A Study on Organizational IT Security in Mobile Software Ecosystems Literature

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Abstract—Information security is a key topic for most organizations. With the digital revolution, smartphones have become popular not only for personal use but also within organizations where many employees use them for business purposes. As smartphones are increasingly present in organizations, it is necessary to understand what recommendations the literature provides for the safe use of such devices, helping organizations to protect themselves from threats. ISO 27000 is a well-known standard for information security in a business context. It provides a set of controls that must be observed to ensure more secure organizational information. Therefore, the goal of this study is to identify which controls presented in ISO 27000, more specifically ISO 27001, are present in the Mobile Software Ecosystem (MSECO) literature. To do so, we conducted a systematic mapping review supplemented by a snowballing process to identify studies in the field of MSECO that have addressed any subject that is present in ISO 27001. We found that 34 out of the 114 ISO 27001 controls are covered by the MSECO literature. Also, some of the ISO sections (e.g., Asset Management) have not yet been explored in the MSECO literature. Our results can inspire future and further studies on the topic of MSECO information security.

Index Terms—Mobile Software Ecosystem, Organizational Information Security, ISO 27000, Security controls, Literature Review

I. INTRODUCTION

In the digital age, many large organizations have suffered from breaches of information security, including companies such as Yahoo, Microsoft, Intel, despite their concerns about their data security [1]. Such breaches can occur for several reasons. Werlinger et al. [2] present three main groups of factors for information security, namely: i) Human-based factors, ii) Organizational factors, and iii) Technological factors. On the other hand, we have the context of Mobile Software Ecosystems (MSECO), where applications are produced for use on users’ or company-owned devices. These software ecosystems mostly comprise elements that relate to mobile technology platforms, organized into three main dimensions: technical, business and social [3]–[5].

In this context, ISO 27000 is a standard family for information security to organizations. ISO 27000 is composed by the following standards:

• ISO 27001 presents the principles and vocabulary that define the nomenclature used in the ISO 27000 family standards. ISO 27001 also have an appendix composed of 14 sections divided into 114 objective controls [6].
• ISO 27002 presents the requirements for meeting the controls set forth in ISO 27001.
• ISO 27003 provides a good practice guide for meeting the controls set forth in ISO 27001.
• ISO 27004 provides ways to monitor, measure, analyze, and evaluate the application of ISO 27001 controls in an enterprise.
• ISO 27005 explains how to perform risk management when any of the controls in ISO 27001 are not met.

This standard has been used in many companies around the world [6], such as Google and Yahoo. Because it is a widely used standard in the business context, there is a need to investigate how the recommendations in ISO 27000 can help companies whose employees use mobile devices for their duties within the company, thus protecting them from security breaches. More specifically, in this study we aim to identify which ISO 27001 controls are present in the MSECO literature seeking to identify evidences about how they are used and what the literature brings about these controls, as well as possibilities for future contributions in the field. As key contributions, we found the following:

• Only 34 of 114 controls of ISO 27001 were identified in the MSECO literature;
• Only 2 out of the 14 sections had all of their respective controls reported in the MSECO literature. These sections are i) Information security policies and ii) Cryptography;
• The Asset management section is the only out of the 14 ISO 27001 sections that has no evidence of use or citation in MSECO studies.

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows. Section II presents the main concepts of information security and MSECO. Section III presents the research method adopted in this study. Section IV summarizes the results of our study. Section V brings the discussion over our results. Section VI presents the limitations of the research method. Section VII concludes our study and points out future work.

978-1-7281-4659-1/20/$31.00 ©2020 IEEE
DOI 10.1109/ICSA-C50368.2020.00047
II. BACKGROUND

We introduce here concepts about organizational information security (Section II-A) and MSECO (Section II-B).

A. Information Security in Organizations

Organizations’ information security has become a critical element in preventing damage from threats such as intrusions or unintentional data leaks. There are several challenges to organizations to keep information safe. Werlinger et al. [2] present three dimensions that influence information security—human-based factors, organizational factors or technological factors. Examples of human-based factors that become challenges for organizations are lack of training or experience, or communication security issues. Those challenges related to organizational factors are, for instance, incorrect risk estimation, lack of budget, wrong distribution of IT responsibilities, or weak access control to sensitive data. Yet, examples of technological challenges are the systems’ complexity, the systems or applications’ vulnerabilities, mobility and distributed access, or lack of effective security tools [2].

These challenges can be controlled when the right decisions are made, which can eliminate them or mitigate the effects of these threats. The information security literature has a set of studies on how to protect organizational information, such as Hunker and Probst [7], who identify several approaches to counter internal threats within the organization, analyzing the technical, socio-technical, sociological and psychological factors. Hunker and Probst [7] also discuss several challenge such as access controls, company security policies, and motivation of the internal actors within organization.

Therefore, it is relevant to understand how these standards are applied to the mobile context since the ISO 27000 family, and mainly ISO 27001, has increasingly been considered an international standard for dealing with information security in organizations [6].

As previously mentioned, ISO 27001 specifies the requirements for establishing, implementing, maintaining and continuously improving an Information Security Management System (ISMS) within the context of an organization. ISMS seeks to preserve the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of information by applying a risk management process that provides stakeholders with confidence in which risks are properly managed. An organization’s ISMS specification and implementation is influenced by its needs and objectives, security requirements, organizational processes, employees, and size and structure of the organization.

In its appendix, ISO 27001 presents 14 sections organized into 114 controls. These sections refer to a set of generic information security objectives, compiled from risks commonly present in organizations. Each objective unfolds into several controls that must be implemented to achieve the proposed objectives. Requirements to implement such controls are discussed in ISO 27002, good practices to meet them compose ISO 27003, and so on.

ISO 27001 sections are as follows. Their respective controls are 1) Information security policies, 2) Organization of information security, 3) Human resource security, 4) Asset management, 5) Access control, 6) Cryptography, 7) Physical and environmental security, 8) Operations security, 9) Communications security, 10) System acquisition, development, and maintenance, 11) Supplier relationships, 12) Information security incident management, 13) Information security aspects of business continuity management, 14) Compliance.

B. Mobile Software Ecosystems

A Software Ecosystem is a set of elements around a common technological platform working together as an ecosystem [3] [4]. A Mobile Software Ecosystem (MSECO), on the other hand, is a Software Ecosystem focused in the mobile context [4] [8]. MSECO are composed by 7 elements [4], namely: the technological platform, the internal or external developers, the ecosystem community, the applications, the application users, the application business market, and the evangelists, those representing the owner of the ecosystem when in contact with users and developers.

The MSECO literature [9] has some studies regarding security, generally applied to applications, but very few discuss information security at the organizational level. For instance, Reinfelder et al. [10] discussed the differences between Android and iPhone users in their aware with rules/policies security. The authors found that Android users check more security factors than iPhone users, considering their official store policies for applications. Finally, Watanabe et al. [11] explored the difference between paid and free applications regarding security and found that 50% of threats in paid applications and 70% in free applications come from libraries that developers choose.

We aim to identify papers that report on organizational information security in light of the ISO 27000 in MSECO.

III. RESEARCH METHOD

In order to identify which ISO 27001 controls are present in the MSECO literature we conducted a systematic mapping review [12] supplemented by a snowballing procedure [13]. We used our previous systematic mapping [9] on MSECO as a starting point. That previous review revealed 63 studies on the topic up to December, 2017. We replicated it using the exact same digital databases (ACM, IEEE, Science Direct, Scopus, Wiley Interscience, and Springer), and paper search and selection process (see [9] for details). We identified 31 papers published between Jan, 2018 and Dec, 2019.

To conduct the snowballing procedure, we once again followed the steps conducted in a preliminary study of ours on MSECO [8], attending the forward and backward snowballing guidelines by Wohlin [13]. The forward snowballing sought for papers that had cited one of the accepted papers in our literature. This search was conducted in Google Scholar with an end date of Dec 17, 2019 and revealed 49 new studies. The backward snowballing procedure investigated the references of each of the accepted papers in the systematic mapping, looking for new papers. This added 50 new papers to our list.
The update on the systematic mapping (31 papers) followed by the forward (49) and the backward (50) snowballing procedures identified 130 additional papers, totaling a pull of 193 candidate papers for inspection. We read the title and abstract of each candidate paper aiming to identify whether it discussed any content related to any of the 114 ISO 27001 controls. When it was not clear, we set the paper apart for full reading. Upon an extensive reading process reviewed by a senior researcher with over 20 years of experience in software engineering, we selected 32 papers that discuss information security at the organizational level in the MSECO literature.

Extracted data was organized by ISO 27001 section and control in a spreadsheet for consolidation and reporting.

IV. RESULTS

In this section, we present the results of our literature review organized by ISO 27001 section. For each section, we show a table with their controls and the citations of authors who described this control.

The first section of ISO 27001 is “Information security policies”, which has two controls as shown in Table I. Both controls were reported by Castle et al. [14]. The authors investigated in an interview-based study how these are implemented in organizations. Control 2 - Review of policies was mentioned by one out of the 7 interviewees only.

The second section of ISO 27001 is “Organization of information security”, which is composed of 7 controls as presented in Table II. No papers reported on the controls 2, 4, 5, and 7. Control 1 is discussed by Krupskiy et al. [15] in which the authors categorize actors engaged in the business process of an application store and identified their responsibilities. It is also reported by Acar et al. [16], which reports on the importance of understanding the roles around an ecosystem to check the related challenges, including security ones. Control 3 is addressed by Gamba et al. [17]. The authors propose recommendations to detect deceptive behaviors, including attribution and accountability. For these, they recommend the use of certificates signed by global-trusted authorities. Control 6 is more largely discussed by literature. When it was not clear, we set the paper apart for full reading. Upon an extensive reading process reviewed by a senior researcher with over 20 years of experience in software engineering, we selected 32 papers that discuss information security at the organizational level in the MSECO literature.

The third section of ISO 27001 is “Human resource security” and is comprised of 6 controls as presented in Table III. Controls 1, 5 and 6 were not cited by any of the selected papers. Control 2 is reported by Kareborn and Howcroft [23]. The authors explain the crowdsourcing format used by Apple ecosystem, but also point out the importance of clarifying the terms of use. Another study is by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 3 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 4 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The fourth section, named “Asset management” and composed of 10 controls as presented in Table IV, was not discussed by any of the selected papers.

The fifth section of ISO 27001 “Access control” consists of 7 controls as presented in Table V. Controls 1, 2, 4, and 5 were not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 6 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 7 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 8 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The sixth section, named “Physical media transfer” and composed of 9 controls as presented in Table VI. Controls 1, 2, 4, and 5 were not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 6 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 7 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 8 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The seventh section, named “Contact with special interest groups” and composed of 5 controls as presented in Table VII. Controls 1, 2, 4, and 5 were not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 6 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 7 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 8 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The eighth section, named “Contact with authorities” and composed of 4 controls as presented in Table VIII. Controls 1, 2, 4, and 5 were not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 6 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 7 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 8 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The ninth section, named “Segregation of duties” and composed of 3 controls as presented in Table IX. Controls 1, 2, 4, and 5 were not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 6 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 7 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 8 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The tenth section, named “Information security awareness, education and training” and composed of 2 controls as presented in Table X. Controls 1, 2, 4, and 5 were not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 6 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 7 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 8 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The eleventh section, named “Information security roles and responsibilities” and composed of 1 control as presented in Table XI. Control 1 was not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 2 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 3 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 4 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The twelfth section, named “Teleworking” and composed of 1 control as presented in Table XII. Control 1 was not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 2 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 3 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 4 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The thirteenth section, named “Physical media transfer” and composed of 1 control as presented in Table XIII. Control 1 was not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 2 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 3 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 4 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The fourteenth section, named “Contact with special interest groups” and composed of 1 control as presented in Table XIV. Control 1 was not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 2 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 3 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 4 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The fifteenth section, named “Contact with authorities” and composed of 1 control as presented in Table XV. Control 1 was not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 2 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 3 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 4 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The sixteenth section, named “Segregation of duties” and composed of 1 control as presented in Table XVI. Control 1 was not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 2 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 3 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 4 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The seventeenth section, named “Information security awareness, education and training” and composed of 1 control as presented in Table XVII. Control 1 was not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 2 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 3 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 4 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.

The eighteenth section, named “Physical media transfer” and composed of 1 control as presented in Table XVIII. Control 1 was not discussed by any of the selected papers. Control 2 is discussed by Reuver [24], which explains that organizations typically govern its internal activities through employment contracts and hierarchical control. Control 3 is seen in the study of Miclaus et al. [25], in which the authors explain that an application store needs to sign additional responsibilities to employers. Control 4 is discussed by Castle et al. [14], in which they explain that some possible causes of vulnerabilities are the lack or limited security education.
of the 14 controls listed in Table V. Nine of the 14 controls—1, 2, 7 to 11, 13, and 14 are not reported in the MSECO literature. Control 3 is shown by Williams and Mahmoud [26]. The authors argue that user registration may make the organization lose customers; thus, they reflect upon other means of relationship between enterprise and customer. Control 4 is tackled by Jaramillo et al. [27] and describes how important it is to provide employees with secure devices in organizations as a means to improve data security and access, among others. Control 5 is pointed by Acar et al. [16] as a challenge entitled “Permission Comprehension and Attention by End Users”. The authors argue that it is the user’s responsibility to take care of the applications. Control 6 is shown by Watanabe et al. [28], in which they explore some vulnerabilities in mobile applications, finding that secret token to authentication supports secure passwords. Control 12 is presented in Campbell et al. [29] and Samonte et al. [30], who discuss the importance of employees to get a username and a password to use an enterprise system.

The sixth section is named “Cryptography” and is composed of 2 controls (see Table VI). Control 1 is presented by Oltrogge et al. [31], in which the authors explain the importance of the use of cryptography API’s to applications with important data. It is also discussed by Devine [32]. The author reports that 44% of the vulnerabilities of external attacks on Android applications stem from cryptography issues. Control 2 is also reported by Oltrogge et al. [31], in which the authors discuss the importance of choosing a good key to encrypt data.

The seventh section, “Physical and environmental security”, which is composed of 15 controls as presented in Table VII, had only one of its controls reported in literature—Control 1. This control is discussed by Jaramillo et al. [27] in a study in which the authors explain the distinct kind of securities in an organization, including physical security.

The eighth section is named “Operations security” and comprises 14 controls in total. As indicated in Table VIII, only 4 of these 14 controls were cited in literature as follows. Control 2 is discussed by Pettersson et al. [33]. The authors argue that it is essential to an ecosystem life cycle to deal with change management. Control 6 is presented by Chin et al. [34], whose work explain data loss or lack of backup as one of the most critical factors to users or companies. Control 11 is part of Siegfried et al. [35] study. The authors explain about the installation of applications on operating systems, focusing on metrics to understand the target audience of an application. Control 14 is introduced by Acar et al. [16], in which presents AndroidLeaks, an analysis tool for a manual security audit.

The ninth section named “Communications security” is
organized into 7 controls as presented in Table IX. Control 5 is the only one cited in the MSECO literature. The study by Hatamian et al. [36] explains that to safely transfer data it is important to record the transferred information and the people who share or get access to this data.

The tenth section, entitled “System acquisition, development, and maintenance”, is composed of 13 controls as presented in Table X. Over half of these 13 controls (7 of them) have no evidence in literature, which are: Controls 2 to 7, and 11. Control 1 is presented by Acar et al. [16], in which the authors explain that in access control it is important to analyze the security requirements that support identifying risks. In addition, França et al. [37] argue that analysis of security requirements is a social activity since people are those who participate in these ecosystems. Control 8 is shown in Xu et al. [20] study, whose authors explain that a webview application for mobile needs to have the same cautious that a common application in a web browser has. Control 9 is discussed by Krupskiy et al. [15]. The authors report that the xCode development environment is most secure than other environments. Control 10 is evidenced in Castle et al. [14] study, in which one of the respondents of the conducted interviews works as an outsourced member similar to most of other application developers settings. Control 12 is discussed by Samonte et al. [30]. The authors explain the importance of testing applications. They argue that this importance comes not only to secure data but also to understand the differences in the applications in distinct devices.

The eleventh section refers to “Supplier relationships” and is composed of 5 controls as presented in Table XI. Controls 2, 4, and 5 were not reported. Control 1 is cited by Basole et al. [38], whose study reports that Apple and Samsung have changed many times their relationship with application suppliers over the years, which may change the ecosystem operating rules, or in some cases generate or correct vulnerabilities. Control 3 is mentioned by Gamba et al. [17] study, in which the authors inform that the supplier chain in the Android open-source model supports transparency.

The twelfth section of ISO 27001 is named “Information security incident management”. Out of its 7 controls as listed in Table XII, only Control 1 was found in literature. The study by Fontao et al. [39] discuss that among the evangelists’ responsibilities and procedures is the concern with security.

The thirteenth section “Information security aspects of business continuity management” contains 4 controls. These are listed in Table XIII in which one can see that only Control 4 was cited by MSECO literature. Both the studies by Seidl et al. [40] and by Roshan et al. [41] report on the importance of information processing facilities.

The fourteenth and final section of ISO 27001 is named “Compliance” and is organized into 8 controls. Table XIV shows that half of the controls—1, 3, 5, and 8 were not discussed in the literature. Control 2 is reported in 4 studies. Teixeira et al. [42] explain that open source does not ensure a property right, but brings transparency and collaborative benefits. Schlagwein et al. [43] explains that owners can keep the property of their rights and change terms to an open access option. Cuccagnoli et al. [44] investigate the strategies.
of property rights to reach partnerships and better performance. Wong et al. [45] discuss legal and privacy issues of property rights. Control 4 is briefly discussed by Gamba et al. [17], in which the authors present personally identifiable information (PII) that could be used to identify the users that conducted suspicious activities. Control 6 is referred by Siegfried et al. [35]. The authors argue that independent reviews are valuable sources for quality evaluation. Control 7 is illustrated by Oltrogge et al. [31] study which reports that is necessary to ensure that the service infrastructure maintains the highest security standards.

V. DISCUSSION

The MSECO literature contains several studies (193 identified in our literature review), but only a few (32 of them) present the issue of organizational information security. Out of the 32 selected studies, 14 directly mention ISO 27001. Despite the little representativeness, all of them discuss topics related to at least one of the ISO 270001 controls, helping us to understand the extension and breadth of discussion on the matter in the MSECO literature.

Generally, we learned that only about one-third of the controls are reported (34 out of 114) and that only 2 out of the 14 sections had at least one study discussing each one of the respective controls. Moreover, we found that one section, “Asset management”, has no reported evidence whatsoever.

An in-depth look reveals that the research community is concerned with issues related to information security policies (Section I), the definition of information security roles and responsibilities, privacy issues and the impact of lack of privacy as well as with the accountability for suspicious behavior when using mobile applications (Section II).

Discussions around which kind of responsibilities outsourced developed have towards information security in MSECOs is also out there (Section III). This brings implications to software development practices to say the least. We could open the discussion of how we are preparing young developers to concern about such issues and how such standards are part of undergraduate curricula.

Some studies debate that required user identification information may impose to users and led a company to lose them, having these migrating to other ecosystems. Related topics discuss on the design of secure authentication procedures that inherit limitations from MSECOs (Section V), on the need for implementing such procedures, for instance, adding cryptography to APIs (Section VI), or debate about which kinds of security concerns should one have (Section VII).

The security of information along the operation of the business is essential because the company cannot allow weaknesses that can lead to data loss, especially in applications that are in operation (Section VIII). In addition, communication security needs to be carefully evaluated, as a secure channel for data transmission is required, thus avoiding possible external attacks (Section IX).

All used applications in an organization must be analyzed from their requirements, development and pass a set of tests to ensure that the application is safe to use (Section X). Often the company’s applications are used by third parties, which means that they need to be reliable suppliers whom to buy from and that follow what is agreed with the contracting company (Section XI).

In a company information incident, it is critical that the company be able to quickly analyze impact and correct it as quickly as possible. To avoid an incident, it is ideal to establish responsibilities for company employees regarding the use of applications. (Section XII).

Information security needs to adapt to the business and its rules without disrupting the workflow of the organization that implements it (Section XIII). Compliance with security rules must also occur, making company employees clearly understand security rules, and how to protect company property (Section XIV).

VI. VALIDITY THREATS

This study had some limitations, such as:

- Some studies may not be indexed in the selected libraries. However, to mitigate this, we followed the Petersen et al. [12] recommendations of digital libraries and conducted a snowballing process.
- The data extraction process followed a manual process but we double-check every step to not forget anything present on the identified studies.

VII. CONCLUSION

The MSECO literature continues to have several opportunities for scientific and practical contributions, including topics.
such as information security that are widely explored. In this study, we investigated the topic of organizational information security in light of ISO 27000. We looked specifically into ISO 27001 and its sections and controls. We found that only 34 of 114 controls presented in ISO 27001 are presented in MSECO literature and some sections of ISO 27001 are not explored at all (e.g., Asset management) or less explored than others (e.g., Communications Security, Information security incident management, and Information security aspects of business continuity management). This provides us with evidence that the topic of organization information security still has several opportunities of future studies to investigate these unexplored controls (as comparing this results with General Data Protection Regulation - GDPR). Thus, we would like to recommend that researchers wishing to contribute to the MSECO literature can further explore the topic of organizational information security.

APPENDIX

Table XV presents the 32 publications about organizational information security in light of ISO 27001 present in MSECO.

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