An abstract graphic consisting of several thin, black, overlapping lines that form a complex, geometric pattern. The lines intersect to create various shapes, including triangles and polygons, some of which are nested within others. The overall effect is a sense of depth and complexity, reminiscent of a wireframe or a stylized architectural drawing.

**RISK AT THE
INTERSECTION OF
THE CYBER AND
GEOPOLITICS
KEN SHEEHAN**

WHY DOES THIS MATTER TO IRELAND?

“You may not be interested in war, but war is interested in you”



Leon Trotsky
People's Commissar
for Military and Naval
Affairs of the Soviet
Union

WHY DOES THIS MATTER TO YOU?



Chinese spies use LinkedIn to target UK officials and military staff

Advertisements for non-existent jobs aim to draw in people with access to classified or sensitive information



LUXEMBOURG TIMES

Cybersecurity

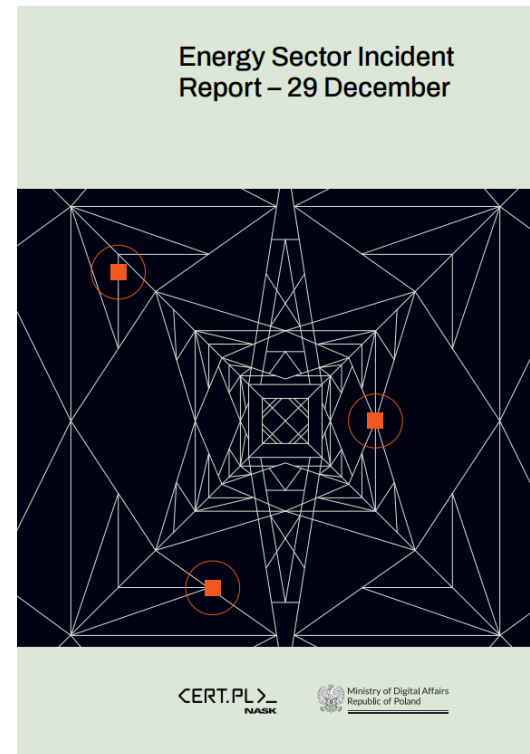
'Fake workers' from North Korea use AI to exploit European companies

Pyongyang's operatives deploy chatbots to undertake tasks, often in multiple roles



WAR IS POLITICS BY OTHER MEANS

- Difference between Cyber Security and Cyber Warfare
- Sub threshold operations
- Ambiguity in attribution, ambiguity in responsibility to respond



Stryker's Cork base impacted by global cyber attack

Updated / Thursday, 12 Mar 2026 15:53



An Iran linked hacking group said it had shut down Stryker offices in 79 countries

The Cork base of medical technology company Stryker has been impacted by a global cyber attack targeting the firms operations.

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

- The State, the organization or the individual?
- Jaguar Land Rover impact on UK's GDP
- State responses
- EU responses



UK economy grew by just 0.1% in third quarter after hit from JLR cyber-attack

Figure undershoots forecasts, with Jaguar Land Rover hack helping to pull September GDP down by 0.1%

- [Business live - latest updates](#)
- [Amid disappointing UK growth, how can Reeves escape the doom loop?](#)



WHY IS AN EFFECTIVE RESPONSE SO DIFFICULT?

- GNV Ferry Fantastic
- December 2025
- Multi-agency response
- Potential geopolitical motive



France probes 'foreign interference' after passenger ship hit by remote-control malware

■ FRANCE

France is investigating whether an organised group linked to a “foreign power” may have been involved in the malware infection of a passenger ship that would allow it to be controlled remotely. The malware discovery onboard the Italian-owned Fantastic was made when the ship was docked in the southern French port of Sète.

IRELAND'S RESPONSE

- Location, location, location...
- Progress by NCSC
- National Cyber Risk Assessment
- National Cyber Security Strategy?



EU PRESIDENCY

- Denmark July to December 2025
 - Elevated the cyber threat level for the telecommunications sector from "medium" to "high" during this period
 - Intensified state-sponsored espionage campaigns
 - Critical infrastructure targeted
- Cyprus January to July 2026
 - Regular targeting of State services with ransomware attacks days, with ransom demands submitted.
 - Breach of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 - The Cyprus Telecommunications Authority and energy company EKO Cyprus were also targeted.
 - Targeting of Defence Ministers' aircraft on 08 June 2026

The Journal

EU PRESIDENCY

Aircraft carrying French, Dutch and Greek defence ministers in security alert in Cyprus

Taoiseach Micheál Martin said he is satisfied with Irish security measures to combat similar incidents for Ireland's EU Presidency which begins in July.

5.13pm, 8 Jun 2026 ↗15.9k

Share

AIRCRAFT CARRYING THE French, Dutch and Greek defence ministers were targeted as they arrived in Cyprus for an EU defence ministers meeting, security sources told *The Journal*.

Cyprus holds the president of the Council of the European Union.

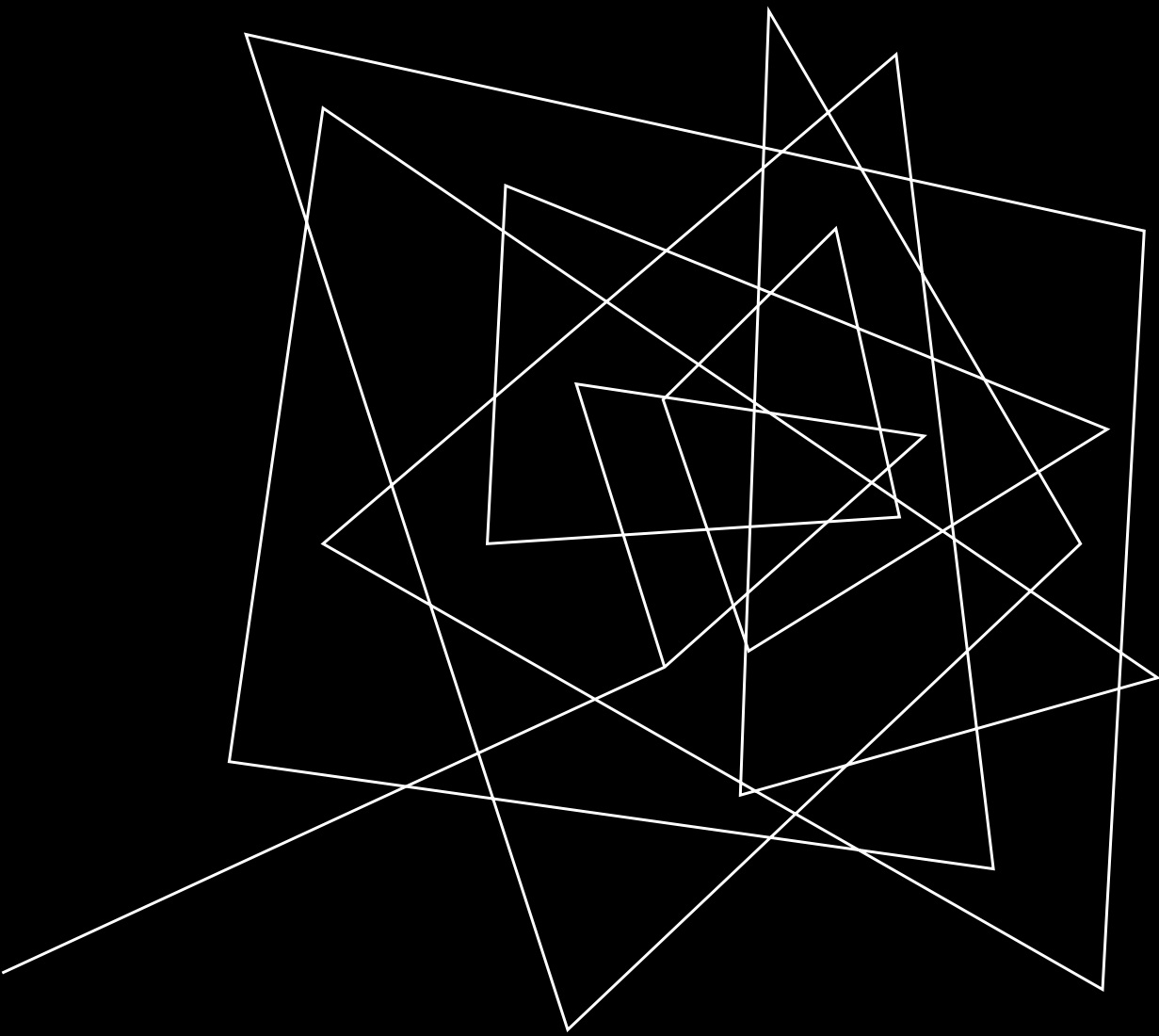
Taoiseach Micheál Martin, speaking to The Journal today, said he is satisfied with Irish security measures to combat similar incidents for Ireland's EU Presidency which begins in July.

Sources familiar with the incident said that there was interference with the aircraft communications.

The [news website Politico](#) also reported that a Cypriot spokesman said that the aircraft was also tracked by Turkish fighter aircraft. Turkey has denied the incident happened.

CONCLUSION

- As well as criminal motives – there are clear geopolitical related activities taking place in the cyber domain
- Great power rivalry is back
- This has economic, political, and societal consequences for all of us



THANK YOU