# Article information:

Belgium legalises ethical hacking: a threat or an opportunity for cybersecurity? - CiTiP blog
<https://www.law.kuleuven.be/citip/blog/belgium-legalises-ethical-hacking-a-threat-or-an-opportunity-for-cybersecurity/>

# Article summary:

1. Belgium has legalised ethical hacking through a whistleblower law, allowing for the investigation of cybersecurity vulnerabilities even without consent from the hacked entity.

2. The law sets conditions for ethical hacking, including no intent to cause harm, reporting vulnerabilities to the Centre for Cyber Security Belgium, limiting hacking activities to what is necessary, and not disclosing information without consent.

3. While the law may facilitate the work of ethical hackers in Belgium and contribute to uncovering cybersecurity vulnerabilities, questions remain about the delineation between legal and illegal hacking activities under the Belgian Criminal Code.

# Article rating:

May be slightly imbalanced: The article presents the information in a generally reliable way, but there are minor points of consideration that could be explored further or claims that are not fully backed by appropriate evidence. Some perspectives may also be omitted, and you are encouraged to use the research topics section to explore the topic further.

# Article analysis:

The article provides a comprehensive overview of Belgium's new whistleblower law legalizing ethical hacking, highlighting the conditions that must be met for hackers to avoid criminal liability. It discusses the potential benefits of ethical hacking in improving cybersecurity and preventing cyber incidents. However, there are several points of concern and areas where the article could be improved.

One potential bias in the article is its focus on the positive aspects of legalizing ethical hacking without adequately addressing potential risks or drawbacks. While it mentions that ethical hackers must not have malicious intent or seek illegitimate benefits, it does not delve into the possibility of unintended consequences or misuse of this new law. For example, there is no discussion on how organizations may abuse ethical hackers for their own gain or how hackers could exploit vulnerabilities they discover for personal gain.

Additionally, the article lacks a thorough exploration of the limitations and challenges associated with legalizing ethical hacking. It briefly mentions that the law only applies in Belgium and may not align with other countries' regulations, but fails to address how this could impact international collaborations or investigations involving foreign entities. Furthermore, it does not discuss potential conflicts between ethical hacking and privacy laws, data protection regulations, or other legal frameworks that may come into play during cybersecurity assessments.

The article also falls short in providing a balanced perspective by primarily focusing on the benefits of ethical hacking while neglecting to explore counterarguments or criticisms of this approach. It would have been beneficial to include insights from cybersecurity experts, legal professionals, or industry stakeholders who may have differing opinions on the effectiveness and implications of legalizing ethical hacking.

Moreover, there are unsupported claims in the article, such as stating that legalizing ethical hacking will lead to an increase in preventive cybersecurity practices among Belgian organizations without providing concrete evidence or examples to support this assertion. Including case studies or empirical data demonstrating the impact of similar laws in other jurisdictions would have strengthened the argument presented.

Overall, while the article offers valuable information on Belgium's new whistleblower law and its implications for cybersecurity, it could benefit from a more critical analysis of potential risks, biases, and limitations associated with legalizing ethical hacking. By addressing these gaps and presenting a more balanced perspective, readers would gain a more comprehensive understanding of the complex issues surrounding this controversial topic.

# Topics for further research:

* Ethical hacking risks and drawbacks
* International collaboration in cybersecurity
* Privacy laws and ethical hacking
* Criticisms of legalizing ethical hacking
* Impact of ethical hacking on data protection regulations
* Case studies on the effectiveness of ethical hacking laws

# Report location:

<https://www.fullpicture.app/item/a17740289cf7c4352a436114ea1d5f68>