At the Partnership of State Authorities, Civil Society and the Business Community in Ensuring International Information Security, a scientific forum held in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, Vladislav Gasumyanov, Nornickel's Senior Vice President for Public-Private Partnership and member of the National Association of International Information Security, announced that Nornickel is establishing an international contact group for Arctic Region cybersecurity.

He said that the Company is committed to promoting sustainable development of the Arctic in the new digital era environment.

Digital transformation is a global trend and integral part of Nornickel's development strategy. On the one hand, it has a clear positive impact on production and communities, and can greatly contribute to improving the environmental conditions, but on the other hand, it requires a focus on protecting IT infrastructure against attacks and other malicious actions that may cause a collapse of both industry and social infrastructure across entire regions. "It is a symbiotic process and a hands-on example of public-private partnership. The development of the Arctic is one of the government's strategic priorities, and socially responsible businesses like Nornickel are in the front line of protecting and promoting Russia's economic interests in the region. However, as the cyber environment is inherently cross-border by nature and cyber threats are supranational, we believe that it would be appropriate to discuss establishment of a permanent contact group dealing with information security in the Arctic under the auspices of the National Association of International Information Security with a view to escalating the matter and submitting proposals to the International Barents Secretariat," said Nornickel's Senior Vice President.

According to Dmitry Grigoryev, Nornickel's Head of Information Security and IT Infrastructure Department, such permanent contact group was tentatively discussed at Industry 4.0 — The Fourth Industrial Revolution: Technology and Environment, an international conference held this February in Kirkenes, Norway.

"The participants demonstrated a keen interest in and enthusiasm for the Digital Transformation of Barents Region, a programme presented by Nornickel. We discussed prospective cooperation with the Norwegian and Russian ministries of foreign affairs, major industrial and IT companies of Norway, and the government of Sør-Varanger municipality bordering the Murmansk Region. I may now assert that we have reached a common ground and intention to combine our efforts to protect the region's cybersecurity in the long term," said Dmitry Grigoryev.

Andrey Krutskikh, Russian President's special envoy on cyber security, supported Nornickel's endeavours. He believes that Nornickel's national and international information security initiatives (Information Security Charter for Critical Industrial Facilities, Club of Information Security in Industry, etc.) not only meet all public-private partnership standards, but also create the "political and legal framework" for protecting national information infrastructures.

For reference:

Partnership of State Authorities, Civil Society and the Business Community in Ensuring International Information Security is a leading international platform for multilateral dialogue on a wide range of cyber security issues, as well as ethics and behaviour in the information space.

The event informally referred to as "Electronic Davos" is organised by International Information Security Research Consortium (IISRC) and Information Security Institute of Lomonosov Moscow State University with the support of the Russian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Security Council, and National Association of International Information Security.

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