



International cooperation and talent, the two great leftovers of global cyberdefence

The second day of DES2023 has highlighted the global transition to hybrid and virtual attacks, where skilled talent is needed to combat them

The international summit has attended by senior cyberspace representatives from the Spanish military and NATO, who highlighted data and data privacy as a new source of value

Málaga, 15 June 2023. – [DES – Digital Enterprise Show](#) continues its second day in Malaga analysing the changes, challenges and opportunities that the application of exponential technologies to business and the global economy is producing. Among the most discussed topics during the summit is cybersecurity and cyberdefence of states that face, due to the interference of technologies such as AI, a paradigm shift. Ransomware or phishing attacks by lone hackers or large criminal organisations are just some of the threats that have emerged and that SMEs and multinational corporations are facing today.

Cooperation between countries and talent were the two major challenges highlighted by **General Rafael García**, commander of the Spanish State Defence Cyber Command, during his participation in DES2023. "We have to work better, not only within NATO and the EU. Nations have to coordinate more and more" and he highlighted the work being done in Spain between the public, private and academic sectors. Moreover, according to García, between 30,000 and 80,000 cybersecurity professionals are needed in our country alone, so training new talent is essential. "*The threat is already there, it will be more sophisticated. The real problem is the lack of talent in cybersecurity. There is a lot of knowledge, but we only have three careers in cybersecurity,*" he said.

In line with this theme, DES2023 analysed the challenges of today's global geopolitics, with the growing international influence of China and its interdependence with Russia. The forum also highlighted the emergence of hybrid wars in which military attacks seek to affect a country's decision-making capacity. "*The world is heading towards a growing multipolarity that is not controlled by the West, and this is a problem for us,*" said **Federico Aznar**, a frigate captain in the Spanish Navy, who also stated that the conflict between China and the US, "*is above all a technological war. If we go to a bipolar world, it will be by their own standards and bipolarity will divide the world into two camps on a digital level.*"

In this situation, the quantum revolution and the control of information are particularly relevant as key points for world leadership. "*The most important thing now is data and its privacy, whoever manages the data will rule the world,*" said **Ignacio García**, a retired navy captain, stressing that "*quantum physics is the third revolution and is changing everything. Whoever is at the head of quantum physics will be at the head of the world, hopefully Europe.*"

The challenges of Artificial Intelligence today to build tomorrow's world

Artificial Intelligence continues to be the central theme of DES2023. The second day analysed the consequences that its use is having on a social level. Employment,



education, the generation of wealth and its distribution, as well as the regulation of its use are the main concerns on which the experts focused.

"This is a big opportunity, it's a revolution and we need to rethink everything: the welfare system, the labour market.... AI will replace many of the jobs we have, and it's good because many of them are bad jobs. The question is how we make this transition," said **Ibon Zugasti**, Managing Director of the consultancy Prospektiker. Zugasti stressed that *"we need a welfare system focused on lifelong learning. We want people focused on tasks that provide added value, which implies rethinking the entire education value chain"*.

In the same vein, **Oscar Méndez**, CEO & Founder of Stratio, said that *"if we cannot be responsible with the people who suffer, we will move towards more populism that will destroy countries. Technology can improve the quality of life if we make the right decisions. We have to work for the people,"* he said.