

Networks, Risks, Responses

How global connections can create both conflict and cooperation

10.9d "Globalization has created new possibilities for international cooperation and for international conflict."

NAME _____

DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK _____ Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline two examples of cooperation. Circle two obstacles to cooperation or sources of international tension.

Cybersecurity Across Borders

- ① Connected networks carry information and money across borders, but can also spread harmful software. In May 2017, WannaCry ransomware disrupted hospitals, businesses, and public services worldwide. Several governments attributed it to North Korea, which denied responsibility. Its reach encouraged sharing warnings and evidence. Microsoft had patched the exploited vulnerability in March, but unpatched systems remained vulnerable. Emergency guidance and additional updates followed the outbreak.
- ② Global organizations offer different forms of cooperation. UN discussions have developed expectations for responsible state behavior in cyberspace, including cooperation against harmful activity. NATO members consult on security threats and cooperate on cyber defense. Neither organization controls all governments or automatically stops an attack. National agencies, companies, and researchers share alerts and technical findings, helping organizations repair vulnerable systems. Such cooperation can reduce harm, but a published warning or agreed principle is useful only if people and institutions act on it.
- ③ Governments may withhold intelligence to protect sources or conceal weaknesses. Disputes about who caused an attack can worsen conflict. National police, technical experts, and international partners can investigate together, but access to evidence depends on laws and cooperation across jurisdictions. States may coordinate sanctions while disputing their justification. Attackers can conceal identities or operate from uncooperative countries. Global networks create both shared vulnerabilities and opportunities for joint action.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE _____ Use the passage

1 How did global connections make the WannaCry attack an example of international conflict?

2 What cooperation did the attack create pressure for, and why was that cooperation needed?

3 According to the passage, how can the UN and NATO support international cooperation on cyber threats?

4 Identify one reason international cyber cooperation has limits. Explain how that reason can make a response harder.

3 YOUR TURN _____ Your own words

A cyberattack hits hospitals in three countries; responsibility is uncertain. In three sentences, propose a cooperative response, identify who could help, and explain one risk or limitation.

PART 1 • READ AND MARK

Underline two examples of cooperation. Circle two obstacles to cooperation or sources of international tension. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 • ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	How did global connections make the WannaCry attack an example of international conflict?	WannaCry disrupted institutions in many countries through connected computer networks, creating cross-border damage and disputes over responsibility.
2	What cooperation did the attack create pressure for, and why was that cooperation needed?	Governments, companies, and security researchers needed to share technical evidence and warnings because no one country could protect every network or identify every attacker alone.
3	According to the passage, how can the UN and NATO support international cooperation on cyber threats?	The UN encourages discussion of responsible behavior in cyberspace. NATO members consult when a cyberattack threatens their security. Both can create common expectations and communication channels.
4	Identify one reason international cyber cooperation has limits. Explain how that reason can make a response harder.	Countries may fear exposing weaknesses or secret sources when sharing intelligence. Also, attackers may hide their identities or operate across countries, making rules difficult to enforce and responsibility difficult to prove.

PART 3 • YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

National cyber agencies and police should coordinate with hospitals, companies, and international partners to share evidence and restore services. They should protect patient information and check evidence before blaming a government, since false accusations could escalate conflict. Cooperation may still fail to obtain evidence from countries unwilling to assist.

Accept responses connecting cooperation with a conflict or enforcement limit. The proposal should identify an action, relevant participants, and a realistic risk or limitation.