



**21 March 2018**

### Synopsis

**Scroll to read full summaries with links to news articles.**

In **China** this week some concerns have been expressed about the increasing use of **digital technology** by the Chinese government, arguing that **cloud technology** could be used to monitor the actions of citizens.

**Sri Lankan** officials have announced that the ban on **social media** networks **Facebook** and **WhatsApp** has been lifted after it was initially blocked to stop the spread of violence.

**China** has announced that it will attempt to commercialise **5G mobile** technology by issuing licenses to **telecom** carriers at the end of 2019, which will make it one of the first countries to do so.

**Giovanni Buttarelli**, the EU **data protection** supervisor has urged **privacy** regulators across the **EU** to collaborate to investigate allegations that data analytics firm Cambridge Analytica illegally used user data from internet giant **Facebook** to influence **elections**.

The **European Union** are set to announce a **digital tax** on US technology giants **Facebook** and **Twitter** this week in an attempt to crack down on large multinational companies' tax evading.

According to the **World Economic Forum** the number of **internet** connections may reach a trillion by 2035 with billions of devices potentially vulnerable to **cyber attack**.

A **United Advocacy** group has urged the **US Nuclear Regulatory Commission** to immediately remove limits agreed back in 2014 which stipulate that only **cyber protection** safeguards can be built on nuclear systems that have a direct impact on safety.

The **United States** for the first time has openly blamed **Russia** for a **cyber-attack** blaming them for an attack in March 2016 which gave remote access into the US **energy sector** networks.

Internet giant **Google** has announced that it will invest three hundred million dollars over the next three years to fight **fake news**.

**Australian** Home Affairs Minister **Peter Dutton** warned Asia that the use of **encrypted messaging** apps being used to plan **terrorist attacks** was one of the biggest threats in modern times and called for a cohesive response across **Asia**.

Internet giant **Google** has announced a new scheme called the **Google Launchpad Accelerator** which will provide fifteen thousand single course scholarships and five hundred nano degree **scholarships** to professional developers in **South Africa, Nigeria** and **Kenya**.

Technology giant Facebook have launched '**Facebook Lite**' which is a stripped-down version of Facebook so that developing countries that struggle with weak **mobile data** connections will be able to use the website.

Disclaimer: Please note that this monitor is a summary of news sources and does not reflect the official views of IEEE.

For more information, visit the [IEEE Internet Initiative website](#), and see [IEEE Global Internet Policy Monitor](#) past issues. Join [IEEE Collabratec™](#) Internet Technology Policy Community discussions related to internet policy issues and to collaborate with other members of the global technical and policy communities.

**IEEE Global Internet Policy Monitor**

21 March 2018

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## Europe

### Internet governance

**15.03.18**

**Euractiv**

#### [EU telecoms regulators examine whether app stores restrict internet access](#)

The European telecoms regulator will assess whether internet giant Google and Amazon's app store conflicts with net neutrality rules by limiting users' choice of content.

*"European telecoms regulators are investigating whether app stores restrict internet access by limiting their users' choice of content, the chair of the umbrella group of EU watchdogs said on Wednesday (14 March)."*

*"The regulators are starting to examine whether "the gatekeeper role of app stores" like Google and Apple's might conflict with the EU's law guaranteeing net neutrality, Johannes Gungl, the head of the BEREC group, said at a meeting in Brussels."*

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#### [OECD report stokes last-minute criticism of EU digital tax plan](#)

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) a collaboration of thirty-five-member countries has condemned the EU digital tax for social media giants on grounds that it could raise business costs and may cause economic distortion.

*"The OECD warned on Friday (16 March) against the European Commission's plan to propose a new tax next week targeting digital companies, arguing that it may cause economic distortion and raise business costs."*

*"A new report from the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development highlights deep disagreements between its 35 member countries over how to tax technology companies."*

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**[France to get tougher on social media hate speech: PM](#)**

French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe has announced that France will get tougher on internet giants such as Facebook and Twitter to remove racist content from their online platforms.

*“France will toughen rules on hate speech to ensure social media giants do more to remove racist and anti-Semitic content from internet, Prime Minister Edouard Philippe said on Monday.”*

*“The announcement comes as the 28 European Union countries work on rules that would compel Facebook, Twitter, Youtube and Google to be more proactive in filtering and weeding out hate speech on their platforms.”*

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**[G20 agrees to 'monitor' cryptocurrencies but no action yet](#)**

The world's top twenty economies, G20 have agreed to monitor cryptocurrencies however nothing has yet materialised because the G20 don't believe cryptocurrencies will jeopardise the financial market.

*“Financial policymakers from the world's top 20 economies agreed to keep a watchful eye on cryptocurrencies on Tuesday and opened the door to regulating the booming industry at a later stage.”*

*“Wild swings in the price of Bitcoin, the best known of a myriad of digital currencies issued by private companies, and fears they may be used for evading taxes, launder money, finance terrorism or just scam small investors have raised calls for concerted actions by global regulators.”*

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*“The EU will unveil proposals for a digital tax on US tech giants on Wednesday (Mar 21), bringing yet more turmoil to Facebook after revelations over misused data of 50 million users shocked the world.”*

*“The special tax is the latest measure by the 28-nation European Union to rein in Silicon Valley giants and could further embitter the bad-tempered trade row pitting the EU against US President Donald Trump.”*

## Cybersecurity

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**World Economic Forum**

**[Billions of devices will soon be vulnerable to cyberattack. But we're not ready](#)**

According to the World Economic Forum the number of internet connections may reach a trillion by 2035 with billions of devices potentially vulnerable to cyber attack. *“Last month, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres called for global action to minimize the risk posed by electronic warfare to civilians.”*

*“Guterres lamented that “there is no regulatory scheme for that type of warfare,” noting that “it is not clear how the Geneva Convention or international humanitarian law applies to it.”*

## Privacy

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Britain’s privacy watchdog is no longer investigating WhatsApp over privacy concerns after the messaging app agreed to not share personal data with technology company Facebook.

*“Britain’s privacy watchdog said it had dropped an investigation into WhatsApp after the messaging service signed an undertaking not to share the personal data of users with its owner Facebook.”*

*“The decision by Information Commissioner Elizabeth Denham means WhatsApp, which has 1.5 billion monthly users, will not be fined and that any future sharing of user data would be governed by European privacy rules that enter into force in May.”*

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**[50 million Facebook profiles harvested for Trump consultants in major data breach: Reports](#)**

It has been revealed that Cambridge Analytica, a UK data analytics firm used the information of fifty million US Facebook profiles to exploit voters with targeted advertising to influence them during the US elections.

*“The data analytics firm that worked with Donald Trump’s election team and the winning Brexit campaign harvested millions of Facebook profiles of US voters, in one of the tech giant’s biggest ever data breaches, and used them to build a powerful software program to predict and influence choices at the ballot box.”*

*“A whistleblower has revealed to the Observer how Cambridge Analytica – a company owned by the hedge fund billionaire Robert Mercer, and headed at the time by Trump’s key adviser Steve Bannon – used personal information taken without authorisation in early 2014 to build a system that could profile individual US voters, in order to target them with personalised political advertisements.”*

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**[Malaysian government denies hiring Cambridge Analytica](#)**

The Malaysian Prime Minister’s office announced they had never ‘contacted, employed or paid’ Cambridge Analytica, a UK data analytics firm that has been exposed for using personal data from Facebook accounts to influence elections.

*“The Malaysian government has never ‘contracted, employed or paid’ Cambridge Analytica nor its parent company SCL Group, said the Prime Minister’s Office on Tuesday (Mar 20) in response to reports that the political consultancy firm had helped the ruling Barisan Nasional (BN) coalition win the 2013 general elections.”*

*“Contrary to media reports, neither Cambridge Analytica nor its parent company SCL Group have ever – now or in the past – been contracted, employed or paid in any way by Barisan Nasional, the Prime Minister’s Office or any part of the Government of Malaysia,” it said in a statement.”*

**20.03.18**

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**[Top EU privacy watchdog calls Facebook data allegations the 'scandal of the century'](#)**

Giovanni Buttarelli, the EU data protection supervisor has urged privacy regulators across the EU to collaborate to investigate allegations that data analytics firm Cambridge Analytica illegally used user data from internet giant Facebook to influence elections.

*"Privacy regulators across the EU should join together to investigate allegations that London-based firm Cambridge Analytica illegally analysed millions of Facebook users' data, the EU's top data protection watchdog has said."*

*"National authorities from across the EU should form a joint taskforce to determine whether the social media giant and Cambridge Analytica broke the bloc's strict data protection laws."*

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**[Kaspersky Lab plans Swiss data center to combat spying allegations](#)**

Kaspersky a Russian based cybersecurity provider has announced it will set up a data centre in Switzerland in a bid to win back Western Governments, after allegations that its anti-virus software has been used for spying.

*"Moscow-based Kaspersky Lab plans to open a data center in Switzerland to address Western government concerns that Russia exploits its anti-virus software to spy on customers, according to internal documents seen by Reuters."*

*"Kaspersky is setting up the center in response to actions in the United States, Britain and Lithuania last year to stop using the company's products, according to the documents, which were confirmed by a person with direct knowledge of the matter."*



## Internet Inclusion

20.03.18

Channel NewsAsia

### [Log in now! EU calls on towns to bid for free WiFi cash](#)

The European Commission has invited one thousand European towns and cities to claim up to fifteen thousand euros of EU funding to be used to set up free Wi-fi hotspots around the country.

*“One thousand European towns and cities will each be able to claim 15,000 euros (US\$18,464) of EU funding this year to set up free WiFi hotspots in parks, squares and public buildings.”*

*“The European Commission invited municipalities from across the European Union, as well as Norway and Iceland, on Tuesday to register for funding vouchers, which will be distributed on a first-come first-served basis in mid-May.”*

## United States of America

### Internet governance

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**Channel NewsAsia**

**[Social media stocks tumble as Wall Street fears regulation](#)**

Internet giants, Facebook, Twitter and Snapchat's shares have fallen further as Wall Street is concerned of the regulatory scrutiny that they face over personal data.

*“Shares of Facebook, Twitter and Snapchat-owner Snap fell further on Tuesday as Wall Street fretted over potential regulatory scrutiny that could hobble the business of the social networks.”*

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**[Social media giants, telcos, to speak at public hearings on digital online falsehoods](#)**

Social media giants Facebook, Twitter and Google are set to give oral evidence to the Singaporean Select Committee on Deliberate Online this week to help fight the spread of fake news.

*“Social media and Internet giants Facebook, Twitter and Google are slated to give oral evidence when public hearings by the Select Committee on Deliberate Online Falsehoods resume on Thursday (Mar 22).”*

*“Facebook will be represented by its vice-president of public policy for Asia-Pacific, Simon Milner and head of public policy in Southeast Asia Alvin Tan.”*

21.03.18

**Channel NewsAsia**

**[Google News Initiative launched to fight fake news, 'help journalism thrive' in digital age](#)**

Internet giant Google has announced that it will invest three hundred million dollars over the next three years to fight fake news.

*“Google on Tuesday (Mar 20) launched a new initiative to combat fake news and build a “stronger future” for journalism.”*

*“The new Google News Initiative is part of efforts to “help journalism thrive in the digital age”, Google announced in a blog post.”*

## **Cybersecurity**

14.03.18

**World Economic Forum**

**[Billions of devices will soon be vulnerable to cyberattack. But we're not ready](#)**

According to the World Economic Forum the number of internet connections may reach a trillion by 2035 with billions of devices potentially vulnerable to cyber attack. *“Last month, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres called for global action to minimize the risk posed by electronic warfare to civilians.”*

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**Reuters**

**[In a first, US blames Russia for cyber-attacks on energy grid](#)**

The United States for the first time has openly blamed Russia for a cyber-attack blaming them for an attack in March 2016 which gave remote access into the US energy sector networks.

*“The Trump administration on Thursday blamed the Russian government for a campaign of cyber-attacks stretching back at least two years that targeted the U.S. power grid, marking the first time the United States has publicly accused Moscow of hacking into American energy infrastructure.”*

*“Beginning in March 2016, or possibly earlier, Russian government hackers sought to penetrate multiple U.S. critical infrastructure sectors, including energy, nuclear, commercial facilities, water, aviation and manufacturing, according to a U.S. security alert published Thursday.”*

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### **[US nuclear power regulator urged to reject limits on cyber protections](#)**

A United Advocacy group has urged the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission to immediately remove limits agreed back in 2014 which stipulate that only cyber protection safeguards can be built on nuclear systems that have a direct impact on safety.

*“A science advocacy group urged the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Friday to reject a longstanding industry request to limit cyber-attack protections at nuclear plants, a day after the Trump administration publicly blamed Moscow for hacking into nuclear power and other energy infrastructure.”*

*“The Nuclear Energy Institute industry group petitioned the Nuclear Regulatory Commission in June 2014 to limit the scope of the agency’s cyber-protection safeguards to only systems with a direct impact on safety. The institute said in the petition that such limits would be ‘less burdensome’ for operators of nuclear power plants while being “adequately protective” of public health and safety.”*

## **Privacy**

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### **[UK privacy watchdog ends WhatsApp probe after compliance pledge](#)**

Britain’s privacy watchdog is no longer investigating WhatsApp over privacy concerns after the messaging app agreed to not share personal data with technology company Facebook.

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## Internet Inclusion

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**Reuters**

### [Facebook Lite to launch in developed countries, including US](#)

Technology giant Facebook have launched 'Facebook Lite', a stripped-down version of Facebook for developing countries that struggle with weak mobile data connections.

*"Facebook Inc on Thursday said it will roll out the stripped-down version of its social media platform, Facebook Lite, to more countries including developed ones, to attract users struggling with slower mobile data connections."*

*"Facebook Lite, presently available in over 100 countries, was launched in 2015 targeting developing markets and designed to work in areas with slower or limited internet connections."*

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**IT News Africa**

### [Google Launchpad Accelerator Africa kickoff](#)

Internet giant Google has announced a new scheme called the Google Launchpad Accelerator which will provide fifteen thousand single course scholarships and five hundred nano degree scholarships to professional developers in South Africa, Nigeria and Kenya.

*"Google has revealed the startups who will participate in the first Google Launchpad Accelerator Africa class. The event was made at an event held in Lagos, Nigeria. It also announced a partnership with Udacity and Andela to provide 15 000 single course scholarships and 500 nano degree scholarships to aspiring and professional developers across Nigeria, Kenya and South Africa."*

*"Google announced the first Launchpad Accelerator Africa class on 9 November and applications closed on 10 December 2017. Launchpad Accelerator Africa, is a programme for top early-stage African startups that will operate out of Lagos, Nigeria."*



## Pan-Asia

### Internet governance

16.03.18

**Channel NewsAsia**

#### [Sri Lanka lifts ban on Facebook imposed after spasm of communal violence](#)

Sri Lankan officials have announced that the ban on social media networks Facebook and WhatsApp has been lifted after it was initially blocked to stop the spread of violence.

*“Sri Lankan officials said on Thursday they had lifted a ban on Facebook after discussions with the social network, a week after blocking access on the grounds it was being used to fuel communal violence.”*

*“At least two people were killed in clashes last week when Sinhalese Buddhists, angered by the killing of a Buddhist driver by Muslims, attacked mosques and Muslim-owned properties in the central Kandy district.”*

21.03.18

**Channel NewsAsia**

#### [Government’s duty to set open standards for Internet of Things deployment: Vivian Balakrishnan](#)

Dr. Balakrishnan, the Singapore Minister for Foreign Affairs speaking at the IoT Asia 2018 Conference on Wednesday said it is the Governments duty to set open standards for the internet.

*“The Government’s approach to the deployment of Internet of Things (IoT) solutions is based on avoiding “walled gardens,” said Minister-in-charge of the Smart Nation initiative Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan at the IoT Asia 2018 Conference on Wednesday (Mar 21).”*

*“Dr. Balakrishnan cited a closed platform - where the product or service provider has control over all operations - as the biggest hurdle. He stressed that it is crucial for the Government and public officials to insist on open standards to avoid this.”*

21.03.18

Channel NewsAsia

[G20 agrees to 'monitor' cryptocurrencies but no action yet](#)

The world's top twenty economies, G20 have agreed to monitor cryptocurrencies however nothing has yet materialised because the G20 don't believe they will jeopardise the financial market.

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[China activists fear high-tech crackdown in Xi's 'new era'](#)

In China this week some concerns have been expressed concern about the increasing use of digital technology by the Chinese government, arguing that cloud technology could be used to monitor the actions of citizens.

*“As Xi Jinping embarks on a potentially lifelong presidency, activists fear that the Chinese leader’s promise of a ‘new era’ sounds the death knell for human rights under an increasingly digital-savvy police state.”*

*“The Chinese government has severely reduced space for civil liberties since Xi took power in 2012, and authorities are developing new technologies to keep the vast population in check.”*

## Cybersecurity

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**World Economic Forum**

**[Billions of devices will soon be vulnerable to cyberattack. But we're not ready](#)**

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**[Australia warns Southeast Asia of high-tech terror threat](#)**

Australian Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton warned Asia that the use of encrypted messaging apps being used to plan terrorist attacks was one of the biggest threats in modern times and called for a cohesive response across Asia.

*“Australia on Saturday warned the use of encrypted messaging apps to plan terrorist attacks was the greatest threat faced by intelligence agencies in modern times and urged a “united and cohesive” response.”*

*“Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton told an ASEAN-Australia special summit in Sydney that the use of the “dark web” by extremists and other criminals was a spiralling problem.”*

## Privacy

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### Malaysian government denies hiring Cambridge Analytica

The Malaysian Prime Minister's office announced they had never 'contacted, employed or paid' Cambridge Analytica, a data analytics firm that has been exposed for using personal data from Facebook accounts to influence elections.

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**[TPG Telecom to offer free mobile data plan to Singapore's elderly at launch](#)**

TGP Telecom an Australian telecommunications company has announced that it will provide elderly citizens aged 65 and over in Singapore with free mobile services, including a SIM card, 3GB of monthly data and unlimited calls to local mobiles.

*“Singapore's fourth telco says its mobile plan for seniors will include a SIM card, 3GB of monthly data and unlimited calls to local mobiles.”*

*“SINGAPORE: Singapore's fourth telco, TPG Telecom, announced on Monday (Mar 19) it will be targeting senior citizens aged 65 and above when it launches its first mobile service here.”*

**21.03.18**

**China Daily**

**[China likely to issue 5G mobile licenses in 2019](#)**

China has announced that it will attempt to commercialise 5G mobile technology by issuing licenses to telecom carriers at the end of 2019, which will make it one of the first countries to do so.

*“China is likely to issue 5G licenses to telecom carriers in the second half of 2019 at the earliest, as the country scrambles to commercialize next-generation mobile communication technology, Wang Zhiqin, an expert with the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, told China Daily on Wednesday.”*

*“We will be among the first batch of countries to issue 5G licenses in the world, most likely between the second half of 2019 and the first half of 2020,” said Wang, vice-president of China Academy of Information and Communications Technology, a government think tank affiliated with the MIT.”*

## Rest of the World

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**Reuters**

### [In a first, US blames Russia for cyber attacks on energy grid](#)

The United States for the first time has openly blamed Russia for a cyber-attack blaming them for an attack in March 2016 which gave remote access into the US energy sector networks.

*“The Trump administration on Thursday blamed the Russian government for a campaign of cyber attacks stretching back at least two years that targeted the U.S. power grid, marking the first time the United States has publicly accused Moscow of hacking into American energy infrastructure.”*

*“Beginning in March 2016, or possibly earlier, Russian government hackers sought to penetrate multiple U.S. critical infrastructure sectors, including energy, nuclear, commercial facilities, water, aviation and manufacturing, according to a U.S. security alert published Thursday.”*

17.03.18

**Channel NewsAsia**

### [Australia warns Southeast Asia of high-tech terror threat](#)

Australian Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton warned Asia that the use of encrypted messaging apps being used to plan terrorist attacks was one of the biggest threats in modern times and called for a cohesive response across Asia.

*“Australia on Saturday warned the use of encrypted messaging apps to plan terrorist attacks was the greatest threat faced by intelligence agencies in modern times and urged a ‘united and cohesive’ response.”*

*“Home Affairs Minister Peter Dutton told an ASEAN-Australia special summit in Sydney that the use of the ‘dark web’ by extremists and other criminals was a spiralling problem.”*

## Privacy

**21.03.18**

**Channel NewsAsia**

### [Kaspersky Lab plans Swiss data center to combat spying allegations](#)

Kaspersky a Russian based cybersecurity provider has announced it will set up a data centre in Switzerland in a bid to win back Western Governments after allegations that its anti-virus software has been used for spying.

*“Moscow-based Kaspersky Lab plans to open a data center in Switzerland to address Western government concerns that Russia exploits its anti-virus software to spy on customers, according to internal documents seen by Reuters.”*

*“Kaspersky is setting up the center in response to actions in the United States, Britain and Lithuania last year to stop using the company's products, according to the documents, which were confirmed by a person with direct knowledge of the matter.”*

**21.03.18**

**The Times**

### [Cambridge Analytica accused of exploiting ethnic tensions to swing votes](#)

Cambridge Analytica, a data analytics company has been accused of manipulating elections, encouraging ethnic tensions and ‘demonising’ opposition candidates during the election in Kenya last year.

*“From Caribbean islands to conflict zones in the Middle East, Cambridge Analytica and its parent company, SCL Group, has been accused of manipulating elections and working for leaders accused of crimes against humanity.”*

*“Cambridge Analytica was alleged to have stoked ethnic tensions and “demonised” opposition candidates during a deadly election campaign in Kenya*



*last year. It helped President Kenyatta and his running mate William Ruto to win an election that was later annulled by the country's supreme court."*

## Internet Inclusion

**15.03.18**

**IT News Africa**

### Graduate programme aimed at driving open source skills in South Africa

A new graduate programme in South Africa is attempting to address the skills shortage in the digital and technology sectors by educating students in open source skills such as cloud and application development.

*"South Africa is a skills-hungry country. In fact, according to Adzuna, the rarest skills are in the digital and technology sectors, where demand is far outstripping supply – and according to SUSE – that is exactly what the industry is seeing when it comes to open source skills."*

*"According to Matthew Lee, Regional Manager for SUSE Africa, "There is a massive skills gap and demand for open source skills such as cloud, application development and DevOps locally – and especially as more businesses move towards digital transformation."*

**15.03.18**

**Reuters**

### Facebook Lite to launch in developed countries, including US

Technology giant Facebook have launched 'Facebook Lite', a stripped-down version of Facebook for developing countries that struggle with weak mobile data connections.

*"Facebook Inc on Thursday said it will roll out the stripped-down version of its social media platform, Facebook Lite, to more countries including developed ones, to attract users struggling with slower mobile data connections."*

*"Facebook Lite, presently available in over 100 countries, was launched in 2015 targeting developing markets and designed to work in areas with slower or limited internet connections."*

**16.03.18**

**IT News Africa**

**[South Africa gets first-of-its kind ATM pharmacy](#)**

A new ATM Pharmacy has been built in South Africa which uses cloud based electronic software and robotic technology to label and dispense medication for patients.

*An 'ATM pharmacy' that gives patients with chronic illnesses their repeat medication has been launched in Alexandra, a township in Johannesburg, South Africa on Thursday, 15 March 2018.*

*"The Pharmacy Dispensing Unit (PDU) is the first of its kind in Africa and was developed by a team comprising experts from Right to Care and Right ePharmacy in collaboration with the Gauteng Department of Health. The Pharmacy Dispensing Unit (PDU) works like an ATM for medication, with Skype-like audio-visual interaction between patient and tele-pharmacists, cloud-based electronic software and robotic technology to dispense and label medication."*

**19.03.18**

**Channel NewsAsia**

**[TPG Telecom to offer free mobile data plan to Singapore's elderly at launch](#)**

TGP Telecom an Australian telecommunications company has announced that it will provide elderly citizens aged 65 and over in Singapore with free mobile services, including a SIM card, 3GB of monthly data and unlimited calls to local mobiles.

*"Singapore's fourth telco says its mobile plan for seniors will include a SIM card, 3GB of monthly data and unlimited calls to local mobiles."*

*"SINGAPORE: Singapore's fourth telco, TPG Telecom, announced on Monday (Mar 19) it will be targeting senior citizens aged 65 and above when it launches its first mobile service here."*

**19.03.18**

**IT News Africa**

**[Google Launchpad Accelerator Africa kickoff](#)**

Internet giant Google has announced a new scheme called the Google Launchpad Accelerator which will provide fifteen thousand single course

scholarships and five hundred nano degree scholarships to professional developers in South Africa, Nigeria and Kenya.

*“Google has revealed the startups who will participate in the first Google Launchpad Accelerator Africa class. The event was made at an event held in Lagos, Nigeria. It also announced a partnership with Udacity and Andela to provide 15 000 single course scholarships and 500 nano degree scholarships to aspiring and professional developers across Nigeria, Kenya and South Africa.”*

*“Google announced the first Launchpad Accelerator Africa class on 9 November and applications closed on 10 December 2017. Launchpad Accelerator Africa, is a programme for top early-stage African startups that will operate out of Lagos, Nigeria.”*

## Global Institutions

14.03.18

### World Economic Forum

#### [Billions of devices will soon be vulnerable to cyberattack. But we're not ready](#)

According to the World Economic Forum the number of internet connections may reach a trillion by 2035 which means billions of devices could be subjected to a cyberattack however the world is not ready.

*“Last month, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres called for global action to minimize the risk posed by electronic warfare to civilians.”*

*“Guterres lamented that “there is no regulatory scheme for that type of warfare,” noting that “it is not clear how the Geneva Convention or international humanitarian law applies to it.”*

## Diary Dates

**[Living in the Internet of Things- Cybersecurity of the IoT](#)** – 28.03.18-  
29.03.18

London, England

**[RSA](#)** – 16.04.18–20.04.18

San Francisco, USA

**[Data Centre Risk Radar- Technical Skills Shortage](#)** – 26.04.18

London, England

**[Africa Internet Summit](#)** – 29.04.18-11.05.18

Dakar, Senegal

**[Cyber in the Digital Economy](#)** – 17.05.18

London, England

**[2018 Digital Festival](#)** – 21.05.18

London, England

**[Diversity in Technology](#)** – 24.05.18

London, England

**[EuroDIG](#)** – 05.06.18-06.06.18

Tbilisi, Georgia

**[Data Centres Risk Radar](#)** – 24.06.18

London, England