# **BOZP PORTAL PENETRATION TEST REPORT**

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# Team Info

- Elnar Yantay
  - o Student of the 2nd year of the Information Security program
  - o During this project he was responsible for the following tests:
    - Information gathering
    - Configuration and Deployment Management Testing
    - Identity Management Testing
    - Authorization Testing
    - Session Management Testing
    - Vulnerability Analysis
- Yaroslav Bakhirkin
  - o Student of the 2nd year of the Information Security program
  - o During this project he was responsible for the following tests:
    - Information gathering
    - Authentication Testing
    - Testing for Error Handling
    - Input Validation Testing
    - Vulnerability Analysis

# Project overview

In this semester's work, we will focus on the penetration test of the <u>BOZP portal</u> website as a part of Internal Applications for Testing.

Occupational safety and health is a critical aspect of any academic institution, ensuring the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. The BOZP portal serves as a central platform for students to access relevant materials, undertake online assessments and register for events related to occupational safety.

# Scope description

The penetration testing scope covers the BOZP portal, excluding the production version. Testing will be conducted on a provided virtual machine with anonymized student data, static ip address 10.0.0.10 and two users - "student" as regular user and "admin" as user with administrator privilege.

The objectives include identifying security vulnerabilities, assessing resilience against cyber threats, evaluating authentication mechanisms, and providing recommendations for remediation.

# Selected pentesting methodology

We utilized the <u>OWASP Web Security Testing Guide</u> as the selected penetration testing and report writing methodology for assessing the BOZP Portal.

# Scoring system description

For rating risks, we will use OWASP Risk Rating Methodology.

To find out how risky a vulnerability is, we need to figure out two things: how much it can affect things and how likely it is to happen. These things help us measure what might happen if the vulnerability is used and how probably it is to occur.

## Likelihood factors.

The first step is to estimate the "likelihood". There are a number of factors that can help determine the likelihood. The first set of factors are related to the threat agent involved. The goal is to estimate the likelihood of a successful attack from a possible attackers. The next set of factors are related to the vulnerability involved. The goal here is to estimate the likelihood of the particular vulnerability involved being discovered and exploited. Each option has a likelihood rating from 0 to 9 associated with it. These numbers will be used later to estimate the overall likelihood.

#### **Threat Agent Factors:**

- Skill Level (How technically skilled are threat agents?)
  - o No technical skills (1).
  - o Some technical skills (3).
  - o Advanced computer user (5).
  - Network and programming skills (6).
  - Security penetration skills (9).
- Motive (How motivated are threat agents?)
  - Low or no reward (1).
  - Possible reward (4).
  - o High reward (9).
- Opportunity (What resources and opportunities are required for threat agents?)
  - o Full access or expensive resources required (0).
  - Special access or resources required (4).
  - Some access or resources required (7).
  - No access or resources required (9).

- Size (How large is this group of threat agents?)
  - o Developers (2).
  - System administrators (2).
  - o Intranet users (4).
  - o Partners (5).
  - o Authenticated users (6).
  - o Anonymous internet users (9).

#### Vulnerability factors:

- Ease of Discovery (How easy is it for threat agents to discover this vulnerability?)
  - o Practically impossible (1).
  - o Difficult (3).
  - o Easy (7).
  - Automated tools available (9).
- Ease of Exploit (How easy is it for threat agents to actually exploit this vulnerability?)
  - o Theoretical (1).
  - o Difficult (3).
  - o Easy (5).
  - o Automated tools available (9).
- Awareness (How well known is this vulnerability to threat agents?)
  - o Unknown (1).
  - o Hidden (4).
  - o Obvious (6).
  - o Public knowledge (9).
- Intrusion Detection (How likely is an exploit to be detected?)
  - o Active detection in application (1).
  - o Logged and reviewed (3).
  - o Logged without review (8).
  - o Not logged (9).

## Estimating Impact.

Technical impact can be broken down into factors aligned with the traditional security areas of concern: confidentiality, integrity, availability, and accountability. The goal is to guess how much the system would be affected if the weakness was used.

#### **Technical Impact Factors:**

- Loss of Confidentiality (how much data could be disclosed and how sensitive is it?)
  - o Minimal non-sensitive data disclosed (2).
  - o Minimal critical data disclosed (6).
  - Extensive non-sensitive data disclosed (6).
  - o Extensive critical data disclosed (7).
  - o All data disclosed (9).
- Loss of Integrity (how much data could be corrupted and how damaged is it?)
  - o Minimal slightly corrupt data (1).
  - o Minimal seriously corrupt data (3).
  - o Extensive slightly corrupt data (5).
  - Extensive seriously corrupt data (7).
  - o All data totally corrupt (9).
- Loss of Availability (how much service could be lost and how vital is it?)
  - Minimal secondary services interrupted (1).
  - o Minimal primary services interrupted (5).
  - Extensive secondary services interrupted (5).
  - o Extensive primary services interrupted (7).
  - All services completely lost (9).
- Loss of Accountability (Are the threat agents' actions traceable to an individual?)
  - Fully traceable (1).
  - o Possibly traceable (7).
  - O Completely anonymous (9).

# Determining the Severity of the Risk.

To determine the impact and likelihood, we calculate the average of all factors for each.

Likelihood and Impact Levels			
0 to < 3	LOW		
3 to < 6	MEDIUM		
6 to 9	HIGH		

Overall Risk Severity				
Impact	HIGH	Medium	High	Critical
	MEDIUM	Low	Medium	High
	LOW	Note	Low	Medium
		LOW	MEDIUM	HIGH
	Likelihood			

# Threat model

BOZP portal is not very useful resource to hack, but there still are some goals attacker might want to achieve, such as:

- Obtaining administrator permissions to change roles/add events/etc.
- Disrupt the application to sabotage university's "Occupational safety and health".
- Get access to some student's events to know where and when this particular student will be.

User access level			
Guest	No account, no permissions.		
Student	Access available events and see events student is signed for.		
Administrator	"root" user – admin access, adding/deleting events/users etc.		

Assets			
Name	Description		
Student			
Events	Events from list of available events student is		
	signed up for.		
	Administrator		
Events	Date, time, description and participators of the		
	event.		
Courses	Each course can have an event assigned to it.		
Connection	Connection to KOS/SQL database.		
Documents	Documents related to safety all		
	students/teachers must sign.		

Potential threats			
Threat	Description	STRIDE	Impact
Unauthorized access	Student obtains other student's event management.	Е	Low
Unauthorized access	Student obtains admin's privileges	Е	High
Repudiation	Student denies changing data/gaining access etc.	R	Medium
Data tampering	Student modifies data available only to admin.	Т	High
Unauthorized disclosure	Guest gains access to student's events.	l	Low

# Intelligence-gathering outcomes

```
# Nmap 7.94SVN scan initiated Sat Apr 27 04:31:32 2024 as: nmap -sV --top-ports 100 -A -O -oN result.txt 10.0.0.10
Nmap scan report for 10.0.0.10 Host is up (0.00022s latency).
Not shown: 97 closed tcp ports (reset)
PORT STATE SERVICE VERSION 22/tcp open ssh OpenSSH
                        OpenSSH 7.9p1 Debian 10+deb10u4 (protocol 2.0)
| ssh-hostkey:
    2048 b1:e8:1e:43:09:e3:1a:d9:03:9f:63:6f:fc:bc:ae:95 (RSA)
    256 a9:73:07:7d:83:e7:ab:85:c7:22:f7:00:ef:77:73:59 (ECDSA)
256 58:4b:84:8f:91:70:84:db:12:6b:38:68:35:59:7f:28 (ED25519)
80/tcp open http Apache httpd 2.4.38 ((Debian))
| http-title: Aktuality | BOZP port\xC3\xA1l
|_Requested resource was http://10.0.0.10/www/
http-server-header: Apache/2.4.38 (Debian)
3306/tcp open mysql MySQL (unauthorized)
MAC Address: 08:00:27:CE:6A:11 (Oracle VirtualBox virtual NIC)
Device type: general purpose
Running: Linux 4.X|5.>
OS CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel:4 cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel:5
OS details: Linux 4.15 - 5.8
Network Distance: 1 hop
Service Info: OS: Linux; CPE: cpe:/o:linux:linux_kernel
TRACEROUTE
HOP RTT
             ADDRESS
1 0.22 ms 10.0.0.10
OS and Service detection performed. Please report any incorrect results at https://nmap.org/submit/ .
# Nmap done at Sat Apr 27 04:32:29 2024 -- 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 57.12 seconds
```

These are the ports and services used as well as its versions found during the **nmap** scan.

```
1 HTTP/1.1 200 OK
 2 Date: Sat, 27 Apr 2024 08:42:14 GMT
 3 Server: Apache/2.4.38 (Debian)
 4 X-Powered-By: Nette Framework
 5 X-Frame-Options: SAMEORIGIN
 6 Set-Cookie: PHPSESSID=khpm37vkqpkcljap87351ia4lq; expires=Sat, 11-May-2024
    08:42:14 GMT; Max-Age=1209600; path=/; HttpOnly
 7 Expires: Thu, 19 Nov 1981 08:52:00 GMT
 8 Cache-Control: no-store, no-cache, must-revalidate
 9 Pragma: no-cache
10 Vary: X-Requested-With, Accept-Encoding
11 Set-Cookie: PHPSESSID=6nhlsumrmkg6g6pmuh8dgg02h0; expires=Sat, 11-May-2024
    08:42:14 GMT; Max-Age=1209600; path=/; HttpOnly
12 Set-Cookie: PHPSESSID=6nhlsumrmkg6g6pmuh8dgq02h0; expires=Sat, 11-May-2024
    08:42:14 GMT; Max-Age=1209600; path=/; HttpOnly
13 Content-Length: 4312
14 Connection: close
15 Content-Type: text/html; charset=utf-8
```

Web server is indeed **Apache**(2.4.38), and there is a frontend PHP framework **Nette** running.

Nikto output

# List of findings

Туре	Location	Impact	Likelihood	Severity	Link
Unsecured credentials transfer	Log in form	9.0	8.9	Critical	<u>Analysis</u>
Using an outdated server	All application	8	7	High	<u>Analysis</u>
CSRF	Homepage	6.5	3.1	High	<u>Analysis</u>
Improper Access Control	User's profile	4	5.3	Medium	<u>Analysis</u>
Presence of default files	All application	1.75	3.5	Low	<u>Analysis</u>
Server error	Manage events	0.3	0.8	Note	<u>Analysis</u>

# **Executive summary**

Overall, application is insecure and has some crucial vulnerabilities. For application to become somewhat secure, it should fix unencrypted data transfer, which is not that hard.

# Unencrypted data transfer

The largest vulnerability allows attacker to easily get access to user's credentials, and, considering that application logs you our every now and then, this vulnerability is indeed critical.

## Using an outdated server

Outdated software versions are a popular target for attackers because information about them is available in public vulnerability databases.

## CSRF - Homepage

Even though it is not easy to determine the exact web request to delete homepage's articles because it isn't done as often and admin user may be aware of running suspicious code, there is a possibility to remove articles by running premade HTML file in admin's session.

### Improper Access Control

The vulnerability occurs when the system does not properly control or restrict access to resources based on user rights. As a result, users may access data or perform actions that they do not have permission to do.

#### Presence of default files

During testing, the presence of default files was discovered, such as /icons/README. These files are often left behind after installing a web server or web application and may contain information about the configuration or structure of the system.

### Server shut down - Manage events

This is not a big problem as it is can be done only manually by admin, but still this error persists until fixed and may be inconvenient for some users.

# Pentesting process

# Information Gathering

Fingerprint Web Server

Server Apache/2.4.38 has been discovered. More information in this section.

# Review webserver metafiles for information leakage

After examining the website, some default files were found. More information in this section.

### Enumerate applications on webserver

#### Nmap result:

From the output of the Nmap command, these ports were found:

- 22/tcp open ssh: OpenSSH 7.9p1 Debian 10+deb10u4 (protocol 2.0)
- 80/tcp open http: Apache httpd 2.4.38 ((Debian))
- 3306/tcp open mysql: MySQL (unauthorized)
- 33060/tcp open mysqlx?

# Review Webpage Content for Information Leakage

The source code of all possible pages of the portal was studied and found:

```
| Profit | Notice | N
```

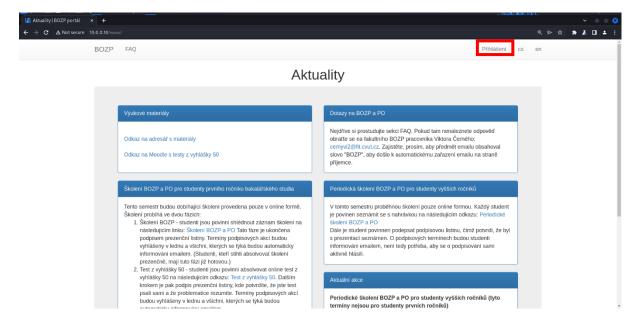
#### Meta tags

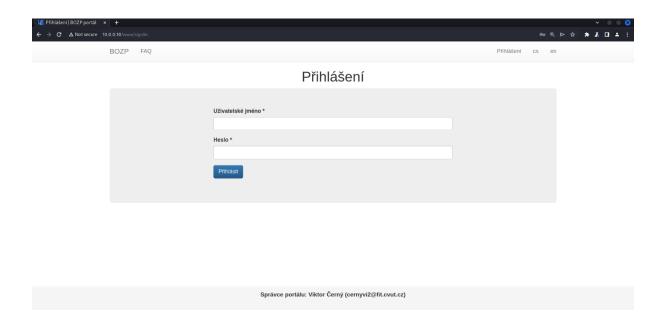
<meta charset="utf-8">

Other interesting meta data or comments were not found in the source code.

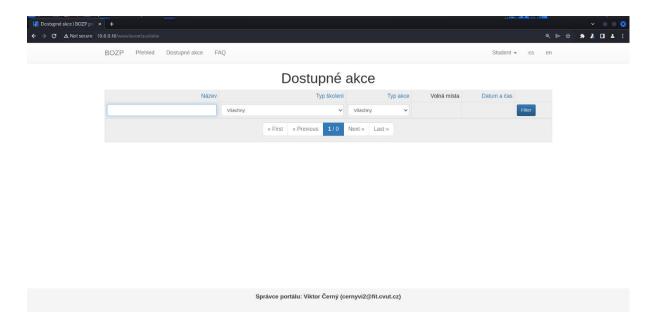
## **Identify Application Entry Points**

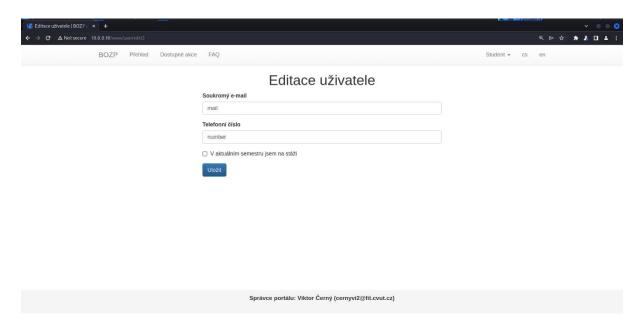
The only entry point for a guest is the login form (All links lead to an external site):





After logging in, the user can enter data into the event search filter or change their personal data such as personal email and phone number.





All input data is sent via a POST request with the following parameters:



login form



#### filter form



changing mail or phone form

# Configuration and Deployment Management Testing

## Test Network Infrastructure Configuration

During testing, it was revealed that the web application uses the Apache web server version 2.4.38. This version was released on 22.09.2019, and since then many updates have been released to fix various vulnerabilities and security improvements. Using outdated software puts your system at risk because known vulnerabilities can be used by attackers to launch attacks.

#### Test HTTP Methods

```
(kali⊕ kali)-[~]
$ nmap --script http-methods 10.0.0.10
Starting Nmap 7.945VN ( https://nmap.org ) at 2024-06-11 09:18 EDT
Nmap scan report for 10.0.0.10
Host is up (0.0037s latency).
Not shown: 997 closed tcp ports (conn-refused)
PORT STATE SERVICE
22/tcp open ssh
80/tcp open http
| http-methods:
|_ Supported Methods: GET HEAD POST OPTIONS
3306/tcp open mysql
Nmap done: 1 IP address (1 host up) scanned in 0.94 seconds
```

nmap --script http-methods 10.0.0.10

The allowed methods are: GET, HEAD, POST, OPTIONS.

## **Test HTTP Strict Transport Security**

curl -s -D- 10.0.0.10 | grep -i Strict-Transport-Security

During testing, it was discovered that the website does not use the HSTS header. This means that connections can be made over HTTP, making them vulnerable to MitM attacks such as SSL stripping.

This is a derived vulnerability from an existing case

# **Identity Management Testing**

Test Role Definitions

There are several roles:

- Guest no permissions
- Student viewing and registering for events
- Admin full permissions

## Test user registration process

Our version of the application does not allow registering new users.

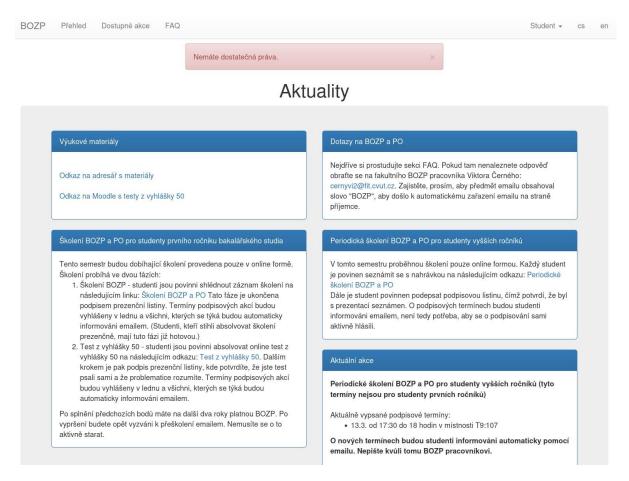
# Authentication testing

Testing for Credentials Transported over an Encrypted Channel

Vulnerability found - analysis.

Testing for Bypassing Authentication Schema

No vulnerability was found, after trying to access pages for authenticated users as unauthenticated user or access only admin's pages as some user application returns error:



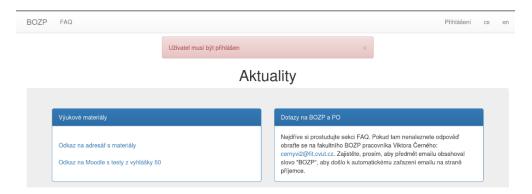
Web page for modifying profile looks like "http://10.0.0.10/www/user/profile/2", where 2 is a user's ID. Even if entering really large number (20+ digits) it returns the same error. Admin can access those pages directly.

There was no obvious way to predict session ID, every value seems to be randomly generated each time a new request is sent:

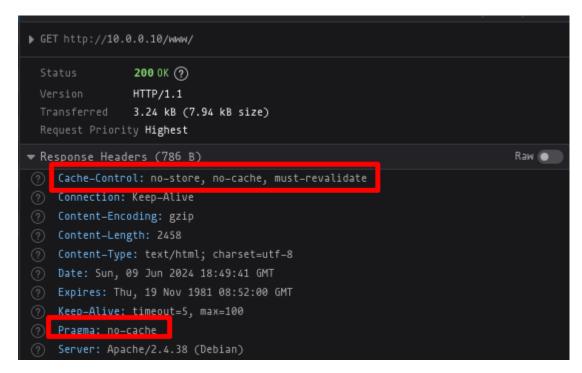


# Testing for Browser Cache Weaknesses

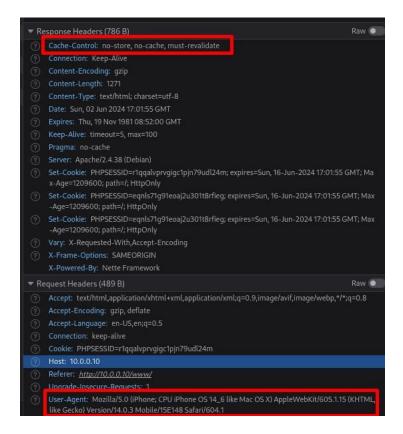
After logging out, no way to access previous accessible information was found, application returns error:



Also, there are a "Cache-Control: must-revalidate, no-store, no-cache" flag and "Pragma: no-cache" flags that secure browser's cache and history. Although, additional flags such as "Cache-Control: max-age=0, s-maxage=0" and "Expires: 0" would be great for extra security.



Same approach tested on mobile client using Firefox Response Design Mode, all headers are the same:



## Testing for Weak Password

Application has 2 users – student and admin, both with the same password, which is highly vulnerable, because user can gain admin's access using its password.

Moreover, password is "net123", which is (as per Kali Linux 2024.2) line 122704 in **rockyou.txt**, so it can be easily compromised using dictionary attacks.



#### Other issues

Application doesn't provide features like lock-out mechanism, password reset, "Forgot my password" or security question so those were not tested.

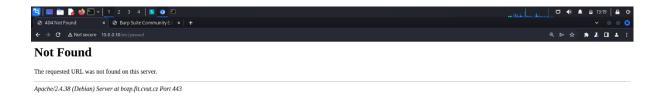
# **Authorization Testing**

Testing Directory Traversal File Include

I tried to access the "/etc/ passwd" via URL

https://10.0.0.10/..%2F..%2F..%2F..%2F..%2F..%2Fetc%2Fpasswd.

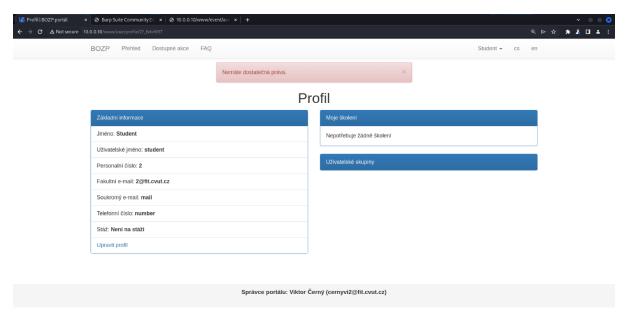
However, it wasn't successful:



Other possible vulnerabilities on the part of the student or guest were not found.

## Testing for Bypassing Authorization Schema

I was unable to access any resources beyond my designated role permissions. I also attempted to escalate my privileges to root, but this required higher-level permissions that I did not possess.



http://10.0.0.10/www/user/profile/2 - changing 2 to another value is not possible.

However, a vulnerability was discovered due to which a student can change the personal email and phone number of another user (even an admin) - <u>Analysis</u>.

# Session Management Testing

### Cookie collection

There is one cookies PHPSESSID, which is an autogenerated cookies used by the server to manage sessions.



# **Testing for Error Handling**

# Testing for Improper Error Handling

I've tried multiple ways to trigger an error such as changing HTTP header or a very long input but none of them gave me useful information except webserver's name:



#### **Server Error**

We're sorry! The server encountered an internal error and was unable to complete your request. Please try again later.

error 500



Your browser sent a request that this server could not understand.

Apache/2.4.38 (Debian) Server at bozp.fit.cvut.cz Port 443

# Input Validation Testing

## XSS: Reflected and Stored

There is no input allowed for an unauthenticated user and only 2 places for input for regular user: email and phone number.

I've tried multiple payloads from <u>XSS Filter Evasion Cheatsheet</u> but none of them worked, both on Chrome and Firefox.

But the issue remains the same - absolutely no sanitation of input whatsoever: every special character is allowed, absence of email's check for "x@x.x" format, same goes for phone number.

### **CSRF**

CSRF vulnerability found - analysis.

## SQL injection

No SQL injection was found, whether using admin or regular user inputs, URL or regular forms. The result was either nothing or error 500, probably because server received some special character in string or integer variable.

# Server Error

We're sorry! The server encountered an internal error and was unable to complete your request. Please try again later.

error 500

### Other issues

Other issues related to Input Validation such as IMAP SMTP Injection were either not found or application doesn't provide functionality so that those issues could be exploited.

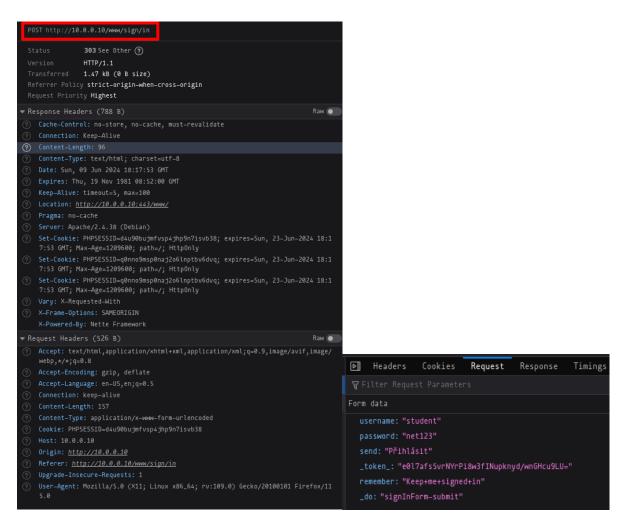
# Vulnerability analysis

# Unencrypted transfer of credentials

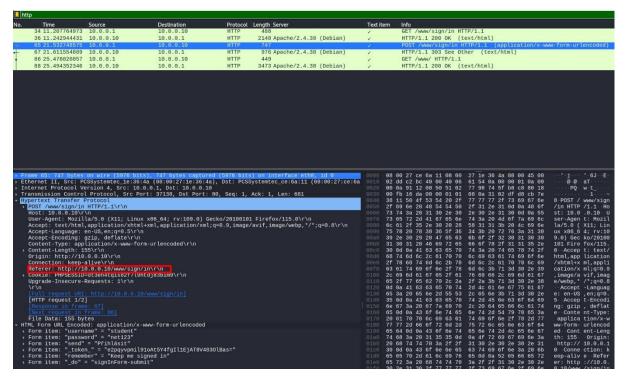
## Description

The only place where credential can be entered is login page.

Credentials seem to be passed by HTTP protocol, which is crucial security flaw because user's credentials can be seen clearly.



As an addition, server return information about session cookie through "Set-Cookie" that has no "Secure" attribute (avoids exposing cookie over unencrypted channels).



#### Remediation

Use HTTPS everywhere you can. If it is a problem, start with the most sensitive operations and convert the application to HTTPS step-by-step. Implement HSTS and redirect any HTTP request to HTTPS. Set "Set-Cookie: Secure" flag.

# Using an outdated server

## Description

Using an outdated version of Apache/2.4.38 poses a significant security risk to your web application. Attackers frequently target outdated software versions because vulnerabilities associated with them are documented in public databases. Exploiting these known vulnerabilities can allow attackers to compromise the server.

## Proof Of Concept (POC)

1. I used the nikto tool to analyse the application.

#### Remediation

Update Apache server to the latest stable version. At the time of writing, the latest version is Apache 2.4.54 (or another current version, if it came out later).

# CSRF - Homepage

### Description

CSRF - is an attack that forces an end user to execute unintended actions on a web application in which they are currently authenticated

The only thing a regular user can change is its email and phone number, which is guarded by Nette's CSRF token.

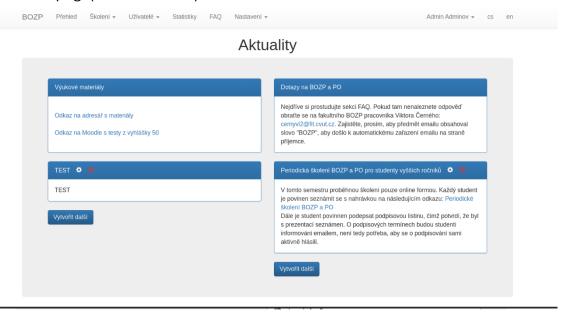
However, administrator can change homepage of a website and specifically delete some articles. This action is performed by sending GET request. So, running this HTML file in admin's session results in deleting homepage's articles.

## Proof Of Concept (POC)

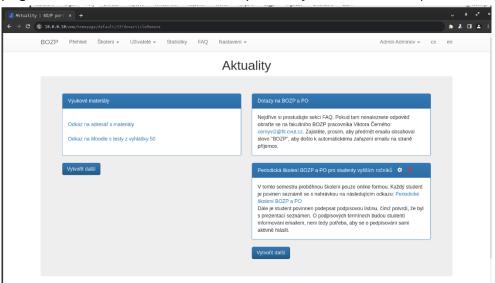
 Create a HTML file with this content (33 is an ID for an article, it may differ, number is low so it can be bruteforced):

2. Log in into admin's account

3. Visit Homepage(for clear result)



4. Run premade HTML file with the same browser you have your active session on (there is a great chance that admin is using his default browser for visiting this page, so our HTML file will also be opened by default browser)



As a result, article with ID 33 will be removed from the homepage with no back-up. This way you can make a lot of these requests to remove every article that can be removed.

#### Remediation

Do not use GET requests to manipulate with sensitive or important data, use Nette framework for CSRF token.

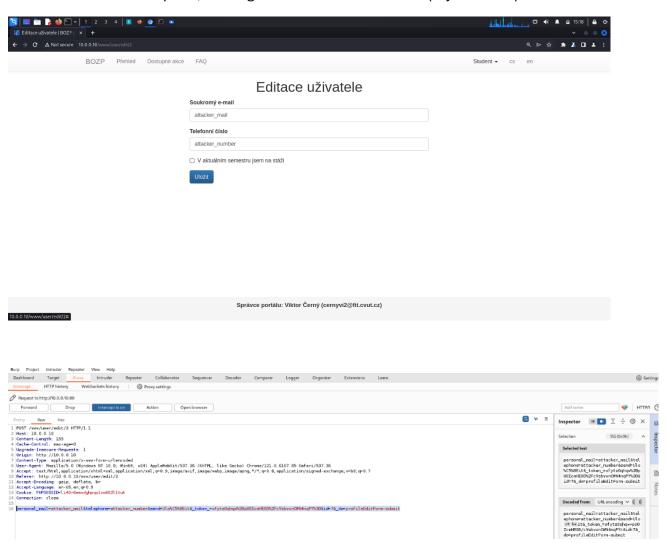
# Improper Access Control

## Description

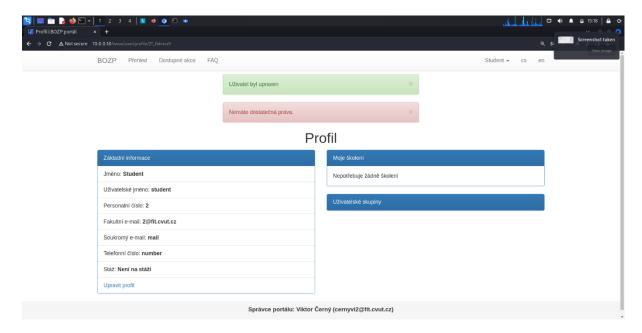
The vulnerability occurs when the system does not properly control or restrict access to resources based on user rights. As a result, users may access data or perform actions that they do not have permission to do. In our case, a User without administrative rights can change or delete another user's data.

## Proof Of Concept (POC)

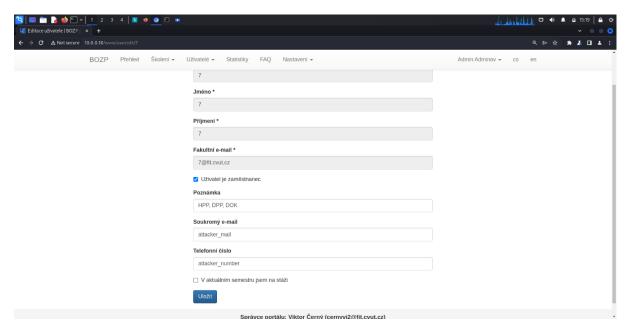
1. Here in the POST request, I changed the ID to another user (my ID was 2).



2. Then I get this result:



3. I check the changes under the admin account:



### Remediation

- Implement server-side authorization checks for all actions that may change data or configuration.
- Ensure that an authorization check occurs before each critical action.
- Keep logs of all actions related to data changes or privilege escalations, and regularly analyse them for suspicious activity.

### Presence of default files

## Description

During testing, default files were discovered, such as /icons/README, /.gitignore, /composer.json and /composer.lock. These files are often left behind after installing a web server or web application and may contain information about the configuration or structure of the system.

## Proof Of Concept (POC)

#### 1. Nikto output:

#### /icons/README:

```
Social Mills Comment (1997) and the comment of the
```

### .gitignore:

#### /composer.json:

#### /composer.lock:

## Remediation

- Audit all files and directories on the web server and remove default and unnecessary files that are not used in the application.
- If deleting files is not possible, restrict access to them using web server settings (for example, using .htaccess in Apache or configuration rules in Nginx).

## Server shut down

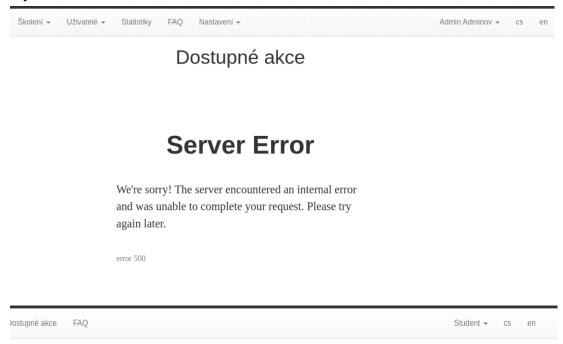
## Description

You can access a lot of "filter" forms across the website, and I've found a way that an admin's "filter" form can crash the server so that students cannot view "Available events"

# Proof Of Concept (POC)

- 1. Visit Manage events ("Správa akce") as admin.
- 2. Type "\' OR 1=1 --" and press "Filter".

#### 3. Try to visit "Available events" either as a user or an admin



Dostupné akce

## **Server Error**

We're sorry! The server encountered an internal error and was unable to complete your request. Please try again later.

error 500

Although it lasts only a minute or so, it still can be inconvenient for some users.

### Remediation

Sanitize input so that special characters would behave just like normal ones (without special meaning) or use whitelists and allow only those characters while creating some entities as "Event".