

**European Conference on identity fraud and theft (Portugal, 7-9 November 2007)**  
**Panel 2: Cybercrime (Thursday, 8 November, 9h00 – 12h30)**

**CYBERCRIME AND IDENTITY FRAUD AND THEFT – ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION**

*Workshop moderators: Alexander Seger (Council of Europe) and Pedro Verdelho (Portugal)*

Societies worldwide are increasingly dependent on information and communication technologies, and thus increasingly vulnerable to cybercrime. Reports confirm that cybercrime is becoming more organised and is now to a large extent aimed at generating illicit proceeds. In this connection, identity theft has become a major tool for committing economic and financial crime on the internet. Millions of phishing or other social engineering attacks to deceive users are reported every day. Adware, spyware and malware increasingly target personal information through automated attack systems launched by criminal enterprises. Large-scale thefts of credit card and other personal financial information from computer systems of financial institutions have been reported and government computers have been targeted in several countries.

The objective of this panel is to identify further actions that could be undertaken against identity fraud on the internet. Such actions may cover legislation and law enforcement but also prevention and public private partnerships. The following issues are to be discussed during the panel.

➤ **9h00 - 9h45: Defining the problem, situation and trends**

What are the current forms of identity theft and fraud on the internet, what is their scope and impact, what developments are to be expected?

- Presentation by Peter Cassidy, Secretary General of the Anti-phishing Working Group
- Discussion

➤ **9h45 - 10h45: The legal response:** Are existing cybercrime and fraud provisions sufficient or should identity theft be made a separate criminal offence?

- Presentation by Marco Gercke, Germany, Council of Europe expert
- Presentation by Betty Shave, Department of Justice, USA
- Discussion

*10h45 – 11h15 Coffee break*

➤ **11h15 - 12h30: The role of service providers**

What preventive measures can be undertaken by service providers and the private sector to protect their systems and their users?

Caught between their function of ensuring access to the internet while protecting the privacy of users on the one hand and the need to prevent crime and cooperate with law enforcement on the other, how can the rights and obligations of service providers be defined more clearly?

- Presentation: Preventive measures – examples of good practice and recommendations for action (speaker from Portugal)
- Presentation: Towards common rules on the rights and obligations of service providers? (Marco Gercke and comments by Peter Cassidy and other speakers)
- Discussion

Conclusions of this panel will be presented in the plenary session on 9 November (afternoon).