



COMMONWEALTH
CYBERSECURITY
FORUM2015

22 - 24 APRIL 2015, LONDON, UK

A National Cybersecurity Strategy

Mike StJohn-Green

Independent Cybersecurity Consultant

mike@stjohn-green.co.uk

A National Cybersecurity Strategy

Why do we need one?

What does it need to address?

How do we develop one?

The security paradox of cyberspace

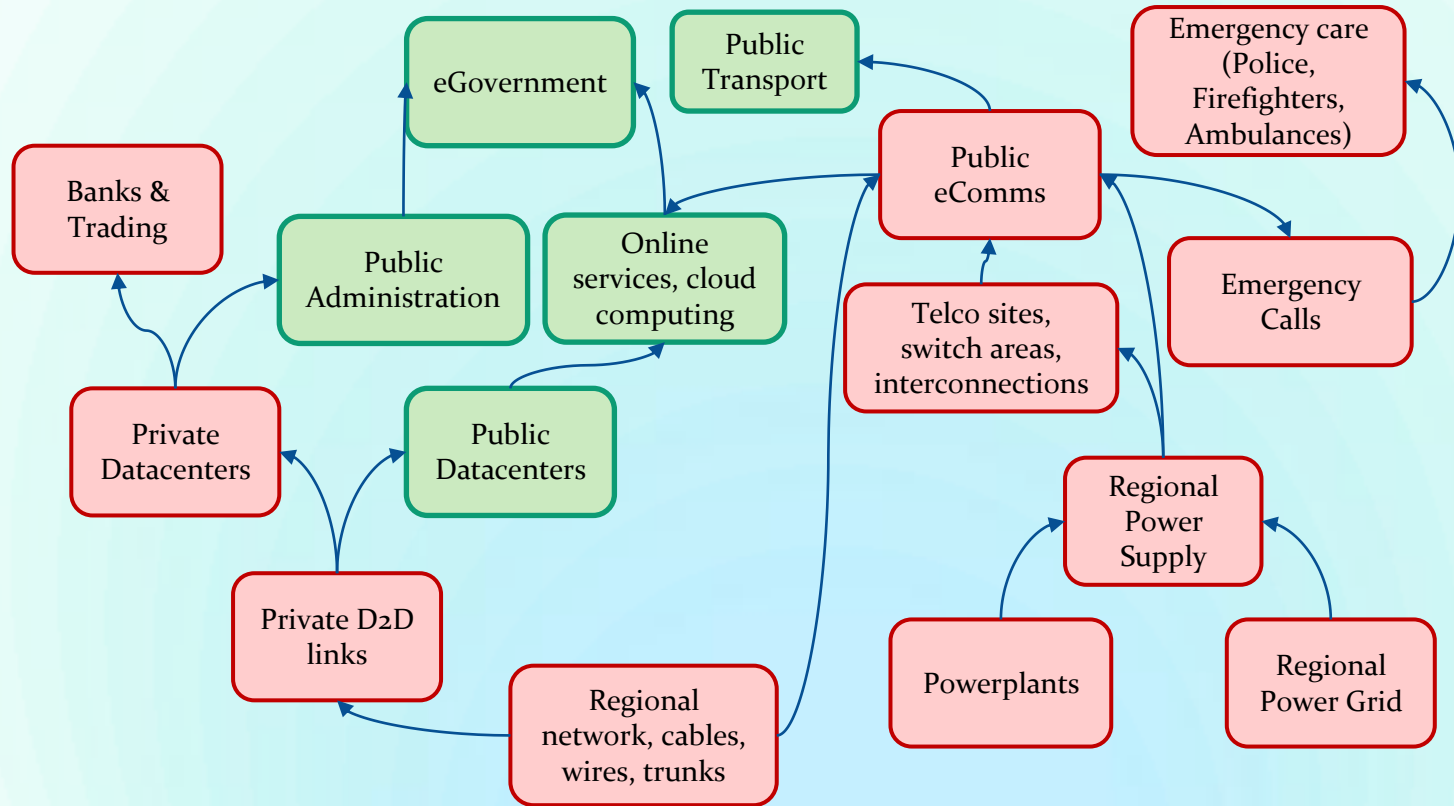
Digital technologies, commonly referred to as cyber systems, are a security paradox: even as they grant unprecedented powers, they also make users less secure.

Richard Danzig, July 2014

A strategy - to deal with the security challenges of Cyberspace

- Cyberspace is becoming *the* global information system
 - It is not under national control, not limited by national boundaries
- Cyberspace is critical part of our infrastructure
 - Yet cyberspace is not controlled by national governments
- Cyberspace is open, decentralised and empowering
 - Yet criminals often make better use of rapid, innovative development
- Cyberspace can bridge the digital divide
 - Yet it can be a route to extremism and other social crimes

A strategy – to deal with the complex interdependencies in & on Cyberspace



(99.9%) 8 hr outages are disastrous

(99%) 3 days outages are disastrous

A strategy – for education & awareness



Helping us stay safe in the Hall of Mirrors that is cyberspace

http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Větruše,_zrcadlové_bludiště.jpg

A strategy – a framework for vital legislation, regulation, cooperation



Catching
criminals who
operate in
cyberspace

From The Circus, Charlie Chaplin, 1930

How do we write it? Where to start?

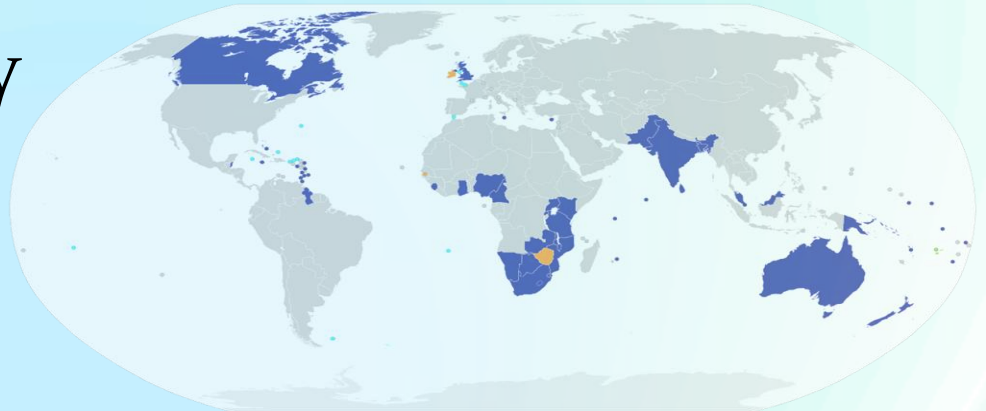
- There are contrasting views across the world on governing cyberspace
- However, some harmonisation is critical to facilitate the growth and to realise the full potential of cyberspace
- Commonwealth family subscribes to common values and principles
- These are equally applicable to cyberspace

Commonwealth principles for the use of Cyberspace

- 1. We contribute to a safe and an effective global Cyberspace***
- 2. Our actions in Cyberspace support broader economic and social development***
- 3. We act individually and collectively to tackle cybercrime***
- 4. We each exercise our rights and meet our responsibilities in Cyberspace***

A Commonwealth model – objectives

- Developing policies, legislation and regulations
- Planning and implementing practical technical measures
- Fostering cross-border collaboration
- Building capacity



Elements of a cybersecurity Strategy

- Introduction and background
- Guiding principles
- Vision and strategic goals
- Specific objectives
- Stakeholders
- Strategy implementation

Development of a national strategy

- Gain support from highest levels of government
- Adopt a multi-stakeholder partnership (private sector, public sector & civil society)
- Draw on the expertise of the International Community
- Appoint a lead organisation or institution
- Be realistic and sympathetic to the commercial considerations of the private sector
- Add mechanisms to monitor & validate implementation

A National Cybersecurity Strategy

Mike StJohn-Green
Independent Cybersecurity Consultant

mike@stjohn-green.co.uk