



Be Secure-Feel Secure

Newsletter /  
March 2022

## Spatial Interventions



### Be Secure-Feel Secure | Renovation of Eight Playgrounds

Eight playgrounds are being fully renovated in the 5<sup>th</sup> municipal district within the framework of **BeSecure-FeelSecure (BSFS)** project.

The chosen facilities are of small and medium size with high traffic and extensive damage to their equipment.

The implemented interventions aim to upgrade the playgrounds and include, among other things, safer facilities, better lighting and installation of natural fences, following the approach of the modern CPTED model - “Crime Prevention through Environmental Design”.

By enhancing playgrounds in a highly densely populated area, the BSFS initiative and the Municipality of Piraeus addresses the need for the increase of actual and perceived security.

## Events



### Minecraft© - “Cops & Robbers” in Piraeus

The **BeSecure-FeelSecure (BSFS)** project ran a Minecraft contest in Piraeus where more than 250 players participated in an upgraded version of gaming.

The **Municipality of Piraeus** in collaboration with its partner **Space Hellas** developed a city replica of Piraeus in the famous Minecraft videogame and organized a **cyber-physical** version of “Cops and Robbers”.

The innovation of this action lies in the fact that the game was conducted in **parallel** both in the **physical** and **digital environment**!

The aim of this digital action was to simulate the alpha version of **CURiM application** - developed under the BSFS project - and to raise awareness among young people about crime prevention, while strengthening collective responsibility through the use of technology.

ΔΙΑΔΙΚΤΥΑΚΟ ΣΕΜΙΝΑΡΙΟ  
ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΣΗΣ ΚΑΙ ΕΥΑΙΣΘΗΤΟΠΟΙΗΣΗΣ  
ΚΑΤΑΣΤΗΜΑΤΑΡΧΩΝ ΠΕΙΡΑΙΑ

# ΑΣΤΕΑΚΗ ΑΣΦΑΛΕΙΑ ΚΑΙ ΥΠΟΣΤΗΡΙΞΗ ΘΥΜΑΤΩΝ

ΔΕΥΤΕΡΑ 17 ΙΑΝΟΥΑΡΙΟΥ 16:00



BeelSecure



## Webinar on “Urban Security” for Piraeus shop owners

The Laboratory of Urban Criminology of Panteion University in collaboration with the **Municipality of Piraeus** organized a webinar on “Urban Security and Victim Support” for Piraeus shop owners.

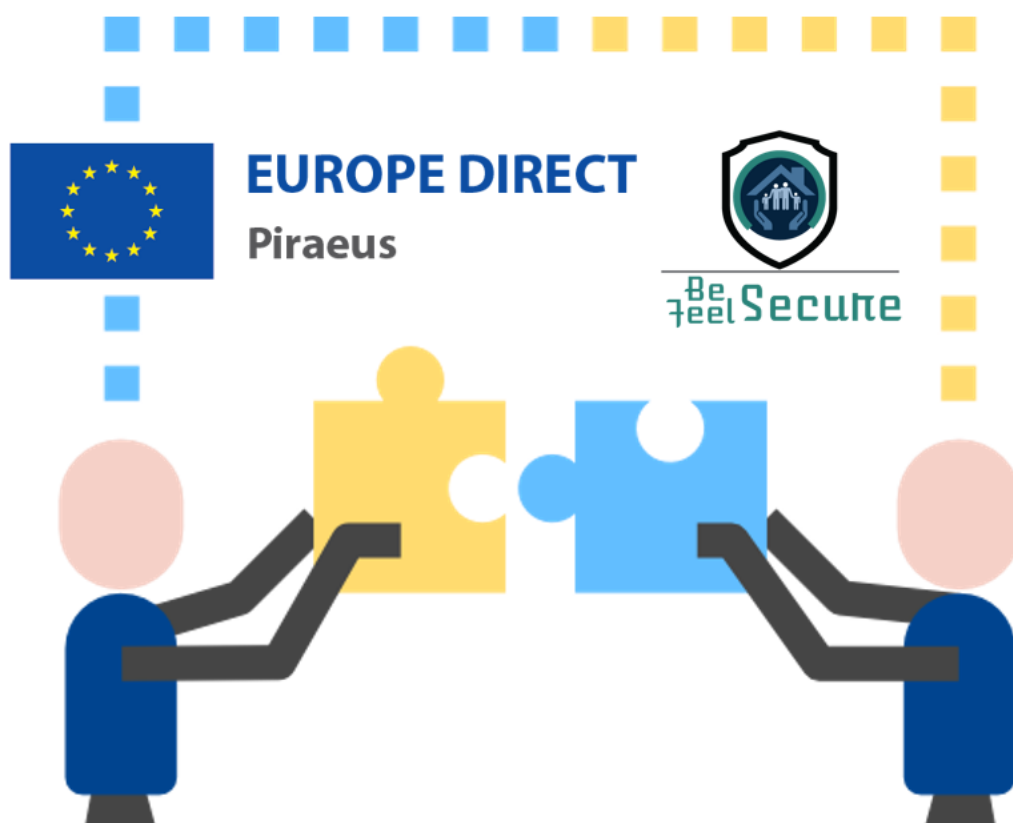
The aim of this training action was to inform the shop owners in Piraeus and raise awareness on issues of civil security and safety, in order to reduce the feeling of insecurity regarding their businesses.

The event started with greetings from the **Mayor of Piraeus Mr. Ioannis Moralis**, the **Deputy Minister of Maritime Affairs & Insular Policy Mr. Kostas Katsafados** and the **Deputy Minister of Citizen's Protection Mr. Eleftherios Oikonomou**.

During the webinar, the president of **Piraeus Traders Association**, the president of **Local Council for Crime Prevention (LCCP)**, the **Deputy Mayor of Municipal Police** and representatives of the **BSFS project** discussed on current issues of concern for the local shop owners.

The findings of the diagnostic research on victimization, which was conducted for over **100 shop owners** in the Municipality of Piraeus, were also presented. This gave the opportunity for a fruitful and constructive dialogue between the participants.

Finally, the goals, structure and capabilities of the Local Council for Crime Prevention and the Crime Victims Information Unit operating in the Municipality of Piraeus were described. These two bodies could be of assistance to the local shop owners, either via information and crime prevention policies and actions or with substantial support in case of victimization respectively.



## BSFS is actively involved in the Europe Direct Piraeus network

The BSFS project actively participates in the Europe Direct Piraeus network with the aim of cooperation, knowledge exchange and continuous information on EU matters, especially on topics of the EU Agenda in the field of Urban Security.

The BSFS initiative was presented last September at the opening of Europe Direct Piraeus at the Municipal Theater of Piraeus and was introduced as a “unique” European project for the development of innovative and sustainable urban security solutions as well as for promoting the digital transformation in the city of Piraeus.

Before the year end, the BSFS technical manager from Space Hellas Mr. Marios Zacharias, presented the " Collaborative Urban Risk Management (CURiM)" platform, during an event on “Digital Transformation in the Municipality of Piraeus”.

Mr. Zacharias, also referred to the implementation of the digital game "Cops & Robbers" on the famous Minecraft gaming platform, where the CURiM mobile app was simulated for the first time. The cyber-physical game that took place in parallel on the digital and real streets of Piraeus.

The event was co-organized by Europe Direct Piraeus and BSFS in the premises of Blue/lab (Business Innovation Center for Blue Growth) and was addressed to IT executives of private sector.

## Conferences



## BeSecure-FeelSecure (BSFS): The case study on urban security of Piraeus at the 9th Security Project 2022 Conference.

The European project BeSecure-FeelSecure (BSFS) of the Municipality of Piraeus, was presented as an example of innovation for its holistic approach of urban security at the 9th Security Project 2022 Conference.

During a dedicated BSFS session under the theme: *“Implementation of Security Projects and Protection of Critical Infrastructures and Smart Cities with Strategies for the Utilization of Modern Technologies”*, the **technical manager of BSFS from Space Hellas, Mr. Marios Zacharias**, presented the BSFS case study and analyzed the “Collaborative Urban Risk Management Platform” - CURiM. A “smart” tool which allows the collection and utilization of data for the development of sustainable solutions and practices for addressing threats on a physical and digital level.

The **Deputy Mayor of Public Health & Social Services and President of the Local Council for Crime Prevention (LCCP), Mrs. Kyriaki Bourdakou** analyzed the methods and tools that the Municipality of

Piraeus uses, in order to formulate a social anti-crime policy that is based on three main pillars: prevention, information and awareness.

The Authorized Advisor of the Municipal Police, Mr. Tassos Markarian, spoke on the issue of security and the innovative interventions that BeSecure-FeelSecure project (BSFS) implements in city of Piraeus. Through urban planning, the goal is to enhance urban security and increase the safety feeling of the residents and visitors of Piraeus.

The conference was an important dissemination opportunity for the the BSFS initiative, as it consists one of the largest security forums in Greece and brought together over 500 executives in security and protection field of the private and public sector.



BOUSSIAS presents

## 10<sup>th</sup> Smart Cities conference

Ταξίδι 10 ετών για την ανάπτυξη  
των Ελληνικών Έξυπνων Πόλεων

### 10th Smart Cities Conference

On March 10, the **Smart Cities Conference 2022** took place at the Theatrical Stage - Michalis Kakogiannis Foundation, which hosted 38 speakers from abroad and Greece as well as suppliers of technologies.

The **Mayor of Piraeus, Mr. Giannis Moralis**, spoke in a panel with the President of the Central Union of Greek Municipalities and Mayors of other major Greek cities for "smart" practices and sustainable solutions.

The Mayor of Piraeus Ioannis Moralis referred, among others, to the European project **Be Secure Feel Secure (BSFS)**, which is being implemented in the city of Piraeus and develops "smart" solutions and urban security management practices. Mr. Moralis particularly referred to the development of the **Collaborative Urban Risk Management (CURiM) Platform**, a valuable tool to prevent crime through the collection and assessment of crime data.

In addition, **Mr. Dimitris Bakakos, General Manager of SingularLogic** and partner of the BSFS project, referred to the unique and innovative character of the project, which seeks to improve urban security in the city of Piraeus both on the physical and cyber dimension.



## 9th European Summit of regions and cities

The **9th European Summit of Regions and Cities**, co-organised by the European Committee of Regions and the Région Sud (FR) under the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union, took place in Marseille between the 3 and 4 March 2022. This event was a **second EU-level Open information day**, after Efus' *Security, Democracy and Cities* international conference (2021).

The **BSFS** project was showcased at the Efus stand by its communication flyers and give-aways (e.g. notebooks, masks...etc.). Furthermore, the project was presented to the interested participants by the **Efus Team** - represented by **Eszter Karacsony** Programme Manager - on the spot.

The in-person presence was complemented by a virtual one. Therefore, in order to multiply the BSFS outreach, the project's promotional video was showcased at the framework of the virtual exhibition space of the Summit. This online fair welcomed more than 50 exhibitors.

The key themes of this year's Summit were the following: societal challenges, cohesion and recovery, democracy and youth engagement. All these linked topics were very pertinent for BSFS that promotes a holistic approach towards urban security.

The BSFS project and its sister UIA security **SURE** (implemented in the City of Tampere) project was also further discussed with a Municipal Councilor of Tampere.

This EU-level event was a good occasion to enhance the visibility of the project, communicate on its activities and disseminate its intermediary results.



## BSFS' participation in Efus' Security, Democracy and Cities international Conference

The BeSecure-FeelSecure project was represented by its consortium in Efus' international Security, Democracy and Cities conference (SDC), organised in Nice, between the 20 and 22 October 2021.

The Conference was an important communication and dissemination opportunity for the project as it gathered around 700 participants from 140 local and regional authorities, NGOs, public and private sector actors, representatives of the European institutions and other EU co-funded projects.

The following events took place with the active involvement of BSFS.

**A work lunch** with fellow UIA security projects ToNite and SURE as well as with a representative of the Directorate General Migration and Home Affairs (HOME) of the European Commission was organised to share experiences on the state of play of the three projects.

The BSFS project also presented its methodology and innovative tools, notably for the evaluation of citizens' feelings of insecurity in the framework of the **workshop *Know your problem to solve your problem: innovative tools and methods to address urban security challenges***.

During a dedicated Focus Session the project's **Collaborative Urban Risk Management (CURiM)** tool was also showcased.

One area in which the holistic approach and innovative practices promoted by BSFS can be particularly useful is tourism. Hence, Deputy Mayor Kyriaki Bourdakou, Chair of the Local Council for Crime Prevention, participated in the **workshop on *The challenge of promoting safe and sustainable urban tourism***.

Furthermore BSFS also had an **exhibition stand** during all three days of the conference.

## Statistical Analysis and Mapping of the factors related to the insecurity and fear of crime of the citizens of Piraeus.

Prof. Christina Zarafonitou, Assoc.Prof. Angelos Mimis & Dr.Dimitrios Kalamaras

Laboratory of Urban Criminology

Panteion University of Social and Political Sciences

<https://east.panteion.gr/>

Crime and fear of crime: a geographical perspective

ESC Space, Place and Crime WG Panel 1, ESC Space, Place and Crime WG Panel 1, 18-20 September 2021



Christina Zarafonitou



Angelos Mimis

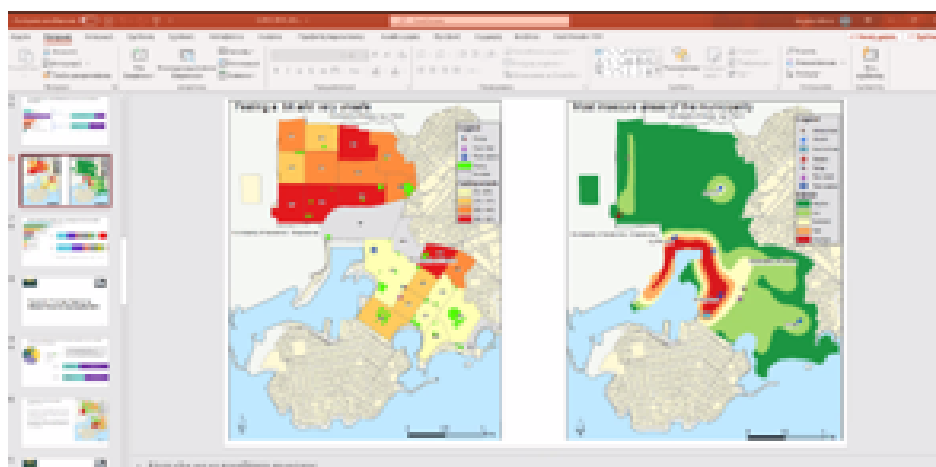
Angelos Mimis

Eleni Kontopoulou

Eleni Kontopoulou

Evangelos Vlastari

Evangelos Vlastari



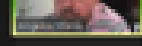
Christina Zarafonitou



Angelos Mimis



Eleni Kontopoulou



Evangelos Vlastari

Evangelos Vlastari



Eleni Kontopoulou

## The participation of the Laboratory of Urban Criminology of Panteion University in the EUROCRIM e- Conference

The Laboratory of Urban Criminology of Panteion University

participated in the 21<sup>st</sup> annual EUROCRIM e-Conference organized by the European Society of Criminology in 8-10 September 2021.

During the conference Prof. Christina Zarafonitou, Ass. Prof. Angelos Mimis and Dr. Dimitrios Kalamaras presented the “*Statistical analysis and mapping of the factors related to the insecurity and fear of crime of the citizens of Piraeus*” in the frame of ESC “Space, Place and Crime” Working Group at the “Nightlife, land-use and crime” session.

Furthermore, Prof. Christina Zarafonitou, Dr. Eleni Kontopoulou and PhD Candidate Chara Vlastari-Dyovouniotu made a presentation on the topic:

“*Victims of crime and urban safety: the case of BeSecure-FeelSecure Project in the Municipality of Piraeus*” at the session “Victimization and fear of crime: perceptions and prevention”.

After both presentations a fruitful and interactive discussion followed between the speakers and the participants on research methodology issues as well as on victim support and urban security in general.

## Awards



### The BeSecure-FeelSecure project among the winners of Impact BITE Awards 2021

**Space Hellas, SingularLogic** and the **Municipality of Piraeus** won one very important award at this year's **Impact BITE Awards**, in the category "Projects & E-Government Initiatives" subcategory "Municipalities / Regions / Smart Cities".

Specifically at the Impact BITE Awards 2021, one of the most important institutions for rewarding technological innovation in Greece, the BSFS initiative "CURiM - Collaborative Urban Risk Management" platform won the "Silver" award.

The digital platform "CURiM" is developed in the framework of the European project **BeSecure-FeelSecure (BSFS)** and allows the collection and evaluation of threats both physically and digitally. Local security stakeholders in the city will be able to use the information generated to make decisions to prevent crime and delinquency.

This award is a recognition of the BSFS project partners efforts for the systematic and modern management of technology towards improving urban security in the city of Piraeus.

# Methodology



## Seminar on Efus' Strategic Approach to Urban Security for the members of the Local Council for Crime Prevention

On the 21st March, the [Efus](#) Team organised an online seminar for the members of the Local Council for Crime Prevention of the City of Piraeus to present the main pillars of the European Forum for Urban Security's [strategic approach to urban security](#).

This consists of five elements: (1) safety audit - the basis for any further action, meaning learning about, understanding and analysing elements of the local security situation; (2) strategy - that implies translating the findings of the audit into goals and objectives; (3) action - which means fleshing out an action plan and guaranteeing its efficient implementation; (4) evaluation that implies assessing the implementation and the impact of the action; and (5) mobilisation and participation - engaging in a continuous effort to include all stakeholders and foster participative processes.

In order to provide the participants with concrete, practical examples, mainly with regards to the first and indispensable audit phase, the Efus Team presented the EU co-funded [BRIGDE project's](#) local polarisation audit methodology and toolkit and the five stages of the vulnerability assessment tool as operationalised under the equally EU co-funded [SECU4ALL project](#).

At the end of the session, participants had the opportunity to provide the organisers with their feedback and recommendations through an evaluation questionnaire ([elaborated under Action 4 of the Partnership on the Security in Public Spaces of the Urban Agenda for the EU](#)).

## Publications



## Expert

Read all about in the following articles the BSFS advancements from the perspective of the UIA expert on BSFS, Ms. Edna Peza Ramirez:

- [Be Secure Feel Secure - Journal 2: get an update about the project for holistic security in Piraeus](#)
- [Citizen participation: empowering city dwellers to make cities safer](#)
- [Zoom in 1 - Crime Victims Information Unit](#)

Visit our Web Site

## The Consortium

All partners have joined their forces to improve the urban security status in the city of Piraeus.

- [Municipality of Piraeus](#)
- [Panteion University](#)
- [University of Piraeus Research Center](#)
- [Ministry of Citizens Protection](#)
- [SingularLogic SA](#)
- [Space Hellas SA](#)
- [European Forum for Urban Security \(Efus\)](#)



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