# Newsletter October 2020



Center for Cyber Security and International Relations Studies

#### **Upcoming Events**

1st-31tst Oct European Cybersecurity Month

27th-21st Oct 4th IOT security conference

Upcoming Releases from the Center

25<sup>th</sup> Oct Policy Paper: Als

5<sup>th</sup> Nov Podcast: Cloud Computing

#### Cyber Policy, Diplomacy & Legal Framework

 Putin Wants a Truce in Cyberspace — While Denying Russian Interference President Vladimir V. Putin of Russia on Friday proposed a truce with the United States in cyberspace, without acknowledging that his country has repeatedly used cybertechniques to attack elections, stolen emails, and developed some of the world's most sophisticated disinformation efforts.



- <u>Planned Facial Verification Scheme for Singapore's National</u> <u>Digital ID Raises Serious Privacy Concerns</u> The government of Singapore is rolling out biometric facial verification technology as part of its national digital identification system, something that has privacy advocates concerned.
- <u>Malaysia pours RM1.8bn into national cybersecurity strategy</u> The Malaysian government is setting aside RM1.8 billion for its Malaysia Cyber Security Strategy (MCSS) 2020-2024 to improve the country's cyber security preparedness.
- <u>Why Diplomacy Matters as Much as Defense When It Comes to Cybersecurity</u> More than half a century after the Pentagon's launch of the internet birthed the notion of cyberwar, one lesson is still going unlearned: that diplomacy and civilian leadership on cybersecurity matter as much as military responses when it comes to cyber defense and deterrence.

## Cyber Security

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## • Cyber pirates: Shipping industry under second IT attack in a week

The global shipping industry sustained a second cyber attack within a week that's raising concern about disruptions to supply chains already straining to move goods heading into the usual peak season for consumer demand.



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- <u>The Exec Email Fraud Menace Continues: Crooks Net \$15 Million Via Microsoft's Cloud</u> Between April and September, hackers made as much as \$15 million by impersonating senior executives at as many as 150 companies using what appear to be legitimate Microsoft Office 365 email addresses in a bid to make their attacks more successful.
- <u>Life After TikTok: Why Chinese IoT Is the Next Tech Battleground</u> The concerns surrounding TikTok are legitimate, yet they are no more legitimate than the spyware potential of countless Chinese devices.
- <u>Cyberattacks: the necessity of a new vision on cyber security law</u> A ransomware blocked the server of Dusseldorf University Hospital, endangering the lives of many patients and urging a new debate on the repercussion of cyberattacks on the real life.

## Cyber Warfare, Intelligence and Terrorism

 Nagorno-Karabakh war: Azeri Navy data, including passports numbers, leaked on Russian forums

Armenia and Azerbaijan's armed conflict over the Nagorno-Karabakh region has just expanded into the digital sphere. CyberNews discovered that someone leaked thousands of Azeri navy sailors' personal data, including passport numbers and expiry dates.



- <u>It's Time for Government Agencies to Secure Their Multicloud Environments</u> Multicloud is the new norm for government agencies, as 81% now use more than one cloud platform. The use of the cloud enables enterprises across all sectors to share, collaborate and work much more efficiently and flexibly, particularly in our highly remote business world.
- <u>Deputy Secretary General at CYBERSEC: NATO is adapting to respond to cyber threats</u> NATO Deputy Secretary General Mircea Geoană, speaking at the online CYBERSEC public policy conference on Monday (28 September), emphasised the need to continue adapting to new threats arising from advances in technology, such as cyber threats.
- <u>Twelve years a threat: State-sponsored attackers up the ante with new Taidoor malware</u> <u>strain</u>

Technical analysis of fresh Taidoor samples released by the US government has illustrated the ability of state-backed threat actors to continually reinvigorate the aging malware.



# Cyber Opportunities: Economy, Research & Innovation

• <u>Google can now scan malicious files for Advanced Protection users</u> Google's Advanced Protection program aims to protect high-profile





300



people who are especially at risk of being targeted by online attacks with extra security features in Chrome, and it's adding a new feature today.

- <u>Intel touts 'full-stack' approach to quantum innovation</u> Intel has used its appearance at the IEEE International Conference on Quantum Computing and Engineering to discuss its "full-stack" approach to quantum innovation, which it has touted spans across hardware, software, and algorithm development.
- <u>Blockchain-Enabled Central Bank Digital Currencies Are Developing Fast, But How Are They</u> <u>Different From Other Crypto?</u>
   Asset backed cryptoassets continue to make headlines, but understanding the differences between the options that exist is essential for wider adoption.
- <u>The Effort to Build the Mathematical Library of the Future</u> A community of mathematicians is using software called Lean to build a new digital repository. They hope it represents where their field is headed next.

## Italian Focus

 Hacker Attack on Luxottica and Hospitals, the Vulnerabilities Had Been Known for Some Time

In a few days, two ransomware attacks would have exploited the same vulnerability that has been known for a few months. Luxottica company and a German hospital hit. A victim is also linked to this second attack.



• <u>Artificial intelligence, The Italian Way: Here Are The Sectors With The</u> <u>Greatest Potential</u>

Artificial intelligence, albeit in small steps, continues to make its way in our country. From agriculture to manufacturing, from culture and tourism to health and well-being, to the environment, infrastructures and the PA, which sectors are involved.

- <u>Culture and Technologies. Ali Explains Fincantieri's Recipe For Cyber-Security</u> The challenge of digitization is also a cyber-security challenge, to be seized with investments (also through the Recovery fund), a new cultural focus and renewed collaborations between industry and research
- <u>Csirt, fake INPS emails spread the Ursnif trojan</u>
  The Italian CSIRT, the new team to manage the Italian national cyber-defense, has identified a new malspam campaign that attempts to spread the Ursnif banking trojan through false INPS emails, delivering infected Microsoft Office attachments to the mailboxes of Italian users.



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### **European Focus**

 <u>CyCLONe, The European Cyber Defense Network of EU Members: What It Ss and How It</u> <u>Works</u>



On the occasion of the Blue OLEx 2020 cyber security exercise, held at European level, CyCLONe was presented, the European network that should allow Member States to respond in a timely and coordinated manner to cyber attacks.

• The EU Tiptoes into Cyber Sanctions Regimes

As the EU implements its first cyber sanctions regime against foreign adversaries, it must remain alert to the challenges of attribution.

- <u>Mass surveillance permitted only for national security concerns, EU court says</u> EU countries are permitted to carry out the indiscriminate transmission and retention of communications data only when there is a 'serious threat to national security', the bloc's highest court ruled on Tuesday (6 October).
- October is the Cybersecurity Month

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"Before you click, think about it". This is the claim of the eighth edition of the European cybersecurity month, which brings together the European Union, its member states and European citizens to prevent and combat cyber threats.



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