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On December 15, at Radisson Blu Iveria Hotel, Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia held the fourth cyber security simulated exercise – „Cyber-exe Georgia” 2017. The event was supported by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and opened by the welcoming remarks of **Nikoloz Gagnidze**, Chairman of LEPL Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia.

The aim of the event is to prepare IT specialist representing public and private organizations for cyber security crisis situations and to establish forms of cooperation between them.

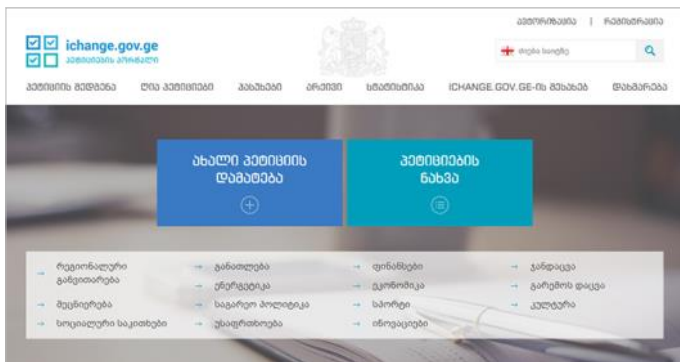
The above mentioned exercise is intended to have a form of contest, which involves participants pooled in several teams. This practice is common in the world and called “Red and Blue Team” exercises. During the process, the teams are challenging each other in various cyber-attack scenarios.

“We at Data Exchange Agency and its subsidiary unit CERT.GOV.GE (Computer Emergency Response Team – Georgia’s National CERT) are delighted that we were able to organize an event of this scale. This is the fourth time we have held the event and I am proud to say that if we needed help from our foreign colleagues in preparing the previous two events, this time we have been able to form every aspect of contest – including questions and scenarios – by our own recourse. This means that we moved to a whole new level of development.” – **Nikoloz Gagnidze**, DEA’s Chairman commented (Continued on P. 2).

(Continued from P.1) There were up to 60 teams involved in exercise/contest. The teams were made up with IT specialists from both public and private organizations. CYBER-EXE Georgia 2017 lasted throughout the day. At the end of the event, participants were presented special certificates issued by DEA.



GEORGIAN GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES WEBSITE FOR CITIZENS TO SUBMIT INITIATIVES



The Government of Georgia has launched a new website through which any citizen or a group of citizens can address the government with a petition.

The address of the new website is icode.gov.ge and it was created within the Open Governance Partnership.

The project aims to make it easier for people to get involved in the process of decision-making.

"This project is one of the best and easiest ways for citizens to make their voices heard, reach the government and present their initiatives", said the head of the Government Administration of Georgia, Maia Tskitishvili.

She explained that through the new website anyone can launch a petition and if the petition gains 10,000 signatures in a month's time, the government will be obliged to discuss the initiative. The government will have to either accept the initiative or explain its reasons for refusal.

"This is a very good tool of inclusive governance and the demonstration of the openness that the Government of Georgia offers during the past several years", Tskitishvili said.

The presentation of the website was attended by representatives of the government, civic society, international and non-governmental organizations.

Technical platform of ICHANGE.GOV.GE was designed and elaborated by LEPL Data Exchange Agency of the Ministry of Justice of Georgia.

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