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SECURITY CONFERENCE

Cyber Insecurity: Unlawful Profits, Activism and Extremist Campaigns on the Internet

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Cyber Insecurity



- Cybercrime
- Hactivism
- Cyber-War
- Cyber Terrorism
- Conclusion

Organized Crime: The UN Convention of November 15th, 2000, called the “Palermo Convention” defines an “organized criminal group” as “a structured group of three or more persons, existing for a period of time and acting in concert with the aim of committing one or more serious crimes or offences established in accordance with this Convention, in order to obtain, directly or indirectly, a financial or other material benefit.”



Cybercrime: One cybercrime definition that is commonly accepted in Europe was provided by the European Commission “*Toward a general policy on the fight against cybercrime.*” It refers to “*criminal offences committed by means of electronic communication networks and information systems or against such networks and systems.*”

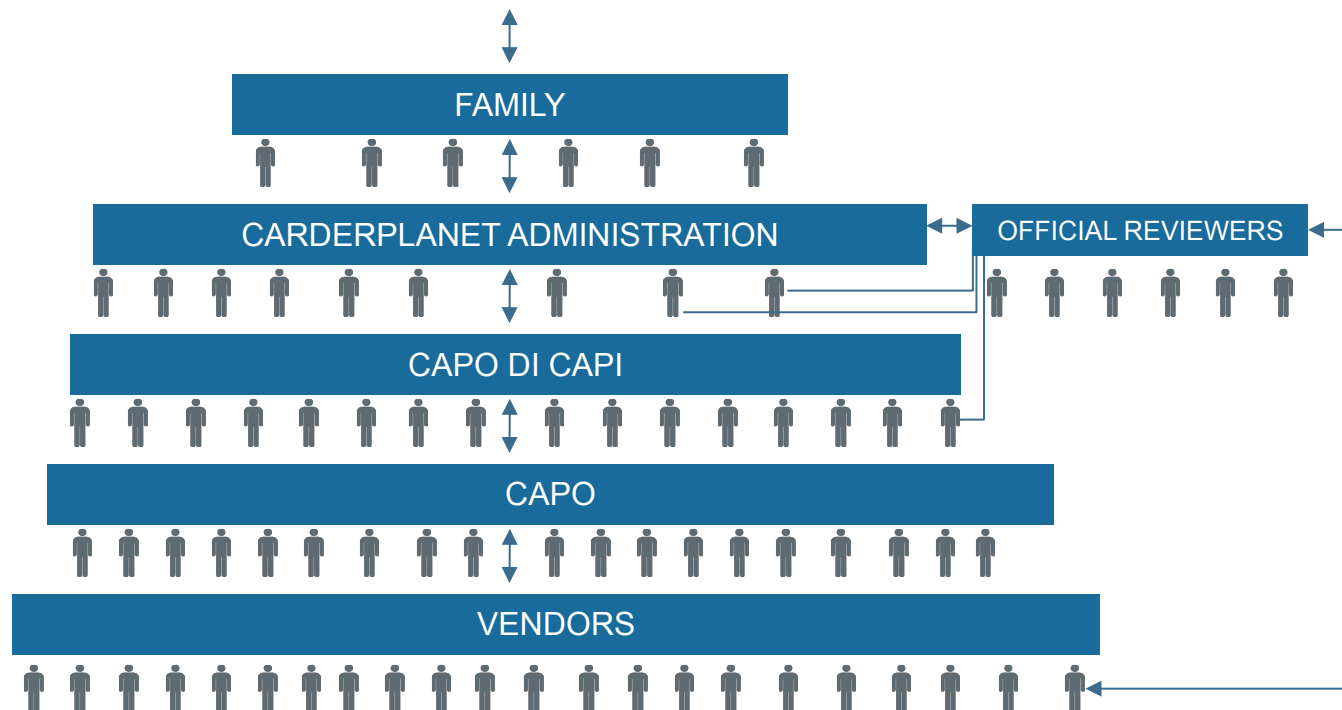
Cybermafia: Although the term “mafia” is often misused, the term “cybermafia” in every day language has become a simple synonym for an “organized cybercrime group.”



Example: CarderPlanet—Odessa 2001-2005



- In May, 2001, 150 criminals from Eastern Europe held a meeting in an Odessa restaurant
- They realized that the internet had created new opportunities for money laundering and making a profit for their business
- They prepared to hatch an international criminal group: CarderPlanet



Example: Le Club—Pennsylvania 2002-2008



- On February, 18th 2009, Nicholas “Nicky the Hat” Cimino, the head of a loan sharking and illegal gambling organization, pled guilty
- With the support of the Philadelphia crime family, their criminal activities generated a turnover of around \$1 million per month
- The illegal betting and gambling network extended as far as California and even to an offshore website whose domain name has not been disclosed

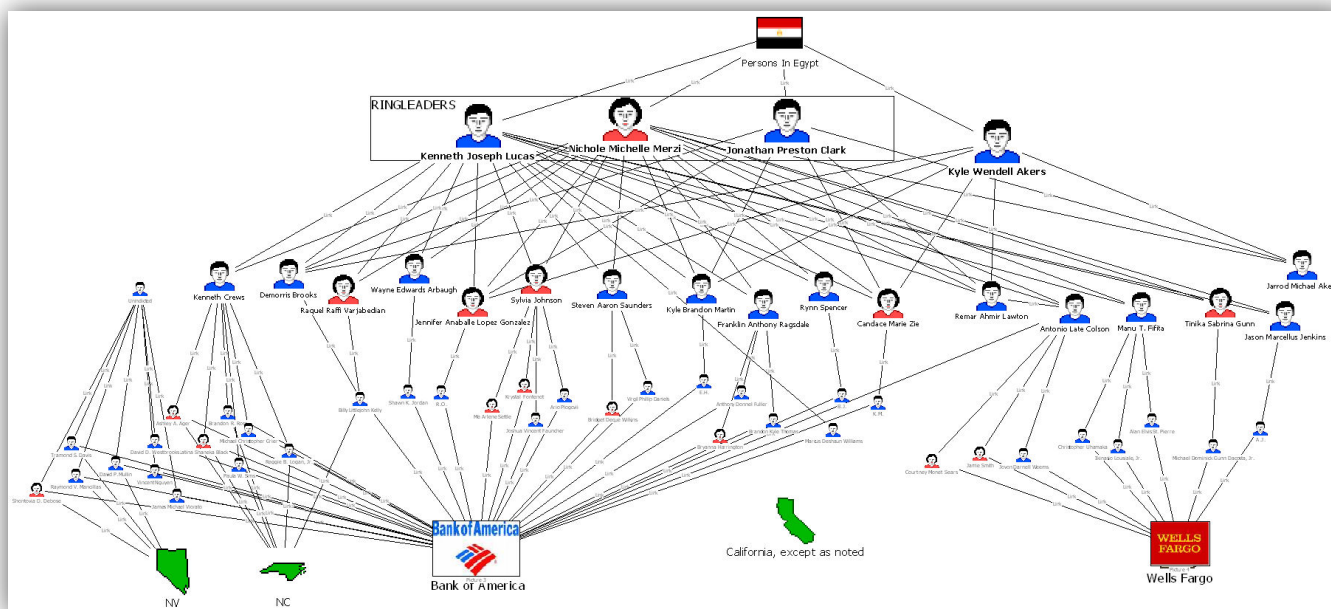


Source: <http://www.attorneygeneral.gov/press.aspx?id=3796>

Example: Egyptian Phishing Gang Operation Phish Phry 2007-2009



- In a widespread crackdown on an intricate phishing scam, FBI agents charged more than 50 people in Nevada, North Carolina and California with running a phishing operation that had ties to suspected cybercriminals in Egypt. The FBI said a raid by Egyptian authorities charged another 47 hackers who allegedly sent out phishing email messages directing victims to malicious web pages designed to look like legitimate banking websites



Flow chart created with i2 Analyst's Notebook by Gary Warner

Source: <http://garwarner.blogspot.com/2009/10/fbis-biggest-domestic-phishing-bust.html>

Operation Valley of the Kings 2010

- On Tuesday, April 6, 2010, the Romanian Police announced the arrest of 70 members of three separate organized cyber crime groups. Since 2006 these groups have stolen funds from citizens of Spain, Italy, France, New Zealand, Denmark, Sweden, Germany, Austria, the United States, Canada, and Switzerland - primarily through online auction fraud. International authorities have identified more than 800 victims with more than 800,000 Euros worth of losses
- The criminals were using the Internet to sell fictional electronic, luxury cars, yachts, villas and even airplanes. Recent sales included a BMW X5, Lexus and Infiniti vehicles, and even a recreational aircraft that sold for 67,000 Euros to a rich American



Cybercrime



Hactivism



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Cyber Terrorism



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Activism:

- Political involvement emphasizing direct action
- Actions taken by Greenpeace activists who set out to sea to get in the way of whaling expeditions or by the youths who tried to put out the Olympic flame during its world tour in 2008 are modern examples of activism

Hactivism:

- A contraction of “hacker” and “activism,” a term created in 1996 by a group named the Cult of the Dead Cow
- Although the phenomenon has existed for more than fifteen years, the 2007 distributed denial of services (DDoS) attacks against Estonia brought worldwide attention to the subject

Example: The Chinese Teams



Defacements: The western media has highlighted the fact that some Chinese groups have more than 300,000 members



"I solemnly swear to put the interests of the Chinese nation above everything else. I am willing to do everything in my power to make the Chinese nation rise up."

- China Eagle Union Pledge

Example: France Disinformation—Typosquatting



- On July 14, 2010 (Bastille Day), a bogus site using the logo and style and many of the video contents of the official French Foreign Ministry web site goes online
- The lead video item on the hoax site is a film of a young, pompous woman announcing a series of diplomatic initiatives that never existed

www[.]diplomatiegov.fr



www[.]diplomatie.gouv.fr



Fake

True



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Definition: Attributes of Cyber-War



- Source: The attack must be carried out or supported by a State
- Motivation: The attack is motivated by political reasons
- Consequence: The attack causes damage
- Sophistication: The attack requires custom methods and/or complex planning

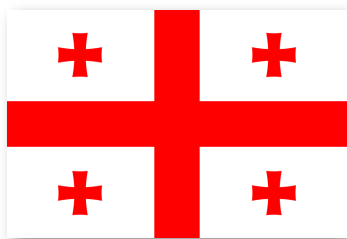
SOURCE			
0 – 3	4 – 8	8 – 10	
little or no evidence of state involvement	state-tolerated state-sponsored	state-executed	
MOTIVATION			
0 – 3	4 – 8	8 – 10	
unknown/criminal	may be politically motivated	stated/explicit political objective	
CONSEQUENCE			
0 – 3	4 – 8	8 – 10	
low impact/ short duration	moderate impact/ medium duration	severe impact/ long duration	
SOPHISTICATION			
0 – 3	4 – 8	8 – 10	
known exploits	unpublished exploits	custom developed exploits	

Examples: The Estonian & Georgian Rings

A Model for Future Conflicts?



- Attacks were carried out by civilians
- In step with military operations
- Carried out with the help of major Russian cybercrime organizations
- Attacks intentionally limited in their scope
- A desire to hide this new model of conflict's true capacity for harm



- On May 2008, seven allied countries, members of NATO, set up a center of expertise and training on cyber-risks
- On March, 2009 State Duma Deputy Sergei Markov revealed that his assistant – who will remain nameless - launched the Estonian attack. The unnamed assistant is likely to be Konstantin Goloskokov, commissar of the "Nashi" Youth Democratic Anti-Fascist Movement in Moldova and Transnistria, who –the same month - admitted to orchestrating the attack



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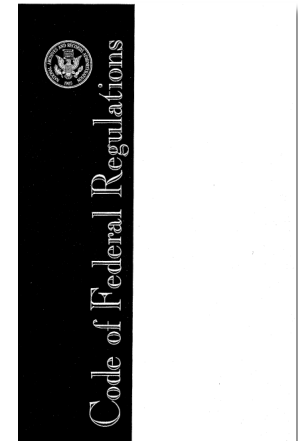
Definitions



Terrorism: The US Code of Federal Regulations defines terrorism as *"...the unlawful use of force and violence against persons or property to intimidate or coerce a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political or social objectives."* (28 C.F.R. Section 0.85)

Cyber Terrorism: *"However, mere terrorist use of information technology is not regarded as cyberterrorism. The true threat of "Cyberterrorism" will be realized when all the factors that constitute a terrorist attack, coupled with the use of the Internet, are met.*

"Cyberterrorism is a criminal act perpetrated by the use of computers and telecommunications capabilities, resulting in violence, destruction and/or disruption of services, where the intended purpose is to create fear by causing confusion and uncertainty within a given population, with the goal of influencing a government or population to conform to a particular political, social or ideological agenda."



Cyber Terrorism: Does It Even Exist ?



Internet and ITC How They are Used	Happened already ?	Comments
As a means of linking up	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-mails, forums, cell phones, PDA
As a means of propaganda	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information and support Media relay (with increasing use of multimedia) A weapon to discredit A weapon to incite hatred Anti-sites, black propaganda
As a means of financing	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To raise funds To exploit IT systems (credit cards, blackmail - extortion), money laundering, etc.) To access confidential personal data
As an information-gathering platform for an operation (and pre-selection of targets)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On-line information (almanacs, photos, plans of public and/or industrial sites) Cyber-geography (e.g. national routers, Google earth, network and telecom infrastructures)
As a target for direct action in the real sense (destruction, attribution of resources)	NO	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> General discourse focused on mass destruction and/ or a systemic threat (collapse of the Internet, shutdown of a particular business at the national level) The action might be more limited/targeted. It might be repetitive and/or the prelude to a combined attack ...or even attrition spread over time

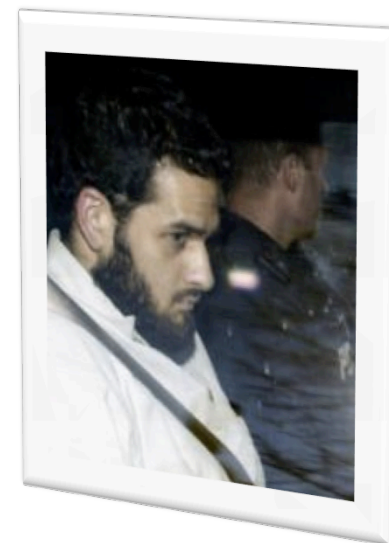
Source CLUSIF (France)

Examples: Cyber Terrorism in Canada



The Khawaja case

Momin Khawaja, a 30-year-old Canadian software engineer was found guilty in a case known as the U.K. fertilizer bomb plot. The events occurred between 2002-2004. Khawaja reportedly experimented with remote-controlled detonation devices. On March 12, 2009, he was sentenced to 10 years and six months in prison



The Toronto 18 case

Zakaria Amara is considered the ringleader of the Toronto 18 extremist Muslim group which planned Al-Qaeda-style bombings of Toronto landmarks in 2006. Amara stated he had learned how to construct a fertilizer bomb over the Internet and planned to use it on the Toronto Stock Exchange. On January 18, 2010 he was sentenced to life in prison. On his computer, police found satellite photos of the Parliament buildings, road maps of the area and instructional videos on making bombs

Examples: Cyber Terrorism in Canada

The Saïd Namouh case



Saïd Namouh was sentenced to life in prison on February 17, 2010

He participated with zeal and enthusiasm in the planning of terrorist acts and the distribution of jihadist propaganda. He was a video maker working for the Global Islamic Media Front (GIMF)

Namouh, described as an al-Qaeda member, was found guilty of conspiring to commit a bombing attack in Europe, attempting to extort the governments of Austria and Germany with video threats (in March 2007), participating in a terrorist group, and aiding terrorist activities. He also helped in the making of a video related to the Alan Johnston ransom demand (May 2007)



Examples: Cyber Terrorism in Canada

The Saïd Namouh Case



- Experts demonstrated how he took part in hundreds of pro-jihad discussions on the Internet. Under the name Ashraf, he was one of 73 members of the Khidemat forum, an online workshop for the GIMF. A few days after his arrest, his 640 contributions disappeared

مركز الخدمات

مركز الخدمات	آخر زيارة لك كانت في: 11/07/07 الساعة 02: 07: 02 PM	موجودات اشرف
لوحة التحكم	الاسئلة الشائعة	قائمة الاعضاء
التقويم	مركز رفع الملفات	مشاركات جديدة
بحث	وصلات سريعة	تسجيل الخروج

التنزيل	آخر مشاركة	الترانيم	التعليقات
القسم العام :: Off Topic			
القسم العربي	بدأ الطرود بواسطة يوسف محمد منذ 4 اسبوع/اسبوع الزفاف الى اخر مشاركة	3,791	321
English Section just in english please	...Iraqi Insurgent Group, 'The بواسطة احمد جابر الله 12/03/07 الزفاف الى اخر مشاركة	48	13
قسم الترجمة و اللغات	ترجمة للكتاب بواسطة طارق 12/06/07 الزفاف الى اخر مشاركة	703	74
مؤسسة صوت الخلافة الإعلامية :: CVC			
مؤسسة صوت الخلافة الإعلامية	خطبان مشهور بواسطة اشرف 10/03/07 الزفاف الى اخر مشاركة	93	9
قسم الرفع و التنزيل			
قسم الرفع و التنزيل	نسخة متحركة من بواسطة فريق التوزيع 24/06/07 الزفاف الى اخر مشاركة	2,106	181

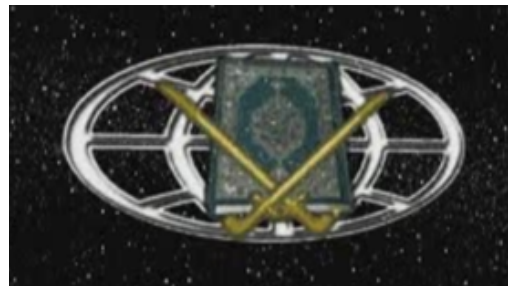
Forum Khidemat
(password protected)

Examples: Cyber Terrorism in Canada

The Saïd Namouh case



- Inside his computer, the investigative work was difficult because many of the folders, filenames, and contents were in Arabic characters. However, they easily discovered maps and flag pictures of the United States that the defendant used in some of the videos he helped create

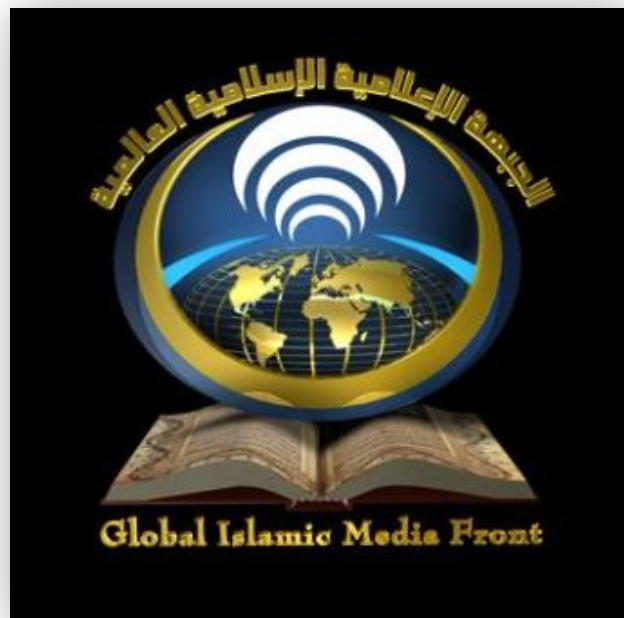


Sources (screenshots and video):
D. Dudemaine - Public
Prosecution Service of Canada



Examples: Cyber-Terrorism in Canada

Al-Qaeda is Engaged in Online Military Training



Examples: Cyber Terrorism in Canada

Al-Qaeda is Engaged in Online Military Training



Islamic groups also distribute the necessary tools to see the jihad through to the end. They develop and distribute their own VPN and encryption software. The jihadist movements are reluctant to use standard encryption software such as PGP because they fear a backdoor within the implementation





Cybercrime



Hactivism



Cyber-War



Cyber Terrorism



Conclusion

Cyber Insecurity—Interconnections Exist Between Cybercrime & Cyber-War



The nationalist leanings of some cybercriminals can be seen on their forum banners.



www.carderportal.org

We will recreate historical fairness

We will bring the USA down to the level of 1928-1933



Links Exists Between Cybercrime and Cyber-War

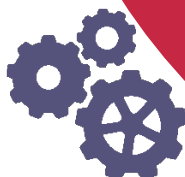
- The Torpig authors are known but not arrested. According to French police, *"The political authorities in Kiev and the Kremlin prefer to keep their mafia close at hand, even using them to stick their noses into some Georgia banks, not necessarily friends..."*.

Cyber Insecurity: Private Sector from Democratic States are the Next Main Target



SCADA (Supervisory Control And Data Acquisition) on the Front Line

- January 2008: generation of power outages (source CIA)
- May 2008 - Wonderware Suitelink vulnerability: A third of the planet's factories can be controlled by cybercriminals
- July 2010 – The Stuxnet worm targets systems running WinCC SCADA software. It is signed with a real signature of Realtek Semiconductor, one of the biggest producers of computer equipment.



Cyber Insecurity: Mind the Disinformation



- Since end of June 2010, media are talking about a possible new online magazine distributed by Al-Qaeda to English speaking sympathizers. Only the first three pages are readable
- After we analyze the PDF, we are reserved regarding the origin of this document. We doubt it was an Al-Qaeda creation. Nowadays cybercrime and hacktivism are invading the Internet, but don't forget disinformation



