09 May 2018

Synopsis

Scroll to read full summaries with links to news articles.

It has been announced that the **2018 World Robot Conference** will be held in **Beijing**. During the conference a major robot competition will take place which will see more than 12,000 teams competing from ten different countries.

Indonesia have historically struggled in keeping accurate **data** records and are now looking at using **blockchain** technology, a growing list of records called blocks which are linked and secured using **cryptography** to overcome these problems.

Companies in **Singapore** have indicated that lack the resources to continuously keep up with number of **patches** that are required to deal with **software flaws**. However more than half of organisations said they would hire more staff to tackle the issue.

A Member of the European Parliament, **Axel Voss**, has announced a proposal that would require online platforms such as **Google** and **Facebook** to pay for putting up articles. The **EU** Parliament's Legal Committee will vote on the proposed copyright directive in June.

The **European Commission** hope new **cybersecurity** legislation will encourage **EU** countries to impose large **fines** on businesses that do not stick to the rules. For example, **British** authorities can currently impose fines of up to £17 million if a company fails to report a data breach.

The City of **London Police** have started using a **Lego simulation** game to train business leaders and IT security about the complexities of **cybersecurity** threats. Within the game players can choose to spend their annual budget on a range of options, if a player makes the wrong decision they are vulnerable to being hacked, attacked fined by regulators or going bankrupt.

Democrats and the tech community are making one last push to reject the **Federal Communications** decision to repeal **net neutrality** rules. **The United States** Senate will vote in the coming weeks on the decision.

The **National Security Agency** have announced that in 2017 they collected 530 million phone calls and texts from the **USA** and around the world which is three times more than they did in 2018.

Georgia Governor, **Nathan Deal** has vetoed a key piece of **cybersecurity** legislation which if passed could have led to businesses **hacking** other networks to protect their own company.

According to a new report 60% of organisations in **Nigeria** will suffer from **cyber-attacks** which is expected to cost the economy about $6 trillion by 2021.

The Government in **Lagos** have announced that as part of their plan to train one million Lagos residents to code from the **Code Lagos initiative**, they have expanded the program opening 275 coding centers for the new term up from 193 schools last year.

The **Russian Government** have announced that they will strengthen their national **cybersecurity** prior to the **World Cup** football tournament being held in Russia this summer.

The second '**AI for Good Global Summit'** is set to take place in **Geneva** and will host AI innovators with public and private sector decision – makers to come up with strategies to make the **United Nations** a global leader in AI.

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

09 May 2018

Table of Contents

Europe

Internet governance

09.05.18

Computer Weekly

[Brexit is coming, but is the government technologically ready?](#)

Post Brexit a myriad of new systems will need to be established in the UK because for half of the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Brexit workstreams involve technology and most systems are based around EU policy.

"Brexit requires huge IT and technology changes across government, but as departments seem to be struggling to get to grips with the workload, Computer Weekly looks at how preparations are going."

"With less than a year to go until the UK leaves the EU, departments should be well on their way to ensuring they have the right IT systems, skills and plans in place to ensure a smooth transition to a post-Brexit world, but is this really the case?"

06.05.18

Euractiv

[News agencies hail 'major step' by EU to make net giants pay for news](#)

A Member of the European Parliament, Axel Voss, has announced a proposal that would require online platforms such as Google and Facebook to pay for putting up articles. The EU Parliament's Legal Committee will vote on the proposed copyright directive in June.

"News agencies welcomed Monday (7 May) what they called a "major step" by the EU parliament's legal committee asking internet giants to pay for press articles."

"Officials are hammering out an overhaul of EU copyright rules against the backdrop of free online news that has decimated earnings for traditional media companies. The legislative proposal has been under discussion in the Council since November 2016."

Cybersecurity

04.05.18

Euractiv

[Commission expects EU countries to set 'high fines' under new cybersecurity law](#)

The European Commission hope new cybersecurity legislation will encourage EU countries to impose large fines on businesses that do not stick to the rules. For Example, British authorities can currently impose fines of up to £17 million if a company fails to report a data breach.

"European Commission officials who pushed through new cybersecurity legislation set to take effect next week are expecting EU countries to introduce high fines against companies that disobey the rules."

"So far, only the UK has announced the level of fines that firms will face if they do not inform regulators when they suffer a major cybersecurity incident. British authorities can impose sanctions of up to £17 million, or €19 million, if firms do not report serious data breaches."

Privacy

No new items of relevance

Internet Inclusion

02.05.18

Computer Weekly

[Colt DCS pledges support for PwC-led push to boost number of women in tech](#)

Colt Data Centre Services have announced that they are supporting multinational professional services network, PWC to use their resources to increase the number of women in technology related jobs. Colt will be working in schools and in economically challenged areas to spread information about what working in the sector entails.

"Carrier neutral datacentre provider, Colt DCS, is joining a number of other organisations in supporting PwC's push to make the tech sector a more diverse and inclusive place."

"Colt Data Centre Services (DCS) is throwing its weight behind a PwC-led campaign to encourage organisations in the IT sector to pool their resources to increase the number of women working in technology."

02.05.18

Euractiv

[Ahead of digital revolution, small Czech firms still struggle with slow internet](#)

The Czech Republic are falling behind in the digital transformation era after the transport, heavy manufacturing and automotive industries which equates to 50% of the overall business economy, fear digitalization, robotization and automation will lead to job losses.

"The Czech Republic is one of the most industrialised EU states and its big companies do not fear digitalisation. However, SMEs are afraid of job losses and have asked for help with the costly transformation."

"According to a Deloitte study, digitalisation, robotisation and automatisation will affect mainly transport and heavy, manufacturing and automotive industry. This is important for the Czech Republic where industry accounts for almost 50% of the overall business economy."

03.05.18

Computer Weekly

[City Police use Lego simulation to teach businesses cyber security](#)

The City of London Police have started using a Lego simulation game to train business leaders and IT security about the complexities of cybersecurity threats. Within the game players can choose to spend their annual budget on a range of options, if a player makes the wrong decision they are vulnerable to being hacked, attacked fined by regulators or going bankrupt.

"City of London Police are offering to train business leaders and IT security in cyber security using a Lego simulation that is surprisingly close to real life."

"The board of directors had some hard decisions to make. The company had just taken over a hydro-electric power plant."

03.05.18

Computer Weekly

[Netherlands to harness blockchain for waste management operations](#)

The authority that check waste is correctly transported around the Netherlands and ensure every waste truck is manually checked before crossing the border have announced that they want to create a mobile app and use blockchain technology to free up human resources for other tasks.

"The authority that checks waste is transported correctly in the Netherlands is working on a project to use blockchain and mobile apps to remove manual intervention from its processes."

"Currently, hundreds of thousands of border crossings are made by waste-carrying trucks, and they all have to be checked manually. The project will be a proof of concept for the EU waste transportation sector."

04.05.18

ITU

[Global leaders in artificial intelligence and humanitarian action set to convene 15-17 May for second annual 'AI for Good Global Summit'](#)

The second 'AI for Good Global Summit' is set to take place in Geneva and will host AI innovators with public and private sector decision – makers to come up with strategies to make the United Nations a global leader in AI.

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United States of America

Internet governance

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09.05.18

Channel NewsAsia

[Facebook shakes up management, launches blockchain division](#)

Internet giant Facebook have announced that they will be giving more responsibility to their Chief Product Officer and will launch a new blockchain division to establish how to use blockchain technology across Facebook.

"Facebook Inc Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg on Tuesday ordered one of the biggest management shakeups in the history of the social network, giving more responsibility to his chief product officer and launching a blockchain division."

"The shakeup appeared to consolidate power at the sprawling internet company, although it included no firings or outside hires and did not change the role of either Zuckerberg or Chief Operating Officer Sheryl Sandberg."

09.05.18

Channel News Asia

[US Senate to vote to reinstate open internet rules](#)

Democrats and the tech community are making one last push to reject the Federal Communications decision to repeal net neutrality rules. The United States Senate will vote in the coming weeks on the decision.

"The U.S. Senate is set to vote in the coming week on rejecting the Federal Communications Commission decision in December to repeal Obama-era rules guaranteeing an open internet."

"Proponents currently have the backing of 47 Democrats and two independents who caucus with Democrats as well as Republican Senator Susan Collins. With the prolonged absence of Senator John McCain due to illness, proponents believe they will win on a 50-49 vote."

Cybersecurity

02.05.18

SC Media

[Cyberattack map shows impacted U.S. school districts](#)

A group called the K-12 Cybersecurity Resource center have created a map which outlines all the school districts in the United States who have been affected by cybercrime since 2016.

"A group called the K-12 Cybersecurity Resource Center has created an interactive incident map that shows all of the school districts in the U.S. that have been affected by a cyberattack since 2016."

"The map is the brainchild of Doug Levin, president and founder of EdTech Strategies, and is part of a larger attempt to categorize, defend and combat school cyberattacks."

04.05.18

The Hill

[Trump meets with Cabinet officials on election security](#)

US President Donald Trump met with leaders of the FBI and Department of Homeland Security last week to discuss election security amid concerns that this incident could repeat itself in this year's midterms.

"President Trump met with members of his administration, including leaders of the FBI and Department of Homeland Security, on Thursday to discuss election security, the White House said Friday."

"The meeting comes amid widespread concerns over the possibility of foreign interference in future elections, including this year's midterms, following Russia's hacking and disinformation effort against the 2016 vote. The Russian effort included the targeting of digital state election systems."

08.05.18

The Hill

[House passes bill to help small businesses guard against hackers](#)

The United States House Lawmakers passed a bill by voice vote last week which would require the Small Business Administration to set up a "cyber counseling certification program" to provide cybersecurity training to employees and small business centers.

"House lawmakers on Tuesday approved legislation meant to help small businesses better guard themselves against digital threats."

"The bill, introduced by the chairman of the House Small Business Committee, would clear the way for employees of small business development centers across the country to receive training in cybersecurity."

08.05.18

SC Media

[NSA collected 530 million calls and texts in 2017](#)

The National Security Agency have announced that in 2017 they collected 530 million phone calls and texts from the USA and around the world which is three times more than they did in 2018.

"The National Security Agency (NSA) collected more than 530 million phone calls and texts from individuals around the world in 2017, more than three times the number gathered the previous year."

"In the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's fifth annual Statistical Transparency Report Regarding Use of National Security Authorities for Calendar Year 2017, the agency reported having 534.4 million call detail records for the year, up from 151.1 million in 2016."

08.05.18

The Hill

[Senate Intel: Russia waged 'unprecedented' cyber campaign on U.S. voting systems](#)

The Senate Intelligence Committee have released an unclassified document which stipulates that Moscow conducted an "unprecedented, coordinated cyber campaign" against United States voting infrastructure.

"The Senate Intelligence Committee on Tuesday released the unclassified version of its investigation into Russian cyberattacks on digital U.S. voting systems ahead of the 2016 presidential election."

"The report finds that Moscow conducted an "unprecedented, coordinated cyber campaign" against the nation's voting infrastructure."

08.05.18

The Hill

[Georgia governor vetoes controversial hacking legislation](#)

Georgia Governor, Nathan Deal has vetoed a key piece of cybersecurity legislation which if passed could have led to businesses hacking other networks to protect their own company.

"Georgia Gov. Nathan Deal (R) on Tuesday vetoed controversial cybersecurity legislation that critics argued would clear the way for private businesses in the state to hack into other networks in the name of protecting their own."

"Deal, who faced mounting pressure from technology firms and cybersecurity researchers to veto the bill, said in a statement that the legislation raised "concerns regarding national security implications and other potential ramifications" that needed more discussion before enacting it."

Privacy

03.05.18

SC Media

[Cambridge Analytica closure, Twitter defends sale of data to firm](#)

Internet giant, Twitter have announced that they sold data access to software company Cambridge Analytica however they claimed no private data from their users was transferred. This news comes as Cambridge Analytica have filed for bankruptcy after allegations they used data from Facebook users to influence elections**.**

"Unable to withstand the months-long scandal over its collection of data from millions of unsuspecting Facebook users, Cambridge Analytica, closed its doors yesterday, filing for bankruptcy."

"The Company is immediately ceasing all operations," the company said in a statement."

Internet Inclusion

02.05.18

SC Media

[NYU and NY Cyber Command team up to offer cheap cybersecurity education and training](#)

New York's Tandon School of Engineering and New York's Cyber Command have announced a new affordable $15,000 Cybersecurity Master's Degree in a bid to add 10,000 new cybersecurity experts to the workforce.

"Earlier this year NYU Tandon School of Engineering and New York's Cyber Command (NYC3) joined forces to announce one of the country's most affordable Cybersecurity Master's Degree in the form of its NY Cyber Fellows program."

"The program was developed to answer Mayor Bill de Blasio's New York Works initiative to add 10,000 cybersecurity experts to the workforce within a decade and will offer the degree for $15,000 after scholarships for the entire master's cybersecurity degree program."

03.05.18

Channel NewsAsia

[In US Gulf, robots, drones take on dangerous offshore oil work](#)

On the US Gulf of Mexico, oil and gas company BP are using drones to inspect pipes connecting the oil facility to the sea floor to remove the manual element of this labour.

"At BP's massive Thunder Horse oil platform in the U.S. Gulf of Mexico, a dog-sized robot called Maggie uses magnetic tracks to creep along pipes connecting the giant oil facility to the sea floor."

"Before MaggHD, dubbed "Maggie" by BP, the dangerous inspection job was reserved for highly paid specialist technicians who did their jobs while rappelling along the platform."

08.05.18

The Guardian

[Google urges early stage funding to stimulate Nigerian technology ecosystem](#)

Internet giant Google have announced that a lack of early stage funding is threating the stimulation of the digital economy in Nigeria. Therefore, reviewing regulations that restrict the growth of technology startups and making sustained early funding available will they said, 'support growth of the sector.'

"Lack of early stage funding is threatening stimulation of Nigerian technology start-up ecosystem, information technology giant, Google has said. Speaking at a launch of a report entitled 'Technology entrepreneurship ecosystem research – Nigeria' recently in Abuja, Google Policy and Government Relations Lead, Titi Akinsanmi, said developing a thriving e-commerce is a win-win situation for Nigeria and Nigerians especially the youths."

"A thriving digital economy is good for everyone, including Google. While the technology ecosystem in Nigeria is fast gaining momentum, local technology start-ups struggle with scaling-up their work due to social and policy structures. Providing informed, independent research like this helps to educate stakeholders on the challenges and how they can be addressed," she added."

09.05.18

The Guardian

[U.S. firm to launch $5m global start-up challenge in Lagos](#)

United States Loan agency, Connecticut Innovation have announced they will be setting up its VentureClash global challenge which is for technology companies to compete for investment in Nigeria because it sees the country as a 'promising hub of innovation.'

"Connecticut Innovation, a U.S. organisation that provides strategic investment for early-stage technology companies, has announced Lagos as its next location for its Venture Clash global venture challenge."

"The organisation said it has chosen Lagos as an ideal location to expand the footprint of its Venture Clash global venture challenge because it identified Nigeria as a promising hub of innovative, high-growth-potential businesses."

Pan-Asia

Internet governance

04.05.18

Channel News Asia

[Indonesia looks to blockchain to fix its dodgy data challenges](#)

Indonesia have historically struggled in keeping accurate data records and are now looking at using blockchain technology, a growing list of records called blocks which are linked and secured using cryptography to overcome these problems.

"Indonesia, like other emerging markets, has historically struggled to keep accurate records due to a lack of expertise and resources, but the public and private sectors are now looking at blockchain technology to overcome some of these challenges."

"Blockchain, the digital data structure best known for underpinning cryptocurrencies, provides a shared record of information maintained and updated by a network of computers rather than a centralised authority."

Cybersecurity

07.05.18

Security Brief Asia

[North Korea's threat actors operating from other countries](#)

Recorded Future, a cyber threat intelligence provider said North Korea often conduct cyber-attacks from other countries in order to go undetected. These include, India, China, New Zealand, Kenya, Nepal, Indonesia and Malaysia.

"Security firm Recorded Future says that North Korea most likely conducts malicious cyber operations from other countries including India, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nepal, Kenya, Mozambique, Indonesia, and China."

"New Zealand may be an unlikely spot for North Korean activity, but the report, titled North Korea's Ruling Elite Adapt Internet Behavior to Foreign Scrutiny, says it is primarily a hub for BitTorrent, video streaming, and gaming services."

07.05.18

Security Brief Asia

[Singapore set to shaping the future of a cyber-smart maritime industry](#)

According to the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore they will do more to spread awareness and knowledge about how those in the maritime industry are dealing with cyber so the they can work together to build better defences against such attacks.

"The Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore (MPA) and the Singapore Shipping Association say they are committed to promoting greater awareness and knowledge sharing about cyber threats affecting those in the maritime industry."

"In April the two firms presented a seminar that analysed the latest developments in the threat landscape, and how the industry can build stronger defences against current and emerging cyber risks."

Privacy

08.05.18

Security Brief Asia

[Singapore organizations caught in 'patching paradox'](#)

Companies in Singapore have indicated that lack the resources to continuously keep up with number of patches that are required to deal with software flaws. However more than half of organisations said they would hire more staff to tackle the issue.

"Singapore organizations say they don't have the resources to keep up with the volume of patches required to remediate software flaws – but more than half say they will hire more people to deal with vulnerability responses."

"A recent report from ServiceNow and the Ponemon Institute, polled 3000 security professionals worldwide (165 from Singapore). It found that Singapore was the second highest country to report inefficient resources to keep up with the volume of patching (78% compared to 72% globally)."

Internet Inclusion

08.05.18

Channel NewsAsia

[Afghan girl coders design games to fight opium and inequality](#)

A group of Afghanistan coders have created more than twenty digital apps this year, one of them is called the "fight against opium" which shows soldiers trying to destroy opium fields, fight drug lords and help farmers switch to growing Saffron.

"Think Super Mario Bros, but with an Afghan twist. This is how Afghanistan's first generation of female coders explain their abilities as game-makers after uploading more than 20 games on digital app stores this year."

"More than 20 young women in the western city of Herat have established themselves as computer experts, building apps and websites as well as tracking down bugs in computer code."

08.05.18

China Daily

[World Robot Conference to be held in Beijing](#)

It has been announced that the 2018 World Robot Conference will be held in Beijing. During the conference a major robot competition will take place which will see more than 12,000 teams competing from ten different countries.

"The event will see more than 12,000 competing teams from more than 10 countries and regions take part. More than 50,000 participants are expected to attend."

"A robot competition will be held during the conference. Participants will compete in five categories in the competition."

Rest of the World

Internet governance

08.05.18

Open Gov Asia

[eHealth NSW uses electronic medical record to improve digital diabetes management](#)

Australia's eHealth NSW which helps provide innovative technology solutions across public health have announced they have made strides in creating a new electronic medical record function to help those patients with diabetes to track their treatment.

"The Glucose Management View in the electronic medical record provides clinicians with a consolidated view of a patient's diabetes management, supporting safe and consistent ongoing treatment and monitoring throughout the patient's hospital stay."

"Australia's eHealth NSW recently announced that it has made significant steps to use new electronic medical record (eMR) functionality to support better care for patients with diabetes."

Cybersecurity

03.05.18

SC Media

[Russian government strengthening national cyber-security prior to World Cup](#)

The Russian Government have announced that they will strengthen their national cyber security prior to the World Cup football tournament being held in Russia this summer.

"The Russian government, together with the national special services, is continuing strengthening the country's cyber-security prior to the World Cup football tournament being held in the country this summer."

"Currently technical specialists from the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB, formerly the KGB) are completing their checks on hotel IT systems where the

visiting teams and officials will live. FSB experts and other Russian special services are reported to believe that the mundial infrastructure is a possible target of cyber attacks."

07.05.18

Security Brief Asia

[North Korea's threat actors operating from other countries](#)

Recorded Future, a cyber threat intelligence provider North Korea often conduct cyber-attacks from other countries in order to go undetected. These include, India, China, New Zealand, Kenya, Nepal, Indonesia and Malaysia.

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08.05.18

Security Brief Asia

[THAT'S A WRAP: Highlights from Sydney's 2nd Annual Safety, Security and Counter-Terrorism Forum](#)

Australia's second safety and counter terrorism forum brought together a plethora of speakers to discuss emerging technologies and the threat that cybersecurity poses. Scott Harris, Director of the workforce resilience group spoke about the need to combat drone use in prisons and the need for robotics in the police force.

"The issue of National Security is never something to be taken lightly, and with Australia's Terrorism threat level remaining at a "Probable" status since the Sydney Siege, it's certainly beneficial to have a convergence of minds to thoroughly assess the various concerns we face."

"That's what the 2nd annual Safety, Security and Counter-Terrorism Forum in Sydney's Marriot hotel was all about, featuring a plethora of speakers touching base on a range of issues that underpin terrorism as it exists and how it can be thwarted."

09.05.18

The Guardian

[**'60% of Nigerian firms suffer cyber attacks'**](#)

According to a new report 60% of organisations in Nigeria will suffer from cyber-attacks which is expected to cost the economy about $6 trillion by 2021.

"Participants at the second edition of NaijaSecCon have been exposed to insights and discussions around malware analyses; cryptocurrency mining, USB forensics, digital forensics capabilities, programming and different topics around security."

"Speakers at the conference held in Lagos at the weekend, are of the view that lack of education on technical aspects of Information Security could hurt the economy in the nearest future."

Privacy

04.05.18

SC Media

[**Fake Telegram app looks to take advantage of Russia banning Telegram**](#)

Since the Russian Government banned the Instant messaging app Telegram, several fake imitations have been created to take advantage of users downloading the app.

"Not long after the Russian government ordered the immediate blocking of the Telegram messaging app from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store, an imitation of the popular app made its rounds on Google Play."

"Confusion surrounding the prompt actions of the Russian government left an opportunity for threat actors to seize the opportunity to take advantage of users attempting to download the app in the wake of the news."

Internet Inclusion

04.05.18

The Guardian

[Code Lagos programme expands](#)

The Government in Lagos have announced that as part of their plan to train one million Lagos residents to code from the Code Lagos initiative, they have expanded the program opening 275 coding centers for the new term up from 193 schools last year.

"As part of the continued drive of the administration of Governor Akinwunmi Ambode to train one million Lagos residents to code through the CodeLagos initiative, the State Government has scaled up its coding centres from 193 schools last year to 275 for the new term, including 10 public centres."

"This is just as the Government announced the opening of the registration portal for the 3rd batch of the Out-of-School programme for interested members of the public from Wednesday, April 25, 2018."

08.05.18

The Guardian

[Google urges early stage funding to stimulate Nigerian technology ecosystem](#)

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"A thriving digital economy is good for everyone, including Google. While the technology ecosystem in Nigeria is fast gaining momentum, local technology start-ups struggle with scaling-up their work due to social and policy structures. Providing informed, independent research like this helps to educate stakeholders on the challenges and how they can be addressed," she added."

08.05.18

It News Africa

[**Tracker launches Maths and Science learning curriculum app**](#)

Two companies, Tracker in partnership with MathU Teaching Emporium have launched a new maths and science learning app at the Magaliesburg State School in South Africa to encourage children to improve their maths and science literacy levels.

"Partnership with MathU Teaching Emporium, announced the launch of a maths and science learning curriculum app at the Magaliesburg State School."

"The MathU Teaching Emporium app is aimed at improving the maths and science literacy level and uptake amongst Grade 10, 11 and 12 students through a reward-based learning environment."

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Global Institutions

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Diary Dates

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