

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Brazil turns to bitcoin technology to curb corruption

Karla Mendes – Reuters: 25 January 2018

Brazil will use blockchain – a ledger of digital transactions – to curb fraud. The country hopes the technology will help to avoid another lengthy, high-level corruption scandal, but experts warn this is not a silver-bullet fix.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-property-blockchain/can-blockchain-save-the-amazon-in-corruption-mired-brazil-idUSKBN1FE113>

Seeking Political Stability Abroad? Fight Corruption.

Thomas Carothers and Christopher Carothers – The National Interest: 25 January 2018

Anger over government graft is fast becoming the reason why governments are toppling. Citizens are rising up and demanding more accountability, but in the short term such actions cause instability. To stabilize volatile regions, the world must deal with government corruption.

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/seeking-political-stability-abroad-fight-corruption-24222?src=ilaw>

For more on this theme:

Guatemala needs help in its battle against corruption

<http://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/foreign-policy/370579-guatemala-needs-help-in-its-battle-against-corruption>

Ex-President Lula's Corruption Conviction Is Upheld by Brazilian Appeals Court. Now What?

<https://theintercept.com/2018/01/24/lula-brazil-corruption-conviction-car-wash/>

European Union warns Romania over judicial reforms, corruption

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-romania-court/european-union-warns-romania-over-judicial-reforms-corruption-idUSKBN1FD1PS>

Corruption Protests Bring Out Creative Streak in Romania

<https://www.balkaninsight.com/en/article/corruption-protests-bring-out-creative-streak-in-romania-01-24-2018>

Chinese military to break new ground in corruption fight

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-01/25/c_136924835.htm

The fight against corruption must be taken much more seriously

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2018/01/fight-corruption-must-taken-much-seriously/>

The Vietnamese Communist Party's corruption hunt

<https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/vietnamese-communist-party-corruption-hunt>

How Corruption and Cronyism in Banking Fueled Iran's Protests

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/20/world/middleeast/iran-protests-corruption-banks.html>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Philadelphia Could Become the First US City With a Safe Injection Site. Finally.

Julia Lurie – Mother Jones: 23 January 2018

Two cities in America – Seattle and Philadelphia – are now moving forward with a bold approach to help prevent more drug-overdose deaths: supervised drug-consumption sites. While such facilities are highly controversial, research shows they could reduce harm and potential overdoses.

<https://www.motherjones.com/politics/2018/01/philadelphia-could-become-the-first-us-city-with-a-safe-injection-site-finally/>

Marijuana legalization is succeeding and other states should follow

Vermont's example

Jolene Forman – The Hill: 24 January 2018

While the U.S. government moves toward a crackdown on marijuana usage, states such as Vermont continue to legalize its usage. And a new report reveals that controlled usage in states where it is legal is working for the public good and also filling the states' coffers.

<http://thehill.com/opinion/civil-rights/370414-marijuana-legalization-is-succeeding-and-other-states-should-follow>

For more on this theme:

Thailand's drug warehouse

<https://www.thepuketnews.com/thailand-drug-warehouse-65641.php#8b3ZsFwZEvexA0mL.97>

Is Paraguay's EPP Expanding Role in Marijuana Trade?

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/paraguay-epp-marijuana-trade-expansion/>

Vermont Becomes Ninth State To Legalize Marijuana, But Getting Pot Might Be Tricky

<http://www.newsweek.com/vermont-becomes-ninth-state-legalize-marijuana-heres-where-buy-it-787792>

Thai women's prison highlights need for reform, drug policy rethink

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-thailand-prison/thai-womens-prison-highlights-need-for-reform-drug-policy-rethink-idUSKBN1FE1FJ>

I Nearly Died of a Drug Overdose. Would That Make My Dealer a Murderer?

<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2018/01/25/drug-induced-homicide-laws-former-heroin-addict-216507>

France is considering decriminalising all drug use

<http://mixmag.net/read/france-is-considering-decriminalising-all-drug-use-news>

A country that punishes drug traffickers with death is investing in medical marijuana

<https://qz.com/1188821/singapore-known-for-its-harsh-drug-laws-jumps-into-medical-marijuana-industry-to-develop-synthetic-cannabinoids/>

Mexico's war on drugs: Arrests fail to drive down violence

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-42803801>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Special Report: Mexico's drug cartels, now hooked on fuel, cripple nation's refineries

Gabriel Stargardter – Reuters: 24 January 2018

Mexico's notorious cartels are hooked on more than just drugs, according to a report published by Reuters. Fuel theft from refineries and pipelines owned by the state oil company is rapidly becoming one of the most pressing economic and security concerns for Mexico. It costs the federal government more than \$1 billion annually in lost revenue and is deterring foreign investment.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mexico-violence-oil-special-report/special-report-mexicos-drug-cartels-now-hooked-on-fuel-cripple-nations-refineries-idUSKBN1FD1JG>

China Is Decimating Southeast Asian Wildlife

Gregory McCann – The Diplomat: 24 January 2018

Some progress has been made in curbing the illegal sale of animal parts, such as China's recent ban on ivory trade. But the overall Chinese demand is pressing many animal species toward extinction, and more must be done.

<https://thediplomat.com/2018/01/china-is-decimating-southeast-asian-wildlife/>

For more on this theme:

Why illegal wildlife trade thrives in Africa – Don

<https://www.dailytrust.com.ng/why-illegal-wildlife-trade-thrives-in-africa-don.html>

To Counter Wildlife Trafficking, Local Enforcement, Not En-Route Interdiction, Is Key

<https://news.mongabay.com/2018/01/to-counter-wildlife-trafficking-local-enforcement-not-en-route-interdiction-is-key-commentary/>

African campaigners urge closer ties with China to boost wildlife conservation

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-01/25/c_136924110.htm

No more elephants? Poaching crisis takes its toll in the Central African Republic

<https://news.mongabay.com/2018/01/no-more-elephants-poaching-crisis-takes-its-toll-in-the-central-african-republic/>

Illegal Logging Destroying Afghan Forests

<https://iwpr.net/global-voices/illegal-logging-destroying-afghan-forests>

How Greenpeace Used Minecraft to Stop Illegal Logging in Europe's Last Lowland Primeval Forest

<http://www.adweek.com/creativity/how-greenpeace-used-minecraft-to-stop-illegal-logging-in-europes-last-lowland-primeval-forest/>

She fought back against illegal loggers. Now she's been found strangled on a highway in Mexico

<http://www.latimes.com/world/mexico-americas/la-fg-mexico-activist-killed-20180123-story.html>

Vietnam approves national action plan on illegal fishing

<https://www.undercurrentnews.com/2018/01/25/vietnam-approves-national-action-plan-on-illegal-fishing/>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Lone operators, not criminal gangs, dominate people smuggling from Africa: study

Karla Mendes – Reuters: 21 January 2018

A Cambridge University study suggests there are no “kingpins” to eliminate in the human-smuggling trade. Wiretapped telephone conversations between gangs show that arrests only cause other groups to take control of the lucrative market.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-africa-migrants-smuggling/lone-operators-not-criminal-gangs-dominate-people-smuggling-from-africa-study-idUSKBN1FB003>

Thailand: Forced Labor, Trafficking Persist in Fishing Fleets

Human Rights Watch: 23 January 2018

Human trafficking and forced labor are still rife across Thailand’s fishing industry despite government pledges to reform, according to a Human Rights Watch report. The investigation, conducted between 2015 and 2017, included interviews with 248 current and former fisheries workers, boat owners and Thai officials. According to the report, fishermen are still being trafficked into bonded labor, forced to work in dirty and dangerous conditions, and chronically underpaid.

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2018/01/23/thailand-forced-labor-trafficking-persist-fishing-fleets>

For more on this theme:

Texas smugglers say Trump’s border wall wouldn’t stop immigrants, drugs from pouring across the border

<https://www.texastribune.org/2018/01/25/texas-smugglers-say-trumps-border-wall-wouldnt-stop-immigrants-drugs-p/>

U.S. Navy Seals and Retired Police Join Forces to Rescue Human Trafficking Teen Victims

<http://people.com/human-interest/u-s-navy-seals-retired-police-rescue-human-trafficking-teen-victims/>

Truckers enlisted to fight human trafficking, ‘modern day slavery’

<http://www.foxnews.com/us/2018/01/24/truckers-enlisted-to-fight-human-trafficking-modern-day-slavery.html>

U.S. Sex Trafficking Industry Makes \$2.5 Billion a Year Through Illegal Massage Parlors, Study Shows

<http://www.newsweek.com/sex-trafficking-us-illegal-massage-parlors-makes-billions-785747>

Jacinda Ardern denies report that asylum offer led to surge in people smuggling

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jan/23/jacinda-ardern-denies-report-that-asylum-offer-led-to-surge-in-people-smuggling>

Australia, SL working closely to end people smuggling: HC

<http://www.dailymirror.lk/article/Australia-SL-working-closely-to-end-people-smuggling-HC-144562.html>

Sex Trafficking Victim Sues Backpage.com, Truck Stops and Hotel Chains

<https://www.chron.com/news/houston-texas/article/Houston-sex-trafficking-victim-sues-hotels-12522011.php>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Russia building its own internet raises fresh questions over internet governance

Jibu Elias – PC Magazine: 19 January 2018

For months there have been rumors about Russia's plan to build an internet. Now recent reports indicate that Russian President Vladimir Putin has approved the plan to create an independent internet for use by BRICS nations – Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa – by August 2018.

<http://in.pcmag.com/internet-1/118674/feature/russia-building-its-own-internet-raises-fresh-questions-over>

For more on this theme:

(Nigeria) Nigeria DigitalSENSE Forum sets date for IG4D, IPv6 roundtable 2018

<https://theeagleonline.com.ng/nigeria-digital-sense-forum-sets-date-for-ig4d-ipv6-roundtable-2018/>

(Global) Securing the Digital Transition

<https://www.azernews.az/analysis/126081.html>

(U.S., Global) AT&T to Congress: Create an 'Internet Bill of Rights'

<http://www.govtech.com/network/ATT-to-Congress-Create-an-Internet-Bill-of-Rights.html>

INTERNET FREEDOM

Palestinians fight Facebook, YouTube censorship

Yenia Gostoli – Al-Jazeera: 20 January 2018

Palestinians are alleging that Palestinian content is being discriminated against on sites such as Facebook and YouTube. They claim it is being unfairly removed, particularly when compared to similar Israeli content.

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/01/palestinians-fight-facebook-youtube-censorship-180119095053943.html>

For more on this theme:

(Iran) U.S. Sanctions Abet Iranian Internet Censorship

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2018/01/22/u-s-sanction-abet-iranian-internet-censorship/>

(China) 'Me Too,' Chinese Women Say. Not So Fast, Say the Censors.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/01/23/world/asia/china-women-me-too-censorship.html>

(Kashmir) Censorship: Mobile Internet shutdown in Kashmir on eve of Indian Republic Day

<http://freepresskashmir.com/2018/01/25/censorship-mobile-internet-shutdown-in-kashmir-on-eve-of-indian-republic-day/>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Facebook launches contest to boost internet security

Selena Larson – CNN: 22 January 2018

Facebook announced the launch of a new grant program, inviting university researchers, non-profits and nongovernmental organizations to submit research proposals for improving online security. The initiative will award funding of up to \$100,000 for innovative technologies that combat phishing, detect and report abuse, and improve security in emerging markets, among other focus areas.

<http://money.cnn.com/2018/01/22/technology/facebook-security-research-grants/index.html>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Facebook and Google urged to set up independent regulator to avoid internet laws

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/technology/2018/01/25/facebook-google-should-set-independent-regulator-avoid-internet/>

(Global) An Internet of Things ‘crime harvest’ is coming unless security problems are fixed

<http://www.zdnet.com/article/an-internet-of-things-crime-harvest-is-coming-unless-security-problems-are-fixed/>

(U.S., Global) It’s time to take our privacy back from tech companies

<http://thehill.com/opinion/technology/369573-its-time-to-take-our-privacy-back-from-tech-companies>

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Singapore leads Asean in its cyber security policies, but the region needs to work together

Aqilah Allaudeen – Business Insider: 23 January 2018

A report by global consulting firm A.T. Kearney found that Singapore is leading the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region with advanced cyber-security policies and planning. A lack of sector-specific governance and policies is an issue across the region.

<http://www.businessinsider.sg/singapore-leads-asean-in-its-cyber-security-policies-but-the-region-needs-to-work-together-report/>

For more on this theme:

(Iran) Iran’s Cyber Threat: Espionage, Sabotage, and Revenge

<http://carnegieendowment.org/2018/01/04/iran-s-cyber-threat-espionage-sabotage-and-revenge-pub-75134>

(U.S.) New defense strategy sets the tone for an agile cyber force

<https://fcw.com/articles/2018/01/23/national-defense-strategy-cyber.aspx>

(Global) WEF seeks to raise international cyber security cooperation at Davos 2018

<https://www.techworld.com/security/wef-report-places-cyber-risk-close-core-of-davos-2018-3670732/>

PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

MEITY launches Cyber Surakshit Bharat to strengthen Cybersecurity

Business Standard: 20 January 2018

The Indian Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) launched Cyber Surakshit Bharat – an initiative to strengthen cyber security. In association with National e-Governance Division and industry partners, the initiative is the first public/private partnership of its kind and will leverage the expertise of the IT industry in cyber security.

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/meity-launches-cyber-surakshit-bharat-to-strengthen-cybersecurity-118012000191_1.html

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Contest aims to encourage female high schoolers to learn cybersecurity skills

http://www.nonpareilonline.com/news/education/contest-aims-to-encourage-female-high-schoolers-to-learn-cybersecurity/article_ee8d8340-015c-11e8-a06a-5313f3554fd3.html

(Luxemborg) Cisco, Luxembourg Form Digital Innovation Partnership

<https://blog.executivebiz.com/2018/01/cisco-luxembourg-form-digital-innovation-partnership/>

(U.S., Global) How the Data That Internet Companies Collect Can Be Used for the Public Good

<https://hbr.org/2018/01/how-the-data-that-internet-companies-collect-can-be-used-for-the-public-good>

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Primary school children need to learn about intellectual property, Government agency says

Camilla Turner – The Telegraph: 20 January 2018

Given social media's popularity, the United Kingdom plans to teach primary school children about copyright law and intellectual property.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/education/2018/01/20/primary-school-children-need-learn-intellectual-property-government/>

For more on this theme:

(China, U.S.) China criticizes US moves on intellectual property, telecoms

https://www.nrtoday.com/china-criticizes-us-moves-on-intellectual-property-telecoms/article_0839ef9d-1e69-51bd-b190-b8b757e68f0b.html

(Russia) Cyber-Security Threats From Russia

<https://www.informationsecuritybuzz.com/expert-comments/cyber-security-threats-from-russia/>

(Lebanon) Small nations join hacking game — and this Mideast one got big results

<http://www.sunherald.com/news/nation-world/world/article196036629.html>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

To Prevent a Digital Dark Age: World Economic Forum Launches Global Centre for Cybersecurity

Modern Diplomacy: 24 January 2018

The World Economic Forum will build a new Global Centre for Cybersecurity in Switzerland to serve as a resource for global cyber security. The center's goal is to bring together public and private sectors from around the world to collaborate on cyber issues.

<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2018/01/24/prevent-digital-dark-age-world-economic-forum-launches-global-centre-cybersecurity/>

For more on this theme:

(Zimbabwe) Zimbabwe: internet comes at too high a price say tech experts

<http://www.itwebafrica.com/ict-and-governance/273-zimbabwe/242455-zimbabwe-internet-comes-at-too-high-a-price-say-tech-experts>

(U.K.) UK government urged by Army chief to bolster cyber defences

<https://www.cbronline.com/news/uk-government-bolster-cyber-defences>

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

Ransomware was most popular cyber crime tool in 2017

Warwick Ashford – Computer Weekly: 25 January 2018

A report by the U.S. cyber-security firm Malwarebytes reveals that ransomware, adware, and cryptojacking were extremely popular with cyber criminals in 2017. Data compiled by the company's security products reveals growth in almost all cyber crime categories.

<http://www.computerweekly.com/news/252433761/Ransomware-was-most-popular-cyber-crime-tool-in-2017>

For more on this theme:

(Rwanda) How Rwanda Stopped Eight Million Cyber Attackers

<http://ktpress.rw/2018/01/how-rwanda-stopped-eight-million-cyber-attackers/>

(Global) Cybercrime: £130bn stolen from consumers in 2017, report says

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2018/jan/23/cybercrime-130bn-stolen-consumers-2017-report-victims-phishing-ransomware-online-hacking>

(India, ASEAN) India, ASEAN sign declaration to deepen cooperation against terrorism and cyber crime

<https://scroll.in/latest/866491/india-asean-sign-declaration-to-deepen-cooperation-against-terrorism-and-cyber-crime>

INFORMATION SHARING

DHS Contract Aims To Make Sharing Cyber Threat Data Easier Than Ever

Jack Corrigan – Nextgov: 19 January 2018

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is working with tech firm Inferlink to make it easier for cyber security researchers across the globe to get the information they need to fight cyber threats.

<http://www.nextgov.com/cybersecurity/2018/01/dhs-contract-aims-make-sharing-cyber-threat-data-easier-ever/145320/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) The Maritime and Port Security Information Sharing & Analysis Organization Adopts VirnetX's Gabriel Secure Technology

<http://www.hellenicshippingnews.com/the-maritime-and-port-security-information-sharing-analysis-organization-adopts-virnetxs-gabriel-secure-technology/>

(Global) Detect locally, protect globally

<https://phys.org/news/2018-01-locally-globally.html>

(U.S.) Auto-ISAC signs cybersecurity agreement with DHS

<http://markets.businessinsider.com/news/stocks/Auto-ISAC-signs-cybersecurity-agreement-with-DHS-1014031049>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Hacking nuclear systems is the ultimate cyber threat. Are we prepared?

Sean Lyngaas – The Verge: 23 January 2018

Security experts are worried that the traditional model for protecting critical infrastructure – such as nuclear power plants – needs to be revamped to more creatively deal with cyber threats.

<https://www.theverge.com/2018/1/23/16920062/hacking-nuclear-systems-cyberattack>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Senate Votes for Better Election Cybersecurity

<https://www.meritalk.com/articles/senate-votes-for-better-election-cybersecurity/>

(U.K.) Serious 'category one' cyberattack not far off – warns security chief

<https://nakedsecurity.sophos.com/2018/01/24/serious-category-one-cyberattack-not-far-off-warns-security-chief/>

(Australia, Global) Rethinking the security of our critical infrastructure

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/rethinking-security-critical-infrastructure/>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS

Exclusive: Looted cash, gold help Islamic State recruit in Philippines

Tom Allard – Reuters: 22 January 2018

Militants allied with ISIS reportedly looted a fortune in cash, gold and jewelry from the Philippine city of Marawi during their five-month occupation last year, and they have used their ill-gotten gains to recruit hundreds of new terrorist operatives.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-philippines-militants-islamicstate-ex/exclusive-looted-cash-gold-help-islamic-state-recruit-in-philippines-idUSKBN1FCOE2>

The network: A virtual hunt for Islamic State fighters fleeing Syria

Syria Direct: 24 January 2018

Under the cover of anonymity, hundreds of Syrians are working to stop ISIS members from escaping justice. Volunteers around the globe are using a secret WhatsApp group to identify ISIS members and bring them to justice.

<http://syriadirect.org/news/the-network-a-virtual-hunt-for-suspected-islamic-state-members-in-syria/>

For more on this theme:

Islamic State Claims Attack on Save the Children Office in Jalalabad

<https://thediplomat.com/2018/01/islamic-state-claims-attack-on-save-the-children-office-in-jalalabad/>

The Islamic State Is the God That Failed in the Middle East

<https://theintercept.com/2018/01/21/isis-defeated-syria-iraq-islamic-state/>

Islamic State group fight continues to take lives

<http://www.wcvb.com/article/islamic-state-group-fight-continues-to-take-lives/15888442>

Iraq's Shunned Islamic State Families

<https://www.voanews.com/a/iraq-shunned-islamic-state-families/4224626.html>

1.3 million children displaced by Iraq's war with Islamic State: UNICEF

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-iraq-children/1-3-million-children-displaced-by-iraqs-war-with-islamic-state-unicef-idUSKBN1F811I>

Islamic State reverts to guerrilla warfare tactics in quest to reclaim, expand territory

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/jan/21/isis-shifts-tactics-guerrilla-warfare-reclaim-cali/>

Islamic State Trials: Iraqi Judges Seek Justice Amid Disorder, Danger

<https://www.voanews.com/a/islamic-state-trials-iraq-justice-disorder-danger/4215662.html>

State Department designates Islamic State executioner, fighter as terrorists

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2018/01/state-department-designates-islamic-state-executioner-fighter-as-terrorists.php>

ISIS still has up to 10,000 loyalists in Syria and Iraq, warn experts

<https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/isis-uncovered/isis-still-has-10-000-loyalists-syria-iraq-warn-experts-n838051>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

The Taliban is not winning in Afghanistan. But it's also not losing

Mark Porubcansky – MinnPost: 24 January 2018

After 16 years, the Taliban is not winning in Afghanistan. But neither is the U.S. or Afghan government. The Taliban is too strong to eliminate and too weak to take over. Something else must be done.

<https://www.minnpost.com/foreign-concept/2018/01/taliban-not-winning-afghanistan-its-also-not-losing>

From Marriage of Convenience to Bitter Divorce: The Unraveling Ties Between Hamas and ISIL's Sinai Affiliate

Michael Shkolnik – War on the Rocks: 22 January 2018

ISIS has declared war on Hamas. But until recently, the groups have tacitly worked together in the Sinai with only minor flare-ups. What was the impetus for the declaration of war this time?

<https://warontherocks.com/2018/01/marriage-convenience-bitter-divorce-unraveling-ties-hamas-isils-sinai-affiliate/>

For more on this theme:

Hezbollah denies U.S. accusations of drug trafficking

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-lebanon-hezbollah-usa-drugs/hezbollah-denies-u-s-accusations-of-drug-trafficking-idUSKBN1F821A>

Taliban's New Strategy: Attack the Cities

<https://www.thedailybeast.com/talibans-new-strategy-attack-the-cities>

Analysis: US Treasury Department reveals new details about the Taliban's network

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2018/01/analysis-us-treasury-department-reveals-new-details-about-the-talibans-network.php>

What's Hamas up to in Lebanon?

<https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2018/01/israel-gaza-strip-lebanon-hamas-hezbollah-saleh-al-arouri.html>

Hezbollah Bolsters Hamas' Terror Infrastructure on Israel's Northern Border

<https://www.newsmax.com/emerson/palestinian/2018/01/25/id/839527/>

Meet Osama bin Laden's favourite son — not yet 30 and ready to take the reins of Al Qaeda

<https://www.thestar.com/opinion/star-columnists/2018/01/21/meet-osama-bin-ladens-favourite-son-not-yet-30-and-ready-to-take-the-reins-of-al-qaeda.html>

Al-Qaeda Calls for Muslims to Attack Americans and Jews Over Trump's Jerusalem Decision

<http://www.newsweek.com/al-qaeda-calls-muslims-attack-americans-and-jews-over-trumps-jerusalem-787800>

Nigeria's Boko Haram attacks in numbers - as lethal as ever

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-42735414>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Chechnya: Islamic State's fertile Russian recruiting ground

Juri Rescheto – Deutsche Welle: 25 January 2018

Russia is the epicenter of ISIS recruitment, according to most experts. Of those recruited, most come from Chechnya. Why are the recruitment levels so high compared to other regions?

<http://www.dw.com/en/chechnya-islamic-states-fertile-russian-recruiting-ground/a-42311816>

Islamic State Propaganda Now Focused on Perpetual War, Not State-Building Aspirations, IHS Markit Says

Business Wire: 24 January 2018

According to a new report, ISIS propaganda decreased by 62 percent in 2017 from the previous year. And the propaganda that has gone out seems to indicate a permanent war stance.

<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20180124005088/en/Islamic-State-Propaganda-Focused-Perpetual-War-State-Building>

For more on this theme:

'We are in your home': After losses, ISIS steps up campaign to inspire attacks

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/national-security/we-are-in-your-home-after-losses-isis-steps-up-campaign-to-inspire-attacks/2018/01/22/421678a4-f7d6-11e7-a9e3-ab18ce41436a_story.html

ISIS fighters held in camps a dilemma

<http://www.nwaonline.com/news/2018/jan/26/isis-ranks-held-in-camps-pose-dilemma-2/?news-world>

ISIS Uses Blind Fighter to Promote Jihad and Militant Insurrections

<http://www.newsweek.com/isis-uses-blind-fighter-promote-jihad-and-militant-insurrections-788709>

Al Qaeda's 're-radicalisation' schools lure ISIL fighters in Syria

<https://www.thenational.ae/world/mena/al-qaeda-s-re-radicalisation-schools-lure-isis-fighters-in-syria-1.697124>

Terror Suspects Now Anti-Radicalization Consultants

<https://clarionproject.org/anti-radicalization-consultants/>

\$4 million to target radicalization in Alberta announced by federal government

<http://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/4-million-to-target-radicalization-in-alberta-announced-by-federal-government>

King Abdullah to Pence: Jerusalem Key for Muslims to 'Effectively Fight' Radicalization

<https://pjmedia.com/news-and-politics/king-abdullah-pence-jerusalem-key-muslims-effectively-fight-radicalization/>

FOREIGN FIGHTERS

A former 'Islamic State' militant returns to Russia

Deutsche Welle: 25 January 2018

In this video, a Chechen foreign fighter for ISIS speaks to Deutsche Welle about his life as a terrorist and why and how he left.

<http://www.dw.com/en/a-former-islamic-state-militant-returns-to-russia/av-42299004>

For more on this theme:

Iraq to hang German woman for belonging to 'Islamic State'

<http://www.dw.com/en/iraq-to-hang-german-woman-for-belonging-to-islamic-state/a-42243260>

Foreign fighters in Syria turn their weapons on Turkey

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/01/24/middleeast/turkey-syria-foreign-fighters-kurds-intl/index.html>

France pressured over detained fighters in Syria

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20180119-france-pressured-over-detained-fighters-in-syria/>

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

Southeast Asian states launch intelligence pact to counter Islamist threat

Tom Allard – Reuters: 25 January 2018

India, Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore and Thailand have agreed to join efforts against the Islamic State, Jemaah Islamiyah, al-Qaida, and other terrorist groups preying on Muslim communities.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-asia-intelligence/southeast-asian-states-launch-intelligence-pact-to-counter-islamist-threat-idUSKBN1FE163>

For more on this theme:

Burkina Faso and a Strategy to Counter Terrorism in West Africa

<https://theglobalobservatory.org/2018/01/burkina-faso-strategy-to-counter-terrorism-west-africa/>

Kuwait, US discuss counter-terrorism

<http://bna.bh/portal/en/news/821763>

UN chief stresses collective efforts to counter terrorism, organised crimes

UN chief stresses prevention, support for victims in counter-terrorism speech

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=57995#.Wmt0syPMzVp>

UK Muslim body to launch new counter-terror initiative

<http://aa.com.tr/en/europe/uk-muslim-body-to-launch-new-counter-terror-initiative/1037520>

Lebanon disrupts Islamic State cell plot using informant

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-lebanon-security-islamic-state/lebanon-disrupts-islamic-state-cell-plot-using-informant-idUSKBN1F81PI>