Cyberattack on U. S. Infrastructure

Applications of the Six Perspectives

Summary

As more of our national infrastructure turns to networking for convenience and productivity, cyberattacks are becoming more and more dangerous to U. S. security, having the potential to "halt the supply of water, electricity, and gas, hinder transportation and communication, and cripple financial institutions," according to the article. To add to the tension, the attacks have become increasingly complex and frequent so that it has been identified as the greatest threat to our nation's safety and stability. In 2013, security company Mandiant found 140 cyberattacks from the Chinese military, and banks were assaulted by Iran. In response, the government increased the anti-attack budget and established the "Cyber Threat Initiative Integration Center" to support the defense. However, policy makers for cybersecurity in the government are divided, limiting their power.

Connection

I think the Lexus from Friedman's perspective plays a large role in the issue on cybersecurity. Modernization is a must for our quick lifestyles; the updating of much of our country's essential infrastructure — anything from "the physical and virtual assets, systems, and networks vital to national and economic security, health, and safety" — exemplifies this. Similarly, our need to keep up to date with security is another example: if we do not improve our defense against cyberattacks constantly, we will be left behind by the force of globalization. On the other hand, Hoffman's and Moisi's ideas also relate to this. Hoffman said that globalization does not spread peace, instead creating jealousy and leading to aggression and Moisi spoke about the influence of emotions; in this case, China and Iran, less developed countries than the U.S., may have been urged to attempt this crime because might have been behind on globalization, thus leading to these harmful acts. This also leads to the fear that drives the Americans to continue modernizing. These three concepts relate to globalization and resulting emotions, which I believe are the major driving forces global events.

I feel that Huntington's and Ferguson's perspectives did not relate much to this issue. There was not much culture involved, especially through the use of computers. As for Ferguson, these are matters new to the 21st century, with little to look back on from prior years. Nye's ideas about American superiority are implied in this article, but this was solely about American security, not about our international relations.