Mr Mathias Cormann OECD Secretary- General

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Dear Mr Cormann

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CRS | The Big Hack is coming

31 May 2024

I write further to my letters dated 12 May 2024 and 19 April 2024, as well as my correspondence with your predecessor and deputies about data protection.



More evidence of data insecurity

Following the recent hacking incidents reported in our previous correspondence, today was the turn of Santander, whose hacked data has now reportedly been offered on the Dark Web:



All Santander staff and '30 million' customers in Spain, Chile and Uruguay hacked

31 May 2024





Fragility of financial markets

Unsurprisingly, the *Financial Times* has been warning about the fragility of financial markets:

FINANCIAL TIMES

66 Cyber attacks reveal fragility of financial markets

A 2023 IMF survey of 51 countries found that 56 per cent of central banks or supervisory authorities do not have a national cyber strategy for the financial sector, and 64 per cent do not mandate testing and exercising cyber security measures.

More data means a larger surface area to target and more potential blind spots:



The OECD has **ignored warnings** by the EU data protection authorities and international experts. Over the last decade, the OECD presided over the creation and dissemination of data relating to 100+ million citizens amongst 120 jurisdictions, while suggesting along the way that "[we] are not accountable for the personal data of individual taxpayers transmitted through the CRS/CTS". Already, the OECD was forced to acknowledge the loss of CRS data and our research reveals potential issues with the system used to transmit CRS data across borders. These were brought to the attention of the French regulator. The purpose of our correspondence is to raise awareness over the data protection/security issues embedded in a system of global dissemination of financial data and ensure a proper level of accountability for what appears increasingly inevitable.

Best regards,

Filippo Noseda

Partner