The Dutch Cyber Security Council (CSR) is an independent and strategic advisory body that advises the government and the business community about all matters related to cybersecurity in the Netherlands.

The CSR was established by the Minister of Security and Justice in 2011. Its duty is to provide the government as well as public and private parties with both solicited and unsolicited advice about relevant cybersecurity developments. The Netherlands has the ambition to be a safe, open and prosperous society in which the opportunities offered to our society by digitalisation are exploited to the full, threats are mitigated and fundamental rights and values are protected. The CSR contributes to this ambition by looking ahead, highlighting developments with an imminent impact on the Netherlands and providing advice about what action parties in the Netherlands should take. To this end, the CSR has asked Ms Herna Verhagen, CEO of PostNL, to write a report on cybersecurity.*

The CSR is composed of high-ranking representatives from the public, private and scientific sectors. This composition allows the CSR to evaluate national and strategic cybersecurity challenges from multiple angles and issue well-considered advice to the government and the private sector. While the CSR serves as a strategic advisory body for the Dutch government and private sector only, the issue of cybersecurity requires a global approach. By consequence, the CSR aspires to consult with its counterparts abroad and promotes the establishment of similar strategic advisory bodies in countries throughout Europe and worldwide.

Strategic advice, research and awareness
The CSR has made a conscious effort over the past few years to put cybersecurity on the agenda in the Netherlands in both the public and private domains. One the one hand, it has done so by issuing strategic advice and commissioning research. On the other hand, it has promoted awareness by raising cybersecurity topics in the media. A summary of the CSR’s recommendations and products is given below:

- At the government’s request, the CSR advised a number of parties about the implications of the National Cybersecurity Strategy 2 (NCSS2), published in 2013.
- The EU report ‘European Foresight Cybersecurity 2016’
  A report containing recommendations with regard to the Internet of Things (IoT) and the harmonisation of duties of care across the EU.
- The ‘Cybersecurity in the education and private sectors’ advisory document
  To reduce the shortage of cybersecurity professionals, the CSR proposes an ongoing focus on cybersecurity in education and on career opportunities in this area.
- The ‘Towards a nationwide system of information exchanges’ advisory document
  An advise to counter the lack of expertise among the Dutch private sector where cybersecurity matters are concerned.

* Verhagen report: “The economic and social need for more cybersecurity, Keeping “dry feet” in the digital era”
• The 'Towards a safe, connected, digital society', recommendation on the cybersecurity of the Internet of Things (IoT)'
advisory document
This advisory document contains six possible strategic solutions to be able to cope with the challenges that involves the
cybersecurity of Internet of Things.
• Corporate Governance Code
An implementation of the CSR's advise to incorporate cybersecurity into the Corporate Governance Code.
• National Cybersecurity Summer School (NCS3)
An initiative resulting from the CSR's recommendations to the education sector. During this week students receive
sufficient training regarding the latest cybersecurity trends and developments.
• Cyber Security Guide for Boardroom Members
This guide contains recommendations for boardroom members with regard to the optimum adoption of cybersecurity
policies throughout the organisation and its chain partners.
• The 'Every Business has duties of care in the field of cyber security' guide
This publication contains an overview of the business community’s duties of care regarding cybersecurity, based on
current laws and regulations.
• Cybersecurity Health Check
This tool allows medium-sized companies to gain an insight into cybersecurity within their organisation.

A complete overview of all advisory documents and products can be found on and downloaded from the CSR website.

Members of the Cyber Security Council

Private sector

Mr. H. (Hans) de Jong (co-chair)
President Philips the Netherlands, CSR member representing VNO-NCW

Mrs. I. (Ineke) Dezentje Hamming-Bluemink LLM
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Chair of the group management of Rabobank en council member of the Dutch Banking Association, CSR member representing the financial sector

Mr. J.F.E. (Joost) Farwerck LLM
Member of the Board of Management KPN, CSR member representing NLDigital

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CIO PostNL and Chairman CIO Platform, CSR member representing CIO Platform

Mr. M. (Marc) van der Linden MA
CEO and chair of the Board of Management of Stedin Holding N.V., CSR member representing the vital sectors

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Chair of ECP, Platform for the information society

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National Coordinator for Security and Counterterrorism

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