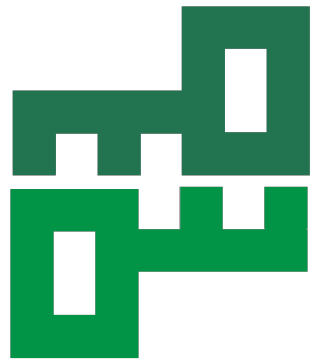


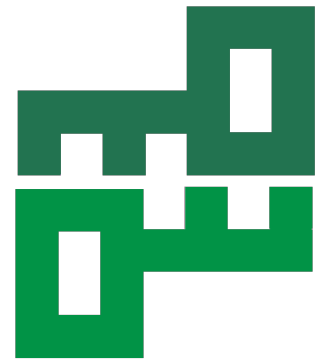
Journalists and mass surveillance

Anton, Cryptoparty Graz
<https://cryptoparty.at/graz>



2015-04-18

Barcamp Graz, FH Joanneum



PGP: Anton <an.to_n-73 at riseup.net>

0x49d1abf2a2a97d7d, 4096R, 2013-12-08

0B4C DF2C CB22 5DF4 25EA F212 49D1 ABF2 A2A9 7D7D

- Actual situation: Automatized, worldwide mass surveillance.
- Partly applied: Full take. Machinable interception and analysis of all electronic communication in a whole country.
- Confirmed: NSA, 6 countries status 10/2013 [Gel14]. Iraq, Afghanistan, Bahamas, USA. [CNN13a] [CNN13b]
- Strong indicators, but *outstanding confirmation*: **Austria**, altogether ca. 13 countries. [Hor14] [Kes15]

Misuse of mass surveillance. Examples and potentials

Italy. 1997 - 2006. Criminal cell in Telecom and police. Collection of kompromat, blackmailing of politicians and managers. *[Dat06]*

Argentina. Intelligence service SIDE out of control. Wiretapping of opposition, journalists and own president. *[Sue06] [LaN15]*

Syria. Use of internet as weapon, targeted exploits against computers of “adversaries”. *[Tan15] [Zak14]*

China. Use of communication and cloud data by Guoanbu to accuse opposition members. *[Köc15]*

Ethiopia. Targeted hacking of exiled journalists.

[Mar14]

Colombia. Military intelligence service CIME wire-tapped NGOs, journalists, politicians. *[For14a] [For14b]*

Bulgaria. State National Security Agency (DANS) wiretapped protesters, politicians and journalists.

[Nov08] [Fit09] [Nov15]

Macedonia. Illegal wiretapping of several thousand politicians, journalists, ministers and citizens. *[Bor15]*

USA. Wiretapping of journalists who work with sources in security services (email, phone, key cards). *[Ris06] [Ros09] [Mac20] [Isi11] [Stel13]*

UK. GCHQ intercepted “by accident” journalists e-mails. Rating of journalists as threat. *[Bal15]*

Australia. Access to communication metadata by many govt. agencies w/o warrant. Threat for sources in administration. *[Far14]*

Germany. Targeted wiretapping of single journalists by interior intelligence service and German Telekom *[Kri06] [Spi08] [Ble10] [Spi13] [Buc14] [Bun14]*

France. Bugging of editorial office *[Ang10]*. Use of telephone metadata to find source in administration *[LeM10]*.

Poland. Wiretapping of journalists phones to find the sources in the government *[Pol10]*

European Comission. Use of collected office emails to journalists for intimidation of employee.
[Sta09]

Uber. Tracking of journalists. Senior Vice President E. Michael's plan for critical press: "look into 'your personal lives, your families,' and give the media a taste of its own medicine". Plan not realized until now. *[Bhu14] [Smi14]*

=> The security services work for and act in the interest of the people in government, administration and security services (i. e. their own interest ...)!

=> These interests are partly not the interests of the governed and sentineled society!

=> In case of errors/scandals in government and administration the surveillance is directed against the own population to foresee the reaction.
And especially against journalists to find the leaks.

“Security is the security of the state from its own population” (Noam Chomsky)

Scenario for journalists

- Source in public administration
- Information important for society, but classified (*National Security*TM or *Staatswohl*TM etc.)
- How to communicate? Only one single set of metadata is too much.
 - Retrospective analysis after publication.

Who could access the information? Who of them communicated with the media? → Match!

- Personal meeting: Storage of location data of cellular phones. → Analysis same as above.
- Meeting w/o phones: Video surveillance and facial recognition (application and reliability yet unknown).

- Same is valid for source in “Big Data company”.
- Attention: Data of sources from less critical businesses could be researched, bought or stolen

Inform yourself in-depth about communication security and metadata.

Do not change your communication habits immediately.

Use separate computers and public WiFi

→ **Everything not connected with your identity!**

Secure your computers. *[Car14] [Smy15]*

Learn how to leak. *[Lee15]*

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