**Cybercrimes**

A cybercrime is any crime that involves a [computer](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer) and a [network](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_network). The computer may have been used in the commission of a crime, or it may be the target. Cybercrimes can be defined as: "Offences that are committed against individuals with a criminal motive to intentionally harm the reputation of the victim or cause physical or mental harm, or loss, to the victim directly or indirectly, using modern telecommunication networks such as Internet (networks including but not limited to Chat rooms and emails) and mobile phones (Bluetooth/SMS/MMS)"

Issues surrounding these types of crimes have become high-profile, particularly those surrounding [hacking](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hacker_(computer_security)), [copyright infringement](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Copyright_infringement) and [unwarranted mass-surveillance](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mass_surveillance). There are also problems of [privacy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Privacy) when [confidential](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Confidential) information is intercepted or disclosed, lawfully or otherwise. Internationally, cybercrimes can include [espionage](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Espionage), [financial theft](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Theft), and other cross-border crimes. Activity crossing international borders and involving the interests of at least one nation state is sometimes referred to as [cyberwarfare](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cyberwarfare).

**Cybercrimes encompass a broad range of activities:**

* Fraud and financial crimes:

[Fraud](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Computer_fraud) is any dishonest misrepresentation of fact intended to let another do or refrain from doing something which causes loss.

* Cyberterrorism:

A cyberterrorist is someone who intimidates or forces a government or an organization to advance his or her political or social objectives by launching a computer-based attack against computers, networks, or the information stored on them.

* Cyberextortion:

It occurs when a website is subjected to repeated attacks by cunning hackers. These hackers demand money in return for promising to stop the attacks and to offer "protection".