



## World Economic Forum's 'Concept 2021' Deals with Attacks to Supply Chains – This Is Eerily Similar to Bill Gates Sponsored Pandemic Simulation in 2019

### Description

In 2019 the World Economic Forum held a simulation about reactions to a world pandemic sponsored by Bill Gates. This year 'Concept 2021' focuses on Internet supply chain failures.

#### What is the theme of Cyber Polygon 2021?

The event is dedicated to secure ecosystem development.

- The conference will draw together leading global experts to discuss the key risks of digitalisation and best practices in developing secure ecosystems.
- During the technical exercise, the participants will practise mitigating a targeted supply chain attack on a corporate ecosystem.
- The expert track will feature renowned cybersecurity professionals from various countries who will explore practical aspects of protecting large corporations.

In 2019 Bill Gates and Company held an exercise known as [Event 201](#). It was put together only a few months before COVID-19 hit the United States. The Event claimed the following about its exercise:

Event 201 was a 3.5-hour pandemic tabletop exercise that simulated a series of dramatic, scenario-based facilitated discussions, confronting difficult, true-to-life dilemmas associated with **response to a hypothetical, but scientifically plausible, pandemic**. 15 global business, government, and public health leaders were [players](#) in the simulation exercise that highlighted unresolved real-world policy and economic issues that could be solved with

sufficient political will, financial investment, and attention now and in the future.

The exercise consisted of pre-recorded news broadcasts, live “staff” briefings, and moderated discussions on specific topics. These issues were carefully designed in a compelling narrative that educated the participants and the audience.

The Johns Hopkins Center for Health Security, World Economic Forum, and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation jointly propose these [recommendations](#).

The Event 201 ‘exercise’ mirrored the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020 the World Economic Forum conducted a simulation called “Cyber Polygon 2020” [that predicted](#) a coming global catastrophe caused by a worldwide “cyber pandemic.”

### [Is the World Economic Forum’s ‘Cyber Polygon 2020’ Predicting an Upcoming Internet Attack?](#)

The [World Economic Forum](#) again this year is focusing on defense and responses to a cybersecurity attack. This time related to supply chains:

## Concept 2021

As the global digitalisation is further accelerating, the world is becoming ever more interconnected. Digital ecosystems are being created all around us: countries, corporations and individuals are taking advantage of the rapid spread of the Internet and smart devices. In this context, a single vulnerable link is enough to bring down the entire system, just like the domino effect.

**A secure approach to digital development today will determine the future of humanity for decades to come.**

Cyber Polygon 2021 will enable the spectators and participants to improve on their cyber literacy, enhance the resilience of their organisations and learn to repel cyberthreats on all levels.

This year’s focus is on supply chain attacks:

## Theme

Recent years have seen a surge in the number of attacks targeting supply chains. Given the global trend towards the development of ecosystems across the business community, the vulnerability of supply chains has become a growing concern. With that in mind, the central theme of the training this year will be **ecosystem security and mitigation of supply chain attacks**.

Since the training proved effective last year, we have retained the existing format, with just a few changes to accommodate the wishes of the teams. The exercise will include two scenarios — **Defence** and **Response**.

A couple of the supporters for this year's event, CONCEPT 2021, are from Russia, SBER Bank and Home Credit Bank:

### Participants

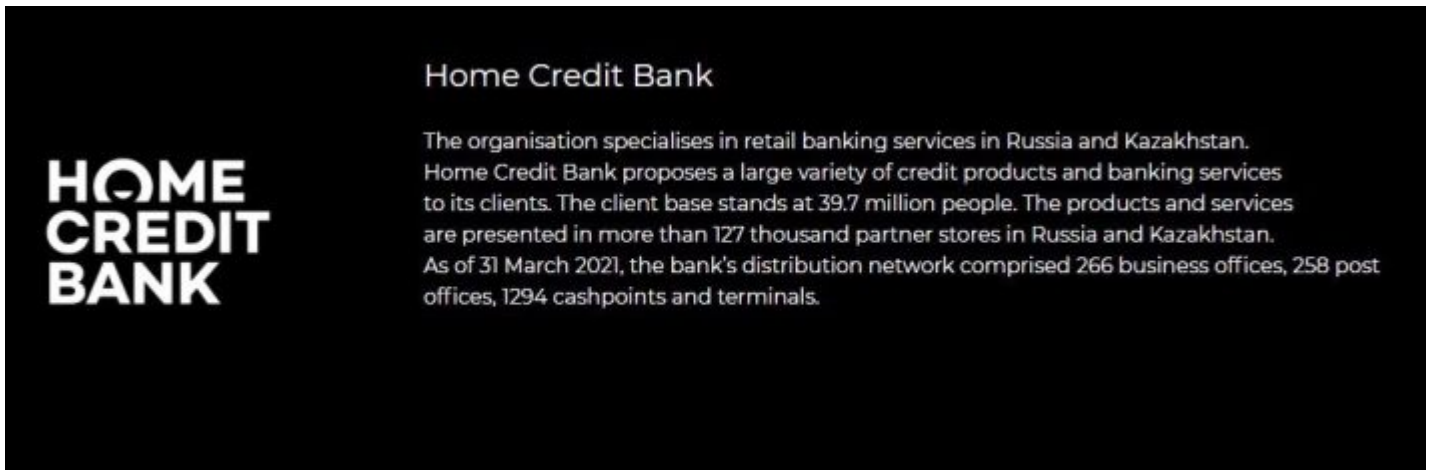


#### Sber

The Sber Ecosystem provides a wide range of services catering for everyday needs of individual customers and businesses.

At the heart of the Ecosystem is Sberbank, Russia's largest bank and a leading global financial institution. It holds almost one-third of aggregate assets in the Russian banking sector. Sberbank's principal shareholder is the Government of the Russian Federation represented by the Ministry of Finance.

The bank serves customers in 18 countries. It has a major distribution network in Russia with about 14,000 branches. Its international operations (subsidiaries, branches and representative offices) include the UK, US, CIS, Central and Eastern Europe, India, China, and other geographies.



**Should we now be prepared for cybersecurity supply chain attacks? Are we being primed for another big crisis with the constant news of hacks in US industries since the 2020 Election?**

by Joe Hoft

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