

# Cybercrime Digest

Bi-weekly update and global outlook by the  
Cybercrime Programme Office of the Council of Europe (C-PROC)

1-15 September 2017

Source: Reuters

## EU plans more robust security to shore up cyber defenses

Date: 13 Sep 2017

"Growing cyber crime has spurred proposals to strengthen the European Union's specially dedicated security agency and set up a fund to help countries who suffer such attacks. An increase in ransomware attacks such as this year's WannaCry worm that locked up more than 200,000 computers around the world has convinced the European Commission to act. The European Union's executive proposed on Wednesday a common plan to coordinate the bloc's response in case of a large-scale attack and a cyber security emergency response fund. "Our initiatives strengthen cooperation and coordination so that Europe tackles them (cyber security challenges) together," Andrus Ansip, Commission Vice-President for the digital single market said in a statement. The revamped cyber security agency would work on annual pan-European exercises and contribute to the improvement of EU and national public authorities' capabilities and expertise." [READ MORE](#)

RELATED ARTICLES

European Commission, [President Jean-Claude Juncker's State of the Union Address 2017](#), 13 Sep 2017  
ENISA, [European Commission proposal on a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on the future of ENISA](#), 13 Sep 2017  
EU Observer, [EU to beef up cybersecurity agency](#), 13 Sep 2017

Source: ECOWAS

## ECOWAS and the Council of Europe join forces to help West African Countries in the fight against Cybercrime

Date: 11 Sep 2017

"The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Council of Europe will jointly organize the conference "Harmonization of legislation on Cybercrime and Electronic Evidence with rule of law and human rights safeguards", gathering representatives of 15 countries in the region to develop and improve their laws on cybercrime. [...] The Council of Europe's Budapest Convention on Cybercrime is the only international legal instrument in matters related to cybercrime and electronic evidence, and many national legislations across the world are drafted according to its standards. Among African countries, Mauritius and Senegal have already become Parties to the Budapest Convention [...] In the West African region, Ghana and Nigeria are also now invited to become Parties to this treaty." [READ MORE](#)

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Abidjan.net, [La CEDEAO planche sur l'importance des télécommunications et des technologies de l'information dans le processus d'intégration ouest-africain](#), 12 Sep 2017  
Council of Europe, [Conference page](#)

Source: Reuters

## European court rules companies must tell employees of email checks

Date: 5 Sep 2017

"Companies must tell employees in advance if their work email accounts are being monitored without unduly infringing their privacy, the European Court of Human Rights said in a ruling on Tuesday defining the scope of corporate email snooping. In a judgment in the case of a man fired 10 years ago for using a work messaging account to communicate with his family, the judges found that Romanian courts failed to protect Bogdan Barbulescu's private correspondence because his employer had not given him prior notice it was monitoring his communications." [READ MORE](#)

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European Court of Human Rights, [Case of Bărbulescu v. Romania](#), 5 Sep 2017

Source: *The New York Times*

## Equifax Says Cyberattack May Have Affected 143 Million in the U.S.

Date: 7 Sep 2017

"Equifax, one of the three major consumer credit reporting agencies, said on Thursday that hackers had gained access to company data that potentially compromised sensitive information for 143 million American consumers, including Social Security numbers and driver's license numbers. The attack on the company represents one of the largest risks to personally sensitive information in recent years, and is the third major cybersecurity threat for the agency since 2015." [READ MORE](#)

### RELATED ARTICLES

Mashable, [Equifax hit with \\$70 billion class-action after massive hack](#), 8 Sep 2017

Source: *Delegation of the European Union to Cape Verde*

## Joint Statement - 10th anniversary of the Special Partnership between the EU and Cabo Verde

Date: 7 Sep 2017

"We also underlined the need to step up joint work on cyber security and cybercrime in all its dimensions due to the increase of cyber-attacks worldwide. Conscious of the importance in combating cybercrime, Cabo Verde has adopted national legislation to converge with international law (such as the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime) and foster international cooperation, including within the Council of Europe." [READ MORE](#)

Source: *The Ghanaian Times*

## Ghana: Individuals, companies lose \$18.5m through cyber fraud

Date: 12 Sep 2017

"Individuals and companies have so far this year lost 18.5 million dollars through cyber fraud. Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Maame Yaa Tiwaa Addo- Danquah, Deputy Director-General of the Criminal Investigation Department, who disclosed this, said 35 million dollars was lost through all the forms of cyber crime in 2016. She announced this at the opening of a five-day training course on cyber crime investigations and digital forensic for 24 security personnel, in Accra yesterday. [...] The training, which was aimed at enhancing the skills of the detectives in investigating cyber related cases, was supported by the European Union and the Council of Europe, in the framework of the GLACY+ Project." [READ MORE](#)

Source: *Europol*

## Disruptive efforts by industry and law enforcement force jihadist sympathisers to seek new platforms to disseminate terrorist propaganda

Date: 15 Sep 2017

"On 13 and 14 September 2017, Europol organised the sixth joint operation with Member States and Third Parties focusing on the detection and flagging of terrorist content on the internet. During the two-day event at Europol's headquarters in The Hague, Europol's Internet Referral Unit (EU IRU) teamed up with counter-terrorism and online propaganda experts from Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Czech Republic, Estonia and Hungary. This coordinated hit against online terrorist propaganda focused mainly on the online production of terrorist materials by IS and al-Qaeda affiliated media outlets. Among the items referred were propaganda videos, publications and glorifying or supporting terrorism and extremism. Together they identified 1 029 pieces of content promoting terrorism on the internet. The terrorist content was referred to the online service providers with a request to review it and eventually remove it from their platforms if assessed as violating their own terms and conditions." [READ MORE](#)

Source: *The Independent*

Date: 3 Sep 2017

## Malta is Europe's most exposed country to cybercrime

"Taking into account a number of factors including previous encounters with cybercrime, encounters with malicious programs, commitment to cybersecurity initiatives and the extent to which countries' internet connections are exposed, the results show that Malta is the European nation with the highest susceptibility to cybercrime, with a vulnerability score of 42%." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: *Vanguard*

Date: 4 Sep 2017

## Association calls for proper implementation of Cybercrime Act in Nigeria

"The Information Technology System and Security Professionals (ITSSP), on Monday, called for proper implementation of the Cyber crime Act 2015. The Cyber crime Act 2015 is meant to provide an effective and unified legal, regulatory and institutional framework for the prohibition, prevention, detection, prosecution of cyber crimes in the country. There is also the Cybercrime Advisory Council, which has funds for the implementation of the objectives of the Cybercrime Act. "Government has constituted Advisers of the Cybercrime Act but the problem is who keeps them on their toes, what are their assignments, how do we make sure they are performing their duties? "There is the need to have experts to be at the helm of affairs, so as not to allow quacks to take over the fight against cybercrimes." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: *Internet sans frontières*

Date: 6 Sep 2017

## Internet mobile bloqué au Togo

"La connexion Internet mobile au Togo est fortement perturbée depuis le 5 septembre 2017. Selon de nombreux rapports reçus par Internet Sans Frontières Togo, les réseaux des deux seuls opérateurs et fournisseurs d'accès Internet Togocell et Moov sont inaccessibles. La coupure Internet mobile intervient alors que de nombreuses manifestations sont organisées par l'opposition dans tout le pays, pour s'opposer à l'avant-projet de modification constitutionnelle qui porte sur les dispositions relatives à la limitation des mandats présidentiels et le mode de scrutin à deux tours." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: *Lawfare*

Date: 1 Sep 2017

## Improving Electoral Cybersecurity in Kenya

"Kenya has a robust legal regime governing cybersecurity and hacking. The government's executive cabinet approved a computer and cybercrime bill this year mandating penal consequences for a set of cyber-related offenses, including intentional unauthorized infiltration of a computer system and unauthorized interception of transmission of data over a telecommunications system. [...] The Supreme Court holds the power to nullify the results of the presidential election and order a new election under Kenya's Constitution, which it exercised today. Pursuant to the statutes discussed above, electoral hacking gives rise to a penal consequence." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: *White House*

Date: 13 Sep 2017

## Enhancing the Comprehensive Partnership between the United States of America and Malaysia

"Prime Minister Najib announced Malaysia's commitment to implement its data sharing agreements with the United States and to phased enhancements of passenger screening at all points of entry, and the United States committed to actively work with Malaysia towards this end. The United States and Malaysia acknowledged that cyber and other crimes often help finance terrorist networks. The countries committed to utilize available multilateral instruments, including the Budapest Convention in order to strengthen domestic legislation and foster international cooperation in combating cybercrime." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: *El Nuevo Siglo*

## Congreso se apresta a ratificar convenio sobre ciberdelincuencia en Colombia

Date: 15 Sep 2017

"Ya cuenta con ponencia para iniciar su trámite en la Comisión Segunda del Senado de la República el proyecto de ley por medio de la cual se aprueba el Convenio sobre la Ciberdelincuencia, adoptado el 23 de noviembre de 2001, en Budapest. Colombia suscribió este acuerdo el 11 de septiembre de 2013 por invitación del Consejo de Europa, pero a la vez se ve la necesidad de aplicar la normatividad ante el peligro creciente de esta criminalidad en las redes. Esta iniciativa fue radicada el 1º de agosto de 2017 por el Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Ministerio de Justicia y del Derecho, Ministerio de Defensa Nacional y Ministerio de las Tecnologías de la Información y las Comunicaciones." [READ MORE](#)

Source: *DNA*

## BlueBorne: Critical Bluetooth flaw could put billions of devices at risk of cyber attack

Date: 14 Sep 2017

"A new attack vector was recently revealed, endangering major mobile, desktop, and IoT operating systems, including Android, iOS, Windows, and Linux, and the devices using them. The new vector is dubbed 'BlueBorne', as it spread through the air (airborne) and attacks devices via Bluetooth. It has also disclosed that eight related zero-day vulnerabilities, four classified as critical. BlueBorne allows attackers to take control of devices, access corporate data and networks, penetrate secure 'air-gapped' networks, and spread malware laterally to adjacent devices." [READ MORE](#)

Source: *The Guardian*

## Turks detained for using encrypted app 'had human rights breached'

Date: 11 Sep 2017

"Tens of thousands of Turkish citizens detained or dismissed from their jobs on the basis of downloading an encrypted messaging app have had their human rights breached, a legal opinion published in London has found." [READ MORE](#)

## Latest reports

- European Commission, [Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on ENISA, the "EU Cybersecurity Agency", and repealing Regulation \(EU\) 526/2013, and on Information and Communication Technology cybersecurity certification \("Cybersecurity Act"\)](#), 26 Jul 2017, 13 Sep 2017
- European Commission, [Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL on a framework for the free flow of non-personal data in the European Union](#), 13 Sep 2017
- European Commission, High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, [JOINT COMMUNICATION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL – Resilience, Deterrence and Defence: Building strong cybersecurity for the EU](#), 13 Sep 2017
- Politico, [Draft Cyber Security Communication](#), Sep 2017
- Europol, [FROM SUSPICION TO ACTION – Converting financial intelligence into greater operational impact](#), 5 Sep 2017
- ENISA, [Ransom attacks against unprotected Internet exposed databases](#), 13 Sep 2017
- Website Builder Expert, [Which EU Country Is Most Vulnerable To Cybercrime?](#), 7 Sep 2017

## Upcoming events

- 18-19 September, Podgorica, Montenegro – Workshop on online financial fraud and credit card fraud (for Montenegro and Kosovo\*), [iPROCEEDS](#)
- 18-20 September, Yerevan, Armenia – Support to drafting of the Law on International Cooperation, [Cybercrime@EAP II](#)
- 20-22 September, Rabat, Morocco – In Country workshops on data protection and INTERPOL Tools and Services combined with support on how to set-up and how to strength the 24/7 points of contact for cybercrime and electronic evidence, [GLACY+](#)
- 22-24 September, Kandy, Sri Lanka – Residential workshop for District Judges and Magistrates on cybercrime and electronic evidence (Batch 1/4), [GLACY+](#)
- 25-27 September, Rabat, Morocco – Advisory mission on streamlining procedures for mutual legal assistance related to cybercrime and electronic evidence, [GLACY+](#)
- 25-28 September, Skopje, “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” – Case simulation exercises on cybercrime and financial investigations, [iPROCEEDS](#)
- 25-29 September, Nuku'alofa, Tonga – Introductory Judicial ToT Course on cybercrime and electronic evidence for Judges, Prosecutors and Lawyers with the participants from the Pacific Region, [GLACY+](#)
- 26-27 September, The Hague, The Netherlands – Participation in the Meeting of the 24/7 Network of Contact Points of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, [iPROCEEDS](#), [GLACY+](#), [Cybercrime@EAP II](#)
- 27-29 September, The Hague, The Netherlands: Participation in the 5th Europol/INTERPOL Cybercrime Conference, [iPROCEEDS](#), [GLACY+](#), [Cybercrime@EAP II](#)

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