



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

Bridging the Gap: Delivering Cybersecurity to High-Risk Actors

12 March 2025

[The Locarno Suite](#)

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office

King Charles Street, London

Master of Ceremony: Rob Black, Black Consulting Services

Opening Remarks

09:30 - 09:50 Welcome Remarks by Andrew Whittaker, Head of Cyber Policy Department, FCDO

09:50 - 10:10 Keynote

10:10 - 10:40 Fireside chat on the impact on high-risk actors

Moderator: Francesca Bosco, CyberPeace Institute

- Marcus Michaelsen, Citizen Lab
- Ksenia Maximova, Russian Democratic Society

Session 1 - Identifying Effective Support for High-Risk Actors

Objective: Understand regions and communities with the highest risk and need. Experts discuss methodologies for identifying at-risk communities needs, and explore the importance of open access threat intelligence and data collection, and usable tools for defense. This panel will also discuss barriers and opportunities to exchange cybersecurity information between nonprofit cyber, industry, and governments relating to state sponsored activity targeting high-risk civil society actors. What actions can be taken to improve operational collaborations?

10:40 - 11:30 Panel Discussion

Moderator: Chris Gibson, FIRST

- Ciaran Martin, University of Oxford
- Tod Eberle, Shadowserver Foundation
- Jaya Baloo, Stealth Startup
- Natalia Krapiva, AccessNow

Coffee Break

Session 2 - Growing the Capacity of Network Defenders

Objective: Understand the role of nonprofits in cybersecurity and their capacity challenges. Identify gaps in existing support and infrastructure. Discuss challenges of defenders in accessing resources, including tailored tools. This

panel will also discuss what works and what doesn't with regard to the deployment of available tools in helping high-risk actors improve their security.

12:00 - 12:10 Presentation on *Common Good Cyber services gaps to high risk communities*

12:10 - 13:00 Panel Discussion

Moderator: Michael Daniel, Cyber Threat Alliance

- Rocky Cole, iVerify
- Ruairi Nolan, Amnesty Security Lab
- Geoff Hunter, Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project
- Oktavia Hrund Guðrúnar Jóns, Quad9
- Carla Baker, Palo Alto Networks

Lunch

Session 3 - Strategic Support for the Nonprofit Ecosystems

Objective: Understand and promote a joint approach to enhance support for nonprofit ecosystems. Identifying shared goals and collective impact strategies. Explore current funding models and their limitations, and review case studies on successful coordinated funding initiatives that have scaled impact.

13:45 - 14:45: Joint Exercise on *The Role of Nonprofits in Cybersecurity*

Participants will participate in a table top exercise using phones to vote for particular actions. Each participant will pick a role to play: and work through a scenario where preventative actions are taken, a cyber event happens, and the incident is responded to with recovery afterwards.

Coffee Break

15:00 - 15:30: Discussion following the Joint Exercise

15:30 - 16:20 Panel Discussion on *A Coordinated Participation of States and Industry Beyond Funding*

This panel will raise awareness of challenges faced by the community of cybersecurity nonprofits serving high-risk actors, with reflection on the current and future funding landscape. How can donors better support these organisations to deliver their core missions? What actions can be taken to better support long-term resilience building?

Moderator: Phil Reitingner, Global Cyber Alliance

- Alejandro Mayoral Baños, AccessNow
- Nick Benson, CREST
- Natasha Jamal, Mastercard Centre for Inclusive Growth

Closing Session

- 16:20 - 16:40 A discussion on *Ensuring measurable impact from cybersecurity initiatives*
- 16:40 - 17:10 Presentation on *Common Good Cyber Fund mechanism, value proposition and actionable next steps*
- 17:10 - 17:30: Closing Remarks by Andrew Whittaker, Head of Cyber Policy Department, FCDO

Networking Reception