



# Cyber Claims excellence – before, during and after a Cyber hack

Allianz Commercial Webinar

Munich | October 4, 2023

# We are Cyber & Cyber Claims Ready!

1 Experience

2 Expertise

3 Passion

4 Support: we help you before, during and after a cyber-attack!

Your Cyber incident.  
Our incident.  
Solved together.

*Ready*<sup>®</sup>



# Agenda & Team

## 1 What are the biggest Cyber risks evolving in 2023?

- A Cyber Claims Trends 2023 – The attackers are back
- B The toxic cocktail of data exfiltration and tightening data privacy regulation

## 2 How can companies best prepare against cyber-attacks?

- A The new key to Cyber defense: Detection and Response capabilities
- B Detection and Response in practice – key learnings and insights

## 3 What are success factors when dealing with such an attack?

## 4 How will Allianz and our partners assist and how can you benefit from our knowledge?

- A Managing a Cyber Crisis as a team
- B Closing the loop – using Cyber Claims intelligence for enhanced client benefit



Thomas Sepp



Joerg Ahrens



Michael Daum



Sabrina Sexton



Rishi Baviskar



Robin Kroha



Rosehana Amin



Henning Schaloske



Alexander Fink



Roberta Morrell



Alexander Pabst



Dominik Geistanger



Michael Sauermann



Robert Feser



Tilmann Ohlinger

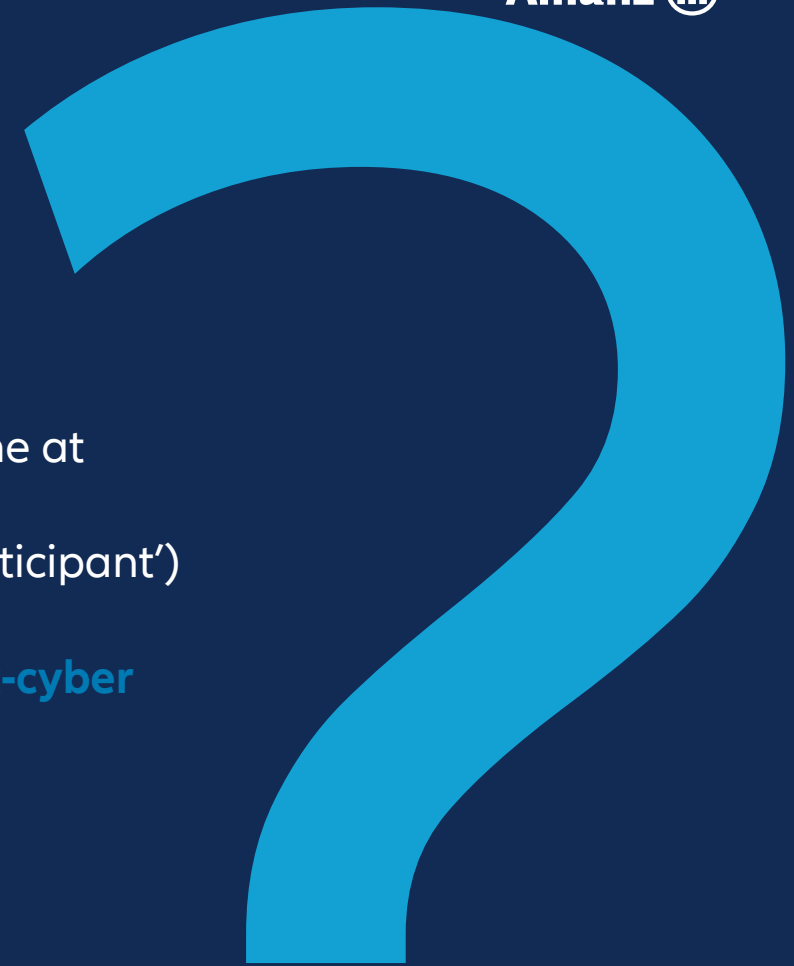
# Please support us with your views and expertise

Please share your views  
directly in **Webex** using the  
window on the right side.

Or scan the **QR code**:



Or share online at  
**slido.com**  
(‘Join as a participant’)  
and enter the  
passcode: **azc-cyber**



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**Thomas Sepp**  
**Chief Claims Officer**  
Allianz Commercial

# Your participation: Please share your views

What is the average ransom demand as of Q2 2023?

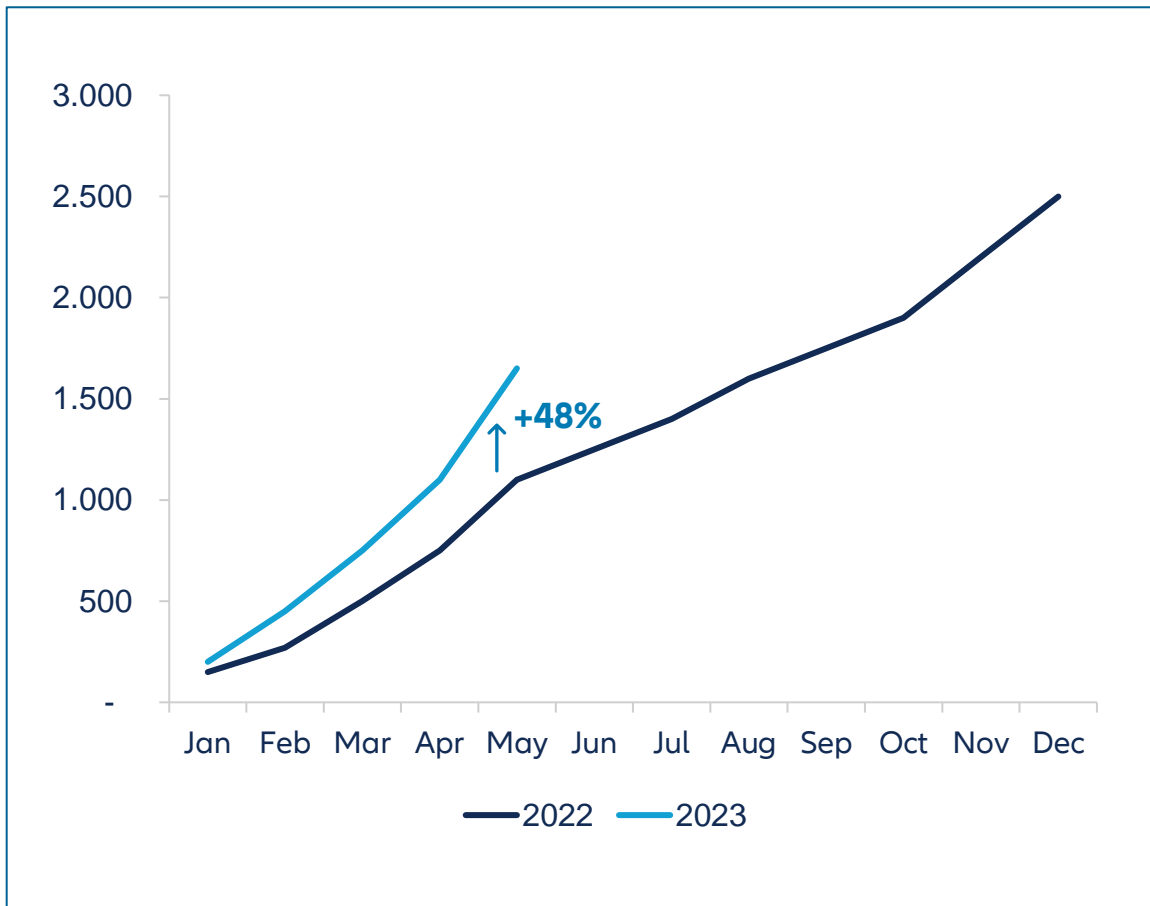
- A \$1M
- B \$2.5M
- C \$5M
- D \$10M



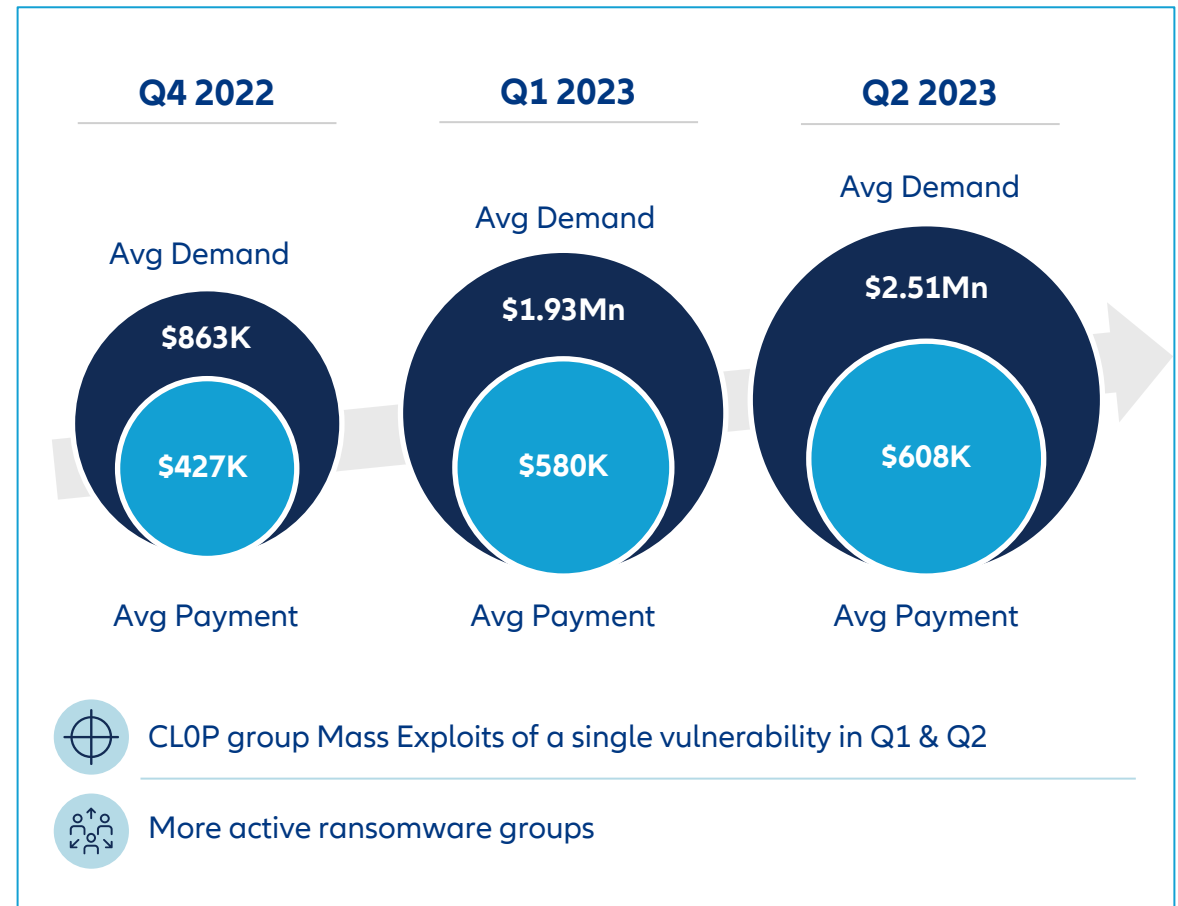
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# Ransomware activity is up nearly 50% to last year

## Market data shows ransomware activity is up ~50%<sup>1</sup> ...



## ...and ransom payments are getting more expensive<sup>2</sup>



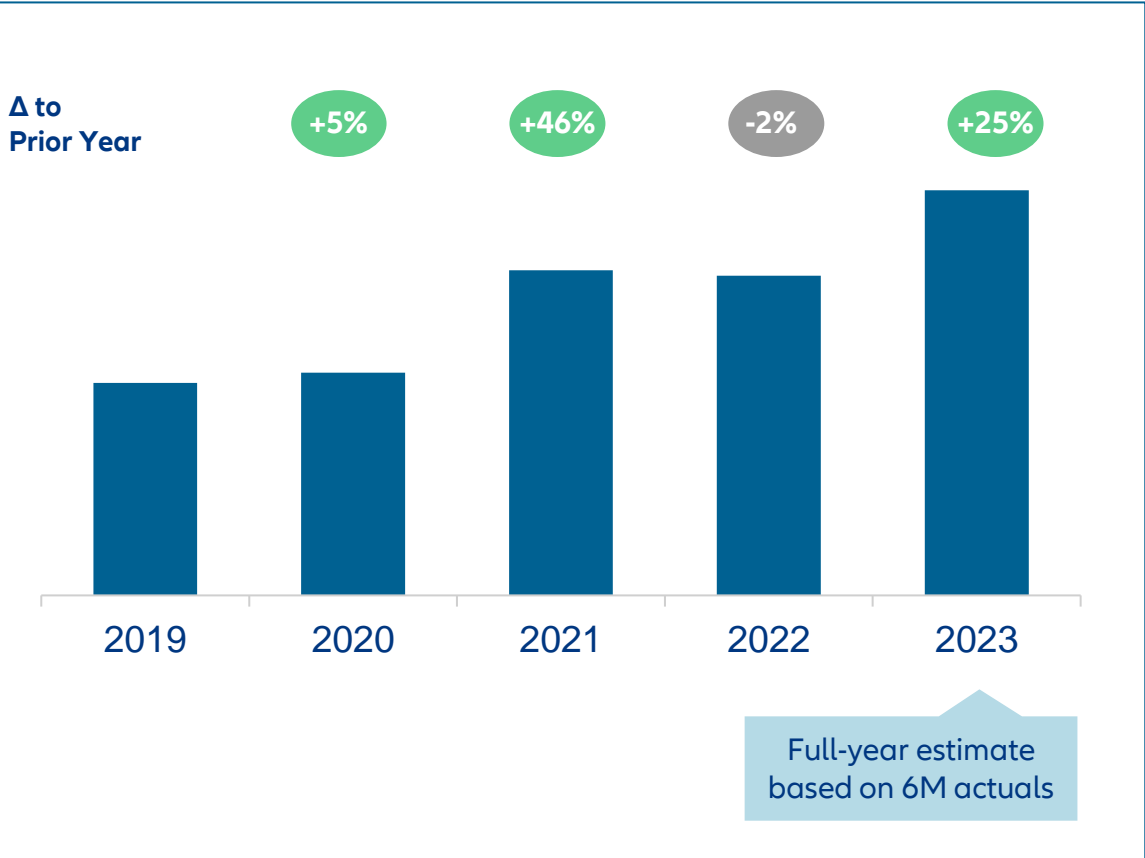
1. Source: [Howden Analysis based on data from NCC Group](#)

2. Source: [Corvus Q2 Ransomware Report: Global Attacks at All-Time High](#)

# Allianz sees a cyber uptick in 2023, but not to the same extent



Based on 6M 2023 figures, we expect a ~25% increase in number of claims YoY at the end of 2023



Focus remains on risk appetite & risk improvement with clients

### Key defenses required today to fight severity

- Strong Detection
- Fast Response Capabilities
- Ransomware Protection Checklist:

Ransomware Identification	Backups	Segmentation
Business Continuity & Incident response	Endpoints	Monitoring patching & vulnerability policies
Anti-phishing and awareness training	Email, web, office document security	Mergers & Acquisitions



# New tactics to 'turn up the heat', driving severity in large losses

## Emerging tactics from attackers



**Data exfiltration**  
*(In addition to encryption)*



**Making cases public**



**Higher willingness to pay the ransom**

## Analysis of our own large loss data confirms this trend

**75%** of cases involve successful sensitive data exfiltration  
Increased from ~40% in 2020

**Almost 100%** of cases become public  
Increased from 75% in 2020

**50%** of companies finally pay the ransom  
Increased from ~40% in 2020

# Various underlying trends support the attractiveness of Data exfiltration to attackers

## Attractivity of Data exfiltration

1

Scope and amount of personal information collected is increasing

2

Use of Outsourcing/Cloud and remote access lead to more interfaces/APIs

3

Tightening data privacy laws around the globe + increased public sensitivity

 Companies are **2.5x more likely to pay a ransom** if data is exfiltrated, in addition to encrypted

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**Rosehana Amin**  
Partner, specialized in  
Cyber & Data protection in  
coverage matters, breach  
incident response and  
litigation  
Clyde & Co



**Henning Schaloske**  
Partner, Head of  
Continental European  
Insurance practice  
Clyde & Co

2018

# New horizons

Allianz 



# New Risks



# Your participation: Please share your views

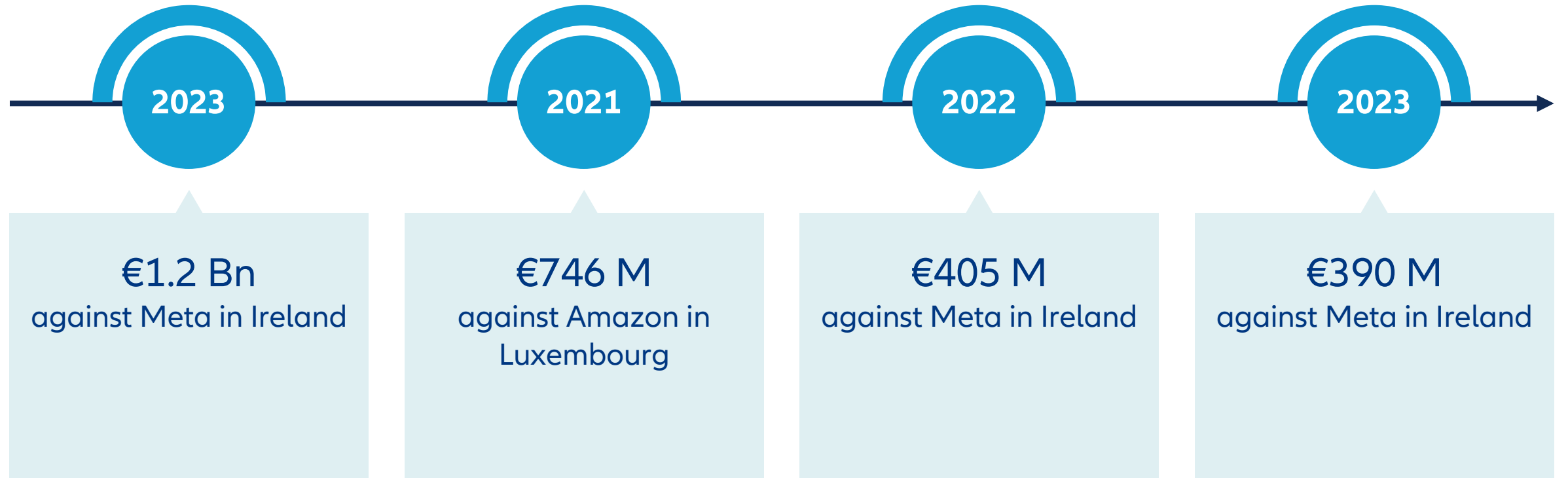
What is the amount of GDPR fines levied on companies for GDPR breaches?

- A >EUR 500m
- B >EUR 2BN
- C >EUR 4BN
- D >EUR 10BN



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## Largest fines issued





# Data exfiltration and court decisions

*In Armstrong Watson LLP v Persons Unknown [2023] EWHC 1761 (KB)* the English High Court has granted a final injunction in default of defence to a claim for breach of confidence in a case involving ransomware and financial blackmail i.e. the threat actor cannot publish or disclose any of the information they got their hands on in the data breach

What is the value of an injunction against unknown persons? To show that you are doing everything you can.



- Evolution of data privacy laws
  - AI is a key topic for new legislation
  - EU Digital Operational Resilience Act (DORA) entered into force earlier this year (to apply from 17 January 2025), applying to financial entities regulated at EU level
  - Biometric data is a hot topic at the moment
- Social inflation and the value of claims



# Your participation: Please share your views

How relevant have Cyber liability claims been so far?

- A** Low
- B** Medium
- C** High



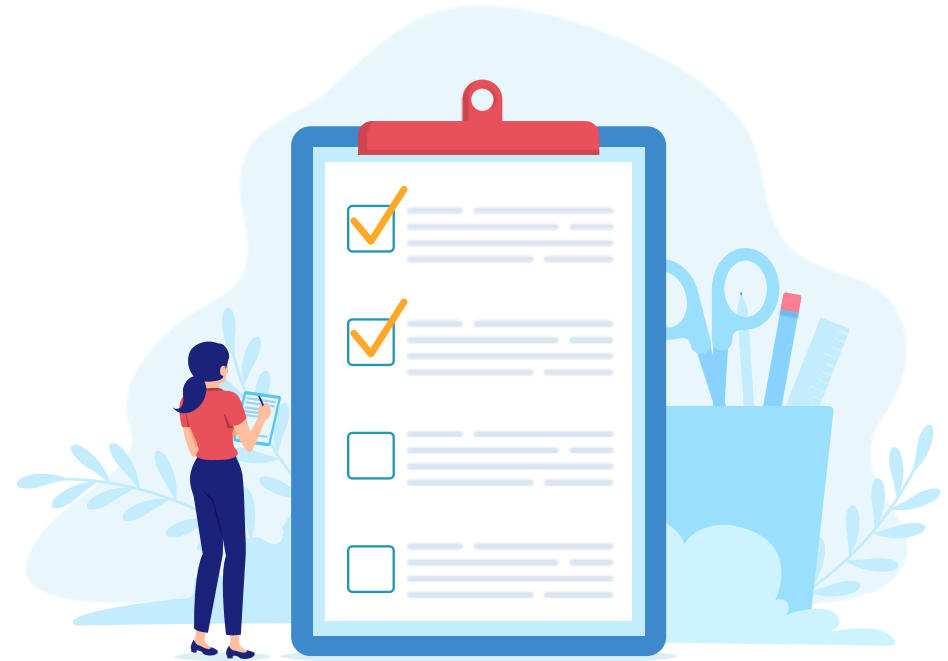
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**EUR 2.500**



# Art. 82 GDPR – Right to compensation and liability

- Any person who has suffered material or non-material damage as a result of an infringement of this Regulation shall have the right to receive compensation from the controller or processor for the damage suffered.
- (...)





# Litigation for wrongful data collection is here to stay – The EU ECJ rulings on Art 82 GDPR

## ECJ, judgment of 4 May 2023, C-300/21 – Österreichische Post AG

- Österreichische Post AG used an algorithm to determine political preferences of customers. The plaintiff claimed non-material damages in the amount of EUR 1,000.
- The national courts refused to award damages, but referred the question to the ECJ.
- The ECJ ruled that the mere infringement of the provisions of that regulation is sufficient to confer a right to compensation.
- The damage is not subject to a ‘threshold of seriousness’, but the plaintiff must show and, if necessary, prove a non-material damage.
- National courts must apply the domestic rules relating to the extent of financial compensation, based a compensatory function on not of a punitive nature.







# Litigation for wrongful data collection is here to stay – The UK

01

The Data Protection and Digital Information (No. 2) Bill is working its way through the Parliamentary processes.

02

Data collection – Cookies

03

Gormsen v Meta Platforms Inc, a claim in the Competition Appeals Tribunal

# Litigation for wrongful data collection is here to stay – US class actions

01

Illinois Biometric Information Privacy Act (BIPA)

02

Meta Pixel litigation

03

Video Privacy Protection Act (VPPA)

# Your participation: Please share your views

How relevant will cyber liability claims be in the future?

- A**    **Low**
- B**    **Medium**
- C**    **High**



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I

*(Legislative acts)*

DIRECTIVES

**DIRECTIVE (EU) 2020/1828 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL**

**of 25 November 2020**

**on representative actions for the protection of the collective interests of consumers and repealing  
Directive 2009/22/EC**

*(Text with EEA relevance)*

EUR 2.500 x 33.200  
= EUR 83m



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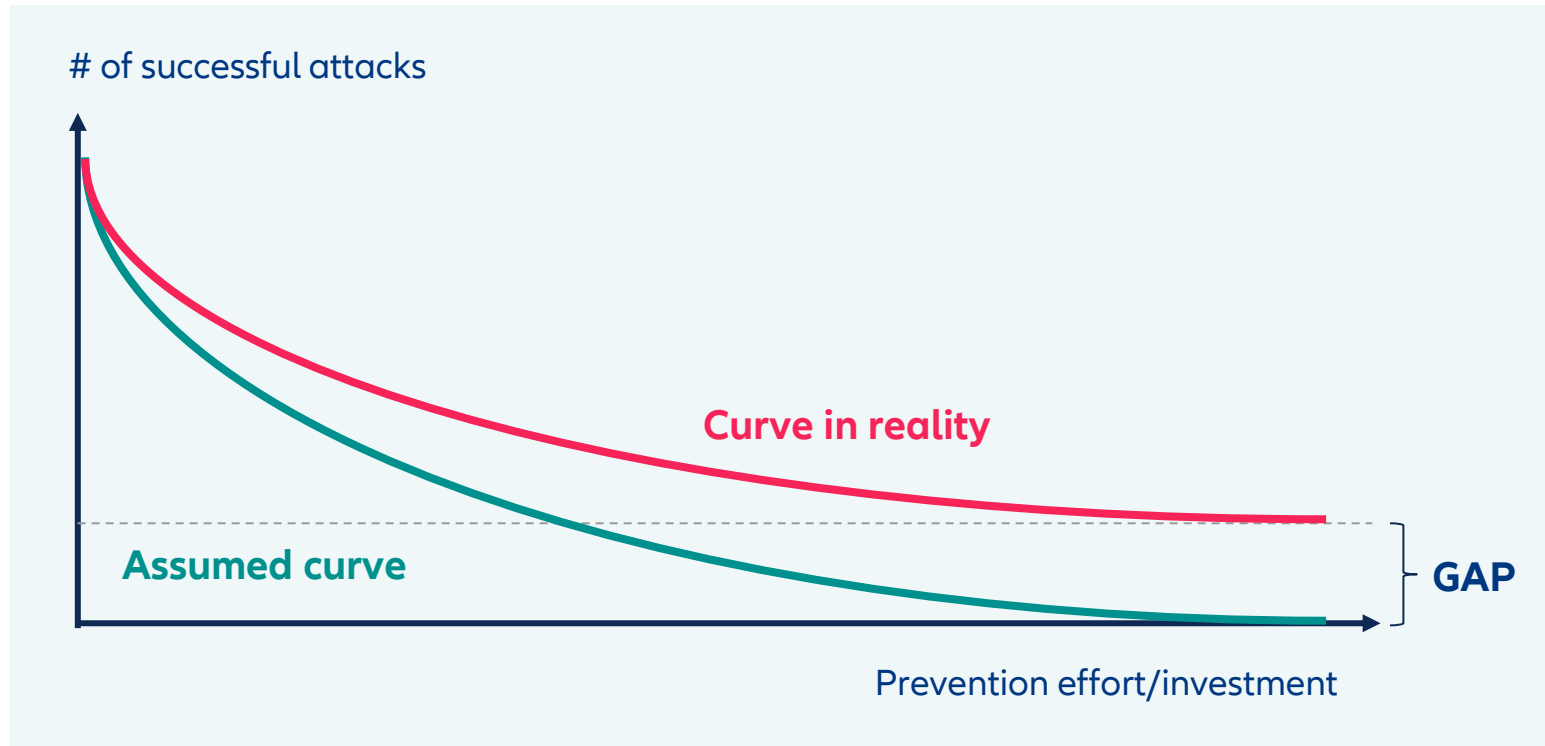


**Rishi Baviskar**  
Global Head of Cyber  
Risk Consulting  
Allianz Commercial



**Michael Daum**  
Global Head of Cyber  
Claims  
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# How to edge out the attackers? Just adding more of classic prevention mechanism will not suffice!



## Key reasons for GAP

01 Attackers improve 

02 Human factor 

03 Comfort & cost 

04 Lack of full overview 



- Accept to be breached every once in a while
- Prevention drives frequency, Detection & Response capabilities will determine severity

# Many of our claims examples confirm limitations of Prevention focused defense

## Lack of full overview



**Target:** Strong security in place across all countries & subsidiaries

**Reality:** Weak security in foreign subsidiary not monitored by Headquarter

## Comfort & cost



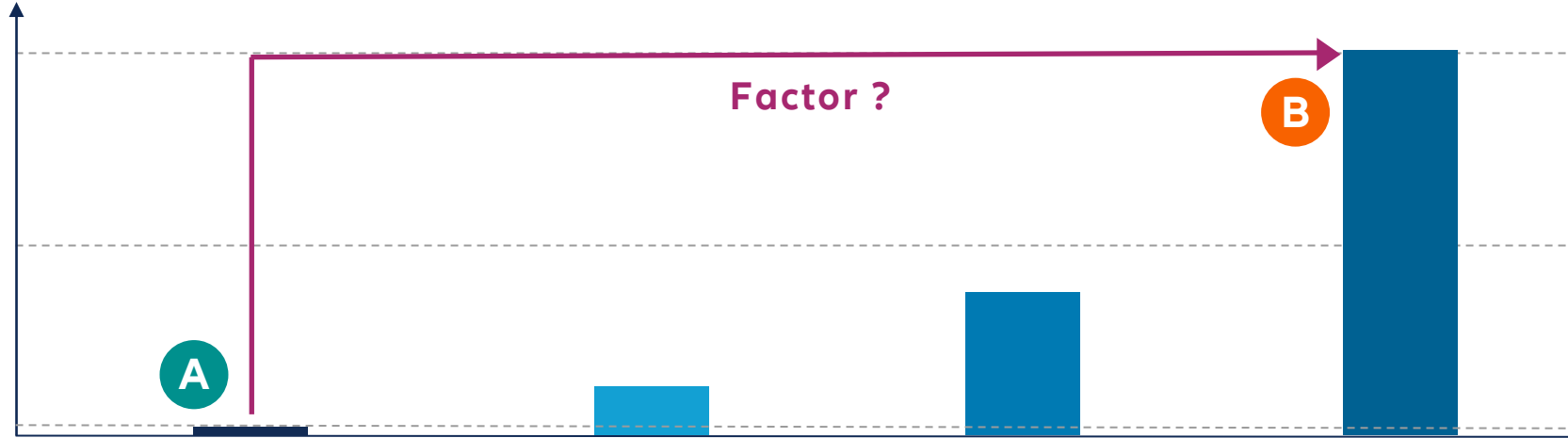
**Target:** Use of corporate devices only and MFA enabled for all external access

**Reality:** Granted use of private devices with MFA disabled to enable remote work during Covid crisis



# Value of loss mitigation delivered by Detection and Response is tremendous

Final damage level  
(After containing attack in respective level)



Reaction + Forensics

Restoration

3<sup>rd</sup> party claims

Business Interruption

Prevention

Detection and Response

## 2 Scenarios

- A** Attacker manages to bypass prevention mechanisms and infect a PC
- B** Attacker successfully gains admin rights, exfiltrates data and encrypts large parts of the computer system

# Mindset limits investments in Detection & Response capabilities, particularly in smaller companies Allianz

## Elements many clients are missing today

- Understanding of how adversaries work
- "Assume breach" mindset
- Proactive instead of reactive threat detection
- You can't do everything

## Detection & Response capabilities fall behind Prevention

	Ranking	
	Your view	Our clients
Prevention	Slido poll	1 (~90%)
Detection		2 (~75%)
Response		3 (~65%)

### SME View

- SME companies generally care and invest less, yet can't treat cyber security as an afterthought
- **Only 4% of small business owners say cybersecurity is the biggest risk to their business**  
– [CNBC Small Business Index Q4 2022](#)

# Allianz Cyber Risk Consultants helps Clients understand and implement our Claims learnings

## What we look for in terms of Detection and Response

- Real time vulnerabilities and attacks detection
- Remediation workflow to protect the company
- Defence-in-depth model
- Faster and more accurate response

## How we as Risk Consultants support our Insureds

- Provide global insights and benchmarking
- Run independent, risk-focused assessments
- Support improving clients' IT security year on year

We see constantly improving prevention, detection and response mechanisms for our clients



“

You can't fight what you can't see.

”

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Security Officer  
Allianz Group



**Robert Feser**  
Head of Allianz Cyber  
Defense Center  
Allianz Technology



**Michael Sauermann**  
Partner, Head of Forensic  
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KPMG

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**Dominik Geistanger**  
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# Not only an IT incident – Rather a severe crisis of the organization



Client was hit by a ransomware attack. Before external support was called in, the affected system was restored from the latest backup. After the attackers had broken into the system a while before, the backup was also affected and the network was reinfected. Through the autonomous recovery process new complications arose.

1

Important forensic traces were lost

2

The forensic analysis subsequently commissioned and conducted was also compromised

3

Recovery effort was significantly higher

# Responding to such a severe crisis requires timely involvement of many parties



**1** • PR & Crisis Management

- Sales
- Communications

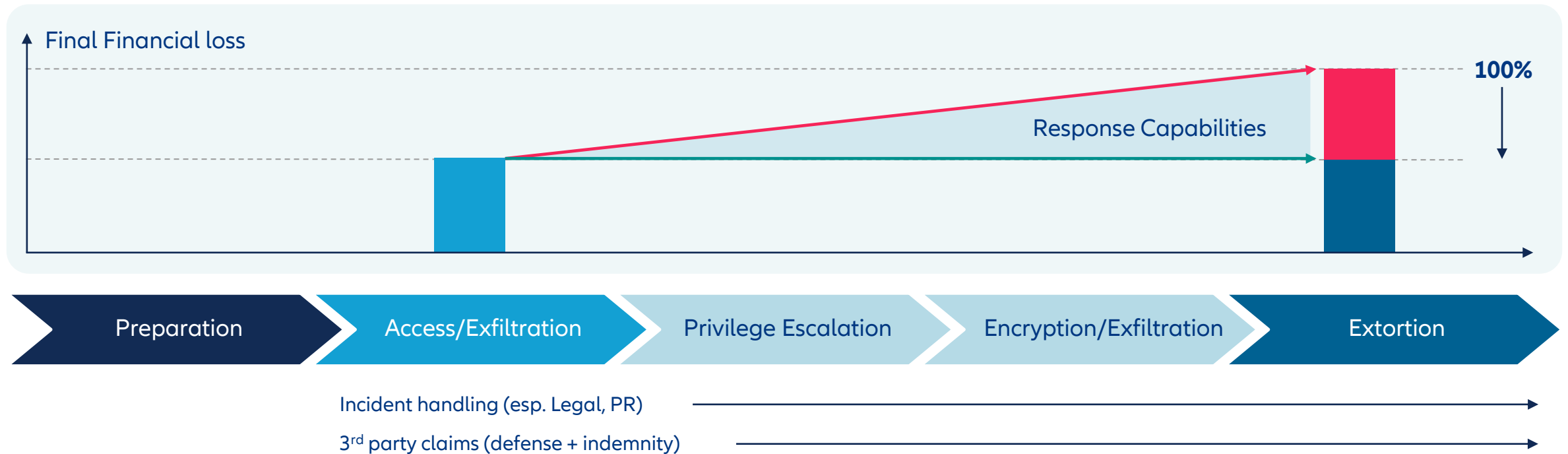
**2** • System Recovery  
• Business interruption  
• Ransom

- IT
- Finance
- Legal

**3** • Awareness of exposure  
• Monitor Security Standards  
• Continuous Insurance Cover

- Insurer

# Response capabilities have a significant effect on the financial loss originating from a cyber event



- Response capabilities can manage claim in a certain bandwidth (Indemnity, Ransom, Fine,...)
- Partner network is key and Insurers can meaningfully assist



# Enhancing “Cyber Incident Readiness” of an Organisation (1/2)

## General rule

We as an insurer can offer support in order for you to better handle the crisis, but we cannot handle the crisis for you



## Aim

Ensure short response times and decision making processes where possible throughout the whole cyber incident handling

# Enhancing “Cyber Incident Readiness” of an Organisation (2/2)



## Selection of important topics to consider



# Involving insurers early



Ensures the insurance recovery process runs smoothly

- Notification obligations and prior consent provisions within the policy
- Early understanding of supporting document requirements (vendor invoices & BI losses)



Allows you to leverage insurers and vendors expertise to minimise the incident impact

- Data/intel on threat actors and similar incidents (ransom payment reductions etc.)
- Access to pre-negotiated rates
- Insured's existing IT vendor vs. independent vendor
- Internal Allianz IT expertise
- Vendors beyond IT expert – legal advice on notification obligations (customer & regulators)/ PR advice etc.



Enables you to ensure you are compliant with sanctions requirements

- Advice from experts on ransom payments so you can avoid the risks of non-compliance with rules on sanctions

# Case Study – leveraging insurers expertise to minimize the incident impact

- 1 Client discovered suspicious activity in their network and initiated incident response measures
- 2 Confirmed unauthorized access and large amount of data exfiltrated
- 3 Spread of ransomware could be contained and extortion demands from the attackers were not met
- 4 Client needed to evaluate and assess the compromised data – their usual vendor offered an investigation of the whole data package for a €10M fee
- 5 Client approached Allianz in order to verify whether the offer as reasonable
- 6 With the assistance of our colleagues from Allianz Technology, we were able to convince the client to conduct a public tender
- 7 Alternative service provider who offered to examine the data package for **30% of the original offer**

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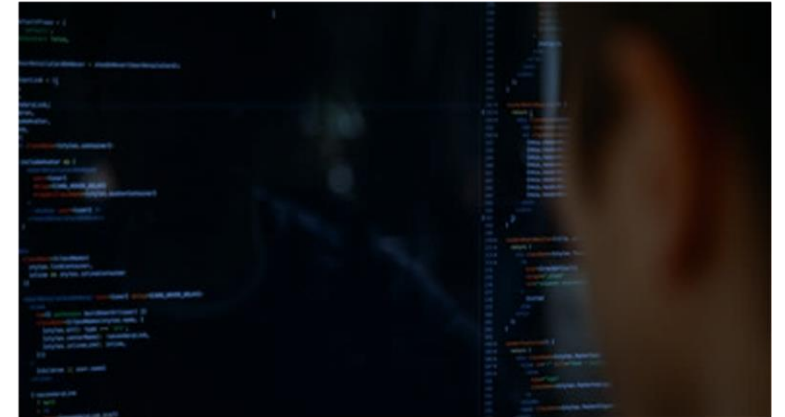


**Robin Kroha**  
Head of Global Protection  
and Resilience  
Allianz Services



**Alexander Fink**  
Partner, specialized in Crisis  
Management &  
Communications  
Kekst CNC

# Proper preparation prevents poor performance



## Reduce complexity

- Not a complicated IT issue
- Instead, a complex top management challenge
- Many agents (IT, legal, forensics, risk management, finance, communications, sales, marketing), very little time: minutes, not hours or days

## Maximise speed

- Decisions taken in the first minutes decide success or failure
- Plans, training, coaching, and exercises are the only way to increase speed

## Leverage agility and creativity

- Crisis management is an agile process requiring creativity
- Crisis management generates knowledge based on incomplete data and information
- Crisis management can, however, be influenced by outside parties

# Your participation: Please share your views

## 1. When was your company last hit by a cyberattack?

- In the last year
- More than a year ago
- It was not hit

## 2. Do/Did you work with external partners to master a cyber crisis?

- Yes
- No

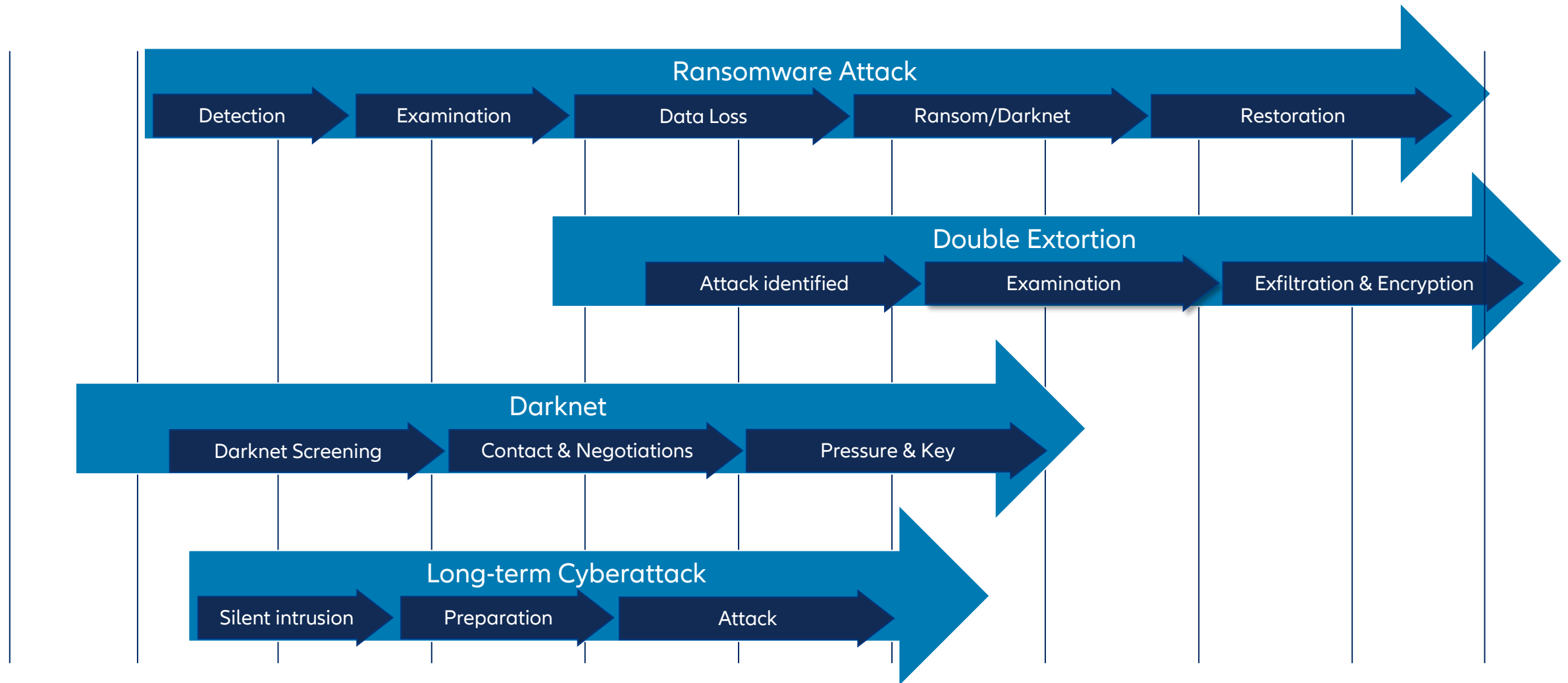
## 3. When did you last perform a cyber crisis management exercise?

- In the last 12 months
- In the last 24 months
- No exercise performed



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# Key challenges in various scenarios





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Head of SME & MidCorp  
Cyber Center of  
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**Rishi Baviskar**  
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# Thank you!



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