



## Sanctions in cyberspace: the EU and the US diplomatic approaches

### Panel discussion

Thursday, 27 May 2021, 11.30-12.30 CEST, Online (links below)

### Speakers



**Marina Kaljurand**, Member of the European Parliament and former Minister of Foreign Affairs and Ambassador of Estonia to the United States, Russia, Mexico, Canada, Kazakhstan, and Israel.



**Massimo Ravenna**, Head of Cybersecurity at ACEA (multi-utility company, Italian national water provider) and former Italian Government Adviser for cybersecurity during the Gentiloni and Renzi Governments. (tbc)



**Dr. Astrid Viaud**, Visiting Researcher, Vocal Europe Think-Tank.



**Dr. Iur. Matthias C. Kettemann**, Senior Researcher and Head of Research on "Regulatory Structures and the Emergence of Rules in Online Spaces" at Leibniz Institute for Media Research| Hans-Bredow-Institute.



**Dr. Igor Kotsiuba**, Founder of iSolutions and a counsellor for government and industry in Ukraine, the UK and the US.



**Iva Tasheva**, Co-founder and cybersecurity lead, CYEN.



**Panel Moderator: Eva Saeva**, Postgraduate researcher and Teaching Assistant at Newcastle Law School.



## Discussion background

Five months after the revelation of the biggest cyber intrusion known to date, the SolarWinds hack, which saw inserting 'back doors' into the networks of dozens of organisations, the US responded with cyber sanctions against Russia in April 2021. As the retribution for SolarWinds becomes clear, the question remains: what exactly is the message? According to many experts, these sanctions seem to be based on a rule that the United States has never spelled out before.

Across the Atlantic, 2020 also saw the rise of the EU's diplomatic approach to cyber intrusions, with the Cyber Diplomacy toolbox used twice, naming individuals and entities from across various countries such as Russia, North Korea and China. The EU approach raised many questions and was seen by many as a mild - and late - response to world-wide malicious operations such as WannaCry. The nature of the EU sanctions regime raises, therefore, a number of crucial questions for both the US and the EU's approach to cyber diplomacy.

## Discussion topics

Against this background, the panel discussion will focus on the topic of cyber sanctions. Distinguished speakers will address questions such as: What are the EU/US approaches to cyber sanctions' differences and similarities? What were the lessons learnt from the recent major critical infrastructure hacks in the US, eg the SolarWinds and the Colonial Pipeline hacks? How does the US response to SolarWinds differ from past responses? How does the EU response via the Cyber Diplomacy toolbox differ from the US' and what could the EU learn from the US experience? How are international legal concepts such as Responsible state behaviour and State accountability in cyberspace seen in the EU and across the Atlantic? What are the legal implications of cyber sanctions and do they differ in the US and the EU? How does attribution work in practice? What are the challenges ahead for the two sanctions regimes?

The aim of this discussion is to examine and share viewpoints on whether the EU approach to cybersecurity in general, and cyber diplomacy in particular, are fit for purpose, and how it compares to the US' approach.

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The panel will begin with presentations of the speakers, followed by a Q&A session with the audience.

## Links

Link to the YouTube live: <https://youtu.be/Ti7AjuUNCfE>

Link to the Zoom live: <https://zoom.us/j/93549139911>

Link to the LinkedIn event:

<https://www.linkedin.com/events/sanctionsincyberspace-theeuandt6799995116527341568>

## Co-organizers

Iva Tasheva & Eva Saeva