Panel Discussion: Cyber Crime

Addressing Cyber Crimes for National Security and Coexistence

Panelists:

Reber Ahmed Khaled - Minister of Interior Affairs - KRG

Master's degree in National Security from the Iraqi National Security University in Baghdad 2007

Bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Salahaddin University, Erbil - 1997.

He currently serves as the head of the Joint Coordination Office of the Kurdistan Regional Security Council, a role he has held since 2012.

Director of Intelligence Analysis at the Kurdistan Regional Security Agency from 2005 - 2012.

His extensive career also includes serving as Director of Organized Crime Prevention for the Protection Agency from 2000 - 2005 and as Director of Research in the Department of Administration from 1997 - 2000.

Judge Ashti Ahmed Ahmed

Bachelors in law 1992

Lawyer since 1993

Legal Investigator 1994

Member of the Juvenile Court of Erbil 1998

Director of Communications at the Ministry of Justice 2001

Judge since 2005 and member of the Criminal Court 2017

President of the Appellate Court 2020 and member of the District Appellate Court 2021

Dr. Jwan Fouad Masoum

Ph.D. in electrical and electronic engineering - King's College London.

Research and development at major telecommunications firms in the UK and Canada.

Ten innovations in the field of long-range and metropolitan fiber networks.

In 2004, she became the first commissioner of the National Communication and Media Commission

2005 - Minister of Communications

2009-2014 Prime Minister's Advisor on Relations Policy and Laws

2014-2018 Special Office of the President of Iraq

2018 Prime Minister's Office Advisor (PMAC) on Communications Policy and the advisory committee for electronic and government administration

Dr. Dara Sherwani

Assistant Professor

PhD in Human-Computer Interaction from City University, London, and has contributed to published research on user trust in online reviews.

Currently, Chief Information Officer at the American Academy in the Kurdistan Region / Dohuk.

Master's degree from BMU University in Erbil

Master's degree in e-commerce with distinction from the University of Huddersfield.

Dara Sherwani currently holds the position of CEO at Skills House, where he oversees training projects.

Founder and user research consultant at The Methods Lab, where he manages several projects that bridge the gap between academic research and practical applications.

Panel Moderator**:**

Dr. Salahaddin Yasin Bapir

Assistant Professor

PhD in theory of architecture in HBP-USM

Head of Architectural Department/College of Engineering - University of Salahaddin-Erbil.

Master's degree in architectural technology - University of Technology, Iraq.

Bachelor's degree in Architecture - University of Technology, Baghdad Iraq with Honors.

He works as a Consultant Architect and has designed several important projects in Erbil city

Time: **1 hour and 30 minutes**

Number of Panelists: **Four**

Introduction by the moderator: (5 minutes)

Researching different levels of cyber crimes' impact on national security and community cohesion (especially bullying, hate speech, and identity theft) and the other issues of cyberbanking and protection of civilian information.

Panel Questions: (70 minutes)

Context: (20 minutes)

1. From your experience: What are the types of most significant cybercrimes and most frequent ones in the Kurdistan Region and Iraq?
2. What is the vision of the government in the next period to combat cybercrimes and what is the implementation progress towards that?

Legislation: (20 minutes)

The network preparatory workshop concluded that the main challenges are around legislative gaps:

3. What legislative measures have been taken to address cyber-crimes in Iraq, and what progress has been made? What are the challenges?
4. Knowingly, there are reservations from human rights activists regarding some cybercrime mitigation measures and legislative processes in the Federal Iraq and Kurdistan regions, what is the process of developing the legislation considering human rights?
5. Is there a specific budget allocated for combating cybercrimes, and can you provide insights into the government's plan for utilizing these funds?

Technical Capacity: (20 minutes)

6. What technical challenges are hindering efforts to combat cybercrimes in the country?
   o Lack of independent national satellite for broadcasting
   o Lack of expertise and human resources

7. What is the impact of collaborative efforts between stakeholders from different sectors on the process of cybercrime mitigation and to what extent the collaboration is effective?
8. How does scientific research feed into cybercrime mitigation? Is there a mechanism for integrating research and evidence in combating cybercrimes?

Future adaptation measures and strategies: (10 minutes)

9. What are the strategies to tackle challenges related to cybercrimes impacting international investment, particularly in the banking and corporate sectors in Iraq?
10. How does Iraq position itself in the evolving landscape of global technology and AI developments, and what strategies are in place to mitigate vulnerabilities?

Questions from the audience (10 minutes)

Wrap up (5 minutes)