Barcelona CLA SUMMER LAW CONFERENCE Cybercrime: new threats and trends

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# Topics

- Digital evidence
- Defense's rights
- New threats: spyware

# **Digital evidence**

- Computers and systems
- Smartphones
- Routers, printers...
- Fitness bracelets
- I.M. apps
- Social media
- Virtual assistants
- Etc.



An Echo smart speaker, which features the artificial intelligence voice assistant Alexa, was seized from a home in Farmington where two women were stabbed to death

### **Electronic evidence**

Any information generated, stored or transmitted using electronic devices that may be relied upon in court.

- Volatile and alterable
- Possible to copy with no limit
- Invisible to non-expert's eyes

#### Private companies





#### Software malfunction: Mariner 1



#### Software malfunction



# Neutrality / Impartiality

# Guidebook on Democratic Policing, OSCE, 2008

- Democratic policing requires that the police simultaneously stand outside of politics and protect democratic political activities and processes (e.g. freedom of speech, public gathering, and demonstrations). Otherwise, democracy will be threatened (§9).
- The police must execute their duties in a skillful, honest, **impartial** and efficient manner, considering only the public interest and the people they serve (§21).

# Daubert TEST Spanish supreme court judgement 232/2022 (3/14/22)

## Challenges for the defense

- Lack of common admissibility criteria
- Cross border cases (non-inquiry rule)
- Evidence obtained with violation of fundamental rights by private citizens
- Internal investigations

## Non inquiry rule

The judge is not obliged to exclude the "tainted" piece of evidence obtained in another country with no compliance with its national standards on admissibility but, instead, he/she can decide whether or not to disregard that element by assessing various factors.

ECtHR: HR always apply Judgement Stojkovic vs. France and Belgium (10/27/2011)



Hervé Falciani has been sentenced in absentia in Switzerland to five years for industrial espionage

By James Badcock

GETTY IMAGES

Hervé Falciani's life in Spain is far from normal.

A fugitive from Swiss justice since 2009, this former HSBC computer systems analyst turned anti-fraud activist is constantly on the move. He has faced threats to his life considered credible enough by Spanish authorities to provide him with bodyguards. ECtHR: Internal Investigations Judgements: Bărbulescu vs. Romania #2 (9/05/2017) López Ribalda vs. Spain (10/17/2019)



#### Pegasus Project Shows the Need for Real Device Security, Accountability, and Redress for Those Facing State-Sponsored Malware

BY CINDY COHN | JULY 20, 2021



#### C.a.a.S: Crime as a Service

Computer experts develop advanced tools or services and sell them to less experienced cyber criminals. Consequently, even those with limited computer knowledge can carry out cyberattacks easily.

# Standards

- Legal standards regarding use of spyware
- Judicial authorization and necessity criteria
- Strict limits to duration and scope
- Definition of "national security"
- Guidelines for oversight of intelligence services actions
- Obligation to notify after surveillance
- Right to access information stored
- Compliance obligations for industry

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