

2024-11-20
KCD Denmark



From Neglected to Necessary

Securing Kubernetes Under NIS2



```
$ kubectl auth whoami  
Groups [Kubernetes GDPR NIS2 nerd]
```



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Hi! I'm Welkin! The
Kubernetes platform
for software critical
to our society.





Cloud Native Security Made in Sweden

We support organizations throughout Europe in accelerating their innovation with open source, cloud native technology.

elastisys.com



Managed Service



Self-Managed



Consulting



Training

You will be affected by NIS2



NIS2: You have two choices

Get involved

Influence the security policies you get. Work on **meaningful** security measures.



Wait and see

Receive whatever security policies you get. Work on **meaningless** security measures.



Think about your healthcare provider 🤔

How would you feel if...

... your **patient journal leaks** ... and your needed to pay ransom for privacy?

... your friend, a dev at the provider, can **change your patient journal**?

... you are **unable to book an appointment** for 24 hours?



Hacked therapy centre's ex-CEO gets 3-month suspended sentence

The district court characterised the defendant's actions as particularly reprehensible, due to the scale of the data breach as well as the sensitive nature of the information involved.

Military

Seven in ten Danes 'fear attack' on critical digital infrastructure



Michael Barrett - michael@thelocal.dk

Published: 2 Jul, 2024 CET. Updated: Tue 2 Jul 2024 16:08 CET



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The Copenhagen Post
YOUR DANISH CONNECTION

Business Life in Denmark Guide Career Art & Culture Opinion

TECHNOLOGY

Russian hackers down sites of several Danish traffic organisations

The IT attack in Kalix: Back up copy saves employees' salaries

UPDATED DECEMBER 20, 2021 PUBLISHED DECEMBER 20, 2021

<https://yle.fi/a/74-20027665>

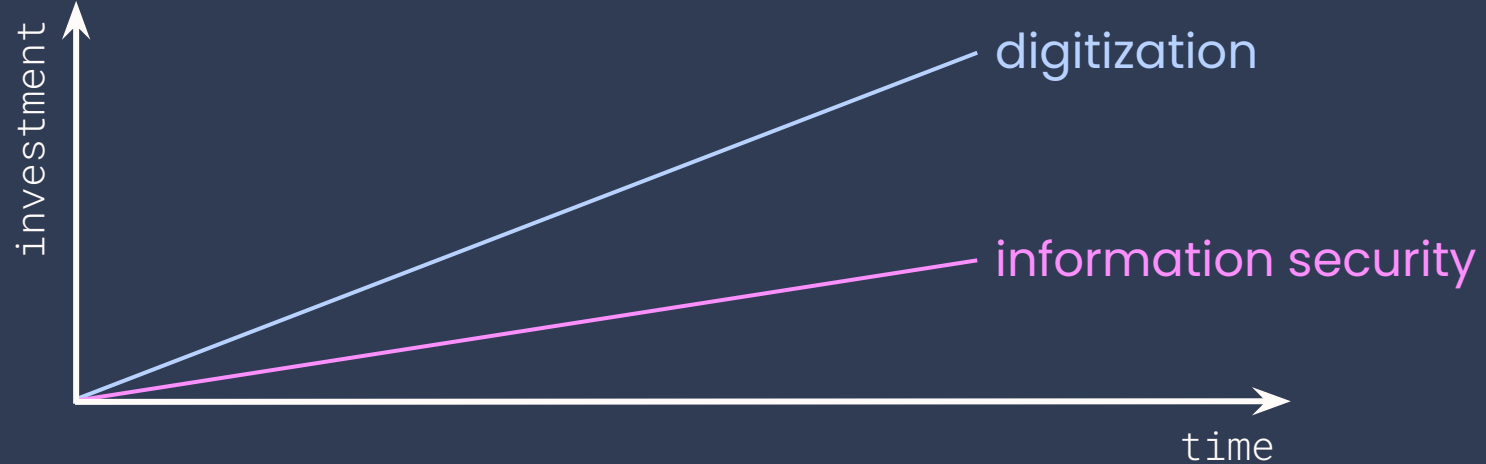
<https://www.thelocal.dk/20240702/seven-in-ten-danes-fear-attack-on-critical-digital-infrastructure>

<https://cphpost.dk/2024-02-26/news/technology/traffic-websites-were-attacked-by-russians-on-sunday/>

<https://www.svt.se/nyheter/lokalt/norrbotten/kalix-kommun-backupkopia-raddar-de-anstalldas-loner>



Why is this happening?





Why is security **hard**?

Two reasons:

1 | Funding gap

“Market forces” lead to security being chronically underfunded

2 | Knowledge gap

Asymmetry between attacker and defender

- Cyber attackers only need to find **one gap**.
- Defenders need to mitigate **“all” security risks**.



What is the EU **NIS2** Directive?

- Improvement of the NIS1 Directive
- **Directive** → Needs to be implemented in national law of each Member State (more on this later)

30,000 feet summary:



Close the “funding gap”

Fines of 2% total annual turnover



Close the “knowledge gap”

Essentially create a hierarchical DevSecOps loop (more on this later)



Who is in scope of NIS2 ... everyone?



Essential Entities since NIS 2016



Energy



Transport



Banking



Financial Market
Infrastructures



Health



Drinking
Water



Digital
Infrastructure



Digital Service
Providers

Additional Sectors since NIS2 2022

ADDED ESSENTIAL ENTITIES



Waste
Water



ICT Service
Management



Public
Administration



Space



Manufacturing

NEW

IMPORTANT ENTITIES



Postal and
Courier Services



Waste
Management



Digital
Providers



Research



Manufacture,
production and
distribution of
chemicals



Production,
processing and
distribution of food

Statens offentliga utredningar från [Försvarsdepartementet](#)

Nya regler om cybersäkerhet

SOU 2024:18

Publicerad 05 mars 2024



Delbetänkande av Utredningen om
genomförande av NIS2- och CER-direktiven.

Ladda ner:

[> Nya regler om cybersäkerhet, SOU 2024:18 \(pdf 4 MB\)](#)

Ikraftträdande

Utredningen föreslår att förslagen ska träda i kraft den 1 januari 2025.

What do I need to do?



NIS1 Directive

Requires EU Member State to regulate essential and important entities.
Sets minimum requirements.



Law (2018:1174)

information security for critical
and digital services

Gives rulemaking power to MSB.



Regulation (2018:1175)

information security for critical
and digital services



- **MSBFS 2024:4** reporting and identification of providers of critical services



YOU

Identify yourself



- **MSBFS 2018:8** information security for providers of critical services
- **MSBFS 2020:7** security measures in information systems for government agencies



Do information security



- **MSBFS 2018:9** reporting incidents for providers of digital services
- **MSBFS 2018:10** reporting incidents for providers of digital services
- **MSBFS 2018:11** voluntary reporting of incidents in services vital for societal functionality
- **MSBFS 2020:8** reporting IT incidents for government agencies



Report incidents

Hierarchical DevSecOps loop 🤔

Created by  elastisys

EU Level



National Level



Organizational Level



- Security measures
- Awareness reports

- Incidents
- Near misses

- Security measures
- Awareness reports

- Incidents
- Near misses



Report(worthy) Incidents

Various rules precisely define what is a **report-worthy incident** for each industry sector.

- If ambulance service was somehow affected
(MSBFS 2018:9 7 kap. 1 § 2)
- If a patient journal system is down for more than 2 hours
(MSBFS 2018:9 7 kap. 1 § 3)
- Transportation: If 1000 users or a region of 10000 km² were affected for at least 1 hour.
(MSBFS 2018:9 4 kap. 1 § 1)

You need to **send in reports at quite a pace.**

- Initial report after 6 hours from the start of the incident;
- Interim report after 24 hours;
- Final report after 4 weeks.

Do Information
Security!





Caveat for **software** engineers

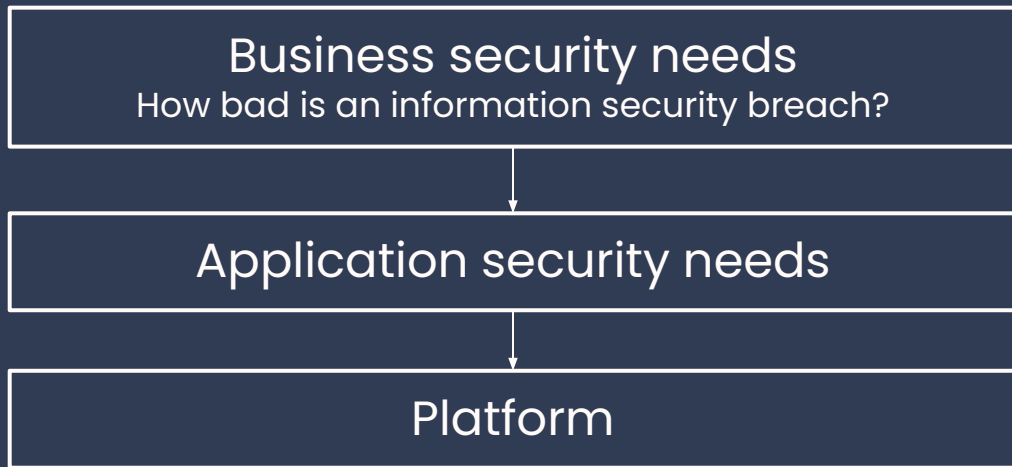
NIS2 sets requirements on Information Security **Management**



Evidence
(read: Documentation,
Screenshots, Reports, etc.)



Caveat for **platform** engineers





NIS2: Risk management

TL;DR:

1. Brainstorm on **things which can go wrong**
2. Assess **how bad they are**
3. Decide:
 - **Accept** → read: don't do anything, but **DOCUMENT THE DECISION (!)**
 - **Transfer** → make it someone else's problem
 - **Mitigate** → read: do something about it

What can you do about the risk?

- Take **technical**, **operational** and **organisational** measures

Threat:

Data-center burns
down

Risk:

Application down
due to loss of
datacenter

Analysis:

Likelihood: low
Severity: low

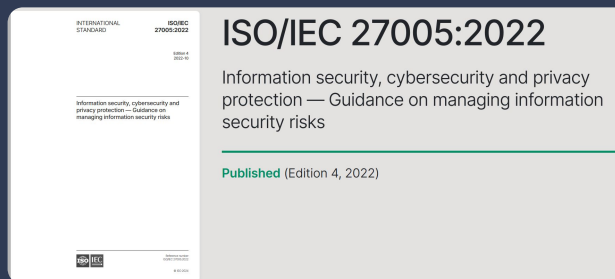
Decision:

Accept
And document !!!



7 prime cybersecurity threats were identified, with threats against availability topping the chart and followed by ransomware and threats against data, and the report provides a relevant deep-dive on each one of them by analysing several thousand publicly reported cybersecurity incidents and events:

- Ransomware
- Malware
- Social Engineering
- Threats against data
- Threats against availability: Denial of Service
- Information manipulation and interference
- Supply chain attacks



Reading news.



Threat:

Danish cloud host
says customers 'lost
all data' after
ransomware attack
– Tech Crunch, Aug 2023



Risk:

Backups lost



Analysis:

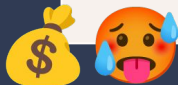
Likelihood: low
Severity: high



Decision:

Mitigate with
off-cloud backups

Let each application team
deal with it



OR



Threat:

Human error



Risk:

App downtime due to
"fat fingers" during
maintenance



Analysis:

Likelihood: medium
Severity: medium



Decision:

Mitigate

Technical



Open Policy Agent

Kyverno

Operational

Staged rollout
(e.g., staging, production)

Organizational

Training
(CKAD)

NIS2 “Minimum Requirements”



EUROPEAN UNION AGENCY
FOR CYBERSECURITY

IMPLEMENTING GUIDANCE

On **Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2024/2690 of 17.10.2024** laying down rules for the application of Directive (EU) 2022/2555 as regards **technical and methodological requirements of cybersecurity risk-management measures**

with regard to DNS service providers, TLD name registries, cloud computing service providers, data centre service providers, content delivery network providers, managed service providers, managed security service providers, providers of online market places, of online search engines and of social networking services platforms, and trust service providers

DRAFT FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

155 pages

* simplified from NIS2 Article 21(2)

NIS2 “Minimum Requirements” (1-5)*

1	Information security policy		
2	incident handling	 fluentd	 Prometheus
3	backup management and disaster recovery	 RCLONE	 VELERO
4	supply chain security		
5	network security	 Kubernetes Network Policies	 Open Policy Agent

* simplified from NIS2 Article 21(2)

NIS2 “Minimum Requirements” (6–10)*

6	vulnerability management	
7	basic cybersecurity hygiene and training	
8	use of cryptography and encryption	
9	human resources security, access control policies and asset management	 Kubernetes RBAC
10	use of multi-factor authentication or continuous authentication solutions	

* simplified from NIS2 Article 21(2)



MSBFS 2020:7 (NIS1-era / public administration)

- Separate non-production from production environments
- Separate admin from non-admin access
- Do proper change management
- Have tamper-proof backups



BSI IT Grundschutz

APP.4.4 Kubernetes (Edition 2022)

- APP.4.4.A7 Separierung der Netze bei Kubernetes (S)
 - Use SecurityGroups and NetworkPolicies
- APP.4.4.A9 Nutzung von Kubernetes Service-Accounts (S)
 - Don't use the "default" ServiceAccount
- APP.4.4.A11 Überwachung der Container (S)
 - Have startup, liveness and readiness probes



Takeaways

- If you work with software, you'll be affected by NIS2
- NIS2 plugs the security funding gap and knowledge gap
- You can influence the security measure which you will have to implement.
- **You can help the organisation reduce compliance burden with Kubernetes and Cloud Native.**



"Kubernetes" misspelling courtesy of ChatGPT



Resources

- [ENISA Threat Landscape 2024](#)
- [ENISA Implementation guidance on NIS 2 security measures](#)
- [Welkin NIS2 Overview](#)
- [All You Need to Know About NIS2](#)
- [NIS2: But what exactly do I need to do?](#)

Thank you and happy to connect!



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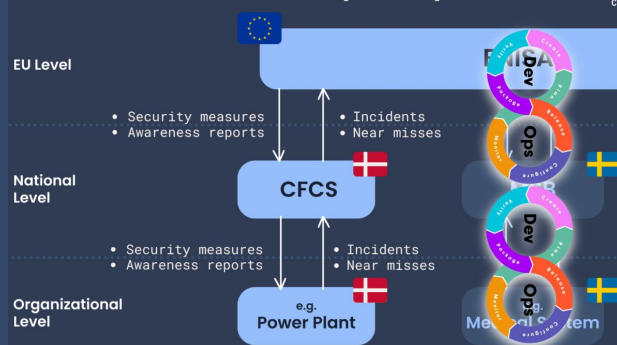


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Hierarchical DevSecOps loop 🤖



Essential Entities since NIS 2016



Additional Sectors since NIS2 2022

ADDED ESSENTIAL ENTITIES



NEW IMPORTANT ENTITIES

