



Cyber Policy, Diplomacy & Legal Framework

- [Russian Central Bank Proposes Banning Crypto Mining, Trading](#)



Russia's central bank proposed banning the mining, creation, and use of cryptocurrencies, in a report. The central bank said the proliferation of cryptocurrencies pose a danger to Russia's financial system and the stability of the Russian ruble. The bank said it expects the ban to reduce those threats.

- [UK government launches internal cyber strategy](#)

Westminster has launched its first ever Government Cyber Security Strategy, a multi-million pound plan to help better protect vital public services from the growing risk of disruptive and destructive cyber attacks.

- [Global broadband divide is closing but speed inequalities widen](#)

Research finds need for greater investment in advanced, full-fibre broadband networks is essential to closing a digital divide among global broadband users

Cyber Security

- [Staff negligence is now a major reason for insider security incidents](#)

Enterprise players today are facing cybersecurity challenges from every angle. Weak endpoint security, unsecured cloud systems, vulnerabilities -- whether unpatched or zero-days -- the introduction of unregulated internet of things (IoT) devices to corporate networks and remote work systems can all become conduits for a cyberattack to take place.



- [Mirai splinter botnets dominate IoT attack scene](#)

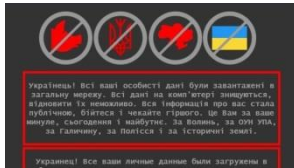
Botnets built from the Mirai codebase continue to wreak havoc in the technology arena, with cyberattackers taking advantage of lax Internet of Things (IoT) security in widespread attacks. Computers and other connected devices, including IoT and NAS storage, are compromised through weak credentials, vulnerabilities, exploit kits, and other security weaknesses.

- [Are embedded devices the next ransomware target?](#)

2021 will be remembered as the year that ransomware gangs turned their attention to critical infrastructure, targeting companies built around manufacturing, energy distribution and food production. Operational technology (OT) networks control the devices critical to the continued operations of production lines, power plants and energy supplies, and as such are typically segmented from a company's internet-facing IT networks to better isolate critical hardware from cyberattacks.

Cyber Warfare, Intelligence and Terrorism

- ['Be afraid': Cyberattack in Ukraine targets government websites](#)



A massive cyberattack left Ukrainian government websites temporarily unavailable on Friday, officials said. The disruption came amid heightened tensions with Russia and after talks between Moscow and the West failed to yield any significant progress this week.

- [Why the Belarus Railways Hack Marks a First for Ransomware](#)

For years, idealistic hacktivists have disrupted corporate and government IT systems in acts of protest. Now, in the geopolitically charged case of a hacktivist attack on the Belarusian railway system, those two veins of coercive hacking appear to be merging.

- [Internet service returns to Burkina Faso and Yemen after coup and bombings](#)

Some internet service has returned to the residents of Yemen, and Burkina Faso after violence in both countries led to outages over the last week. NetBlocks, an organization tracking internet access worldwide, said the internet was restored in Yemen after a four-day nationwide outage.

Emerging Technologies

- [B2B tech skills as the Cinderella of public policy](#)

When government ministers or their policy wonks think of technology and the economy, you can virtually guarantee they are thinking of consumer tech companies. And yet, that is not really what CIOs working for companies in the real economy need.

- [Why should we care about cryptocurrency? The business case for taking a closer look](#)

CIOs are charged with sorting the innovation wheat from the chaff -- and with so many systems and services to consider, some tech chiefs feel cryptocurrencies are unlikely to be a key element of their digital transformation strategies any time soon.

- [Meta and Twitter's NFT Landgrab Could Backfire](#)



Whether you view Web3—the decentralized vision of the future of the internet—as a utopian idea or a Ponzi scheme, one thing is for certain: It's meant to look different from what's gone before.

Italian Focus



- [National Cloud and USA providers: what strategy?](#)

A complex relationship, which has changed over the years, with delay, is now putting what really matters at the center of the discussion: data. Are we moving towards a compromise solution, or do we need to do more?

- [Against cyber attacks, coordinated action between the state and companies is needed](#)

Even if large companies are at the forefront in addressing technological threats, joint action with institutions must be strengthened, and the protection of small and medium-sized enterprises must also be guaranteed.

- [Italy has quietly become one of Big Tech's most prolific antagonists](#)

When Italy's competition regulator slapped a hefty fine of 1.13 billion euros (\$1.28 billion) on Amazon last month, it was just the latest salvo in a string of moves against Big Tech. The watchdog, Autorita Garante della Concorrenza e del Mercato, ramped up its actions in the last year with a flurry of rulings against the e-commerce giant, Alphabet's Google and Facebook owner Meta, to name a few.

European Focus

- [France opens access to quantum computing to researchers, start-ups](#)

The creation of a new quantum computing platform was announced. The aim is to make this technology accessible to as many people as possible, including the scientific community and French and EU start-ups. The intent is to ensure France does not miss out on the major advances quantum computing could make in the decades to come.



- [EU Commission presents toolkit to tackle foreign interference in research](#)

The toolkit offers guidelines to Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) and Research Performing Organisations (RPOs) to develop strategies to prevent, identify and respond to foreign interference threats without restricting international collaborations crucial to academic work.

- [The EU Has a Plan to Fix Internet Privacy: Be More Like Apple](#)

In 2021, Apple introduced a new privacy pop-up that it said would give users a real choice about whether they want to be tracked. The feature gives iPhone users two very simple options when they download new apps—"Ask App Not To Track" or "Allow." Now European lawmakers want to apply Apple's idea across all major online platforms