

Cyber Outstanding Security Performance Awards

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The first-ever *Cyber Outstanding Security Performance Awards (Cyber OSPAs)* have been launched in 2021 to recognise and highlight outstanding performance by companies, people, products, and initiatives across the cyber security sector globally: <https://thecyberospas.com/>. The Cyber OSPAs are designed to be both independent and inclusive, providing an opportunity for outstanding performers, whether buyers or suppliers, to be recognised and their success to be celebrated. The criteria for these awards are based on extensive research on key factors that contribute to and characterise outstanding performance.



Cyber Outstanding Security Performance Awards 2021

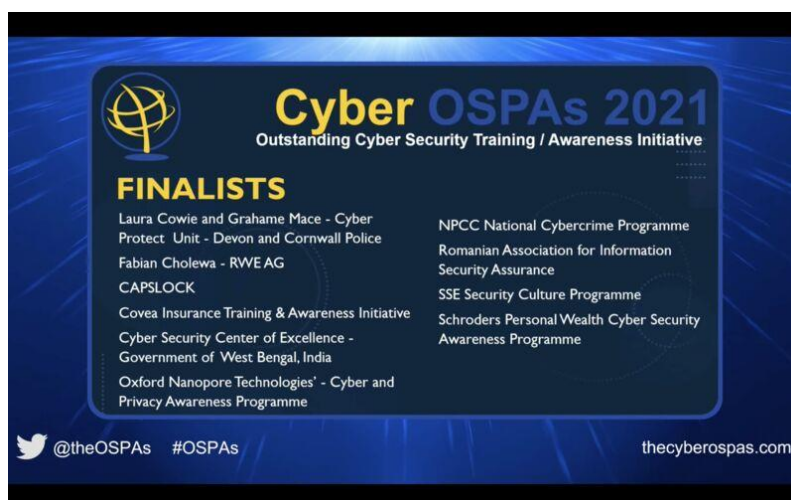
The winners of the Cyber OSPAs were announced on the 14th of December 2021. During a virtual awards ceremony representatives from across the cybersecurity sector tuned in live from around the world to celebrate the outstanding achievements of all this year's finalists and winners. Professor Martin Gill, the founder of the Cyber OSPAs, hosted the awards ceremony with assistance from judges and sponsors. In his opening address, Gill noted surprise by the amazingly high level of response received – especially in the first year and thanked all those who had made the inaugural awards such huge success.

The Romanian Association for Information Security Assurance submitted two projects at the *Outstanding Cyber Security Training/Awareness Initiative* category.

The first proposal was the “*Enhance Cyber Capacity Building in Romania for Preventing and Combatting the Cybercrime Phenomenon*” project, developed with the support of the *US. Embassy in Romania* in 2020-2021. The project goal was to strengthen the cyber capacity by raising cybersecurity awareness and improve the skills of criminal justice authorities and private sector in fighting cybercrime. The project website is at <https://www.cyberlearning.ro>.

The second proposal was the “*Cybersecurity - Challenges and perspectives in education*” book, developed with the support of the *Romanian National Computer Security Incident Response Team (CERT-RO)* and the *Romanian Ministry of Education and Research*. The project was a joint effort of public, private and academic experts to develop a multilateral and multidisciplinary framework for education, innovation, and cooperation in cybersecurity, to reveal future challenges and strategic directions in this area. The book is available at <https://raisa.org/documents/CybersecurityEDU2020-EN.pdf>.

These two proposals were evaluated by various cybersecurity experts from different countries and the Romanian Association for Information Security Assurance succeeded to be one of the finalists of the Cyber OSPAs 2021 at the *Outstanding Cyber Security Training/Awareness Initiative* category: <https://www.thecyberospas.com/2021/09/28/finalists-of-the-first-ever-cyber-ospas-announced/>.



The finalists of the Cyber OSPAs 2021
at the *Outstanding Cyber Security Training/Awareness Initiative* category

We would like to congratulate all the winners of the Cyber Outstanding Security Performance Awards 2021 and we are hoping that more interesting cybersecurity initiatives and projects will be proposed for the next Cyber OSPA 2022. Together, we can contribute to a safer and more secure cyberspace.