

Ministry of Education, Heritage, Environment, Energy and Climate Change

## PRESS RELEASE

No: 153/2019

Date: 5th March 2019

## **CyberCenturion Finals**

Three Gibraltar teams competing in the Cyber Centurion finals leave for London on Wednesday 6th March. The finals are being hosted at Queen Elizabeth Park in London on Thursday 7th March.

This is the first time that an under 14 team has qualified for the finals of the competition. The teams are being accompanied by teachers from Bayside Comprehensive School, trainers from GVC Holdings and the University of Gibraltar's Director of ICT.

The two over 14 teams secured their place in the top 10 of their qualifying rounds, with the Under 14 team qualifying in the Top 5 of their category. The teams overcame three qualifying rounds, all held in the University of Gibraltar, to qualify from over 300 teams that entered. Qualifying rounds were based on insecure Linux and Windows operating systems. Overall, eight operating systems were secured during these rounds.

The teams have been preparing for the finals by undergoing specialist training that has been provided by the security team at GVC Holdings. The hoodies for all team members have been sponsored by EY accountants, with Gibtelecom supplying two broadband lines for students to use during training their sessions. There is no doubt that this support from the private sector plays a huge part in the teams' successes so far.

The Minister for Education, John Cortes, said: "Once again I congratulate our Cyber Centurion teams for qualifying and wish them the best of luck in the finals this week. As usual, they have already done us proud. I am particularly grateful to the teachers within the schools and to those in the private sector who support this initiative. Training in this area is of ever growing importance for our young people, and for the increasingly technological community of which we are a part, and we will continue to encourage and support it."