

BIOGRAPHY



Syarisa Yanti Abubakar
Director of Policy,
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IMPACT

As Director of Policy, Syarisa Yanti Abubakar advocates and advises on the development of national cybersecurity policies and best practices. She oversees policy-related work of the Centre for Policy & International Cooperation, which collaborates with international bodies and leading experts from industry and academia to strengthen national cybersecurity posture of countries.

In previous capacities, Ms. Abubakar served as a Special Officer (Policy) to the fifth Prime Minister of Malaysia, Tun Dato' Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi. As a core member of the Prime Minister's Policy Unit, Ms. Abubakar worked with the relevant ministries and government agencies to strategise and oversee the implementation of new national policies in the field of ICT and innovation, education, human capital development and governance.

Ms. Abubakar has also worked at the Malaysian Institute of Economic Research (MIER), directing and implementing research projects in the areas of national development strategy, technology policy, human capital development and globalisation. Her research work has been published in several books, international journals as well as the popular press.

Ms. Abubakar has been the recipient of various awards including the Prize for Best MA Dissertation for her thesis on the technology policies of developing countries (2000); the United Nations Millennium Development Goals Youth Ambassador for Malaysia (2004) and a Chevening Fellowship by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, United Kingdom (2005).

Ms. Abubakar holds a Bachelor of Arts (High Distinction), in Economics, Political Science from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; and a Masters of Arts (Distinction) in International Political Economy from the University of Warwick.