongside digital platform specialists to develop an AI-powered hub supporting researchers, policymakers, and other stakeholders in their efforts to research, collaborate, and communicate.

Focus Area: *Geopolitics & Great Power Politics*

<https://eh4s.eu>

Forum Events in 2025



23/01

Media Mentoring for Youth

Workshop,
Zaventem



27/03

Navigating Digital Democracy: Challenges and Future Directions

Webinar

08/05

Culture in the Loop- Shaping Human- Centric AI Policy

Webinar

07/06

EU101 VRT Media Institution Visit

Field visit, Brussels

31/01

Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI) Framework

Workshop,
Brussels



07/05

EU101 Media Institution Visit

Field visit,
Brussels



27/09

Immune2Infodemic Survey collection

Antwerp

04/02

Annual Neighbourhoods Conference-2025

Online

06/06

Brussels EU Institutions Visit

Field visit,
Brussels



16/09

AI vs. Reality – How Communities Can Outsmart Disinformation

Webinar



Forum Events in 2025



23/09

How Do We Engage with China in the 'New Era'?

Conference,
Brussels



23/09

INNOVADE Living Lab 2: Envisioning Digital Democracy

Workshop,
Paderborn, DE



29/10

Matching Citizen and Government Expectations of Digital Democracy

Living Lab,
Online



21/10

Shielding Democracy in the Digital Age: Foundations of Digital Democracy Analysis

Webinar



02-03/12

Co-designing the Digital Democracy Application

Living Lab,
Brussels

More than 1000 participants



online (60%)

BtH, alongside creating impact through its publications, became a forum where emerging issues were discussed before public and important project results were shared with the interested parties.

on site (40%)

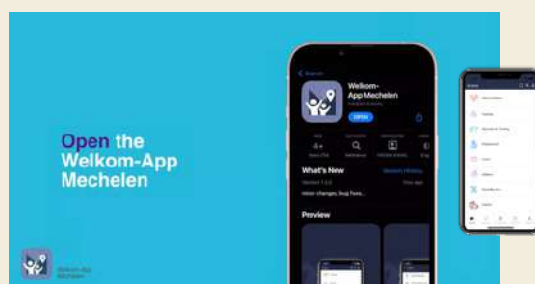


Our digital solutions



Our department “Horizon Lab” serves as the general purpose digital enabler of BtH both in its research and action areas. Core task of the lab is to transform group deliverables into data-driven products and contribute to the research by providing interdisciplinary insight using data and other digital tools.

➤ Welkom-App (Mechelen)



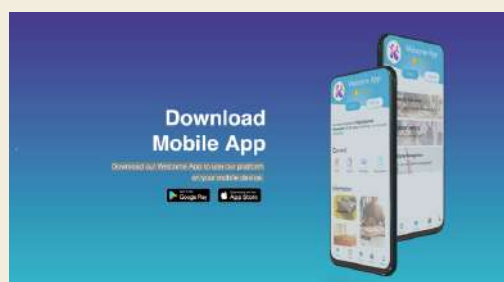
Applications for newcomers to three European cities are developed. The Welkom-App Mechelen is currently available on IOS and Android for users.
<https://www.mechelen.be/welkom-app#NL>

➤ EH4S Platform



With exclusive features designed to foster collaboration, innovation, and knowledge exchange, the platform empowers members to excel in their fields.
<https://eh4s.eu/eh4s-platform>

➤ HER Welcome App



An application for informing and connecting highly educated refugees. Currently available on IOS and Android in 3 languages.
<https://all-in-one4her.eu>

➤ EDUC8 App

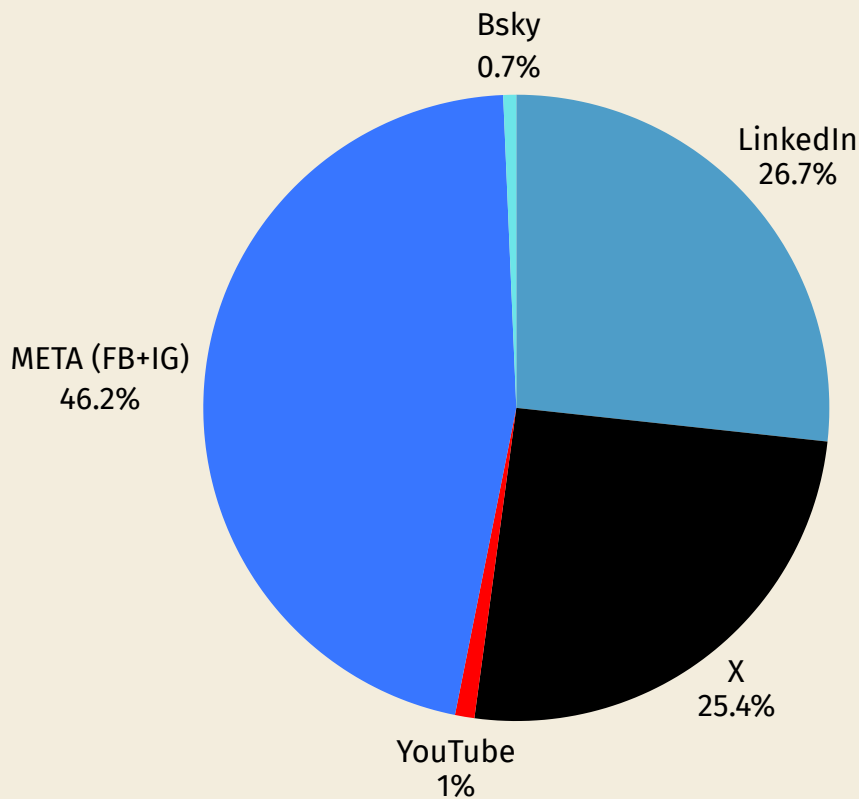


EDUC8 is a free app that helps to build resilience against radicalisation and polarisation through religious education. Available on IOS and Android.
<https://orient8.eu/SmartMatchingTool.html>

Our outreach

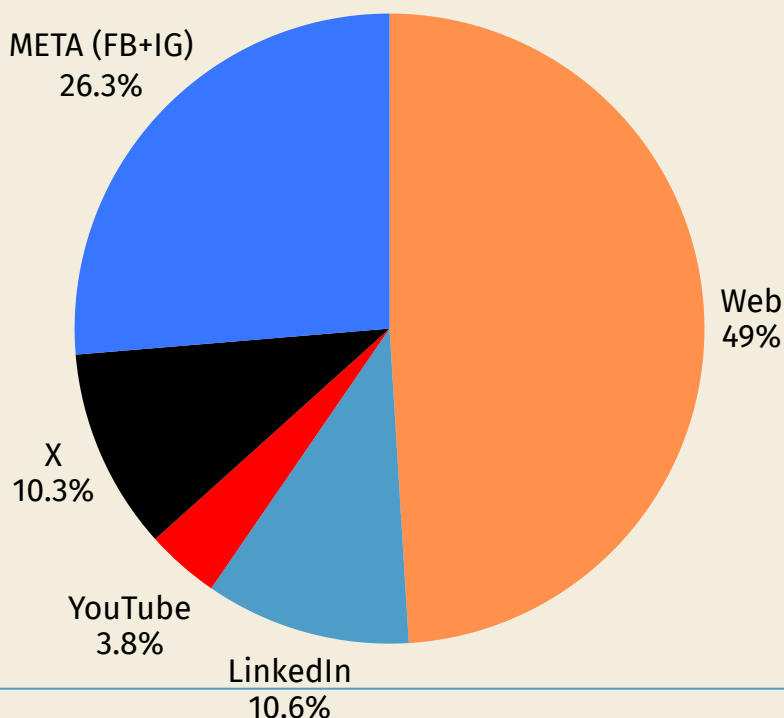
digital marketing in 2025

Integrations Included: Facebook,
Google, LinkedIn, X and BlueSky

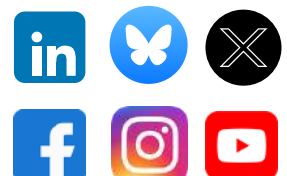


~21.000
Followers

↑ 40%



~1,2 million
Impressions



Da Vincilaan 1, 1930
Zaventem, Belgium
behorizon.org



2025

