

## **E-Crime: Current and New Threats to E-Consumers**

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### **Abstract**

E-crime refers to undesirable and unlawful activities performed via the use of computer technology and via online platforms. The nature of e-crime is complex and multi-faceted as cyber offenders can easily hide their identities and can move from one e-market to another one without hindrance by any national border. Many incidents, such as online identity theft, infringements of security and privacy, online defamation, online bullying, etc., have been occurred in the cyber space which might or might not have been addressed adequately. To make things worse, many victims may not report their cases to relevant authorities or take any action against such cyber misdeeds.

This paper aims to (i) revisit the concept of e-crime, (ii) discuss the development of new forms of e-crime, (iii) analyze the future challenges/threats to e-consumers, and (iv) make policy recommendations to address such challenges and threats.

A proposed solution is that government to regulate Internet providers and social media providers who, in turn, must find a way to govern the behavior of users. Many authors argued that strictly regulated regime would slow down the development and innovation of social media. However, some forms of regulation, co-regulation and self-regulation are required for the benefits of e-users.

This paper is significant as it will discuss the issues from the point of view of users who are mostly non-IT experts. The issues will also be approached from an interdisciplinary and practical perspective. The findings would provide informative sources for further research on how to govern the e-market more effectively and efficiently.