

# German-American IT Security Forum

IT Security Association Germany (TeleTrust) in cooperation with GACC –  
German American Chamber of Commerce

San Francisco, 28.04.2025

## Greetings / Cybernation

**Prof. Dr. Norbert Pohlmann**

*Professor for Cyber Security*

*Director of the Institute for Internet Security – if(is)*

*Chairman of the board of the IT Security Association TeleTrust*

*Member of the board of the Internet industry association eco.*

# German-American IT Security Forum

- The German American IT Security Forum is organized in cooperation with the

- German American Chamber of Commerce *and the*



German American  
Chambers of Commerce  
Deutsch-Amerikanische  
Handelskammern

- IT Security Association – TeleTrust



Bundesverband IT-Sicherheit e.V.

# How can we protect ourselves more effectively?

## → Thought Experiment

- Two important numbers in IT security

### Cybercrime damage in 2024

**179 billion €**

Caused by cyber attacks in Germany, around 20% more than in the previous year.

*Study (Bitkom, 2024)*



### Investment in IT security

**11.2 billion €**

In Germany in 2024, around 14% more than in the previous year.

*Press release (Bitkom, 2024)*



- **Thought Experiment:**
  - We are **doubling the investment**: from 11 billion to **22 billion**.
- **Assumption:**
  - This will **reduce the damage** by half: from 179 billion to **90 billion**.
- **Result:**
  - This investment **pays off: 78 billion profit**

# Cybernation

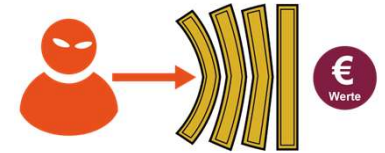
## → Purpose

- **Cybernation** is a **sovereign state** that exploits the **possibilities** and **potential** of *digital technologies*.
- The **goal** is to **implement digitalization** in the **interests of society** to maximize **economic performance** and **effectiveness of public services**.
- **Cybernation** offers a **very good basis** for a *sovereign, secure* and *trustworthy digital future*.

# Cybernation

## → IT security is an important aspect

- As a cybernation we need **robust IT security mechanisms** based on the “**state of the art**” to protect ourselves **effectively** against increasingly intelligent attacks.
- As a cybernation we have to ensure that all relevant **IT security needs** must be guaranteed in cyberspace (confidentiality, integrity, availability ...).
- Cybernation **must invest significant resources** (15-20% of IT spending) in strengthening its IT security to
  - **protect all organizations more effectively against IT security risks and**
  - **prevent damage.**
- This can strengthen the **trust** of all stakeholders **in digitalization** and thus achieve the **necessary acceptance.**



# Cybernation

## → Realization

- The **level of IT security must be increased** to ensure more effective protection.
- **Technological expertise** must be **further developed** to be able to act more sovereign.
- **Existing expertise must be pooled efficiently** to avoid **unhelpful duplication of work**.
- An **active cyber ecosystem** must be established to jointly develop and implement the relevant technology.
- All **cyber security stakeholders** from business, science and government in Germany must work closely together and act jointly.
- **Cyber resilience must be significantly increased** to ensure the robustness of all IT systems and IT infrastructure.

# Cybernation

## → Course of Action

- Germany can only become an effective cybernation through
  - **close cooperation** between all stakeholders,
  - motivation and realization of needed **innovation** and
  - **common** and **strong** commitment.
- The idea of Cybernation is there, only the **implementation needs to be motivated** now.

# German-American IT Security Forum

IT Security Association Germany (TeleTrust) in cooperation with GACC –  
German American Chamber of Commerce

San Francisco, 28.04.2025

I wish us a successful security forum

## Greetings / Cybernation

**Prof. Dr. Norbert Pohlmann**

*Professor for Cyber Security*

*Director of the Institute for Internet Security – if(is)*

*Chairman of the board of the IT Security Association TeleTrust*

*Member of the board of the Internet industry association eco.*