

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Malaysia PM says Cabinet to declare assets in anti-graft bid

The Associated Press: 11 March 2020

All Malaysian Cabinet members will have to declare their assets as part of a pledge to have a government with integrity.

<https://apnews.com/76051d2e9492819c8b54766b2263eb4d>

For more on this theme:

The End of Volodymyr Zelensky's Honeymoon

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/02/26/zelensky-ukraine-russia-corruption/>

Andrew Dawson: "Corruption continues to be one of the major risks for democracy and governance"

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/congress/-/andrew-dawson-corruption-continues-to-be-one-of-the-major-risks-for-democracy-and-governance->

New report outlines the dire consequences of corruption in water sector

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-03-12-new-report-outlines-the-dire-consequences-of-corruption-in-water-sector/>

New Zealand Police establish anti-corruption unit to 'maintain integrity'

<https://www.newshub.co.nz/home/new-zealand/2020/03/new-zealand-police-establish-anti-corruption-unit-to-maintain-integrity.html>

South Africa president cleared of corruption charges

<https://www.jurist.org/news/2020/03/south-africa-president-cleared-of-corruption-charges/>

Colombia's police chief charged with corruption

<https://colombiareports.com/colombias-police-chief-charged-with-corruption/>

Peru's former first lady faces jail over Odebrecht corruption

<https://www.icij.org/investigations/bribery-division/perus-former-first-lady-faces-jail-over-odebrecht-corruption/>

Police Corruption Blamed as Bodies Pile Up in Rosario, Argentina

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/police-corruption-argentina-rosario/>

Brazil lawmaker proposes cutting off hands of corrupt politicians

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-corruption/brazil-lawmaker-proposes-cutting-off-hands-of-corrupt-politicians-idUSKBN20X2VF>

Corruption and Nigeria's image

<https://punchng.com/corruption-and-nigerias-image/>

Malaysia's anti-corruption chief who investigated 1MDB resigns

<https://www.aljazeera.com/ajimpact/malaysia-anti-corruption-chief-investigated-1mdb-resigns-200306021953213.html>

Lebanon Must Root Out Corruption to Fix Its Economy

<https://theglobepost.com/2020/03/10/lebanon-corruption/>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Tanzania's Dar es Salaam is East Africa's narcotics paradise and the biggest hub for drugs trafficking – US

Business Insider: 10 March 2020

Tanzania is East Africa's biggest hub for drugs trafficking, a U.S. government agency said, putting Dar es Salaam on the radar of international anti-narcotics spies.

<https://www.pulse.com.gh/bi/politics/dar-es-salaam-is-east-africas-biggest-hub-for-drugs-trafficking-kenya-still-a-transit/yh5ycgp>

Brazil's gangs emerge as major cocaine exporters, flooding Europe with white powder

Gabriel Stargardter – Reuters: 12 March 2020

Brazil has become a major way station for cocaine heading from South America to Europe. In the process, Brazilian gangs have become major players in that trade, partnering with European criminal groups to distribute those drugs.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-violence-cocaine-specialreport/brazils-gangs-emerge-as-major-cocaine-exporters-flooding-europe-with-white-powder-idUSKBN20Z1DP>

For more on this theme:

Dark Web, Not Dark Alley: Why Drug Sellers See the Internet as a Lucrative Safe Haven

<https://www.nextgov.com/ideas/2020/03/dark-web-not-dark-alley-why-drug-sellers-see-internet-lucrative-safe-haven/163550/>

Colombia will have to restart aerial spraying to destroy coca: Trump

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-colombia-drugs/colombia-will-have-to-restart-aerial-spraying-to-destroy-coca-trump-idUSKBN20P2WT>

Duterte asked to revive death penalty for drug war

<https://www.manilatimes.net/2020/03/04/news/latest-stories/duterte-asked-to-revive-death-penalty-for-drug-war/700126/>

DUG RUNNERS Secret drug-smuggling tunnel spanning -30feet under US-Mexico border discovered by agents

<https://www.thesun.co.uk/news/11064089/secret-drug-smuggling-tunnel-spanning-30-feet-under-us-mexico-border-discovered-by-agents/>

Can the UK and Scotland Set Aside Differences to Fight Drugs?

<https://www.ozy.com/the-new-and-the-next/can-the-uk-and-scotland-set-aside-their-differences-to-fight-drugs/283451/>

More Navy Ships Headed to South, Central America to Stop Drug-Trafficking

<https://www.military.com/daily-news/2020/03/12/more-navy-ships-headed-south-central-america-stop-drug-trafficking.html>

Guinea-Bissau: Political chaos could boost cocaine trade

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-51833073>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

COVID-19: The death blow to wildlife trafficking?

Jillian Louis – The ASEAN Post: 9 March 2020

While China has already shut down its wildlife markets, the rest of Asia has not. Could the fear generated by COVID-19 prompt them to follow in China's footsteps?

<https://theaseanpost.com/article/covid-19-death-blow-wildlife-trafficking>

All-Female Ranger Unit Protecting Kenya's Wildlife

Lenny Ruvaga – Voice of America: 7 March 2020

Kenya's Amboseli National Park is home to herds of elephants that are prone to poaching for the illicit trade in ivory. A program that has brought on board women in the fight against poachers is gaining traction.

<https://www.voanews.com/africa/all-female-ranger-unit-protecting-kenyas-wildlife>

For more on this theme:

Tech companies take down 3 million online listings for trafficked wildlife

<https://www.traffic.org/news/tech-companies-take-down-3-million-online-listings-for-trafficked-wildlife/>

Covid-19 and wildlife trade bans

<https://theecologist.org/2020/mar/12/covid-19-and-wildlife-trade-bans>

Coronavirus spread should prompt new UN taskforce to tackle illegal wildlife trade, peers and MPs say

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/03/08/coronavirus-spread-should-prompt-new-un-taskforce-tackle-illegal/>

'Fake market': Red panda study finds no real demand behind rise in poaching

<https://news.mongabay.com/2020/03/fake-market-red-panda-study-finds-no-real-demand-behind-rise-in-poaching/>

Vietnam to ban wildlife trade following conservationists' demand

<https://e.vnexpress.net/news/news/vietnam-to-ban-wildlife-trade-following-conservationists-demand-4066078.html>

Online Platforms Removed Over 3 Million Listings for Trafficked Wildlife

<https://esellercafe.com/online-platforms-removed-over-3-million-listings-for-trafficked-wildlife/>

Hundreds of trees felled illegally in Michoacán butterfly reserve

<https://mexiconewsdaily.com/news/illegal-logging-detected-in-butterfly-reserve/>

Counting the cost of fish fraud: 'Billions' lost to illicit fisheries

<https://www.foodnavigator.com/Article/2020/03/12/Counting-the-cost-of-fish-fraud-Billions-lost-to-illicit-fisheries>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

The Desert Town That's Home to U.S. Drones and People Smugglers

Katarina Hojje – Bloomberg: 7 March 2020

A northern Nigerian city hosts a U.S. air base deploying drones in the battle against jihadist fighters in West Africa. The same area also hosts smugglers looking to make money by trafficking people.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-08/the-desert-town-that-s-home-to-u-s-drones-and-people-smugglers>

Why children are an overlooked ally in the fight against human trafficking

Jonathan Todres – CNN: 11 March 2020

Human trafficking affects millions of children, but rarely are children tapped as a resource to fight against the scourge.

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/03/11/opinions/todres-children-fight-trafficking/index.html>

For more on this theme:

IOM hails historic first human trafficking convictions in Sierra Leone

<https://www.un.org/africarenewal/news/iom-hails-historic-first-human-trafficking-convictions-sierra-leone>

How to end human trafficking

<https://thehill.com/opinion/international/486395-how-to-end-human-trafficking>

How Hotels Can Join The Fight against Human Trafficking

<https://kjzz.org/content/1478421/how-hotels-can-join-fight-against-human-trafficking>

Domestic Sex Trafficking: Hidden in Plain Sight

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/talking-about-trauma/202003/domestic-sex-trafficking-hidden-in-plain-sight>

Nigerian women trafficked as sex slaves

<https://guardian.ng/opinion/editorial/nigerian-women-trafficked-as-sex-slaves/>

Current Laws Cannot Protect Zimbabwe's Women from Sex Trafficking

<https://www.ipsnews.net/2020/03/current-laws-cannot-protect-zimbabwes-women-sex-trafficking/>

REVEALED: Human traffickers are exploiting an 'easy-peasy' route into Britain by flying illegal migrants to Ireland with fake IDs and driving them over the border for £2,000-a-go

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8089473/Human-traffickers-exploiting-easy-peasy-route-Britain.html>

U.S. urged to downgrade Thailand in annual human trafficking report

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-thailand-trafficking-report/u-s-urged-to-downgrade-thailand-in-annual-human-trafficking-report-idUSKBN20Y059>

Human traffic: tackling people-smuggling at ports

<https://www.ship-technology.com/features/human-trafficking-ports/>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Four months, \$1bn... and ICANN still hasn't decided whether to approve .org sale with just 11 days left to go

Kieren McCarthy – The Register: 10 March 2020

Within the week, ICANN is supposed to rule on the purchase of the .org registry, but it can barely agree on the criteria to use to decide whether to sell the registry.

https://www.theregister.co.uk/2020/03/10/dot_org_icann_decision/

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) Confronting the Ubiquity of Norms in Cyberspace and Cyber Governance

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/confronting-ubiquity-norms-cyberspace-and-cyber-governance>

INTERNET FREEDOM

India's proposed rules to curb web content to undercut digital freedom, privacy

Latha Jishnu – DownToEarth: 9 March 2020

India has a proposal in the works that would make intermediaries accountable for content on their platforms. “These not only violate Indian constitutional standards regarding fundamental rights and international human rights law, but also chill free expression and access to information,” said a global coalition of civil society organizations and security experts.

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/governance/india-s-proposed-rules-to-curb-web-content-to-undercut-digital-freedom-privacy-69583>

For more on this theme:

(Pakistan) Stakeholders Deliberate on New Social Media Regulations in Pakistan

<https://indiaeducationdiary.in/stakeholders-deliberate-on-new-social-media-regulations-in-pakistan/>

(China) Coronavirus: How Chinese social media platforms controlled information on the outbreak

<https://www.hongkongfp.com/2020/03/11/coronavirus-chinese-social-media-platforms-controlled-information-outbreak/>

(Global) Is the Dark Web Going Commercial? Internet Censorship May Be Driving the Trend

<http://gppreview.com/2020/03/06/dark-web-going-commercial-internet-censorship-may-driving-trend/>

(Venezuela) A Dangerous Step Towards More Internet Censorship

<https://www.caracaschronicles.com/2020/03/10/a-dangerous-step-towards-more-internet-censorship/>

(China) Pho noodles and pandas: How China's social media users created a new language to beat government censorship on COVID19-

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/03/china-social-media-language-government-censorship-covid/>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Privacy commissioner takes Facebook to court

Andy Kollmorgen – Choice: 12 March 2020

The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner charged Facebook with failing to protect the personal data of its users in the wake of the Cambridge Analytica scandal.

<https://www.choice.com.au/electronics-and-technology/internet/internet-privacy-and-safety/articles/oaic-takes-facebook-to-court>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Why Are Internet Security Standards Badly Deployed and What to Do About It?

<http://www.circleid.com/posts/20200312-why-internet-security-standards-are-badly-deployed-and-what-to-do/>

(U.S., Global) Internet Standards Emphasize User Privacy At Expense of Enterprise Security

<https://duo.com/decipher/internet-standards-emphasize-user-privacy-at-expense-of-enterprise-security>

(Jordan) Digital rights project launched to advance Internet privacy, online safety in Jordan

<https://menafn.com/1099829420/Digital-rights-project-launched-to-advance-Internet-privacy-online-safety-in-Jordan>

(U.S.) Exactly How Much Is Online Privacy Worth? According to New Study, Consumers Set the Value of Personal Data Quite Low

<https://www.cpomagazine.com/data-privacy/exactly-how-much-is-online-privacy-worth-according-to-new-study-consumers-set-the-value-of-personal-data-quite-low/>

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Diplomacy goes virtual as the coronavirus goes viral

Jovan Kurbalija – SwissInfo: 10 March 2020

The spread of the coronavirus is testing our globalized world.

https://www.swissinfo.ch/eng/opinion_diplomacy-goes-virtual-as-the-coronavirus-goes-viral/45606142

For more on this theme:

(China) Xi Jinping believes in blockchain for governance

<https://www.cryptopolitan.com/xi-jinping-for-blockchain-for-governance/>

(Global) Technology and the internet threaten to undermine democracy

<https://independentaustralia.net/business/business-display/technology-and-the-internet-threaten-to-undermine-democracy,13675>

(China) The Hidden Dangers of China's Digital Silk Road

<https://nationalinterest.org/feature/hidden-dangers-chinas-digital-silk-road-131887>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Kerala to launch total digital literacy campaign

The Hindu: 6 March 2020

Kerala, India, has proposed a digital literacy campaign to build society's capacity to enjoy the benefits of digital technology and to educate the public about cyber security issues. It will create awareness about e-governance and equip the public to make use of various digital platforms.

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/kerala-to-launch-total-digital-literacy-campaign/article31002679.ece>

For more on this theme:

(Ireland) Digital Realty expands Dublin data centre as it readies itself for multibillion-Euro tech boom

<https://www.realwire.com/releases/Digital-Realty-expands-Dublin-data-centre>

(Africa) African women have less access to the Internet than African men do. That's a problem.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2020/03/06/african-women-have-less-access-internet-than-men-do-thats-problem/>

(Oman) Capacity-building workshop held for local stakeholders

<https://timesofoman.com/article/2891267/Business/Capacity-building-workshop-held-for-local-stakeholders>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

European power grid organization hit by cyberattack

Amer Owaida – WeLiveSecurity: 12 March 2020

The European Network of Transmission System Operators for Electricity said it fell victim to a cyber attack. In a brief statement, the organization said it found evidence of a "successful cyber intrusion" that affected its office network.

<https://www.welivesecurity.com/2020/03/12/european-power-grid-organization-entsoe-cyberattack/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Building a resilient cyber future

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/solarium-commission-op-ed-mike-gallagher-samantha-ravich/>

(U.S.) Utilities on high alert as phishing attempts, cyber probing spike related to coronavirus

<https://www.utilitydive.com/news/utilities-on-high-alert-as-phishing-attempts-cyber-probing-spike-related-t/573698/>

(U.S.) Why the government says industry can't wait for a single cyber catastrophe

<https://www.ciodive.com/news/government-infosec-cybersecurity/573581/>

NOTEWORTHY PODCASTS

Winking emoji.

The Cyberwire: 12 March 2020

This episode focuses on the story of a phishing website posing as the Singapore Police site; also on tap is a conversation with Gretel Egan from Proofpoint on its 2020 State of the Phish report.

<https://thecyberwire.com/podcasts/hacking-humans/89/notes>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Congressional worries of coronavirus impact on federal programs continue

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/federal-newscast/2020/03/congressional-worries-of-coronavirus-effect-on-federal-programs-continue/>

(U.S.) CISA warns of cyber criminals taking advantage of coronavirus concerns

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/federal-newscast/2020/03/cisa-warns-of-cyber-criminals-taking-advantage-of-coronavirus-concerns/>

(U.S.) Technology always moves quicker than policy.

<https://thecyberwire.com/podcasts/caveat/19/notes>

INFORMATION SHARING

HSCC Shares Best Practice Cyber Threat Information Sharing Guidance

Jessica Davis – Health IT Security: 11 March 2020

The Healthcare and Public Health Sector Coordinating Council offered guidance to health care organizations on sharing cyber threat information.

<https://healthitsecurity.com/news/hsc-cc-shares-best-practice-cyber-threat-information-sharing-guidance>

For more on this theme:

(NATO) Georgia Joins NATO's Cyber Threat Intelligence Sharing Platform

<https://civil.ge/archives/341128>

(U.S., Global) Cyber Everywhere: Reduce threat risk through public-private partnership

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/radio/reduce-cyber-threat-security-risk-public-private-partnerships-de-loitte/>

(U.S.) Group Established To Share Cyber Threat Information With Campaigns

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/group-established-share-cyber-threat-183300747.html>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Islamic State, Al-Qaida ‘On the March’ in Africa

Jeff Seldin – Voice of America: 10 March 2020

The Islamic State and al-Qaida are infiltrating West Africa, where international efforts to counter extremist groups are insufficient, said the head of U.S. Africa Command.

<https://www.voanews.com/africa/islamic-state-al-qaeda-march-africa>

Potential for al-Qaeda-Islamic State Cooperation in Afghanistan

Farhan Zahid – The Jamestown Foundation: 11 March 2020

While many have speculated on ISIS and al-Qaida cooperating in the future, it is already happening in the Sahel. And it could manifest itself in Afghanistan as well.

<https://jamestown.org/program/potential-for-al-qaeda-islamic-state-cooperation-in-afghanistan/>

For more on this theme:

Findings on ISIS Refugees Further Complicate Europe’s Dilemma

<https://www.algemeiner.com/2020/03/12/findings-on-isis-refugees-further-complicate-europes-dilemma/>

At Least 32 Dead After Shooting In Kabul; ISIS Group Claims Responsibility

<https://www.npr.org/2020/03/06/812820310/at-least-27-dead-after-shooting-in-kabul-taliban-denies-responsibility>

ISIS ‘trying to exploit’ growing Hindu-Muslim tensions in India

<https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/south-asia/isis-trying-to-exploit-growing-hindu-muslim-tensions-in-india>

Iraq has repatriated 828 children born to ISIS parents to countries of origin

<https://www.rudaw.net/english/middleeast/iraq/04032020>

Leaked Document Reveals EU in Talks with Syrian Democratic Forces About the Fate of EU ISIS Detainees

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/leaked-document-reveals-eu-in-talks-with-syrian-democratic-forces-about-the-fate-of-eu-isis-detainees/>

Does SA have a plan to deal with those returning from ISIS?

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-03-05-does-sa-have-a-plan-to-deal-with-those-returning-from-isis/>

Egypt Sentences 37 Alleged ISIS Members to Death

<https://themedialine.org/mideast-daily-news/egypt-sentences-37-alleged-isis-members-to-death/>

Why Teenage Girls Are Giving Up Everything To Join Islamic State

<https://10daily.com.au/news/a200302xcaet/why-teenage-girls-are-giving-up-everything-to-join-islamic-state-20200303>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Al-Qaeda: Threat or Anachronism?

Bruce Hoffman and Jacob Ware – War on the Rocks: 12 March 2020

Al-Qaida has spent the last several years rebuilding and should not be underestimated, despite some assertions to the contrary. What accounts for the group's resilience?

<https://warontherocks.com/2020/03/al-qaeda-threat-or-anachronism/>

For more on this theme:

Palestinian Islamic Jihad, Joint Operations Room launch operation “Revenge of the Truthful.”

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/02/palestinian-islamic-jihad-joint-operations-room-launch-operation-revenge-of-the-truthful.php>

Combatting Terrorism in West Africa and the Sahel

https://www.thecipherbrief.com/column_article/combating-terrorism-in-west-africa-and-the-sahel

Jihadis, vigilantes, and demoralised troops: A who's who in Burkina Faso's spiralling crisis

<https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/analysis/2020/03/09/who-is-who-burkina-faso-crisis>

Al Qaeda's West African branch seeks French withdrawal, then negotiations

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/03/al-qaedas-west-african-branch-seeks-french-withdrawal-then-negotiations.php>

Introducing: Generation Jihad, a new podcast from FDD's Long War Journal

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/03/introducing-generation-jihad-a-new-podcast-from-fdds-long-war-journal.php>

MPs will hold emergency debate over 'jihadi textbooks' handed out at schools in Palestine funded by £120m of UK taxpayers' cash

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8089435/MPs-hold-emergency-debate-jihadi-textbooks-handed-schools-Palestine.html>

Al-Qaeda Recruiting Disaffected Taliban: Kunar Officials

<https://tolonews.com/afghanistan/al-qaeda-recruiting-disaffected-taliban-kunar-officials>

Hezbollah: The curse of Lebanon

<https://asiatimes.com/2020/03/hezbollah-the-curse-of-lebanon/>

Jihadists win hearts and minds in the Sahel by providing basic services

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/03/06/jihadists-win-hearts-minds-sahel-providing-basic-services/>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

How Europe deals with terror offenders when they are freed from jail

Joshua Nevett – *BBC News*: 12 March 2020

When radicalized terror offenders are released from prison, how should they be dealt with?

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-51560046>

Rise of the keyboard fascists: how the internet enables radicalization

Mark O'Connell – *NewStatesmanAmerica*: 11 March 2020

In her book *Going Dark*, Julia Ebner goes undercover online to study the dynamics and tactics of far-right extremist networks.

<https://www.newstatesman.com/culture/books/2020/03/rise-keyboard-fascists-how-internet-enables-radicalisation>

For more on this theme:

Indonesian Minister Claims Success in Efforts to Deradicalize Inmates

<https://www.benarnews.org/english/news/indonesian/deradicalization-efforts-03062020164506.html>

Gender and Preventing Violent Extremism

<https://blogs.prio.org/2020/03/gender-and-preventing-violent-extremism/>

De-radicalisation approach needs 'fundamental review' - Prison Officers' Association

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-51801724>

'You feel left behind. You can divert that anger to demand justice, or towards radicalisation'

<https://scroll.in/article/955507/you-feel-left-behind-you-can-divert-that-anger-to-demand-justice-or-towards-radicalisation>

Bradford mums and teachers on the front line in fight against far-right and Islamist extremism

<https://www.examinerlive.co.uk/news/local-news/bradford-mums-teachers-front-line-17903577>

Censorship will not defeat extremism

<https://www.spiked-online.com/2020/03/09/censorship-will-not-defeat-extremism/>

Countering Terrorism and Extremism in Africa

<https://www.miragenews.com/countering-terrorism-and-extremism-in-africa/>

Rehabilitating surrendered militants in J&K: Lessons from past experiences

<https://www.thedispatch.in/rehabilitating-surrendered-militants-in-jk-lessons-from-past-experiences/>

U.K. Police Praised for Work on Preventing Radicalization but Report Finds Room for Improvement

<https://www.hstoday.us/channels/global/u-k-police-praised-for-work-on-preventing-radicalization-but-report-finds-room-for-improvement/>

Are your kids being radicalized online?

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/kids-radicalization-online-cbsn-originals-extremists-next-door/>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: SOFT POWER

China Pushes Back as Coronavirus Crisis Damages Its Image

Steven Lee Myers – The New York Times: 6 March 2020

The country is appealing for sympathy while attacking those who blame its leadership for making the situation worse.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/06/world/asia/china-coronavirus-image.html>

For more on this theme:

Canada must use its 'soft power' to champion global human rights

<https://theconversation.com/canada-must-use-its-soft-power-to-champion-global-human-rights-132177>

India's Growing Soft Power

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/gb/blog/leaders-in-the-making/202002/india-s-growing-soft-power>

'The future is not Asian': Joseph Nye

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Editor-s-Picks/Interview/The-future-is-not-Asian-Joseph-Nye>

Gains of China's soft power in Africa over the West

<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2020/03/12/gains-of-chinas-soft-power-in-africa-over-the-west/>

We have to be hard-nosed about soft power in Asia

<https://www.afr.com/policy/foreign-affairs/we-have-to-be-hard-nosed-about-soft-power-in-asia-20200312-p549ci>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: PROXY FORCES

Coronaviruses Tension Makes Iran More Dangerous, U.S. General Says virus Could Push Iran To Lash Out at U.S.

Bloomberg: 13 March 2020

The coronavirus outbreak in Iran may result in a buildup of Tehran-sponsored assaults against the U.S. and its allies, Gen. Kenneth "Frank" McKenzie of U.S. Central Command stated.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-03-12/coronavirus-tension-makes-iran-more-dangerous-u-s-general-says>

For more on this theme:

Iranian proxy 'likely' launched strike that killed 2 American troops in Iraq, says US general

<https://www.defensenews.com/congress/2020/03/12/iranian-proxy-likely-launched-strike-that-killed-2-us-troops-in-iraq-says-us-general/>

U.S. launches strikes in Iraq against Iranian-backed militias after attack that killed coalition troops

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/national-security/2020/03/12/pentagon-awaiting-decision-trump-how-respond-deadly-rocket-attack-iraq/>