

(English version)

Question for written answer E-004978/25
to the Commission
Joachim Streit (Renew)
(17 December 2025)

Subject: Cybersecurity and securing critical digital infrastructure

In light of escalating geopolitical tensions, it is vital to secure digital infrastructure and safeguard the sensitive communications systems of public institutions. Military structures, police and security agencies, hospitals, civil protection services and nuclear facilities rely heavily on stable, secure and continuously available communication and information systems. Disruptions or deliberate attacks against these systems can not only affect states' capacity to act, but can have a direct impact on public security, the provision of essential services to the population and the protection of human lives. The growing reliance of critical infrastructures on digital and interconnected systems highlights the strategic importance of a resilient European security framework to protect digital infrastructures.

1. What plans does the Commission have and what measures is it taking to ensure cybersecurity in times of crisis, in particular with regard to digital infrastructure and sensitive communication systems?
2. What scientific initiatives and research programmes is the Commission supporting in this area to strengthen Member States' resilience?

Submitted: 17.12.2025

Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen on behalf of the European Commission
(23 February 2026)

In 2025, the Council adopted a recommendation for an EU blueprint on cybersecurity crisis management ⁽¹⁾. It defines actors and mechanisms at all stages of a crisis.

It enhances information sharing and response coordination, building on the integrated political crisis response ⁽²⁾, the EU cyber diplomacy toolbox ⁽³⁾ and aligning with Critical Infrastructure Blueprint ⁽⁴⁾.

In line with the Council Recommendation, the Commission is working on a proposal for secure communication solutions. The Commission proposal for a revised Cybersecurity Act ⁽⁵⁾ strengthens the mandate of the EU Agency for Cybersecurity ⁽⁶⁾, ensures processes for derisking information and communications technology supply chains, proposes an efficient certification system and simplifies the compliance with cybersecurity rules for businesses.

This builds on the Network and Information Systems (NIS 2) Directive ⁽⁷⁾, which increased the resilience of critical infrastructure and the Cyber Solidarity Act ⁽⁸⁾, introducing cyber hubs to improve detection of cyber threats and the EU Cybersecurity Reserve, to be deployed in case of significant or large-scale cybersecurity incidents.

The Commission supports a coordinated research-to-deployment pipeline via Horizon Europe ⁽⁹⁾ and Digital Europe ⁽¹⁰⁾ programmes, in cooperation with the European Cybersecurity Competence Centre. Horizon Europe funds research on AI-driven cybersecurity, cyber defence, privacy-enhancing and post-quantum technologies.

Digital Europe ensures deployment, protecting critical infrastructures, hospitals, small and medium enterprises and cyber hubs. By combining research, innovation, and deployment, the Commission ensures Member States can protect critical digital infrastructure and sensitive communication systems.

⁽¹⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2025/06/06/eu-adopts-blueprint-to-better-manage-european-cyber-crises-and-incidents/>.

⁽²⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/ipcr-response-to-crises/>.

⁽³⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/sanctions-against-cyber-attacks/>.

⁽⁴⁾ <https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2024/06/25/critical-infrastructure-blueprint-for-protecting-eu-citizens-and-the-internal-market/>.

⁽⁵⁾ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/proposal-regulation-eu-cybersecurity-act>.

⁽⁶⁾ <https://www.enisa.europa.eu/>.

⁽⁷⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32022L2555>.

⁽⁸⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg/2025/38/oj/eng>.

⁽⁹⁾ https://research-and-innovation.ec.europa.eu/funding/funding-opportunities/funding-programmes-and-open-calls/horizon-europe_en.

⁽¹⁰⁾ https://commission.europa.eu/funding-tenders/find-funding/eu-funding-programmes/digital-europe-programme_en.