

# GRU CLOSE-ACCESS HACKING ATTEMPT AGAINST OPCW DISRUPTED IN THE HAGUE

In April 2018, Dutch security services, working with the UK, disrupted a GRU (Unit 26165) operation to hack the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons' Wi-Fi network in The Hague. At the time, the OPCW was examining the Salisbury Novichok poisoning. The officers were expelled from the Netherlands.

UKRAINE EVIDENCE HUB  
BEYOND UKRAINE  
AS OF 15 OCT 2026

## DEGREE OF PROOF

### OFFICIAL ATTRIBUTION

A government, a prosecutor, the EU, NATO or a UN body has formally named Russia, its services or its state-backed forces. This is a position of that authority, not a verdict.

## WHO ESTABLISHED IT

Dutch government and UK government joint disclosure, 4 Oct 2018. The UK statement in The Hague named GRU Unit 26165. The four officers were later listed in EU cyber sanctions (Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1125). The US indictment of 4 Oct 2018 charged related GRU officers.

## LATEST

EU sanctions remain in force.

## SOURCES

**B** UK Government – Minister for Europe statement: attempted hacking of the OPCW by Russian military intelligence · 2018-10-04

<https://gov.uk/government/speeches/minister-for-europe-statement-attempted-hacking-of-the-opcw-by-russian-military-intelligence>

**A** EUR-Lex – Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2020/1125 · 2020-07-30

[https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg\\_impl/2020/1125/oj/eng](https://eur-lex.europa.eu/eli/reg_impl/2020/1125/oj/eng)

**C** CBS News – Russia GRU cyberattack operation targeting OPCW · 2018-10-04

<https://cbsnews.com/news/russia-gru-cyberattack-operation-targeting-opcw-chemical-weapons-netherlands-2018-10-04>

## WHAT WE ASK OF MEMBER STATES

- Attribute jointly and raise it in the UN Open-ended Working Group on ICT security.
- Use the EU cyber sanctions regime against the units responsible.
- Share indicators and support the resilience of critical infrastructure.

Status follows four degrees of proof: court finding · official attribution · charged · suspected (suspected cases are listed only on the live page). Tier A = courts, UN bodies, international organisations · B = governments, prosecutors · C = media and investigators. Corrections: [evidence@ukraine-evidence.org](mailto:evidence@ukraine-evidence.org)



live page · corrections