



## PRESS RELEASE – November 18<sup>th</sup> 2020

### The economy at the risk of cybersecurity

On Friday 13 November 2020, Cigref addressed a letter to Mr Jean Castex, the French Prime Minister, to express the concern of large French companies and public administrations about the growth of cyber-attacks. These attacks, which are increasing in number and intensity, are affecting more and more organisations, public or private, and constitute a growing threat to the economy. For Cigref, this situation is no longer acceptable.

#### The activity of companies and public administrations under great threat

**These attacks jeopardise the activity of companies and public administrations.** More and more human, technical and financial resources are being allocated by companies to the security of their information systems, to the **detriment of their capacity for innovation and competitiveness.** The operating losses of the hundreds of companies, large and small, that have suffered a cyber-attack are no longer anecdotal, as the news all too frequently demonstrates.

#### Expanding government effort to deal with cyber-attacks

The French State is already making substantial efforts to deal with the cyber threat, in particular through the action of the French National Agency for Information Systems Security (ANSSI). Cigref notes the inadequacy of the international community's and States' responses to the reality of a worldwide threat, industrialised by criminal organisations with dreadful efficiency. No sector of activity other than the digital sector would agree to **develop in such a context of legal insecurity in the face of the cyber threat.**

#### Liability of digital system providers under attack

Cigref also draws the Prime Minister's attention to the responsibility of digital systems suppliers. Indeed, the practices generally observed, particularly among software publishers, are not insufficient and must be regulated to strengthen the overall security of information systems.

#### Acting quickly: Cigref presents its proposals to the Prime Minister

In this context, Cigref urges the Prime Minister and its Government to act without delay to initiate or reinforce the necessary steps, at national, European and international level, to provide a response in terms of resources and law that will make it possible to strengthen the security of the economy faced with this delinquency.

**Cigref is fully committed to participating, at its level, in the necessary effort and presenting its proposals for strengthening the digital security of the national community and its economy, in an European context.**

[www.cigref.fr](http://www.cigref.fr)

Founded in 1970, Cigref has maintained a dual ambition for 50 years. It organises, animates, synthesises and spreads the collective thinking of its members on their main digital issues. It maintains relations of dialogue with their main suppliers in order to deal collectively with the difficulties encountered. Chaired by Bernard Duverneuil, Cigref is the independent voice of its 150 members, major French companies and public administrations. They represent a cumulative turnover of €1,700 billion, 9 million employees, 200,000 in-house IT staff, for an annual expenditure of €50 billion on digital solutions and services. Cigref is forward-looking to build a sustainable, responsible and trustworthy digital world.

#### PRESS CONTACT

Baptiste CHAUVEAU - Communication & PR officer - [bchauveau@cigref.fr](mailto:bchauveau@cigref.fr) - +33 6 70 41 06 92