

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Vietnam court sentences ex-minister to life in MobiFone corruption scandal

Reuters: 28 December 2019

A former Vietnamese government minister and his deputy were sentenced to a life term and 14 years in prison, respectively, in a case of corruption that is said to have cost the state budget almost \$3 million.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-vietnam-corruption/vietnam-court-sentences-ex-minister-to-life-in-mobi-fone-corruption-scandal-idUSKBN1YW02M>

Crashing Down: A Decade Of Corruption Cripples FIFA

Samindra Kunti – Forbes: 28 December 2019

Soccer organization FIFA has spent the last decade mired in controversy and corruption. The organization has been exposed for significant ethical violations since awarding the 2018 and 2022 World Cups in December 2010.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/samindrakunti/2019/12/28/crashing-down-a-decade-of-corruption-cripples-fifa/#4d2fd8996cd4>

For more on this theme:

Bosnia ex-Security Minister Charged with Corruption

<https://balkaninsight.com/2019/12/30/bosnia-ex-security-minister-charged-with-corruption/>

Police Raid Navalny's Anti-Corruption HQ In Moscow

<https://www.rferl.org/a/navalny-s-anti-corruption-moscow-hq-raided-by-police/30345885.html>

Corruption whistleblower law enters into force in Ukraine

<https://www.unian.info/politics/10816274-corruption-whistleblower-law-enters-into-force-in-ukraine.html>

Argentina's new leadership carries old baggage of corruption and conspiracy allegations

<https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/argentina-s-new-leadership-carries-old-baggage-corruption-conspiracy-allegations-ncna1103556>

Brazilian President Signs Anti-Corruption Bill

<https://www.occrp.org/en/27-ccwatch/cc-watch-briefs/11365-brazilian-president-signs-anti-corruption-bill>

S. Korea's ex-justice chief indicted for corruption

<https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/east-asia/s-koreas-ex-justice-chief-indicted-for-corruption>

Lebanese protesters turn their ire on banks

<https://apnews.com/7ffc38a56c644a5879ff72cd9a11094f>

Big data vs corruption?

<https://www.philstar.com/business/2019/12/23/1979071/big-data-vs-corruption>

Tunisian parliament signs anti-corruption strategy charter

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-12/28/c_138662217.htm

DRUG TRAFFICKING

To battle opioid crisis, some track overdoses in real time

Michael Hill – The Associated Press: 23 December 2019

In New York's Hudson Valley, information gathered from drug overdose patients is entered into a real-time tracking system that can help thwart future overdoses by alerting authorities to clusters of activity.

<https://apnews.com/65eb129f7d65ad537e8579cf0e530263>

Synthetic opioids like fentanyl ravaged the US during the last decade. They may do even more damage to Asia in the next

Joshua Berlinger – CNN: 30 December 2019

Fentanyl is showing up in heroin in Asia. The overdoses should set off alarms that the opioid crisis is coming for Asia and, according to experts, the region isn't ready.

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/29/asia/asia-synthetic-drugs-2020-intl-hnk/index.html>

For more on this theme:

Drug Frontier - How Cocaine Trafficking Is Impacting West Africa

<https://www.premiumpremiumpress.com/news/headlines/370647-special-report-drug-frontier-how-cocaine-trafficking-is-impacting-west-africa.html>

Transnational Organized Crime and National Security: Evil Corp, Hezbollah and Chinese Opioid Trafficking

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/transnational-organized-crime-and-national-security-evil-corp-hezbollah-and-chinese-opioid>

Drug trafficking, consumption termed a national security threat

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1525945/drug-trafficking-consumption-termed-a-national-security-threat>

Status and money pull youth into drugs trade

<https://www.irishexaminer.com/breakingnews/ireland/status-and-money-pull-youth-into-drugs-trade-971956.html>

The True Cause of the Opioid Epidemic

<https://www.theatlantic.com/health/archive/2020/01/what-caused-opioid-epidemic/604330/>

How Liverpool's cocaine trade is fighting off the Albanian mafia

<https://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/liverpool-news/how-liverpools-cocaine-trade-fighting-17437765>

How cartels use migrant workers to smuggle drugs

<https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2019/12/23/how-drug-cartels-use-migrant-workers-to-smuggle-drugs>

Opioid addicts less likely to kick habit if they also take methamphetamine, study finds

<https://www.illicit-trade.com/2020/01/opioid-addicts-less-likely-to-kick-habit-if-they-also-take-methamphetamine-study-finds/>

Could the DEA have stopped the opioid epidemic by cutting off the supply?

https://www.washingtonpost.com/investigations/could-the-dea-have-stopped-the-opioid-epidemic-by-cutting-off-the-supply/2019/12/28/590ce050-1c61-11ea-8d58-5ac3600967a1_story.html

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Tigers Extinct in Laos

John R. Platt – Scientific American: 22 December 2019

The snaring crisis in Southeast Asia appears to have claimed the lives of Laos' last wild tigers.

<https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/extinction-countdown/tigers-extinct-in-laos/>

A Mexican indigenous town's environmental revolt

Jennifer Gonzalez Covarrubias – Phys.org: 21 December 2019

In the indigenous town of Cheran, Mexico, the people decided to take their lives back from the illegal loggers and the drug cartels funding them. Eight years later, they have been largely successful.

<https://phys.org/news/2019-12-mexican-indigenous-town-environmental-revolt.html>

For more on this theme:

Border closures in Nigeria's northeast slash fuel smuggling, country's petrol agency says

<https://www.illicit-trade.com/2019/12/border-closures-in-nigerias-northeast-slash-fuel-smuggling-countrys-petrol-agency-says/>

Costa Rican Orchids: A Goldmine for Illegal Smugglers

<https://news.co.cr/costa-rican-orchids-a-goldmine-for-illegal-smugglers/80886/>

British soldiers in anti-poaching mission to protect endangered black rhinos

<https://home.bt.com/news/uk-news/british-soldiers-in-anti-poaching-mission-to-protect-endangered-black-rhinos-11364420907990>

'More joint ops needed to stop wildlife traffickers'

<https://www.nst.com.my/world/region/2019/12/552224/more-joint-ops-needed-stop-wildlife-traffickers>

THE LAST GREEN MILE: Malaysia's environmental activists and conservationists reflect on the year that was and the way forward

<https://www.nst.com.my/lifestyle/sunday-vibes/2019/12/551555/last-green-mile-malaysias-environmental-activists-and>

North Sumatra Police probe illegal logging as possible cause of deadly floods

<https://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2020/01/03/north-sumatra-police-probe-illegal-logging-as-possible-cause-of-deadly-floods.html>

China Attempts to Balance Forest Use, Protection In Amended Law

<https://news.bloombergenvironment.com/environment-and-energy/china-attempts-to-balance-forest-use-protection-in-amended-law>

Africa to tackle illegal rosewood trade with harmonised policy

<https://www.dailytrust.com.ng/africa-to-tackle-illegal-rosewood-trade-with-harmonised-policy.html>

IUU Fishing: Panama's Yellow Card Reinstated

<https://www.maritime-executive.com/article/iuu-fishing-panama-s-yellow-card-reinstated>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Fleeing Home: Refugees and Human Trafficking

Alexandra Bro – Council on Foreign Relations: 31 December 2019

Global refugee flows are at the highest levels in history. Many refugees face human trafficking dangers on the way to and in their host countries – something that has not been adequately addressed.

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/fleeing-home-refugees-and-human-trafficking>

What crackdown? Migrant smuggling business adapts, thrives

Maria Verza and Christopher Sherman – The Associated Press: 19 December 2019

The business of smuggling migrants to the U.S. southern border is adapting to a year of changes on both sides of the frontier.

<https://apnews.com/202a751ac3873a802b5da8c04c69f2fd>

For more on this theme:

Victim's suit against hotel chains focuses attention on sex trafficking

<https://www.detroitnews.com/story/news/local/michigan/2019/12/21/sex-trafficking-lawsuit-hotel-chains-michigan-intercontinental-marriott/4405925002/>

Human trafficking: Racketeers using new route

<https://english.khabarhub.com/2019/31/65301/>

The pay's great: How human trafficking syndicates lure victims

<https://www.thestar.com.my/news/nation/2019/12/25/the-pays-great-how-human-trafficking-syndicates-lure-victims>

How the Aviation Industry is Responding to Sex Trafficking

<https://www.smudailycampus.com/news/how-the-aviation-industry-is-responding-to-sex-trafficking>

United States to aid Mexico in creating two genetic databases to combat crime

<https://mexiconewsdaily.com/news/two-genetic-databases-to-combat-crime/>

Smugglers Look for New Populations to Bring Across US Border

https://www.theepochtimes.com/smugglers-look-for-new-populations-to-bring-across-us-border_3185681.html

Making misery pay: Libya militias take EU funds for migrants

<https://apnews.com/9d9e8d668ae4b73a336a636a86bdf27f>

Europe's decade of migration chaos

<https://www.thenational.ae/world/europe/europe-s-decade-of-migration-chaos-1.957868>

Migration to Europe in 2019: Facts and figures

<https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/21811/migration-to-europe-in-2019-facts-and-figures>

No end to abuse and exploitation of migrants stranded in Libya

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/1602256/middle-east>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

The dream of a global internet is edging towards destruction

Wendy Hall and Kieron O'Hara – *Wired*: 24 December 2019

With competing visions for the internet tearing it apart at the seams, the medium as we know it may not last much longer.

<https://www.wired.co.uk/article/internet-fragmentation>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Why We Need A More Regulated Tech And AI Environment -- And Why That Will Probably Never Happen

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2019/12/23/why-we-need-a-more-regulated-tech-and-ai-environment-and-why-that-will-probably-never-happen/#147ed362673a>

(Global) Virtuous circles: Skilling up for an ethical web

<https://www.computerweekly.com/feature/Virtuous-circles-skilling-up-for-an-ethical-web>

(Russia) Russia Briefly Cuts Internet Access

<https://www.newsmax.com/newsfront/internet-privacy-national-security-world-wide-web/2019/12/25/id/947300/>

INTERNET FREEDOM

Critics see Nigeria's controversial Social Media Bill as attack on internet freedom

Bola Macaulay – *Naija247News*: 21 December 2019

Critics say that recently proposed legislation in Nigeria would decimate internet freedoms in the country. The government says the bill is for national security and would allow authorities to block access to certain social media to curb the spread of “false statements.”

<https://naija247news.com/2019/12/21/critics-see-nigerias-controversial-social-media-bill-as-attack-on-internet-freedom/>

For more on this theme:

(Iran) Report: Iran cuts mobile internet in some provinces

<https://apnews.com/6c236e910ce1c797021a18fd09d7addb>

(China) China's New Internet Censorship Rules Outline Direction For Content

<https://variety.com/2020/digital/news/china-censorship-law-bytedance-1203455740/>

(India) Internet outages play havoc with life in UP

<https://www.sundayguardianlive.com/opinion/internet-outages-play-havoc-life>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

It's 2020 and you have new privacy rights online. But you might have to show ID

Sam Dean – Los Angeles Times: 1 January 2020

The U.S. now has a major data privacy law, but it will only apply to California residents. The California Consumer Protection Act went into effect at the stroke of midnight on January 1 and provides a host of new legal obligations for companies that collect, sell and share consumers' data, as well as protections for those consumers.

<https://www.latimes.com/business/technology/story/2020-01-01/ccpa-california-internet-rights-what-you-need-know>

For more on this theme:

(EU) EU Companies and Cybersecurity Threats

<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2020/01/02/eu-companies-and-cybersecurity-threats/>

(EU) Continental Drift: Is Digital Sovereignty Splitting Global Data Centers?

<https://www.datacenterknowledge.com/regulation/continental-drift-digital-sovereignty-splitting-global-data-centers>

(Global) What to expect in 2020: Cybersecurity edition

<https://securityboulevard.com/2019/12/what-to-expect-in-2020-cybersecurity-edition/>

(U.S.) Facebook Locks Down Privacy, But Lawmakers Demand the Key

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/jonmarkman/2020/12/29/facebook-locks-down-privacy-but-lawmakers-demand-the-key/#6852160f75dc>

(U.S.) Incoming: What Local Governments Can Learn From Federal Cybersecurity Efforts

<https://www.afcea.org/content/incoming-what-local-governments-can-learn-federal-cybersecurity-efforts>

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Russians are masters of deception when it comes to cyberwars

David Ignatius – The Washington Post: 2 January 2020

The United Nations recently adopted Russia's proposal for a cyber crime resolution. "People should pay attention," says Chris Painter, who was the Obama administration's top cyber diplomat. The Russians have been trying for two decades to shape global internet rules that match their interests. But with the cyber crime treaty, "they've taken it to the next level."

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/russians-are-masters-of-deception-when-it-comes-to-cyberwars/2020/01/02/d931bb70-2db4-11ea-9b60-817cc18cf173_story.html

For more on this theme:

(Global) Brave New World: The State and Technological Revolution

<https://balkaninsight.com/2020/01/01/brave-new-world-the-state-and-technological-revolution/>

(Ireland) Ireland publishes new National Cyber Security Strategy

<https://www.bignewsnetwork.com/news/263530040/ireland-publishes-new-national-cyber-security-strategy>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Major police stations to get dedicated cyber crime wing

The Hindu: 27 December 2019

To tackle the growing threat of cyber crimes, every police station in Hyderabad, India, will get a crime wing to deal with cyber cases.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/major-police-stations-to-get-dedicated-cyber-crime-wing/article30405592.ece>

For more on this theme:

(India) CSCs to offer free Wifi till March 2020

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/internet/cscs-to-offer-free-wifi-till-march-2020/article-show/72968520.cms>

(Bolivia) Martin Murillo Brings Bolivian Villages the Internet

<https://spectrum.ieee.org/the-institute/ieee-member-news/martin-murillo-brings-bolivian-villages-the-internet>

(Rwanda) Rwanda Takes on Smart Phone Access Challenge into Year 2020

<https://www.ktpress.rw/2019/12/rwanda-takes-on-smart-phone-access-challenge-into-year-2020/>

(Pakistan) Digital Pakistan Vision does not take on digital literacy skill set building: Dawn contributor

<https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/digital-pakistan-vision-does-not-take-on-digital-literacy-skill-set-building-dawn-contributor>

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

Man Behind Major Hacks in USA is Now an Internet Security Teacher in China

WIC News: 26 December 2019

A Chinese malware broker who spent 18 months in the San Diego federal detention center after being sentenced by the U.S. government for involvement in malicious activity linked to major hacks is now back in China at his old teaching job.

<https://wicnews.com/world/man-behind-major-hacks-usa-now-internet-security-teacher-china-333024831/>

For more on this theme:

(India) Cybercrime: Online payment systems to be prime targets in 2020

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/technology/cybercrime-online-payment-systems-to-be-prime-targets-in-2020/article30430657.ece>

(Global) Seven Reasons For Cybercrime's Meteoric Growth

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2019/12/23/seven-reasons-for-cybercrimes-meteoric-growth/#1cc9ea565fa2>

(Global) How the Ransomware Economy Has Grown

<https://securityboulevard.com/2020/01/how-the-ransomware-economy-has-grown/>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

As cyber risks rise in 2020, as they surely will, don't overlook physical security

Vidya Muthukrishnan – Security Boulevard: 31 December 2019

In the wake of the cyber security mania for critical infrastructure, organizations must be careful not to overlook the importance of physical security as well.

<https://securityboulevard.com/2019/12/guest-essay-as-cyber-risks-rise-in-2020-as-they-surely-will-dont-overlook-physical-security/>

For more on this theme:

(Ireland) Cyber attack on Irish data centres would badly hit economy, report warns

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/crime-and-law/cyber-attack-on-irish-data-centres-would-badly-hit-economy-report-warns-1.4124753>

(U.S.) CISA Confronts 2020's Top Critical Infrastructure Threats

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/infrastructure-security/cisa-confronts-2020s-top-critical-infrastructure-threats/>

(U.S.) Terrorism consortium examines worldwide critical infrastructure attacks

<https://homelandprepnews.com/stories/41727-terrorism-consortium-examines-worldwide-critical-infrastructure-attacks/>

TRAINING AND EXERCISES

States are on front lines of 2020 election-security efforts

Christina A. Cassidy – The Associated Press: 26 December 2019

Local, state, federal and military officials are working together to ensure the security of elections in 2020.

<https://apnews.com/222bd1402c96bc487f5a0a2dc5bff12c>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Fort Meade: Soldiers team up for cyber training at the 2019 NetWars Services Cup

<https://www.capitalgazette.com/neighborhoods/ac-cn-fort-meade-20191224-20191225-l2p77cy-pjjcu3gj7lmnysp7cze-story.html>

(U.K.) School pupils learn all things cyber security in county-wide scheme

<https://www.dailyecho.co.uk/news/18117512.school-pupils-learn-things-cyber-security-county-wide-scheme/>

(U.S.) Responders get hands-on look at latest tech

<https://gcn.com/articles/2020/01/02/responders-hands-on-tech.aspx>

NOTEWORTHY PODCASTS

Leading by example and positive reenforcement.

Hacking Humans – The Cyberwire: 2 January 2020

This episode covers several of the most recent cyber scams. The podcast's special guest is Dennis Dillman of Barracuda Networks, who shares his thoughts on employee training.

<https://thecyberwire.com/podcasts/cw-podcasts-hh-2020-01-02.html>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Inside Magecart and Genesis.

<https://thecyberwire.com/podcasts/cw-podcasts-rs-2019-12-21.html>

(Global) Cyber Security Today — Make this New Year Resolution

<https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/cyber-security-today-make-this-new-year-resolution/425342>

(Global) Avoiding VC pitfalls with Ron Gula and Mike Janke

<https://thecyberwire.com/podcasts/cw-podcasts-special-2019-Avoiding-VC-pitfalls-with-Ron-Gula-and-Mike-Janke.html>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS

After the caliphate: ISIS at a crossroads

Liz Sly – The Washington Post: 24 December 2019

ISIS fighters remain and are gathering together, just as sleeper cells are waiting to strike. But the fate of ISIS will likely be decided in the next few months as the world waits to see if the group is ready for a comeback.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2019/world/whats-next-isis/>

ISIS terror risk to rise in south Philippines

Bong S. Sarmiento – Asia Times: 30 December 2019

Though martial law irritates residents on the Mindanao island of the Philippines, President Rodrigo Duterte's decision to lift the restrictions in 2020 may not be for the best. Recent attacks indicate that local terror groups are ready to regroup.

<https://www.asiatimes.com/2019/12/article/isis-terror-risk-to-rise-in-south-philippines/>

For more on this theme:

ISIS Affiliate in Nigeria Releases a Video Showing 11 Executions

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/27/world/africa/ISIS-executions-Nigeria.html>

Afghan official: Hundreds of IS members, family detained

<https://apnews.com/812e94d1ecac196eca0ab3c06cd44e67>

ISIS winter offensive illustrates need to confront global threat

<https://thehill.com/opinion/national-security/475805-isis-winter-offensive-illustrates-need-to-confront-global-threat>

ISIS 'caliphate' crumbled in 2019, but terror group remains forceful threat, experts say

<https://www.foxnews.com/world/isis-caliphate-2019-forceful-threat-terror-group>

Who Will Lead The ISIS After Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi?

<https://www.ndtv.com/world-news/who-will-lead-the-isis-after-abu-bakr-al-baghdadi-2153236>

New Caliph, Same Old Problems

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/west-africa/2020-01-01/new-caliph-same-old-problems>

The troubling resurgence of ISIS

<https://torontosun.com/opinion/columnists/hassan-the-troubling-resurgence-of-isis>

When ISIS found home in India

https://www.business-standard.com/article/beyond-business/when-isis-found-home-in-india-119122100958_1.html

Women of the Eastern Caliphate Part 1: Hiding in Plain Sight

<https://pulitzercenter.org/reporting/women-eastern-caliphate-part-1-hiding-plain-sight>

FOREIGN FIGHTERS

A Way to Ensure the Disruption of the Islamic State: Bring ISIS Children Home

Elena Pokalova – The National Interest: 22 December 2019

The children caught in the middle are at the greatest risk in the fight over returning ISIS fighters and/or their families to their home nations. Growing up in the radicalized detention camps sets up the children to become the next generation of ISIS if nothing is done to break the cycle of radicalization.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/middle-east-watch/way-ensure-disruption-islamic-state-bring-isis-children-home-107711>

For more on this theme:

Turkey deports ISIS bride and child back to the Netherlands

<https://www.dutchnews.nl/news/2019/12/turkey-deports-isis-bride-and-child-back-to-the-netherlands/>

Christmas at home in Trinidad for boys held in Isis caliphate

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/dec/27/christmas-at-home-in-trinidad-for-boys-held-in-isis-caliphate>

Conditions Deteriorate At Syrian Camp Where ISIS Families Are Held

<https://www.npr.org/2019/12/23/790687279/conditions-deteriorate-at-syrian-camp-where-isis-families-are-held>

How a German family ended up in Syria's Islamic State-controlled territory

<https://www.dw.com/en/how-a-german-family-ended-up-in-syrias-islamic-state-controlled-territory/a-51809696>

Thousands of Islamic State fighters captured in Syria face uncertain fate

<https://www.stripes.com/middle-east/thousands-of-islamic-state-fighters-captured-in-syria-face-uncertain-fate-1.612639>

Castaway from the Islamic State

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2019/12/23/how-isis-women-their-children-are-being-left-stranded-desert/?arc404=true>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

How Boko Haram Has Regained the Initiative and What Nigeria Should Do to Stop It

Nathaniel Allen – War on the Rocks: 24 December 2019

Though local and state authorities in Nigeria have won battles against Boko Haram, the group is far from destroyed. Nigeria has to learn to take those small victories and reform to turn them into lasting achievements against the group.

<https://warontherocks.com/2019/12/how-boko-haram-has-regained-the-initiative-and-what-nigeria-should-do-to-stop-it/>

Trends in Terrorism: What's On the Horizon in 2020

Colin P. Clarke – *Foreign Policy Research Institute*: 2 January 2020

As we usher in a new year, what trends in terrorism are likely to dominate the global security landscape in 2020?

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2020/01/trends-in-terrorism-whats-on-the-horizon-in-2020/>

For more on this theme:

Violent Extremism in the Maldives: The Saudi Factor

<https://thediplomat.com/2019/12/violent-extremism-in-the-maldives-the-saudi-factor/>

West Africa: Is France losing ground to militants?

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-50758613>

Al Qaeda affiliate Al-Shabaab claims responsibility for Somalia truck bombing that killed 85

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/31/africa/somalia-truck-bombing-alshabaab/index.html>

Kenya: Top US Army Official Says Al-Shabaab Is a Global Menace Targeting America

<https://allafrica.com/stories/201912310478.html>

Terror and Violent Extremism: Securing India in the coming decade

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/terror-and-violent-extremism-securing-india-in-the-coming-decade-59741/>

Taliban council agrees to temporary cease-fire in Afghanistan

<https://www.militarytimes.com/news/your-military/2019/12/29/taliban-council-agrees-to-temporary-cess-fire-in-afghanistan/>

Terrorism poses growing threat in Africa's Sahel, Germany warns

<https://www.dw.com/en/terrorism-poses-growing-threat-in-africas-sahel-germany-warns/a-51813261>

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

The Queen's Speech: Counter-Terrorism – The Implications

Wasiq Wasiq – *International Policy Digest*: 24 December 2019

The United Kingdom government set out its legislative plan for the year in the Queen's Speech, and it is no surprise that terrorism is prominently featured among the most pressing matters.

<https://intpolicydigest.org/2019/12/24/the-queen-s-speech-counter-terrorism-the-implications/>

For more on this theme:

UAE hails US counterterrorism efforts

<https://menafn.com/1099493042/UAE-hails-US-counterterrorism-efforts>

Qatar passes counter-terrorism law

<https://news.am/eng/news/552002.html>

India-US counter-terrorism relationship has deepened: US official

<http://www.navhindtimes.in/india-us-counter-terrorism-relationship-has-deepened-us-official/>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Critics slam study claiming YouTube's algorithm doesn't lead to radicalization

William Feuer – CNBC: 30 December 2019

Researchers have found that YouTube's recommendation algorithm appears to be designed to benefit mainstream media over independent YouTube creators. But experts say that the study – which has not been peer-reviewed – has many major flaws.

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/12/30/critics-slam-youtube-study-showing-no-ties-to-radicalization.html>

The World Has a Long Battle Ahead With the Idea of ISIS

Kabir Taneja – The Wire: 22 December 2019

This article is an excerpt from the book, *The ISIS Peril: The World's Most Feared Terror Group and Its Shadow on South Asia*. Focused on the defeat of the physical appeal of ISIS, the world needs to pay attention to the fact that the ideology still holds sway for many.

<https://thewire.in/security/the-isis-peril-kabir-taneja>

For more on this theme:

Former IS Member Combats Online Radicalization in Indonesia

<https://www.voanews.com/extremism-watch/former-member-combats-online-radicalization-indonesia>

White Extremism Faces a Subversive Foe Online: Google Ads

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/12/30/us/white-supremacy-moonshot-google-ads.html>

Finding love and jihad

<https://www.rappler.com/newsbreak/in-depth/247410-finding-love-jihad>

Belgian authorities worried about online radicalization

<https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/87069/federal-prosecutor-worried-about-inspired-terrorism/>

To avoid radicalisation, foreign children who lived under IS must be allowed home

<https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/comment/2019/12/30/foreign-children-who-lived-under-is-must-be-repatriated>

Expert warns UK's counter-radicalisation programme open to manipulation

<https://www.thenational.ae/world/europe/expert-warns-uk-s-counter-radicalisation-programme-open-to-manipulation-1.959129>