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Federal Department of Economic Affairs,  
Education and Research EAER  
**State Secretariat for Education,  
Research and Innovation SERI**

# Swiss Cyber Risk Research Conference 2016

## Swiss Tech Convention Center, EPFL, Lausanne



Blaise Roulet, Delegate of the State  
Secretary for Education and Research for  
protection against cyber risks

20 May 2016



# Welcome

- A warm welcome to those attending the Swiss Cyber Risk Research Conference 2016!
- On behalf of State Secretary for Education, Research and Innovation, Mauro Dell'Ambrogio
- Thank you for attending the first Swiss Cyber Risk Research Conference!





## Swiss Tech Convention Center

- And thank you to the EPFL for hosting us in its superb SwissTech Convention Center!





# Swiss Cyber Research Initiative

- What are the aims of our conference today?





# Swiss Cyber Research Initiative

- We hope to launch the Swiss Cyber Research Initiative.





# Swiss Cyber Research Initiative

- What is the Swiss Cyber Research Initiative and what do we hope to achieve by launching it?





# Swiss Cyber Research Initiative

We aim:

- to generate interaction within Swiss cyber risk research;
- to present the world's best cyber risk research;
- to launch the Swiss Cyber Research Community.





# Swiss Cyber Research Initiative

We also want:

- to bring together researchers, academics and stakeholders in the field of cyber risk in Switzerland;
- to create, within a short space of time, a database that provides long-term information on who is doing what and where in the field of research into cyber risk protection in Switzerland.







# Developments in Information and Communication Technologies (ITC)

- Technology has made enormous advances in recent years.
- Information and communication technologies, increasingly efficient and omnipresent, compel us to move towards an ever more digital economy and society.
- In our so-called advanced societies, we are totally reliant on information and communication technologies!





# Cyber risk

The flip side to these extraordinary technical developments:

- Almost every day, we see media reports of cyber-attacks and their painful consequences.





# Cyber risk

- Social Engineering
- Malware
- Phishing
- Botnet
- Distributed denial of service (DDoS)





# Cyber risk

- Defacement
- Data theft
- Ransomware
- Illicit phone tapping
- Espionage





# Cyber risk

- The imagination of these pirates knows no bounds!
- Hackers display their ingenuity every day, using the latest and most sophisticated technologies.





# Cyber risk

- What can we do now, together, to counter these threats?





## Working together to protect against cyber risks

We are here today:

- to be reminded by our speakers of the current threats and to understand those that may face us in future;
- to understand the direction that research needs to take to project against cyber risk;
- to get to know each other better and to exchange opinions; although we may come from a diversity of fields, we nonetheless have a common goal – to protect against cyber risk.
- to join together, here today, to become the ‘Swiss Cyber Research Community’.





# Federal Council launches the Big Data National Research Programme

- In June 2015, the Federal Council launched a new national research programme (NRP), entitled 'Big Data' (CHF 25 million).
- The research projects will provide the scientific basis for developing innovative IT solutions capable of using big data effectively and securely in various activities (data analysis, algorithms, cryptology, data management services, security and access control).







## **Federal Council launches Big Data NRP**

Secondly, areas in public services (health, state infrastructures) and business that already use significant amounts of data will be analysed carefully, particularly in terms of data security and system security, and also in terms of regulatory measures such as data protection and the protection of privacy.





# Acknowledgements

- EPFL
- Professor Karl Aberer
- Martin Vetterli, Vice President, the future president of the EPFL and current president of the Swiss National Science Foundation, for his summary of the day.
- Today's speakers, who will make the day a success!
- Astronaut Claude Nicollier, for his superb presentation
- Our 'Gold Sponsor', RUAG
- Vaud Cantonal Council for providing the 'vin d'honneur'
- Mundi Consulting, for organising the event



# **Forthcoming conference(s)**

- If there is sufficient interest we intend to organise a Swiss Cyber Risk Research Conference every 2-3 years
- I now declare the Swiss Cyber Risk Research Conference 2016 open!
- I hope you enjoy the conference!

