

NATO launches exercise to beef up cyber defence

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Soldiers sit in front of computers at the NATO airbase in Geilenkirchen in 2007. NATO's Tallinn-based cyber defence centre on Monday launched a three-day exercise involving European IT and legal experts in a bid to beef up cyber defence skills through gaming.

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The "Locked Shields 2012" initiative involves cyber battles between two teams, Kristiina Pennar, a spokeswoman for the [NATO](#) Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence told AFP.

IT and [legal experts](#) from Austria, Denmark, Estonia, Italy, Finland, Germany, Norway, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and NATO are

taking part.

Created in October 2008, the NATO cyber centre was set up in the Estonian capital Tallinn.

The tiny ex-Soviet Baltic republic of 1.3 million which joined both NATO and the [European Union](#) in 2004 is internationally renowned for being IT savvy and counts among the world's most wired nations.

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