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## Obama Releases Cybersecurity Report: 'Much Work to Be Done'

President Barack Obama said Friday that cybersecurity is critically important and an area that the U.S. isn't "as prepared as we should be," though he added that he remains committed to net neutrality and personal privacy for Americans.



Associated Press

President Barack Obama delivers remarks on securing the nation's cyber infrastructure Friday at the White House.

The remarks came as the White House published a [60-day review](#) of the nation's digital infrastructure.

The 38-page report says that the U.S.'s current architecture lacks security and resilience. "Without major advances in the security of these systems or significant change in how they are constructed or operated, it is doubtful that the United States can protect itself from the growing threat of cybercrime and state-sponsored intrusions and operations," it says.

Terrorist attacks today "could come not only from a few extremists in suicide vests but from a few keystrokes on the computer — a weapon of mass disruption," Mr. Obama said. He added that hackers gained access to emails and files last year during his campaign, "a powerful reminder," he said, that the

Internet's benefits also come with vulnerabilities.

"We're not as prepared as we should be, as a government or as a country," he said, citing the "disorganized" response to the recent Conficker virus as an example. From now on, communications networks and other digital infrastructure "will be treated as they should be, as a strategic national asset," he said.

He said his administration will [name a cybersecurity coordinator](#) who will work closely with [Aneesh Chopra](#), chief technology officer, and [Vivek Kundra](#), chief information officer.

Mr. Obama also said that he remains "committed" to net neutrality and that White House cybersecurity initiatives will not include monitoring private-sector networks or Internet traffic. "We will preserve and protect the personal privacy and civil liberties that we cherish as Americans," he said.

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