

Cross-Security leadership: Türkiye, The Gulf, Middle East & EMEA

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Cybersecurity and
AI Governance



Corporate Security and
Geopolitical Risk

10-11 November 2026
Intercontinental Istanbul | Türkiye

Security and Resilience as Business Enablers

Protecting People, Assets, Information
and Operations in a Changing Middle East

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Welcome to the **7th CISO + 2nd CSO 360 Middle East**
Built Around Practitioner Priorities: Security and Resilience in a Changing Gulf:
Protecting Growth, Innovation and Regional Stability

Dear Colleague,

We are delighted to invite you to actively participate in the 7th CISO 360 + 2nd CSO 360 Middle East, taking place 10–11 November 2026 at the InterContinental Istanbul, Türkiye.

Our 2026 theme: Balancing Innovation, Resilience & Readiness

Geopolitical tensions, regional conflict, rapid advances in AI, evolving cyber threats and increasingly complex supply chains are reshaping the environment in which organisations operate. For CISOs and Chief Security Officers, the challenge is no longer simply protecting systems, people and assets. It is anticipating what comes next, making informed decisions under uncertainty, and enabling the business to innovate and grow without compromising resilience.

How prepared are we for the risks we can see - and those we cannot?

Over 1.5 days, the 7th edition of the CISO + 2nd edition of the CSO 360 Middle East will bring together senior practitioners from across the region and internationally to exchange experiences, challenge assumptions and explore practical approaches to the security and resilience challenges facing organisations today.

Why join us in Istanbul?

- **Real-world experience, not theory.** Hear directly from security leaders navigating cyber incidents, geopolitical uncertainty, emerging technologies and complex operational risks. What worked, what didn't, and what would they do differently?
- **Peer-to-peer, candid conversations.** Benchmark your priorities and approaches with fellow CISOs, CSOs and senior practitioners in a trusted, independent environment, with discussions under The Chatham House Rule.
- **Security as a business enabler.** Explore how to translate cyber and physical security risks into meaningful business decisions, strengthen board engagement and demonstrate the strategic value of resilience.
- **Bridging Security. Distinct disciplines. Shared challenges.** CISO 360 and CSO 360 run side by side, each with its own specialist focus, while creating opportunities for collaboration across cyber security, corporate security, intelligence, investigations and resilience.
- **New perspectives and meaningful connections.** Discover emerging innovations, participate in curated 1-to-1 meetings and build relationships through informal networking and cultural experiences in Istanbul.

From AI and cyber defence to geopolitics, supply chain resilience, insider threats and board accountability, our conversations will focus on the decisions security leaders are making now — and the capabilities they need for what lies ahead. Whether you lead cyber security, corporate security or enterprise resilience, we hope you will join us to contribute your perspectives, learn from peers and help shape the conversation.

Two conferences. One connected security community. A 360° perspective on risk, innovation and resilience.

Join us in Istanbul, 10–11 November 2026!

[Explore the conferences and register your interest](#) → 

Warm regards,

CISO + CSO 360 Middle East Team

Pulse Conferences

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"Great networking and learning from various cyber Guru's!"
Director of Security, DP World (UAE)

"One of the things I enjoy about a Pulse event is that you get a global view. You're bringing folks together from around the world to share and it helps us to understand the bigger implications of what we're doing and to develop best practices. Pulse gives us a bigger audience to see wider."
Co-Founder and CTO, Knostic (US)

"Very professional speakers, panels are to the point and we discuss what the industry needs now."
CIO, EAL Bank (Egypt)

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Agenda at a Glance

Monday, 9 November 2026

Welcome Reception

-  7:00pm – 9:30pm **Welcome Reception - Intercontinental Istanbul - City Lights Bar**
Kick off the event informally in the City Lights Bar located on the hotel's top floor with stunning skyline views in a stylish atmosphere.

Tuesday, 10 November 2026

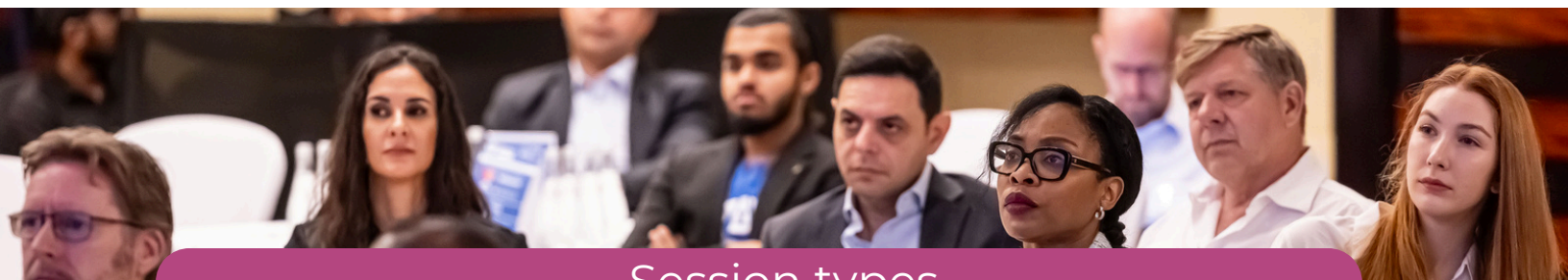
Conference

-  9:30am – 10:00am **Arrivals and Coffee**
-  10:00am – 6:00pm **7th CISO + 2nd CSO 360 Middle East Conferences**
Shaped by the priorities submitted by CISO and CSO participants, with a particular focus on the Gulf, the Middle East region and wider EMEA.
-  6:00pm – 10:30pm **Networking Reception and Dinner**

Wednesday, 11 November 2026

Roundtables

-  10:00am – 1:00pm **CSO + CISO 360 Middle East Roundtables**
-  1:00pm – 2:00pm **Lunch with peers**



Session types



- **Case Stories** - Battle-tested strategies and benchmarking real deployments from peers who've been in the trenches.



- **Fireside Chats and Panels** - Delegates are invited to shape the conversation. Honest answers and on-stage interviews. Engaging, two-way discussions.



- **CISO + CSO 360 Roundtables** - Tactical table discussions where you collaboratively solve real challenges with peers.



- **Spotlights** - C-Suite and corporate leaders outside the security sphere bring fresh perspectives.



- **1-2-1 Innovation Speed Meetings** - Connect with technology luminaries in dynamic 5-minute voluntary speed-meetings. An informative and efficient way to evaluate new tools.



- **CISO + CSO 360 Circles: Meet your Mentor-Mentees. Be both.** Seniority is not the measure here, experience in a specific area or region is! We pre-match up with CISO/CSO peers.

2026 SPEAKER PANEL (Partial)

- Adam Drabik, CISO, SKF (UK)
- Anonymous Whistleblower
- Asimina Basdani, CISO, IDIKA SA (Greece)
- James Sarnier, Managing Director, JMS Risk | Founder, CrossRisk (UK)
- Milena Maneva, Head of Business Continuity & Resilience EMEA, Cantor Fitzgerald (UK)
- Mark Wolsey, CEO, Convergent Risk (UK)
- Lady Olga Maitland, President, Defence and Security Forum (UK)
- Botan Osman, CEO, Restrata
- Dr. Viktor Polic, CISO, ILO-United Nations (Switzerland)
- Sultan Altukhaim, Head of Security and Compliance (CISO), Google Cloud KSA and Board Risk Committee Member, Tasheel Finance (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia)
- Ned Farmer, Geopolitical Risk | Intelligence | International Affairs | Global Security (USA)
- Esin Longman, Cyber Security Lead, Thames Water (UK)



Tuesday, 10 November: Conferences

09:05 **Atatürk Remembrance with the Nationwide Moment of Silence at 09:05.**

09:15 **Arrivals and Coffee.**

Joint Security Leadership Sessions

09:45 **Chairperson's Welcome**

10:00 **Opening Keynote: Türkiye's Strategic Position between Europe, the Middle East and Asia**
Host Nation, Türkiye

10:15 **Fireside Chat: How Do International Developments Affect Türkiye and the Middle East? Operating in a Contested World**

Bringing together international geopolitical intelligence, security and business perspectives, this panel explores what lies ahead, where the greatest uncertainties are emerging, and what they mean for enterprise resilience, investment, supply chains, technology, people and operations.

- Global outlook: Which geopolitical, economic and security developments are most likely to reshape the next 12–24 months?
- The Middle East at the crossroads: How are regional tensions, economic diversification, shifting alliances?
- The U.S. lens: How is American foreign policy affecting commercial relationships and business exposure across the Middle East?
- China, Europe and global interdependencies: How are trade friction, technology competition, sanctions and supply-chain dependencies changing the risk landscape?
- From geopolitical events to enterprise disruption: Where are the most significant implications for cyber resilience, corporate security, business continuity and investment?
- Anticipating what comes next: What signals should security leaders be watching?

Moderator: Ned Farmer, Geopolitical Risk | Intelligence | International Affairs | Global Security (U.S.)

Panellists: Lady Olga Maitland, President, Defence and Security Forum; Practitioners and Specialists from Türkiye

10:45 **Spotlight: A Chief Security Officer's Operating Model for AI in High-Risk Environments**

AI budgets are accelerating across the enterprise. Yet much of that spend is being decided by the technology function - not by the people accountable for protecting the workforce. That leaves the Chief Security Officer with a defining choice: own the AI agenda for protecting people, assets and operations, or inherit tools selected without security's duty of care in mind. Explore a clear position for CSOs to lead from - a practical three-part operating model: software for precision, AI for interpretation, humans for judgement keeping accountability and control firmly with the security leader while AI accelerates the response.

Botan Osman, CEO, Restrata

11:05 **Panel: The Next Security Frontier - AI, Quantum and the Future of Human Control. How do we Harness Emerging Technologies while Protecting People, Information, Assets and Business Resilience?**

For CISOs, CSOs and business leaders, the challenge is to anticipate what comes next, understand where human judgement remains indispensable, and ensure technological progress strengthens rather than undermines organisational resilience.

- What are the most significant technological developments and emerging risks in AI, autonomous systems and quantum that security leaders should be preparing for now?
- Human judgement versus machine autonomy: Where must humans retain control?
- Convergence of threats: How are AI-enabled cyberattacks, deepfakes, disinformation, intelligence manipulation and physical security risks changing the threat landscape?
- Preparing for quantum: What should organisations be doing today?
- Innovation and trust: How can organisations move quickly with emerging technologies while maintaining the confidence of customers, employees, regulators and boards?

Moderator: Sultan Altukhaim, Head of Security and Compliance (CISO), Google Cloud KSA and Board Risk Committee Member, Tasheel Finance (Kingdom of Saudi Arabia).

With: Technology and Frontier Luminaries from Türkiye and the wider region

11:35-
12:25

Morning Coffee Break + 1-2-1 Innovation Speed-Meetings



Connect with technology luminaries in our dynamic informative 'speed-meeting' setting to discover key technology market movers and shakers, in an efficient and engaging way for 5-minute voluntary door-openers. You'll be pre-matched based on your mutual interests. A unique opportunity to evaluate new tools and strategies.

Participants Select their Primary Parallel Conference: CISO 360 or CSO 360

7th CISO 360 Middle East

Cybersecurity that Inspires: Balancing Innovation, Trust and Resilience

12:25 **Case Story: Quantum Updates for CISOs**

What should CISOs be doing now? Where should organisations prioritise investment?

With: Dr. Viktor Polic, CISO, ILO-United Nations (Switzerland) Case Study: Crisis Management

2nd CSO 360 Middle East

Corporate Security: Protecting People, Profits, Property, Reputation

12:25 **Case Story: Crisis Management**

With: James Sarnier, Managing Director, JMS Risk | Founder, CrossRisk (UK); Milena Maneva, Head of Business Continuity & Resilience EMEA, Cantor Fitzgerald (UK)

Tuesday, 10 November: Parallel Conferences

7th CISO 360 Middle East

Cybersecurity that Inspires: Balancing Innovation, Trust and Resilience

12:45 Case Story: Cybersecurity in the Age of AI: Rethinking Security in a Changing Threat Landscape
Asimina Basdani, CISO, IDIKA SA (Greece)

13:00 Panel: Security as a Business Enabler - Governing AI at the Speed of Innovation. How do CISOs enable rapid AI adoption without losing visibility, control or trust?

From shadow AI and third-party models to agentic applications and autonomous identities, CISOs must balance innovation with practical security controls. How can security become an enabler from the outset?

- How can CISOs establish meaningful security requirements without slowing innovation?
- How can organisations create safe, practical pathways for employees and business units to adopt AI?
- What new controls are needed for autonomous agents, machine identities, privileged access and AI-driven workflows?
- How do CISOs assess the security of external models, providers and embedded AI capabilities?
- Data protection and governance: How do we protect sensitive information?
- Which approaches, controls and lessons learned are helping CISOs support innovation while maintaining resilience and accountability?

13:20-14:10

14:10 Fireside Chat: Türkiye and Middle East: Evolving Cybersecurity Landscape: Regulation, Resilience, Ransomware and Critical Infrastructure

As cybersecurity expectations develop across Türkiye and the wider region, CISOs face increasing pressure to strengthen resilience, demonstrate accountability and protect interconnected systems.

- What do cybersecurity requirements mean for CISOs and multinational organisations?
- How are critical infrastructure operators managing IT/OT convergence?
- How should organisations prepare for ransomware and disruptive cyber incidents?
- Third-party dependencies exposure
- How can security leaders balance compliance, investment and operational resilience?

With: Esin Longman, Cyber Security Lead, Thames Water (UK) and CISOs from regional energy, telecommunications, aviation and financial services

14:50 CISO 360 Circle:

Meet Your Mentor-Mentee. Be Both.

Everybody teaches. Everybody learns. Everybody has something worth sharing! You may be the most experienced voice in the room on AI governance or identity, while simultaneously looking for a peer who has already solved a board reporting challenge. Seniority is not the measure here, experience in a specific area or region is! **Mentor - What's one lesson you wish somebody had taught you earlier? Mentee - What challenge are you wrestling with right now?** Hosted by CISO 360 Circle. Mentor-Mentee areas will be pre-matched.



2nd CSO 360 Middle East

Corporate Security: Protecting People, Profits, Property, Reputation

12:45 Panel: When Regional Conflict Reaches Business Operations - Protecting People, Infrastructure and Continuity

Recent attacks on civilian and commercial infrastructure across the Gulf underline the increasingly complex security environment facing organisations operating in the region. For Chief Security Officers, the challenge is to translate rapidly changing intelligence into timely, proportionate decisions that protect people, critical assets and business operations.

- How should organisations adapt employee safety, travel security and executive protection when the threat environment changes rapidly?
- Critical infrastructure: What lessons can security leaders draw about the resilience of airports, energy facilities, transport networks and other essential services?
- From intelligence to decisions: Which indicators should prompt changes to security posture, travel arrangements or business continuity plans?
- Who makes the decisions when people, facilities and operations face simultaneous disruption?
- How can organisations maintain operations, reassure employees and support customers without understating genuine security concerns?

With: Turkish and GCC corporate security directors, aviation security executives and international security practitioners operating across the region

Lunch

14:10 Spotlight: AI Safety and Quantum Risks for CSOs

As AI and quantum technologies advance, what new risks are emerging for corporate security leaders responsible for protecting people, assets, information and operations?

Dr. Viktor Polic, CISO, ILO-United Nations (Switzerland)

14:30 Fireside Chat: How Secure Is Secure Enough? What Keeps Us Awake at Night? Risk Appetite, Resources and the Cost of Protection

Facilitated peer exchange on regional risk intelligence, travel security, crisis preparedness, resource augmentation and operational resilience - the challenges facing security leaders across the Gulf and MEA. How should CSOs define adequate security in volatile markets? Balancing proportionality, compliance, external resources and the cost of protecting people, facilities and operations.

14:50 CSO 360 Circle:

Meet Your Mentor-Mentee. Be Both.

Everybody teaches. Everybody learns. Everybody has something worth sharing! You may be the most experienced voice in the room on drones or travel risk in the Middle East, while simultaneously looking for a peer who has already solved a supply chain issue in APAC. Seniority is not the measure here, experience in a specific area or region is! **Mentor - What's one lesson you wish somebody had taught you earlier? Mentee - What challenge are you wrestling with right now?** Hosted by CSO 360 Circle. Mentor-Mentee areas will be pre-matched.



7th CISO 360 Middle East

Cybersecurity that Inspires: Balancing Innovation, Trust and Resilience

2nd CSO 360 Middle East

Corporate Security: Protecting People, Profits, Property, Reputation

15:20-
15:50

Afternoon Coffee Break

Joint Security Leadership Sessions

15:50

Cyber-Physical Case Story: SKF Crisis Response

On 15 August 2023, a Russian missile struck SKF's bearings factory in Lutsk, western Ukraine, killing three employees. The Russian Embassy in Sweden subsequently described the plant as a legitimate military target and warned that enterprises supporting Ukraine's defence would also face consequences. For the world's largest bearings manufacturer, a company whose products sit inside almost anything with moving parts, this was the moment a geopolitical threat became a direct one. This case story traces how SKF's threat picture has shifted since: from kinetic attack on a production site, through a sharp rise in cyber reconnaissance and intrusion attempts, to industrial espionage targeting know-how and supply chains, all against the backdrop of Sweden ending two centuries of military non-alignment to join NATO in 2024.

- What NATO membership has changed
- Duty of care, business continuity and how the company read the threat that followed
- How physical incidents, cyber reconnaissance and espionage attempts connect
- Why treating them as separate problems leaves gaps, and how security and cyber teams at SKF have worked together on intelligence, insider risk and site protection
- Lessons learned

Adam Drabik, CISO, SKF (UK)

16:20

Fireside Chat: When Crisis Hits on Multiple Fronts: Protecting People, Infrastructure and Business Continuity. How can corporate security, cybersecurity, intelligence and business continuity teams work together more effectively?

Earthquakes, cyber incidents, infrastructure failures and regional escalation can quickly become interconnected crises. How prepared are organisations to respond when people, facilities, technology, communications and supply chains are disrupted simultaneously? Explore how CISOs and CSOs would respond to a complex crisis. Cross-functional resilience:

- What lessons can be drawn from Türkiye's experience of major earthquakes and from recent regional escalation?
- How do cyber and corporate security teams coordinate decisions and response?
- Where are the critical dependencies and single points of failure?
- How do the CISO, CSO and crisis management team coordinate? What gets prioritised, who makes the decisions, and where are the gaps between cyber and physical security? What should be in place before an escalation?

With: **Milena Maneva, Head of Business Continuity & Resilience EMEA, Cantor Fitzgerald (UK); Intel 47i; and CISOs, CSOs from the region**

17:00

An Anonymous First-Hand Account: A Real Case. When the Truth Becomes the Threat

What happens when someone repeatedly raises concerns, challenges decisions and refuses to look the other way? Hear a remarkable first-hand account of the decisions, consequences and personal costs of challenging the status quo from within. A candid conversation about organisational culture, accountability, trust and the difficult choices individuals face when they believe something is wrong.

Your chance to question.

Anonymous.



17:30

Closing Keynote

18:00-

21:30

Networking

Supper | Istanbul

Wednesday, 11 November: CISO + CSO 360 Roundtables Middle East

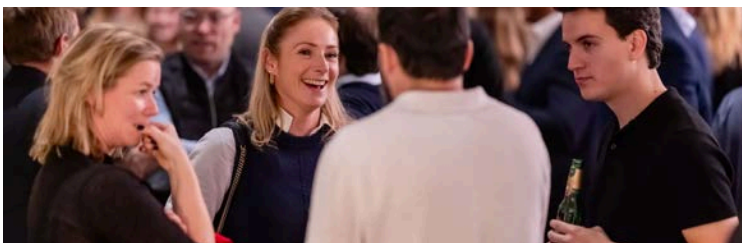
Protecting your value as AI and the threat landscape move faster than any of us.

The Faculty

Moderator: Mark Wolsey, CEO, Convergent Risk
Co-Facilitators: CISOs and CSOs.

Closed peer roundtables. The Chatham House Rule. Practitioner-led. A peer-led session drawing on the community rather than positioning any one person as presenter. No slides. No products. Just peers, in confidence, solving it together.

Key talking points shaped by cyber, corporate security, geopolitical intelligence risk, investigations practitioners.



AGENDA IS SHAPED BY THE ATTENDEES. A NATURAL CONVERSATION.

- **Peer-to-peer conversation** - 'seated in the round'
- Antithesis of traditional conference formats - no slides, no stages, no audience. CISO and CSO **knowledge share**. Your challenges become our agenda. We consulted everyone pre-event to identify **priorities**.
- **Chatham House Rule** - non-attribution setting, no press
- **All voices are heard** as we draw out insights from the diverse experience in the room. Experienced CISO and CSO moderators and facilitators guide rather than direct.
- **Practical takeaways** - benchmark implementable approaches to risks, threats and opportunities

TIMINGS

- 09:30-09:45** Arrivals and Coffee
- 09:45-10:00** Welcome & Objectives
- 10:00-10:40** Roundtable Session 1
- 10:40-11:20** Roundtable Session 2
- 11:20-11:35** Short Comfort Break
- 11:35-12:10** Roundtable Session 3
- 12:10-12:50** Roundtable Session 4
- 12:50-13:00** Wrap Up & Key Take-Aways
- 13:00-** Close of Roundtables
- 13:00-14:00** Lunch

VENUE INFORMATION

InterContinental Istanbul
Gümüşsuyu, Asker Ocağı Cd. No:1, 34435 Beyoğlu/İstanbul, Türkiye

ABOUT THE VENUE

The 7th CISO 360 Middle East and 2nd CSO 360 Middle East events will be hosted at the InterContinental Istanbul.

Located in the modern Taksim district, the high-rise InterContinental Istanbul hotel has superior rooms and suites with breathtaking views over the Bosphorus and the historic city skyline.

This 5 star hotel has exceptional on-site dining, offering everything from gourmet buffet breakfasts to traditional Turkish cuisine. The InterContinental Istanbul also offers a beautiful Spa with outdoor heated swimming pool, sauna and luxurious Turkish baths.

ACCOMMODATION

Pulse Conferences is delighted to offer discounted accommodation rates for event participants. Bookings can be made directly from the Venue page of the event website via the button.

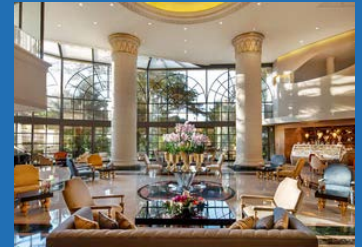
B&B rate is EUR 160 / £137.29 per night per room, 1 person. Taxes may apply.
Deadline: 19 October 2026

LOCATION

Just a 15-minute walk from the famous shopping and entertainment area Nisantasi, this luxurious Istanbul hotel is within walking distance from Taksim Square and Cevahir Mall is 1.9 miles away, easily accessible via metro.

Car Parking: The hotel provides 200 indoor parking spaces and a valet service. Cost: 11.8 EUR Self-parking + Eur 5 for valet service.

Taxi: Travel Time: 35 minutes from the Istanbul Airport.
Closest Metro: Taksim Metro (Subway) Station
2 minutes walk to the hotel as the station is just behind of the hotel. Estimated distance to hotel: 0.31 MI/ 0.5 KM
Closest train station is: Söğütluçeşme Station.



EVENT

Monday 9 November	Welcome Reception: CISO + CSO CSO 360 Middle - East - Intercontinental Istanbul
Tuesday 10 November	Conferences: 7th CISO 360 Middle East & 2nd CSO 360 Middle East Evening: Networking
Wednesday 11 November	Roundtables & Lunch: CISO + CSO CSO 360 Middle East

All Participant Places Include:

- ✓ Entry to **CISO & CSO 360 Middle East** co-located conferences. **Two Events in One!**
- ✓ Lunch, coffee breaks and refreshments
- ✓ Invitation to join the evening networking events
- ✓ Post-event presentation materials (subject to speaker opt-out) and output reports

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- ✓ Invitation to join the Security 360 Circle – a rapidly growing and international trusted.
- ✓ Certificate of attendance soft copy provided post-event on request.

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- ✓ We have ring-fenced a limited number of Networking Passes, designed for executives working as **independent advisors, providers, vendor companies.**
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Balancing Resilience, Innovation & Trust

**For CISOs, CIOs, Technology Risk & Senior
Cybersecurity Leaders.**

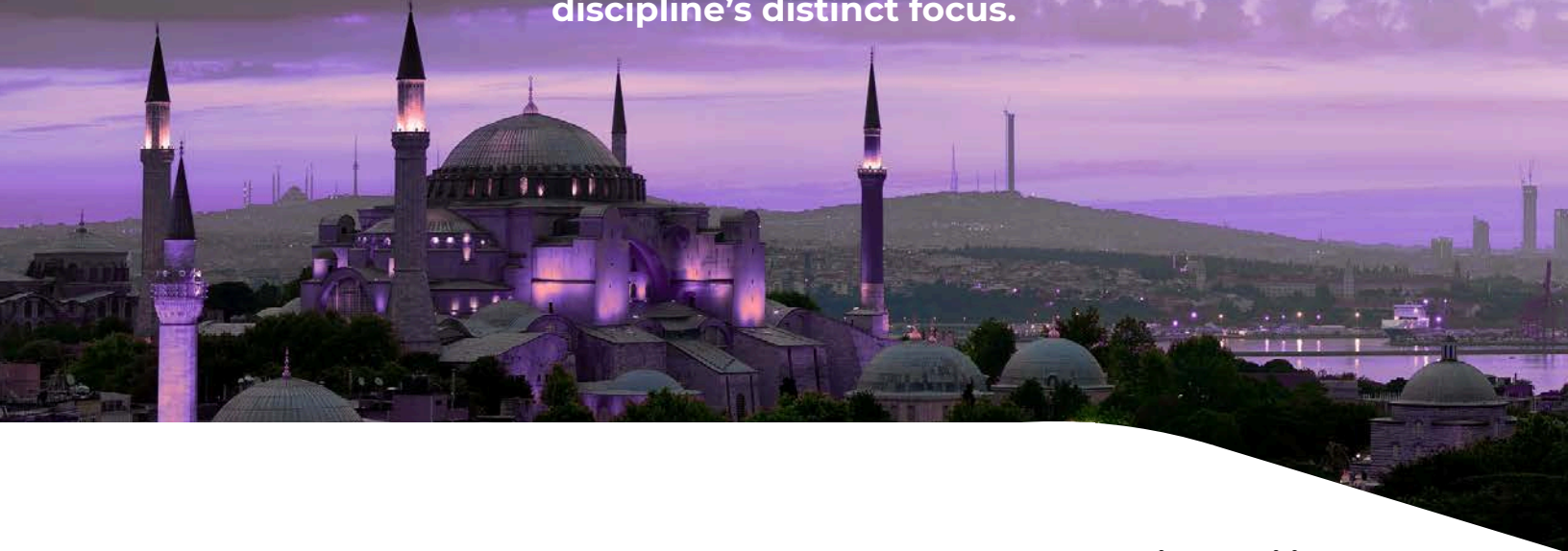
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- Holistic Security OT/IoT/IT/

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A unique twin-conference format unites security leaders to share strategies, tackle regional challenges, and strengthen resilience - while preserving each discipline's distinct focus.



Resilience as a Business Enabler:
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**For Corporate Security, Resilience,
Intelligence, Investigations Leaders.**

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- Organised crime business impacts
- Maritime and ports security - Supply chain risk and threats
- Energy security

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