ABSTRACT

Discussion on the establishment of norms of behavior in Cyberspace

Chunmei Kang[1]

Science and Technology Center, China Academy of Engineering Physics

Today cyberspace implies the vast and growing logical domain composed of public and private networks and virtually every networked device in the world and thus affects more and more significantly people's life from national level to personal level. Though cyberspace typically describes the flow of digital data through the network of interconnected computers which ascribes it to a "virtual" property, it has "real" effects on military, civil and private sector which depend on computers for daily operations. Preventing damage and attack to the cyberspace is thus beyond technical issue, cyberspace is now an issue related to social, political, economic and cultural issues of a country.

The new United States military strategy makes explicit that a cyberattack is casus belli for a traditional act of war. The U.S. government stated in the International Strategy for Cyberspace published in May 2011 that the U.S. will " reserve the right to use all necessary means—diplomatic，informational，military，and economic—as appropriate and consistent with applicable international law，in order to defend our Nation，our allies，our partners，and our interests."As the importance of cyberspace in U.S. national security strategy, cyberspace is also important for Chinese national security.

According to a paper published in Jul. 2009 by CNNIC that Chinese Internet user has reached 338 million and become a country with largest internet user group. As network has become more and more popular in China, it has become a field with more and more importance in national security. Actually, China has suffered a lot from cyberattack during the past years through network did bring convenience to people's daily life. For example, some antigovernment group like "Falun Gong"、"Tibetan separatist"、"Xinjiang separatise" made use of network to propagate their anti-government speech. Some foreign group also take advance of network to seek chance to propagate speech and words to deteriorate our national security. These activities jeoparded greatly Chinese sovereignty and stability. Consequently, as like the importance of cyberspace to other states, cyberspace has becoming increasingly the backbone of promoting economy prosperity, maintaining national security, and safeguarding people's interest in China. Protecting cybersecurity is also our national benefit. From this view, China has common interests with the U.S. and other states.

---

[1]Science and Technology information center, China Academy of Engineering Physics.
Email: kangchunmei2002@qq.com
Tel: 086 0816-2487636
Fax: 086 0816-2483701

We believe that international society should work together to promote an secure and reliable information and communications infrastructure that supports international trade and commerce， strengthens international security. To achieve that goal，we should build and sustain an environment in which norms of responsible behavior guide states actions，sustain partnerships，and support the rule of law in cyberspace. However, considering its importance on people's life and national security, technical standards and governance structures should be established among international societies after careful discuss, norm of behavior should be reached after considering national security with various interests, but not only to those countries with strong advantege in the field of cyberspace and information technology.