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ICANN Blog

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Exploring Cybersecurity Topics on a Whirlwind Tour of Eastern Europe

ICANN's Dave Piscitello (second from left) takes part in a panel at CYBERSEC 2016, a conference on cybersecurity held this week Krakow, Poland.

This week I begin a two–week series of Identifier Systems Security, Stability and Resiliency (IS SSR) team and Global Stakeholder Engagement (GSE) cybersecurity engagements that remind me of the

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"Combatting Cybercrime." Several of the points I made are also published in *G20 Magazine – China 2016* in the article "Accelerating Cybercrime Response and Mitigation" and in my blog "Can we extend trust-based collaboration beyond handshakes and face to face?"

Monday evening, I shed my suit and tie, dressed down to a t-shirt and jeans, and met with Hackerspace Krakow. There, I shared examples of Domain Name System (DNS) attacks and DNS covert channels, and discussed how organizations can detect and thwart these kinds of attacks. I thoroughly enjoyed my time with Hackerspace Warsaw, and I'm looking forward to meeting with the Krakow chapter.

My next stop is Vienna, where I'll be spending a full day presenting methodologies for investigating cybercrimes to Austrian law enforcement professionals. This program is an important part of the IS SSR Team's capability–building activities. I'll present material that I first presented in Helsinki earlier this month. I'll remain in Vienna to participate in the IDC Security Roadshow 2016, where I'll explain why domain names and the DNS must be considered within an organization's risk management framework. I then visit the Austrian Computer Society meeting, where I'll talk about DNS abuse and its impact on cybersecurity.

From Vienna, I'll travel to Bratislava, Slovakia, to participate in an event of the EU Chapter of the Anti-Phishing Working Group – APWG.eu eCrime Cyber-Security Symposium – which runs from 5 to 7 October. I'll attend case study sessions and participate in steering committee activities on behalf of ICANN. I plan to take advantage of the opportunity to network with first responders, law enforcement and cybercrime forensic professionals from Europe and Eastern Europe. APWG and similar conferences (e.g., Messaging, Malware and Mobile Anti–Abuse Working Group – M^{3}AAWG) are venues where the IS SSR team is most successful in building trust relationships and promoting participation in ICANN's multistakeholder community.

Engagement–filled trips like these require close coordination between the IS SSR team and Global Stakeholder Engagement teams. On behalf of our team, I thank all the GSE staff, and for this trip in particular, Gabriella Schittek, for investing long hours preparing for our visits and for graciously providing in-region support.

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