



# **CYBER LAW AND THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC**

## **International Students Colloquium on Law and Development in the Era of the Pandemic**

**DR. SONNY ZULHUDA  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR  
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA**

**UNIVERSITAS ISLAM INDONESIA, 28 NOVEMBER 2020**



# PRESENTATION OUTLINE

**TWO**  
Responses to a  
Health Concern

**THREE**  
Understanding the  
Vulnerabilities

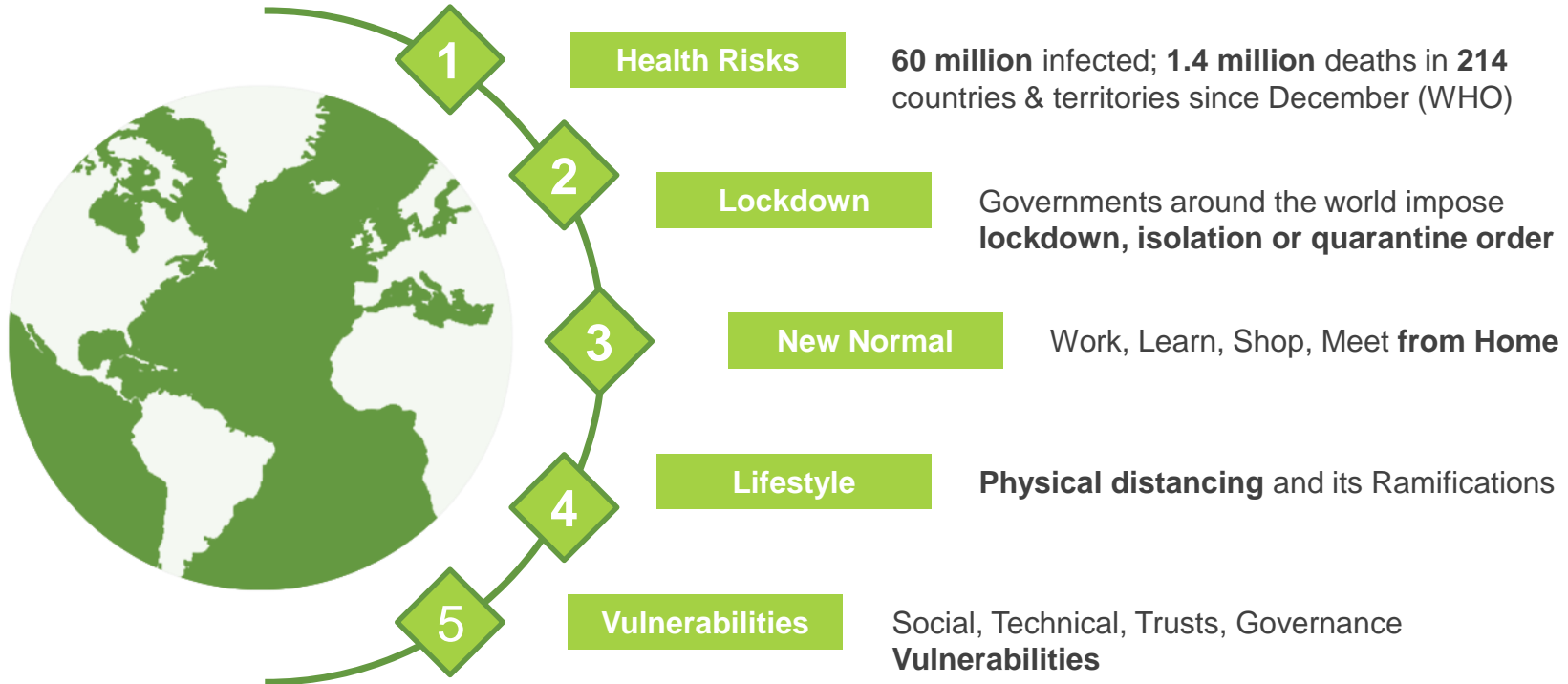
**ONE**  
Reality Check on  
the Pandemic

**FOUR**  
Concerns and  
Strategies

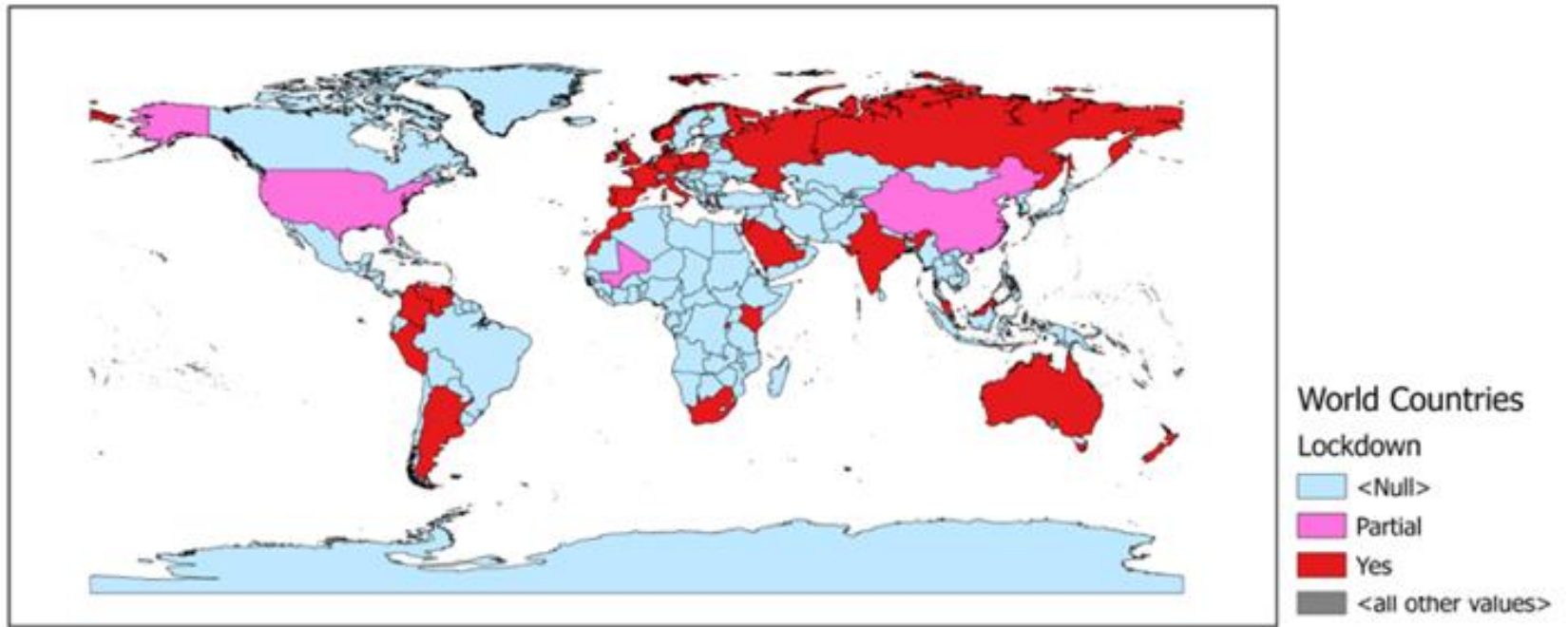


# MONTHS INTO THE PANDEMIC CRISIS

## A Reality Check



# GLOBAL LOCKDOWN MEASURES PER APRIL 2020

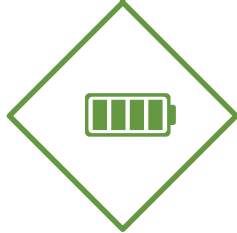


# RESPONSES TO THE PANDEMIC

Massive responses to the Pandemic had depleted the existing resources

## Lockdown Deployment

Governments deploys police and military forces for movement restriction, lockdown, surveillance, curfew, quarantine and border control



## Public spending

Massively required for medical treatment, public screening, medical research, public awareness, economic stimulus, forces deployment as well as other contingencies

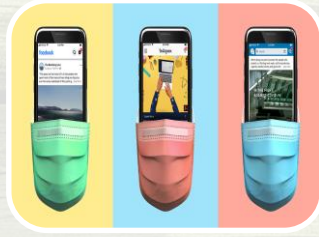


## Massive Campaign

The effort requires active participation of all segments of public. Covid-19's threat is a bottom-up process, not a top-down one.



# EMERGING RISKS



Data exploitation through illicit requests of personal data for online services, Apps, etc;



Fraud and scam via fake accounts begging for donation, fake charities, etc.



Misinformation: Rise of citizen news portals with unaccountable stories – a test-bed for phishing attacks.



Unsecured online platforms prone to personal data breaches (online shopping, online meeting, social media, etc).



Rise of private surveillance



## Technical Vulnerabilities

Critical system and infrastructures are at stake as they become a hot pot for both security and public health management system.

## Window for Cyber Criminals?

We witness how malicious minds potentially used this Covid-19 crisis as a window to exploit our vulnerabilities.



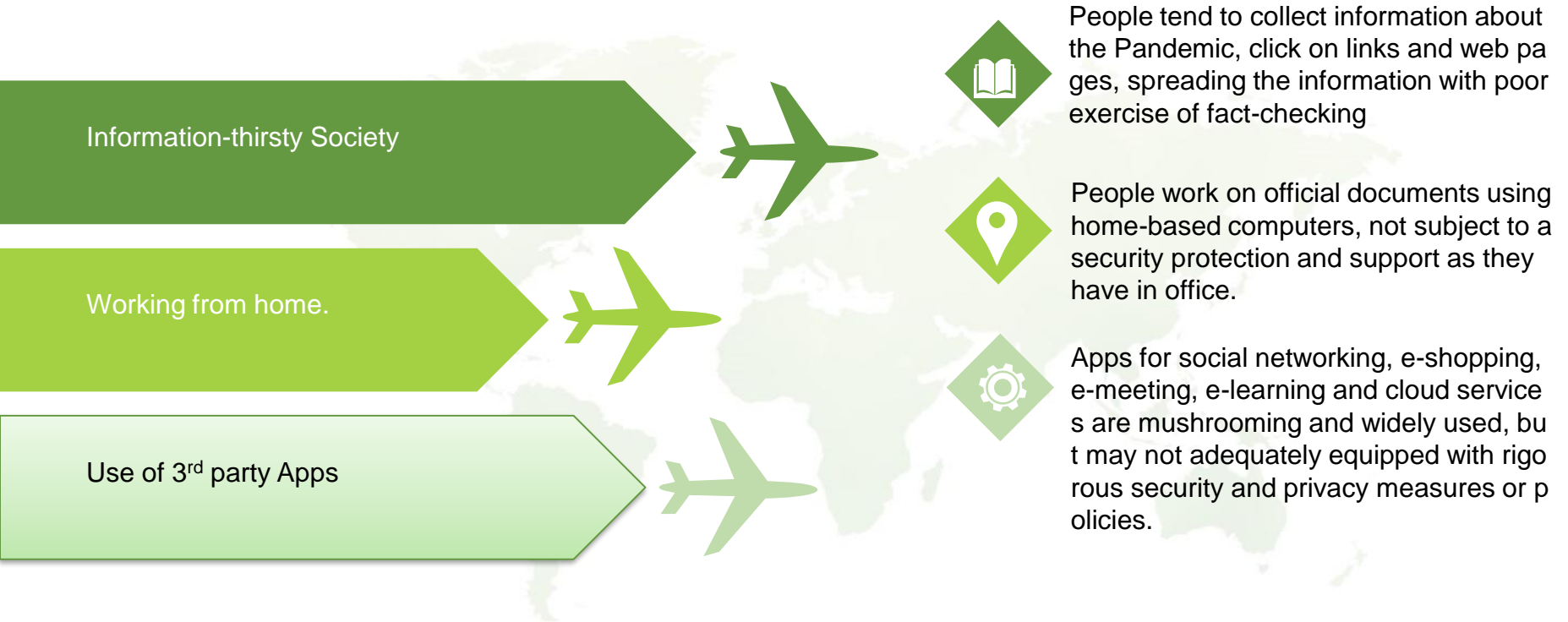
## Critical Infrastructure Protection

The concept of national critical infrastructure need to be relooked so as to accommodate this threat to national and public health as one critical security objectives.



# VULNERABILITIES OF THE INFORMATION SOCIETY

## A Window for Cybercriminals?





**TheStar**

#JustStayAt Home For You News Business Sport Metro Lifestyle Food Tech Education Opinion

TOPICS ► Political Crisis | Covid-19 Watch | Asean+ | True or Not | Do You Know | Star Golden Hearts Award

## Cybersecurity cases rise by 82.5%

FOCUS

Sunday, 12 Apr 2020

By YUEN MEIKENG

MORE people are online now – be it for business, education, entertainment, socialising or working from home due to the movement control order (MCO).

But the higher usage of technology also means bigger risks of running into cyberthreats

About 352 accounts on the video conferencing app Zoom were compromised on Wednesday, including a healthcare provider in the US and seven educational institutions.

There has yet to be any report on hacked Zoom accounts from Malaysia.

### Tips to stay safe online

#### Working from home

- > Update all systems including Virtual Private Networks (VPN) with the latest patches
- > Educate employees about phishing attempts.
- > Avoid logging in to your work environment using public Internet Wi-Fi.
- > Connect through your home or mobile network data.
- > Enable Multi Factor Authentication.

#### Covid-19 scams

- > Always verify information from emails, text messages and social media posts about Covid-19.
- > Do not share personal or financial information in emails
- > Do not click on suspicious links provided to you on Covid-19, verify with the sender or agencies that can help.
- > Use legitimate, government websites for up-to-date, fact-based information

#### Video t

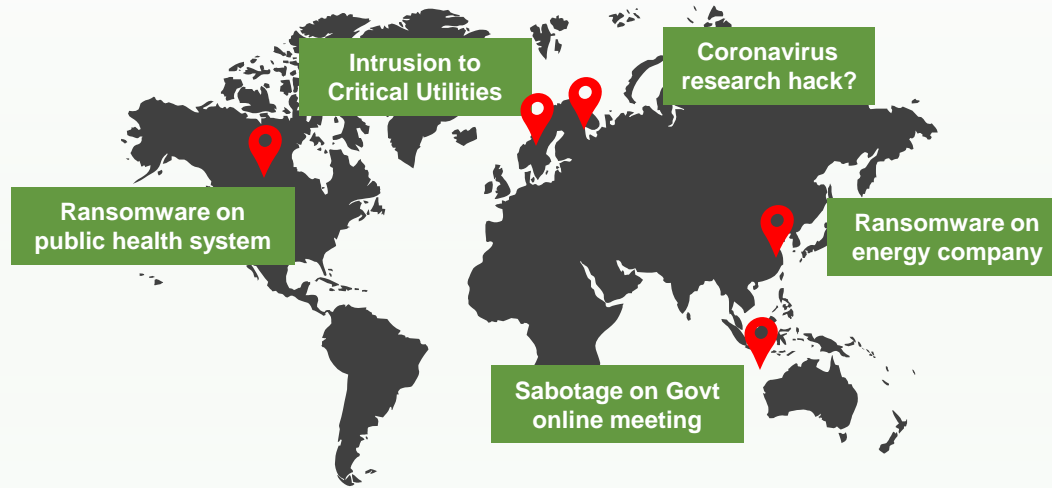
- > Use the software
- > Only do or app
- > Never s meeting
- > Enable



**CyberSecurity**  
MALAYSIA  
An agency under MOSTI

# EXPLOITATION OF CYBER INFRASTRUCTURE (CIIP)

What had happened in the Cyberspace during Covid-19 Crisis?



Terrorists and cybercriminals are always interested to exploit cyberspace vulnerabilities. The activity of cyber terrorism does not relax during Covid-19. Several cyber attacks do target a critical information infrastructure (CII), a traditional target for cyber terrorism.

# ACTIVATE OUR CYBERLAWS

## LAW AGAINST COMPUTER MISUSE

Criminal laws against illegal intrusion, Unauthorised modification, computer sabotage, interception, etc

## PERSONAL DATA PROTECTION LAW

Laws to protect online privacy, personal data misuse, unauthorised data collection, breach of data security, etc.

## LAW AGAINST CYBER FRAUD

Online fraud, impersonation, social media hijacking, identity theft, online payment scam, etc.

## E-COMMERCE LAW

Laws to protect online contract, electronic transaction, online payment methods, e-commerce consumer protection, mediation, etc.

## CYBER SECURITY LAW

Laws to protect and encourage encryption, data security breach notification, data due diligence, cyber-terrorism law, etc.

# WHERE TO START?

Understanding the vulnerabilities, Taking right actions



Strengthen the Leadership & Governance

Enhance social awareness

“Distributed Security”

Public-private Partnership





THANK YOU  
FEEDBACK:

[sonny@iium.edu.my](mailto:sonny@iium.edu.my)  
<http://sonnyzulhuda.com>

