Cyber Espionage and the S.P.I.E.S. Taxonomy

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ABSTRACT

Cyber Espionage has been identified as an activity which has the potential of costing the world economy billions of dollars and significant employment losses. On a global basis, companies find their intellectual properties and trade secrets subject to cyber attack by government actors, competitors, employees and agent provocateurs. This paper seeks to document and analyze the anatomy and emerging threats of cyber espionage through development of the S.P.I.E.S. taxonomy (Situational Threats, Penetration Methodologies, Information Targets, Enforcement of Espionage Laws and Security Vulnerabilities).

Keywords: Cyber Espionage; Cyber Security, Trade Secret Misappropriation, Economic Espionage