

# Cybercrime Digest

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

1-15 October 2017

Source: *El Economista*

## Costa Rica, quinto país americano en unirse al Convenio sobre cibercrimen

Date: 3 Oct 2017

“Costa Rica se ha convertido en el quinto país del continente americano en ratificar el Convenio europeo sobre cibercrimen, después de que lo hicieran Estados Unidos, República Dominicana, Panamá, Canadá y Chile, informaron hoy fuentes del Consejo de Europa. El embajador de Costa Rica, Gabriel Macaya, envió la ratificación al secretario general del Consejo de Europa, Thorbjorn Jagland, que fue registrada con fecha 22 de septiembre. El convenio, que en entrará en vigor en Costa Rica el 1 de enero de 2018, es el primer tratado internacional sobre infracciones penales cometidas en Internet que sirve para proteger los derechos de autor y lucha contra la pornografía infantil.” [READ MORE](#)

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Council of Europe, [Costa Rica joins the Budapest Convention](#), 3 Oct 2017

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Source: *Council of Europe*

## Cabo Verde invited to accede to the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime

Date: 2 Oct 2017

“On 27 September 2017, Cabo Verde was invited to accede to the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime. Earlier this year, Cabo Verde had adopted a law on cybercrime in line with this treaty. With this, Cabo Verde joins fourteen other countries that have been invited or that have signed the Convention.” [READ MORE](#)

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Source: *Ghana News Agency*

## Ghana to ratify Convention on Cybercrime by end of year

Date: 13 Oct 2017

“Ghana is set to ratify the Convention on Cybercrime, also known as the Budapest Convention, by the end of the year, to enhance the country’s resolve to combat cybercrime. Mr Albert Antwi-Boasiko, the National Cyber Security Advisor, told journalists at a media encounter in Accra on Thursday that the document for ratification was at the Cabinet awaiting approval. [...] Meanwhile, the Ministry of Communications had launched the National Cyber Security Week to scale-up public awareness on cybercrime and sensitise the populace on the country’s preparedness to deal with the phenomenon. The Week-long programme would commence from October 23 2017, under the patronage of the President, Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo.” [READ MORE](#)

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Source: *ENISA*

## European Cyber Security Month: United against Cyber Security Threats

Date: 2 Oct 2017

“Over 300 activities to promote safety online will be taking place throughout Europe during the European Cyber Security Month , such as conferences, workshops, training sessions, summits, general presentations to users, online campaigns etc. The 2017 campaign will focus on cyber security in the workplace, governance, privacy and data protection, cyber security in the home and skills in cyber security.” [READ MORE](#)

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Source: Europol

## International strike against vendor and buyers of firearms via the Darknet

Date: 6 Oct 2017

"The Spanish Guardia Civil has arrested a 24-year-old Spanish national who sold firearms through the Darknet. This year alone, he had sent firearms and ammunition to more than 30 different buyers in 11 countries. Six of his buyers were arrested with the help of Europol and law enforcement and customs authorities in Cyprus, Germany, Spain, Sweden the United Kingdom and the United States. The operation started after Spanish law enforcement was able to trace postal packages containing firearms and ammunition to a 24-year-old resident of Pamplona. He sold his goods mainly through AlphaBay, at that time the biggest Darknet marketplace, which has since been taken down by US authorities. He was one of the largest and best known firearms vendors on the Darknet and took strict measures to avoid being identified by law enforcement. Seven arrests took place in total." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: INTERPOL

## Developing partnerships against cybercrime in Africa focus of INTERPOL meeting

Date: 11 Oct 2017

"An INTERPOL working group meeting for heads of cybercrime units in Africa aimed to boost cooperation between law enforcement and the private sector. Bringing together cyber experts from 11 African countries, regional and international organizations and private sector, the three-day (11 – 13 October) meeting reviewed the challenges posed by cybercrime in the region and informed the development of coordinated strategies. Topics discussed during the meeting include INTERPOL's cybercrime strategy, digital forensics, investigative support, cyber intelligence sharing, developing strong legislation and building capacity to combat cybercrime in Africa." The meeting was organized in the framework of the ongoing collaboration with the Council of Europe under the GLACY+ Project. [READ MORE](#)

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Source: InfoDSI

## Le gouvernement français accroît son action contre la cybercriminalité : un espace numérique dédié aux particuliers et entreprises

Date: 12 Oct 2017

"Le 17 octobre 2017, sur tout le territoire, le Gouvernement français lancera officiellement la plateforme internet Cybermalveillance.gouv.fr. Destinée aux victimes des attaques électroniques, celle-ci propose également les services de prestataires privés spécialisés. Au-delà de l'utilité et du fonctionnement, c'est surtout l'enjeu juridique de la cybermalveillance qui reste au cœur des débats." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: Reuters

## Ireland asks Europe's top court to rule on EU-U.S. data transfers

Date: 3 Oct 2017

"Ireland's High Court on Tuesday said it would ask the EU's top court to decide whether to ban the way in which Internet firms such as Facebook transfer users' data to the United States in a case with major implications for companies. The case is the latest to question whether methods used by large tech firms such as Google and Apple to transfer data outside the 28-nation European Union give EU consumers sufficient protection from U.S. surveillance." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: A&LG

## Data Protection, Cyber Security and IP legislation coming down the track in Ireland

Date: 10 Oct 2017

"The Government has published its legislation programme for Autumn 2017. The programme lists priority legislation, legislation due to undergo pre-legislative scrutiny, and all other legislation it is working on. [...] *Cybercrime Bill* – This Bill will give effect to those provisions of the Convention on Cybercrime 2001 not already provided for in national law. The legislation programme notes that preparatory work is underway, but there is no indication as to when the Bill will be published. Earlier this year, the Government enacted the Criminal Justice (Offences Relating to Information Systems) Act 2017 which creates a number of cybercrime offences including: accessing or interfering with the functioning of an information system without lawful authority (e.g. hacking); interfering with data without lawful authority intercepting the transmission of data without lawful authority; and using a computer programme, password, code or data for the commission of any of the above offences." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: Computer Weekly

## Cyber heist hits banks in Russia and eastern Europe

Date: 10 Oct 2017

"A series of sophisticated cyber attacks involving physical and cyber elements has led to thefts of about \$40m from banks across Russia and eastern Europe, a study found. Criminals hired mules to open rogue bank accounts and manipulated risk ratings and overdraft limits, paving the way for millions of dollars to be stolen." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: AZ TV

## Regional conference on cybercrime kicks off in Baku

Date: 10 Oct 2017

"A regional conference on cybercrime has today started in Baku. Initiated by the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP) and Azerbaijani Prosecutor General's Office, the event brings together experts and delegates from various bodies fighting cybercrime. Addressing the event, Deputy Prosecutor General, Director of the Anticorruption Directorate under the Prosecutor General Kamran Aliyev said that cybercrime is one of the most dangerous crimes in the present-day world. Aliyev underlined that the decisive steps are taken to combat different types of crime in Azerbaijan. "Azerbaijan has joined the Council of Europe's Budapest Convention on Cybercrime in 2010, the regulations of which have been reflected in the country's relevant legislation." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: Australian Government

## Australia launches new International Cyber Engagement Strategy

Date: 4 Oct 2017

"Today we launch a new International Cyber Engagement Strategy outlining our cyber affairs agenda for the next three years, and creating the environment for digital trade to generate economic growth and opportunities for Australia and Australians. The Strategy is underscored by private sector partnerships and presents a practical plan of action to position Australia to take full advantage of the opportunities of the digital age while mitigating the risks. It also charts a path to use digital technologies to drive sustainable and inclusive development in our region." [READ MORE](#)

RELATED ARTICLES

Australia, [International Cyber Engagement Strategy – CYBERCRIME](#), 4 Oct 2017

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Source: Reuters

## Sri Lanka arrests two over hacking of Taiwan bank accounts

Date: 9 Oct 2017

"Two people have been arrested in Sri Lanka for suspected money laundering from a Taiwanese bank whose computer system was hacked to enable illicit transactions abroad, police said on Monday. Police acted after state-owned Bank of Ceylon reported a suspicious transfer into one of its accounts of \$1.2 million from Taiwan Far Eastern Bank, following by a withdrawal of money by one of the suspects." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: The Manila Times

## The state of Philippines cybersecurity

Date: 4 Oct 2017

"[...] The Philippines scored high in the legal pillar. An indicator in this pillar is the existence of cybercrime legislation. The definition of hacking or cracking as a crime was tucked into the Electronic Commerce Act (RA8792) which basically provides for the legal recognition of electronic documents and electronic signatures. Prior to the passage of RA8792, there were the technology-related laws: the Anti-Wiretapping Law (RA4200) and Access Device Act (RA8484). The Cybercrime Prevention Act (RA10175) which defines various crimes that may be committed using information and communication technologies was passed in 2012." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: Diputados Argentina

## Debate sobre tratado internacional contra el ciberdelito en Argentina

Date: 3 Oct 2017

"En reunión conjunta de las comisiones de Relaciones Exteriores y de Legislación Penal se analizaron distintas posiciones de especialistas respecto al proyecto de ley que establece la adhesión de la Argentina a la Convención de Budapest para la lucha contra el ciberdelito. Marcos Salt, penalista y procesalista, especialista en delitos informáticos y asesor en el Ministerio de Justicia, destacó "la importancia de adherir al Convenio de Budapest, debido a que el intercambio de información internacional es fundamental para la investigación de este tipo de delitos". [...] Cabe recordar que este proyecto cuenta con media sanción del Senado y está próximo a ser tratado en la Cámara baja, luego de un largo proceso de debate que funcionarios de distintos ministerios, organismos nacionales, embajadas y representantes del sector privado, vienen impulsando para realizar un tratamiento integral de esta problemática que afecta la seguridad internacional." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: Fortune

## Yahoo raises breach estimate to full 3 billion accounts, by far biggest known

Date: 3 Oct 2017

"Yahoo tripled its estimate for the number of accounts affected by an August 2013 data breach to a full 3 billion accounts, the entirety of those registered across Yahoo Mail and other Yahoo-owned properties at the time, the company said Tuesday. Yahoo, now owned by Verizon, initially disclosed the compromise of information related to more than 1 billion user accounts on Dec. 14. The hacking was then regarded as the biggest known corporate data breach in history in terms of the number of people affected—a title it usurped from an earlier breach of 500 million Yahoo accounts reported by the company just three months earlier on Sept. 22. Turns out the biggest known breach was much more massive than previously thought." [READ MORE](#)

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Source: *El Heraldo*

## Honduras tendrá por primera vez un Centro de Respuesta a Emergencias Informáticas (CERT)

Date: 11 Oct 2017

"EL HERALDO reveló en exclusiva que mediante el convenio entre los gobiernos de Honduras e Israel, el país tendrá por primera vez un Centro de Respuesta a Emergencias Informáticas (CERT). [...] Lo fundamental dentro del proyecto es la elaboración de una Estrategia Nacional de Ciberseguridad para la protección de instituciones gubernamentales. [...] La estrategia tiene que incluir una legislación integral que defina la conducta a ser considerada como delito para que las agencias de investigación puedan perseguir el delito. Las leyes deben cumplir al menos tres requisitos como que debe ser lo suficientemente neutral tecnológicamente [...]; deben estar sujetos a salvaguardias con el fin de garantizar el Estado de derecho y los derechos humanos. De igual forma tiene que operar con suficiente armonía o por lo menos ser compatible con las leyes de otros países para permitir la cooperación internacional. En este plan es fundamental que Honduras se adhiera al Convenio de Budapest sobre el Delito Cibernético, que es el primer tratado internacional que busca hacerle frente a los delitos informáticos, al que ya pertenece Costa Rica." [READ MORE](#)

Source: *Reuters*

## Zimbabwe's President creates cyber ministry in cabinet reshuffle

Date: 10 Oct 2017

"Zimbabwe President Robert Mugabe moved Patrick Chinamasa from the finance ministry on Monday to lead a new cyber security ministry that will focus on crimes on social media and other websites ahead of an election due next year. [...] Chinamasa, a lawyer by training, will also be responsible for bringing to parliament a long awaited cybercrimes bill that criminalise false information posted on the internet, revenge porn, cyber-bullying and online activity against the government." [READ MORE](#)

Source: *Council of Europe*

## Digital Forensics Laboratory Guide available for Octopus Community Members

Date: 5 Oct 2017

"The new Basic Guide for the management and procedures of a Digital Forensics Laboratory completes the Electronic Evidence Guide with considerations on the practical processes, management issues and strategic considerations in establishing and running such a laboratory. The DFL Guide is mainly aimed at police officers and digital forensics professionals, but it should also serve prosecutors and judges to better understand and enhance their knowledge of cybercrime and electronic evidence." [READ MORE](#)

Source: *Agencia Fiscal de Peru*

## Declaración de la Convención de Fiscales celebrada en Perú

Date: 4 Oct 2017

"[...] TOMANDO EN CUENTA los aportes generados en los talleres de Corrupción de Funcionarios, Lavado de Activos, Crimen Organizado y Cooperación Jurídica internacional en materia penal, se adoptan las siguientes recomendaciones de corresponder con el Derecho interno de cada Estado: [...] Instar a las autoridades competentes, cuyos países no son Parte de la Convención de Budapest, a su adhesión a esta Declaración, a fin de hacer frente de manera conjunta la lucha contra los delitos informáticos y cometidos vía internet." [READ MORE](#)

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## Latest reports

- European Parliament, [The fight against cybercrime – European Parliament resolution of 3 October 2017 on the fight against cybercrime \(2017/2068\(INI\)\)](#), 3 Oct 2017
- European Commission, [Communication on Tackling Illegal Content Online - Towards an enhanced responsibility of online platforms](#), 28 Sep 2017
- Australian Government, [Australia's International Cyber Engagement Strategy](#), ([website](#)), 4 Oct 2017
- Apple, [Report on Government and Private Party Requests for Customer Information](#), 29 Sep 2017
- Google, [Transparency Report – Requests for user information](#), October 2017
- Trend Micro, [Digital Souks: the Middle Eastern and North African Underground](#), 10 Oct 2017

## Upcoming events

- 16 – 17 October 2017, Dominican Republic – Advisory mission on cybercrime reporting and workshop on collection and monitoring of criminal justice statistics on cybercrime and electronic evidence, [GLACY+](#)
- 16 – 17 October 2017, Yerevan, Armenia – Follow-up mission to Armenia on various matters of public-private cooperation, [EAP III](#)
- 19 – 20 October 2017, Tbilisi, Georgia – Follow-up mission to Georgia on various matters of public-private cooperation, [EAP III](#)
- 23 – 24 October 2017, Tirana, Albania - Pilot introductory training course on cybercrime, electronic evidence and online crime proceeds for judges and prosecutors.( 1st part), [iPROCEEDS](#)
- 23 – 24 October 2017, Minsk, Belarus – Follow-up mission to Belarus on various matters of public-private cooperation, [EAP III](#)
- 23 – 26 October 2017, Podgorica, Montenegro - Pilot introductory training course on cybercrime, electronic evidence and online crime proceeds for judges and prosecutors, [iPROCEEDS](#)
- 23 – 27 October 2017, Ghana – Cybersecurity Week (to create public awareness and launch cyber security initiatives, [GLACY+](#)
- 26 October 2017, Podgorica, Montenegro – Advice and workshop on the preparation of interagency cooperation protocols, [iPROCEEDS](#)
- 27 October 2017, Podgorica, Montenegro – Workshop on domestic protocols for international sharing of intelligence and evidence, [iPROCEEDS](#)
- 30 – 31 October 2017, Sofia, Bulgaria – South-eastern Europe Regional Forum on Cybersecurity and Cybercrime in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior of Bulgaria, [EAP III](#), [iPROCEEDS](#)

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