We frequently hear the terms “Cyber 9/11” and “Digital Pearl Harbor,” but what might policymakers do the day after a crisis? The Cyber 9/12 Student Challenge is an annual cyber policy competition for students across the globe to compete in developing national security policy recommendations tackling a fictional cyber catastrophe. In 2017, the Indo-Pacific Student Challenge will take place in Sydney, Australia on September 28-29, following Challenges in Geneva, Switzerland in April and Washington, DC in March.

A MAJOR CYBERATTACK HAS OCCURRED. HOW SHOULD YOUR NATION RESPOND?

The Indo-Pacific competition is hosted in partnership with the Atlantic Council and the University of Sydney’s Centre for International Security Studies (CISS) and Sydney Cyber Security Network (SCSN). Student teams will confront a major cyberattack of national and international importance. In response, teams will compose policy recommendations and justify their decision-making process, considering the roles and responsibilities of relevant civilian, military, law enforcement, and private sector organizations, and updating their recommendations as the scenario evolves.

WHAT IS THE CHALLENGE ALL ABOUT?

Now entering its fifth year, the Cyber 9/12 Student Challenge is a one-of-a-kind competition designed to provide students across academic disciplines with a deeper understanding of the policy challenges associated with cyber crisis and conflict. Part interactive learning experience and part competitive scenario exercise, it challenges teams to respond to a realistic, evolving cyberattack and analyze the threat it poses to national, international, and private sector interests.

Students have a unique opportunity to interact with expert mentors and high-level cyber professionals while developing valuable skills in policy analysis and presentation. The competition has already engaged over seven hundred students from universities in the United States, United Kingdom, France, United Arab Emirates, Poland, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary, Sweden, Finland, and Estonia.

FIRST EVENT OF ITS KIND IN THE REGION

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THE INDO-PACIFIC STUDENT CHALLENGE

SYDNEY, SEPTEMBER 28-29, 2017
HOW TO PARTICIPATE

...as a competitor:
Graduate and undergraduate students from any university, including defense colleges and military academies, are invited to apply to compete in teams of four. There are no requirements for team composition based on academic majors, education levels, or nationalities of team members.

...as a coach:
Each team must recruit a coach to assist in preparing for the competition. One coach can serve for several teams. Teams are expected to consult with their coaches to help develop and revise their policy ideas for the competition and confer with them during breaks between competition rounds.

...as a judge:
Experts with significant policy and cybersecurity experience are invited to serve as judges. Judges evaluate the student teams’ oral presentations based on the quality of their policy responses, their decision-making processes, and their presentation skills. Previous judges include practitioners from various sectors, such as government, international organizations, information and communications technology, finance, and the press.

...as an observer:
All competition events are open to the public, and we welcome anyone interested in cybersecurity policy to join us as an observer.

...as a sponsor:
The competition is a unique opportunity for companies to support next-generation cybersecurity education and position themselves as innovative thought leaders in the field. Depending on the level of sponsorship, our partners receive great benefits including recruitment of top tech and policy talent; advertisement in print and online; promotional side events; and keynote and judging opportunities.

To register or for more information, please contact:
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or
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