

Muhammad Murtuza Hussain

Galway, Ireland | muhammadmurtuzahussain@gmail.com | +353 89 413 9328

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Cybersecurity risk and governance professional and EU programme manager with a Master's in Cybersecurity Risk Management (University of Galway). Combines hands-on GRC delivery (ISO/IEC 27001 and 27005 enablement, risk register ownership, third-party risk, policy authorship) with Risk Management Lead responsibilities on a live Horizon Europe programme, and self-directed technical security practice (SOC, malware analysis, Windows/AD, CTFs). Translates technical exposure into clear, board-ready reporting for non-technical stakeholders, works comfortably across concurrent multi-client and multi-partner workstreams, and uses AI-assisted workflows and scripting to deliver faster. Active speaker and community builder, with research interests in cyber threat intelligence and AI accountability.

CORE COMPETENCIES

- **Cybersecurity Risk & GRC:** ISO/IEC 27001:2022 and 27005-aligned qualitative risk assessment; end-to-end risk register ownership; ISMS scoping, Statement of Applicability, control design and effectiveness testing; policy suite authoring; NIST CSF; NIS2, GDPR (ROPA/DPIA) and DORA awareness.
- **Programme & Project Management:** Delivery ownership for a 36-month, multi-partner Horizon Europe programme: planning, milestones, fixed EU reporting deadlines, quality and risk management, and coordination of academic, industry, public-sector and external delivery partners (incl. KPMG).
- **Third-Party & Vendor Risk:** Assesses vendor and control posture against ISO 27001, SOC 2 and NIST CSF; defines vendor risk criteria and remediation tracking to support audit defensibility.
- **Executive & Board Reporting:** Board-ready risk packs, KPI/KRI dashboards and treatment-plan reports (Power BI, Excel) covering exposure, trend and progress for senior, non-technical audiences.
- **Stakeholder Engagement & Facilitation:** Risk-identification and requirements-gathering workshops and interviews (15+ engagements); client-facing point of contact for four SaaS clients across Ireland and Dubai.
- **Data, Automation & AI-Enabled Working:** Python, R, Excel (incl. Solver), Power BI and Power Apps for analysis and automation; daily use of agentic AI workflows (incl. Claude) for scripting, drafting and delivery.
- **Technical Security Practice (self-directed):** TryHackMe labs, Microsoft Defender, malware analysis, Windows/Active Directory administration, networking labs, MITRE ATT&CK and scripting/automation projects; CTF competitor.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Cybersecurity Consultant (GRC & ISO 27001), *Freelance, Galway, IE* May 2025 – Present

- Facilitated ISMS scope and context and risk-identification workshops for four early-stage SaaS clients across Ireland and Dubai; defined a qualitative, ISO/IEC 27005-aligned risk methodology and stood up each client's risk register and escalation routes.
- Conducted current-state assessments against ISO/IEC 27001:2022 through policy review and gap analysis; delivered prioritised remediation plans with owners, timelines and estimated effort.
- Authored the Statement of Applicability and core policies and procedures (Access Control, Supplier Risk Management, Incident Management, Logging/Monitoring, operational SOPs), creating an audit-defensible governance foundation.
- Delivered awareness and process changes contributing to a 73% reduction in phishing click-rate (where measured); designed backup and BC/DR scenarios with defined RPO/RTO targets.

Programme Manager, *TFC Research & Innovation Limited, Dublin, IE* Apr 2025 – Present

- Risk Management Lead across all work packages of FITTER, a 36-month Horizon Europe programme (Grant Agreement 101132546), including the technical work packages deploying a custom LLM; task lead for Risk & Quality Management (T1.2).
- Designed and rolled out an ISO 27001/NIST CSF-aligned risk framework with a live risk register (treatment owners, timelines, escalation routes); authored the Quality, Risk and Management Assessment Plan (D1.4).
- Produced weekly, monthly and quarterly KPI/KRI data packs and board-level risk reports for senior stakeholders and the External Complementary Board, against fixed European Commission deadlines.
- Ran risk and requirements workshops across academic, industry and public-sector partners; worked with external delivery partners (incl. KPMG) on EU deliverables, compliance outputs and audit-support documentation; monitored NIS2 and other regulatory developments.
- Supported GDPR artefacts (ROPA updates, DPIA screenings, privacy notices) and supplier risk activities within programme governance.
- Built digigreentt.eu, a website supporting FITTER's sister projects; recovered the FITTER platform's React/Vite source files and data entities through authenticated API access, protecting project continuity.

Digital Innovation Intern, *IdeasLab, University of Galway, Galway, IE* Jan 2025 – Apr 2025

- Built interactive Power BI dashboards to monitor programme and campaign performance, improving KPI visibility for leadership; improved cross-functional communication, documentation and RACI/status reporting.

- Ran a customer-facing rental business: implemented access-control, account-hygiene and monitoring practices that reduced account compromise; codified SOPs and customer-data handling; optimised preventive maintenance and incident response to improve reliability and margin per customer.

SELECTED PROJECTS & LEADERSHIP

- **BSides Belfast, Hacker House CTF (2026)**: 2nd place, hosted by VIRIS.
- **Founder & Auditor, Cybersecurity Society, University of Galway**: built a 350+ member student community from zero; set governance standards, mentored the committee and organised talks, workshops and industry engagement.
- **Industry bridge event**: organised and hosted a joint event connecting University of Galway students with ISACA/ISC2 Ireland Chapter board members.
- **Speaker**: Tactical Threat Intelligence (Cork|Sec), Reverse Engineering Workshop (CompSoc) and other talks to audiences from 50 to 4,000+; delivered a Mandarin Chinese speech on global tensions and cultural understanding.
- **Consulting Project with Centripetal (MSc)**: analysed process efficiency and risk levers; delivered an executive report with measurable next steps.
- **BSc Capstone, Helmet-Detection Tool**: deep-learning object-detection system (Python, Raspberry Pi) applied to a real-world safety problem.
- **Research interests**: “CTI From Cloud to Edge Computing”; AI accountability (EU AI Act, NIS2); AI-driven malware, DDoS and behavioural cybersecurity.
- **Other roles**: University of Galway societies and volunteering (Business Analytics, Environmental, Consultants & Entrepreneurs, Students’ Union, JCI, MakerSpace, Global Galway Ambassador); YouTube content creator (Adobe video editing).

EDUCATION

MSc, Cybersecurity Risk Management, University of Galway

Aug 2024 – May 2025

- Risk management, governance and compliance, security strategy, data analytics.

BSc, Information Technology, RTMN University, India

Jul 2020 – Apr 2023

- Completed through the School of Business Information Systems: programming, algorithms, data structures and business analytics; final project: Helmet-Detection tool using deep learning and Raspberry Pi (Python).

TECHNICAL & SOFT SKILLS

Technical: ISO/IEC 27001 & 27005, NIST CSF, MITRE ATT&CK; risk-register and ISMS tooling (Notion, Excel); Python, TypeScript/JavaScript, C++, C#.NET, R; Power BI, Power Apps, MS 365/SharePoint; Microsoft Defender, Windows/AD; basic Azure/AWS concepts; AI-assisted workflow tools (incl. Claude).

Soft: Workshop facilitation, client and stakeholder engagement across technical and non-technical, multi-country audiences, structured problem-solving, board-level reporting and storytelling, public speaking, mentoring, adaptability.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- BSides Belfast CTF, Hacker House: 2nd place (2026); Public Speaker, AWS Tech Connect, RTMSSU India (2026).
- Societies Chairperson, Students’ Union Executive Committee, University of Galway (2024/25): elected with a 97.34% margin.
- SAP Enterprise Challenge Winner, IdeasLab (2024): led an Irish team to victory with an AI-powered solution for SAP Galway.
- Best Speaker Award, ISCG x Deloitte Case Competition (2025): produced a consulting report within 8 hours.
- Climathon Galway Winner, Climate-KIC (2025); Empathy Jam Galway, Best Civic Sense Project (2025); EY Student Sustainability Challenge Finalist (2025).
- Public Speaker, International Students’ Orientation, Global Galway (2025): addressed 3,800+ new entrants.

References available on request.