

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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The Marshall Center Transnational Weekly is a current awareness, information and policy tool for Marshall Center stakeholders to inform them about online publications by think tanks, research institutes and other organizations that deal with transnational subjects. Use of these brief excerpts and links does not reflect the views of or endorsement by the Marshall Center, the U.S. government or the German government. All original content in these compilations is copyrighted unless specifically noted otherwise. All rights to copyrighted items are reserved.

COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

In Ukraine, Corruption Is Now Undermining the Military

Andrew Higgins – The New York Times: 19 February 2018

An increase in military spending in Ukraine opened the doors for expanding corruption into the defense sector.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/02/19/world/europe/ukraine-corruption-military.html>

Corruption Perceptions Index 2017

Transparency International: 21 February 2018

An index released by the nongovernmental organization Transparency International reveals that the majority of countries are moving too slowly to combat corruption. While it is understood that curtailing corruption takes time, many countries have made little to no progress over the past six years.

https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/corruption_perceptions_index_2017

For more on this theme:

India debars, suspends and restricts defense firms in new corruption rule

<https://www.defensenews.com/industry/2018/02/21/india-debars-suspends-and-restricts-defense-firms-in-new-corruption-rule/>

Former aide has agreed to testify against Netanyahu, say reports

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/feb/21/benjamin-netanyahu-aide-shlomo-filber-testify-against-israeli-pm-reports>

Investigative journalism plays a special role in anti-corruption – Emile Short

<https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Investigative-journalism-plays-a-special-role-in-anti-corruption-Emile-Short-628523>

Romanian minister calls for prosecutor's sacking, graft crackdown under threat

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-romania-government/romanian-minister-calls-for-prosecutors-sacking-graft-crackdown-under-threat-idUSKCN1G62F2>

Fighting Corruption with More Transparent Cryptocurrencies and Blockchains

<https://www.newsbtc.com/2018/02/21/fighting-corruption-transparent-cryptocurrencies-blockchains/>

Head of Honduras Anti-Corruption Mission Resigns

<https://www.occrp.org/en/27-ccwatch/cc-watch-briefs/7667-head-of-honduras-anti-corruption-mission-resigns>

SA's top economic undergrads examine the costs of corruption

<https://city-press.news24.com/Voices/sas-top-economic-undergrads-examine-the-costs-of-corruption-20180220>

Corruption and the city: How aid donors can support integrity building in urban spaces

<https://www.u4.no/publications/corruption-and-the-city>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

What Next for Myanmar's New Drug Strategy?

Prashanth Parameswaran – The Diplomat: 22 February 2018

Myanmar, also known as Burma, has finally launched a new national drug-control strategy. While the policy has the potential to curtail drug trafficking and production, its efficacy will lie in its implementation over the next several years.

<https://thediplomat.com/2018/02/what-next-for-myanmars-new-drug-strategy/>

Drug trafficking can support terrorist activity, but not in ways most believe

George Diepenbrock – University of Kansas: 19 February 2018

According to a Kansas University professor, the relationship between drug trafficking and terrorist activity is not as significant as one might think. The drug trade is most often linked to local militant groups rather than international terrorist groups.

<http://news.ku.edu/2018/02/15/drug-trafficking-can-support-terrorist-activity-not-ways-most-believe>

For more on this theme:

Costa Rica: Could drug-law reform for women open door to wider change?

<https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Americas/2018/0213/Costa-Rica-Could-drug-law-reform-for-women-open-door-to-wider-change>

Drugs Trade Thrives in Afghan Province

<https://iwpr.net/global-voices/drugs-trade-thrives-afghan-province>

Indigenous villagers in Peru losing patience with coca land seizures

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-peru-landrights-coca/indigenous-villagers-in-peru-losing-patience-with-coca-land-seizures-idUSKCN1G5110>

Criminal Violence Threatens Colombia Drug Crop Substitution: Report

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/criminal-violence-threatens-colombia-coca-drug-crop-substitution-program-report/>

Opioid addiction and death mail-ordered to your door

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-43146286>

Afghan farmers replace poppies with pomegranates in war on drugs

<https://www.thenational.ae/uae/afghan-farmers-replace-poppies-with-pomegranates-in-war-on-drugs-1.706379>

Dutch police are concerned the Netherlands is becoming a “narco-state”

<http://mixmag.net/read/dutch-police-are-concerned-the-netherlands-is-becoming-a-narco-state-news>

Afghanistan - Anxiety amplified over aerial drug trafficking

<http://www.menafn.com/1096485479/Afghanistan--Anxiety-amplified-over-aerial-drug-trafficking>

Prohibition Has Failed – We Need A Radical New Drug Policy

http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/drug-policy_uk_5a8da74de4b0273053a6f924

'Arguments for legalising marijuana are growing - not least a drop in violent crime'

<https://www.mirror.co.uk/lifestyle/health/arguments-legalising-marijuana-growing-not-12052922>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

In Kenya, anti-poaching dogs are wildlife's best friends

Fran Blandy – Agence France-Presse: 19 February 2018

Tracker dogs have become pivotal in the fight against poaching in Mara Triangle in southern Kenya, which is an easy target for poachers because a million animals migrate through the area.

<https://phys.org/news/2018-02-kenya-anti-poaching-dogs-wildlife-friends.html>

Poachers Killing Elephants, Their Protectors in Northern Cameroon

Moki Edwin Kindzeka – Voice of America: 22 February 2018

A rash of attacks by poachers in Cameroon left at least eight soldiers and rangers dead alongside several endangered elephants.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/poachers-killing-elephants-their-protectors-in-northern-cameroon/4265727.html>

For more on this theme:

These Bizarre Sea Creatures May Help Save Coral Reefs — If They Survive

<https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2018/02/wildlife-watch-sea-cucumbers-illegal-wildlife-trade-coral-reefs/>

British troops aid Malawi wildlife anti-poaching fight

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-43090206>

Spain to combat illegal animal trafficking

<https://www.euroweeklynews.com/news/on-euro-weekly-news/spain-news-in-english/1471651-spain-to-combat-illegal-animal-trafficking>

10-Year Plan Aims to Save Myanmar's Wild Elephants from Poachers

<https://www.irrawaddy.com/news/burma/10-year-plan-aims-to-save-myanmars-wild-elephants-from-poachers.html>

Study yields valuable insights on underreporting in international wildlife trade

<https://phys.org/news/2018-02-yields-valuable-insights-underreporting-international.html>

Echidnas' quills used to help sniff out illegal trafficking of endangered pangolins

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-02-19/echidnas-deployed-to-sniff-out-endangered-wildlife-traffic-king/9461610>

Inside the Ecologically Damaging Practice of Illegal Sand Mining

<https://psmag.com/environment/people-are-stealing-sand>

EU court fells Poland's illegal logging of ancient forest

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/news/eu-court-fells-polands-illegal-logging-of-ancient-forest/>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

The Global Compact on Migration is Now Being Negotiated. Here are Three Sticking Points

Kate Gough – Center for Global Development: 20 February 2018

United Nations members gathered to discuss the Global Compact on Migration. So far, the drafting process has gone well, though it will be tricky to reach agreement on three key points.

<https://www.cgdev.org/blog/global-compact-migration-now-being-negotiated-here-are-three-sticking-points-negotiations>

Pressure on EU's southern borders from African migrants seen persisting in 2018

Gabriela Baczynska – Reuters: 20 February 2018

According to the European Union's border agency, irregular migration from Africa will continue to put pressure on the EU in 2018. While traffic on some routes has decreased, it has more than doubled on others.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-eu-frontex/pressure-on-eus-southern-borders-from-african-migrants-seen-persisting-in-2018-idUSKCN1G42AK>

For more on this theme:

Indonesian maid's death in Malaysia exposes 'brutal' human trafficking of migrant workers

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2018-02-23/indonesian-womans-death-exposes-trafficking-of-migrant-workers/9476934>

Our hotels are fighting human trafficking, but we can't do it alone: Marriott CEO

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/opinion/2018/02/19/our-hotels-fighting-human-trafficking-but-we-cant-do-alone-arne-sorenson/336959002/>

How my hometown became major smuggling route in Libya

<https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2018/02/libya-village-human-traffickers-smuggling-migrants.html>

Frontex: Europe's new law enforcement agency?

<https://euobserver.com/justice/141062>

France to crack down on irregular migrants

http://www.ansamed.info/ansamed/en/news/sections/generalnews/2018/02/20/france-to-crack-down-on-irregular-migrants_1b4c2aea-2b0d-4953-a11c-1c2af5e76ddb.html

UN Child Rights Experts call for EU-wide ban on child immigration detention

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=22681&LangID=E>

A Step Towards the Light: Ending Human Trafficking

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2018/02/step-towards-light-ending-human-trafficking/>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Internet Society 2018 Action Plan

Internet Society: February 2018

In its recently published 2018 Action Plan, the nonprofit Internet Society identified the need for heightened security for the “internet of things,” for increased safeguards for the internet’s routing system, and for more communication between various stakeholders and governments.

<https://www.internetsociety.org/action-plan/2018/>

For more on this theme:

(Africa) ‘Multi-stakeholders Research Will Boost Africa’s Internet Policy’

<https://www.thisdaylive.com/index.php/2018/02/21/multi-stakeholders-research-will-boost-africas-internet-policy/>

(Global) What is going on with WHOIS?

<http://www.rstreet.org/2018/02/20/what-is-going-on-with-whois/>

INTERNET FREEDOM

Chinese Censorship Moves Into the American Workplace

Bonnie Girard – The Diplomat: 21 February 2018

As China acquires American companies, it’s possible that Chinese employees may find it necessary to incorporate a culture of censorship.

<https://thediplomat.com/2018/02/chinese-censorship-moves-into-the-american-workplace/>

For more on this theme:

(Germany) German law under fire for turning social media companies into ‘overzealous censors’

<http://www.euronews.com/2018/02/14/german-law-under-fire-for-turning-social-media-companies-into-overzealous-censors->

(Jordan) Changes to Jordan’s hate speech law could further stifle press freedom

<https://cpj.org/blog/2018/02/changes-to-jordans-hate-speech-law-could-further-s.php>

(U.S.) “What’s happening in US on net neutrality and internet freedom?”

<https://www.neweurope.eu/article/whats-happening-us-net-neutrality-internet-freedom/>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Facebook's tracking of non-users ruled illegal again

Natasha Lomas – TechCrunch: 19 February 2018

Facebook in Europe was dealt a new blow after a judge in Belgium ruled the company ran afoul of privacy laws. The court decided that Facebook's deployment of technology, including cookies and social plug-ins to track internet users, was illegal.

<https://techcrunch.com/2018/02/19/facebooks-tracking-of-non-users-ruled-illegal-again/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) SpaceX's Starlink satellite internet: It's time for tough talk on cyber security in space

<http://www.dw.com/en/spacexs-starlink-satellite-internet-its-time-for-tough-talk-on-cyber-security-in-space/a-42678704>

(U.S., Global) US, Microsoft Lock Horns in International Legal Battle Over Privacy Rights

<http://dailysignal.com/2018/02/22/us-microsoft-lock-horns-in-international-legal-battle-over-privacy-rights/>

(U.S.) SEC issues cyber-security guidance disclosure

<https://www.scmagazineuk.com/sec-issues-cyber-security-guidance-disclosure/article/745897/>

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

E-Democracy in the European Union: Lessons from Estonia

Viljar Veebel – Foreign Policy Research Institute: 13 February 2018

Estonia is the world's digital leader, and the European Union is now following Estonia's lead by focusing on e-solutions. The EU is also hoping to learn from the challenges Estonia faced as it became a digital nation.

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2018/02/e-democracy-european-union-lessons-estonia/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) Is Naming and Shaming a Legitimate Strategy in Cyberspace?

<https://www.technative.io/is-naming-and-shaming-a-legitimate-strategy-in-cyberspace/>

(U.S., Russia) Did the U.S. 'hack back' at Russia? Here's why this matters in cyberwarfare.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2018/02/21/did-the-u-s-hack-back-at-russia-heres-why-this-matters-in-cyberwarfare/>

PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

White House Economic Council Calls for Public-Private Collaboration to Address Cyber Threats

Jane Edwards – ExecutiveGov: 23 February 2018

The White House Council of Economic Advisers said that the public and private sectors must work together to overcome cyber security risks.

<http://www.executivegov.com/2018/02/white-house-economic-council-calls-for-public-private-collaboration-to-address-cyber-threats/>

For more on this theme:

(Thailand) Digital Park master plan takes shape

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/business/news/1416682/digital-park-master-plan-takes-shape>

(Global) World Economic Forum Centre for Cybersecurity Ready for Launch

<http://homeland411.com/world-economic-forum-centre-cybersecurity-ready-march-launch/>

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

China the ‘most active’ country conducting online espionage, says McAfee cyber-crime report

Duncan DeAeth – Taiwan News: 23 February 2018

A recent study by cyber security firm McAfee and the Center for Strategic and International Studies found that Russia and North Korea launch the most dangerous cyber attacks, while China conducts more cyber espionage than any other country.

<https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/3369857>

Full report:

Economic Impact of Cybercrime — No Slowing Down

<https://csis-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/publication/economic-impact-cybercrime.pdf>

For more on this theme:

(Global) The global cyber war is heating up: Why businesses should be worried

<https://www.csoonline.com/article/3257404/cyber-attacks-espionage/the-global-cyber-war-is-heating-up-why-businesses-should-be-worried.html>

(Global) Global study reveals cybersecurity professionals believe a catastrophic data breach to their organization is inevitable

<https://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/global-study-reveals-cybersecurity-professionals-believe-a-catastrophic-data-breach-to-their-organization-is-inevitable-300602078.html>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

NATO launches second cyber defence project with Moldova

North Atlantic Treaty Organization: 13 February 2018

NATO is working with the Moldovan Armed Forces to improve its cyber defense capabilities. One goal is to establish an incident response capability within the military.

https://www.nato.int/cps/en/natohq/news_152364.htm

For more on this theme:

(Global) SpaceX launches demo satellites for its high-speed internet project

<http://money.cnn.com/2018/02/22/technology/future/spacex-satellite-launch-february/index.html>

(India) Maharashtra to form its own emergency cyber response team in six months

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/mumbai-news/maharashtra-to-form-its-own-emergency-cyber-response-team-in-six-months/story-k5ivWRnsEJU52m9tPzNEo.html>

(India, U.S.) Cyber security hackathon kicks off

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/cyber-security-hackathon-kicks-off/article-show/63018758.cms>

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

How Unreliable Data Leads to the Undercounting of Cybercrime

Joséphine Wolff – Pacific Standard: 20 February 2018

While numbers in the hundreds of billions are tossed around regarding the global cost of cyber attacks, the unreliable data reporting and tracking means the numbers are no more than best guesses.

<https://psmag.com/news/the-problem-with-cybercrime-statistics>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Cyber crime costs global economy \$600B annually, experts estimate

<http://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/374854-cybercrime-costs-global-economy-600-billion-annually-experts-estimate>

(EU) Warning of GDPR extortion attempts from strategic cyber criminals

<http://www.information-age.com/gdpr-extortion-cyber-criminals-123470872/>

(U.S., Russia) Russian cybercrime bust paints 'striking picture' of 'dark-web' operation, former FBI official says

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/02/22/russian-cybercrime-bust-and-how-fight-the-hackers-commentary.html>



INFORMATION SHARING

FBI to Small Business: Cybercriminals Seeking to Exploit Your Vulnerabilities

Howard S. Marshall - Homeland Security Today: 23 February 2018

Businesses should develop a working relationship with their local Federal Bureau of Investigation field agents to open up the avenues of cyber threat information sharing.

<https://www.hstoday.us/uncategorized/fbi-to-small-business-cybercriminals-seeking-to-exploit-your-vulnerabilities/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Financial firms collaborate to defend against cyber-threats

https://www.complianceweek.com/news/news-article/financial-firms-collaborate-to-defend-against-cyber-threats#.Wo_q--dG0aE

(Switzerland) Switzerland First Nation to Unveil Threat Intelligence Sharing Group

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/cybersecurity/switzerland-first-nation-unveil-threat-intelligence-sharing-group/>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Sessions forms U.S. cyber task force after election warnings

Dustin Volz – Reuters: 20 February 2018

The U.S. Department of Justice will convene a task force to study how adversaries might use the internet to interfere in U.S. elections and attack critical infrastructure, U.S. Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced last week.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-cyber-taskforce/sessions-forms-u-s-cyber-task-force-after-election-warnings-idUSKCN1G42RB>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Grid operators need a revised cybersecurity strategy in the IoT era

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy/opinion/grid-operators-need-a-revised-cybersecurity-strategy-in-the-iot-era/>

(Global) Cryptojacking: A new threat vector to critical infrastructure

<https://cryptoinsider.21mil.com/cryptojacking-new-threat-vector-to-critical-infrastructure/>

(Global) SC Congress 2018: Should critical infrastructure be put on a war footing?

<https://www.scmagazineuk.com/sc-congress-2018-should-critical-infrastructure-be-put-on-a-war-footing/article/744929/>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS

IS Smuggling Wood to Finance Militancy in Afghanistan

Mohammad Habibzada – Voice of America: 18 February 2018

Local tribal leaders and Afghan officials claim that ISIS is chopping down trees and smuggling the timber into Pakistan to finance operations.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/isis-smuggling-wood-to-finance-militancy-in-afghanistan/4259987.html>

Defeats in Middle East driving Islamic State fighters to Philippines – separatist

Manuel Mogato – Reuters: 20 February 2018

Foreign ISIS fighters forced out of Syria and Iraq have been arriving in the Philippines with the intent of recruiting and with plans to attack, a Muslim rebel group leader said.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-philippines-militants/defeats-in-middle-east-driving-islamic-state-fighters-to-philippines-separatist-idUSKCN1G4OUF>

For more on this theme:

Islamic State has been stashing millions of dollars in Iraq and abroad

<https://www.economist.com/news/middle-east-and-africa/21737302-their-so-called-caliphate-crumbles-jihadists-are-saving-up-fight>

Britain warns of Islamic State attacks in South Africa after couple kidnapped

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-safrica-britain-attacks/britain-warns-of-islamic-state-attacks-in-south-africa-after-couple-kidnapped-idUSKCN1G622J>

Analysis: ISIS hasn't been defeated

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2018/02/analysis-isis-hasnt-been-defeated.php>

How Saddam Hussein's Old Ideology May Have Contributed to the Modern Islamic State

<https://thewire.in/225875/saddam-hussein-ideology-islamic-state/>

Op-Ed: The Islamic State challenge – from the front line to a shadow international terror organization

https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2018-02-21-op-ed-the-islamic-state-challenge-from-the-front-line-to-a-shadow-international-terror-organisation/#.Wo_t6udG0aE

Life as a Former ISIS Bride

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/mb9a7y/life-as-a-former-isis-bride

Expanding the ISIS Brand

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/expanding-the-isis-brand-24550>

ISIS' Parting Gift To Its Former Capital: Thousands Of Explosive Booby Traps

<https://www.npr.org/sections/parallels/2018/02/19/586582610/isis-parting-gift-to-its-former-capital-thousands-of-explosive-booby-traps>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

AFRICOM sees growing threat from ISIS affiliate

John Vandiver – Stars and Stripes: 16 February 2018

Military officials from the U.S. Africa Command outlined how the Islamic State in West Africa, made up of former Boko Haram fighters, is more dangerous and sophisticated than its parent group and retains stronger ties to ISIS.

<https://www.stripes.com/news/africom-sees-growing-threat-from-isis-affiliate-1.512077>

Al-Shabaab plundering starving Somali villages of cash and children

Jason Burke – The Guardian: 21 February 2018

Al-Shabaab is forcing children to become child soldiers and extorting what little money villagers have left, according to documents and interviews obtained by The Guardian.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/feb/21/al-shabaab-extortion-indoctrination-somalia>

For more on this theme:

Boko Haram: Profile of a jihadist threat

<https://www.news24.com/Africa/News/boko-haram-profile-of-a-jihadist-threat-20180222-2>

Al-Qaeda could stand to gain from changing Syrian situation

<https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2018/02/russia-syria-eastern-ghouta-future-hts.html>

Hamas enters new phase of confrontation with Islamic State

<https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2018/02/video-members-islamic-state-confessing-new-phase-relations.html>

Latest Boko Haram kidnappings are ‘challenge to Nigerian government’

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2018/02/22/latest-boko-haram-kidnappings-challenge-nigerian-government/>

How aid money ends up in Al-Shabaab's hands

<https://citizentv.co.ke/news/how-aid-money-ends-up-in-al-shabaabs-hands-191173/>

U.N.: Hamas could lose control of Gaza to ‘radicals’

<http://www.jpost.com/Arab-Israeli-Conflict/gaza-news/UN-Hamas-could-lose-control-of-Gaza-to-radicals-543435>

Israel's coming war with Hezbollah

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/israel/2018-02-21/israels-coming-war-hezbollah>

Al Qaeda urges Egyptians to topple government as Egypt preps for vote

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-egypt-security-qaeda/al-qaeda-urges-egyptians-to-topple-government-as-egypt-preps-for-vote-idUSKCN1G010S>

A Millennial Bin Laden Prepares To Take Over Al-Qaeda – And Possibly The Global Jihad Movement

<https://www.memri.org/reports/millennial-bin-laden-prepares-take-over-al-qaeda-%E2%80%93-and-possibly-global-jihad-movement>

FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Iraq Hands Over to Russia 4 Women, 27 Children Linked to Islamic State

Raya Jalabi – Reuters: 22 February 2018

Iraq is conducting trials of foreign women and children detained when ISIS crumbled. Most recently, Iraq returned four women and 27 children to Russia.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iraq-russia/iraq-hands-over-to-russia-4-women-27-children-linked-to-islamic-state-idUSKCN1G612V>

Western Countries' Dilemma: What to Do With Captured IS Foreign Fighters?

Rikar Hussein and Nisan Ahmado – Voice of America: 17 February 2018

The United States and Europe remain divided over how to deal with the ISIS foreign fighters captured in Syria and Iraq. The situation remains tense because some countries refuse to repatriate their nationals who fought for ISIS.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/western-dilemma-what-to-do-with-foreign-islamic-fighters/4259525.html>

For more on this theme:

Up to 100 Islamic state fighters 'could in theory seek UK return'

<https://www.scotsman.com/news/world/up-to-100-islamic-state-fighters-could-in-theory-seek-uk-return-1-4690299>

Send ISIS prisoners back to their countries of origin

<http://thehill.com/opinion/national-security/374677-send-isis-prisoners-back-to-their-countries-of-origin>

Victim or threat? Iraq has plan for ISIS fighters' wives, children

<http://www.foxnews.com/world/2018/02/17/victim-or-threat-iraq-has-plan-for-isis-fighters-wives-children.html>

Europe may feel safer, but issue of foreign fighters deeper than it seems

<https://www.dailysabah.com/war-on-terror/2018/02/20/europe-may-feel-safer-but-issue-of-foreign-fighters-deeper-than-it-seems>

News Analysis: Algeria preparing for return of foreign fighters with efforts to fight terrorism

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-02/17/c_136981866.htm

What to do with foreign militants captured in Iraq and Syria? Their fates greatly vary

<http://www.straitstimes.com/world/middle-east/what-to-do-with-foreign-militants-captured-in-iraq-and-syria-their-fates-greatly>

Aussie ISIS baby and wife of dead terrorist back home after fleeing Syrian conflict

<https://www.theaustralian.com.au/national-affairs/national-security/aussie-isis-baby-and-wife-of-dead-terrorist-back-home-after-fleeing-syrian-conflict/news-story/176f168473473a6c429b421e3f43d8de>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

France Plays Catch-Up Coping With Radicalized Prisoners

Elaine Ganley – The Associated Press: 22 February 2018

France's massive overpopulation in its prisons will become an even larger problem if its nationals are repatriated from serving as foreign fighters from ISIS. The overcrowding will be a boon to those prisoners looking to radicalize fellow inmates.

<https://apnews.com/aed3bec50a8d45d892ed23ad063512bf>

For more on this theme:

Film at Berlin fest examines how Islamic State jihadists recruit European brides

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-filmfestival-berlin-profile/film-at-berlin-fest-examines-how-islamic-state-jihadists-recruit-european-brides-idUSKCN1G20IX>

Battle to free Mosul of Islamic State 'intellectual terrorism'

<https://tribune.com.pk/story/1637480/3-battle-free-mosul-intellectual-terrorism/>

'Mom, I'm ISIS': Meet the Generation Brainwashed by ISIS and the Woman Trying to Save Them

<https://www1.cbn.com/cbnnews/world/2018/february/stopping-the-cycle-of-hatred-and-rage-to-save-a-generation-brainwashed-by-isis>

UNDP launches initiative to prevent violent extremism in Central Asia

<https://www.timesca.com/index.php/news/19390-undp-launches-initiative-to-prevent-violent-extremism-in-central-asia>

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

Lessons Learned from the Air War Against the Islamic State

Ryan Fishel and Aaron Stein – The Long War Journal: 23 February 2018

The experiences and challenges of the air war in Syria against ISIS should serve as lessons learned and must be incorporated into training and future planning to best serve the U.S. and the coalition in future conflicts.

<https://warontherocks.com/2018/02/lessons-learned-air-war-islamic-state/>

For more on this theme:

How Prepared Is Myanmar To Counter Terror Attacks?

<https://www.irrawaddy.com/opinion/commentary/prepared-myanmar-counter-terror-attacks.html>

Report: Counterterrorism Policy Has Minimal Impact on Public Perception

<https://www.hstoday.us/briefings/daily-news-analysis/counterterrorism-policy-minimal-impact-public-perception/>

Astana Earmarks \$900 Million To Anti- & Counter-terrorism Programs

<https://caspiannews.com/news-detail/astana-earmarks-900-million-to-anti-counter-terrorism-programs-2018-2-20-40/>

Israel thwarted 'Islamic State' plot to blow up plane from Australia: Netanyahu

<http://www.dw.com/en/israel-thwarted-islamic-state-plot-to-blow-up-plane-from-australia-netanyahu/a-42688591>