

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Is Angola's anti-corruption campaign a real effort — or just for show?

Austin Doctor – The Washington Post: 16 January 2020

Anti-corruption campaigns must be scrutinized as much as any other government program. Angola demonstrates how far autocratic regimes are ready to go to secure their grip on wealth and power.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2020/01/16/is-angolas-anti-corruption-campaign-real-effort-or-just-show/>

Lebanon: Little Action on Corruption, Economic Crisis

Human Rights Watch: 14 January 2020

Lebanon's leadership isn't doing enough to fix the country's economic and political crisis, according to Human Rights Watch. "Lebanon's politicians have done little to stop living standards from plummeting and have not responded to protesters' concerns about the worsening economic crisis," said Joe Stork, a deputy director for Human Rights Watch. "Their dereliction is threatening to drastically worsen access to health care and the availability of medical supplies."

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/01/14/lebanon-little-action-corruption-economic-crisis>

Full report:

World Report 2020

https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/world_report_download/hrw_world_report_2020.pdf

For more on this theme:

To boost South Korea's faltering economy, end corruption and invigorate the rule of law

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/jan/6/to-boost-south-koreas-faltering-economy-end-corrup/>

Arab Barometer Placed Lebanon at the Top of Latest Corruption Report

<https://www.the961.com/awareness/world-bank-placed-lebanon-at-the-top-of-latest-corruption-report>

Corruption persists and will remain in PH despite dawning of a new age

<https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/01/04/opinion/columnists/corruption-persists-and-will-remain-in-ph-despite-dawning-of-a-new-age/671026/>

Anti-corruption mission in Honduras in precarious position

<https://apnews.com/25b5cd60c7cbdc900df5cd3438c7727a>

Report on Alleged Chinese Corruption in Maldives Due by June: Minister

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2020-01-16/report-on-alleged-chinese-corruption-in-maldives-due-by-june-minister>

Former Philippine police chief indicted for drugs war corruption

<https://www.france24.com/en/20200116-former-philippine-police-chief-indicted-for-drugs-war-corruption>

Hun Sen has an existential corruption problem

<https://www.asiatimes.com/2020/01/article/hun-sen-has-an-existential-corruption-problem/>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Coca Eradication Best Way to Fight Violence in Colombia, Duque Says

Julia Symmes Cobb and Luis Jaime Acosta – Reuters: 15 January 2020

Colombian President Ivan Duque stands behind his decision to continue with eradication of coca plants, despite criticism. He asserts that it is the best way to protect peace efforts and fight drug trafficking violence.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-colombia-peace/coca-eradication-best-way-to-fight-violence-in-colombia-duque-says-idUSKBN1ZE2MG>

Leadership Role of Women Often Overlooked in Mexico's Organized Crime Landscape

Parker Asmann – InSight Crime: 14 January 2020

The role of women in Mexican organized crime, particularly the drug trade, has long been overshadowed by the sheer brutality of men associated with the trafficking. But the country has a long history of female crime bosses.

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/leadership-role-of-women-often-overlooked-in-mexicos-organized-crime-landscape/>

For more on this theme:

What We Can Learn From a Tiny Baltic Country's Two-Decade Fentanyl Crisis

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/k7ea93/estonia-fentanyl-crisis-what-says-about-us

Almost 80% of Filipinos believe that 'ninja cops' exist in the police force

<https://cnnphilippines.com/news/2020/1/7/SWS-survey-78-percent-believe-ninja-cops-.html>

The rise in meth and cocaine overdoses, explained

<https://www.vox.com/policy-and-politics/2020/1/9/21055113/opioid-epidemic-stimulants-cocaine-meth-drug-overdose-death>

Armenia joins the Council of Europe's drug policy expert body, Pompidou Group

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/armenia-joins-the-council-of-europe-s-drug-policy-expert-body-pompidou-group>

Fentanyl deaths on rise in UK, drug report warns

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-50989633>

Major drugstore chains sue doctors in sprawling federal opioid case

https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/major-drugstore-chains-sue-doctors-in-sprawling-federal-opioid-case/2020/01/07/3ac9cd70-317d-11ea-9313-6cba89b1b9fb_story.html

Nepal may be becoming a new transit point for drug smugglers

<https://elevenmyanmar.com/news/nepal-may-be-becoming-a-new-transit-point-for-drug-smugglers>

Mexico and U.S. plan to reduce illegal arms and drug trade

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mexico-usa-attorneygeneral/mexico-and-us-plan-to-reduce-illegal-arms-and-drug-trade-idUSKBN1ZF2WX>

Los Pochos, Guatemala's New Generation of Drug Runners for Sinaloa Cartel

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/los-pochos-guatemala-sinaloa-cartel/>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Extinction of the Chinese Paddlefish Can Be a New Beginning

Adam Minter – Bloomberg: 11 January 2020

The official extinction of the Chinese Paddlefish should serve as a wake-up call to China that it has the power to decide the fates of many endangered species. As the world's largest developing economy, and hub for illicit wildlife trade, China should take a leading role in addressing global extinction.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2020-01-11/chinese-paddlefish-extinction-can-be-a-new-beginning-for-beijing>

Restricting trade in endangered species can backfire, triggering market booms

Annah Lake Zhu – The Conversation: 13 January 2020

International bans may have the unintended effect of causing greater demand for the item in countries where domestic bans are not in place. The author uses the spike in rosewood prices in China as an example and highlights the success of domestic anti-corruption campaigns.

<https://theconversation.com/restricting-trade-in-endangered-species-can-backfire-triggering-market-booms-124869>

For more on this theme:

Illegal hunting and bushmeat trade threaten biodiversity and wildlife of Angola

<https://phys.org/news/2020-01-illegal-bushmeat-threatens-biodiversity-wildlife.html>

Building sustainability into traditional Chinese medicine trade on the new Silk Roads

<https://phys.org/news/2020-01-sustainability-traditional-chinese-medicine-silk.html>

Panning for Gold, Pining for Water: Illegal Mining Taints Bulawayo's Water Supply

<https://globalpressjournal.com/africa/zimbabwe/panning-gold-pining-water-illegal-mining-taints-bulawayo-water-supply/>

Intelligence unit, lab to combat illegal wildlife trade

<https://www.theborneopost.com/2020/01/16/intelligence-unit-lab-to-combat-illegal-wildlife-trade/>

Elephant, rhino poaching lowest since 2016

<https://www.namibian.com.na/87079/read/Elephant-rhino-poaching-lowest-since-2016>

Protection sought for 'underrated' Palawan forest

<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1212076/protection-sought-for-underrated-palawan-forest>

The Price of Protecting Rhinos

<https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2020/01/war-rhino-poaching/604801/>

The Rise of Blockchain in Seafood Traceability

<https://www.supplychainbrain.com/blogs/1-think-tank/post/30703-the-rise-of-blockchain-in-seafood-traceability>

World First Drone Radio-tracking of Critically Endangered Pangolins

<https://getthewordout.com.au/press-release/press-release-world-first-drone-radio-tracking-of-critically-endangered-pangolins/>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Sex trade flourishes in Peru's Amazon despite crackdown on illegal mining

Anastasia Moloney – Reuters: 16 January 2020

It has been almost a year since Peru launched a major crackdown on illegal mining and the sex trafficking associated with the miners. But the trade didn't stop; it just moved farther into the jungle and continues to be a major issue for many young women forced to work in the brothels and bars around the mines.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-peru-trafficking-mining/sex-trade-flourishes-in-perus-amazon-despite-crackdown-on-illegal-mining-idUSKBN1ZF0KE>

Tunisia must put its human trafficking laws to work

Rim Dhaouadi – Institute for Security Studies: 16 January 2020

Tunisia has made some significant advances in creating laws and anti-trafficking institutions, but its implementation and enforcement of that legislation has been weak at best.

<https://issafrica.org/iss-today/tunisia-must-put-its-human-trafficking-laws-to-work>

For more on this theme:

Oil and gas industry works to increase awareness of human trafficking

<https://www.houstonchronicle.com/business/energy/article/Oil-and-gas-industry-works-to-increase-awareness-14969931.php>

PayPal offers up financial data to combat human trafficking

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trafficking-paypal-trfn/paypal-offers-up-financial-data-to-combat-human-trafficking-idUSKBN1ZF2X1>

DHS Strategy on Human Trafficking Aims to Put Issue Front and Center

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2020/01/15/dhs-strategy-on-human-trafficking-aims-to-put-issue-front-and-center/>

Mobile app aims to bolster human trafficking reporting in Thailand

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-thailand-trafficking-apps/mobile-app-aims-to-bolster-human-trafficking-reporting-in-thailand-idUSKBN1ZE10C>

DOJ Urges 'Innovative Strategies' Against Human Trafficking

<https://thecrimereport.org/2020/01/15/doj-urges-innovative-strategies-against-human-trafficking/>

FBI: There are different types of human trafficking

<https://www.fox13news.com/video/644676>

UN official: Sudan effectively contributed to combating human trafficking

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20200115-un-official-sudan-effectively-contributed-to-combating-human-trafficking/>

Why Rohingya women and girls are risking dangerous smuggling routes

<https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news/2020/1/16/Rohingya-trafficking-refugees-forced-marriage>

Trafficking risk high for hundreds of migrants sent back to Libya

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-libya-trafficking-migrants-trfn/trafficking-risk-high-for-hundreds-of-migrants-sent-back-to-libya-idUSKBN1ZE15G>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Russia Takes a Big Step Toward Internet Isolation

Lily Hay Newman – Wired: 5 January 2020

Russia is practicing taking its internet offline from the rest of world, with some success. Critics assert the push is to control and censor information, but the government claims it is a cyber security move. Either way, the practice is a blow to the dream of a global internet with international norms.

<https://www.wired.com/story/russia-internet-control-disconnect-censorship/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Will 2020 be the year that politicians bring the Internet to heel?

<https://www.computerweekly.com/blog/When-IT-Meets-Politics/Will-2020-be-the-year-that-politicians-bring-the-Internet-to-heel>

(Global) ‘Erosion of rules-based global order, tech advancement impacting future of nation states’

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/597347-erosion-of-rules-based-global-order-tech-advancement-impacting-future-of-nation-states>

(Global) So Many Nonprofits Have Trusted Dot Org for So Long

http://www.circleid.com/posts/20200115_so_many_nonprofits_have_trusted_dot_org_for_so_long/

INTERNET FREEDOM

As Putin Schemes to Extend His Reign, Expect New Forms of Internet Repression

Patrick Tucker – Defense One: 15 January 2020

Russian President Vladimir Putin has made a move to change the country’s constitution and stay in power after his second term expires. Critics decry the move and say it will dramatically affect censorship, particularly internet freedom.

<https://www.defenseone.com/technology/2020/01/putin-schemes-extend-his-reign-expect-new-forms-in-internet-repression/162477/>

For more on this theme:

(India) India threatens to tear apart any semblance of digital privacy

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/global-opinions/india-threatens-to-tear-apart-any-semblance-of-digital-privacy/2020/01/13/04089bdc-3640-11ea-bf30-ad313e4ec754_story.html

(Yemen) Activists Blame Houthi Corruption for Internet Blackout

<https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/2078806/activists-blame-houthi-corruption-internet-blackout>

(India) The trauma of internet shutdown

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/specials/india-file/the-trauma-of-internet-shutdown/article30560717.ece>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

The Retreat of the Data Localization Brigade: India, Indonesia and Vietnam

Arindrajit Basu – The Diplomat: 10 January 2020

Last year ushered in a plethora of controversy over cross-border data transfers and data localization legislation worldwide. That is likely to continue with more fervor into 2020 with the same countries pushing such laws on foreign companies that want to operate within their borders – particularly China, India, Indonesia and Vietnam within Asia.

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/01/the-retreat-of-the-data-localization-brigade-india-indonesia-and-vietnam/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) It's time to redefine how data is governed, controlled and shared. Here's how

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/01/future-of-data-protect-and-regulation/>

(India) The 'terms and conditions' of data protection

<https://www.fortuneindia.com/opinion/the-terms-and-conditions-of-data-protection/103984>

(China) Privacy, Security and Content Regulation to Increase in 2020

<https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=4c9bde9f-6b7c-4425-9bdf-54eb7d14a44e>

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

From offense to defense: NSA's Microsoft flaw alert shows shift in public strategy

Kevin Collier – NBC: 14 January 2020

The decision by the National Security Agency to publicly disclose vulnerabilities it found within the Microsoft operating system – rather than keep them secret and thus operative for intelligence purposes – is at the heart of a new strategy to treat these vulnerabilities and go more defensive than offensive.

<https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/security/offense-defense-nsa-s-microsoft-flaw-alert-shows-shift-public-n1115456>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Smart Border Management: Transformation from Analog to Digital Borders

<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2020/01/13/smart-border-management-transformation-from-analog-to-digital-borders/>

(U.S., Iran) Congress Hears Warnings of Iranian Cyberthreats

<https://www.govinfosecurity.com/congress-hears-warnings-iranian-cyberthreats-a-13613>

(U.S.) Would da Vinci Support the Pentagon's New Cyber Strategy?

<https://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/would-da-vinci-support-pentagons-new-cyber-strategy>

PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Modi's village broadband plans facing delays; will private players help fulfill the goal?

Financial Express: 13 January 2020

India is considering a public/private partnership model to spur progress with the president's BharatNet plan.

<https://www.financialexpress.com/economy/modis-village-broadband-plans-facing-delays-will-private-players-help-fulfill-the-goal/1821042/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) Siemens CEO touts social responsibility along with profits

<https://washingtontechnology.com/blogs/editors-notebook/2020/01/siemens-ceo-leadership-philosophy.aspx>

(Africa) The future is intelligent: Harnessing the potential of artificial intelligence in Africa

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/africa-in-focus/2020/01/13/the-future-is-intelligent-harnessing-the-potential-of-artificial-intelligence-in-africa/>

(U.S.) Justice in the Internet Age: Legal Access for Rural Americans

<https://www.jdsupra.com/legalnews/justice-in-the-internet-age-legal-57644/>

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Intellectual Property Theft a Growing Threat

Elizabeth Lee – Voice of America: 15 January 2020

The U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation is warning that intellectual property theft is a growing concern, especially when it comes to technology.

<https://www.voanews.com/economy-business/intellectual-property-theft-growing-threat>

For more on this theme:

(India) Intermediary Liability Under Indian Copyright Law: A New Take

<http://www.mondaq.com/india/x/884070/Copyright/Intermediary+Liability+under+Indian+Copy-right+Law+A+New+Take>

(China, U.S.) Peter Navarro puts Amazon and eBay on notice: The China trade deal cracks down on counterfeits

<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/01/16/navarro-to-amazon-ebay-china-trade-deal-cracks-down-on-counterfeits.html>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

(India) High-speed internet on Andaman and Nicobar Islands! Modi govt starts big project; to be completed by June 2020

<https://www.financialexpress.com/infrastructure/high-speed-internet-on-andaman-and-nicobar-islands-modi-govt-starts-big-project-to-be-completed-by-june-2020/1818951/>

(Nigeria) Connectivity and the devt agenda: Is govt taxing away our future?

<https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/01/connectivity-and-the-devt-agenda-is-govt-taxing-away-our-future/>

(U.S.) How one official wants to increase DHS cyber efficiency

<https://www.fifthdomain.com/civilian/dhs/2020/01/14/how-one-official-wants-to-increase-dhs-cyber-efficiency/>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Are utilities doing enough to protect themselves from cyberattack?

Leo Simonovich – World Economic Forum: 15 January 2019

A new survey suggests that 54% of utility companies expect a cyber attack this year – and the threats are becoming more severe.

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/01/are-utilities-doing-enough-to-protect-themselves-from-cyber-attack/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Iran) DHS Bulletin to Hazardous Chemical Sector: Beef Up Cyber, Physical Security at Facilities

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/infrastructure-security/dhs-bulletin-to-hazardous-chemical-sector-beef-up-cyber-physical-security-at-facilities/>

(U.S.) Cyber Threats To North American Power Grid Are Growing

<https://oilprice.com/Latest-Energy-News/World-News/Cyber-Threats-To-North-American-Power-Grid-Are-Growing.html#>

(Global) Global Risks Report: Junk Products Raising Risk of Infrastructure Attacks

<https://www.cbronline.com/industry/global-risks-report-2020/>

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

The hack back bill legitimizes a messy game of revenge for businesses

Betsy Atkins and Rahul Kashyap – Quartz: 15 January 2020

There is a movement to debate the merits of the Active Cyber Defense Certainty Act. The bill would limit the negative consequences for businesses to hack back and engage in computer fraud and abuse while defending themselves from attack. Such a bill could be very beneficial, but it could also have many unintended consequences.

<https://qz.com/1785036/why-the-hack-back-bill-is-bad-for-business/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Scientists map out consequences of cyber attacks

<https://innovationorigins.com/scientists-map-out-consequences-of-cyber-attacks/>

(Global) 'Interfering' with hackers before they can disrupt or steal

<https://www.healthcareitnews.com/news/interfering-hackers-they-can-disrupt-or-steal>

(U.S.) Coaxing Cops To Tackle Cybercrime? There's An App For That

<https://www.npr.org/2020/01/15/796252827/coaxing-cops-to-tackle-cybercrime-theres-an-app-for-that>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

U.S. Military Resumes Joint Operations With Iraq

Alissa J. Rubin and Eric Schmitt – The New York Times: 15 January 2020

Just 10 days after the Iraqi Parliament voted to expel American soldiers from the country, the U.S. military has resumed joint operations against Islamic State groups in Iraq.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/15/world/middleeast/us-military-iraq.html>

Bureaucracy to brutality: New evidence reveals IS hierarchy

Sarah El Deeb – The Associated Press: 16 January 2020

A U.S.-based Syrian rights group has assembled a 24-page report detailing the atrocities committed by the Islamic State and the total control with which it ruled over elements of daily life in the country.

<https://apnews.com/Od741bd2ebe5a9f8679c041dd9e866c7>

Full report:

Judge, Jury and Executioner: The ISIS Bureau of Justice and Grievances

https://syriaaccountability.org/wp-content/uploads/2020.01.14_ISIS_EN_PDF.pdf

For more on this theme:

YPG returnees: Counterterrorist fighters under suspicion

<https://www.dw.com/en/ypg-returnees-counterterrorist-fighters-under-suspicion/a-51884403>

Turkey says it has repatriated 150 foreign fighters since Nov 11

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-turkey-security-islamic-state/turkey-says-it-has-repatriated-150-foreign-fighters-since-nov-11-idUSKBN1Z2135>

Here's Everything you Need to Know About the Increasing Islamic State Terror Activity in Syria.

<https://www.newsgram.com/increasing-islamic-state-terror-syria/>

Jordan's King Abdullah warns of ISIS' resurgence

<https://www.kurdistan24.net/en/news/6240c364-2e34-404f-9cd3-e3be70aaffbb>

Bomb Blast Claimed by ISIS Kills at Least 15 in Pakistan Mosque Used by Taliban

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/10/world/asia/pakistan-mosque-bombing-isis-taliban.html>

Secretary Of Defense Mark Esper On ISIS Fight And Middle East Status

<https://www.npr.org/2020/01/14/796344812/secretary-of-defense-mark-esper-on-isis-fight-and-middle-east-status>

Islamic State kills almost 100 soldiers in Niger

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/01/islamic-state-kills-almost-100-soldiers-in-niger.php>

Islamic State video details operations across the Sahel

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/01/islamic-state-video-details-operations-across-the-sahel.php>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

INTELBRIEF: Al-Shabaab is Resurging in Somalia

The Soufan Center: 16 January 2020

Al Shabaab is rising again in Somalia and launching attacks without consequence. Since March 2017, al-Shabaab has launched close to 900 attacks on civilians and hundreds more against U.S., Somali and Kenyan troops.

<https://thesoufancenter.org/intelbrief-al-shabaab-is-resurging-in-somalia/>

Terrorism is costing the global economy \$34 billion a year, research says

Dan Murphy – CNBC: 16 January 2020

According to the Institute for Peace, global terrorism claimed fewer lives but had just as much social and economic impact in 2018. “Although the intensity of terrorism has diminished, its breadth has not,” the Australian-based think tank warned.

<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/01/16/terrorism-is-costing-the-global-economy-34-billion-a-year.html>

Full report:

Global Terrorism Index 2019: Measuring the Impact of Terrorism

<http://visionofhumanity.org/app/uploads/2019/11/GTI-2019web.pdf>

For more on this theme:

Twenty-eight years ago Hezbollah’s leader was assassinated, and Israel paid a price

<https://atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/iransource/twenty-eight-years-ago-hezbollahs-leader-was-assassinated-and-israel-paid-a-price/>

Hezbollah Chief Threatens US Troops in Middle East Following Soleimani’s Death

<https://www.voanews.com/extremism-watch/hezbollah-chief-threatens-us-troops-middle-east-following-soleimanis-death>

Islamic State replaces al-Qaeda as Enemy No. 1 in Sahel

<https://www.france24.com/en/20200115-islamic-state-replaces-al-qaeda-as-enemy-no-1-in-sahel>

Islamic Extremism Wracks Burkina Faso, Spreading East

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2020-01-10/islamic-extremism-wracks-burkina-faso-spreading-east>

6 Terrorism Trends to Watch in 2020

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/infrastructure-security/6-terrorism-trends-to-watch-in-2020/>

Boko Haram propaganda unearthed

<https://cajnewsafrica.com/2020/01/13/boko-haram-propaganda-unearthed/>

Hezbollah: It’s time for Iran’s allies to start working to avenge Soleimani

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iraq-security-hezbollah/hezbollah-its-time-for-irans-allies-to-start-working-to-avenge-soleimani-idUSKBN1ZBOLJ>

Taliban Offer to Reduce Violence in Afghanistan Ahead of Deal With U.S.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/01/16/world/asia/afghanistan-taliban-agreement.html>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

To this man, Islamic State's ideology 'just made sense.' Now, he rejects extremism

Melissa Etehad –Los Angeles Times: 12 January 2020

A man, once indoctrinated into ISIS ideology, was able to turn things around and deradicalize. His case can help those seeking to counter violent extremism in others because he did not go through a specific program, yet he found his way out of radical thought. “We know the push and pull factors when it comes to someone who is becoming radicalized, but we understand much less about how they get out of that mindset,” said Bennett Clifford, a research fellow at George Washington University’s program on extremism.

<https://www.latimes.com/nation/la-na-col1-terrorism-prison-radicalization-2019-story.html>

Radical Islamists Are Still a Threat Behind Bars

Robin Simcox – Foreign Policy: 15 January 2020

Governments need to realize that radicalization among prisoners is just as dangerous as dealing with extremists on the street, and act accordingly.

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/01/15/radical-islamists-are-still-a-threat-behind-bars/>

For more on this theme:

Trauma counselling enables the reintegration of former terrorists

<https://issafrica.org/iss-today/trauma-counselling-enables-the-reintegration-of-former-terrorists>

Here's Why Young People Are Particularly Vulnerable To Radicalization

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/nikitamalik/2020/01/12/heres-why-young-people-are-vulnerable-radicalization/#bd065b58ee9b>

How Do Canadian Extremists Find Their Way in — and Out — of White Supremacist Groups?

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/how-do-canadian-extremists-find-their-way-in-and-out-of-white-supremacist-groups/>

Can This Notorious Troll Turn People Away From Extremism?

<https://www.wired.com/story/twitch-politics-online-debate/>

India: Fanning the Flames of Extremism and Terror at Home

<https://jamestown.org/program/india-fanning-the-flames-of-extremism-and-terror-at-home/>

India has de-radicalisation camps; young people being radicalised in Kashmir: CDS

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/india-has-de-radicalisation-camps-young-people-being-radicalised-in-kashmircds/articleshow/73308049.cms>

Malaysia's biggest threat for 2020 is 'political and terrorist radicalisation', experts warn

<https://www.scmp.com/week-asia/politics/article/3046491/malaysias-biggest-threat-2020-political-and-terrorist>

Steps to be taken to de-radicalise misguided youth

<https://colombogazette.com/2020/01/14/steps-to-be-taken-to-de-radicalise-misguided-youth/>

FINANCING TERRORISM

How Crypto May Be Targeted By Congress In Domestic Terrorism Financing

Jason Brett – Forbes: 12 January 2020

The U.S. House of Representatives is looking at the role cryptocurrency plays in increasing terrorism financing in the United States.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/jasonbrett/2020/01/12/how-crypto-may-be-targeted-by-congress-in-domestic-terrorism-financing/#47bb81331aac>

For more on this theme:

Law Enforcement Seeks to Destroy Terrorist Funding Sources

<https://inhomelandsecurity.com/law-enforcement-seeks-to-destroy-terrorist-funding-sources/>

EU's Fifth Anti-Money Laundering Directive: what the crypto-asset sector needs to know

<https://www.finextra.com/blogposting/18301/eus-fifth-anti-money-laundering-directive-what-the-crypto-asset-sector-needs-to-know>

FCA new money laundering and terror funding watchdog

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/fca-money-laundering-terror-funding-110009075.html>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: SOFT POWER

Foreign Students and China's Soft Power: The Case of Uganda

Benjamin Mulvey – The Diplomat: 10 January 2020

China has put educational diplomacy at the top of its list to build soft power – especially in Africa – and Uganda has benefited greatly. To attract students, China offers a better education system, scholarships, financial aid and easily obtainable study visas.

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/01/foreign-students-and-chinas-soft-power-the-case-of-uganda/>

For more on this theme:

Taiwan's soft-power sovereignty from China

<https://www.csmonitor.com/Commentary/the-monitors-view/2020/0114/Taiwan-s-soft-power-sovereignty-from-China>

Peace vital if India wants to harness soft power

<https://www.thestatesman.com/opinion/peace-vital-india-wants-harness-soft-power-1502845366.html>

Behind the News: Inside China Global Television Network

<http://www.lowyinterpreter.org/publications/behind-news-inside-china-global-television-network>

China aiming to become global sporting power

<https://www.dw.com/en/china-aiming-to-become-global-sporting-power/a-52026942>

How to win friends and influence enemies: China as global player in an age of covert government spin

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-01-15-how-to-win-friends-and-influence-enemies-china-as-global-player-in-an-age-of-covert-government-spin/>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: PROXY FORCES

Could Iran — and Hezbollah — strike in Latin America?

Kate Linthicum – Los Angeles Times: 10 January 2020

Hezbollah's threat to Latin America has roots in history, but is it currently a threat? It is certainly something to be considered as it is likely Iran will turn to proxy forces to continue asymmetric conflict with the U.S. after the death of Qassem Suleimani.

<https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2020-01-10/the-trump-administration-is-warning-that-hezbollah-could-strike-in-latin-america>

For more on this theme:

To deter Chinese sea claims, Indonesia puts its fishers on the front line

<https://news.mongabay.com/2020/01/natuna-indonesia-china-fisheries-illegal-fishing/>

Security woes will continue to haunt the Philippines in 2020

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/security-woes-will-continue-to-haunt-the-philippines-in-2020/>

IntelBrief: The Iranian Threat to the U.S. Homeland

<https://thesoufancenter.org/intelbrief-the-iranian-threat-to-the-u-s-homeland/>

Hezbollah Has Prepared for This Moment for Decades

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/united-states/2020-01-14/hezbollah-has-prepared-moment-decades>

How Defense Contractors Should Prepare for a Cyber Proxy War With Iran

<https://news.clearancejobs.com/2020/01/10/how-defense-contractors-should-prepare-for-a-cyber-proxy-war-with-iran/>

Iran's Response to Soleimani's Killing Is Coming

<https://www.theatlantic.com/international/archive/2020/01/qassem-soleimani-iran-response-hezbollah-hamas/604849/>

Iran's Proxy Threat Is the Real Problem Now

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/01/10/iran-proxy-threat-hezbollah-middle-east/>

Iran's support to the Taliban, which has included MANPADS and a bounty on US troops, could be a spoiler for peace in Afghanistan

<https://www.militarytimes.com/flashpoints/2020/01/14/iran-support-to-the-taliban-which-has-included-manpads-and-a-bounty-on-us-troops-could-be-a-spoiler-for-peace-in-afghanistan/>

Revealed: How Iran tried to set up terror cells in Central Africa

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/01/11/revealed-iran-tried-set-terror-cells-central-africa/>

US-Iran hostility recipe for instability in Horn of Africa

<https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/news/ea/US-Iran-hostility-recipe-for-instability-in-Horn-of-Africa/4552908-5415414-yhof2rz/index.html>