

# CyberASAP: Secure Railway Systems

## — A Framework of Ontology-based Security ERP for Cyber Resilient Digital Railway Systems

Dr Hongmei (Mary) He, De-Montfort University  
 Prof Eerke Boiten, De-Montfort University  
 Emad Sherif, De Montfort University  
 Prof Jeremy Watson, UCL  
 Dr Uchenna Ani, Keele University



### PROJECT TIMELINE:

Start date: 01/04/2022.  
 Finish date: 31/07/2022.

### INTRODUCTION:

The CyberASAP project, Ontology-based Security Automation for Digital Railway Systems (DRS'OSA) is to commercialise the research results of the PETRAS project, "Cognitive and Socio-Technic Cyber Security for Modern Railway Systems" (01/01/2022-30/06/2023).

### AIM:

To implement the socio-technical ontology-based security ERP and commercialize the solution for creating a cyber-resilient digital railway system.

### WHY:

Smart railway initiatives bring many cyber risks to railways. Railways are the critical infrastructure of a country. Attack surface is greatly increased due to the introduction of advanced IoT technologies. Malicious cyber-attacks on the rail infrastructure could have far more serious implications, including danger to life. A holistic security solution is needed.

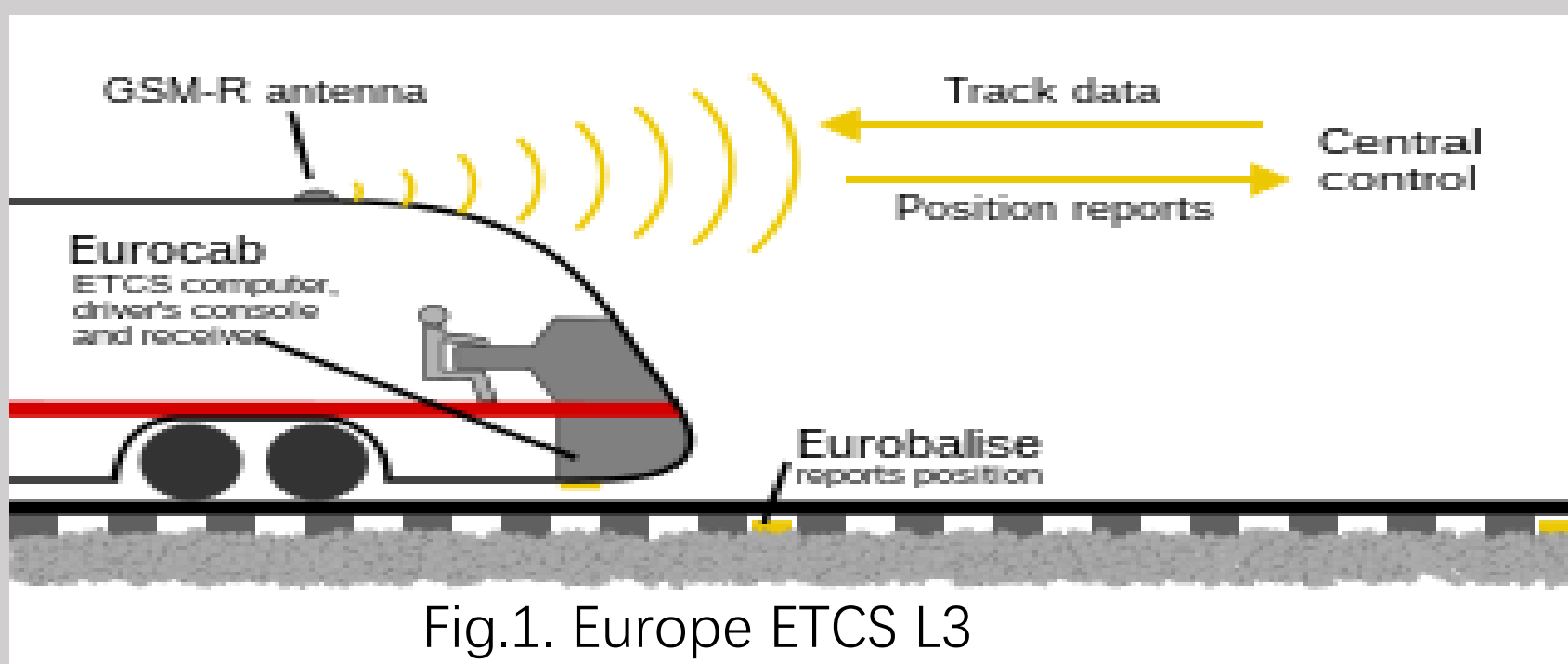


Fig.1. Europe ETCS L3

### PUBLICATION:

H. He, E. Boiten, R. Smith, E. Sherif J. Watson, U. Ani, A. Hessami, A Framework of Socio-Technical Ontology-based Security ERP for Cyber Resilient Railway Systems, Special Issue, IEEE Transactions on Technology and Society, in review.

### METHODOLOGY:

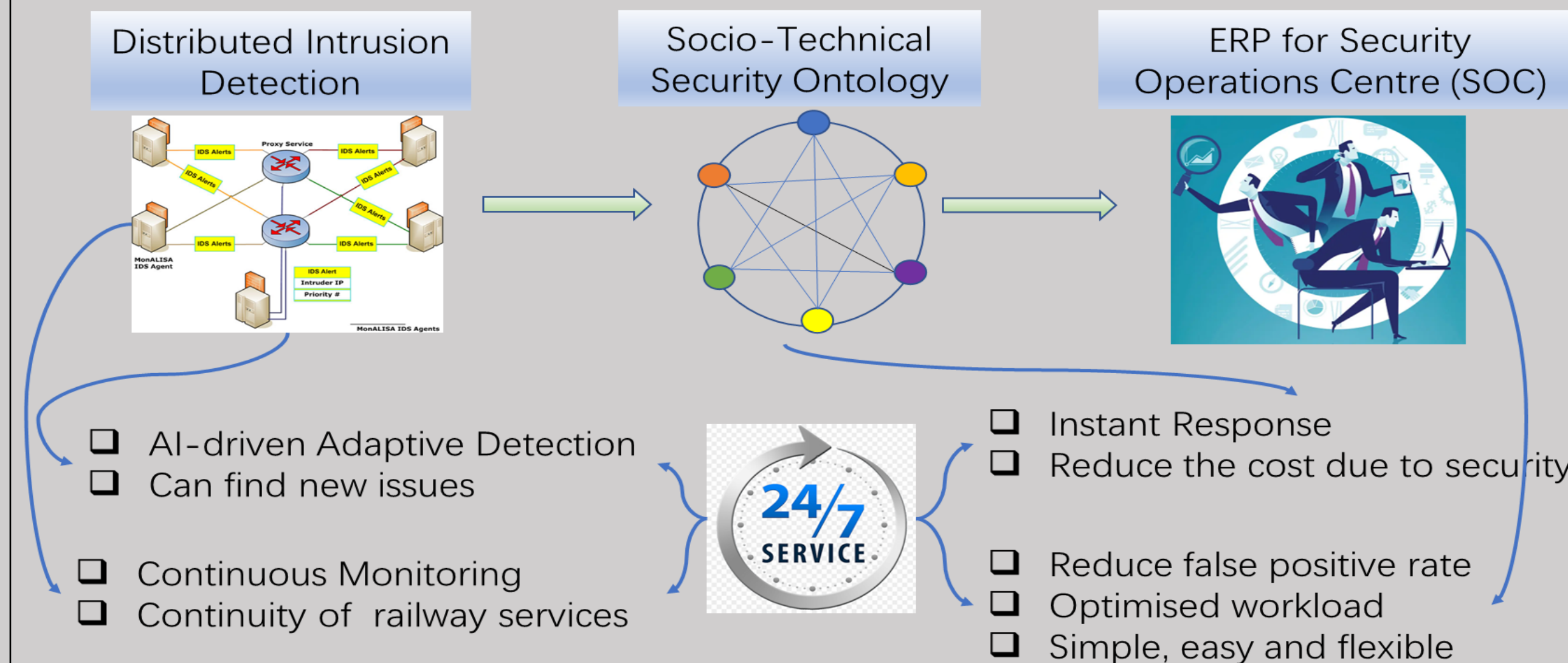


Figure 2. The Architecture of DRS'OSA

### KEY COMPONENTS:

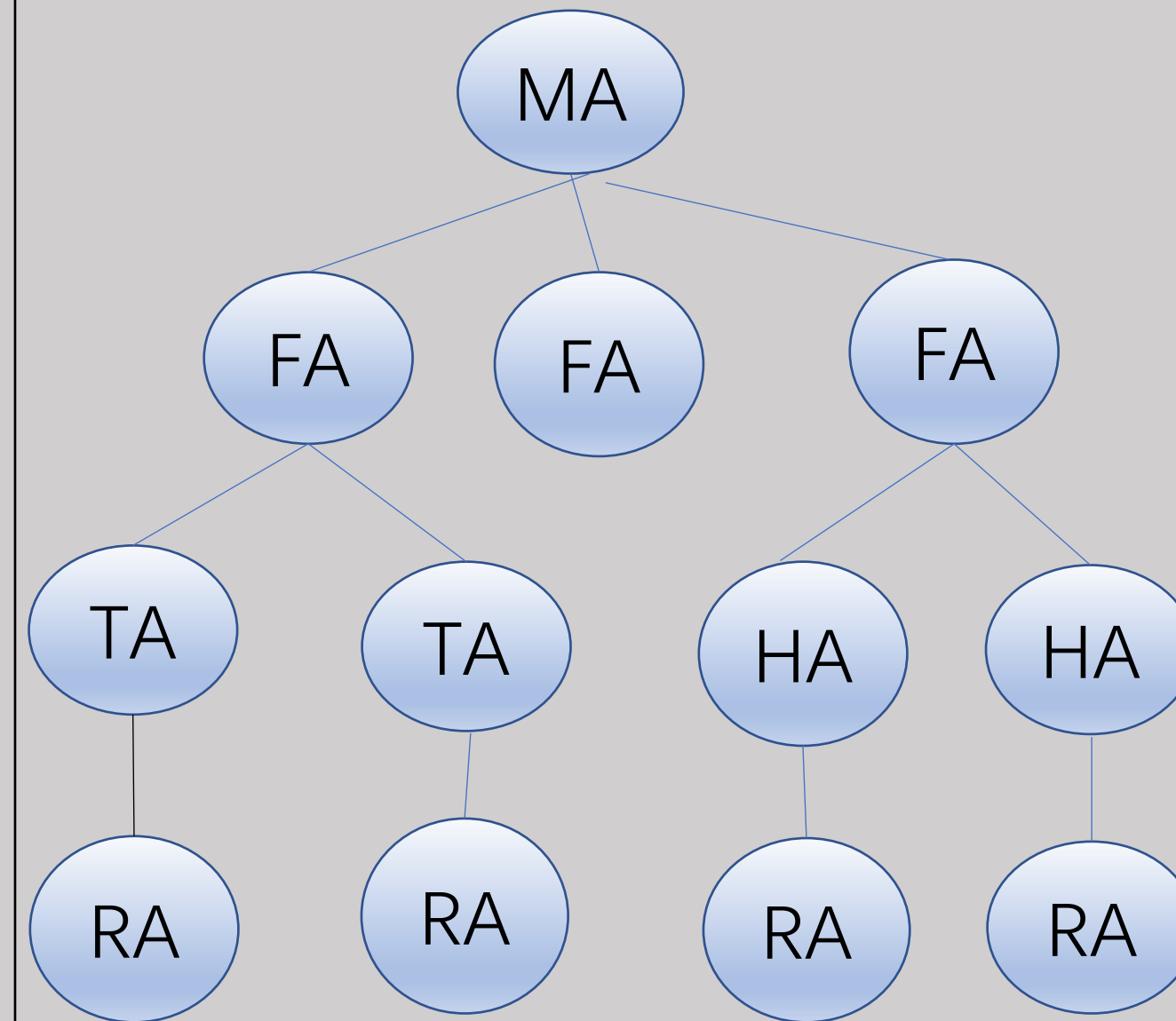


Fig.3 A Distributed Intrusion Detection System

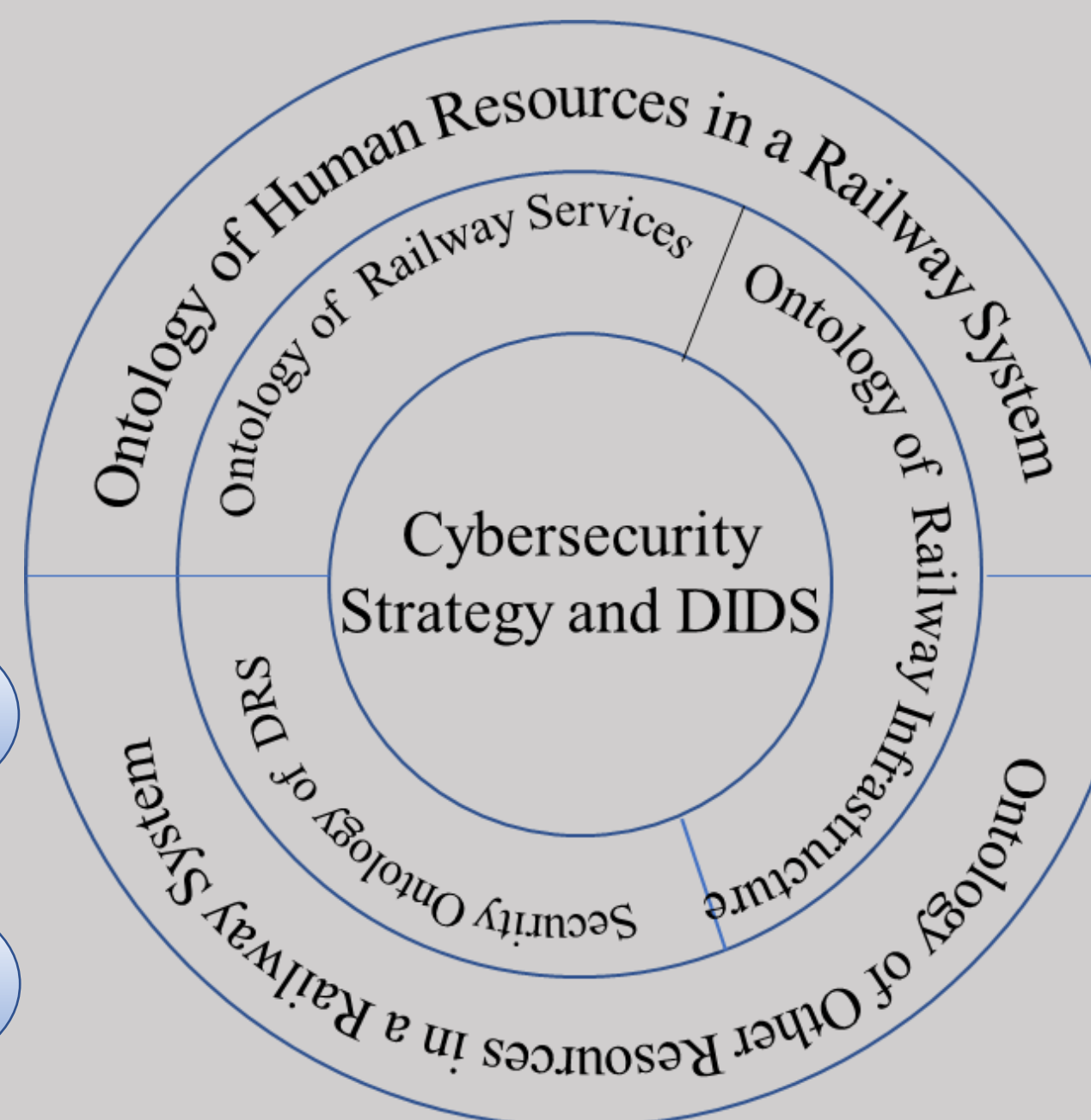


Fig.4 A Socio-Technical Security Ontology

### EXPECTED IMPACT

The work is timely and significantly important for helping the UK Digital Railway Strategy. It will

- ✓ provides a holistic security solution for UK digital railway plan with an innovative and secure SCS
- ✓ Improve the safety of railway systems and their users, avoiding security incidents, which could influence the safety of railways
- ✓ Enhance the security awareness of stakeholders
- ✓ Train young experts in the cybersecurity of digital railway systems
- ✓ Provide good evidence and references to UK relevant government departments and policymakers
- ✓ Fill the gaps in the protection of national infrastructure

### KEY FINDINGS

- ✓ Potential commercialisation of the proposed Socio-Technical Ontology based Security ERP for Digital Railway Systems
- ✓ Value proposition for commercialising the research outcomes

### USER PARTNERS

National Cyber Security Centre, East-West Rail, Birmingham Centre of Railway Research and Education, COSTAIN, National Skills Academy, Global Vega Systems, Cerberus Security Lab

### ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This research has been supported by the PETRAS National Centre of Excellence for IoT Systems Cybersecurity, which has been funded by the UK EPSRC under grant number EP/S 035362 1. CyberASAP is supported by Innovate UK and Knowledge Transfer Networks, DRS'OSA goes the Funding Strand: Security of Digital Technologies at the Periphery commercialization