# GCHQ Director Anne Keast-Butler Raises Alarm on Top Cybersecurity Threats from China, Russia, and Iran



On May 14, 2024, GCHQ Director Anne Keast-Butler addressed the Cyber UK conference in Birmingham, highlighting significant cybersecurity threats from China. She identified China's cyber activities as a top concern, stressing their potential to undermine global internet security and challenge international norms through advanced cyber capabilities and commercial hacking resources. Keast-Butler emphasized the escalation of these risks to the UK and revealed that GCHQ is prioritizing its resources towards countering these threats in collaboration with Five Eyes intelligence allies.

Additionally, she pointed out the serious cybersecurity challenges from Russia and Iran. She accused Russian intelligence of increasingly coordinating with proxy groups for cyber attacks and possibly physical operations against the West. She described the cyber threat from Russia as acute and globally pervasive. For Iran, she noted its growing cyber espionage and destructive capabilities, underscoring the persistent global threat it poses.

The GCHQ head also detailed UK efforts to call out and counter harmful cyber activities, including those compromising significant national institutions, and affirmed ongoing international cooperation to bolster cybersecurity defenses.