

Experts at DES2025 warn about the rise and sophistication of cyberattacks fueled by AI and quantum computing

Law enforcement agencies, including the Spanish National Police, revealed at DES2025 that cybercrimes now account for 1 in every 5 reported offenses

Geostrategic and military analyst Pedro Baños highlighted that China “dominates 30 of the 45 most relevant disruptive technologies” and pointed out the lack of a unified European strategy to compete with the USA in AI

Malaga, June 12, 2025. – [DES – Digital Enterprise Show 2025](#), the largest European event on exponential technologies being held until tomorrow in Malaga, has focused on two strategic challenges with global implications. The first one, technological leadership as a new form of **geopolitical power**, and the second one, the transformation of **cybersecurity** in the face of the advance of artificial intelligence and quantum computing. Throughout different sessions, the meeting brought together analysts and decision-makers from the public and private sectors to address this new reality.

One of them was the Army Colonel **Pedro Baños**, who offered his vision of the current international balance. The expert focused on the commitment to digitalization in the European context, stating that *“if we want to lead the world, we have no choice but to make an effort in science, technology and mathematics, to avoid being slaves of other powers”*. Similarly, Baños warned that, today, *“China dominates 30 of the 45 most relevant disruptive technologies, and leads key areas such as biotechnology”*.

The analyst also warned of internal European fragmentation. *“Donald Trump has ordered his states not to go it alone in AI for the next ten years in order to be able to compete directly with China. And, in Europe, each country, each autonomous community, wants its own technology park. You can’t compete like that”*, he said. In addition, the colonel alluded to the competitiveness report led by Mario Draghi where he proposes an investment of 400,000 million euros to close the technology gap. *“It is not to surpass India, China or the United States, but to equal or reduce the gap. We have the brain drain here”*, he warned.

Isabel Tristán, business director for Artificial Intelligence and Data at IBM Spain, spoke along the same lines. Tristán stated that acting with urgency is key, since *“quantum computing is just around the corner. What I would recommend is to get active now, to know what I have and how we are approaching this type of project”*, he explained. In addition, she stressed that *“to put AI into production, it must be safe. Three points are important for this: how the AI uses the data and how protected they are; how we protect the models that are using the AI; and continuous monitoring to see that this governance is being complied with”*.

For his part, **Floren Molina**, CTO at **Cyber Guardian by Banco Santander**, insisted that companies must incorporate protection strategies from the start. *“Cybercrime has*

DES – Digital Enterprise Show es un evento de:

been perfected and not all companies can respond in the same way. We must adapt solutions with criteria and understand that virtual security is essential from the birth of any company. We are in a market saturated with solutions. And we must analyze the one that works best for us".

From the **National Police**, **Juan Carlos Sancho**, head of the Central Computer Security Brigade, has warned of the growth of AI-generated offenses. *"In recent meetings we are detecting how these tools are appearing more and more in complaints and how they are causing an increase in child pornography, creating content through AI".* Sancho has put on the table that *"data on cybercrime indicate that 1 in 5 crimes is already computer-related, and most of them are scams. A scam consists of misleading someone with a patrimonial prejudice. How does the State use artificial intelligence to improve our capabilities and effectiveness against digital crime? First, by improving human resources. If we take advantage of process automation, we will be able to focus on investigating and prosecuting crimes, which will allow us to be more efficient in the use of our resources".*

This optimization has also been claimed by **Juan Salom**, head of the Cybersecurity Coordination Unit of the **Civil Guard**, who has emphasized the need to modernize tools and processes, because *"we have the duty and obligation to get on the train to be as efficient as possible"*.

For **Andrés Román**, head of the Cybercrime Section at Malaga Provincial Police Station of the National Police, the widespread use of AI by cybercriminals is really worrying. *"AI has become democratized. We talk about a very superficial AI, there is a more sophisticated one such as the refinement that is achieved in attacks, such as phishing. We should not forget that 90% of the deception is between humans",* he explained.

Regarding post-quantum cryptography, **David González**, CISO at **Coren**, pointed out that *"companies will have to be more agile in the adoption of new cryptographic algorithms, since the transition must be done step by step. Post-quantum cryptography will work on standard hardware, so adaptation must be staggered".* In view of the threats it represents, **Javier López**, professor at University of Málaga, stressed that *"we cannot wait until the threat is real. That is why we are starting to test new cryptographic algorithms. It will not be a change from 0 to 1; there will be a transition period where it will be necessary to combine traditional cryptography with quantum cryptography".* To this end, Lopez considered it essential for companies to have a plan to deal with this change, which will involve costs and a staggered approach.

About DES | Digital Enterprise Show (June, 10-12, 2025, FYCMA, Málaga - Spain): DES – Digital Enterprise Show is an event organized by Nebext – Next Business Exhibitions in collaboration with Málaga City Council and the Andalusian Regional Government. In its seven editions, it has become Europe's largest professional event on exponential technologies and a global benchmark for offering senior executives the latest solutions and products to support large corporations, SMEs, and European public administrations in their digital transformation. Over three days, DES combines technology and innovation with digital

DES – Digital Enterprise Show es un evento de:



leadership, technological solutions for improving customer and employee experience, operational process optimization, and identifying new business models, services, and products across all industries.

DES – Digital Enterprise Show es un evento de:

NEBEXT
NEXT BUSINESS EXHIBITIONS