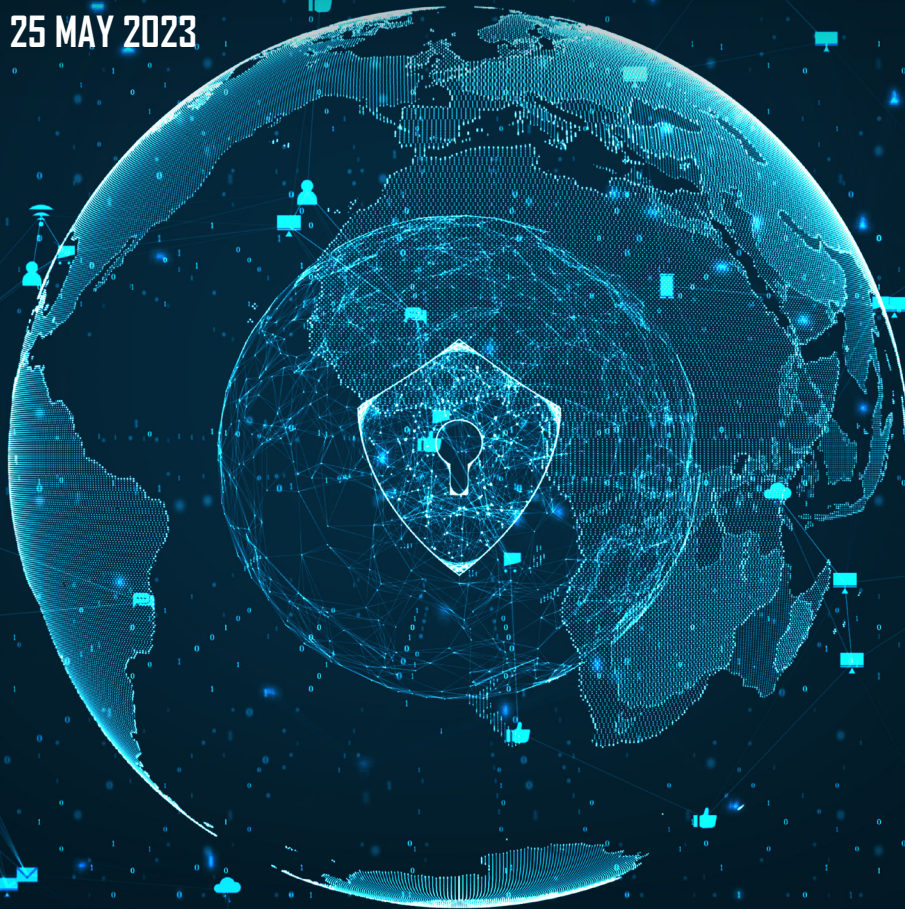


V4 CONFERENCE ON CYBER ISSUES

25 MAY 2023



PERMANENT REPRESENTATION OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC TO THE EU
AVENUE DE CORTENBERGH 79, 1000 BRUSSELS







V4 CONFERENCE ON CYBER ISSUES

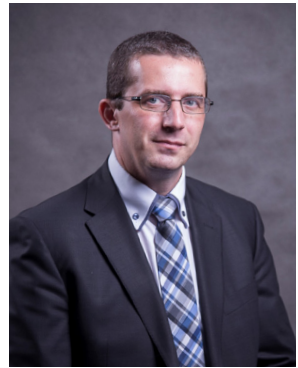
25 MAY 2023

Brussels

"The more dependent we become on information systems, the more vulnerable we are..."

Dear guests,

I would like to welcome you to the V4 Conference on Cyber Issues organized under the auspices of the Slovak National Security Authority and the Permanent Representation of the Slovak Republic to the EU, with the support of the Slovak Liaison Office for Research and Development in Brussels and their partner offices, taking place on the occasion of the ongoing Slovak Presidency in the Visegrad Group.



The main goal of this year's conference is to host a series of discussions among ambassadors, senior officials, experienced experts, as well as prominent academics on the most burning topics in the field of security, diplomacy, legislation, research, and development of new technologies, which are all related to cybersecurity and its impact on economy and society.

We expect these discussions will reflect on issues that resonate not only at the level of the European Union, but also among countries themselves and will also map the current situation across several areas, identify their key problems, and propose specific solutions. The audience can also expect analyses as well as forecasts of the situation and individual trends for the coming years.

The year 2022 was extremely challenging in terms of various social and geopolitical changes that significantly tested the integrity of the European Union as well as NATO and affected us all. It is not over yet. We will keep on experiencing the burden of the impacts of the previous COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent economic crisis this year and likely in the following years. I am very pleased that in this difficult situation, our Euro-Atlantic community has confirmed its adherence to democratic principles and has declared a willingness to continue to protect basic human rights and freedoms of citizens as widely as possible, both within and beyond own borders.

I, therefore, see it as imperative that we work together to help future partners who have shown commitment to defending the democratic direction of their countries. Under the influence of current events, there is an unprecedented security threat since the fall of the Berlin Wall, which today translates, in particular, into real cyber-attacks against states of the international community involved in helping against the unprovoked aggression. The countries of the Visegrad Four, which form a buffer zone, are no exception.

A room for this strategic topic addressing sensitive security and geopolitical issues is offered in the first panel of the conference. Here, invited guests will present their views on current security threats and the state of cyberspace, while also providing an assessment of possible future developments with regard to the general geopolitical situation, particularly in Europe, the United States of America and Asia.

The second panel, which will conclude the morning session, will be dedicated to a debate of ambassadors for cyber issues from the Visegrad Four countries. The United Nations in Geneva and New York, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Vienna, the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development in Paris, as well as other communities outside the European

Union, are currently seeking answers on how to make the international community, which upholds the same values, more resilient and prepared for global cybersecurity threats. The European Union, which a few years ago approved a set of tools for cyber diplomacy in order to properly respond to harmful activities of various state and non-state actors, is now faced with a decision on how to streamline and optimize its own procedures, simplify mutual coordination, and complete the missing tools to ensure that the response is prompt, targeted, and effective. The Ambassadors' debate will therefore name the existing environment and outline the directions in which the topic of cyber diplomacy, including in the context of broader digitalization and new technologies, should be heading in the future.

The afternoon will begin with the third panel, where distinguished researchers from the academic communities of the Visegrad Four countries will discuss the rapid dynamics of digital technology development, particularly in cloud services, artificial intelligence, quantum technologies, and in the production and distribution of modern semiconductors. Today, we see the rise of advanced digitalization in all areas of our work and personal lives, yet digital technologies increasingly confront cybersecurity. Therefore, it is necessary to establish a sufficiently flexible legislative framework that creates conditions for strengthening their security from production to routine use.

In addition, I also see the security and sustainability of supply chains as a separate issue, the vulnerability of which, due to dependence on large-scale supplies from countries with autocratic regimes, has been exposed by recent crises. I invite our panellists to a lively debate and to present their visions on how to approach the current technological trends while preserving the existing model of fundamental human rights and freedoms.

The fourth and final panel of the conference will reflect on the need for collective efforts to increase the level of cybersecurity in the European Union's cyberspace. Here, the efforts of the European Commission and the EU Member States should be based on a modern and technology-neutral legal framework that ensures consumer trust in the internal market, simplify the complicated regulatory environment including its tools, and take into account not only ongoing but also anticipated trends. During the discussion, national experts from the Visegrad countries will reflect on the suggested direction of the transposition process of the revised NIS2 Directive as well as the implementation of other regulations on cybersecurity and resilience. The audience will thus learn several pieces of information directly from the application practice's kitchen. As the April cyber package brought new initiatives to the table, I expect the experts to indicate how they will approach them on the national level and also to identify their pros and cons.

Dear participants, given the dynamics of the geopolitical context and its impacts, it should be in our common interest to build a secure and resilient cyberspace that can benefit not only the European Union but also the entire international community. Therefore, the conference's ambition is also to provide an opportunity to get acquainted with the views and positions of the invited guests, which, especially in the Brussels environment, may not always be entirely clear. At the same time, the event will open up a space for exchanging experiences and good practices.

I wish you an enriching debate.

Roman Konečný
Director, National Security Authority

PROGRAMME

08.15 Registration and coffee

08.40 Opening remarks by **Radoslav Repa**, Counsellor, Slovak National Cyber Security Authority

08.45 Welcome remarks by **Petra Vargová**, Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic to the EU

08.50 Keynote speech by **Rastislav Janota**, Director, Slovak National Cyber Security Center

09.00 Panel I: General Cyber Security Landscape: Strong points and challenges

- **Kateřina Kaluřova**, Deputy Director, Digital Economy Manager, Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic
 - **Andrew Lee**, Vice President for Government Affairs, ESET
 - **Csaba Krasznay**, Head of the Institute of Cybersecurity, National University of Public Service
 - **Ben Crampton**, Director, European Government Affairs, Microsoft
- Moderator: Peter Bator, Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic to NATO*
-

10.30 Coffee break

10.45 Panel II: Cyber and Digital Diplomacy: European values and standards at the edge of digital transformation

- **Engelbert Theuermann**, Ambassador, Special Envoy for Cyber Diplomacy, Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria
- **Marcel Peřko**, Ambassador-at-large, Hybrid Threats and Enhancing Resilience Unit, Transatlantic Relations and Security Policy Department, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic
- **Richard Kadlicak**, Ambassador, Director of Cyber Security Department, Special Envoy for Cyber Space, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic
- **Szilvia Toth**, Cyber Security Officer, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE)

Moderator: Liga Raita Rozentale, Independent Strategic Consultant

12.15 Buffet lunch

13.30 **Panel III: New Techs and Industries: How to embrace emerging technological trends and prepare us for future? Researchers' perspectives**

- **Magdalena Stobińska**, Professor, University of Warsaw
- **Ivan Kotuliak**, Dean of the Faculty of Informatics and Information Technologies, Slovak Technical University in Bratislava
- **Jakub Harašta**, Assistant Professor, Institute of Law and Technology, Masaryk University
- **Imre Lendák**, Associate Professor, Data Science and Engineering Department (DSED), Faculty of Informatics, Eötvös Loránd University

Moderator: Marek Čanecký, First Secretary, Information Society, Digital Agenda, Digital Single Market, Permanent Representation of the Slovak Republic to the EU

15.00 Coffee break

15.15 **Panel IV: Current Cyber Security Dossiers: Is our framework fit for incidents and threats?**

- **René Baran**, Head of Unit, International Relations and Security Policies Department, Slovak National Security Authority
- **Marcin Domagała**, Head of Unit, International Cooperation Division in the Cyber Security Area, Cyber Security Department, Ministry of Digital Affairs of Poland
- **Ádám Vajkovszky**, International policy coordinator, Single point of contact, Special Service for National Security, National Cyber Security Center of Hungary
- **Martin Švéda**, Head of the Private Sector Regulation Unit, National Cyber and Information Security Agency of the Czech Republic

Moderator: Maria Boka, Senior Director, EU Strategy

16.45 Closing remarks by **Radoslav Repa**, Counsellor, Slovak National Cyber Security Authority

WELCOME REMARKS

PETRA VARGOVÁ



Petra Vargová has devoted her entire professional life to the European agenda. At the beginning of her career, she was part of the team that negotiated the entry of the Slovak Republic into the EU. She experienced the historical moment when Slovakia became a member of the EU as a diplomat of the Permanent Representation of the Slovak Republic to the EU in Brussels.

She was instrumental in the preparation and delivery of the first Slovak presidency of the Council of the EU. Her appointment as Permanent Representative of the Slovak Republic to the EU marks the first time Slovakia has had a woman in this position. The Permanent Representation of the Slovak Republic to the EU is the largest Slovak representative office and also one of the most demanding.

KEYNOTE SPEECH

RASTISLAV JANOTA



Rastislav Janota has over 25 years of international experience in IT, telecommunication, and government sectors. Throughout his career, he has held various expert, managerial and supervisory positions in the field of information and communication services and information/cyber security in the private and public sectors, both at home and abroad.

As of 2016, he chairs the newly created Committee for Cyber Security of the Security Council of the Slovak Republic. Since July 2016, after joining the Slovak National Security Agency, he has been leading the field of cybersecurity, where he established and leads the Slovak National Cybersecurity Centre. He is also a member of the Management Board and a member of the Executive Board of the European Union Agency for Cyber Security (ENISA).

PANEL I: GENERAL CYBER SECURITY LANDSCAPE: STRONG POINTS AND CHALLENGES

KATEŘINA KALUŽOVÁ



Kateřina Kalužová currently works as the Digital Economy Manager and the Deputy Director of the Digital Economy and Technology Unit at the Confederation of Industry of the Czech Republic (SPCR). Together with colleagues, she actively represents the interests of the membership base of the SPCR in all areas related to the digital agenda and technologies, both at the national and European levels.

Key focus on topics like cybersecurity, cloud, data transfers and protection, digital trade, telecommunications, and international relations. She is also a Member of the ENISA ad hoc Working Group on Enterprise Security and the national Business Working Group for Cloud Computing. In the past, she also dealt with the digital agenda and telecommunications at the Ministry of Industry and Trade of the Czech Republic.

CSABA KRASZNAV



Csaba Krasznav is an Associate Professor at the Ludovika – University of Public Service with cybersecurity being his field of research. Currently, he is also the Head of the university's Institute of Cybersecurity.

Besides his activities in higher education, he is present on the market as well. He obtained a CISA certification in 2005, CISM and CISSP in 2006, CEH in 2008, ISO 27001 Lead Auditor in 2012 and CSSLP in 2015. He is a board member of the Voluntary Cyberdefence Cooperation, member of ISACA Budapest Chapter, Magyary Zoltán E-government Association, Hungarian Association of Military Science, Scientific Association for Infocommunications and the Hungarian Association for Electronic Signature.

ANDREW LEE



Andrew Lee is ESET's Vice President of Government Affairs and Global CTI Strategist. He combines a unique blend of corporate management and security expertise. He formerly served as Chief Executive Officer of ESET North America, the Chief Technology Officer of K7 Computing, and prior to that as ESET's Chief Research Officer.

He has written extensively on cybersecurity topics and presented as a speaker at some of the world's most prestigious cybersecurity conferences, as well as serving as a board member and advisor on various committees and cybersecurity organizations. He holds a Master's degree in Computer Security from the University of Liverpool.

BEN CRAMPTON



Ben Crampton is Director for European Government Affairs at Microsoft. He joined the company in late 2021 after 20 years as a diplomat working variously for the UK Foreign Office, the United Nations and, principally, for the European Union. His work as a diplomat focused primarily on conflict and post-conflict negotiation in the Balkans, the Caucasus and East Africa.

His last position before joining Microsoft was as Chief of Staff to the EU Special Representative for the Horn of Africa. Ben is a member of the Board of Finn Church Aid Investments, a non-profit investment fund based in Helsinki and investing in SMEs in Kenya, Somalia and Uganda.

PETER BÁTOR



Peter Bátor is an experienced diplomat, analyst, and policy adviser who has worked for two Presidents of Slovakia, ministers, deputy ministers, and ambassadors. His roles include serving as Deputy Permanent Representative and Chief Political Adviser at the Permanent Delegation of Slovakia to NATO in Brussels and as Director of the International Crisis Management and Arms Control Division at the Slovak Ministry of Defence. His career focuses on foreign and security policy, including NATO, the Eastern Flank, Western Balkans, and international conflicts.

He also specializes in cyber security and its impacts on state and international security. He has cooperated with governmental and non-governmental organizations, academia, and has short-term field experience in Afghanistan, Iraq, and Kosovo. He founded the first Slovak cyber security web portal and was the former President of the Slovak George C. Marshall Centre Alumni Association. He holds an MA and PhD in international affairs and diplomacy from Matej Bel University in Slovakia and completed a Security Studies program at George C. Marshall Centre for Security Studies in Germany.

PANEL II: CYBER AND DIGITAL DIPLOMACY: EUROPEAN VALUES AND STANDARDS AT THE EDGE OF DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION

ENGELBERT THEUERMANN



Since May 2021, Engelbert Theuermann is the Special Envoy for Cyber Diplomacy and Cyber Security of the Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs of Austria. Previous positions in the Austrian Foreign Ministry include Director for Security Policy (2017-2021) and Director for Human Rights (2004-2010). He worked at the Austrian Mission to the UN in New York in particular as delegate to the Third Committee (human rights, crime prevention and criminal justice) (1994-2000).

He worked at the European External Action Service as Chair of the Council Working Party on Human Rights (COHOM) (2011-2015). Previously he was Senior Child Protection Advisor in the office of the UN Special Representative and Head of the UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) (2002-2004) and worked in the Office of Emergency Programs of UNICEF (2000-2002).

MARCEL PEŠKO



Marcel Peško is an experienced diplomat who has served in various senior positions within the Slovak Foreign Service and multilateral diplomacy. He has focused on security, conflict prevention, disarmament, and confidence-building agenda. Currently, he serves as Ambassador-at-large, responsible for hybrid threats, including cyber threats and digital issues. He recently returned to the Slovak diplomatic service in 2020 after serving as Director of the Conflict Prevention Centre and Deputy Head of the Secretariat at the OSCE, and Director of the Office of the Secretary General.

He began his career as a diplomat in the early 1990s, and his first assignment abroad was with the Slovak Permanent Mission to the CSCE. He has also served as Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the International Organizations and the OSCE in Vienna, and in various senior positions within the Slovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Additionally, he has worked as a business development director for several international companies operating in the IT and payment processing sectors in Slovakia and the wider region.

RICHARD KADLČÁK



Richard Kadlčák currently serves in the role of Special Envoy for Cyberspace and Director of the Cyber Diplomacy Department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. His responsibilities include coordinating national and international positions on cybersecurity issues as well as representing the Czech Republic in international negotiations on cyberspace issues. He is a career diplomat with over 20 years of working experience at the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Prior to his appointment as a Special Envoy, he served as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Czech Republic to Estonia.

SZILVIA TÓTH



Szilvia Tóth currently works as the Cyber Security Officer at the Secretariat of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE). In her scope of work, she is responsible for supporting participating States in cyber-related matters, including assistance in developing and implementing cyber Confidence Building Measures. Previously, she was a diplomat at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, working on cyber diplomacy issues and EU affairs. She was also a member of the first Hungarian European Union Presidency team in 2011. Before joining the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, she worked in the private sector: at the mobile phone operator Vodafone Hungary and fixed-line telecom service provider United Telecom Investment.

She holds a Bachelor's degree in International communications and a Master's degree in European Union affairs. She is an alumna of the George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies, having completed the Program on Cyber Security Studies in 2014 and was an adjunct faculty member and co-seminar leader in the same course in 2018.

LĪGA RAITA ROZENTĀLE



Līga Rozentāle is a senior leader with over 20 years of experience driving teams on strategic issues for government and business development. Currently, she is developing her own independent consultancy advising various public and private stakeholders on business development in the areas of the digital economy, security and defence. Throughout her career, she has a track record on fostering innovation and thought leadership within the national, EU, NATO and UN context.

In her recent role as Senior Director, Microsoft European Government Affairs (Cyber & Defence), she led a team to drive regulatory and nonregulatory impact on cyber issues for one of the world's largest private sector companies. Earlier in her career, she served as the first Latvian cyber diplomat for Latvia at the EU, NATO and the UN fostering in the age of cyberdiplomacy and addressing the complexities of the new 5th domain of warfare. She has been named among the top 50 most influential women in Europe on cybersecurity and serves on advisory committees for ENISA, Women4Cyber, CyDiplo, and the Global Cyber Alliance.

PANEL III: NEW TECHS AND INDUSTRIES: HOW TO EMBRACE EMERGING TECHNOLOGICAL TRENDS AND PREPARE US FOR FUTURE? RESEARCHERS' PERSPECTIVES

MAGDALENA STOBIŃSKA



Magdalena Stobińska is professor and head of Quantum Technologies Research Group at the University of Warsaw and CEO of innovative startup levelQuantum s.r.l. (Milan, Italy). She holds PhD degree in theoretical physics (2007), a habilitation degree in physical sciences (2015) and Abilitazione Scientifica Nazionale in theoretical physics (D2/B2) (2022). She also graduated from the Leadership Academy for Poland (2022). She was distinguished with Alexander von Humboldt, Marie Curie, Foundation for Polish Science and Outstanding Young Scientist's fellowships.

She specializes in quantum information processing, covering a broad range of high-tech applications from communication and cryptography, through metrology to quantum computation and quantum algorithms. Her ground-breaking ideas have been already demonstrated in numerous experiments at top research institutions in Europe and beyond. She has been the Principal Investigator and Coordinator of numerous research projects, including the European MSCA Innovative Training Network AppQInfo. Her collaboration network covers influential European and international research institutions, quantum business entrepreneurs and space agencies.

IVAN KOTULIAK



Ivan Kotuliak is the Dean of the Faculty of Informatics and Information Technologies at the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava. He is an expert representative for the European Blockchain Partnership at the European Commission and a Slovak representative for the Information for All Programme of the Slovak Commission for UNESCO. He holds a PhD in Informatics from the University of Versailles and the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technology at the Slovak University of Technology in Bratislava.

He has been a full Professor at FIIT STU since 2019, with research interests in communication network performance, NGN network architecture, mobile and wireless networks, Blockchain, Content Delivery Networks (CDN). He has co-authored the ETSI standard and Software Defined Networks (SDNs), and published over 50 scientific papers. He has been involved as a principal investigator and researcher in more than 20 international and national research projects as a principal investigator and researcher.

JAKUB HARAŠŤA



Jakub Harašta is an assistant professor at the Institute of Law and Technology, Faculty of Law, Masaryk University. He graduated in law (master's and doctoral degrees) and security studies (master's degree). He was a visiting research fellow at Minerva Center for the Rule of Law under Extreme Conditions (University of Haifa, 2015) and visiting postdoctoral fellow at the Center for Cyber Law & Policy (University of Haifa, 2018). His short-term research stays included Exeter Law School (UK), NATO Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence (Estonia), and Max-Planck-Institut zur Erforschung von Gemeinschaftsgütern (Germany).

In his research, Jakub focuses mainly on legal informatics and cybersecurity, tackling regulation and compliance and the broader implications of emerging and disruptive technology. He is currently engaged in the EU-funded POLIICE Project, researching novel lawful interception methods, including 5G networks and quantum technology. Furthermore, as Legal Advisor, Jakub is aiding in developing cybersecurity and crisis resilience capacities within the platform CRP-Kyber, coordinating the effort of 26 universities in Czechia.

IMRE LENDÁK



Imre Lendák is an Associate Professor teaching data analytics tools and technologies, critical infrastructure security and distributed systems and algorithms. His main research and professional interests are industrial control system (ICS) security and security aspects of machine learning solutions.

He coordinated the EU-funded Information Security Services Education in Serbia (ISSES) project in the 2017-2021 period. He was the recipient of the Balkans Cybersecurity Fellowship 2021 awarded by CRDF Global. He is a member of the Steering Committee of the European CyberSecurity Challenge (ECSC) competition for top cybersecurity talents organized by the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity (ENISA).

MAREK ČANECKÝ



Marek Čanecký is a digital agenda and digital programs/projects professional. He currently works at the Permanent Representation of Slovakia to the EU as a digital attaché. Previously, he held several expert positions in the EU institutions (Slovak Presidency of the Council of the EU, General Secretariat of the Council of the EU), where he was responsible for digital and cyber policy, as well as executive positions in the Slovak civil service (Government Office, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Environment), where he was responsible for management and implementation of eGovernment and digitalization initiatives.

He is a graduate of Matej Bel University (2004, International Relations and Diplomacy) and the University of Linköping (2006, European Studies). Since 2022, he has been a member of the International Advisory Committee of the Global Forum – Shaping the Future think-tank. During 2010 – 2020, he was a member of the Programme Committee of ITAPA - the leading conference on digitization and new technologies in Slovakia.

**PANEL IV: CURRENT CYBER SECURITY DOSSIERS:
IS OUR FRAMEWORK FIT FOR INCIDENTS AND THREATS?**

RENÉ BARAN



René Baran is the director of the International Relations and Security Policy Division, Regulation and Supervision Department of the Slovak National Security Authority (NSA), where he is responsible for the development of legislation and security policy. This includes the approximation of European Union law into national legislation, including in the area of cybersecurity and the protection of classified information. He actively contributes to the development of legislation, framework documents, strategies, security policies, national positions, and opinions, not only in the field of cyber security, and participates in expert forums dealing with the preparation of new legislation at the state level. He shares his knowledge at various events and trains new liaison officers of the NSA for their service.

He also represents Slovakia at the expert level in the working formats of the Commission and the Council of the EU, such as the Cooperation Group on the transposition NIS Directive, the HWP CI (Horizontal Working Group on Cyber Issues), the WG NCSS (Working Group on Cyber Security Strategy) and others.

MARCIN DOMAGAŁA



Marcin Domagała holds a Master's degree in International Relations from Collegium Civitas in Warsaw. From 2007 to 2017 he was an employee of the Office of Electronic Communications, where he was mainly responsible for the analysis of the Internet access services market and later for the analysis of the postal services market.

Since 2019, he has worked in the Cybersecurity Department of the Ministry of Digitalisation, and after the transformation in October 2020, he continued his work in the Cybersecurity Department in the Chancellery of the Prime Minister. Since April 2022, he has been working as the head of the International Cooperation in the Area of Cyber Security Unit and also in the Cyber Security Department, where he implements responsibilities related to the national cybersecurity system and international cooperation, in particular with the European Commission.

ÁDÁM VAJKOVSZKY



After graduating from the Faculty of Law and Political Sciences of Eötvös Loránd University in Budapest, Ádám Vajkovszky began his career in the central public administration of Hungary. He worked for several years in the Prime Minister's Office as a coordinator of international projects related to the EEA.

He currently holds a position as an international relations specialist, alongside the Director of the National Cyber Security Centre of Hungary. As a result of this work, he has gained experience in the field of cyber security in recent years, especially in policy making.

He represents Hungary in the so-called NIS Cooperation Group (established by the NIS Directive to facilitate cooperation between Member States and EU institutions at EU level) and several other working groups (mostly at EU level) in the field of cybersecurity.

MARTIN ŠVÉDA



Martin Švéda joined the Czech National Cyber Security Centre in 2017 after graduating from Masaryk University's Faculty of Law. He was part of the creation of the Czech National Cyber and Information Security Agency, where he is a lawyer focusing on national cybersecurity regulation.

Since 2021, he has been leading the agency's private sector regulation unit. His main focus is on issues related to the interpretation of the Czech Act on Cyber Security and its implementing legislation, and he is involved in drafting amendments to the legislation. He is also currently coordinating the preparatory work for the new Czech Act on Cyber Security in connection with the adoption of the NIS2 Directive.

MARIA BOKA



Maria Boka is currently working as a Senior Director at EU Strategy, a Brussels-based political consultancy, where she is advising clients on various tech policy issues, including telecommunications, cybersecurity, AI, digital, platform&media, green ICT issues, etc.

Prior to that, Maria served at the Permanent Representation of Slovakia, where she headed the transport and telecoms unit, and coordinated its efforts during the Slovak Presidency of the Council of the EU. She has also worked as an attaché representing Slovakia in the Council, dealing with EU telecoms and digital legislation. Before, she dealt with EU policy in various positions, having worked both in the public and private sectors as well as for an NGO. Her educational background is in international relations and diplomacy.

RADOSLAV REPA



Radoslav Repa has a broad experience in digital, telco, and cyber domains. In 2009, he served as a digital and cyber attaché at the Permanent Representation of Slovakia to the EU. During the Slovak presidency of the Council of the EU, he chaired two working groups (telecommunications and information society, and cyber affairs). As Director General for the Digital Agenda Division at the Ministry of Informatization, he was responsible for drafting the Strategy of Digital Transformation of Slovakia, digital chapters of the Programme Slovakia 2021-2027, and the Resilience and Recovery Facility. He helped establish innovative platforms in Slovakia and finalized the new National Broadband Access Plan and DESI Index implementation in national policies.

He currently works for the Slovak National Security Authority. First, as Head of the Institute for Security Studies, he dealt with the implementation of the National Cyber Security Strategy and the assessment of hybrid threats. Since November 2022, he returned to diplomatic service as a Cyber Counsellor representing Slovakia in Brussels.

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25 May 2023

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