

CyberGhost's Yearly Transparency Report

2011 - 2019

Back in 2011, we were the first ones in the VPN industry ever to launch a Transparency Report, detailing the number of requests for data we get from various authorities. And we've been sharing this information with you ever since.

So, join us on this ride and discover everything we do to keep 36 million Ghosties safe on the internet.

But we do have one spoiler alert: as part of our mission to protect digital privacy, we keep absolutely no logs and don't collaborate with the authorities. 60







Robert Knapp Co-founder & Chairman, CyberGhost VPN

"The only way to secure your data is not to store it."





Timo BeyelCTO, CyberGhost VPN

"Here at CyberGhost, we've always followed the Privacy by Design principle. We don't collect any type of data we don't absolutely need. It's the most reliable approach for us to provide you with a secure infrastructure and protect your digital privacy."



Here's what you can find in our Transparency Report:

Legal requests

Find out how many DMCA complaints, malicious activity flags or police requests we get.

Unbox the data →

Our tech numbers

Check out key statistics about our infrastructure and explore other interesting CyberGhost facts.

See the fleet \longrightarrow

It's us, the Ghosties

We're taking center stage to tell you how much we love being digital privacy fighters at CyberGhost.

Meet the team \longrightarrow



Legal requests

Here at CyberGhost, we consider privacy a basic human right. It's what we're fighting to protect and the reason we keep no logs.

But not everyone shares our vision. Case in point: the various requests we get to disclose the identity of CyberGhost users. Since we're Bucharest-based and under no obligation from the Romanian law to store data, we can honor our strict nologs policy. This means we're unable to comply with requests, even if they are legally binding.

And since we do not observe, record, log or store any user data, this report doesn't list additional procedures following the requests. A review of the legality of the requests has not taken place either.

To give you an idea of our judicial landscape, here are the three major types of legal demands we usually receive.



Legal requests

DMCA complaints

We usually receive Digital Millennium Copyright Act complaints from various law firms representing production companies. Most often, they indicate that a copyrighted material was illegally shared via a CyberGhost IP. We're also provided with details like the time stamp of a torrent or the port used.

Malicious Activity Flags

The complaints grouped in this category usually come from website owners or app developers and have to do with DDoS, botnets, scams, log-in attempts, or automated emails being send from CyberGhost IPs. Sometimes, data centers we work with around the world forward us complaints.

Police requests

Various law enforcement agencies or police departments can request logs or more information about an IP linked to an investigation or a case. These inquiries usually reach our data center collaborators first, and then get forwarded to us.

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
DMCA complaints	139	238	2,157	20,482	15,819	43,647	42,805	27,747	57,094	
Malicious activity flags	27	46	96	1,207	4,895	10,362	7,876	11,116	30,912	
Police requests	11	15	18	73	71	40	17	37	60	



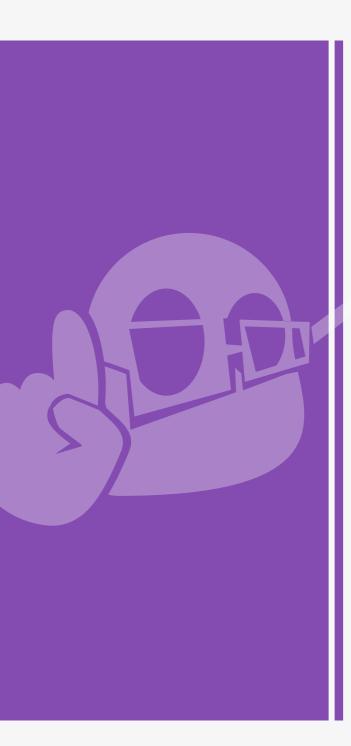
Legal requests

Tackling abuse on our end

Over the years, we've taken our measures to reduce the number of violations committed by using CyberGhost. For example, analyzing the ports used for torrent streaming and blocking them in countries where specific laws are in place turned out to be efficient.

And RE: malicious activities, since most of the complaints specify the source of the attack, as well as the victim's IP, we resorted to blocking access to the attacked IP, making further exploits impossible.

Also, a not-so-gentle reminder from our Legal team: by using our VPN, you have agreed to comply with our <u>Terms of Service</u>. As per the terms, you may only use CyberGhost for legal purposes in compliance with the law. Breaches or infringements will be dealt with by our lawyers, in accordance with our Terms.



Our tech numbers

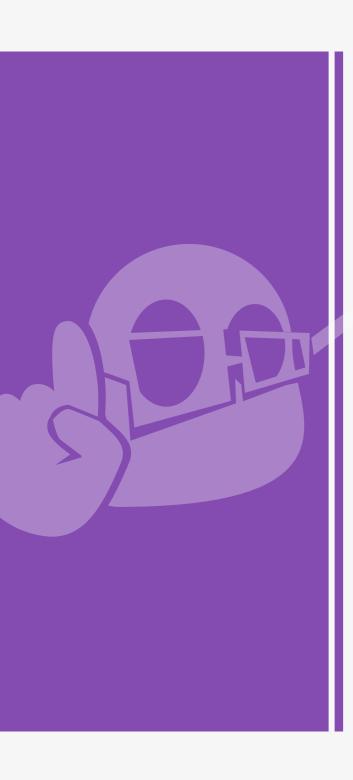
If you want to glance under the CyberGhost hood, you're in the right place.

We have some server fleet details from these past years and Ghostie facts ready for you.

Peak performance servers

Because we're focused on giving our Ghosties the best VPN experience and plenty of options, we're continually expanding our presence, increasing our server numbers and tech capabilities.

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	
CyberGhost servers all around the world	550	710	1,300	3,100	5,800	
Our average bandwidth	22 GBps	34 GBps	55 GBps	80 GBps	100 GBps	
Our average active connections	16,000	28,000	38,000	51,000	66,000	
Average GB RAM per physical server	11 GB RAM	12.6 GB RAM	14.8 GB RAM	18.6 GB RAM	18.9 GB RAM	
Average Physical Cores per physical server	4.1	4.6	5.4	6	6	



Our tech numbers

The ultimate privacy milestone: Our NoSpy servers

In the VPN ecosystem, hardware and software go hand in hand. And while it can be easy to have complete control over your code, even rented dedicated bare metal servers come with their own set of challenges. That's why, after the Edward Snowden revelations, we built our own data center. And we did it with the help of our Ghosties.

Read the entire story of our 193% crowdfunded campaign for the NoSpy servers here.

Ghosties. Ghosties everywhere.

Every day, we turn more than 20 million people from all over the world digitally invisible. From accessing restricted content to blocking malicious content or making safe transfers, we have their backs.

Countries in which we have servers:

2015 - **27**

2016 - **30**

2017 - **55**

2018 **- 60**

2019 - **90**

Our top 5 CyberGhost countries

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Germany	US	Germany	US	Germany
US	Germany	UK	Germany	France
UK	Turkey	Turkey	France	US
France	UK	US	Russia	UK
Russia	France	Canada	UK	Canada



Meet us, the Ghosties

Being transparent about teams is not common practice in the VPN industry. But we're leading by example and always reaching higher. And hey, ghosts are supposed to be see-through, right? Read on and find out more about us, the digital freedom fighters behind CyberGhost!

44°26'39.0"N 26°06'04.7"E

Panama? Seychelles? Those are just holiday destinations for us.

Incorporated in 2011, <u>we're in the heart of Bucharest</u>, in privacy-friendly Romania. But since we do have German roots, most of our development team works their magic from Aachen in Deutschland.

If you're ever in need of assistance, you might reach someone from our Romanian office or interact with one of our Customer Support specialists located in Manila.

Stumbled upon an ad of ours? Our excellent team from Tel Aviv, Israel, worked on it.



Meet us, the Ghosties

A Ghostie timeline infographic

2011

Founded in Bucharest, Romania
Off to a great start: 67 servers, 67,000 users
Became the first VPN company ever to publish a Transparency Report

2014

Kept on growing, moved to a bigger space Provided 30,000 premium licenses to Turkish citizens Built our own data center through a crowdfunding campaign

2015

Began our affiliation program

Launched a business accelerator focusing on cybersecurity startups

Threw some fabulous company parties in a penthouse



A Ghostie timeline infographic

2016

Held training sessions at a school in Bucharest, educating young minds on internet safety
Had yet another legendary Halloween party
Went wild at Domeniile Stirbei in a teambuilding

2017

The Bucharest team got even bigger, so we moved offices again Rollo, the basset hound, started coming in every day

Outdid ourselves on Halloween, with EVERYONE in full costumes

2018

Launched the new suite of CyberGhost 7.0

Added a brand-new support team in beautiful Manila

The office basement became FIFA© central for our guys



Meet us, the Ghosties

A Ghostie timeline infographic

2019

Expanded & redecorated our offices

Had some great pool parties and team buildings

Launched our new educational initiative, <u>The Privacy Hub</u>



Meet us, the Ghosties

No ruff days here

We operate from a place of optimism, with a can-do attitude. We're driven, passionate, enjoy our work and always strive to deliver you a top-notch VPN solution.

And anyway, it would be challenging to stay frowny in an office where several dogs come visiting every day. Rollo is our main boy, and he doesn't seem to mind that some of us have pictures of our beloved cats as screen savers.





Other things keeping upbeat around the office? Our seemingly never-ending stream of sweets, Happy Fridays in the basement, ping pong and FIFA© tournaments.



Meet us, the Ghosties

Hobbies make our world go 'round

Hearing about finishing a 35 kilometers hike through Norway's mountains or discussing lazy days spent on a Caribbean beach is not uncommon in our office. We like to step away from our keyboards as often as possible and we enjoy our days off.

Avid travelers | Adrenaline junkies | Major bookworms | Theater buffs | Sneakerheads

Professional gamers | Professional photographers | Movie producers | Med School graduates | Cooks

Professional athletes | Cyclists | Tennis players | Snowboarders | Bikers | Skateboarders

We're all here at CyberGhost, brought together by our love for cybersecurity, united under a common credo: as long you're online, your privacy should be uncompromised.

Want to know even more about us? Check out our bios <u>here</u>, or peek behind our curtains on <u>Instagram</u>.

Contacts us

Got questions for us?

Send them our way and we'll gladly get back to you. Drop us a line at press.office@cyberghost.ro.



Keep it safe and secure, The CyberGhost team