

## THE BCSC TAKES PART IN THE CSIT 9TH ANNUAL WORLD CYBER SECURITY SUMMIT

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- **This event, held in Belfast, is a reference point for the global security community, and lays the foundations for a future digital society, as well as guaranteeing the different systems and technologies in existence.**
- **Javier Diéguez Barriocanal, the Director of the Basque Cybersecurity Centre, was a panellist for the “Global Cyber Innovation Ecosystems” discussion.**

On the 8th and 9th of May, the CSIT [9th Annual World Cyber Security Summit in Belfast](#). The singular feature of this summit is the fact that it unites the international research community, leaders of industry, creators of government policy and new companies and small and middle-size businesses from around the world under one roof.

For researchers and technologists, this event serves to foster initiatives which contribute to a safer, more digital society, whilst the commercial sector see it as an opportunity to learn from, and contribute to the growth of new global businesses related to security. Within the scope of the event, the BCSC forms part of a worldwide alliance known as [Global EPIC](#), which has two fundamental aims:

- **To develop ecosystems by sharing experiences** (education, R+D+i, etc.), as well as offering tools to explore business opportunities. In a way, this is an ethical focus, interested in aiding development in less technologically developed countries.
- **To aid the evolution of skills in less developed ecosystems.** To an extent, this is an ethical perspective, focused on helping less technologically developed countries evolve to maturity.

Global EPIC has over 30 members and representatives from the most highly developed ecosystems (Israel, the USA, Canada, the UK, Japan, Taiwan, etc.) as well as from the Basque Country, via the BCSC.

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## BCSC, invited to the summit

3 months ago, representatives from Northern Ireland visited us in order to learn about our skills and seek out future opportunities for collaboration. These opportunities are already taking shape and inroads are being made into talent generation and research.

In reciprocation for the Irish visit, Javier Diéguez Barriocanal, the Director of the Basque Cybersecurity Centre, was invited to take part in the CSIT 9th Annual World Cyber Security Summit which is one of the UK's main events in this sector, and one of the most important in the region as a whole.

Javier took part in the panel discussion entitled “**Global Cyber Innovation Ecosystems**”, which emphasised the fact that cybersecurity is at the heart of the privacy and trust of our digital society, and that today this sector is suffering from a worldwide shortage of human capital. This shortage becomes more acute when we recognise that we are currently at a point where we need to develop skills across the globe, and that governments, academics, professionals, industry and human capital all win when innovation in security is done properly. During the session, the panel explored development models for human capital, such as the role of cybersecurity in scaleably and sustainably facilitating regional development, and looked at how we can advance on a global scale in a more coordinated fashion.

Moreover, during the panel discussion, Javier Diéguez was able to describe the work of the BCSC and the initiatives it is working on, on behalf of the Basque Government, to foster the application of cybersecurity measures in industry and boost entrepreneurship in the sector. Likewise, he emphasised the work of the [BDIH](#) laboratories, the [BIND 4.0](#) accelerator, the BCSC's international vocation, our economic development and the generation of local employment opportunities.

Finally, Diéguez highlighted the type of profile to bear in mind when encouraging foreign investment and setting up businesses. He stressed the fact that developing skills in cybersecurity is fundamental to such crucial aspects as competitiveness in industry or the workplace, and the reason why people believe that it is more relevant to view the sector from a State-wide rather than a Regional perspective when discussing technological autonomy, human development and talent retention.

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