

Center for Cyber Security and International Relations Studies



UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI
FIRENZE

DSPS DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE POLITICHE E SOCIALI
DISEI DIPARTIMENTO DI SCIENZE PER L'ECONOMIA E L'IMPRESA

Centro Interdipartimentale di
**Studi Strategici, Internazionali
e Imprenditoriali - CSSII**



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The Center for Cyber Security and International Relations Studies (CCSIRS) is part of the Interdepartmental Center for Strategic, International and Entrepreneurial Studies (CSSII) at the Department of Political Sciences of the University of Florence.

Established in 2015, the CCSIRS aims at promoting and deepening the knowledge on cyberspace dynamics through a policy-oriented approach. More specifically, activities are focused on analyzing the influence that cyberspace exercises over both Italian national security and the international system's stability, peace and security.



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Activities

The Center's multidisciplinary approach succeeds in integrating the traditional fields of Social Sciences (politics, economics, law, strategic and military studies) and Computer Science. The analysis is conducted by Italian and international experts with variegated backgrounds.

The Center shapes its international activities by creating an ever-increasing solid network of public and private partnerships, aiming at guaranteeing excellent research. Through its established collaborations with numerous scholars, researchers, experts, consultants and students, the Center deals with the following topics:

- Cyber Warfare
- Cyber Diplomacy
- Cyber Security
- Cyber Crime
- Cyber Law
- Cyber Intelligence
- Cyber Terrorism
- Digital Economy

In order to promote awareness on cyber security issues, the Center offers:

- Free access to its collection of publications, articles and academic papers.
- A cyberspace-dedicated bibliographic selection of more than 3000 titles.
- A free newsletter on national and global cyber security developments. Brief analyses and daily updates are also offered through the Center's social media: Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter.

Research



The Center's research focuses on comparative analysis of best cases and best practices in the fields of cyber strategy, governance and policy, critical infrastructures, economic and financial cybercrimes, privacy protection legislations and cyber intelligence structures. Complementarily, it carries out studies on the different approaches adopted internationally by both private and public actors.

The Center offers:

- A reserved database for both qualitative and quantitative cyber policy analyses;
- Detailed Country Profiles aiming at offering both Country Cyber Governance and Risk Maps and Cyber Business Maps. The profiles include data on national cyber security governance and involved stakeholders.

Projects

Through its consolidated network of partnerships with universities, research centers, international organizations, private actors and public institutions, the Center is involved in the development of both national and international projects. In particular:

- The Center is the coordinator of a project involving American, Canadian, Russian and Israeli universities. Focused on the classification and attribution of cyber attacks and incidents, the project aims at providing improved instruments that could help policymaking activities as well as management of crises stemming from the cyber domain.
- Through an agreement with the Italian Ministry for International Affairs and International Cooperation (MAECI), the Center forms active part in the permanent panel of the Ise-Shima G7 Cyber Group. In 2017, the Center has contributed to the drafting of the Lucca Declaration "Declaration on Norms for Responsible State Behavior in Cyberspace".
- Since 2016, the Center has been the Implementing Partner of the "Enhancing the implementation of OSCE CBMs to reduce the risk of conflict stemming from the use of ICTs" project, in collaboration with the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). The project aims at identifying the difficulties faced by different countries in applying the Confidence Building Measures (CBMs) in cyberspace through a comparative analysis and the study of the 57 OSCE country members' cyber profiles. Moreover, the Center has elaborated an action plan to develop Cyber Capacity Building by Design (CCBD) programs, aiming at improving the implementation of the CBM itself.
- In 2015, the Center began "ICT and Cyber Security: the role of the CERT (Computer Emergency Report Team) in managing emerging global cyber threats – a comparison of international experiences", a project financed by the Italian National CERT and Istituto Superiore delle Comunicazioni e delle Tecnologie Dell'informazione (ISCOM).