



INFORMATION

Alliance for Cyber Security

1 What is the Alliance for Cyber Security?

The Alliance for Cyber Security is an initiative of the Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) founded in cooperation with the Federal Association for Information Technology, Telecommunications and New Media (BITKOM).

As an association of all major players in the field of cyber security in Germany, the mission of the Alliance is to increase cyber security in Germany and strengthen Germany's resistance to cyber-attacks. To do so, the Alliance for Cyber Security is building up a comprehensive knowledge base and supporting exchange of information and experience.

2 What are the aims of the Alliance for Cyber Security?

The Alliance for Cyber Security has set the following targets:

- » To create and maintain an up-to-date overview of the security situation
 - An up-to-date overview of the security situation arms potentially concerned organizations with information that will help accelerate their response to attacks and minimize repercussions.
 - Institutions have the opportunity to report cyber-attacks anonymously to the Alliance's reporting office, thereby becoming additional sources for creating the overview of the security situation.
- » To provide background information and security solutions
 - Background information and recommendations accelerate the development of effective countermeasures and technological solutions for preventing cyber-attacks.
- » To intensify the exchange of knowledge on the topic of cyber security
 - Regular, trustworthy exchange of experience can benefit all parties involved and thereby improve cyber security in Germany overall.
- » To build IT security competence in IT-intensive organizations
 - By sensitizing companies and agencies to the dangers of cyber crime
 - By continually building the expertise of cyber security officers

In the scope of the Alliance for Cyber Security, BSI cooperates closely with partners and disseminators to jointly develop and promote cyber security.

3 What does the Alliance for Cyber Security offer?

The first priority of the Alliance for Cyber Security is to *create and maintain a knowledge base*. Information is gathered, analyzed, prepared and then made immediately available online to participants, partners and disseminators. Such information includes, for example:

- » Current situation reports (e.g. from security service providers, German CERTs and German security agencies)
- » Up-to-date Cyber Security Library with immediate measures, recommendations, analyses, background information, surveys and studies
- » Sensitization material for various target groups
- » Information on research projects and results

The second priority of the Alliance for Cyber Security is the *exchange of knowledge*. Alongside centrally organized workshops and conferences, the Alliance for Cyber Security shall also create and support regional and industry-related structures. Such activities include, for example:

- » Thematic and industry-related workgroups
- » Regional forums and round table meetings
- » Regional conferences and workshops

The aim is not to replace existing structures, rather to support them with additional services.

4 How can a company participate in the Alliance for Cyber Security?

Any institution (agency, company, research institute, etc.) can become a *participant* in the Alliance for Cyber Security. No registration is required to make use of the extensive public information from the Alliance. Entities can actively participate in the Alliance by expanding the knowledge base and/or (anonymously) reporting incidents.

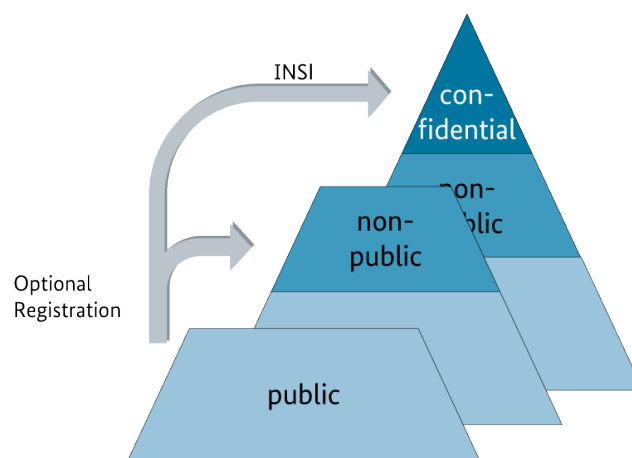


Fig. 1: Three steps of access

Voluntary registration to become a *registered participant of the Alliance* requires a formal statement of interest and – given the confidential nature of certain information – the signing of a non-disclosure agreement. Employees of a German institution who carry responsibility for cyber security (e.g. CIOs, CISOs) or are entrusted with handling cyber security matters will be ac-

cepted as representatives of that institution. Registered participants will be granted access to additional services of the Alliance for Cyber Security, such as additional non-public information and active notification of current developments in the form of short messages or newsletters.

Participation in the Alliance for Cyber Security – with or without registration – is free of charge.

Institutions acting in the special interest of the state (INSI), such as German companies engaged in covert security work or German operators of critical infrastructures, shall receive access to a separate area containing confidential information upon registration.

Partners of the Alliance for Cyber Security are German institutions that make a concrete contribution to the Alliance and provide a demonstrable added value to the Alliance through their cooperation. Such a partner contribution, provided free of charge, could be a service, provision of exclusive information, or a personal engagement as forum chair, for example. Partner contributions will be published for all participants to see. Partners are entitled to use the partner logo of the Alliance. More information is provided in the document *Partners of the Alliance for Cyber Security*.

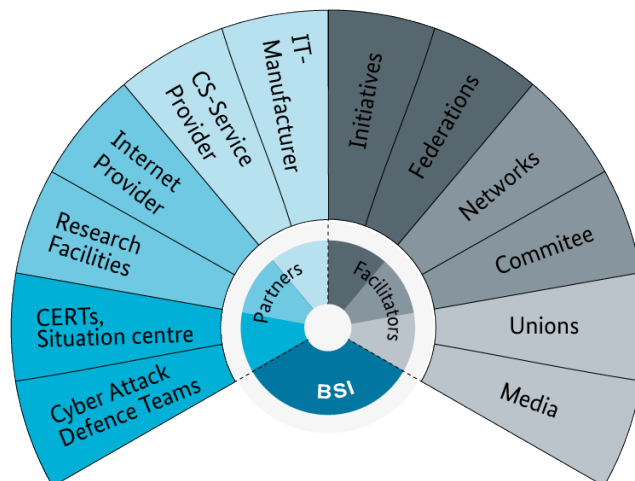


Fig. 2: Stakeholders of the Alliance for Cyber Security

Disseminators are associations, committees, media, chambers and equivalent bodies that cooperate with the Alliance for Cyber Security in order to increase awareness of its activities. Disseminators inform their members directly and relevantly, publish current information on cyber security, or organize cyber security forums, for example. More information is provided in the document *Disseminators for the Alliance for Cyber Security*.

5 More information

Detailed information and forms for becoming involved as a registered participant, partner or disseminator are available for downloading from the website <https://www.allianz-fuer-cybersicherheit.de>.

Please direct any questions or suggestions to info@cyber-allianz.de.