



Thesis Title:

**US DOD CYBER STRATEGY UNDER BIDEN IN ADDRESSING RUSSIAN
CYBER THREATS IN 2023: CASE STUDY OF SOLARWINDS 2020
ATTACK**

Submitted to fulfill the requirements for the bachelor's degree in International
Relations

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**DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL AND POLITICS SCIENCE
UNIVERSITAS PEMBANGUNAN NASIONAL VETERAN
JAKARTA**

ATTACHMENTS

US DOD CYBER STRATEGY UNDER BIDEN IN ADDRESSING RUSSIAN CYBER THREATS IN 2023: CASE STUDY OF SOLARWINDS 2020 ATTACK

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Telah berhasil dipertahankan di hadapan Tim Penguji dan diterima sebagai bagian persyaratan yang diperlukan untuk memperoleh gelar sarjana pada Program Studi Hubungan Internasional, Fakultas Ilmu Sosial dan Ilmu Politik, Universitas Pembangunan Nasional Veteran Jakarta.

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Ditetapkan di: Jakarta

Tanggal Ujian: 15 Januari 2024

ABSTRACT

Cybersecurity threats have evolved into complex and pervasive challenges, with state-sponsored cyberattacks posing significant risks to national security. This thesis examines the United States Department of Defense's (DOD) cyber strategy under the Biden administration in 2023, with a specific focus on addressing Russian cyber threats. This study employs the SolarWinds 2020 attack as a case study to analyze the strategic responses of the US DOD. The SolarWinds 2020 cyberattack, attributed to Russian actors, was a watershed moment in the realm of cyber threats. Its impact on numerous US government agencies and private organizations highlighted the urgency of an effective response. Through an in-depth examination of this case, this thesis seeks to understand the DOD's evolving approach to mitigating and countering such threats. The research employs a multidisciplinary approach, drawing on cyber policy analysis, national security studies, and case study methodology. It also incorporates an assessment of relevant policy documents, official statements, and actions undertaken by the Biden administration to shape the DOD's cyber strategy. This research provides a comprehensive overview of the evolving landscape of cyber threats and the measures taken by the US DOD to safeguard national security interests.

Keywords: Cyberstrategy, National Security, US Department of Defense (DOD), Biden Administration, Cyberattack

PREFACE

This thesis is written as a requirement to obtain a bachelor's degree in international relations in Faculty of Social and Political Science of UPN Veteran Jakarta, with the title "US DOD CYBER STRATEGY UNDER BIDEN IN ADDRESSING RUSSIAN CYBER THREATS IN 2023: CASE STUDY OF SOLARWINDS 2020 ATTACK". Within this paper, author wanted to prove how crucial it is for a nation to robust their cybersecurity, with the SolarWinds Compromises fallout as the example, and the momentum for the United States Cyberstrategy. With the completion of this thesis, author hopes to give valuable insights and contribution to the stakeholders and decision makers. The completion of this thesis would not be done perfectly without the help and suggestions the author received from numerous parties. Thus, the author would like to extend hier gratitude to the following people:

1. **Allah SWT**, the Almighty, for the endless support during the writing and research progress.
2. **The family of author** who keeps convincing to move forward despite hurdles coming.
3. **Ibu Wiwiek Rukmi Dwi Astuti, S.IP., M.Si**, as the Head of Department of International Relations at UPN Veteran Jakarta.
4. **Ibu Hesti Rosdiana S.Sos, M.Si**, as the academic supervisor. The author definitely feels grateful as she has been very supportive on every steps that the author made, including author's decision about applying her master degree soon in the UK!
5. **Bapak Mansur Juned, and Bambang Susanto** as the thesis examiners. Massive thank you be given for the constructive criticism to help author improves her writing skills and her paper's substances.
6. **Nanie n Avid**, for the support and the guidance during author's university years. She would not make it without them, the teas and chats are what making her sane during this thesis progress.
7. **Zoltan**, as a fellow English-based thesis writer, and author's partner for her project in 3rd ASEAN International Conference on Energy and Environment (AICEE) 2023, last year in Nusa Dua, Bali.

8. **BRIGGIE-11**, author's little circle that was created during her IISMA program in the UK which consists of dearly 11 folks of her; Adyt, Chandra, Faata, Ghita, Lyra, Nael, Sayyid, Shaskya, Sonbun, and Thalia. Ones who have always been there through thick and thin, ones who are also always up for adventures and trips! Author is very grateful to have them as they are always there and check up on author by caring about her mental condition. Words is not enough to pour author's love and gratitude towards them.
9. **Lucia**, one of author's early friends during her IISMA program. Author is thankful for the Bali trip with her for two weeks which was very exciting, just before she went to London to continue her master degree in SOAS University. She has successfully inspired author to continue study abroad, making it two degrees hotter!
10. **Gambi**, a big 11 years old, lovely black and white fur Balinese dog of author's boyfriend. During her trips in Bali, Gambi always accompanied her while author's writing her thesis in the house's terrace. Gambi is such a smart, genius, a gentle giant dog. His protective side and aggressiveness of him makes author loves him even more, as Gambi is also a big baby who loves cuddles! Through Gambi, author felt a strong, deep bond with animals, especially dogs for the first time. Gambi has successfully unlocked that dog person side of author, something she never thought she would have. Author loves to feed him a lot of chickens, and while author is writing her thesis, Gambi was there, eating the bowl of chickens beside her. The author wants the whole worlds to know that she loves Gambi so much!
11. **Lexi**, a 10 years old minipom mix Balinese dog. While writing her thesis, Lexi always accompanied author by sitting and sleeping on her lap. Lexi always want to be held like a baby, therefore she was always around and cling onto author, no matter what author was doing. Author has the equal love for Lexi as much as Gambi's.

Jakarta, 15 Januari, 2024.

Audrey Chairunnisa

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