Cybersecurity Act 2 Simulation: Role Handout

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

Council: Germany

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

Germany is the EU's largest economy and has one of its largest mobile networks, much of it built with equipment from Chinese vendors. In July 2024, your government agreed with the operators that Huawei and ZTE components will leave the 5G core networks by the end of 2026 and critical network management functions by the end of 2029. That agreement took years. You do not want Brussels to rewrite it with a shorter deadline.

Your car and machine industries sell heavily to China and depend on Chinese components. A trade war would hurt you more than almost anyone. In public, you support European security, “done properly, without breaking what works”.

Your telecom operators have told your government that a full rip-out would cost billions. Someone has to pay, and you would like it not to be German operators alone.

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.

Costs on the table (1 point)

The final text requires replacement costs to be taken into account, or provides financial support or an extension or hardship mechanism for operators that must replace equipment.

No enemies named (2 points)

No third country is named anywhere in the final text.

Installed equipment stays (3 points)

No operator has to remove already installed equipment in less than 36 months, for any technology (a tiered period with a shorter tier does not count). Banning only new purchases also meets this goal. This goes further than your own team will defend. You can threaten to block if you find an ally in the Council.

Who you need and who is in your way

- **France** shares your line on phase-out and member-state control.
- **The S&D** wants support for replacement costs.
- **The Patriots** share your line on naming countries.
- **In your way:** Finland on everything about speed and naming countries; the rapporteur on the phase-out.

What you can give away

- the right of the Parliament to be informed;
- strong procedural rights;
- a broad scope, if the phase-out is limited.

If there is no deal

If no act is adopted, your team scores -5. Your national agreement with the operators would stand, but a German block would be remembered.

Scorecard: Germany

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**
Costs on the table	replacement costs considered, or financial support or an extension mechanism	1	
No enemies named	no third country named	2	
Installed equipment stays	every phase-out period at least 36 months, or	3	

Secret goal	Scores if	Points	Verified
	only new purchases banned		
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	