





16 May 2018

Synopsis

Scroll to read full summaries with links to news articles.

The **Association of Southeastern Asian Nations**, a regional intergovernmental organisation comprising of ten Southeast Asian countries including **Singapore** and **Thailand** have vouched to combat **fake news** by creating a joint framework to share ideas and solutions to tackle the issue.

Hong Kong, central bankers, Government officials and regulators have vouched to regulate the financial technology space across Asia to limit the amount of illicit **money flows**.

The **National Supercomputing Centre** in **China** have announced plans to build a **supercomputer** that would be capable of making calculations 10 times faster than the worlds 'current speed champion' and is expected to be created by 2020.

The **UK Government** has introduced tough new measures to protect the health, water, energy, transport and digital infrastructure industries against **cyber threats**, threatening companies with fines of up to £17 million if they fail to report network outages within 72 hours.

The **White House** have announced the removal of the **cybersecurity** coordinator post, a job which was key to developing policy to fight against cybercrime.

Rep. Bennie Thompson, a Democrat has asked the Department of Homeland Security to provide information and documents which could explain why several US officials deem the fourth-largest Chinese smartphone maker in the US, ZTE, a cybersecurity risk.

The **Digital and Cyberspace Policy Program** which addresses issues such as **cybersecurity** has launched a new '**Cyber Brief**' calling on the **US Government** to share classified cyber threat information with critical infrastructure companies that cannot protect themselves without federal assistance.





The **United States** senate are set to vote in the coming weeks on banning the **Federal Communications Commission's** decision to repeal **net neutrality** rules which guarantee an open internet.

The **Federal Communications** Commission have announced that **Internet providers** will gain broad new powers over how consumers can access the internet because **net neutrality** rules will expire on June 11.

Cybersecurity firm **Kaspersky** have announced they will be moving their core infrastructure and operations to **Switzerland** after allegations the **Russian Government** were using the software for **spying** on foreign nations.

According to the **Nigeria Internet Registration Association**, Nigeria now has 111,146 active domain names. This is 7,219 more than last year.

Umar Garba Danbatta, the Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian Communication Commission said a lack of regional collaboration and expertise in cybersecurity is a major hurdle to combatting cyber-crime in Nigeria.

NATO Secretary General **Jens Stoltenberg** spoke at the **Cyber Defence Pledge Conference**. He said NATO has three key roles to play in **cyber space**, 'To drive progress across the Alliance, to act as a hub for information sharing, training and expertise and to protect our networks.'

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 <u>IEEE Internet Initiative website</u>, and see <u>IEEE Global Internet Policy Monitor</u> past issues. Join <u>IEEE CollabratecTM</u> 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

16 May 2018

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Europe

Internet governance

14.05.18

Channel NewsAsia

German spy chief says regulation may be needed for social platforms

Germany's Domestic intelligence agency said if the European Union fails to increase the accountability of internet giants such as Facebook and continuously allow them to post illegal and dangerous content on their online platforms then they may have to adopt regulations.

"Germany's domestic intelligence agency on Monday suggested that regulations may be needed if the European Union cannot increase the accountability of social media platforms such as Facebook regarding illegal or dangerous content."

"Hans-Georg Maassen told reporters that the European Union was working hard to increase transparency on social media platforms and to raise consciousness among those companies."

Cybersecurity

10.05.18

GOV.UK

Tough new rules to protect UK's critical infrastructure come into force

The UK Government has introduced tough new measures to protect the health, water, energy, transport and digital infrastructure industries against cyber threats, threatening companies with fines of up to £17 million if they fail to report network outages within 72 hours.

"New measures to protect the nation's critical infrastructure and digital services from cyber attacks and computer network failure come into force today."

"Bosses of firms in health, water, energy, transport and digital infrastructure will now be expected to have robust safeguards in place against cyber threats and report breaches and network outages to regulators within 72 hours or they face fines of up to £17 million."





Channel NewsAsia

Kaspersky to transfer infrastructure out of Russia

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"Russian anti-virus software firm Kaspersky Lab, which is suspected by US authorities of helping the Kremlin's espionage efforts, said on Tuesday (May 15) it was moving its core infrastructure and operations to Switzerland."

"The transfer "includes customer data storage and processing for most regions, as well as software assembly, including threat detection updates," said Kaspersky, whose software protects some 400 million computers worldwide."

15.05.18

Channel News Asia

Dutch govt dropping Kaspersky software over spying fears

The Dutch Government have announced that they will stop using anti-virus software from Russian firm, Kaspersky lab to 'guarantee national security.'

The Dutch government is phasing out the use of anti-virus software made by Russian firm Kaspersky Lab amid fears of possible spying, despite vehement denials by the Moscow-based cyber security company.

The Dutch Justice and Security ministry said in a statement on late Monday (May 15) the decision had been taken as a "precautionary measure" in order "to guarantee national security".

15.05.18

NATO

Speech by NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg at the Cyber Defence Pledge Conference

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg spoke at the Cyber Defence Pledge Conference in Paris. He said NATO has three key roles to play in cyber space, 'To drive progress across the Alliance, to act as a hub for information sharing, training and expertise and to protect our networks.'

"Minister Parly, Ambassadors, Ladies and gentlemen."





"May I start by thanking France for hosting us today. France is a strong NATO Ally, contributing to our shared security and our collective defence in many different ways."

Privacy

09.05.18

Reuters

Google gives publishers controls to comply with EU privacy law

Internet giant Google have updated their ad-serving platform which means online publishers will now be allowed to select advertising tech vendors that comply with European data privacy laws.

"Alphabet Inc's Google said on Tuesday it had updated its ad-serving platform, which is used by online publishers, allowing them to select advertising tech vendors that comply with new European data privacy laws."

"Google is the top vendor of the software that many newspapers and digital media firms use to sell ads on their platforms."

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"Google is to suspend all advertisements related to Ireland's May 25 abortion referendum from Thursday amid worries about election integrity, the U.S. firm said in an emailed statement."

"The policy change comes a day after a similar move by Facebook, which said it would no longer accept ads from outside the country that seek to influence the referendum."





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Facebook asks European users which news sources they trust

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"Facebook is asking users in Europe which news sources they trust to help it gauge whether to extend a change to its News Feed that it made in the United States earlier this year, designed to filter out misinformation."

"In January, Facebook Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg said the News Feed, the social media company's centrepiece service, would prioritise "high quality news" over less trusted sources as part of its fight against false information on the platform."

Internet Inclusion

09.05.18

Computer Weekly

Schools minister announces programme of support for computing teachers

Nick Gibb, the Schools Standards Minister has announced a new National Centre of Computing Science Education to help the Government reach its target in training 8,000 computing teachers. The centre will work alongside forty schools to help and support teachers deliver the computing curriculum.

"A National Centre of Computing Science Education has been launched to help the government meet its commitment to training up to 8,000 computing teachers."

"The schools standards minister, Nick Gibb, has announced the launch of a National Centre of Computing Science Education to help the government reach its target of training up to 8,000 computing teachers."





UK Authority

Cabinet Office launches first GovTech competition

The Implementation Minister Oliver Dowden has announced a new competition using funding from the £20bn GovTech and covers a range of challenges including the data economy, healthy ageing, mobility and clean growth. Those who are successful will be awarded up to £50,000 to develop their ideas.

"Companies invited to bid for shares of £20 million pot to find digital solutions for social challenges."

"The Cabinet Office has announced the first round of competitions for tech specialists to tackle social challenges with money from its £20 million GovTech fund."

11.05.18

Welsh Government

Economy Secretary welcomes plans for a digital and cyber security powerhouse

The Welsh Economic Secretary Ken Skates has announced plans for a new National Digital Exploitation Centre set up by global technology company Thales, which would act as a catalyst for digital and cyber education training and research facilities.

"Global technology company, Thales which provides solutions for the aerospace, defence, transportation, space and security markets, is seeking Welsh Government support for a programme that would see it establishing a new National Digital Exploitation Centre (NDEC) in Ebbw Vale."

"Thales plans to work with the Welsh Government, Blaenau Gwent Council and the University of South Wales in establishing the centre which would act as a catalyst for digital and cyber educational training and research facilities."





United States of America

Internet governance

09.05.18

Reuters

US Senate to vote to reinstate open internet rules

The United States senate are set to vote in the coming weeks on banning the Federal Communications Commission's decision to repeal net neutrality rules which guarantee an open internet.

"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."

10.05.18

Reuters

US 'net neutrality' rules will expire on June 11 - FCC

The Federal Communications Commission have announced that Internet providers will gain broad new powers over how consumers can access the internet because net neutrality rules will expire on June 11.

"Landmark U.S. "net neutrality" rules will expire on June 11, and new regulations handing providers broad new power over how consumers can access the internet will take effect, the Federal Communications Commission said on Thursday in setting the date."

"The FCC in December repealed the Obama-era open-internet rules set in 2015, which bars providers from blocking or slowing down access to content or charging consumers more for certain content."





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<u>Facebook Forums to discuss community standards will be held in Singapore 'this year': VP</u>

Facebook have announced that a series of public engagements to gain feedback on the internet giants community standards will be held in Singapore.

"Facebook intends to hold a series of public engagements this year to get people's feedback on its community standards, and Singapore will hold one of these "this year", according to one of its executives."

"Mr Guy Rosen, vice president for Product Management at the social networking company, told Channel NewsAsia in an interview on Tuesday (May 15) that Singapore and India will be the two sites in the region to hold the Facebook Forums: Community Standards event. It intends to engage with civil society players like the Media Literacy Council, Association of Women for Action and Research (AWARE) and Maruah to see if they would be interested in participating, he added."





Reuters

US investigating Cambridge Analytica - New York Times

The United States Justice and FBI are investigating Cambridge Analytica a now defunct political data company which is suspected of using data to influence the United States elections.

"The U.S. Justice Department and the FBI are investigating Cambridge Analytica, a now-defunct political data firm embroiled in a scandal over its handling of Facebook Inc user information, the New York Times reported on Tuesday."

"Prosecutors have sought to question former Cambridge Analytica employees and banks that handled its business, the newspaper said, citing an American official and others familiar with the inquiry."

Cybersecurity

09.05.18

The Hill

House panel approves bills to secure energy infrastructure

The House Energy and Commerce Committee have passed a key piece of legislation which will secure US energy infrastructure from cyber-attacks by establishing a new department solely focused on the security of energy pipelines.

"The House Energy and Commerce Committee on Wednesday approved several pieces of legislation aimed at securing U.S. energy infrastructure from cyberattacks."

"The bipartisan proposals are designed to bolster the Department of Energy's cybersecurity efforts. One, for instance, would establish a new program at the department focused on the physical security and cybersecurity of energy pipelines and liquefied natural gas facilities."





Council Foreign Relations

Iran: Keep Your Finger Off the Cyber Button

It has been reported that since the United States pulled out of the Iranian nuclear deal companies in the United States are preparing for small and large scale cyberattacks from Iran.

"With the United States pulling out of the Iranian nuclear deal, the cybersecurity teams at companies large and small are bracing for a renewed round of attacks. Iran should think twice before restarting its campaign of disruptive and destructive attacks against U.S. companies."

"From 2011 through 2013, the Iranians engaged in a low-level cyber conflict with the United States."

15.05.18

Council Foreign Relations

New Cyber Brief: Sharing Classified Cyber Threat Information With the Private Sector

The Digital and Cyberspace Policy Program which addresses issues such as cybersecurity has launched a new 'Cyber Brief' calling on the US Government to share classified cyber threat information with critical infrastructure companies that cannot protect themselves without federal assistance.

"The Digital and Cyberspace Policy Program has launched a new Cyber Brief. This one makes the case for an information-sharing network that would allow the U.S. government to share classified cyber threat information with U.S. critical infrastructure."

"The brief was written by Robert K. Knake, Whitney Shepardson Senior Fellow and regular on Net Politics."

15.05.18

New York Times

White House Eliminates Cybersecurity Coordinator Role

The White House have announced the removal of the cybersecurity coordinator post, a job which was key to developing policy to fight against cyber-crime.





"The White House eliminated the position of cybersecurity coordinator on the National Security Council on Tuesday, doing away with a post central to developing policy to defend against increasingly sophisticated digital attacks and the use of offensive cyber weapons."

"A memorandum circulated by an aide to the new national security adviser, John R. Bolton, said the post was no longer considered necessary because lower-level officials had already made cybersecurity issues a "core function" of the president's national security team."

16.05.18

Cnet

What makes ZTE a cybersecurity threat? Congress wants to know

Rep. Bennie Thompson, a Democrat has asked the Department of Homeland Security to provide information and documents which could explain why several US officials deem the fourth-largest Chinese smartphone maker in the US, ZTE, a cybersecurity risk.

"Before President Donald Trump can pull ZTE from the brink of bankruptcy, Congress has some questions."

"ZTE, the fourth-largest smartphone maker in the US, has been at a standstill since the Commerce Department launched sanctions against the Chinese telecommunications powerhouse last April. Trump, in negotiations with China's president, Xi Jinping, said he's been working to find a way for ZTE to "get back into business, fast."

Privacy

09.05.18

Reuters

Google gives publishers controls to comply with EU privacy law

Internet giant Google have updated their ad-serving platform which means online publishers will now be allowed to select advertising tech vendors that comply with European data privacy laws.

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"In January, Facebook Chief Executive Mark Zuckerberg said the News Feed, the social media company's centrepiece service, would prioritise "high quality news" over less trusted sources as part of its fight against false information on the platform."





Reuters

Facebook suspends 200 apps over data misuse investigation

Internet giant Facebook announced that they removed over 200 apps from their online platforms due to a pending investigation which will scrutinise companies that had access to large amounts of data before the company reduced data access in 2014.

"Facebook Inc has so far suspended around 200 apps in the first stage of its review into apps that had access to large quantities of user data, a response to a scandal around political consultancy Cambridge Analytica."

"The apps were suspended pending a thorough investigation into whether they did in fact misuse any data, said Ime Archibong, Facebook's vice president of product partnerships."

Internet Inclusion

09.05.18

Channel NewsAsia

White House to hold artificial intelligence meeting with companies

The United States White House have announced that they will be holding a meeting on the future of artificial intelligence with major companies including internet giants, Google, Amazon and Facebook.

"The White House will convene a meeting on Thursday on the future of artificial intelligence in U.S. industry with major companies including Facebook Inc, Amazon.com Inc, Google parent Alphabet Inc and Oracle Corp as well as senior government officials."

"Intel Corp CEO Brian Krzanich and the chief technical officers of Ford Motor Co and Boeing Co are due to take part, along with executives from Mastercard Inc, Microsoft Corp and Accenture, the White House said on Tuesday."





Pan-Asia

Internet governance

09.05.18

Channel NewsAsia

Hong Kong group aims to curb money laundering around Asia

Hong Kong, central bankers, Government officials and regulators have vouched to regulate the financial technology space across Asia to limit the amount of illicit money flows.

"A Hong Kong based NGO backed by regulators, former central bankers and government officials on Wednesday announced an alliance to fight money laundering and regulate the fast growing financial technology space across Asia."

"The heavyweight meeting, which had government representatives from countries including China, the Philippines, Thailand and Cambodia, aimed to provide an information exchange platform as rapidly evolving technology makes it harder to regulate illicit money flows."

Cybersecurity

09.05.18

Council Foreign Relations

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Privacy

No new items of relevance

Internet Inclusion

09.05.18

Open Gov

Hong Kong announces new immigration pilot program for tech professionals

Hong Kong have announced a new immigration scheme which will make it easier and faster for the admission of overseas talent to help the countries technology sector.

"To meet the demand for new talent in the innovation and technology sector, the Hong Kong Government introduced the Technology Talent Admission Scheme (TechTAS) on 8 May 2018 to provide a fast-track arrangement for the admission of overseas research and development talent."

"Tenants and incubatees of the Hong Kong Science and Technology Parks Corporation (HKSTPC) and Hong Kong Cyberport Management Company Limited (Cyberport) that are engaged in the areas of biotechnology, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, robotics, data analytics, financial technologies, and material science are currently eligible under this pilot program. The program will later be extended to successful technology companies and institutes who will be given quotas to bring in foreign talent."

09.05.18

China Daily

Shortage of talent hits chipmakers

It has been reported that there is a shortage of chipmakers in china. In 2017 there were 300,000 employees working in the integrated circuit industry however China needs more than 400,000 by 2030 to fill the gap.

"China is expected to fill the large talent shortage in its domestic computer chip industry, as the US ban on sales of electronic products to smartphone maker ZTE underscores China's overreliance on imported chips, experts say."





"To achieve its goal, China will need to invest heavily in research, craft more favorable policies for Chinese chipmakers and attract more high-end foreign talent, experts said."

10.05.18

China Daily

Planned supercomputer would be 10 times faster than today's No 1

The National Supercomputing Centre in China have announced plans to build a supercomputer that would be capable of making calculations 10 times faster than the worlds 'current speed champion' and is expected to be created by 2020.

"The National Supercomputing Center in Shenzhen plans to build a nextgeneration supercomputer that will be 10 times faster than the world's current speed champion, a senior executive said."

"The investment is likely to hit 3 billion yuan (\$470.6 million), and key technologies for the supercomputer are expected to be developed independently," Wang Zhenglu, director of the project management department of the center told China Daily."

11.05.18

Open Gov

ASEAN Ministers jointly declare framework to combat fake news

The Association of Southeastern Asian Nations, a regional intergovernmental organisation comprising of ten Southeast Asian countries including Singapore and Thailand have vouched to combat fake news by creating a joint framework to share ideas and solutions to tackle the issue.

"On 10 May, Singapore hosted the 14th Conference of the ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information (AMRI) and the 15th Conference of ASEAN Plus Three Ministers Responsible for Information (5th AMRI+3) at Shangri-La Hotel, Singapore."

"The Conference was chaired by H.E. S. Iswaran, Minister for Communications and Information of Singapore with H.E. Kobsak Pootrakool, Minister Attached to the Prime Minister's Office of Thailand as Vice Chair."





Open Gov

<u>Indian President says technology is India's destiny on National Technology Day</u>

The Indian President, Shri Ram Nath Kovind said technology was India's destiny. He said "Our goal is a technology society and our means to that goal too will incorporate technology. Technology is our destiny."

"On 11 May, the President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind gave his address at the National Technology Day celebrations in New Delhi. He emphasised that technology is the country's destiny and iterated that "technology must also be equity" and that "its fruits must be accessible to all."

"Our goal is a technology society and our means to that goal too will incorporate technology. Technology is our destiny," he said."





Rest of the World

Internet governance

15.05.18

Channel NewsAsia

<u>Facebook Forums to discuss community standards will be held in Singapore 'this year': VP</u>

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Cybersecurity

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"The transfer "includes customer data storage and processing for most regions, as well as software assembly, including threat detection updates," said Kaspersky, whose software protects some 400 million computers worldwide."

15.05.18

The Guardian

Cybercrime to be most disruptive in the next 2 years- PwC study

According to a new study conducted by PWC nearly a quarter of South African businesses believe that in the next two years cybercrimes are going to cripple their businesses, yet many are still unprepared.

"A study conducted by PwC has revealed that a quarter of South African businesses believe that cybercrime will be the most disruptive economic crime to affect their organisations in the next two years. The 2018 PwC Global Economic Crime and Fraud Survey found that South Africa has the dubious honour of having the highest level of reported economic crime in the world, with a staggering 77% of companies being affected."

"Junaid Amra, Partner in PwC's Forensic Services Division, says that when it comes to combating fraud and economic crime, technology can become a double-edged sword."

15.05.18

Channel News Asia

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The Guardian

Hurdles in combating cyber crime in Nigeria

Umar Garba Danbatta, the Chief Executive Officer of the Nigerian Communication Commission said a lack of regional collaboration and expertise in cybersecurity is a major hurdle to combatting cyber-crime in Nigeria.

"The Executive Chairman/Chief Executive Officer, Nigeria Communication Commission (NCC), Prof. Umar Garba Danbatta has pointed out various challenges involved in the fight against cyber crime in Nigeria."

"He said the absence of comprehensive and reliable demographic and database; insufficient expertise in the area of Cyber and information security; insufficient inter agency, regional and international collaboration and lack of effective and functional forensics labs, technics and manpower to match the speed, anonymity and fleeting nature of evidence in cybercrimes investigation are the numerous challenges encountered in cybercrime management in Nigeria."

Privacy

No new items of relevance

Internet Inclusion

14.05.18

The Guardian

Firm urges investment in ICT

Dr Ikechukwu Adinde the Administrator of the Digital Bridge Institute a training centre in Nigeria and an arm of the Nigerian Communications Commission said more investment is needed in information and Communications Technology skills to bridge the skills gap.

"For a major economic breakthrough, government at all levels would need to invest in new Information and Communications Technology (ICT) skills."

"This was the submission of the Administrator of the Digital Bridge Institute (DBI), an arm of the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), Dr.





Ikechukwu Adinde, who stressed that Nigeria's competitiveness lies on innovation."

16.05.18

The Guardian

Afe Babalola wants Nigerians to embrace space technology

Afe Babalola, a Nigerian lawyer and founder of Afe Babalola university has urged Nigerians to embrace space technology and for the National university Commission to review the curriculum to make graduates skills more attractive to employers.

"A foremost legal luminary, Afe Babalola (SAN), has urged Nigerians to embrace space technology to explore the abundant resources in the moon."

"He also urged the National University Commission (NUC) to review the curriculum of the universities to meet the current global standard."

16.05.18

The Guardian

Nigeria's active domain name hits 111,146

According to the Nigerian Internet Registration Association, Nigeria now has 111,146 active domain names which is a unique name that identifies a website. This is 7,219 more than last year.

"The addition of 7,219 new domain names to the .ng registered in the month of April, has taken Nigeria's active domain number to 111, 146."

"According to the Nigeria Internet Registration Association (NiRA), the growth of the .ng domain names is encouraging."





Global Institutions

15.05.18

NATO

Speech by NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg at the Cyber Defence Pledge Conference

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"Minister Parly, Ambassadors, Ladies and gentlemen."

"May I start by thanking France for hosting us today. France is a strong NATO Ally, contributing to our shared security and our collective defence in many different ways."





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