

Special Issue

Human and Technical Drivers of Cybercrime

Message from the Guest Editor

Cybercriminality is escalating, evolving and taking on new forms. A sophisticated or carefully planned operation is no longer necessary to break into IT systems. The hacking tools and malware available on the dark web have lowered the barrier to entry into cybercrime, making it possible for amateur and unsophisticated cybercriminals to cause enormous damage. Offender convergence settings have moved to the darker parts of cyberspace, further complicating law enforcement operations. At the same time, the rise of the Internet of Things (IoT)—and soon, a predicted trillion connected devices—is vastly expanding the attack surface of the global digital infrastructure. Paradoxically, younger generations of users are digitally knowledgeable but can be complacent about cybersecurity. Youth frequently engage in risk-taking and harmful behaviours online and are, therefore, at risk of being drawn into cybercriminality. Thus, in our collective effort to combat cybercrime, we urgently need to understand the technical and human drivers of cybercrime, especially as they impel young people.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Mary Aiken

Forensic Cyberpsychology, University of East London, London E16 2RD, UK

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
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Prof. Dr. Bruce Royston McCord
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, Florida International
University, Miami, FL 33199, USA

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