





"Armchair Cyberwarriors"

The First 100 Days of Cybercriminal and Hacktivist Activities Related to the Russian War in Ukraine

·III Recorded Future



Biography

Alexander Leslie

Associate Threat Intelligence
 Analyst, Advanced Cybercrime
 & Engagements (ACE) @

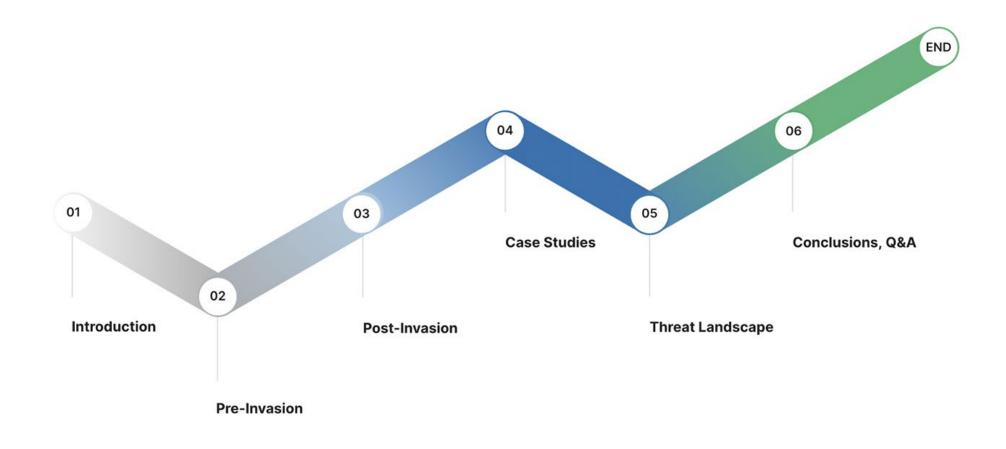
 Recorded Future

 Research includes Russian & Russian-speaking threat actors.



·I:I-Recorded Future®





PRESENTATION MAP



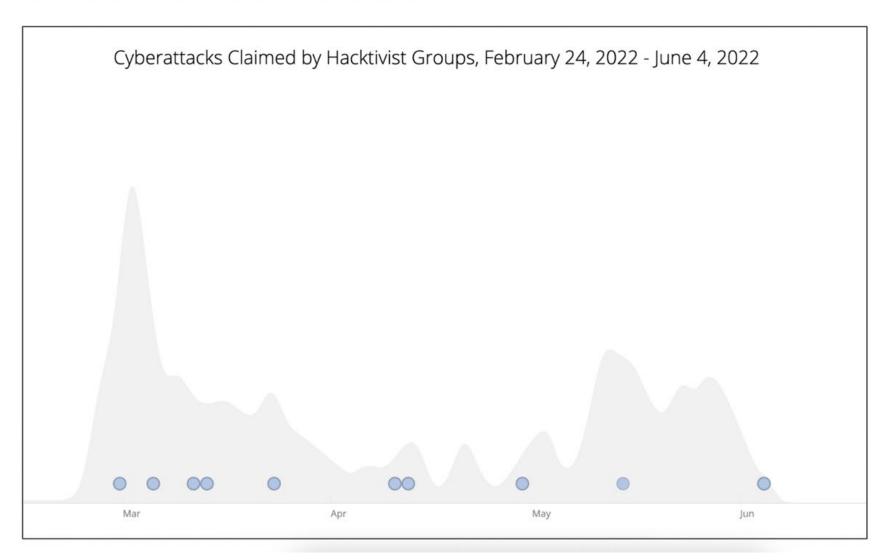




Introduction



Research Questions



700,000 References

Avg. 100,000 References per Month

250+ Threat **Actor Groups**

500+ Victims

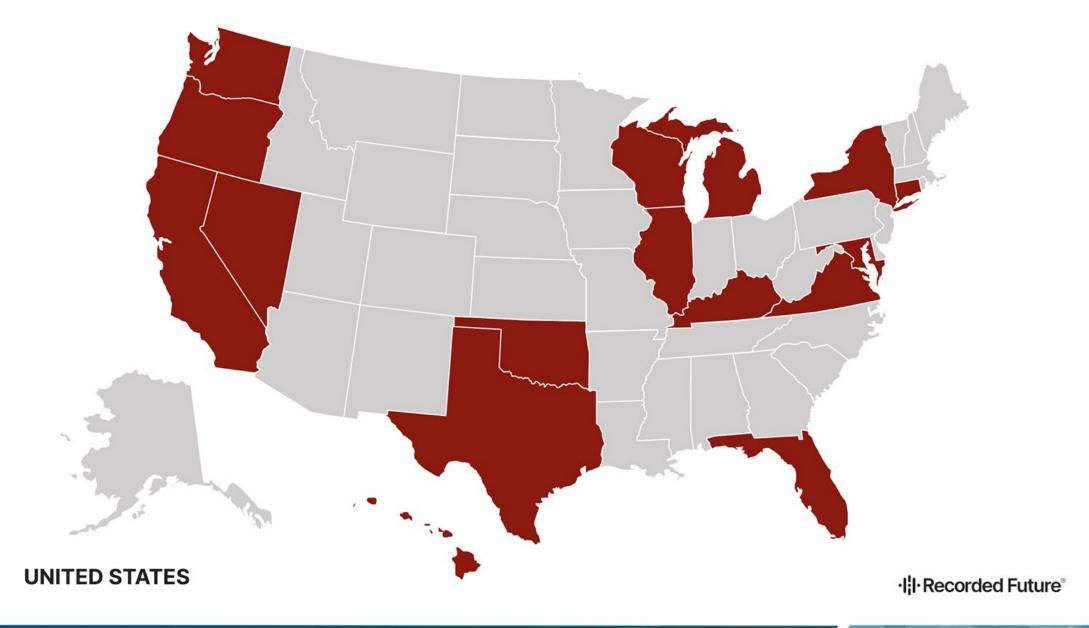
75+ Countries

\$3.7T ARR













RUSSIA





Research Questions

- What explains the observed rise in unique references to cyberattacks
 perpetrated by politically motivated TAs following February 24, 2022?
 Which groups claim responsibility for the most attacks? Which groups claim responsibility for attacks that result in the most impact? What are their tools, TTPs, and IOCs?
- How has the Russian war in Ukraine changed the hacktivist and cybercriminal threat landscapes? What lessons can be learned about the first 100 days of the war and how can we apply those lessons to future geopolitical crises.
- What is the *risk* to governments, enterprises, employees, partners, and clients? What steps can we take to *mitigate* risk and potential impact?



Methodology



Pre-Invasion (September 29, 2021 - February 23, 2022)



Ilya Sachkov Arrest (Sept. 29, 2021)

Russia detains cyber-security tycoon Ilya Sachkov in treason case

3 29 September 2021

Moscow Court Rejects Release Request Of Cybersecurity Company Chief Arrested On Treason Charge

Moscow Court Extends Pretrial Detention Of Cybersecurity Company Chief Charged With Treason



·III Recorded Future



"REvil" Arrests (January 14, 2022)

Moscow court arrests all REvil ransomware hackers detained after FBI request to Russia

All the eight individuals are suspected of committing a crime stipulated under Part 2 of Article 187 of Russia's Criminal Code

MOSCOW, January 15. /TASS/. Moscow's Tverskoy Court has ruled to keep in custody all eight members of the REvil hacking group responsible for ransomware attacks, who were earlier apprehended by the Russian Federal Security Service (FSB) following the US request, the court's press service told TASS on Saturday.





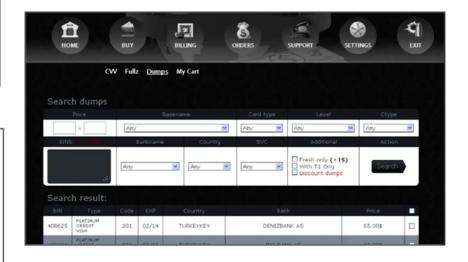
Infraud Organization Arrests (January 22, 2022)

Thirty-six Defendants Indicted for Alleged Roles in Transnational Criminal Organization Responsible for More than \$530 Million in Losses from Cybercrimes

Law Enforcement Dismantles Forum Used to Victimize Millions in all 50 States and Worldwide in One of the Largest Cyberfraud Enterprises Ever Prosecuted by the Department of Justice

Founder of The Infraud Organization hacking group arrested in Moscow — source

Three other purported hackers are under a house arrest





Website Seizures

(February 7, 2022)

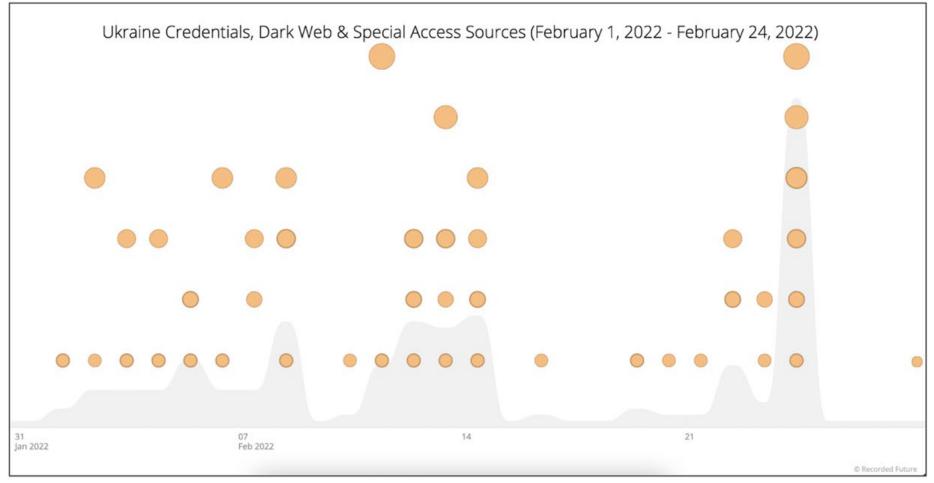


- SkyFraud
- Trump's **Dumps**
- **UAS Shop**
- **Ferum Shop**



Credential Leaks

(February 1, 2022 - February 24, 2022)

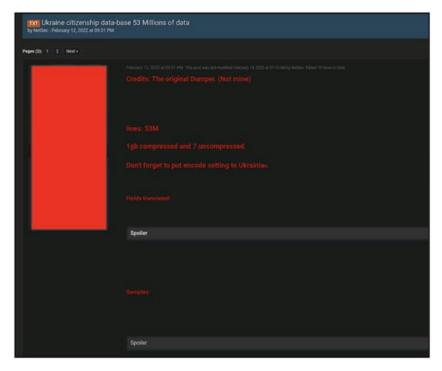


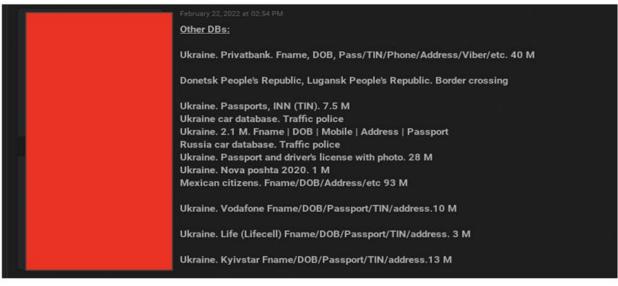




Database Leaks

(February 12, 2022 - February 24, 2022)



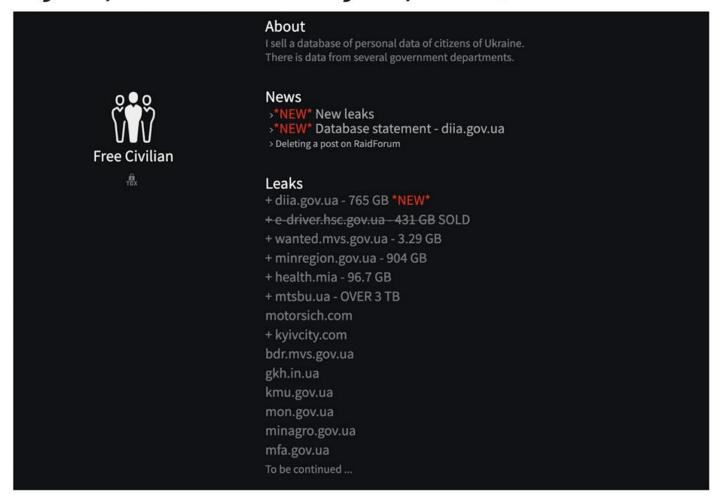


·III Recorded Future



FreeCivilian Leaks

(February 23, 2022 - February 24, 2022)



·I|| Recorded Future



The First 100 Days (February 24, 2022 - June 4, 2022)



Formation of Hacktivist Groups & Alliances

(February 25, 2022 - Ongoing)

Pro-Ukrainian (IT Army of Ukraine)

(4

Russian Opposition (squad303)

Anti-Russian &

Pro-Russia (Killnet) Russian APTs

Chinese APTs

Iranian APTs

Pro-Western (Anonymous)

Belarusian Opposition (Belarusian Cyber-Partisans)

> Financially Motivated

Ego-Driven



Anonymous













#OpRussia

















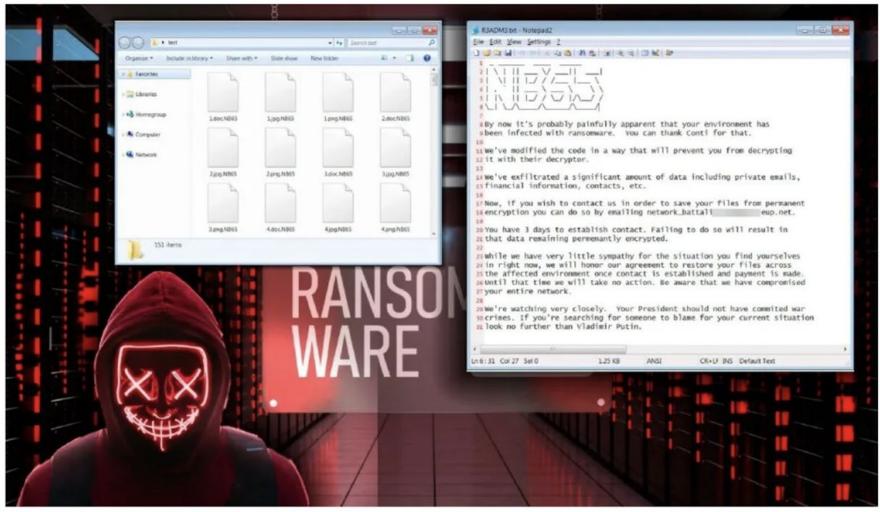








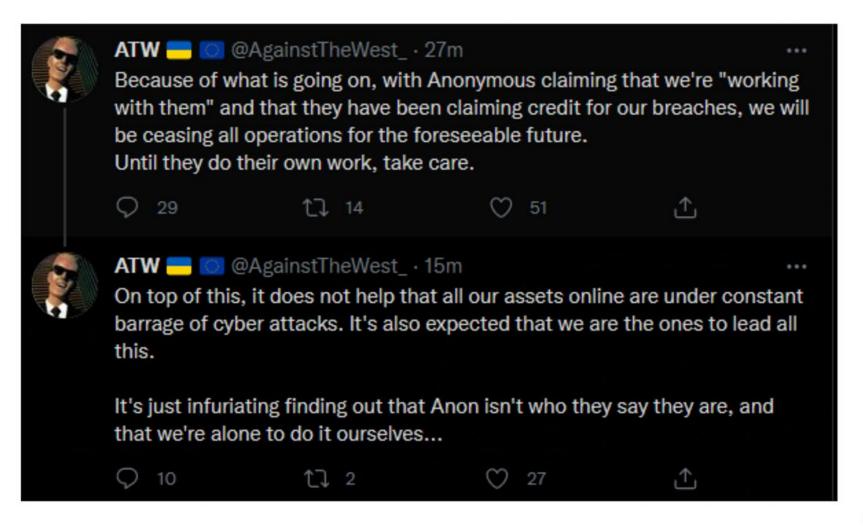
Network Battalion 65 (NB65)



·I Recorded Future



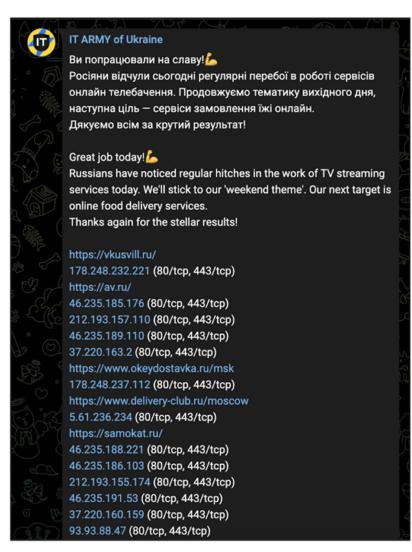
AgainstTheWest (BlueHornet, APT49, etc.)





IT Army of Ukraine









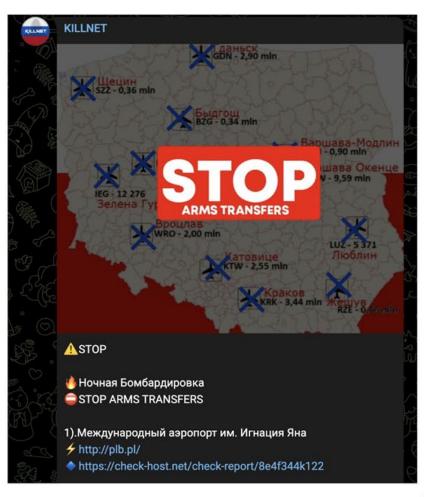
Liberator





Killnet



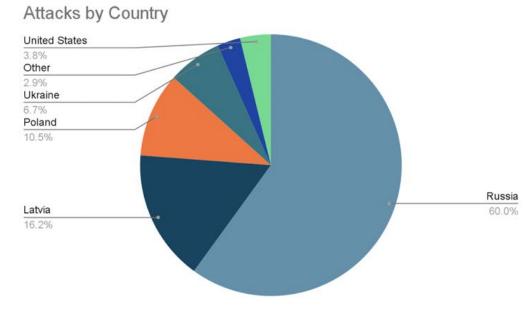


·II Recorded Future



Key Findings

- Russian individuals and entities constitute approximately 60% of all claimed cyberattacks. (n=300)
- Distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) accounts for **94%** of all attacks. Website defacement accounts for 3%.
- IT Army of Ukraine claims responsibility for most targets at approximately **750**. Of these 750, only ≈150 can be verified.



·III Recorded Future



Key Findings

- Primary industries targeted include the Russian financial sector (26%), Russian government services (12%), and Russian critical infrastructure (7%).
- In the first 100 days, 85% of all attacks took place between February 25, 2022 and March 25, 2022.
- Of all the groups associated with Anonymous (approximately 30), we were only able to confirm evidence of successful cyberattacks claimed by 4.

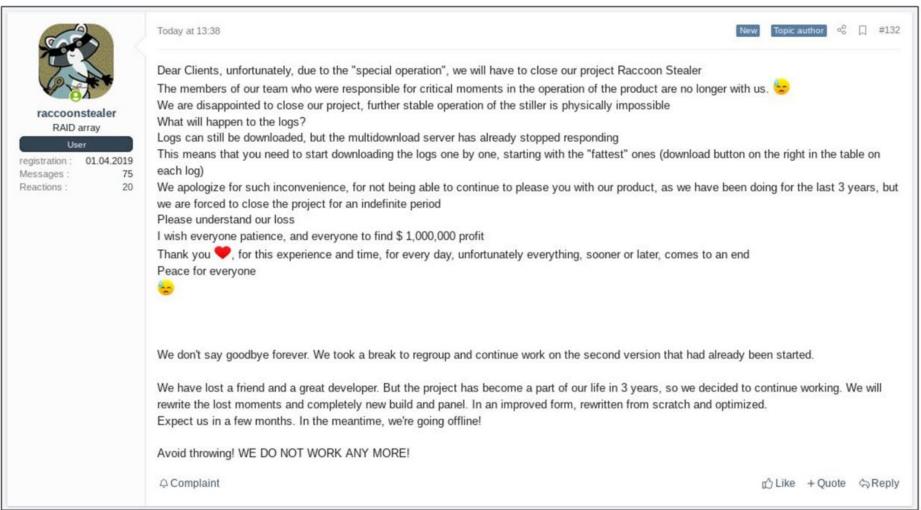




Changes to the Cybercriminal Threat Landscape



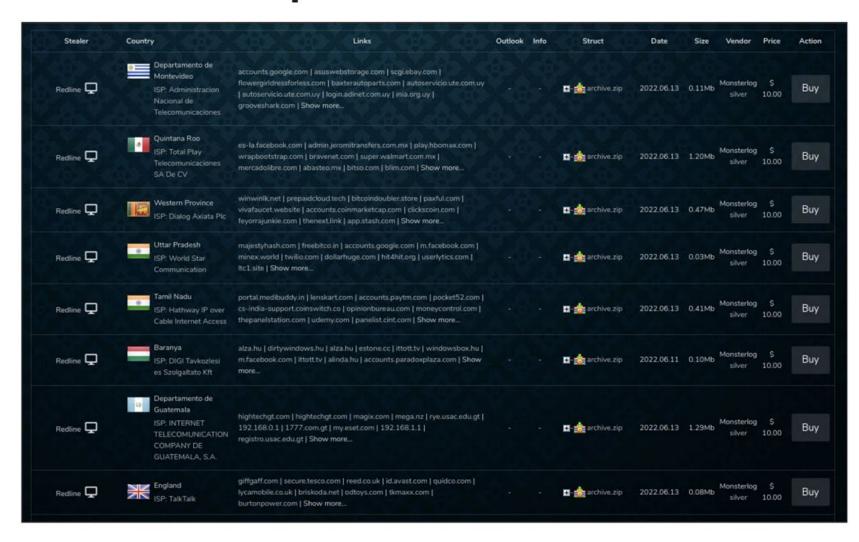
Malware-as-a-Service (MaaS)







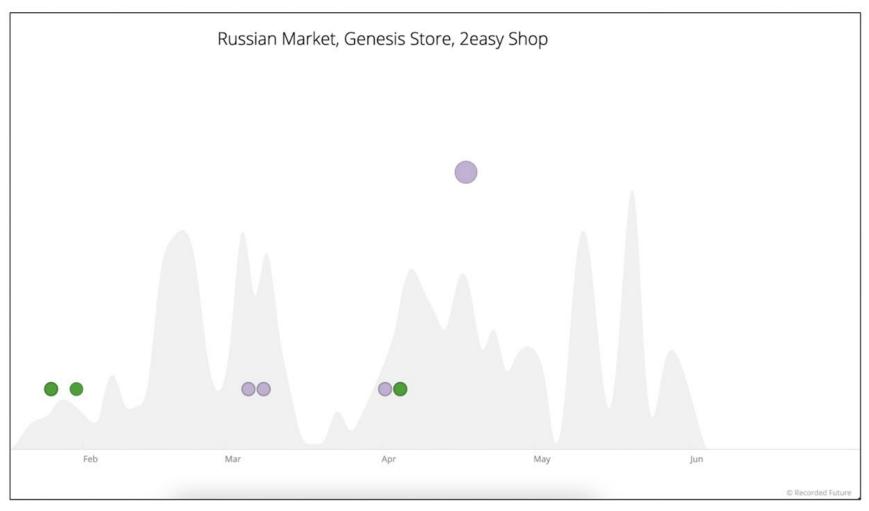
Dark Web Shops







Dark Web Shops







Dark Web Marketplaces

Justice Department Investigation Leads to Shutdown of Largest Online Darknet Marketplace

Russian Resident Indicted on Conspiracy Charges Related to Operating Hydra Market

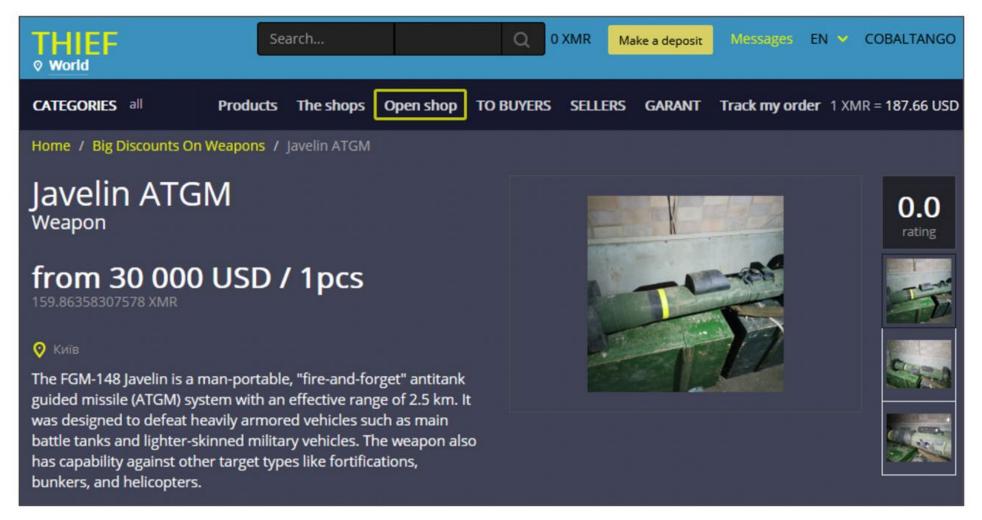
The Justice Department announced today the seizure of Hydra Market (Hydra), the world's largest and longest-running darknet market. In 2021, Hydra accounted for an estimated 80% of all darknet market-related cryptocurrency transactions, and since 2015, the marketplace has received approximately \$5.2 billion in cryptocurrency.

The seizure of the Hydra servers and cryptocurrency wallets containing \$25 million worth of bitcoin was made this morning in Germany by the German Federal Criminal Police (the Bundeskriminalamt), in coordination with U.S. law enforcement.



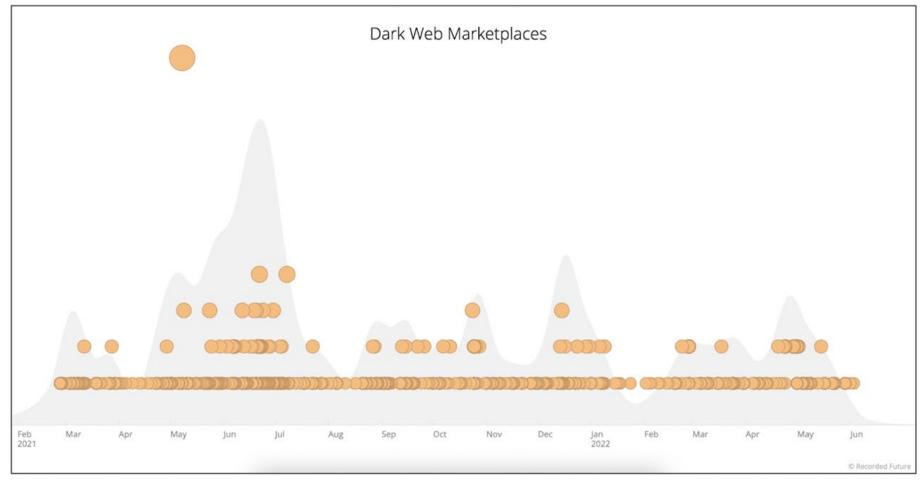


Dark Web Marketplaces



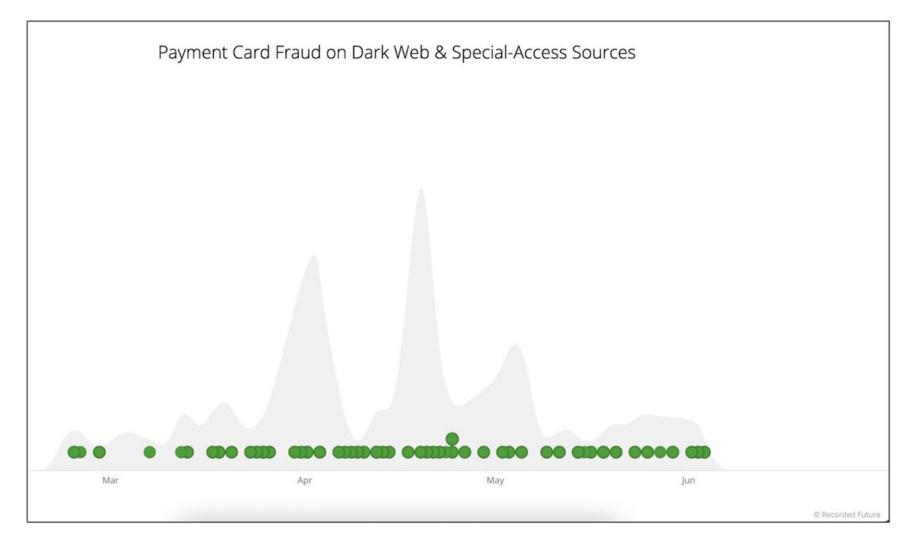


Dark Web Marketplaces





Payment Card Fraud







Многие спрашивают нас, будет ли наше международное сообщество пентестеров с пост оплатой, угрожать западу на критически важные инфраструктуры в ответ на кибер агрессию к России? Наше сообщество состоит из многих национальностей мира, большая часть наших пентестеров — это жители СНГ в том числе русские и украинцы, но также в нашей команде есть американцы, англичане, китайцы, французы, арабы, евреи и многие другие. Наши программисты разработчики проживают на постоянной основе

французы, арабы, евреи и многие другие. Наши программисты разработчики проживают на постоянной основе в разных странах мира в Китае, США, Канаде, России и Швейцарии. Наши сервера находятся в Нидерландах и Сейшеллах, все мы простые и миролюбивые люди, все мы Земляне.

Для нас это просто бизнес и все мы аполитичны. Нас интересуют только деньги за нашу безобидную и полезную работу. Мы всего лишь проводим платное обучение системных администраторов всего мира, как правильно настроить корпоративную сеть. Мы никогда и ни при каких обстоятельствах не будем принимать участие в кибератаках на критические инфраструктуры любой страны мира и вступать в какие-то международные конфликты.

Many people ask us, will our international community of post-paid pentesters, threaten the west on critical infrastructure in response to cyber aggression against Russia?
Our community consists of many nationalities of the world, most of our pentesters are from the CIS including Russians and Ukrainians, but we also have Americans, Englishmen, Chinese, French, Arabs, Jews, and many others in our team. Our programmers developers live permanently around the world in China, the United States, Canada, Russia and Switzerland. Our servers are located in the Netherlands and the Seychelles, we are all simple and peaceful people, we are all Earthlings. For us it is just business and we are all apolitical. We are only interested in money for our harmless and useful work. All we do is provide paid training to system administrators around the world on how to properly set up a corporate network. We will never, under any circumstances, take part in cyber-attacks on critical infrastructures of any country in the world or engage in any international conflicts.





"WARNING"

The Conti Team is officially announcing a full support of Russian government. If any body will decide to organize a cyberattack or any war activities against Russia, we a re going to use our all possible resources to strike back at the critical infrastructures of an enemy.



2/25/2022



0 [0.00 B]

"WARNING"

As a response to Western warmongering and American threats to use cyber warfa. re against the citizens of Russian Federation, the Conti Team is officially announci ng that we will use our full capacity to deliver retaliatory measures in case the Wes tern warmongers attempt to target critical infrastructure in Russia or any Russian-s peaking region of the world. We do not ally with any government and we condemn the ongoing war. However, since the West is known to wage its wars primarily by t argeting civilians, we will use our resources in order to strike back if the well being and safety of peaceful citizens will be at stake due to American cyber aggression.



= 2/25/2022

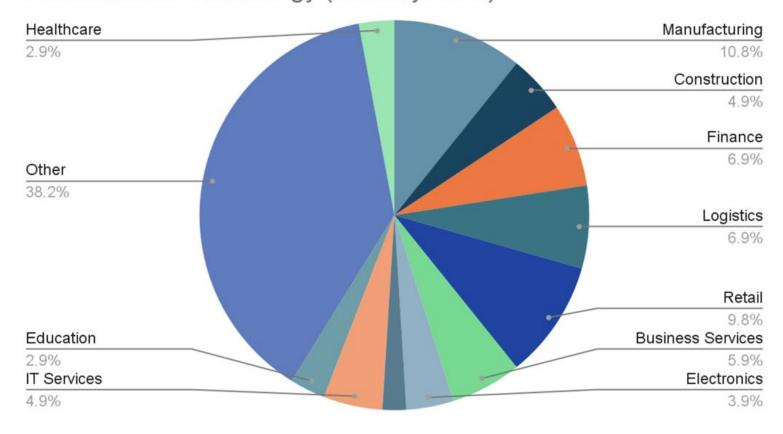


0 [0.00 B]

·I!I Recorded Future

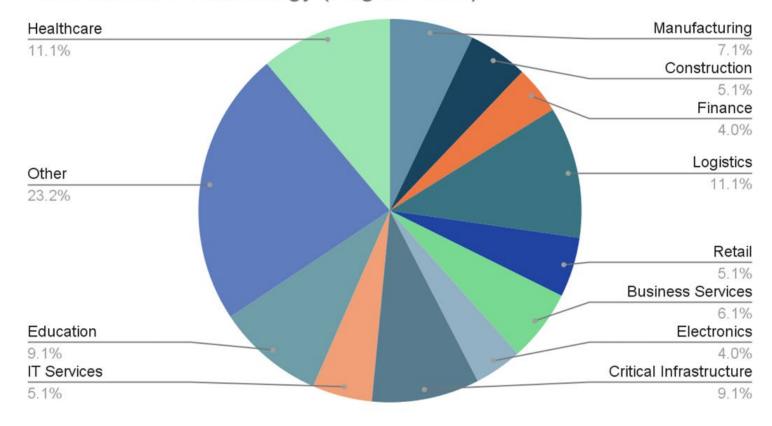


Ransomware Victimology (January 2022)





Ransomware Victimology (August 2022)





Conclusions





Questions?

