



**18 April 2018**

## Synopsis

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

The **United Kingdom** and **Singapore** have signed a memorandum of cooperation to enhance their commitment to **cybersecurity** cooperation and teamwork.

According to a new study by **CTIA**, a trade association which represents the wireless communication industry, has found that **China** is ahead of **South Korea** and the **United States** in the race to develop **5G mobile technology**.

According to patent experts, **China** is closing the gap with the **United States** in **intellectual property** and is fast becoming the number one global technology power because of its expanded higher education system and investment in research.

**Norway** and **Switzerland** have been announced as two new members of **EuroPol's**, the European Union's law enforcement agency, **cybercrime** unit. They will collaborate on all issues related to **cybersecurity**.

**France** have announced they are building their own **encrypted messaging** service for the Government out of fears that secret conversations between top officials could be spied on if they use rival messaging app **WhatsApp**.

**Facebook** have announced that they will roll out new **privacy data** choices to comply with the upcoming **EU** rules. All users will be asked to comment on how Facebook uses their data and make choices about their privacy.

Two US Senators, **James Lankford** and **Amy Klobuchar** are set to meet with state officials next Monday to discuss their plans to improve the **cyber resilience** of **election infrastructure**.

Thirty technology giants including **Facebook**, **Microsoft** and **Dell** have pledged to 'not help Governments launch **cyber-attacks**,' and to oppose all security breaches and attacks on innocent citizens. Big technology firms **Google**, **Apple** and **Amazon** have yet to sign the pledge.

Internet giant **Facebook** have revealed that **Ireland** will make use of a new feature, 'view ads' which will give users access to all the **propaganda advertisements** ahead of the referendum on **abortion** next month to ensure greater **transparency** in **political advertising**.

**Russia** has announced it has blocked messaging app **Telegram** after the company refused to grant the **Russian State** access to users' secret messages. **Pavel Durov** the Chief Executive of the app announced he would bypass the ban by using a built-in system.

Since the **mobile money scheme**, a payment service from a mobile phone, was set up in **Nigeria** five years ago, it has only attracted one per cent penetration, compared to **Ghana** and **Kenya** which has achieved 40 per cent and 60 per cent.

**Roskomnadzor**, the Russian communications watchdog has announced it will carry out an audit on **Facebook** in the second half of 2018 to assess whether the internet giant complies with **Russian law** on **data localisation**.

**NATO** have launched a new **cyber defence policy** internship scheme to train individuals about the political challenges that NATO face.

According to the latest **cyber threat** report by the **National Cyber Security Centre**, criminals are launching an increased number of online attacks against **British businesses** however businesses lack the basic principles of **cyber hygiene**.

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**

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## Europe

### Internet governance

**11.04.18**

**The Guardian**

#### [Microsoft raises concern about EU GDPR policies, advises organisations](#)

Microsoft Attorney, John Edokpolor has warned companies in Lagos that failure to comply with the incoming EU General Data Protection Regulation laws which protect the privacy of citizens may result in the inability to do business with EU organisations.

*“Software giant, Microsoft, has urged businesses and organisations to pay attention to the European Union’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) law.”*

*“The law, in its entirety, seeks to protect personal identifiable data across business and organisational landscapes. Lead Commercial Attorney, Microsoft MEA Emerging Markets, John Edokpolor, at the weekend, in Lagos, explained that the GDPR is a new European law designed to protect the privacy of citizens, by setting new standards in terms of how personal data is handled.”*

**16.04.18**

**The Star Online**

#### [EU to demand improvements on tackling fake news by end of year](#)

The European Union has demanded that internet giants Facebook and Google take the appropriate measures to stop the spread of fake news or they will be threatened with regulatory actions.

*“The European Union is set to demand tech giants like Facebook and Google do more to stop the spread of fake news on their websites by the end of the year to avoid possible regulatory actions, according to a draft document seen by Reuters.”*

*“The draft document sets out for the first time the measures the EU would like to see the tech giants take within a certain timeline. The companies have come under fire in Europe for not doing enough to remove misleading or illegal content, including incitement to hatred, extremism and the online sale of counterfeit products.”*

## Cybersecurity

**11.04.18**

### **National Cyber Security Centre**

#### [The cyber threat to UK business 2017-2018 report](#)

According to the latest cyber threat report by the National Cyber Security Centre, criminals are launching an increased number of online attacks against British businesses. The report stipulates that businesses are failing to observe basic principles of cyber hygiene, which could have averted many of the incidents investigated by the NCSC over the last year.

*“A report examining how nefarious cyber activity over the past 12 months has impacted UK businesses.”*

*“As part of the NCSC's assistance to businesses across the UK, this annual threat report has been published in partnership with the NCA. By sharing our experiences of exposure to cyber incidents, the NCSC raises awareness across the board and improves the nation's cyber defences.”*

**11.04.18**

### **SC Media**

#### [£50m for law enforcement as Government ups ante on Cyber Defence](#)

The UK Home Secretary, Amber Rudd has announced a new fund worth £50 million to be used on law enforcement and cyber defence capabilities.

*“UK Home Secretary speech and announcements at CYBER UK Conference: Over £50 million investment pledged for the UK's cyber-defensive capabilities within law enforcement at a national, regional and local level.”*

*“Putting up cash rather than sound-bite platitudes, the UK Home Secretary Amber Rudd gave a speech and series of announcements at the NCSC CYBER UK Conference in Manchester today that really seemed to say that the Government has truly responded to WannaCry and taken Cyber Security on board as potentially the biggest threat facing the country.”*

**12.04.18**

**SC Media**

**[GCHQ head discloses offensive cyber campaign against ISIS, lambastes Russia](#)**

GCHQ, the UK Government's intelligence and security organisation have announced that their cyber offensive operation against ISIS has been successful in reducing the spread of fake news and attacks online. Similarly, they lambasted Russia for its 'unacceptable cyber-behavior.'

*"GCHQ director Jeremy Fleming acknowledged that the agency recently coordinated a major cyber-offensive operation against ISIS, significantly crippling the terrorist group's ability to recruit and coordinate attacks online."*

*"In his first public speech, Government Communications Headquarters (GCHQ) director Jeremy Fleming acknowledged that the agency recently coordinated a major cyber offensive operation against ISIS, significantly crippling the terrorist group's ability to recruit and coordinate attacks online."*

**16.04.18**

**SC Media**

**[AI has application in cyber-security but needs an ethical basis say Lords](#)**

The UK House of Lords have published a new report which stipulates that while the UK strides to become a world leader in artificial intelligence these new technologies should protect the privacy of individuals.

*"AI needs to be representative of the community it serves. It should use established concepts: open data, ethics advisory boards, data protection legislation, new frameworks & mechanisms, such as data portability & data trusts."*

*"A House of Lords Committee report today warns that even though the UK has what it takes to become a world leader in the development of artificial intelligence, such new technologies should not come at the price of data rights or privacy of individuals, families or communities."*

**18.04.18**

### **Security Brief Asia**

#### **Singapore & UK Governments commit to building cybersecurity capacity for Commonwealth**

The United Kingdom and Singapore have signed a memorandum of cooperation to enhance their commitment to cybersecurity cooperation and teamwork.

*“Singapore and the United Kingdom have taken their commitment to cybersecurity cooperation and teamwork to a new level this week.”*

*“The two countries have signed a Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) on Cybersecurity Capacity Building, as part of Singapore Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong’s visit to London.”*

**18.04.18**

### **SC Media**

#### **Norway and Switzerland Joint Cybercrime Action Taskforce**

Norway and Switzerland have been announced as two new members of the European Union’s law enforcement agency, Europol’s, cybercrime unit fighters. They will collaborate on all issues related to cybersecurity.

*“Norway and Switzerland become new official members of the J-CAT (Joint Cybercrime Action Taskforce) based within Europol’s European Cybercrime Centre (EC3) in the Netherlands.”*

*“Europol’s European Cybercrime Centre (EC3) provides the Joint Cybercrime Action Taskforce with technical and analytical support as well as operational coordination on daily basis.”*

## **Privacy**

**16.04.18**

### **Reuters**

#### **France builds WhatsApp rival due to surveillance risk**

France have announced they are building their own encrypted messaging service for the Government out of fears that secret conversations between top officials could be spied on if they use rival messaging app WhatsApp.

*“The French government is building its own encrypted messenger service to ease fears that foreign entities could spy on private conversations between top officials, the digital ministry said on Monday.”*

*“None of the world’s major encrypted messaging apps, including Facebook’s (FB.O) WhatsApp and Telegram - a favorite of President Emmanuel Macron - are based in France, raising the risk of data breaches at servers outside the country.”*

**18.04.18**

**Reuters**

### **Facebook to trial ads tool in Ireland ahead of abortion referendum**

Internet giant Facebook have revealed that Ireland will make use of a new feature, ‘view ads’ which will give users access to all the propaganda advertisements ahead of the referendum on abortion next month to ensure greater transparency in political advertising.

*“Ireland will become the second country to trial a new tool that Facebook hopes will ensure greater transparency in political advertising, when it holds a referendum on abortion next month, the company’s vice president for global policy said on Tuesday.”*

*“Facebook introduced the tool this month as part of steps to deter the kind of election meddling and online information warfare that U.S. authorities have accused Russia of pursuing, although Moscow has denied the allegations.”*

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**Channel News Asia**

### **Facebook rolling out privacy choices under EU rules**

Facebook have announced that they will roll out new privacy data choices to comply with the upcoming EU rules. All users will be asked to comment on how Facebook uses their data and make choices about their privacy.

*“Facebook announced on Wednesday (Apr 18) it would begin rolling out changes to how it handles private data this week to comply with forthcoming EU rules, with European residents seeing the measures first.”*

*“The social network, which has been rocked by disclosures about hijacking of personal data on tens of millions of its users, said it will start implementing “new privacy experiences” to comply with the EU’s General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) which become effective May 25.”*



## Internet Inclusion

16.04.18

**NATO**

### [NATO launches call for interns for 2019](#)

NATO have launched a new cyber defence policy internship scheme to train individuals about the political challenges that NATO face.

*“As an international organisation, NATO is characterised by diversity. People from different backgrounds and cultures, work styles and ways of thinking work here.*

*“This is reflected in the Alliance’s internship programme, which offers opportunities in a variety of fields, including communications, finance, human resources, international relations, IT, law and political science.”*

## United States of America

### Internet governance

**13.04.18**

**Channel NewsAsia**

#### [Trade war or not, China is closing the gap on US in technology IP race](#)

According to patent experts, China is closing the gap with the United States in intellectual property and is fast becoming the number one global technology power because of its expanded higher education system and investment in research.

*“China's rising investment in research and expansion of its higher education system mean that it is fast closing the gap with the United States in intellectual property and the struggle to be the No.1 global technology power, according to patent experts.”*

*“While U.S. President Donald Trump's threat of punitive tariffs on high-tech U.S. exports could slow Beijing's momentum, it won't turn back the tide, they say. Washington's allegation that the Chinese have engaged in intellectual property theft over many years - which is denied by Beijing - is a central reason for the worsening trade conflict between the U.S. and China.”*

**16.04.18**

**The Star Online**

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The European Union has demanded that internet giants Facebook and Google take the appropriate measures to stop the spread of fake news or they will be threatened with regulatory actions.

*“The European Union is set to demand tech giants like Facebook and Google do more to stop the spread of fake news on their websites by the end of the year to avoid possible regulatory actions, according to a draft document seen by Reuters.”*

*“The draft document sets out for the first time the measures the EU would like to see the tech giants take within a certain timeline. The companies have come under fire in Europe for not doing enough to remove misleading or illegal content, including incitement to hatred, extremism and the online sale of counterfeit products.”*

**17.04.18**

**The Hill**

**[New York AG launches inquiry into bitcoin exchanges](#)**

State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman has announced an inquiry into cryptocurrency exchanges to ensure consumers and investors are protected on digital trading platforms.

*“New York's top cop is launching an inquiry into cryptocurrency exchanges amid rising concern about the nascent digital markets.”*

*“State Attorney General Eric Schneiderman (D) on Tuesday announced the “Virtual Markets Integrity Initiative,” an inquiry seeking to examine the “policies and practices of platforms” that trade in cryptocurrencies such as bitcoin.”*

**Cybersecurity**

**13.04.18**

**SC Media**

**[Pompeo will put resources into cyber at State Dept., agency warns employees of uptick in hacking attempts](#)**

Michael Pompeo, Director of the Central Intelligence Agency in the US has announced that more money and resources will be put into cybersecurity after he warned employees about a rise in hacking attempts.

*“On the same day the State Department warned employees about an uptick in hackers' efforts to target them, CIA Director Mike Pompeo told lawmakers Thursday he would “put a great deal of resources” into cybersecurity if he nabbed the Secretary of State slot.”*

*“I can only say that; every element of government has a piece of its cyber duty. It's one of the challenges that it's so deeply divided, that we don't have a central place to do cyber work,” Pompeo said before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, pointing to efforts during his tenure at the CIA to put resources into cybersecurity efforts.*

**16.04.18**

**The Hill**

**[Senators, state officials to meet on election cybersecurity bill](#)**

Two US Senators, James Lankford and Amy Klobuchar are set to meet with state officials next Monday to discuss their plans to improve the cyber resilience of election infrastructure.

*“Two senators sponsoring legislation to secure digital election systems from cyberattacks are meeting Monday with state officials on the details of their proposal.”*

*“Sens. James Lankford (R-Okla.) and Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) are scheduled to meet with secretaries of state to discuss the Secure Elections Act, a spokesman for Lankford confirmed.”*

**17.04.18**

**The Hill**

**[Tech giants sign pledge not to aid government cyberattacks](#)**

Thirty technology giants including Facebook, Microsoft and Dell have pledged to ‘not help Governments launch cyber-attacks,’ and to oppose all security breaches and attacks on innocent citizens. Big technology firms Google, Apple and Amazon have yet to sign the pledge.

*“More than 30 major technology firms, including Microsoft and Facebook, signed a pledge on Tuesday agreeing that they would not assist any government in launching cyberattacks, vowing to “protect all customers regardless of nationality, geography or attack motivation.”*

*“In the new list of principles, titled the Cybersecurity Tech Accord, companies also committed to aiding nations that are the subject of such attacks, even when the motivations are geopolitical.”*

**18.04.18**

**SC Media**

**[Intel announces new chip designs with built-in security](#)**

Technology company Intel have announced a new chip design which is more secure following last year when security flaws were found on their microchips.

*“Intel Monday announced three new measures that will be implemented in a future chip designed to bake security into the hardware following last year's Spectre/Meltdown vulnerability.”*

*“The first measure promises to improve security by using Accelerated Memory Scanning to free up graphics hardware resources, so they can be used to scan computer memory for malware, the firm said at the 2018 RSA Conference in San Francisco.”*

## Privacy

**12.04.18**

**Channel News Asia**

### [Instagram to allow users to download their data](#)

Photo-sharing platform Instagram have announced they will allow their users to download a copy of all the content they have on them amid concerns over privacy.

*“Facebook Inc's Instagram will soon allow its users to download a copy of all the content they have uploaded on the photo-sharing platform, a spokesman said on Wednesday.”*

*“The disclosure comes amid global concerns about the privacy of users' information on social media platforms and the amount of user data that companies keep.”*

**16.04.18**

**Reuters**

### [Philippines complains Facebook fact-checkers are biased](#)

The Philippines Government claim internet giant Facebook's two online news platforms which they hire to limit the spread of fake news is biased against Filipino president Rodrigo Duterte. Facebook said it would launch a new third-party fact checker programme which will regulate the spread of fake news on their online platform in the Philippines to address their concerns.

*“The Philippines government criticised on Monday Facebook's choice of two independent online news platforms to help fight the spread of fake news, saying they are biased against President Rodrigo Duterte.”*

*“Facebook said last week it would partner with VERA Files and Rappler IQ to launch a third-party, fact-checking programme aimed at preventing the spread of false news on the social media platform in the Philippines.”*

**17.04.18**

**Channel NewsAsia**

**[Indonesia MPs grill Facebook officials on data breaches](#)**

Indonesia Members of Parliament grilled internet giant Facebook on their misuse of personal data during a five-hour public hearing, an official from Facebook apologised for not protecting the personal data of their citizens.

*“A Facebook official apologised to Indonesian members of parliament on Tuesday (Apr 17) during a five-hour grilling at a public hearing on issues ranging from the misuse of personal data to the oversight of content by the social media giant.”*

*“Facebook has been hit by revelations that data of some 87 million users were improperly accessed by political consultancy Cambridge Analytica, which worked on US President Donald Trump's election campaign.”*

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## Internet Inclusion

**18.04.18**

**The Guardian**

### Google launches new application

Internet giant, Google have created a new app called ‘Google Go’ which will help people in 26 Sub-Saharan African Nations to search the internet even with low connectivity including 2G networks.

*“Search giant, Google has launched ‘Google Go’, a new app that provides a lighter, faster, way to search, with everything you need just a tap away.”*

*“As more and more Africans come online every year, using mobile phones as their primary and sometimes only Internet device, online isn’t somewhere they ‘go’ anymore, it’s where they live – connecting with the people, places and things that matter to them.”*

**17.04.18**

**Channel NewsAsia**

### In race for 5G, China leads South Korea and US: Study

According to a new study by CTIA, a trade association which represents the wireless communication industry, has found that China is ahead of South Korea and the United States in the race to develop 5G mobile technology.

*“China is slightly ahead of South Korea and the United States in the race to develop fifth generation wireless networks, or 5G, a US study showed on Monday (Apr 16).”*

*“The study released by the CTIA, a US-based industry association of wireless carriers, suggested that the United States is lagging in the effort to deploy the superfast wireless systems that will be needed for self-driving cars, telemedicine and other technologies.”*

## Pan-Asia

### Internet governance

11.04.18

**Channel NewsAsia**

#### [Top China news app self-criticises after government crackdown](#)

China's most popular news app, Toutiao have pledged to increase their internal censorship staff to 10,000 after the Government shut the app down for up to three weeks because they deemed the content in conflict with 'core socialist values.'

*"One of China's most popular news apps issued an abject apology Wednesday (Apr 11) and pledged to increase its internal censorship staff to 10,000 after it and three other apps were temporarily banned by the government in a widening content crackdown."*

*"Chinese media reports earlier this week said the four apps, led by news and content aggregator Jinri Toutiao, had been ordered removed from app stores for up to three weeks."*

11.04.18

**Channel News Asia**

#### [Vietnam calls for tougher measures on cryptocurrency deals amid alleged scam](#)

The Prime Minister of Vietnam Nguyen Xuan Phuc has urged the State Bank of Vietnam and the Ministry of Public Securities to tighten up regulation around cryptocurrencies.

*"Vietnam on Wednesday urged greater vigilance against cryptocurrency transactions and investments, as officials in its economic hub asked police to investigate what could prove to be the country's largest cryptocurrency fraud."*

*"In a directive, Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc told the State Bank of Vietnam, the Ministry of Public Securities and other bodies to tighten the "management of activities related to Bitcoin and other cryptocurrency", the government said."*



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## **Cybersecurity**

**18.04.18**

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**18.04.18**

**SC Media**

**[New hacker groups emerging in Asia and in the Middle East, finds Kaspersky](#)**

According to Russian based cybersecurity firm Kaspersky new hacker groups in Asia and the Middle East have emerged and are using new techniques to target organisations across the world.

*“Security researchers observed a noticeable spurt in the activities of advanced persistent threat (APT) groups based in certain parts of Asia and in the Middle East during the first three months of the year.”*

*“In its latest quarterly threat intelligence summary, security firm Kaspersky Lab reports the emergence of new groups of cyber-criminals based in Asia and in the Middle East who are also leveraging new techniques to launch attacks on targeted organisations.”*

**Privacy**

**16.04.18**

**Reuters**

**[Philippines complains Facebook fact-checkers are biased](#)**

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**Internet Inclusion**

**10.04.18**

**Security Brief Asia**

**[Acronis & Yellow Ribbon Fund provide IT training to Singapore prison inmates](#)**

Technology company Acronis and charity Yellow Ribbon Fund have partnered to provide training to Singaporean prison inmates.

*A partnership between Acronis and the Yellow Ribbon Fund hopes to shrink Singapore's recurring crime rate to a minimum by teaching prison inmates basic IT skills.*

*As part of the YRF-Acronis IT Skills Programme, inmates will receive certified IT training and computer skills that will increase their chances of future employability.*

**17.04.18**

**Channel NewsAsia**

**[In race for 5G, China leads South Korea and US: Study](#)**

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**17.04.18**

**Channel News Asia**

**[Robots will replace humans in retail, says China's JD.com](#)**

According to Richard Liu, the Chief Executive of JD.com a Chinese e-commerce company the entire retail industry will eventually be operated by artificial intelligence and robots will replace human workers.

*“Robots will eventually replace human workers in the retail industry, the chief executive of Chinese e-commerce company JD.com predicted on Tuesday.”*

*“China's second-largest e-commerce business has built up an extensive logistics network and is investing heavily in drones, robotics and automation.”*

## Rest of the World

### Internet governance

**11.04.18**

**The Guardian**

#### [Microsoft raises concern about EU GDPR policies, advises organisations](#)

Microsoft Attorney, John Edokpolor has warned companies in Lagos that failure to comply with the incoming EU General Data Protection Regulation laws which protect the privacy of citizens may result in the inability to do business with EU organisations.

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**13.04.18**

**Channel NewsAsia**

#### [Telegram will use built-in systems to bypass ban in Russia: CEO](#)

Pavel Durov the Chief Executive of the messaging service app, Telegram announced that he will avoid the ban of the app imposed by courts in Russia by using a built-in system.

*“The chief executive of the Telegram messenger service, Pavel Durov, said on Friday the application will use built-in systems to circumnavigate a ban in Russia imposed by a court earlier on Friday.”*

*“He said on his page in the VK social network that he still cannot guarantee that Telegram users will retain access to the messenger without using virtual private networks (VPNs).”*

**16.04.18**

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**[Russia starts blocking Telegram messenger](#)**

Russia has announced it has blocked messaging app Telegram after the company refused to grant the Russian State access to users' secret messages.

*“Russia's state telecommunications regulator said on Monday it had begun blocking access to Telegram messenger after the company refused to comply with an order to give Russian state security access to its users' secret messages.”*

*“The watchdog, Roskomnadzor, said in a statement on its website that it had sent telecoms operators a notification about blocking access to Telegram inside Russia.”*

**Cybersecurity**

**12.04.18**

**SC Media**

**[Operation Parliament targeting Middle East nations with cyberespionage malware](#)**

Russian based cybersecurity firm Kaspersky Lab have discovered a nation state backed operation called 'operation Parliament' which seeks to cyber-attack Government and officials in North Africa and the Middle East. The culprits behind this are unknown.

*“Kaspersky Labs has detailed a large-scale nation-state backed malware campaign called Operation Parliament that is targeting governments and high-level officials in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) regions.”*

*“Operation Parliament has been running since early 2017 with the clear intention of conducting espionage activities against top legislative, executive and judicial bodies around the world, but primarily in the MENA regions and more specifically Palestine, said Kaspersky's Global Research and Analysis Team.”*

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*“Security researchers observed a noticeable spurt in the activities of advanced persistent threat (APT) groups based in certain parts of Asia and in the Middle East during the first three months of the year.”*

*“In its latest quarterly threat intelligence summary, security firm Kaspersky Lab reports the emergence of new groups of cyber-criminals based in Asia and in the Middle East who are also leveraging new techniques to launch attacks on targeted organisations.”*

**Privacy**

**12.04.18**

**Channel NewsAsia**

**[Russia asks Facebook how it complies with data law – Interfax](#)**

Roskomnadzor, the Russian communications watchdog has announced it will carry out an audit on Facebook in the second half of 2018 to assess whether the internet giant complies with Russian law on data localisation.

*“Russian communications watchdog Roskomnadzor has asked Facebook to explain how it is complying with a Russian law on data localisation, the Interfax news agency reported on Thursday.”*

*“Roskomnadzor has said earlier it would carry out an audit into Facebook's compliance with Russian legislation in the second half of 2018.”*

## Internet Inclusion

**11.04.18**

**IT News Africa**

### [Digital programme to up-skill digital teaching competencies in South Africa](#)

Education technology firm Eiffel Corp have announced a new digital training programme that can equip teachers with digital teaching competencies in South Africa because currently less than 35% of South African teachers have been digitally trained.

*“Digital Teaching and Learning Series Certification (DTLS), a SETA accredited digital training programme aims to up-skill digital teaching competencies in South Africa. In a study run by Via Afrika, less than 35% of South Africa’s teachers have been trained in basic digital and ICT skills by 2011”*

*“Eiffel Corp, an education technology company were the first partner worldwide to be accredited by Blackboard to offer the Digital Teaching and Learning Series Certification in 2017, the programme will be offered to the public from May 2018.”*

**13.04.18**

**The Guardian**

### [Education Innovation Summit returns to Johannesburg for 3rd year](#)

It has been announced that the Education Innovation Summit will take place on the 31<sup>st</sup> May 2018 which will bring together innovation leaders and academics to discuss the challenges facing technology used for education.

*“The Education Innovation Summit is set to take place on 31 May 2018 at the Hilton, Sandton in Johannesburg, South Africa. Hosted by IT News Africa, the summit is designed to bring together innovation leaders and the academic community to accelerate innovative thinking in education.”*

*“It will further provide discussion topics about cutting-edge education technology challenges facing the industry today. Moreover, the summit explores technology innovations that will enhance teaching and learning in the academic institutions.”*



**13.04.18**

**The Guardian**

**[VDT supports international girls in ICT day](#)**

Nigerian broadband communications provider, VDT communications have announced that they are sponsoring this year's international Girls in ICT Day which attempts to inspire girls to have a career in ICT.

*"VDT communications, a leading broadband communications service provider in Nigeria is one of the sponsors of this year's International Girls in ICT Day."*

*"The Nigerian chapter of the event billed to take place on 27th April 2018 at Lagos Oriental Hotel is organized by the publishers of E-Business Life magazine."*

**18.04.18**

**The Guardian**

**[Google launches new application](#)**

Internet giant, Google have created a new app called 'Google Go' which will help people in 26 Sub-Saharan African Nations to search the internet even with low connectivity including 2G networks.

*"Search giant, Google has launched 'Google Go', a new app that provides a lighter, faster, way to search, with everything you need just a tap away."*

*"As more and more Africans come online every year, using mobile phones as their primary and sometimes only Internet device, online isn't somewhere they 'go' anymore, it's where they live – connecting with the people, places and things that matter to them. Weak data connectivity, high data costs and low RAM or storage space often make it hard for people to get the most out of the internet – Google Go is built to handle these challenges."*

**18.04.18**

**The Guardian**

**[Nigeria's mobile money scheme crawls at 1% penetration](#)**

Since the mobile money scheme, a payment service from a mobile phone, has been set up in Nigeria five years ago, it has only attracted one per cent penetration, compared to Ghana and Kenya which has achieved 40 per cent and 60 per cent.

*“After about five years of operation in Nigeria, mobile money has only been able to attract just one per cent penetration.”*

*“Unlike in Ghana and Kenya where penetrations have reached 40 per cent and 60 per cent respectively, only about two million of Nigeria’s estimated 198 million populations.”*

## Global Institutions

**11.04.18**

### **National Cyber Security Centre**

#### **[The cyber threat to UK business 2017-2018 report](#)**

According to the latest cyber threat report by the National Cyber Security Centre, criminals are launching an increased number of online attacks against British businesses. The report says that businesses are failing to observe basic principles of cyber hygiene, which could have averted many of the incidents investigated by the NCSC over the last year

*“A report examining how nefarious cyber activity over the past 12 months has impacted UK businesses.”*

*“As part of the NCSC’s assistance to businesses across the UK, this annual threat report has been published in partnership with the NCA. By sharing our experiences of exposure to cyber incidents, the NCSC raises awareness across the board and improves the nation’s cyber defences.”*

**17.04.18**

### **NATO**

#### **[NATO launches call for interns for 2019](#)**

NATO have launched a new cyber defence policy internship scheme to train individuals about the political challenges that NATO face.

*“As an international organisation, NATO is characterised by diversity. People from different backgrounds and cultures, work styles and ways of thinking work here.*

*“This is reflected in the Alliance’s internship programme, which offers opportunities in a variety of fields, including communications, finance, human resources, international relations, IT, law and political science.”*

## Diary Dates

**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