Cyber Center of Excellence
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Cyber

1. **[U.S. Dismantles World's Largest 911 S5 Botnet with 19 Million Infected Devices](#) (The Hacker News, 30 MAY)**

   The U.S. Department of Justice (DoJ) on Wednesday said it dismantled what it described as "likely the world's largest botnet ever," which consisted of an army of 19 million infected devices that was leased to other threat actors to commit a wide array of offenses.

2. **[US arrests man allegedly behind enormous botnet that enabled cyberattacks and fraud](#) (The Verge, 29 MAY, Lauren Feiner)**

   It's a scheme that "reads like it's ripped from a screenplay," according to one Commerce Department official. Thirty-five-year-old Chinese national YunHe Wang allegedly helped run an international botnet that deployed VPN programs to infect more than 19 million IP addresses around the world.

3. **[European Union sees surge in Russian-backed cyberattacks, top security official says](#) (Fox News, 29 MAY, AP)**

   Digital attack methods are often tested in Ukraine before being expanded to EU countries.

   - Disruptive digital attacks in the European Union, many linked to Russian-backed groups, have doubled recently, targeting election-related services.
   - Juhan Lepassaar, head of ENISA, said that attacks with geopolitical motives have steadily risen since Russia's invasion of Ukraine in February 2022.
   - Attack methods, often tested in Ukraine before targeting EU countries, are seen as part of Russia's digital aggression across Europe.

4. **[North Korean Threat Actor Deploys New, Custom Ransomware](#) (DUO, 28 MAY, Lindsey O'Donnell-Welch)**

   A new North Korean threat group called Moonstone Sleet relies on trojanized, legitimate software, deploys custom ransomware and creates fake companies to further trick victims in its campaigns.

5. **[Ongoing Chinese cyberespionage operation targets government orgs](#) (SC magazine, 24 MAY)**

   Chinese advanced persistent threat operation TGR-STA-0043, previously tracked as CL-STA-0043, has targeted at least seven government organizations across Asia, Africa, and the Middle East as part of the Operation Diplomatic Specter [cyberespionage](#) campaign that commenced in late 2022, reports [The Hacker News](#).

6. **[North Korean Hackers Target US Ally](#) (Newsweek, 21 MAY, John Feng)**

   One or more hacking groups linked to North Korea has breached the personal emails of more than 100 people in the South, including the accounts of senior defense officials, according to local reports.

7. **[Confidential UN Report Exposes Lazarus Group's $147.5M Stolen Crypto Transfer to North Korea](#)** (Crypto Potato, 19 MAY, Chayanika Deka)

   A confidential United Nations report obtained by Reuters reveals that North Korea's notorious cybercriminal group known as the Lazarus Group transferred millions of stash of stolen cryptocurrency back to the Asian country last year.

8. **[How the Internet of Things (IoT) became a dark web target – and what to do about it](#)** (World Economic Forum, 17 MAY, Antoinette Hodes)

   This article is part of: [Centre for Cybersecurity](#)
   - The Internet of Things (IoT) is vulnerable to dark web cybercriminals looking to compromise network security.
   - Adversarial AI is an additional tool in the hacker armory for exploiting IoT vulnerabilities.
   - A zero-tolerance approach across the entire IoT supply chain is needed.

9. **[Chinese cyberattacks have surged: security agency](#)** (Taipei Times, 17 MAY, Jonathan Chin)

   'HONG KONGIZATION?' NSB official Ko Cheng-heng said that Beijing's campaign against Taiwan would spark a strong backlash from democracies around the world

Electronic Warfare

1. **[Space Force Eyes Better EW Test and Training Ranges with New Contract Awards](#) (Air and Space Forces, 28 MAY, Greg Hadley)**

   The Space Force has awarded six-month contracts to six different companies to develop plans for improving the service's electronic warfare training capabilities in the latest move in USSF's efforts to upgrade its test and training infrastructure.

2. **[Some US weapons stymied by Russian jamming in Ukraine](#) (The News Tribune, 26 MAY, Carlotta Gall & Vladyslav Golovin)**

   Some American-made, precision-guided weapons supplied to Ukraine have proved ineffective on the battlefield, their accuracy badly diminished by Russian jamming efforts, according to Ukrainian commanders and a Ukrainian military research project.

3. **[US Weapons 'Die Down' In Ukraine War; Boeing To Enhance Features Of 'Jam Proof' GLSDBs – Reports](#) (The EurAsian Times, 26 MAY, Ashish Dangwal)**

   The advanced long-range Ground-Launched Small Diameter Bombs (GLSDB) supplied by the United States to Ukraine are encountering major difficulties in hitting targets due to sophisticated Russian electronic jamming techniques. However, this is not the only weapon whose effectiveness has significantly dropped.

4. **[Russia, in New Push, Increasingly Disrupts Ukraine's Starlink Service](#) (The Nork Times, 25 MAY, Paul Mozur & Adam Satariano)**

   Russia has deployed advanced tech to interfere with Elon Musk's satellite internet service, Ukrainian officials said, leading to more outages on the northern front battle line.

5. **[Cyber Soldiers support Moroccans in electronic warfare training](#) (US Army Africa Command PAO, 23 May, Sgt. Alisha Grezlik)**

   In a display of partnership and collaboration, U.S. Army Soldiers with 11th Cyber Battalion, 780th Military Intelligence Brigade, U.S. Army Cyber Command, based in Fort Eisenhower, Georgia, teamed up with service members of the Moroccan Royal Armed Forces to conduct electronic warfare training at La Caserne Tifnit barracks as part of African Lion 2024.

6. **[US Military Academy Releases New Report On Fighting Kamikaze Drones; Suggests 3 Ways To Counter UAVs](#) (The EurAsian Times, 21 MAY, Prakash Nanda)**

   Among many lessons emerging from the ongoing conflict in Ukraine is the effectiveness of cheap drones in inflicting grave, often asymmetric, damage on highly sophisticated and expensive targets.

7. **[Czech Armed Forces Complete Training In Simulated Electronic Warfare Environment](#) (Allied Air Command, 21 MAY, Allied Air Command Public Affairs Office)**

   During NATO's exercise Ramstein Guard from May 12 to 17, the armed forces of Czechia demonstrated their capability to defend the country against air threats in a simulated electronic warfare environment. The training was embedded in the JAS-Gripen user exercise Lion Effort.

8. **[Viral In China! PLA Navy's J-15D EW Aircraft Trends On Social Media; Might Be Ready For Serial Production?](#)** **(The EurAsian Times, 21 MAY, Sakshi Tiwari)**

Months after the Chinese state media flaunted the Electronic Warfare (EW) version of China's carrier-borne J-15 fighter, a new photo has surfaced on Chinese social networking site Weibo, giving rise to speculation that the aircraft may have entered serial production.

9. **[The EW backpack revolution: How Ukrainian portable tech jams Russian drones](#)** **(Euromaidan Press, 17 MAY, Euheniia Martniuk)**

The EW backpack revolution: How Ukrainian portable tech jams Russian drones

10. **[UK developing 'game-changing' weapon for electronic warfare](#)** **(Holyrood, 16 MAY, Sofia Villegas)**

UK armed forces will soon operate a "game-changing" weapon to tackle enemy technology, the UK Government has said.

Currently under development, the weapon will use radio waves to disable electronics and take down multiple drones at once.

11. **[Air Force orders electronic warfare (EW) jammers to foil efforts to defeat GPS-guided smart munitions](#)** **(Military & Aerospace Electronics, 16 MAY, John Keller)**

Home-on GPS Jam seekers help JDAM detect and attack jammers intended to disrupt GPS signals that help guide bombs, missiles, and artillery shells.

12. **[Close-up photo shows China's new EW vehicle](#)** **(Defence-Blog, 15 MAY, Dylan Malyasov)**

Recent close-up photographs have surfaced on social media, revealing details of China's latest Electronic Warfare (EW) systems mounted on 6×6-wheeled armored vehicles.

Information Advantage

1. [**From Ukraine To Gaza: OpenAI Reveals Its AI Models Exploited For Global Disinformation By Russia, China, Iran And Israel**](#) **(Benzinga, 31 MAY, Benzinga Neuro)**

   OpenAI has revealed that its AI tools are being exploited by networks associated with Russia, China, Iran, and Israel to spread disinformation.

2. [**How AI can help us spot its own fakes**](#) **(The New Daily, 30 MAY, Giuseppe Riva)**

   Fake news is not a new phenomenon, but its proliferation today is unprecedented.

   Disinformation goes beyond the mere fabrication of invented news stories.

3. [**Don't Just Use Ai To Fact Check Against Mis– And Disinformation**](#) **(Diplomatic Courier, 29 MAY, Thomas Plant)**

   When incorporating AI into the fight against mis/disinformation, the straightforward approach is tempting: use AI for instant fact–checking. But AI isn't ready for that task yet, and polarization runs so deep that many people disregard fact–checkers, let alone trust a complex technology to make the calls instead.

4. [**Russia may launch psychological operation about opening new front from Belarus, Kyiv warns**](#) **(Kyiv Independent, 28 MAY, Kateryna Hodunova)**

   The Russian government could launch a new psychological operation about a potential opening of another front on the state border with Belarus, Ukraine's Center for Countering Disinformation reported on May 27.

5. [**Parliamentarians warn of UK election threat from Russia, China and North Korea**](#) **(Computer Weekly, 24 MAY, Bill Goodwin)**

   Joint parliamentary security committee chair Margaret Beckett writes to prime minister urging government to prepare for foreign states interfering with 4 July election

6. [**Misinformation posted to Twitter comes from 'superspreader' accounts, say researchers, amid warnings for future of content moderation on X**](#) **(ABC News, 22 MAY, Brianna Morris-Grant)**

   - In short: Of more than 2 million tweets containing "low credibility" content posted in 2020, a majority came from just 1,000 accounts.
   - A new research study has said 10 "superspreaders" are responsible for more than 34 per cent of the content posted.
   - What's next? X owner Elon Musk is facing increased pressure to moderate content and stem misinformation on the platform.

7. [**OpenAI Disrupts Disinformation Campaigns From Russia, China Using Its Systems To Influence Public Opinion**](#) **(Forbes, 30 MAY, James Farrell)**

   OpenAI identified and disrupted five influence operations involving users from Russia, China, Iran and Israel that were using its AI technology, which includes ChatGPT, to generate content aimed at deceptively influencing public opinion and political discourse.

Signal

1. **[Space Force eyes advanced tech, new orbits for narrowband SATCOM](#) (Defense News, 31 MAY, Courtney Albon)**

   The Space Force offered a glimpse this week of its vision for the future of narrowband satellite communications, a plan that could include a large number of spacecraft in multiple orbits with advanced capabilities.

2. **[Are We Ready For Post-Quantum Cryptography?](#) (Forbes, 31 MAY, Amit Sinha)**

   Imagine if, tomorrow, someone invented a "digital skeleton key" that could unlock any keyless entry system. Overnight, millions of door locks, garages and practically every modern vehicle would become vulnerable to theft. Can you picture the mad scramble when everyone realizes their valuables are suddenly unprotected? Then, you can understand why security experts are concerned about the looming collision of quantum computing and cryptography.

3. **[A third Chinese LEO satellite contender emerges](#) (Light Reding, 29 MAY, Robert Clark)**

   Privately backed LEO satellite firm Hongqing files for 10,000 orbital slots as it joins the race to challenge Starlink.

4. **[How the Space Force plans to surge a commercial fleet during wartime](#) (Defense One, 28 MAY, Audrey Decker)**

   In late 2022, SpaceX CEO Elon Musk hamstrung a planned Ukrainian strike on Russian forces when he suddenly decided he didn't want his Starlink satellites involved. Now the Pentagon is trying to ensure that never happens again.

5. **[Preparing for the quantum computing future… today](#) (Data Center Dynamics, 24 May, Nils Gerhardt)**

   How to overcome the challenges faced by quantum computers

6. **[German plan for tackling Huawei in 5G dubbed 'nonsense'](#) (Light Reading, 23 MAY, Iain Morris)**

   One proposal is to let Huawei provide RAN products if another company does the management software, but experts deem it impractical.

7. **[DDoS Takes Center Stage on the Global Threat Landscape](#) (Light Reading, 23 MAY, Jim Hodges)**

   In the second half of 2023, NETSCOUT ASERT recorded over 7 million DDoS attacks, a 15% increase over the 1st half of the year.

8. **[It's time to get excited about indoor 5G](#) (Light Reading, 17 MAY, Mike Dano)**

   Early 5G deployments focused mostly on outdoor installations. But now a broad array of companies – big and small – is eyeing demand for indoor wireless network installations.

Items of Interest

1. [**Indo-Pacific Tensions: Top Commander Calls US Space Force In Japan A 'Priority' To Check China's Belligerence**](#) (The EurAsian Times, 31 MAY, Ashish Dangwal)

   The United States Space Force is 'prioritizing' the establishment of a component field command in Japan as a strategic move to counter China's growing capabilities, which pose a significant threat to American and allied forces in the Indo-Pacific region.

2. [**Too Costly To Invade! China May Coerce Taiwan's New President Into Signing A "Peace Deal" By 2028 – US Think Tank**](#) (The EurAsian Time, 28 MAY, Sakshi Tiwari)

   As China encircled Taiwan, simulating an invasion of the self-ruled island state, it also released animated footage of how the all-out attack would take place, sending a clear message to the pro-democracy forces in Taipei that a raid was inevitable.

3. [**From India To Mongolia — Six Wars That China Will Fight To Regain "Lost Glory" By 2060: Chinese State Media**](#) (The EurAsian Times, 25 MAY, Ashish Dangwal)

   In the last two decades, China has aggressively asserted territorial claims across multiple regions, triggering concerns of an imminent conflict. From contentious borders with India to the disputed waters of the South China Sea and the sensitive Taiwan Strait, Chinese military activities have surged to unprecedented levels.

4. [**Chinese Soldiers Train To Fend Off FPV Drones**](#) (TWZ, 20 MAY, Oliver Parken & Tyler Rogoway)

   Footage from China underscores the trend of militaries scrambling to defend against FPV drones, while also harnessing their deadly abilities.

5. [**US-China Tensions Flare-Up Over Submarine Cables; Beijing Accuses Its 'Key Adversary' Of Subsea Espionage In Indo Pacific**](#) (The EurAsian Times, 26 MAY, Shubhangi Palve)

   In the depths of the world's oceans, a murky game of espionage unfolds, with nations accusing each other of exploiting submarine cables for intelligence gathering and geopolitical maneuvering.

6. [**Green Beret A-Teams Training On FPV Drones Being Driven By War In Ukraine**](#) (TWZ, 17 MAY, Joseph Trevithick)

   Green Beret FPV drone training is the latest example of a growing uncrewed future, and the U.S. lag in fielding its own capabilities.

Israel-Hamas Conflict

1. **Institute for The Study of War Iran Update:**

   The Iran Update provides insights into Iranian and Iranian-sponsored activities abroad that undermine regional stability and threaten US forces and interests. It also covers events and trends that affect the stability and decision-making of the Iranian regime.

   Iran Update, May 30, 2024
   Iran Update, May 29, 2024
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   Iran Update, May 18, 2024
   Iran Update, May 17, 2024
   Iran Update, May 16, 2024

2. **Days After Ebrahim Raisi's Chopper Crash, Iranian-Proxy Hamas Launches Massive Rocket Strike On Israel** (The EurAsian Times, 27 MAY)

   Days after the chopped crash of President Ebrahim Raisi, Iranian proxy Hamas launched a massive rocket attack on the Israeli capital, Tel Aviv. At least eight rockets were launched from the Rafah area in southern Gaza, the Israeli military said, adding that many were intercepted.

3. **Israel: War Cabinet member demands plan for Gaza** (DW, 19 MAY, Steven Gislam)

   Benny Gantz, a centrist member of Israel's War Cabinet, has threatened to resign unless the government develops a postwar plan for Gaza by June 8. The former defense minister's ultimatum comes as fighting continues both in the north and south of the Gaza Strip.

4. **Israel says it will send more troops to Rafah** (DW, 17 MAY, Gasia Ohanes)

   Fighting in Rafah has virtually closed off the border crossing there making it extremely difficult to get aid into Gaza. Israel says it is determined to press forward with its Rafah offensive, saying it will "wear down" Hamas.

5. **Egypt's ties with Israel hit 45-year-low amid Gaza conflict** (DW, 16 MAY, Jennifer Holleis)

   Egypt is considering withdrawing its ambassador from Israel and joining South Africa's genocide case in the International Court of Justice. But analysts doubt the 45-year-old Egypt-Israel peace treaty is at risk.

Russia-Ukraine Conflict

1. **The Warzone Ukraine Situation Report:**

   Ukraine Situation Report: Russia Advances On Vovchansk – 20 MAY

   Ukraine Situation Report: Kyiv Launches Massive Drone Attack On Russia – 17 MAY

2. **Institute for The Study of War**

   Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment, May 31, 2024
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   Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment, May 17, 2024
   Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment, May 16, 2024

3. **Portugal Becomes 1st NATO Country To Cross Russian "Red Line", Hits Key Radar With AR3 Drone – IAF Expert** (The Eurasian Times, 29 MAY, Sakshi Tiwari)

   A Portuguese drone reportedly knocked out an important radar from Russian territory. Experts claim the drone could be the first NATO-country weapon to cross Russia's red lines amid mounting calls to allow Ukraine to use Western arms to hit targets in Russian territory.

4. **Ukraine Drone Strike on Russian Airfield Hit Su-27 Fighter Jet: Report** (Newsweek, 21 MAY, Ellie Cook)

   A Ukrainian strike on a military airbase in southern Russia over the weekend damaged a Russian fighter jet, according to a new report, as Ukraine pushes on with cross-border attacks on key Russian assets.

5. **Ukraine War Maps Show Russian Advances in 10 Frontline Locations** (Newsweek, 20 MAY, Brendan Cole)

   Russian forces have advanced along the front line near settlements in three regions, according to a Ukrainian open-source project, as maps show the latest state of play in the war.

6. **[Volodymyr Zelenskyy marks 5 years as Ukraine's president](#)** (DW, 19 MAY, Ralph Martin)

President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's term in office was supposed to end on May 20, 2024, but new elections have been suspended for as long as wartime Ukraine operates under martial law. How do Ukrainians feel about the delay, and about their leader?

7. **[Can Ukraine's Zelenskyy stay in power without an election?](#)** (DW, 19 MAY, Igor Burdyga)

Volodymyr Zelenskyy's term as president officially ends on May 20, and a scheduled election in March was postponed due to the ongoing war. Legal experts explain why he can remain in power.

8. **[Ukraine's new mobilization law takes effect](#)** (DW, 19 MAY, Ole Alsaker)

A new Ukrainian mobilization law has come into force, which the government hopes will boost front-line troop numbers. The age of conscription comes down from 27 to 25, and draft dodgers both at home and abroad will face punishment.

9. **[Kyiv accuses Russia of targeting civilians in Kharkiv region](#)** (DW, 19 MAY, Alyona Murashova)

Kyiv has alleged that Russian shelling targeted civilians in Ukraine's northeast — a charge that Moscow denies. Tens of thousands of people in the region have been evacuated, and the regional capital Kharkiv has come under near constant bombardment.

10. **[Ukraine war: The trillion-dollar cost to the West](#)** (DW, 18 MAY, Nik Martin)

Governments face increased borrowing, taxes and public sector cuts to finance their soaring military budgets. European NATO members are set to spend a record $380 billion on defense this year — a tough sell to voters.

11. **[ATACMS 'Wreaks Havoc' On Crimea; Reports Suggest Russian S-400 Radar, MiG-31 Aircraft Annihilated In Attacks](#)** (The EurAsian Times, 17 MAY, Ashish Bangwal)

The battlefield dynamics in Crimea are transforming as Ukraine leverages the recently acquired US-supplied long-range Army Tactical Missile Systems (ATACMS). These long-range missiles have already proven their effectiveness, targeting and destroying critical Russian military assets in the region.

12. **[Ukraine battles Russian offensive in northeast](#)** (DW, 16 MAY, Max Zander)

As Russia tries to gain ground near the city of Kharkiv, Ukrainian soldiers do what they can to bring residents to safety. DW's Max Zander reports from Vovchansk, just a few kilometers from the Russian border.

13. **[Kyiv orders all-out defense against Russia in Kharkiv region](#)** (DW, 16 MAY, Nita Blake-Persen)

While Kyiv works to stabilize the situation on the northern frontlines, Russia's cross-border incursion continues. The Ukrainian army reports having assisted in evacuating almost 8,000 people from the town of Vovchansk near Kharkiv, Ukraine's second-largest city.

14. **How China indirectly supports Russia's war in Ukraine** (DW, 16 MAY, Frank Hofmann)

The relationship between Russia's President Vladimir Putin and Chinese counterpart Xi Jinping is even more important now that China is Russia's main supplier of microelectronics, which are vital to the war in Ukraine.