



OSPREY

Online Safety and Security for Protection of Public-Facing Professionals and Democratic Resilience

OSPREY is a three-year EU co-funded project that develops new tools and approaches to protect public-facing professionals (PFPs) at the heart of our democracy from online harms. By safeguarding those who serve the public, OSPREY helps to support democratic resilience.



The OSPREY Approach



Conceptual

Broadens the focus beyond 'hate speech' to address all forms of online harms and attack motivations.



Knowledge

Builds a comprehensive understanding of emerging threats, including AI-driven attacks and automated campaigns.



Capabilities

Develops advanced analytics, risk assessment, and digital forensics tools for law enforcement and institutions.



Support & Awareness

Improves guidance and organisational support for public-facing professionals and their families.



Policy

Strengthens accountability of technology platforms and promotes better legal protections for those in the public eye.

Key Outcomes



A **knowledge base and taxonomy** of online harms affecting police and elected officials.



AI-based threat analytics to support early detection and risk assessment.



Digital forensics tools to help PFPs and investigators with efficient evidence collection and reporting.



Specialist training curricula to help police, PFPs, and their organisations build capacity.



A **practical toolbox** to help PFPs and their families prevent and mitigate harm.



Co-funded by the European Union

Co-funded by the European Union under Grant Agreement No. 101225639. Views and opinions expressed are, however, those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union nor the European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union or the granting authority can be held responsible for them.



Operational Focus

OSPREY uses a collaborative, practitioner-driven process to ensure that all solutions are practical, sustainable, and ready for real-world use.

The project's outputs will support:

- **Law enforcement agencies (LEAs)** to detect, assess, and respond to online harms.
- **Public-facing professionals (PFPs)** to safeguard their online presence and wellbeing.
- **Public-facing organisations (PFOs)** to adopt effective prevention and response strategies.

Our Methodology

OSPREY will address the challenges through the **action-oriented** and **practitioner-focused co-creation, co-design, and co-deployment** of innovative, modular capabilities for LEAs, PFPs and their organisations.

All relevant groups will participate in all stages of the project, from research and innovation activities to the co-creation, co-deployment and evaluation of solutions, as well as the dissemination of results.

Online Safety and Security for Protection of Public-Facing Professionals and Democratic Resilience

Democratic institutions rely on people who work in the public eye. Yet, many of them, especially **police officers and elected officials**, face rising online abuse, harassment, and coordinated mis- and disinformation. A recent UK study run by the 3PO Project shows that **over 60% of police officers** have experienced online harms impacting their wellbeing and performance.

OSPREY responds by creating a **comprehensive, operational approach** to identify, prevent, and mitigate these threats.

Coordinator: CENTRIC
Start Date/Duration: December 2025/36 months
Consortium: 17 Partners, 12 countries
Call: HORIZON-CL3-2024-FCT-01
Type: Research and Innovation Actions
Funding: €3m



Co-funded by the European Union

Co-funded by the European Union under Grant Agreement No 101225639. Views and opinions expressed are, however, those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union nor the European Research Executive Agency (REA). Neither the European Union or the granting authority can be held responsible for them.