



European Annual Programme 2026/27



Executive Overview

CIONET is bringing its most prestigious international assets together in one annual programme, designed to increase value across the entire network.

- **For our top-tier members:** creating an exclusive peer-to-peer forum for Europe's most senior digital leaders to connect, exchange, and learn from one another.
- **For our business partners:** providing direct access to a carefully selected group of decision-makers with significant strategic influence and buying power.
- **For our CIONET countries:** driving international spill-over that strengthens the local community, unlocking access to previously out-of-reach digital leaders, injecting premium content and elite speakers into local programming, and creating additional opportunities for monetisation.



Executive Overview

CIONET is consolidating its most prestigious international assets into a single, high-value annual programme. The programme is structured around two distinct yet **complementary** tracks.



Signature
Circle

4 events

A horizontal, strategy-led reflection forum designed for the top tier of European digital leaders.

+



CIONET
Awards

5 events

A vertical, technology domain-led recognition platform celebrating excellence across key domains.

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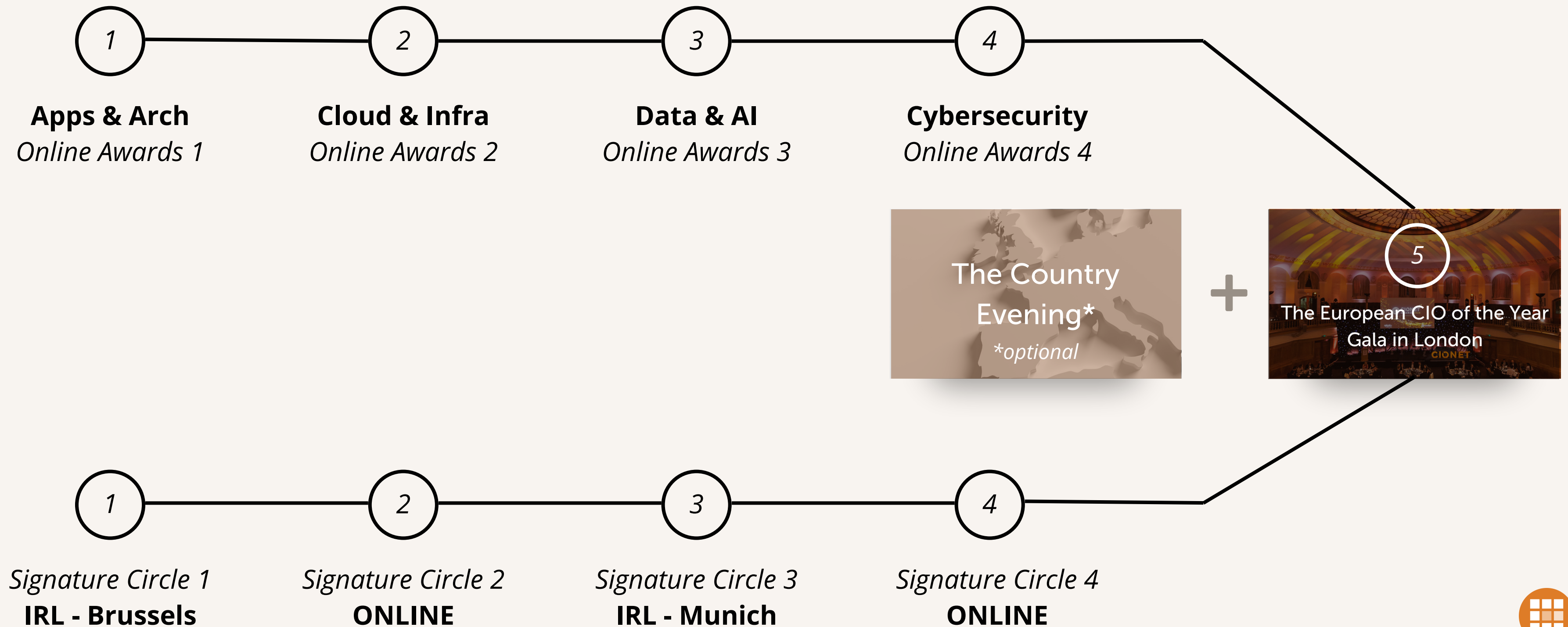


INT Annual
Programme

9 events in total



INT Programme Track



The Signature Circle

An exclusive, cross-border peer-to-peer community for digital leaders managing the largest and market-shaping digital organisations in Europe.

01

The Signature Programme operates on a **yearly cycle** structured around four “Signature Sessions”:

- Two in-person sessions (Brussels, Munich ...)
- Two online sessions

02

Each session is designed as a high-intensity, interactive, **peer-driven gathering** under Chatham House Rule, focusing on strategic challenges identified by members themselves.

03

The Signature Hub is a dedicated, login-protected area of the CIONET site.

- **The Vault:** Private event summaries and Chatham House reports.
- **The Directory:** Direct peer-to-peer contact information, when approved.
- **The Newsroom:** Public versions of reports for marketing purposes.



Membership & Audience

01

CIOs or senior executives of organisations with an IT department headcount of **1,000+** IT staff or equivalent budgets.

02

Membership is by **invitation only**, based on recommendations and introductions from CIONET Countries and existing members.

03

Currently, CIONET has identified approximately **400 European Top Tier organisations** that meet the criteria.

04

We anticipate a pool of 400 to 500 signature members and **20-30 active participants** for each event.

05

A central component of the Circle is the annual **"Pulse Survey"**, distributed to the broader group of eligible leaders.

06

Governance is ensured through a group of **Core Ambassadors** (ideally one per major industry), chosen from CIONET's most loyal and influential "Signature" friends.

The Awards

The European Digital Leader Awards is CIONET's flagship recognition programme, designed to celebrate "best-in-class" digital transformations across Europe.

01

Four Thematic Online Events (Technical Domain Categories) - Nominees present their accomplishments to the jury and the wider CIONET community through video podcasts.

02

The European CIO of the Year Gala (London) – a high-prestige, invitation-only Grand Finale acts as the physical convergence point of the broader CIONET ecosystem.

The Gala brings together **award** nominees, jury members, **Signature Circle** members, and strategic partners to celebrate the winners, honour the European CIO of the Year, and recognise the collective achievements of Europe's digital leadership community.



The Country Evenings: Local Integration

*Optional

Format

Each of the seven participating CIONET Countries can host an intimate dinner on the **evening preceding the Gala**, gathering their fellow countrymen (signature members, jury members, nominees) along with (a) local partner(s) of their choice.

Local Partner Upsell

Local Partners sponsoring these dinners receive **min. 2 free Gala tickets**, meaning one BP with 2 seats or two BPs with one seat each.

The revenue of this Country Evening is strictly for the organising country; CIONET International exclusively provides the Gala event where nominees, jury members, and signature members will be participating.



The Business Partner Ecosystem

The CIONET International Annual Programme distinguishes between horizontal, strategy-led engagement and vertical, technology domain-led recognition. Partners are integrated based on their ability to serve either as **generalists** or **specialists**.



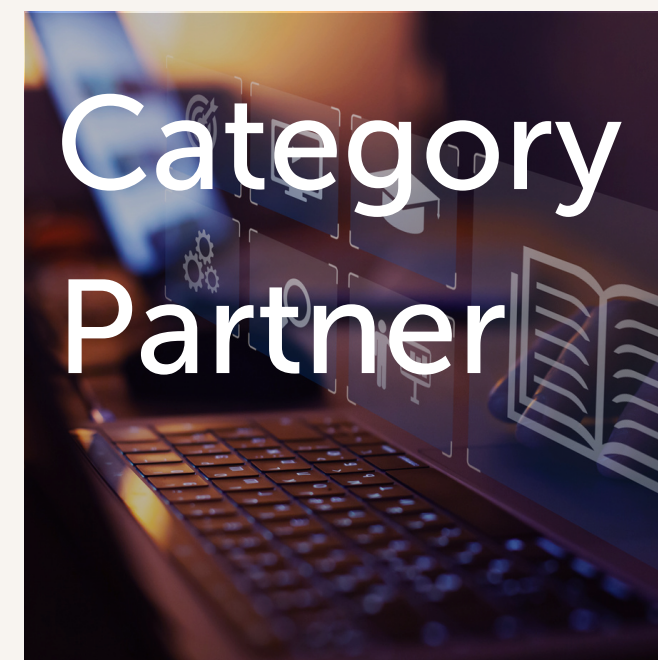
Principal Partner

As the only "**Dual-Track**" partners, they span the entire programme



Signature Partner

Peer-Level Observers in **Signature** Circle + one VIP seat at the London Gala



Category Partner

Designed for specialist vendors, who wish to demonstrate market leadership in a specific **technological pillar** - online Award event

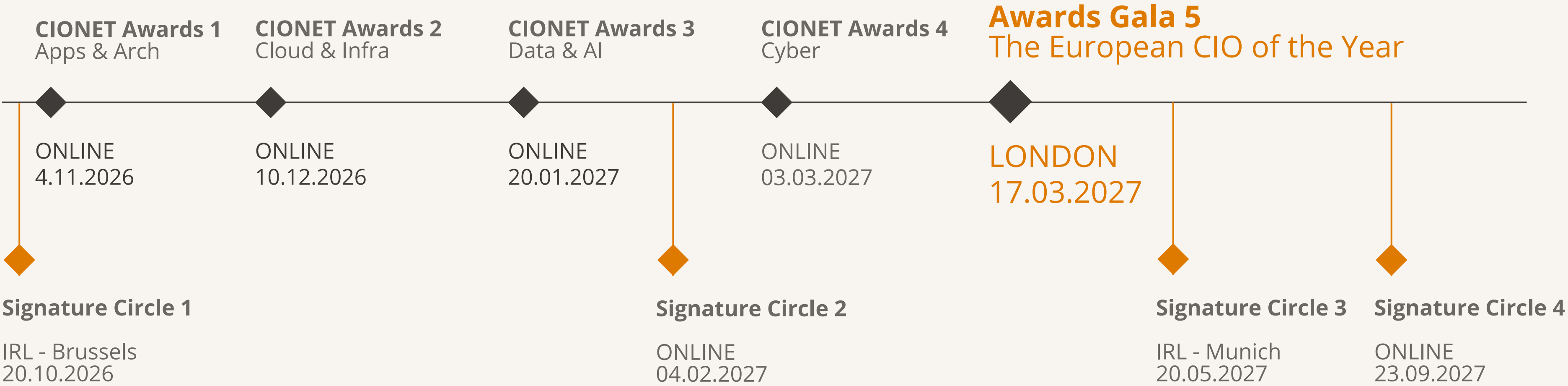


Local Partner

These are **national partners** who support one of the seven CIONET countries specifically for the Country Evening.



Timeline 2026/27.



Thank you!

