U.S.-Estonian Cyber Partnership Statement

The objective of the cyber partnership between the United States and Estonia is to work together in key areas to enhance an open, interoperable, secure, and reliable information and communications infrastructure and prioritize openness and innovation on the Internet.

There are three elements to the partnership that reflect mutual operational and strategic objectives:

1. Cooperation in cyber security and cyber defence: exchange of best practices, critical infrastructure protection efforts, and technical information
   a) Enhance existing cooperation and establish new linkages between civilian cyber security agencies, in particular between the U.S. Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Office of Cybersecurity and Communications and the Estonian Ministry of the Interior and Estonian Information System’s Authority (EISA) through a Memorandum of Understanding focused on:
      • strengthening incident management and response activities between the National Cybersecurity and Communications Integration Center (NCCIC), the U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness Team (US-CERT), the Industrial Control Systems Response Team (ICS-CERT) and Estonian Information System’s Authority (EISA), including CERT/EE;
      • cooperating on control systems security; and
      • cooperating on other issues of mutual concern
   b) Enhance cybersecurity cooperation between the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), including its Idaho National Laboratory, and the Estonian Ministry of the Interior and EISA to strengthen energy system infrastructures against cyber incidents, including field exercises and tabletop exercises.
   c) Continue to enhance the cyberdefence cooperation between our two militaries.

2. Bilateral collaboration: law enforcement cooperation, academic exchanges, Internet freedom, and strategic engagement in international forums
   a) Work together to combat cybercrime, through enhancing cooperation between law enforcement agencies on investigations and other efforts, embedding personnel, and identifying related training opportunities;
   b) Identify opportunities for academic exchanges and collaboration on research and development related to cybersecurity;
c) Collaborate actively to promote the exercise of human rights online, through the Freedom Online Coalition and with other countries;
d) Collaborate actively to promote multistakeholder Internet governance;
e) Collaborate on furthering common strategic objectives in international forums such as the United Nations (UN) and its component agencies, Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), including the NATO Cooperative Cyber Defense Centre of Excellence (CCD COE), Organization for Security and Co-Operation in Europe (OSCE), European Union (EU), the Council of Europe (CoE), and others; and establish new initiatives as needed.
f) Promote the applicability of international law in cyberspace and a common understanding of norms of responsible state behavior in cyberspace.

3. Coordination on capacity building with third-party countries: leverage particular strengths of the United States and Estonia to collaborate on prioritization and participation in capacity building efforts including, but not limited to:
a) Secure and trustworthy online elections;
b) E-governance know-how and best practices;
c) Cybersecurity strategies and best practices;
d) Internet Governance and enhanced multistakeholder cooperation;
e) Promotion of innovation, entrepreneurship, and investment in the field of Information and Communications Technology (ICTs); and
f) Promotion of the use of ICT to enhance the engagement and cooperation between the government and civil society organizations by improving the latter’s participation in the decision-making process.

Signed in duplicate at Brussels on December 3, 2013 in the English language.

Urmas Paet
Minister of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Estonia

John F. Kerry
Secretary of State
of the United States of America