



Analysis of Euro 2016 impact on mobile security and usage

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SMARTWIRE LABS

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As football fever sweeps across Europe due to the 2016 UEFA European Championship, the SmartWire Labs Team at Wandera has been analyzing the mobile data traffic patterns across our network of enterprise customers in the European countries that make up this year's tournament. By investigating the billions of daily data inputs that are scanned by our Secure Mobile Gateway, we've made some startling discoveries about data security and mobile phone usage in the lead up to and during the tournament (Research period 25 May to 24 June 2016).

MALICIOUS WEBSITES AND DATA LEAKS

With the tournament in full swing, users are becoming more active on their mobile devices, by exploring new content and being exposed to an increasing number of online ads. As a result of this spike in activity, SmartWire Labs discovered an increase in the number of malicious websites being accessed by smartphones.

Worryingly, it seems that the host country has been actively targeted by hackers with 72% of malicious websites and 41% of exposed passwords being detected on smartphones in France.



72%

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During our research period, the number of data leaks observed by our research team increased. We predict this number will continue to rise as the tournament goes on as a result of more people travelling across Europe and using unfamiliar apps and websites to access match information. Our research suggests that data leaks will peak in late June towards the end of Euro 2016 before going back to normal levels in late July.

PHISHING ATTACKS

In February this year, reports were released about phishing attacks on Russian banks. Russian hackers managed to steal over \$27m from Russian banks, first by going after their clients, before moving on to the banks themselves. Following this and the practices put in place to prevent further attacks; we expected the threat actors to have moved on to other targets, particularly with the start of Euro 2016 and the upcoming Olympics. This is not the case however, with a remarkable 73% of all phishing incidents having occurred in Russia during our researched period.



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UEFA APP FOR FANS IS LEAKING DATA

One of the most startling discoveries by our researchers relates to the 'UEFA EURO 2016 Fan Guide' App. It's one of the official UEFA mobile applications for Euro 2016, designed to provide practical tourist information for fans that are travelling to France for the tournament.



While the public has been made aware of malware concerns associated with fake FIFA apps, it should be noted that even an official app such as the UEFA EURO 2016 Fan Guide App is not secure.

We have discovered that user credentials (including username, password, address and phone number) submitted to the online UEFA store website, are being transferred by both the iOS and Android versions of the app, over an insecure connection. The app itself has over 100,000 downloads on the google play store alone, and a very high rating. The implications of this are huge with potentially thousands of people having their personally identifiable information exposed and possibly stolen.

DATA TRAFFIC TRENDS: ONLINE ADVERTISING, NEWS SITES & GAMBLING

Traffic related to online advertising almost doubled during our research period; peaking in Portugal, Ireland, Turkey and Spain. We have also seen a 38% increase in news and sport traffic and a 67% increase in social network traffic.

When looking at gambling websites and apps in the run up to the tournament, we expected to see a steady growth in traffic. Interestingly, across the nations in the Euro 2016, there was no major increase in gambling related traffic. The data also revealed which countries had the highest levels of gambling with Ireland, UK and Spain coming out on top. This was followed by Germany, Sweden, Russia, and Italy where traffic is almost a quarter of the amount observed in Ireland and the UK.

The three countries that might be considered to be the 'most informed' based on them being the biggest users of news and sports sites are Ireland, Czech Republic and Hungary.



Irish mobile users have spent the most data on news and sports sites.



When analyzing social media traffic the SmartWire team found that Turkey was the most 'social' country based on the amount of mobile data used on social media sites and apps. Turkish users actually spend an amazing 30% more data on social media than their closest competitors Portugal.

Conclusion

Overall, the increased data usage during the beginning of Euro 2016 will come as no surprise to anyone. The risks associated with this increase in traffic however have huge implications. With more people traveling across Europe, using unfamiliar websites and apps, as well as the shocking discovery that the official UEFA app is leaking data could all lead to serious security breaches with thousands of fans' data being put at risk.

LEAGUE TABLE DATA USED PER DEVICE



ABOUT WANDERA

Wandera is the leader in mobile data security and management, providing enterprises with unrivaled visibility into their mobile data, and protecting them with real-time threat prevention, compliance and data cost management.