24 May 2017

Synopsis

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ENISA the EU’s cybersecurity agency has called on the European Commission to increase its funding and manpower so that in future it can better tackle global cyber threats such as last week’s WannaCry Ransomware attack.

A new survey by Guidance Software has found that 24% of UK and US companies could potentially miss the 2018 deadline for compliance with the EU’s GDPR. Of the 200 companies surveyed a further 30% admitted that they currently have no plans to ensure GDPR compliance.

In the United States House Republicans have introduced a new bill to tackle the issue of internet privacy. The bill will seek to introduce new rules both to internet service providers and to websites with oversight transitioning from the FCC to the Federal Trade Commission.

The FTC has also made headlines this week after Senator Mark Warner of Virginia sought clarification on how the agency is tackling the cyberthreat of IoT devices, focusing specifically on Bluetooth and WiFi connected childrens toys.

The FCC has started the process of repealing net neutrality regulations introduced during the Obama administration, following a 2-1 vote on party lines in support of repeal.

Media sources have suggested that the Chinese government may consider delaying parts its incoming cybersecurity law following growing discontent from international businesses. The revelation occurred following a meeting between the Cyberspace Administration of China, diplomats and international businesses to discuss the potential impact of the cybersecurity law.

The UN’s Security Council’s 1718 committee which monitors the sanctions in place against North Korea have been hit by a detailed and sustained cyber attack. Following the attack the committee chair wrote to members to remain vigilant given the impact of a similar wideranging attack last year.
Akamai the internet monitoring company has published a new report detailing the average internet connection speed around the world at the end of 2016. The report finds that South Korea has the fastest average connection at 29Mbps, followed by Norway, Sweden and Hong Kong who range between 23.6 – 21.9Mbps respectively.

A report by Fortinet has found that South Africa and the Ivory Coast were targeted in the greatest numbers by last week’s WannaCry global ransomware attack. Other countries on the list such as Nigeria which had ranked third have disputed the accuracy of the report however.

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg has praised the increase in defense cooperation between NATO and EU countries, highlighting the cooperation between the EU’s CERT team and NATO to tackle last week’s global ransomware attack.

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

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# IEEE Global Internet Policy Monitor

24 May 2017

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Europe

Internet governance

24.05.17

Computing

**UK Government plan to try, once again, to force tech companies put back doors into encryption**

Media speculation following the terrorist attack in Manchester have suggested that if reelected the Conservative party could look to implement encryption backdoors for social media and other encrypted communications technology.

“The government is planning to resurrect plans to force technology giants to hand over encrypted data following the Manchester terrorist attack, according to press reports today.

*The Sun* claims that the Conservative government, if re-elected, will whip MPs to get new rules, known as the Technical Capability Notices (TCN), through Parliament as quickly as possible after the general election.”

Cybersecurity

22.05.17

Euractiv

**EU cybersecurity agency seeks funds and power to police attacks**

ENISA the EU’s cybersecurity agency has called on the European Commission to increase its funding and manpower so that in future it can better tackle global cyber threats such as last week’s WannaCry Ransomware attack.

“The EU cybersecurity agency ENISA will receive a makeover in September when the European Commission renews its mandate amid a whirlwind of new cybersecurity measures. The director of the Athens-based agency has been requesting a larger budget to deal with the rise in attacks on internet-connected devices.

“It would be good to have seven days a week, 24 hour resources here,” ENISA director Udo Helmbrecht said in an interview.”
**Privacy**

23.05.17

Computer Weekly

**Almost a quarter of UK and US firms likely to miss GDPR deadline**

A new survey by Guidance Software has found that 24% of UK and US companies could potentially miss the 2018 deadline for compliance with the EU’s GDPR. Of the 200 companies surveyed a further 30% admitted that they currently have no plans to ensure GDPR compliance.

“Only 15.7% of more than 200 UK and US companies polled are in the advanced planning stages of complying with the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Some 17.8% said they were in the moderate planning stages and 11% said they were only in the initial stages of implementing processes to ensure compliance, according to the survey by security firm Guidance Software.”

**Internet Inclusion**

20.05.17

Inquirer

**S. Korea has fastest internet speed in the world, PH slowest**

Akamai the internet monitoring company has published a new report detailing the average internet connection speed around the world at the end of 2016. The report finds that South Korea has the fastest average connection at 29Mbps, followed by Norway, Sweden and Hong Kong who range between 23.6 – 21.9Mbps respectively.

“South Korea led the way with the highest average connection speed at 29.0 Mbps in Q4 2016, as per internet monitoring firm Akamai. South Korea beat Norway, Sweden and Hong Kong to claim the top spot, all of which have internet speeds up to 23.6 Mbps, 22.8 Mbps and 21.9 Mbps respectively.

South Korea also boasts of internet speed that is around four times the world average of 7.0 Mbps.”
Cybersecurity

18.05.17

Computing

**New US IT security bill would force NSA to report WannaCry-style zero-day flaws**

Congress have introduced a new cybersecurity bill that would ensure that the future discovery of zero-day flaws are fully share across the federal government. The bill will compel the National Security Agency to share its intelligence with other departments and agencies to ensure that all parts of the US government remain protected.

“A new bill has been presented to the US Congress that would force the National Security Agency (NSA) to alert other US government agencies of security flaws it finds in software - such as the Microsoft.”

22.05.17

NextGov

**Senator presses FTC on hackable toys**

Senator Mark Warner of Virginia has sought clarification on how the FTC is tackling the cyberthreat of IoT devices, focusing specifically on Bluetooth and WiFi connected childrens toys.

“Sen. Mark Warner, D-Va., Monday pressed the Federal Trade Commission on what the agency is doing to keep hackable children’s toys out of the marketplace.

The [letter](#) follows a report from security researcher Troy Hunt about CloudPets, an internet-connected teddy bear that allows parents to send recorded messages to their children that left data from hundreds of thousands of users easily hackable online.”
23.05.17

Politico

**Top hacker conference to target voting machines**

This year's DEFCON will focus on hacking voting machines typically used in US elections through a variety of tasks targeting both the software and hardware of these machines.

“Hackers will target American voting machines—as a public service, to prove how vulnerable they are.

When over 25,000 of them descend on Caesars Palace in Las Vegas at the end of July for DEFCON, the world’s largest hacking conference, organizers are planning to have waiting what they call “a village” of different opportunities to test how easily voting machines can be manipulated.”

23.05.17

The Hill

**Trump budget seeks $1.5B for Homeland Security cyber unit**

New information has revealed that President Trump will ask for an additional $1.5 billion to fund Homeland Security’s National Protection and Programs Directorate which holds responsibility for the agency’s cybersecurity response.

“President Trump’s budget request seeks increases in cybersecurity personnel across several departments and nearly $1.5 billion in funding for a Department of Homeland Security (DHS) unit in charge of safeguarding the country’s cyber infrastructure.

Specifically, the fiscal 2018 budget proposal would **allot** $1.45 billion for DHS’s National Protection and Programs Directorate (NPPD), which is responsible for protecting U.S. physical and cyber infrastructure from threats.”
Privacy

19.05.17

The Hill

House Republican unveils internet privacy bill

Republican Congresswoman Marsha Blackburn has introduced a new bill to tackle the issue of internet privacy. The bill will seek to introduce new rules both to internet service providers and to websites with oversight transitioning from the FCC to the Federal Trade Commission.

”Rep. Marsha Blackburn (R-Tenn.) introduced legislation on Friday that would force broadband providers and internet companies trying to collect and sell consumer’s digital data to first get their expressed consent.

The bill from the chairwoman of the House Energy and Commerce subcommittee on technology and communications is similar in some ways to the Federal Communications Commission’s broadband privacy rules that Republicans and President Trump blocked earlier this year.”

23.05.17

Computer Weekly

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FCC votes to rollback net neutrality regs

The FCC has started the process of repealing net neutrality regulations introduced during the Obama administration, following a 2-1 vote on party lines in support of repeal.

“The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) today voted along party lines Thursday to walk back net neutrality regulations imposed under the Obama administration.

FCC Chairman Ajit Pai announced plans for the rollback in late April during a speech at the Newseum in Washington, DC.”

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South Korea also boasts of internet speed that is around four times the world average of 7.0 Mbps.”
Internet governance

19.05.17

Reuters

Amid industry pushback, China offers changes to cyber rules: sources

Media sources have suggested that the Chinese government may consider delaying parts its incoming cybersecurity law following growing discontent from international businesses.

“China may delay full implementation of controversial new cyber security rules, giving companies more time to prepare, two people who attended a meeting on Friday between the country's internet regulator, businesses and diplomats told Reuters.

The Cyberspace Administration of China (CAC) called the meeting - with around 100 participants, including representatives from global technology firms - to present last-minute changes to implementation rules for China's new Cyber Security Law which is due to come into effect on June 1.”

Cybersecurity

22.05.17

Reuters

U.N.'s North Korea sanctions monitors hit by 'sustained' cyber attack

The UN’s Security Council’s 1718 committee which monitors the sanctions in place against North Korea have been hit by a detailed and sustained cyber attack. Following the attack the committee chair wrote to members to remain vigilant given the impact of a similar wideranging attack last year.

“United Nations experts investigating violations of sanctions on North Korea have suffered a "sustained" cyber attack by unknown hackers with "very detailed insight" into their work, according to an email warning seen by Reuters on Monday.

The hackers eventually breached the computer of one of the experts on May 8, the chair of the panel of experts wrote in an email to U.N. officials and the U.N.
Security Council’s North Korea sanctions committee, known as the 1718 committee.”

22.05.17

Computer Weekly

**APAC accounted for 10% of global WannaCry infections**

A new study by Malwarebytes has found that the Asia-Pacific region has accounted for roughly 10% of WannaCry ransomware cases so far, well below expected levels for the region.

“WannaCry’s spread in Asia-Pacific (APAC) accounted for just 10% of detections worldwide, indicating the ransomware’s limited reach in the region, according to a new study by Malwarebytes, a supplier of anti-malware products.

Its study showed that the top APAC country hit by WannaCry was India, where infections made up 26.7% of the total number in the region and 2.8% of the global total.”

Ars Technica

23.05.17

**WannaCry ransomware tied to prolific Lazarus hacking group by new evidence**

Further evidence has emerged from Symantec linking the WannaCry ransomware to the Lazarus Group of hackers, commonly believed to work on behalf of North Korean interests.

“Researchers have found more digital fingerprints tying this month’s WannaCry ransomware worm to the same prolific hacking group that attacked Sony Pictures in 2014 and the Bangladesh Central Bank last year.

Last week, a researcher at Google identified identical code found in a WannaCry sample from February and an early 2015 version of Contopee, a malicious backdoor used by Lazarus Group, a hacking team that has been operating since at least 2011. Additional fingerprints linked Lazarus Group to hacks that wiped almost a terabyte’s worth of data from Sony Pictures and siphoned a reported \$57 million from the Bangladesh Central Bank last year. Researchers say Lazarus Group carries out hacks on behalf of North Korea.”
**Privacy**

*No new items of relevance*

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**Internet Inclusion**

20.05.17

**Inquirer**

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*South Korea also boasts of internet speed that is around four times the world average of 7.0 Mbps.*”

23.05.17

**ZD Net**

**Singapore lets telcos test 5G services for free**

The Government of Singapore has announced that telecommunications companies will be able to test the country’s growing 5G network for free until December 2019.

“Government waives frequency fees for 5G trials until December 2019, in a move aimed at driving the market and uncovering potential use cases for the next-generation network.

*To investigate cyber threat landscape perception and reality Kaspersky asked businesses about their perceptions of the main security threats they face and the measures used to combat them.*”
Rest of the World

Internet governance

No new items of relevance

Cybersecurity

19.05.17

IT Web Africa

South Africa, Ivory Coast top list of African WannaCry ransomware targets

A report by Fortinet has found that South Africa and the Ivory Coast were targeted in the greatest numbers by last week’s WannaCry global ransomware attack.

“WannaCry, the ransomware campaign that has wreaked havoc globally, has reached a total of 34,300 attack attempts in 97 countries according to research conducted by Check Point Software Technologies.

Data compiled by another security company Fortinet shows that South Africa leads the pack among the African countries affected followed by Ivory Coast and Nigeria.”

22.05.17

IT Web Africa

Nigeria questions WannaCry report

The Nigerian Government has criticised a report by cybersecurity firm Fortinet that had placed the country third in its list of African countries affected by the WannaCry ransomware attack. The Director General of the Nigerian National Information Technology Development Agency specifically cited the lack of a major incident as proof of the limited impact the attack has had on Nigeria.

“Nigeria's government has denied the assertion by cyber security firm Fortinet that the country was the third most affected by the WannaCry ransomware attacks, after South Africa and Ivory Coast.”
Director-General of the National Information Technology Development Agency (NITDA), Dr Isa Ali Ibrahim Pantami said that there were no reported incidences in Nigeria.”

**Privacy**

*No new items of relevance*

**Internet Inclusion**

20.05.17

Inquirer

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South Korea also boasts of internet speed that is around four times the world average of 7.0 Mbps.”
NATO

**Secretary General welcomes closer NATO-EU cooperation**

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg has praised the increase in defense cooperation between NATO and EU countries, highlighting the cooperation between the EU’s CERT team and NATO to tackle last week’s global ransomware attack.

“NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg stressed the progress being made in closer cooperation between the Alliance and the European Union in a meeting with EU Defence Ministers on Thursday (18 May 2017). He highlighted that this cooperation has reached a new level.

The Secretary General highlighted cyber defence as an example of tangible progress. During the recent ransomware attacks, NATO issued a warning to all Allies, as well as the EU, and exchanged information with the EU. The EU’s cyber security hub CERT-EU has also been granted access to NATO’s Malware Information Sharing Platform. “Now NATO and the EU are able to share information in real time on cyber-attacks,” said Mr. Stoltenberg.”

ICANN

**ICANN Registration System Email Validation**

ICANN has announced that as a new step in securing its web application all users will be required to validate their emails before accessing meetings and webinars.

“As part of an ongoing process to improve the security of our web applications, the ICANN Registration website will now require that all potential meeting participants verify their email address to complete the registration process.

This added layer of security is designed to ensure the validity of user email addresses and reduce the amount of malicious and spam email accounts currently being utilized.”
ENISA

**ENISA works together with European semiconductor industry on key cybersecurity areas**

ENISA has been working with the EU’s semiconductor industry to establish shared positions on cybersecurity which have now been published in a new paper on the subject.

“The EU Agency for Network and Information security – ENISA – together with industry recently reached a common position on cybersecurity, that reflects the concerns of industry and provides a set of suggestions for policy makers. The paper focuses on four main areas actively debated at the EU level: standardisation and certification, security processes and services, security requirements and implementation, and the economic dimensions.”

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**Euractiv**

**EU cybersecurity agency seeks funds and power to police attacks**

ENISA the EU’s cybersecurity agency has called on the European Commission to increase its funding and manpower so that in future it can better tackle global cyber threats such as last week’s WannaCry Ransomware attack.

“The EU cybersecurity agency ENISA will receive a makeover in September when the European Commission renews its mandate amid a whirlwind of new cybersecurity measures. The director of the Athens-based agency has been requesting a larger budget to deal with the rise in attacks on internet-connected devices.

“It would be good to have seven days a week, 24 hour resources here,” ENISA director Udo Helmbrecht said in an interview.”

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**ICANN**

**Pre-ICANN59 Policy Update Webinar**

ICANN have announced that its next policy update webinar will occur on Thursday 15 June ahead of the ICANN59 Policy Forum in South Africa.
“The ICANN Policy Development Support Team will host a Policy Update Webinar on Thursday, 15 June 2017 at 10:00 and 19:00 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC), in preparation for the upcoming ICANN59 Policy Forum in Johannesburg, South Africa. The purpose of the webinar is to summarize policy activities across the ICANN policy development community and to brief the community on the Empowered Community consultation and cross-community sessions taking place in Johannesburg.”
Diary Dates

Modernising the regulations establishing the .eu top-level domain name – 05.05.17-04.08.17

European Commission

Africa Internet Summit (AIS) 2017 – 29.05.17–02.06.17

Nairobi, Kenya

2017 European Security Conference – 05.06.17-06.06.17

Lisbon, Portugal

European Dialogue on Internet Governance – 06.06.17-07.06.17

Tallinn, Estonia

World Summit on the Information Society Forum (WSIS) 2017 – 12.06.17–16.06.17

Geneva, Switzerland

China Cyber Security Conference & Exposition 2017 – 13.06.17

Beijing, China

ICANN 59 – 26.06.17-29.06.17

Johannesburg, South Africa

16th European Conference on Cyber Warfare and Security ECCWS – 29.06.17-30.06.17

Dublin, Ireland

ITU WTDC-17 – 09.10.17–20.10.17

Buenos Aires, Argentina

ICANN 60 – 28.10.17-03.11.17

Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates

IGF 2017 – 18.12.17–21.10.17
Geneva, Switzerland