Information pursuant to article 34 of the GDPR regarding the security incident at the Hamburg University of Applied Sciences (HAW Hamburg)

Cyber-attack update: Publication of personal information on the darknet

Dear students and colleagues,

In the following we would like to provide you with initial general information about current developments related to the cyber-attack at HAW Hamburg, pursuant to article 34 of the GDPR.

Following the cyber-attack on HAW Hamburg at the end of December 2022, which saw hackers access the university’s internal IT systems and download data, some of the data was published on the darknet on 5 March 2023.

The following individuals may be impacted by the publication of the data:

- Employees
- Former employees
- Students
- Former students
- Sessional instructors
- Service providers
- Cooperation partners
- Applicants

Please note that we currently anticipate that the individuals noted above have been impacted to very different extents by publication.

A definitive statement about the number of people affected is not possible at the current time.

Subject to the following information, we will notify you individually if an analysis of the data indicates a high risk to your personal rights and freedoms.

HAW Hamburg’s official data protection officer is involved. Contact information: office (at) datenschutz-nord (dot) de; Tel.: 040 5936160400.

What has happened?

You can find information about current developments on the HAW Hamburg website (HAW Hamburg: Cyber-attack on IT systems)

What does this mean for you?

As part of the individual notification, you will be informed about what type of information has been impacted and the resulting risks. We will also inform you about which measures you can take, where applicable, to reduce the negative consequences of publication.

9 March 2023
What can you do now?
Please check the HAW Hamburg cyber-attack web page daily, especially the FAQs regarding the publication of the data.

What is HAW Hamburg doing to deal with the situation?
The published data are being analysed successively in order to facilitate the individual notification of the people affected as quickly as possible and to inform these individuals about the risks resulting from the publication of the data.