



## PRESS RELEASE

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— for immediate release —

### **Full European integration of national IST research by 2014**

#### **ALIPRO workshop in Brussels on visions and roadmaps for mobile communications programmes of New Member States**

**At an EU workshop in Brussels on 24 March, stakeholders from the New Member States and Acceding/Candidate Countries will discuss how their national research programmes on Information Society Technologies (IST), in particular the programmes related to mobile communications, can be effectively integrated within the European Research Area.**

EU project ALIPRO has created a vision and a roadmap for the integration, which is based on a comprehensive survey of the IST funding programmes for research on mobile communications in all ten New Member States and the Acceding/Candidate Countries Bulgaria, Romania, and Turkey. According to ALIPRO's vision, the national and regional IST research programmes which are related to mobile communications will be fully integrated into the European Research Area by 2014. The programmes will be still autonomous and yet fully open for applicants from other European countries. The opening up of national IST research programmes is one of the primary elements of ALIPRO's vision. Particular importance is given to sustaining and expanding Europe's competitive advantage in the area of mobile communications, as this is perceived as one of the key drivers for economic growth in the IST sector.

In order to achieve the vision, ALIPRO calls for concerted measures on European and national level for encouraging fair competition, stimulating the mobility of researchers, increasing the collaboration between academia and industry, and enabling the concentration of funds. ALIPRO has drafted a European roadmap and national roadmaps for realising the vision in the New Member States and the Acceding/Candidate Countries.

At the workshop, stakeholders from the New Member States and Acceding/Candidate Countries as well as stakeholders in the area of research on mobile communications on European level will discuss on the basis of ALIPRO's vision and roadmap what can and will be done on national and European level in order to create higher efficiency within national IST research programmes and more synergies and coordination between them and the European programmes.

One of the workshop objectives is to provide knowledge and support for initiating the further development of R&D programmes in the area of mobile communications in countries where such programmes do not yet exist or are still in a maturing phase. Only two programmes in the New Member States and Acceding/Candidate Countries are explicitly funding research on mobile communications; 4 ICT programmes and 26 general programmes include funding for this area.

## **About the workshop**

### **Title**

European visions for research programmes on mobile communications in the New Member States and Acceding and Candidate Countries

### **Date**

Friday, 24 March 2006, 9:30 – 16:00

### **Venue**

European Commission, Berlaymont, Room Jean Rey  
200 Rue de la Loi, B-1049 Brussels, Belgium

### **Further information and online registration**

<http://alipro.eurescom.de/workshop>

### **Registration deadline**

14 March 2006

Participation is free, but registration mandatory. The number of participants is limited to 55.

## **About ALIPRO**

ALIPRO is a Specific Support Action within EU Framework Programme 6. The project is performed by a consortium of 14 organisations from all New Member States and the Accession Candidate Countries Romania, Bulgaria, and Turkey as well as old member state Germany. The project started in March 2005 and has a duration of 13 months.

ALIPRO website: <http://alipro.eurescom.de>

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