# **Newsletter July 2020**

## **Upcoming Events**

1st-6th August Black Hat USA 2020

21th-22nd August The Diana Initiative



## Cyber Policy, Diplomacy & Legal Framework

 Examining the Legal and Policy Process Behind India's Ban on Chinese Apps

The decision to block access to Chinese apps has significant consequences since a large part of the Indian population accesses those services regularly. TikTok has more than 100 million active users in India. Combined with more affordable internet recently, Tik Tok has brought marginalised people online in a way no other app has been able to.



- Shrinking Cyber-Universe
  - Cybersecurity problems are tightly included in the new agenda of international relations, which stresses the importance of their comprehensive study, now more relevant than ever.
- India needs to review its 2013 cyber security policy
   India is among the top 10 countries facing cyber-attacks. These incidents have increased manifold during the lockdown period almost three times increase in cases of phishing, spamming and scanning of ICT systems, particularly of critical information infrastructure.
- Companies up in arms as Brazilian government plans direct recruitment of IT staff
   Technology companies are not happy about the Brazilian government's plans to directly hire
   IT specialists to support digital transformation initiatives in the federal government. Through
   the Digital Economy Secretariat, the Ministry of Economy plans to hire 350 professionals to
   boost central government's digital transformation expertise, across seven areas of specialism.
- #SpaceWatchGL Opinion: Estonia's space policy prioritizing e-gov, cybersecurity and Al Estonian activities in astronomy go back more than 200 years when the construction of the Observatory by University of Tartu began. Decades ago Estonian entities have been building equipment for the Soviet satellites and space stations.
- Zimbabwe: Cyber Bill Requires Wholesale Changes
   The Cyber Security and Data Protection Bill gazetted by the Zimbabwean government in May 2020 makes very difficult reading and is all over the place. Most provisions in the Bill are either ambiguous or undefined.



### **Cyber Security**

4 Evolving Technology Areas Of Smart Cybersecurity



Despite the challenges, there is promise for reducing dependence on humans and bolstering cybersecurity capabilities. A myriad of evolving cognitive technologies can help us enhance cybersecurity and navigate the increasingly malicious and disruptive cyber threat landscape

• India's TikTok Ban Dispels the Myth of the 'China Bogeyman'

In April 2018, as Mark Zuckerberg testified before Congress amid the Cambridge Analytica scandal, photojournalists captured a fascinating line of argument in the Facebook founder's typed notes: "Breakup strengthens Chinese companies," it read.

- How Two-Factor Authentication Keeps Your Accounts Safe
   If you want to keep your online accounts safe, adding two-factor authentication (2FA) is
   the single most important step you can take. While no security measure is 100 percent
   hackproof, 2FA is going to go a long way to locking down access to your important
   accounts.
- <u>Social engineering hacks weaken cybersecurity during the pandemic</u>
   Cybersecurity inevitably suffers when scares infect the populace. The COVID-19 outbreak appears to be the most acute global crisis since the Second World War.
- A hacker is selling details of 142 million MGM hotel guests on the dark web

  The MGM Resorts 2019 data breach is much larger than initially reported, and is now
  believed to have impacted more than 142 million hotel guests, and not just the 10.6 million
  that ZDNet initially reported back in February 2020.

### Cyber Warfare, Intelligence and Terrorism

Hong Kong's Security Law Puts Big Tech at a Crossroads
 A new national security law has turned Hong Kong into a battleground for the United States and China's escalating war over control of the global internet. Whether Hong Kong eventually falls behind China's Great Firewall will depend on how strictly Beijing enforces the regulation



German police seize DDoSecrets server distributing 'BlueLeaks' files

German law enforcement officials have seized a server belonging to an anti-secrecy
organization that recently published a trove of data stolen from U.S. police agencies, the
group's co-founder says.



- Cyberwarfare in Latvia: A Call for New Cyberwarfare Terminology
   Two recent Russian malicious cyber operations in Latvia targeted the government and a social media platform. But, legally, those instances do not rise to the level of a "cyberattack" as defined by the Tallinn Manual 2.0.
- <u>Hidden Cyber War Between Israel and Iran Spills Into Public View With Attacks on Physical</u> Infrastructure

The general public is occasionally impacted by this quiet cyber war in the form of a personal information breach or a state-sponsored raid on the confidential assets of a private company, but attackers have generally stopped short of executing virtual attacks that create real damage in the physical world.

## Cyber Opportunities: Economy, Research & Innovation



- Zero-day flaw found in Zoom for Windows 7
- A previously unknown flaw in the videoconferencing software Zoom could allow a hacker to remotely commandeer computers running old versions of the Microsoft Windows operating system, security researchers said Thursday (9 July).
- Europe's Experience Readiness Level Navigating IoT and Arts in a New Digital World
  A top-down approach is fundamental to integrating interoperable IoT systems, allowing them
  to work seamlessly for the benefit of the end user, and the overall objectives of the application.
  A bottom-up approach has to consider that the application of 'intelligence to edge' makes
  IoT useful and real, responding to actual, needs and better engaging citizens.
- Wiring a new path to scalable quantum computing
   Last year, Google produced a 53-qubit quantum computer that could perform a specific calculation significantly faster than the world's fastest supercomputer
- 17 ways technology could change the world by 2025

  From quantum computers and 5G in action to managing cancer chronically, here are their predictions for our near-term future.

#### **Italian Focus**

• <u>Italian and Romanian judicial authorities, with Eurojust's support, dismantle major criminal</u> network in financial fraud, cybercrime and money laundering

Judicial authorities and police in Italy and Romania, with Eurojust and Europol support dismantled a criminal network responsible for big-scale financial fraud, cybercrime and money laundering. The illicit profits are estimated to over €20 million resulting from the losses suffered by citizens throughout Europe.





- <u>Italy considering whether to exclude Huawei from 5G: Report</u>
   Economy Minister Roberto Gualtieri said on Thursday Italy was still committed to a shared global deal on a tax on digital services, after the United States decided to quit global talks on how to tax sector giants.
- <u>Blockchain and digital identity: where is Italy going to?</u>
   In the consultation just launched by Mise on the national blockchain strategy, the issue of digital identity and the use of self-sovereign identity (SSI) is addressed. The point on the news also on the compatibility between SSI and eldas regulation.
- ENAC under attack. What has happened to the civil aviation control body
   The hacker attack against ENAC started last Friday. The COVID-19 quarantines and restrictions have witnessed an upsurge in cyber threats and attacks. The civil aviation sector is particularly in danger.

### **European Focus**

• The EU Cybersecurity Act's first anniversary: one step closer to a cyber secure Europe



On 27 June 2020, the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA) celebrates the first anniversary of the EU Cybersecurity Act (CSA) and its strengthened role towards securing Europe's information society. The CSA gave the Agency a permanent mandate, a new list of tasks and increased resources, and also established the EU cybersecurity certification framework.

- German online hate speech reform criticised for allowing 'backdoor' data collection

  Berlin has officially called for the use of a new EU sanctions framework to target Russian individuals following the 2015 hack attack against the German parliament's IT system, an inquiry has revealed.
- <u>Lack of strategy leaves Bulgaria last in terms of digital performance</u>
   For a second consecutive year, Bulgaria is ranked last among all 27 EU members in the European Commission's Digital Economy and Society Index, despite having a powerful IT sector, concentrated mostly in the capital Sofia.
- <u>EU Commissioner Mariya Gabriel highlights tech duopolies as a cybersecurity concern</u>
   Market forces are inadequate, in terms of generating the necessary incentives for
   companies to improve products from a cyber security perspective, Mariya Gabriel, the
   European Commissioner for Innovation, Research, Culture, Education and Youth, said in her
   opening remarks at the EU Cyber Direct conference, held virtually.
- Estonia built one of the world's most advanced digital societies. During COVID-19, that became a lifeline.
  - Estonia built one of the world's most advanced digital society long before the COVID-19 pandemic, providing services such as electronic voting, online learning in schools, digital



bureaucracy and healthcare. When the coronavirus crisis struck, this investment paid off as Estonia's digital public services continued mostly uninterrupted.



