



Cybersecurity@CEPS Summit 2025

Cybersecurity in geopolitical turmoil: an opportunity for EU leadership?

Tuesday 2 December 2025

CEPS - Place du Congrès 1 - 1000 Brussels

Today's world is being reshaped by a multitude of major geopolitical shifts: a growing US-China rivalry, a reconfiguration of Europe's strategic alliances, and the US transition to an 'America First' foreign policy agenda. After the chain of shocks triggered (or amplified) by the election of Donald Trump in the US, the multilateral order is straining under the pressure. Increasing regionalisation and 'coalitions of the willing' are becoming the new normal, possibly ushering in a new multipolar order.

These changes are impacting the cybersecurity landscape, adding layers of complexity and risks. Targeting critical infrastructures is becoming a common tactic, with organisations increasingly vulnerable to attacks that originate from their vendors' vendors. Understanding the geographical exposure of the entire supply chain is becoming ever more fundamental.

Furthermore, convergence between AI, quantum computing, IoT and other general-purpose technologies (including synthetic biology and neurotech) is expected to accelerate change. The knock-on effects could further democratise access to science and innovation but also pose new challenges for companies and policymakers around the world.

In such an unstable geopolitical context and challenging economic environment, it is fundamental for private and public sectors to strengthen cyber resilience to mitigate future disruption. Geopolitical tensions are increasing cyber risks, whilst cyberattacks are in turn exacerbating geopolitical dynamics. Achieving cyber resilience is one of the biggest cybersecurity challenges: it is not a one-off or a one-actor effort but requires a harmonised approach that stretches across borders and businesses.

In this year's edition of the Cybersecurity@CEPS Summit we will explore how to enhance the European Union cybersecurity position to achieve better resilience.

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Agenda

- 08:45–09:15 **Registration and welcome coffee**
- 09:15–10:30 **Opening Session**
- Lorenzo Pupillo**, Head of the Cybersecurity@CEPS Initiative
- Despina Spanou**, Deputy Director-General, European Commission
Directorate-General for Communications Networks, Content and Technology
- Matthias Sachs**, Cybersecurity Policy Lead Europe, Government Affairs
& Public Policy, Google
- Amal Taleb**, Acting Head of EU Representation Office, Government
Affairs, SAP
- 10:30–11:30 **Session I: Strategic Autonomy in Cybersecurity in the EU**
- Paul Timmers**, Research Associate, Oxford University and Partner,
WeltWent
- Gerome Billois**, Partner, Wavestone Consulting
- Svetlana Schuster**, Acting Head of Unit Cybersecurity Technology and
Capacity Building, European Commission
- Chair:* **Simona Kaneva**, Manager for Policy Analysis and Outreach, ECSO
- 11:30–11.45 **Coffee Break**
- 11.45–12:45 **Session II: Cyber and Technology Partnerships for Global Stability:
Does the West Still Exist?**
- Merle Maigre**, Head of the Cybersecurity Competence Centre E-
Governance Academy, Estonia
- Benedetta Berti**, Secretary General, NATO Parliamentary Assembly

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Edoardo Giglio, Partner, Deloitte Technology & Transformation Cyber Strategy, Government & Public Sector (GPS)

Manon Le Blanc, Coordinator for Cyber Issues and Deputy Head of Hybrid Threats and Cyber Division, European External Action Service

Chair: **Ceren Ergenc**, Research Fellow, CEPS

12:45-13:45

Lunch

13:45-14:45

Session III: Open Source First for securing Europe's Digital Future?

Sachiko Muto, Chair, Open Forum Europe & Senior Researcher, RISE

James Lovegrove, Public Policy Director, EMEA, RED HAT

Tommaso Bernabò, Policy Officer, DG-CNECT, European Commission

Razvan Gavrilă, Head of Sector, Market, Technology & Product Security Unit, ENISA

Chair: **Chloé Dussutour**, Manager, Wavestone

14:45- 15:45

Session IV: Standardisation in Cybersecurity and Digital Sovereignty

Allan Friedman, Former Senior Advisor and Strategist at CISA

Shikha Shahi, Senior Manager, Cybersecurity Standards, Microsoft.

Camille Dornier, Legal Officer, European Commission, DG Connect

Ewa Zielinska, Vice President Policy, CENELEC

Chair: **Afonso Ferreira**, Director, CNRS

15:45-16:00

Coffee break

16:00-17:00

Session V: Undersea Cable security: technical, market and policy challenges

Erik Brown, Non-resident Researcher, Europe Program Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

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Miguel Gonzales Sancho, Head of Unit Future Connectivity Systems,
DG-CNECT, European Commission

Giorgio Baresi, Partner, Reply

Chair: **Elena Scaramuzzi**, Head of Global Research, Cullen International

17:00

Closing

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