Road to ECSC

Overview

- What is ECSC
  - Short history
  - Details about the competition
- 2017 edition
  - The new format, how it worked out
  - Romania’s performance
- The future
  - How to get involved

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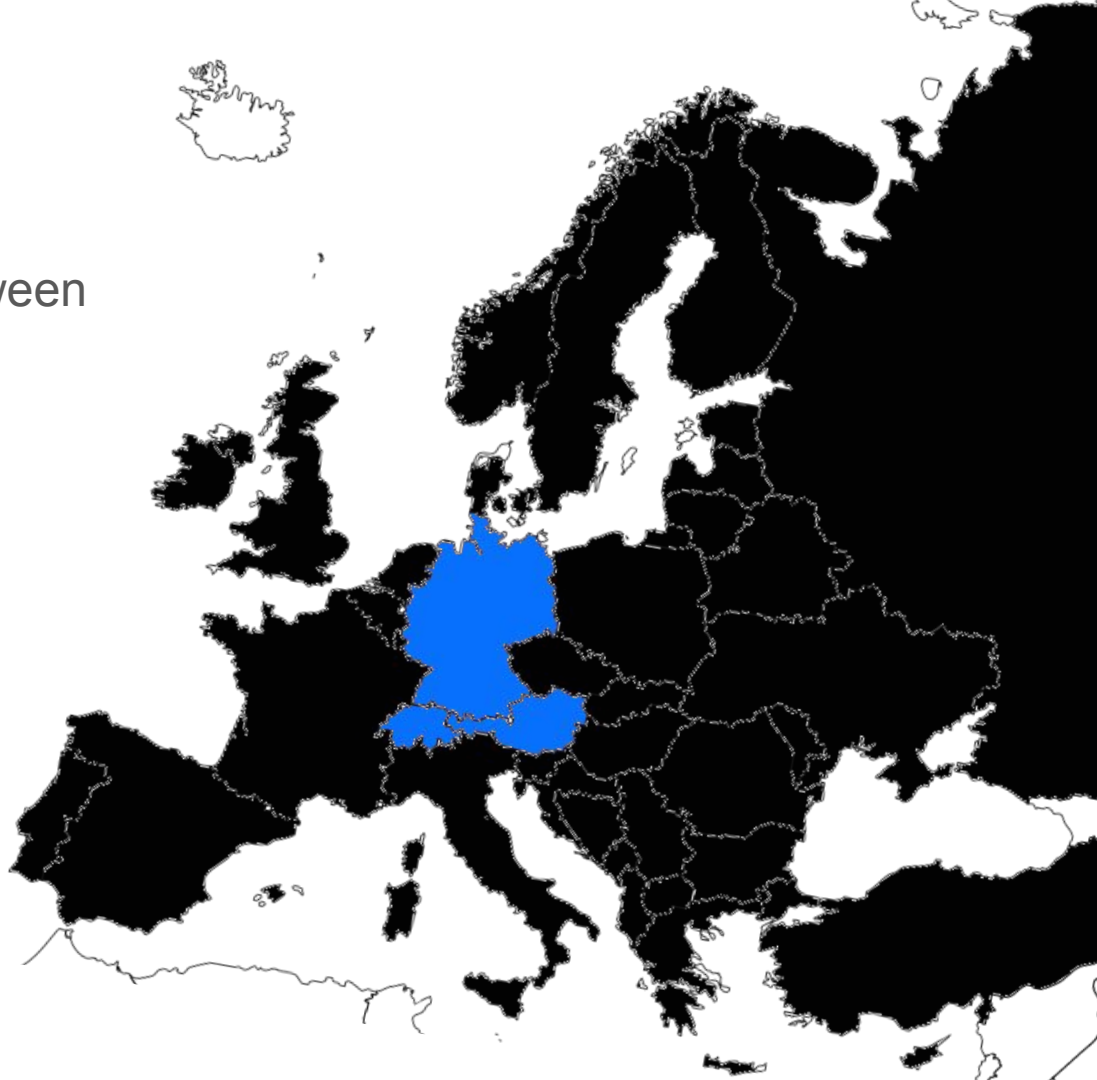
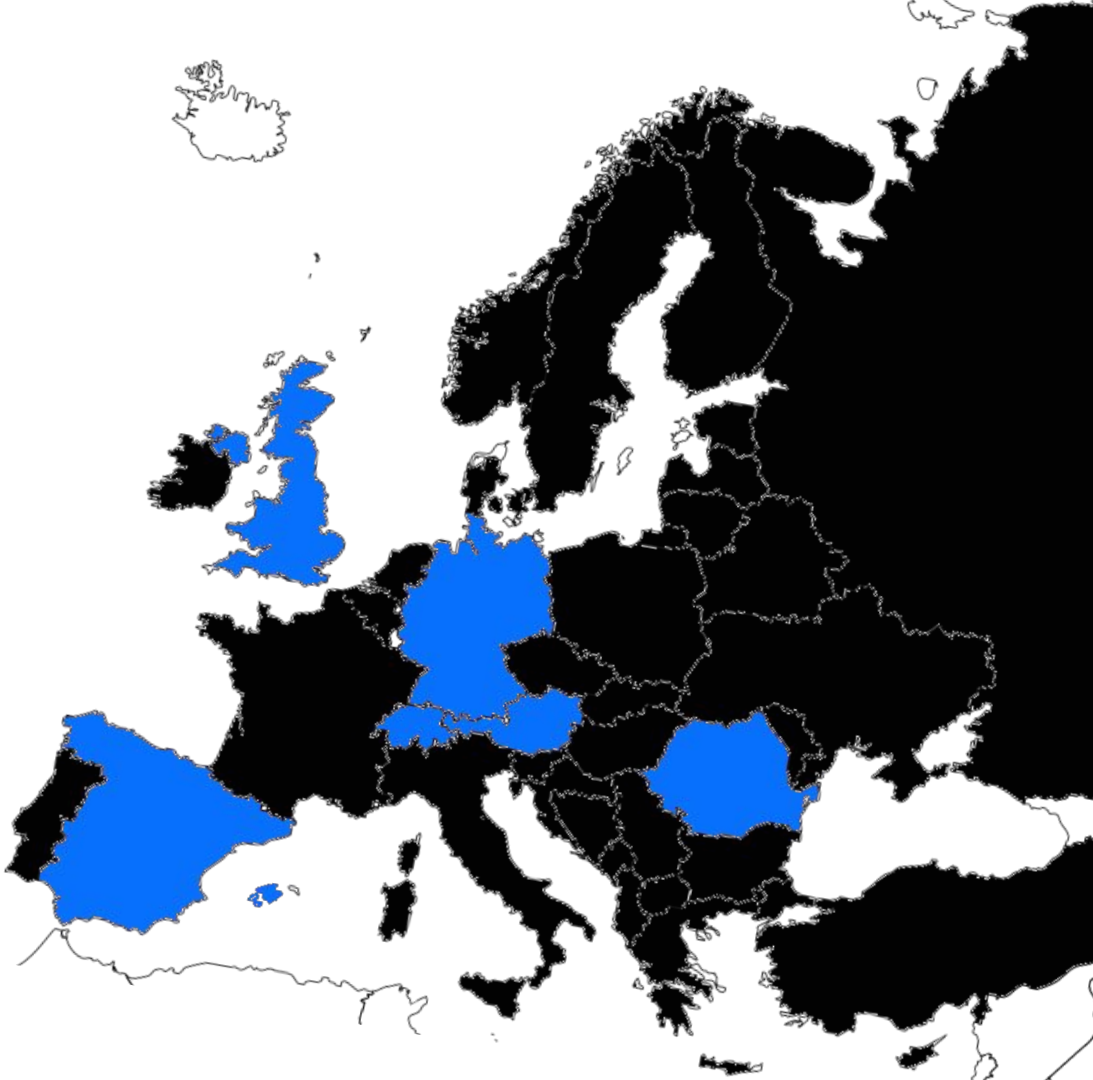
Short history: 2014

- It began as a competition between
  - Germany
  - Austria
  - Switzerland



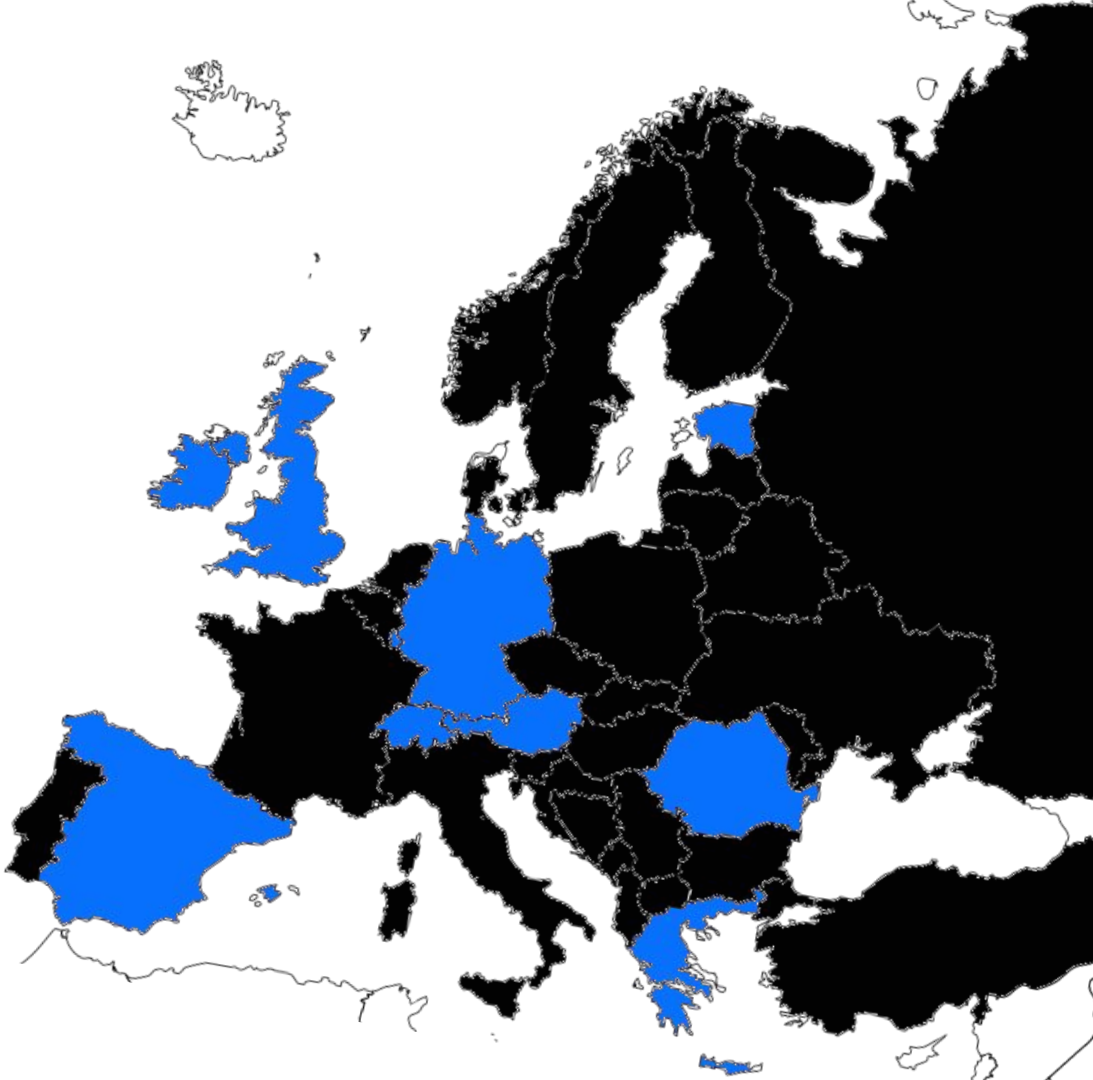
Short history: 2015

- Three more countries joined
  - United Kingdom
  - Romania
  - Spain



Short history: 2016

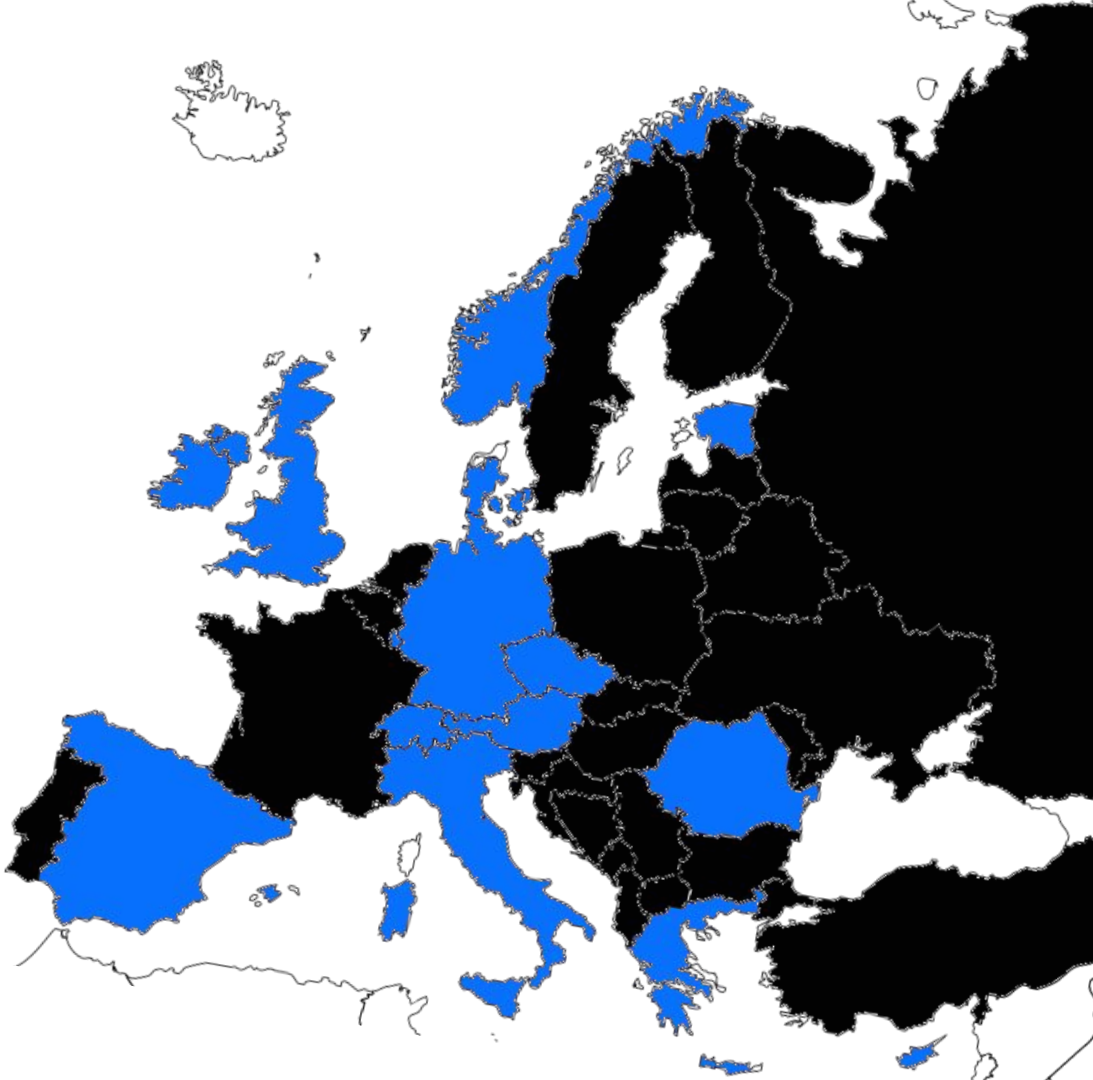
- Even more participants:
  - Greece
  - Estonia
  - Ireland
  - Lichtenstein



Short history: 2017

- 2017 newcomers
  - Cyprus
  - Italy
  - Norway
  - Denmark
  - Czech Republic

- A total of 15 countries



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The competition

- 10 people per team
- Not a typical CTF
- Split into multiple subparts:
  - Jeopardy
  - Attack-defense
  - Misc tasks
  - Presentations

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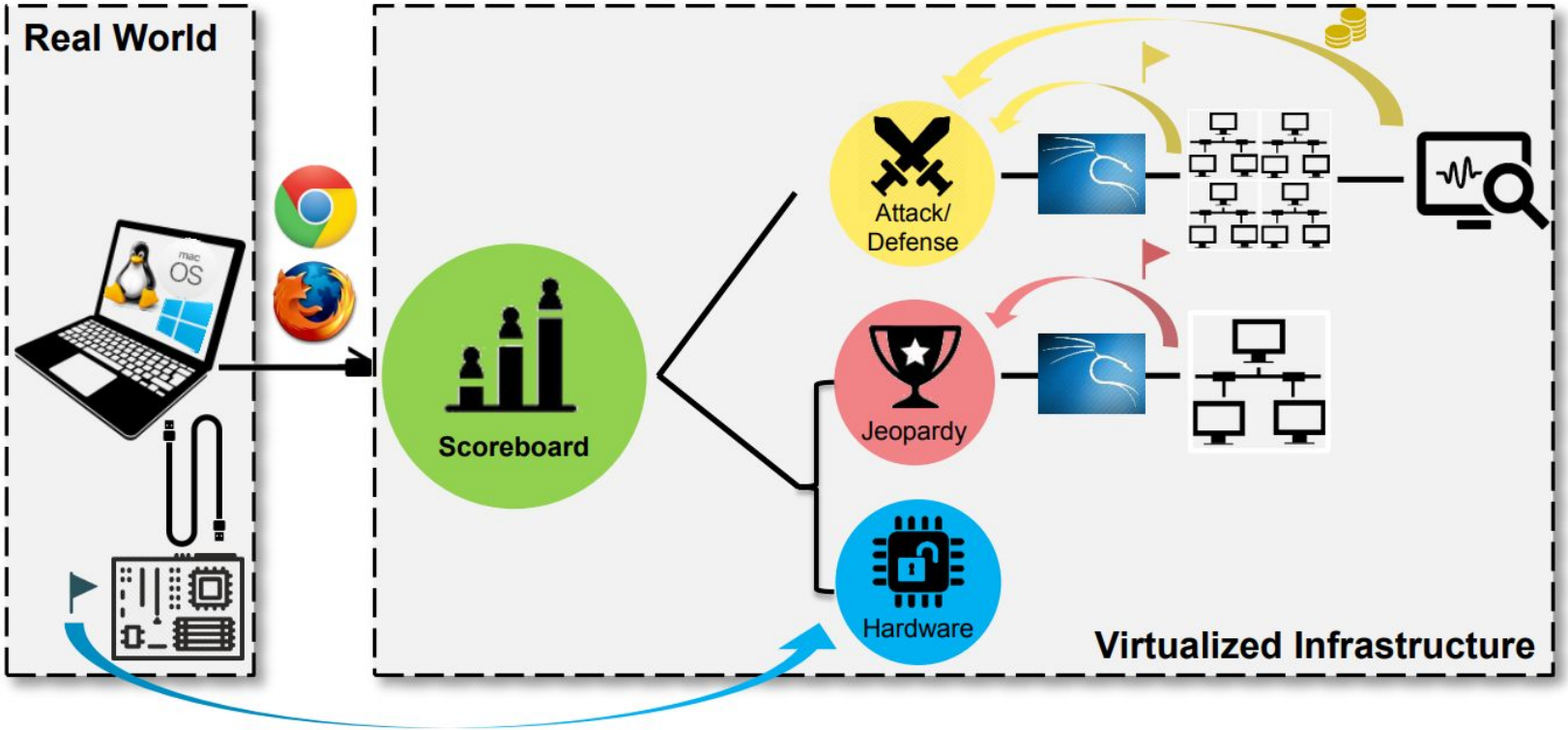
The new format

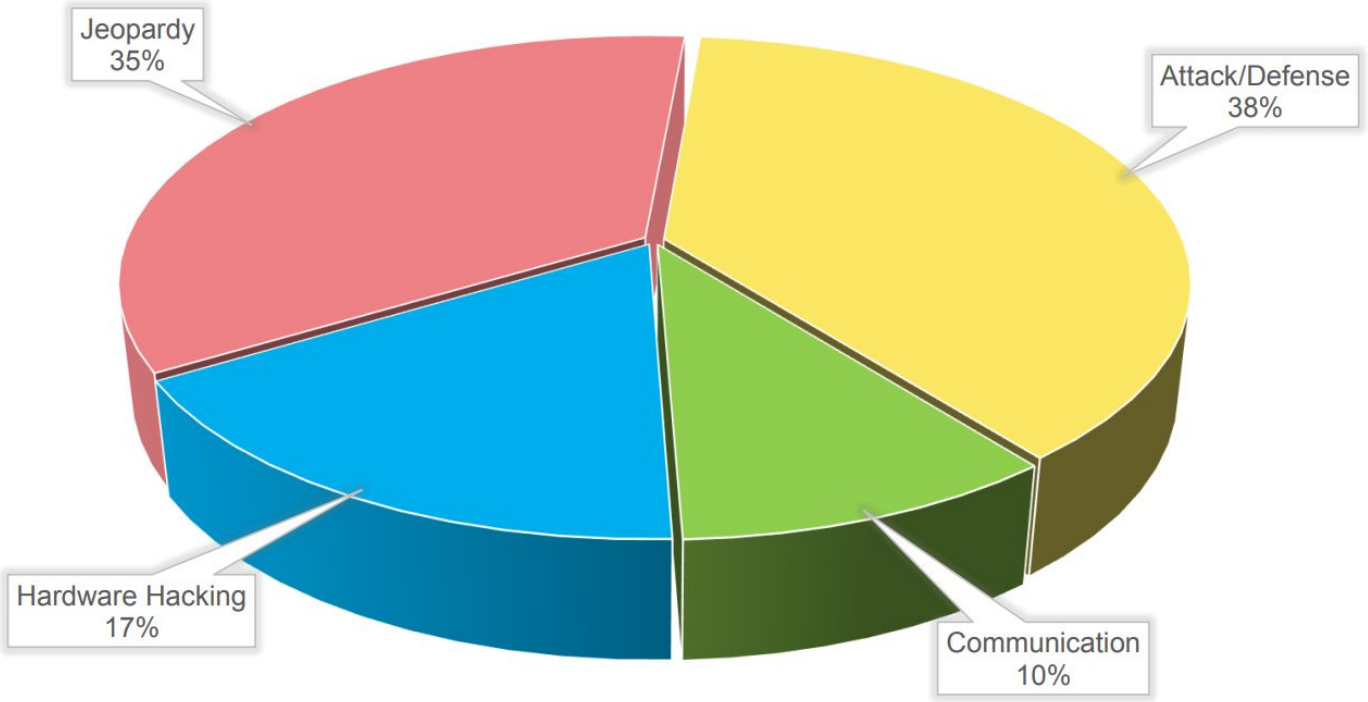
- Virtualization
- Attack-defense and Jeopardy
- Control VM via browser
- Even playing field
- Easier to manage


Real World
Scoreboard
Attack/
Defense
Jeopardy
Hardware
Virtualized Infrastructure

The new format

- Hardware hacking
- Three categories:
  - RF signaling
  - Digital lockpicking
  - Cryptography

Global scoring



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Belt
Cinta
Salidas Departures
Salidas Departures

The team

- Different composition
- Half of us were completely new
- Skill distribution - quite even
  - Except hardware hacking...

The competition itself

There were….

… technical problems :(

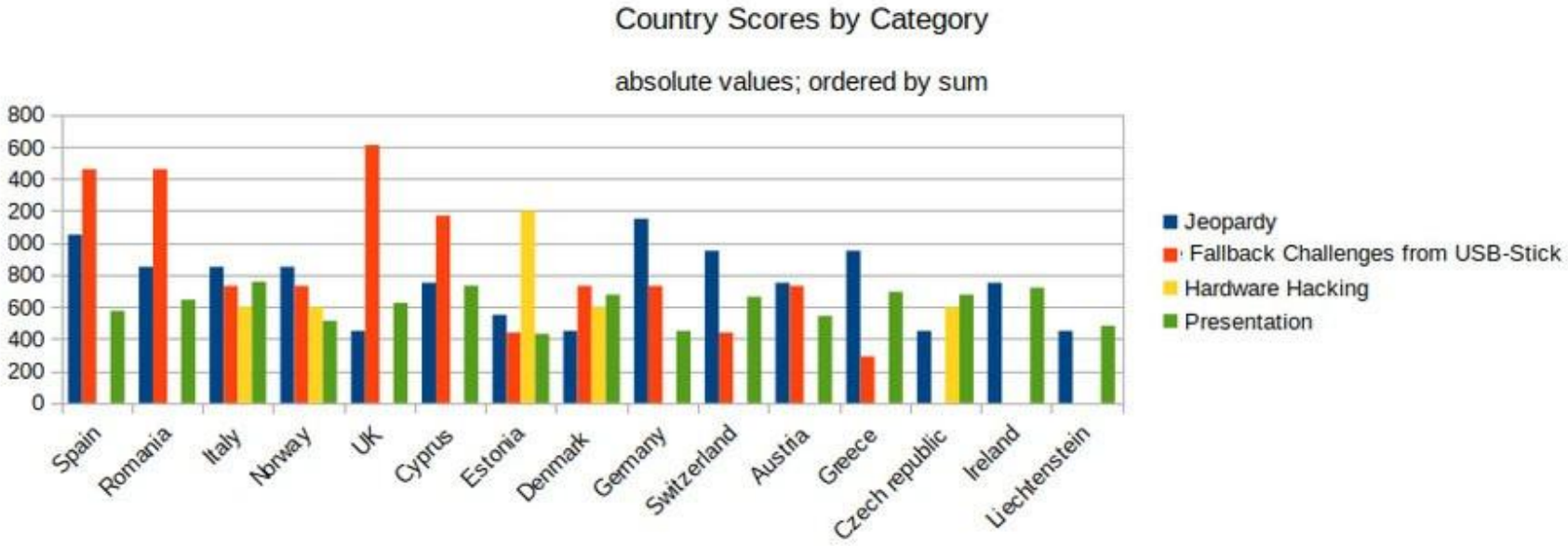
The categories

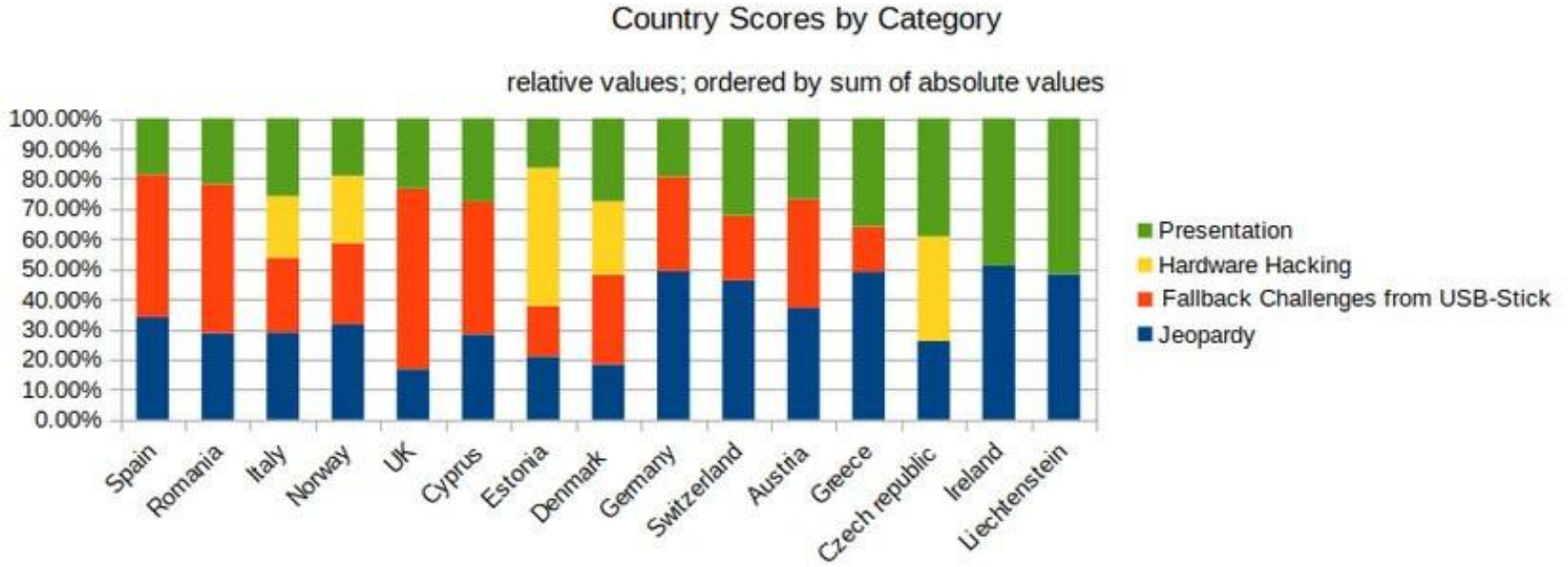
- Hardware hacking OK
- ~~Attack defense~~
- Jeopardy --->Delayed, then crashed later
- ~~King of the hill~~ ---> Replaced with fallback plan
- Presentations

How did we do?

- Pretty well
- At some point we were #1
- … But then Spain beat us

#ThrowBackECSC2016


Country Scores by Category
absolute values; ordered by sum
800
600
400
200
000
800
600
400
200
0
Spain
Romania
Italy
Norway
UK
Cyprus
Estonia
Denmark
Germany
Switzerland
Austria
Greece
Czech republic
Ireland
Liechtenstein
Jeopardy
Fallback Challenges from USB-Stick
Hardware Hacking
Presentation


Country Scores by Category
relative values; ordered by sum of absolute values
100.00%
90.00%
80.00%
70.00%
60.00%
50.00%
40.00%
30.00%
20.00%
10.00%
0.00%
Spain
Romania
Italy
Norway
UK
Cyprus
Estonia
Denmark
Germany
Switzerland
Austria
Greece
Czech republic
Ireland
Liechtenstein
Presentation
Hardware Hacking
Fallback Challenges from USB-Stick
Jeopardy

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The importance

- Many things become digital
- Cybersecurity -> more relevant

- A great way to get into the field
- Lots of things to discover, and have fun!

The future

- Next year in UK
- Around 20 countries

- 2019 in Romania
- Around 25 countries

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Getting in

- 10 people
  - 5 juniors (<21)
  - 5 seniors (21-25)
- National phase mid-summer
  - 20 people are selected
  - Jeopardy-style CTF
- Bootcamp in autumn
  - Training (attack-defense, etc)
  - Final selection

Links

Website (romanian):
www.cybersecuritychallenge.ro/
Website (EU):
www.europeancybersecuritychallenge.eu/

Thank you