

GA1- The question of cyber-surveillance on civilians.

Cyber-surveillance on innocent citizens to fight against cyber terrorism, how is our privacy protected?

April 24th, 2021

Cyber-surveillance is when a person or an organization uses technology to monitor an individual or a group of people. Cyber-surveillance is a modern issue that is constantly evolving and changing. Due to the growing use of the cloud and technology in general, new attacks and vulnerabilities are being discovered and used against innocent people. The goal of cyber-surveillance is to identify these attackers or cyber-terrorists and put an end to these. Nonetheless, in order to eradicate these cyber-criminal activities, several innocent citizens must be subjected to cyber-surveillance. How is this regulated so that the citizens do not get their privacy and personal life invaded?

The resolution passed by the French Republic and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, supported by the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Japan, the Kingdom of Norway, the Republic of Colombia, the Republic of Indonesia, the Republic of South Africa and, the Republic of Yemen, offers a concise and clear potential solution to the topic at hand.

The resolution does not ban cyber-surveillance as it recognizes its existence has ended and will continue to cease many cyber criminals that could damage national security. Instead, the resolution proposes and suggests a balance between security and privacy. In order to achieve this goal, the resolution brings up diverse regulations to which members of state must comply in order to avoid sanction. The use of sanction itself already guarantees certain security measures regarding cyber-security and the privacy of the individuals.

Furthermore, the resolution passed encourages mass surveillance rather than targeted, personal surveillance, with the exception of suspect crime. The resolution continues to urge the Member States to form a council that will regulate the use of modern surveillance around the world, discuss possible sanctions if any Member State fails to comply with the demands stated and, come up with new, neutral objectives for further development on cyber security. Moreover, the resolution approved clearly determines that it is opposed to the “nothing to fear nothing to hide” argument as it is just an excuse to spy on innocent citizens. Lastly, the resolution expresses their properties, stating that the security of state must be prioritized over the privacy of an individual, suggesting the use of cyber-surveillance on suspect groups if they pose an important threat to national security.

Bibliography

Soesanto, S. (2020, 4 17). Cyber Terrorism. Why it exists, why it doesn't, and why it will. *Real Instituto Elcano*.

Womens Law. (2017, 12 11). Abuse Using Technology. *Abuse Using Technology*.