Overview

LOBSTER is an advanced pilot European Infrastructure for accurate Internet traffic monitoring. It is based on passive monitoring and aims to the improvement of people's understanding about the Internet and the solution of difficult performance and security problems.

All potential users of LOBSTER need to be aware of this document.

Purpose of this document

The purpose of this policy is to outline the acceptable use of LOBSTER’s resources. The regulations provided intend to protect all participating users, along with the organizations they come from, against the consequences of any misuse of LOBSTER’s infrastructure.

Scope

a. This policy applies to every user of the LOBSTER infrastructure.

b. This policy applies to the use of all LOBSTER’s hardware resources, including monitoring sensors/adapters, communication lines and any other equipment and network facilities connected to the infrastructure.

c. This policy applies to the use of all software within LOBSTER, all traffic data collected by the system and all project results disseminated.

General Rules

a. You are granted resources within LOBSTER in order to have access to network traffic monitoring data provided by all LOBSTER participants, that will be used to detect cyber-attacks, develop novel applications enabled by the availability of the passive network monitoring infrastructure, and in general support Internet-related research and security analysis.

b. You must respect any company, organization, national or EC regulations and policies referred to the use of network facilities.

c. You must not violate any security/access policy of other participants.

d. You must immediately take the appropriate actions, when informed that some aspect of your LOBSTER sensor usage is creating a problem.

e. In case accounts are created in the future in LOBSTER sensors or other LOBSTER infrastructure to possible users, they should select safe passwords and pass phrases, endeavor to keep them and their credentials secret and under no circumstances communicate them to third parties.

f. You must not interfere with other participant's work.

g. You must not attempt to disrupt the working of the LOBSTER infrastructure or attack against the system or any other participants.
h. You must respect copyright legislation that applies to software and hardware used and to disseminated data.

i. You must not move proprietary data to, from, or via the LOBSTER system without the prior agreement of their owner.

j. Once you have registered to participate in LOBSTER, it is your responsibility to remain aware of the rules in this policy, including any changes made to them.

k. You must not use LOBSTER’s facilities to create or transmit material that may cause annoyance, inconvenience to other participants or any kind of malfunction to the system.

l. Introduction of malicious programs into the infrastructure (e.g. viruses, worms, Trojan horses, e-mail bombs, etc.) is strictly prohibited.

m. Deliberate unauthorized access to facilities, services or data accessible via LOBSTER will be considered unacceptable.

n. Disseminated data and other LOBSTER resources may be used for purposes other than educational/research (e.g. commercial purposes). Particularly, for the commercial use of the resources, the approval of all members of the LOBSTER consortium is required. In case of a request for commercial use, the procedure described in a following section (“Enabling Commercial Use”), should be followed.

o. Every partner reserves the right to approve or not the provision of data to other partners for commercial use.

p. LOBSTER resources may by used by third parties internally in their network, without having to provide their data to the LOBSTER consortium.

q. All users that apply for registration and other LOBSTER resources, are considered that have read the AUP document and agree with all terms.

**Enforcement**

a. As a user of LOBSTER, you are bound to all of the above regulations.

b. Ignorance of regulations or legislation is not a defense.

c. Violation of this AUP may have several consequences for the offender.

d. Penalties may be levied for confirmed breaches of regulations.

e. LOBSTER Administration Committee (LAC) will review each case of LOBSTER AUP violation. Depending on the nature of the violation disciplinary action may be taken.

f. In order to get access to LOBSTER resources all users should accept the terms in AUP document. Potential users should explicitly state that they comply with all terms in AUP. This should be done during their registration process, through a statement that they will be prompted with (“I have read all terms in the AUP and comply with them”). They should
response positive to this statement otherwise the registration process should not be completed.

**Enabling Commercial Use**

This section describes the process that should be followed every time a request for commercial use of the LOBSTER resources arrives:

- The interested part should submit to the LOBSTER consortium a proposal, describing the commercial product that will be developed and how they are planning to use the LOBSTER resources for their purposes.

- The LOBSTER LAC committee should carefully study the proposal and approve or reject it.

- All LOBSTER partners reserve the right to object on the approval.
6  AUP administration

The rules in LOBSTER’s AUP document apply to every potential user of the infrastructure. Potential users should respect and should not violate the policy's rules.

However, it is likely that violations of those rules may exist. For that reason, an AUP administration committee will be formed to handle and investigate any unacceptable use of the infrastructure.

The LOBSTER AUP administration committee will be composed of three (3) equivalent members, researchers and/or developers, who already cooperate in the LOBSTER project. The members will be designated by the partners of the consortium every two years.

The main responsibilities of the AUP committee will be the following:

- Rules enforcement

  The AUP committee will be responsible for the enforcement of the AUP’s rules on every user.

- Contact for complaints

  The AUP committee will be responsible for monitoring for potential violation of LOBSTER's AUP. They will also be the point-of-contact for complaints about misbehaving usage of LOBSTER infrastructure. Every user that detects any case of misuse of the infrastructure, will be able to contact the committee via email at the email alias lac@lobster.org.

- Review of AUP violation cases

  The committee will review alleged violations of the LOBSTER Acceptable Use Policy brought to their attention, on a case-by-case basis. Clear violations of the policy may result in disciplinary actions, depending on the nature of the offence. If a participant does not conform to AUP’s rules or to the recommendations of the committee, the use of the infrastructure will be prohibited to their institute.

- Handle conflicts

  The AUP committee will also be responsible for handling conflicts that may arise between the LOBSTER' AUP and other national, European or company regulations. This kind of conflicts should be brought on the attention of the committee by all potential users of LOBSTER infrastructure and proper actions should be taken.

- Update the LOBSTER AUP document

  This AUP is to be regularly reviewed according to any proposals formulated by project partners/participants that may be inspired by the current usage of LOBSTER resources. Any further amendments to the current version are to be approved by the management bodies of the LOBSTER project.
The following procedure should be followed in case of a request for modifications in the AUP document:

- Receipt of the request by the LAC committee. Each incoming request should refer to a specific AUP term.

  For uniformity in all requests, a (web) form can be developed with the following data, that can be used by all potential applicants:

  - Applicant’s data (name, type, email, etc)
  - Reference to the specific term of LOBSTER AUP that is under dispute.
  - Summary of the reasons that lead to this objection (national law restrictions, other policy restrictions, etc)
  - Proposals for potential modifications in the specific AUP term.

- Examination of the incoming request by the LAC members, in order to decide whether it is acceptable or not.
- If the request is not acceptable, reply to the applicant, else proceed with the following tasks.
- Modification of existing terms or introduction of new terms, in order to satisfy the request.
- Inform all LOBSTER members, through the existing mailing lists, about the changes introduced and ask for their approval.
- Examination of potential objections of the changes formed.
- Update of the on-line AUP document.
- Inform all partners and participants, through the existing mailing lists and on-line announcements, about the changes in the AUP.

During the examination of the potential requests, the LAC should take into account all the existing European and national laws/restrictions, the infrastructure's capabilities/needs, the current state of all participants, etc

Formal requests for AUP modifications may come only from LOBSTER partners. These requests should be examined carefully by the LAC and brought in an agenda if necessary. However, any other suggestions that may come from external organizations, should be taken into account.

The LAC, in coordination with all LOBSTER participants, reserves the right to modify this policy at any time.