# Evidence for Policy in Disaster Risk Management (DRM) Summer School 2026

## Tallinn, 26-28 May 2026

## Class No. 3 - Cyber security incidents, blackouts, and energy disruptions as emerging disasters requiring private-public cooperation

Class will take place in room S 233 – 2nd floor of the Silva building

**Class Coordinator**

**Christos LAOUDIAS**
**KIOS Research and Innovation Center of Excellence, University of Cyprus - SPARROW project coordinator**

Christos Laoudias is a Research Lecturer at the KIOS Center of Excellence, University of Cyprus working on several projects related to monitoring, management, and security of critical infrastructures and cyber-physical systems. Before that, he was leading the geolocation technology research in Huawei Technologies Ireland Research Centre working on the design of data-driven positioning solutions for cellular network planning and optimization. He holds a Diploma in Computer Engineering and Informatics (2003) and a M.Sc. in Integrated Hardware and Software Systems (2005) from the University of Patras, Greece, and a Ph.D. in Computer Engineering from the University of Cyprus (2014). Christos contributes to several past and ongoing EU-funded projects related to cybersecurity across different sectors including Healthcare (CUREX), Automotive

(CARAMEL), Power (ELECTRON), and Defence (ACTING), where he brings his technical expertise and is leading the UCY-KIOS R&D teams. He is the Project Coordinator of the 2024-2027 Horizon Europe DRS project SPARROW (Solid Preparedness And Resilience for Robust Operations during disaster Wilderness).

| **Class assistant** |
| --- |
| Kadri Reis |

| **Speakers** |
| --- |

**Mathaios PANTELI (Keynote Speaker)**
**KIOS Research and Innovation Center of Excellence, University of Cyprus - SPARROW project scientific coordinator**

Mathaios Panteli holds an Assistant Professor position within the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of Cyprus, since January 2021, and an Honorary Lecturer position at the Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering, Imperial College London since September 2022. Mathaios is an IEEE Senior Member, an IET Chartered Engineer (CEng), the Chair of the CIGRE working group C4.47 "Power System Resilience" and the CIGRE Cyprus National Committee, and a Fellow of the Higher Education Academy (UK). He served as an Associate Editor in several journals, and he is the recipient of the several awards for his projects, including the prestigious 2018 Newton Prize and 2022 EU Innovation Radar prize.

**Marious STAVROU (Facilitator)**

**Reaction | SupportCY | SPARROW partner with emergency response operational capabilities**

Marios Stavrou is the Head of Operations for the Bank of Cyprus SupportCY Network. He specializes in the strategic planning, coordination, and operational deployment of specialized response units during large-scale emergencies, natural disasters, and humanitarian crises.

Beyond frontline operations, he designs and facilitates Tabletop Exercises (TTX) at a European level, aimed at strengthening institutional preparedness, risk management, and operational resilience. Furthermore, within the framework of SupportCY, he develops initiatives that foster multisectoral collaboration, bridging the gap between the public and private sectors, as well as academic institutions, to enhance collective crisis response capabilities.

## Aim(s) of the Class

The class equips policymakers and operational staff with a deeper understanding of cyber-attacks and energy system disruptions as complex, evolving disaster scenarios requiring coordinated cross-sectoral responses. It examines systemic impacts, stakeholder roles, and coordination mechanisms across public and private sectors, enhancing situational awareness and decision-making during cyber-physical emergencies. A strong emphasis is placed on the science–policy interface, enabling participants to understand how research can support policy, which scientific domains are relevant to their field, where to access reliable evidence, how to interpret it, and what to expect from collaboration with researchers. Through interactive dialogue and practical exercises and table-top exercises, participants strengthen competences in innovative, evidence-informed policymaking and refine response strategies to enhance cross-sector resilience.

## Recommended readings

For reading before the class:

- European Commission, "Supporting policy with scientific evidence", Available: https://knowledge4policy.ec.europa.eu/projects-activities/competence-frameworks-policymakers-researchers_en#:~:text=Competence%20Framework%20'Science%20for%20Policy'&text=The%20framework%20consists%20of%2027,citizens%20and%20stakeholders%2C%20and%20Collaborate. April 2023
- B. Falahati and Yong Fu, "A study on interdependencies of cyber-power networks in smart grid applications," 2012 IEEE PES Innovative Smart Grid Technologies (ISGT), Washington, DC, USA, 2012, pp. 1-8.
- A. Ghasemi and H. de Meer, "Robustness of Interdependent Power Grid and Communication Networks to Cascading Failures," in IEEE Transactions on Network Science and Engineering, vol. 10, no. 4, pp. 1919-1930, 1 July-Aug. 2023.
- Liu, X., Chen, B., Chen, C. and Jin, D., "Electric power grid resilience with interdependencies between power and communication networks–a review," IET Smart Grid, 3(2), pp.182-193, 2020.

- United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, "Handbook for implementing the principles for resilient infrastructure", April 2023

For reading after the class:

- ISO 37123:2019(en) Sustainable cities and communities — Indicators for resilient cities, Edition 1, 2019.
- V. S. Rajkumar, A. Ştefanov, A. Presekal, P. Palensky and J. L. R. Torres, "Cyber Attacks on Power Grids: Causes and Propagation of Cascading Failures," in *IEEE Access*, vol. 11, pp. 103154-103176, 2023
- Cyprus Civil Defence, Ministry of Interior, "Report on Disaster Risk Management in the Republic of Cyprus", October 2020
- National Infrastructure Commission, "Anticipate, React, Recover: Resilient infrastructure systems", UK, May 2020