Enhancing security solution design, adoption and impact

Through effective engagement and social innovation.

engage2innovate

Enhancing security solution design, adoption and impact through effective engagement and social innovation

✳ How can we increase the implementation and impact of European security innovation?

✳ How can EU-funded security research projects incorporate a deeper understanding of end-users' needs, preferences, challenges and contexts within their innovation outputs?

✳ How might human-centred design inspire and enable security researchers, practitioners and policymakers to deliver more effective and impactful innovations?
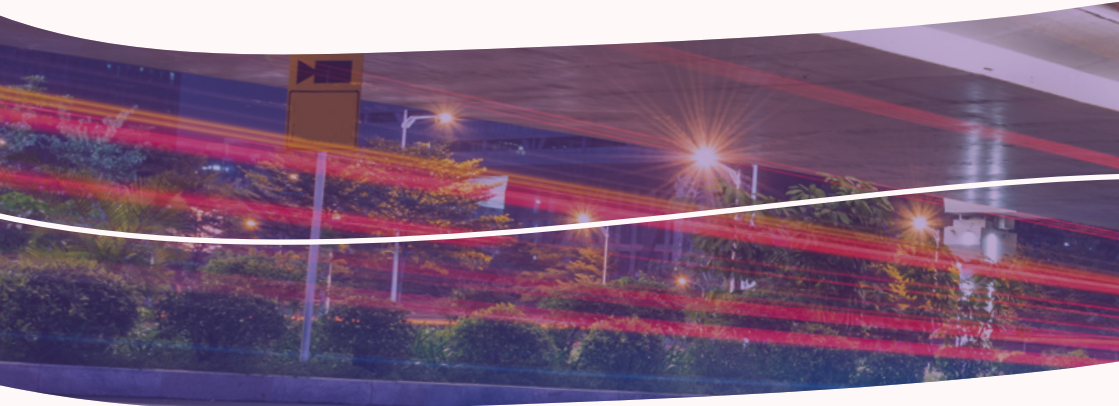
The Engage2innovate challenge

Horizon Europe is a programme of research and innovation funded by the European Commission with the goal of enabling positive change in European society. A key component of this strategic EU investment is the Security Research Programme, which aims to provide positive social and economic impact.

Despite significant investment over many years, the uptake and impact of innovations developed within the EU Security Research Programme remains regrettably limited.[1] This is often attributed to issues of 'user acceptance', inferring the fault lies with those on the receiving end of security 'inventions' - so-called 'end-users' and the general public. E2i believes this just isn't the case, and that the issue can more accurately be described as a **problem of 'implementation'** - and thus a shortcoming in the process of innovation itself.

Labelling the challenge of implementation as solely the fault of end-users overlooks the complex interplay of factors that influence the adoption of new technologies and practices. Furthermore, E2i suggests it ignores the crucial role of design in anticipating and addressing these factors through **empathetic and inclusive human-centred design practices.**

[1]For example, Rand Europe (2022) "Study on the Factors Influencing the Uptake of EU-funded Security Research Outcomes. Final Report. Publications Office of the European Union, Luxembourg.

What is innovation?

According to the founding father of innovation theory, Joseph Schumpeter, the defining characteristic of innovation is **implementation** - and this differentiates it from invention.

INVENTION = CONCEIVING A NEW IDEA FOR HOW TO DO THINGS

INNOVATION = CARRYING AN INVENTION INTO PRACTICE
(I.E. IMPLEMENTATION)

Joseph Schumpeter (1911)

Schumpeter stresses the importance of carrying inventions into practice, which he identifies as essential for economic evolution and growth. E2i extends this by highlighting the critical role of **human-centred design** in bridging the gap between invention and implementation.

Design is not merely about aesthetics, styling or superficial enhancements but about deeply understanding **the needs, preferences, and contexts of end-users and other stakeholders.** The human-centred approach ensures that innovations are not only technically feasible and commercially viable but also desirable from a user perspective. **Design research**, therefore, becomes an **invaluable tool in crafting solutions** that people will accept, adopt and use in their daily lives.

effective
solutions
to societal
challenges

The E2i mission

Engage2innovate **aims to enhance security solution design, adoption and impact** by enabling increased and more effective engagement with end-users and relevant stakeholders.

E2i's mission is a compelling call to action - to reframe the role of design within Horizon Europe-funded "Research and Innovation" (R&I) projects. E2i will explore **approaches and processes that foster implementation of research and innovation outputs**, including Responsible Research & Innovation (RRI) and Social Innovation.

E2i emphasises the need for a **broader, more inclusive and practical understanding of innovation** - one that goes beyond technical invention to include the social, cultural, and human factors essential for successful implementation. This will lead to more **effective solutions to societal challenges**, driven by a deeper engagement with the needs and realities of those who will ultimately use and benefit from security innovation.

Supporting LEAs by design

Engage2innovate will design, prototype and develop the E2i Security R&I Toolbox, which will be demonstrated on Law Enforcement Agency (LEA) Research and Innovation (R&I) projects in two focus areas.

Delivering impact

The E2i project comprises a programme of interconnected activities carried out by experienced academic and practitioner partners. Over the 44 months of the project, E2i will:

WP 1

Review literature, explore good practice, and co-create conceptual model of security Research & Innovation (R&I)

WP 2

Investigate and map Social Innovation in two security Focus Areas

WP 3

Research, design and develop the E2i Security R&I Toolbox

WP 4

Demonstrate the E2i Security R&I Toolbox in operational contexts

Project Timeline

11 OCT 2023
-
E2i KICK-OFF

JUN 2024
-
E2i SYMPOSIUM 1 & DESIGN CHALLENGE LAUNCH

MAR - SEP 2024
-
END-USER REQUIREMENTS CAPTURE

NOV 2024
-
E2i TOOL INNOVATION DESIGNLAB

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1 **Security and security behaviour in public places, public transport or mobility**

GREATER MANCHESTER, UK

2 **Radicalisation, dis-integration in local communities and social media**

LOWER SAXONY, GERMANY

WP 5

Define benchmarks, standards and quality criteria for responsible security solution innovation

WP 6

Co-create the E2i Societal Development Plan for human-centred security Research & Innovation

WP 7

Engage with security policymakers, practitioners, researchers and innovators (the quadruple helix)

WP 8

Communicate, disseminate and maximise the impact of project outputs

WP 9

Coordinate for effective project delivery

NOV 2024 - JUN 2025
-
E2i TOOL DEVELOPMENT & PROTOTYPING

JUL 2025
-
E2i SYMPOSIUM 2 & DESIGN CHALLENGE 1 AWARDS

NOV 2025 - AUG 2026
-
DEMONSTRATE E2i SECURITY R&I TOOLBOX

JUL 2026
-
E2i SYMPOSIUM 3 & DESIGN CHALLENGE 2 AWARDS

MAR 2027
-
E2i FINAL CONFERENCE

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E2i Advisory Board

Dr Oskar Gstrein	Dr Umberto Nicolini	Hartmut Pfeiffer	Paul van Soomeren	Dr Gian Guido Nobili	Jaap de Waard
-	-	-	-	-	-
University of Groningen, The Netherlands	European Neighbourhood Watch Association, Italy	Charitable Centre for Mediation & Conflict Regulation, Germany	DSP-Groep & CEN, The Netherlands	Regione Emilia Romagna & FISU, Italy	Ministry of Justice and Security, The Netherlands

E2i Consortium

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