

EU-SEC PARTNERS CLOUD SECURITY ALLIANCE

About CSA

[The Cloud Security Alliance \(CSA\)](#) is the world's leading organization dedicated to defining and raising awareness of best practices to help ensure a secure cloud computing environment. CSA harnesses the subject matter expertise of industry practitioners, associations, governments, and its corporate and individual members to offer cloud security-specific research, education, certification, events and products. CSA's activities, knowledge and extensive network benefit the entire community impacted by cloud — from providers and customers, to governments, entrepreneurs and the assurance industry — and provide a forum through which diverse parties can work together to create and maintain a trusted cloud ecosystem

What is CSA's role in the EU-SEC project?

CSA contributed to the elicitation of framework requirements in WP1 and lead the definition of the governance framework in WP2. In addition, we made a major contribution to the tools innovation and architecture development in WP3 and in the execution and analysis of both [Pilot 1](#) (multiparty recognition scheme) and [Pilot 2](#) (continuous auditing). Finally, CSA leads WP6, contributing to the dissemination and exploitation activities, as well as leading the training and awareness efforts and the standardisation tasks.

What skills and experience does CSA contribute?

CSA is the owner of a global governance and compliance program for cloud service providers, named [STAR](#). The STAR Program scope, goals and objective are fully overlapping with the one of the EU-SEC projects.

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CSA therefore contributes its experience in establishing and running a program devoted to cloud security and privacy compliance, that spans from 3rd party audit certification and attestation to continuous auditing. In addition, CSA is also the owner of the cloud security control framework, the [Cloud Control Matrix](#) (CCM), which is one the key background IP contributions to the project. Finally, the CSA's community of more than 350 corporate members and over 90,000 individual members, which include solution providers, enterprises, SMEs and auditors/consultants offers a wealth of knowledge through active involvement in the STAR Program and related CSA working groups.

Why is the EU-SEC project important to CSA and what are you expecting to get from it?

As mentioned before, CSA STAR is very much overlapping with the EU-SEC and the results of the project will be used to further improve the STAR program both in the area of multiparty recognition of cloud security certifications and continuous auditing-based certification. Moreover, the harmonisation work done within the European market will be extended on a global scale in order to create compatibility between the certification approaches of EU Member States and other countries outside Europe, e.g. Japan, Singapore, USA, Canada, Brazil, etc.

What are the big challenges for CSA in this project?

The main challenge that we are facing is to manage the internal communication within the consortium partners so to make sure that each party has the same understanding of the project goals. Specifically, it was challenging to ensure that the theoretical work done within WP1 and WP2 and the pilots in WP4 was in complete alignment. Similarly, we find it challenging to generate awareness material for our target audiences to ensure maximum impact for the project.

What kind of organisations do you collaborate with and how will they benefit from the results of the EU-SEC project?

CSA is a membership-based organisation, our members are CSPs, cloud customers (especially financial institutions) and consultant and auditor firms, which are in fact the main target audiences of this project. CSA will therefore collaborate with its members in order to fully exploit the results of the project and engage with various stakeholders in the cloud compliance supply chain.