Cybersecurity Act 2 Simulation: Role Handout

The Pirate Academy was made possible by the Greens/EFA group in the European Parliament.

Council: France

Confidential: for the assigned participant only. Do not share with other participants, including members of your own team. Positions in this scenario are fictionalised for educational purposes and inspired by, but not identical to, publicly reported positions. Roles are institutional functions, never named living individuals.

Your team in this scenario

Five or six member states sit in the Council: Ireland (presidency), France, Germany, Finland and Czechia, plus Poland if cast (the facilitator will say who is present). Each state has one vote. A text is adopted if **no more than one member state present votes against** (4 of 5, 5 of 6 with Poland, or 3 of 4 with a reduced cast), so two states together can block. If the Commission opposes the final text, the Council must be unanimous. The presidency chairs the Council and speaks for it in the trilogue. Your team shares three public goals, listed below and in the general factsheet. If no act is adopted, your team scores -5. The rules in full are in the general factsheet.

Your position in November 2026

France chose its own route early. Since 2019, operators have needed state authorisation for mobile network equipment, and authorisations for Huawei equipment are being phased out over several years. Your national cyber security agency runs one of the most demanding certification systems in Europe, including a qualification for “trusted cloud” services.

You support European action, but on your terms: national security remains a national competence, and France does not want the Commission to decide alone which vendors are dangerous. You would rather build a positive list of trusted European vendors than only a blacklist.

Your operators and your industry need time. Equipment installed under national authorisations should not have to be ripped out faster than the national schedule.

Your team's public goals

Every player of your team shares these goals. Everyone in the room knows them.

1. **Keep the costs down (Articles 7 and 10).** 1 point if the phase-out period for most equipment is at least 36 months. 1 point if the maximum penalty is below 7% of turnover.

2. **A proportionate scope (Article 3).** 2 points if Annex I is limited to energy, drinking water, health and electronic communications networks, or fewer. 1 point for a middle solution: those core sectors plus up to three others, or a broader list where the phase-out applies only to the core sectors or only above a size threshold.

3. **Member states stay in control (Articles 6 and 8).** 1 point if designation requires the agreement of the member states (a Council or committee vote) before it takes final effect; a provisional designation that the member states must confirm counts. 1 point if member states may keep their own certification on national security grounds.

Confidential (for you alone): your secret goals

Never show this part before the reveal. You may lie about it. Each goal scores all or nothing. Goals that test the text score only if an act is adopted, unless the goal says otherwise.

National schedules respected (1 point)

Article 7 provides that equipment installed under a national authorisation or phase-out scheme in force before this Regulation keeps the schedule set by that scheme, or may be replaced on it, even if the Union period is shorter.

Time for industry (2 points)

The phase-out period for most equipment is at least 36 months (Article 7).

Trusted Europeans (3 points)

The final text creates a label or list of trusted vendors with a concrete advantage (for example in certification or public procurement), **and** a Union certification scheme replaces national schemes for the same technology, with no permanent national exception (a transition period is fine). This goes against

your own team's public goal on national certification: your agency expects to write the Union scheme and your industry wants one label for the whole market, not twenty-seven. You will have to argue it carefully.

Who you need and who is in your way

- **Germany** shares your line on phase-out and member-state control.
- **Czechia** wants national room too.
- **Renew** wants the longer phase-out.
- **The Commission** wants one Union scheme, as you secretly do; the Legal Service, if cast, can draft the label.
- **In your way:** the Commission on designation; Finland on speed; your own team on certification.

What you can give away

- the level of penalties;
- procedural rights;
- a role for the Parliament on lists and reports.

If there is no deal

If no act is adopted, your team scores -5. France would then keep its national regime, which is not nothing, but the Council would have failed.

Scorecard: France

At the reveal, hand this page to your verifier (a player from another team). The verifier checks each secret goal against the final text, the inject log, the vote record and the reputation results, and marks it. You may contest one item; the lead facilitator rules on disputes.

Secret goal	**Scores if**	**Points**	**Verified**
National schedules respected	equipment under a national scheme keeps its national schedule	1	

Secret goal	**Scores if**	**Points**	**Verified**
Time for industry	most equipment at least 36 months	2	
Trusted Europeans	trusted-vendor label with an advantage, and a Union scheme replacing national schemes	3	
Secret goals total		0 to 6	

Personal score	**Points**
Team score (lead facilitator; -5 if no act)	
Secret goals (verifier)	
Reputation (second facilitator; -2 to 2)	
Total	