INVESTIGATING RANSOMWARE: LESSONS FROM INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGAINST CYBERCRIME

Lunch discussion

Friday, 2 September 2022
EU Delegation to the United Nations, 666 3rd Avenue, 31st Floor

Prior registration is required for this event. Kindly register by 1 September 2022 at 13:00 EDT.

Cybercriminals resolve to ransomware seeking mostly quick monetary gains. Some of these attacks gain national and international attention due to their impact and harm they cause to societies, economies or state institutions. This is not just a challenge only for well-developed economies. Healthcare facilities, energy networks, financial institutions, public infrastructure and countless individuals across the world have seen their networks and data held hostage by malicious actors. Such attacks might also have serious flow-on consequences in the physical world and become national emergencies.

The international dimension of investigations and the challenges of identifying and prosecuting such criminals require close cross-border cooperation between judicial and law enforcement authorities, private companies and victims. Not only do such investigations usually involve multiple jurisdictions with different legal frameworks, but it is also highly likely that several countries investigate the same ransomware wave and tackle the same infrastructure. In addition, short data retention periods can result in the loss of electronic evidence and the lack of a universal legal framework on data retention may hamper swift cross-border collection of such evidence.

The purpose of this meeting is to discuss challenges and identify those lessons stemming from international cooperation in countering ransomware that are most relevant for the negotiations of a new UN Cybercrime Treaty. We will look at the effectiveness and limitations of the existing international instruments to identify minimum standards that should be set through a new treaty regarding:

- Effective international coordination and cooperation, including through preservation requests and joint investigation teams
- Collection of e-evidence, evidence preservation and data-retention framework
- Technical assistance to law enforcement and judicial authorities
- Importance of public-private partnerships and cooperation with online service providers

Please register here
Agenda
(As of 26 August 2022)

13:00-13:30  Arrival and lunch

13:30-13:40  Welcome Remarks
             H.E. Ambassador Olof SKOOG
             Permanent Representative of the European Union to the UN

13:40-13:50  Challenges to investigating ransomware and international cooperation
             Gilberto DUARTE SANTOS
             Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer, UNODC New York Liaison Office

13:50-14:25  Discussion
             Chair  Patryk PAWLAK
             Project Director, EU Cyber Diplomacy Initiative – EU Cyber Direct, European Union Institute for Security Studies
             Speakers  Megan STIFEL
                       Co-Chair of the Ransomware Task Force, Institute for Security and Technology
                       Terlumun George-Maria TYENDEZWA
                       Vice-Chair of the UN Ad Hoc Committee; Head of Cybercrime Prosecution Unit, Federal Ministry of Justice, Nigeria
                       Mariana GALAN
                       Cybercrime Legal Advisor, Ministry of Security, Argentina
                       Cristina SCHULMAN
                       Chair of the Cybercrime Convention Committee, Council of Europe, Romania

14:25-14:30  Closing Remarks
             Engelbert THEUERMANN
             Ambassador for Cyber Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Austria