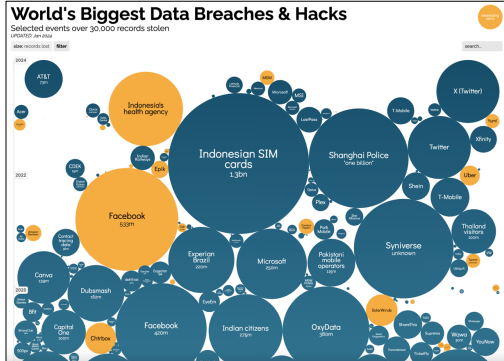


CYBERSECURITY REGULATION DEVELOPMENT AND DISSEMINATION DEFICIENCIES HARMING ORGANIZATIONAL CYBERSECURITY OUTCOMES

SCAN QR CODE
 TO VIEW RECENT
 CONFERENCE PAPER FOR
 THIS PROJECT



BACKGROUND



- The increasingly hostile and dangerous digital landscape is resulting in frequent and severe cyberattacks in virtually every industry and context.
- A byproduct of this trend is mounting pressure on policymakers to intervene and thereby reduce cyber risk, protect vast oceans of data, ensure consumer privacy, and at a more macro level, shore up national security.
- Policymakers' response to this pressure often takes the form of cybersecurity regulations – mandates imposed on organizations requiring their compliance with prescriptive cyber behaviors enforced through accompanying punitive measures levied for noncompliance.
- However, researchers have yet to conclusively understand the nuances and effects of cybersecurity regulation development, dissemination, and organizational response.
- In this research, we explore a subset of this problem space: the potential deficiencies of cybersecurity regulation development and dissemination.

RESEARCH QUESTION

RQ: What deficiencies in cybersecurity regulation development and dissemination harm organizational cybersecurity outcomes?

METHODOLOGY

GROUNDED THEORY METHOD (GTM)

“... the identification of useful theoretical conceptualizations based on a rigorous, systematic and comprehensive approach to data collection and analysis”
 (Fernandez and Lehmann 2005) // (Urquhart and Fernandez 2013, p. 225)

“... to discover what is going on, rather than assuming what should go on.” (Glaser 1978, p. 159)

OUR APPROACH

- 22 semi-structured interviews with relevant experts
- 30% outside of US / 40% multinational companies
- 35-65 minutes -> 300 pages of transcripts (~15/per)
- Inductive GTM coding analysis -> rich description
- First-order data slices -> second-order themes

PARTICIPANTS

Number	Industry	Job Title	Interview Duration (min)	Transcribed Pages
1	Financial Services	CISO	63	15
2	Financial Services	Division Chief	62	16
3	Academia	Researcher	51	16
4	Cybersecurity	Cybersecurity Specialist	55	14
5	Cloud Computing	CTO / CISO	61	15
6	Technology	Client Director	60	17
7	Healthcare	Deputy CISO	62	18
8	Financial Services	CISO	54	12
9	Industrial Control Systems	Senior Director of Strategy	58	12
10	Financial Services	CISO	58	14
11	Consulting	Executive VP	59	16
12	Insurance	CEO	51	15
13	Technology	CISO	55	13
14	Home Automation (Regulator)	Management Consultant	50	12
15	Technology	Director of Engineering Compliance	60	14
16	Cybersecurity	Product Manager	35	16
17	Education	Product Manager	58	17
18	Technology	Manager of International Standards	65	17
19	Financial Services	Senior Vice President	55	15
20	Energy (Regulator)	Chief Regulatory Engineer	60	11
21	Government	Principal Engineer	57	14
22	Industrial	Senior Research Analyst	53	16

RESULTS & KEY TAKEAWAYS

3 DEFICIENCIES

Our analysis yielded the following **three core deficiencies** impacting the development and dissemination of cybersecurity regulations:

- **Regulator Expertise**
- **Regulation Relevance**
- **Regulation Granularity**



DISCUSSION

- **Regulations are often misguided**, do not consider other risk areas, and can harm business operations.
- **Dearth of cyber talent is exacerbating regulatory issues** (~4 million open jobs). Regulators need relevant talent.
- **Regulators should collaborate to promote relevance** / avoid conflicting requirements that require extensive harmonization.
- **Regulatory latency hurts relevance** / places orgs in a strategic holding pattern. Regulations must be updated regularly.
- **Overly prescriptive regulations**: outdated faster / reduce the ability for orgs to respond creatively / consume resources.



CAN YOU HELP US WITH THIS RESEARCH?

PLEASE CONTACT US IF YOU CAN HELP US GET ACCESS TO INTERVIEW EXECUTIVES AND BOARD MEMBERS.

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