

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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CORONAVIRUS AND NATIONAL SECURITY

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Failure to Confront China's Corruption Will Exacerbate Coronavirus Crisis

Nate Sibley – Hudson Institute: 20 March 2020

While focusing on emergency measures for the coronavirus outbreak domestically, nations should also look at how to help governments around the world confront the crisis more effectively. Cracking down on corruption is critical to fighting this and future pandemics.

<https://www.hudson.org/research/15846-failure-to-confront-china-s-corruption-will-exacerbate-coronavirus-crisis>

Iran expert says corruption 'No. 1 national security threat in Iran'

Bryant Harris – Al-Monitor: 24 March 2020

Al-Monitor contributor and economic analyst Bijan Khajepour says corruption is the No. 1 national security threat in Iran. "If you go back to the question of why was Iran so slow in responding to the crisis [coronavirus pandemic], part of it was certainly this because the professionals, the technocrats who would have understood the dimensions of this crisis, were not in the right place. And if they were there, they were completely demotivated because of corruption and mismanagement."

<https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2020/03/iran-bijan-khajepour-economy-covid19-corruption.html>

For more on this theme:

Double fight on corruption

<https://thenewdawnliberia.com/double-fight-on-corruption/>

Fighting corruption in Ukraine and Armenia

<https://emerging-europe.com/voices/fighting-corruption-in-ukraine-and-armenia/>

World Vision Australia corruption allegations: What's happening and lessons for NGOs

<https://www.devex.com/news/world-vision-australia-corruption-allegations-what-s-happening-and-lessons-for-ngos-96729>

Youth role sought to arrest corruption

<https://nation.com.pk/18-Mar-2020/youth-role-sought-to-arrest-corruption>

Son Of Former Army Chief In Iran Sentenced To Ten Years For Corruption

<https://en.radiofarda.com/a/son-of-former-army-chief-in-iran-sentenced-to-ten-years-for-corruption/30495142.html>

South Africa to tap blockchain to reduce corruption, bring access to markets

<https://coingeek.com/south-africa-to-tap-blockchain-to-reduce-corruption-bring-access-to-markets/>

Saudi anti-graft campaign nabs hundreds of civil servants

<https://theArabweekly.com/saudi-anti-graft-campaign-nabs-hundreds-civil-servants>

Congo activists urge action over government corruption

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/congo-activists-urge-action-government-corruption-200314044201799.html>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

How Johnson & Johnson companies used a ‘super poppy’ to make narcotics for America’s most abused opioid pills

Peter Whoriskey – The Washington Post: 26 March 2020

Johnson & Johnson became the leading maker of opioid pills by exploiting Tasmanian farmers who grew a “super poppy” plant that was extremely rich in opiates. The drugs contributed to a major drug crisis in the U.S. and around the world.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2020/business/opioid-crisis-johnson-and-johnson-tasmania-poppy/>

The Women Who Want to Leave Coca Behind in Colombia’s Putumayo

Maria Alejandra Navarrete and Laura Alonso – InSight Crime: 26 March 2020

Female coca growers in at least one portion of Colombia are forced to continue growing coca or put themselves at risk against the armed groups forcing them to produce.

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/women-coca-putumayo-colombia/>

For more on this theme:

Coronavirus Squeezing Finances of Mexico’s Criminal Groups

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/coronavirus-squeezing-mexico-criminal-groups/>

State crime lab scales back operations amid coronavirus spread, leading to shelving of drug cases

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/news/criminal-justice/ct-coronavirus-state-crime-lab-impact-20200320-pwcpakrajrbujhuzygoy2yy5ki-story.html>

Dark web, not dark alley: Why drug sellers see the internet as a lucrative safe haven

<https://www.asiaone.com/digital/dark-web-not-dark-alley-why-drug-sellers-see-internet-lucrative-safe-haven>

Fighting Australian addiction

<https://www.policyforum.net/fighting-australian-drug-addiction/>

Estonia won its war on fentanyl, then things got worse

<https://apnews.com/be15d6289f39b45742d598f6f65185ce>

Venezuelan Leader Maduro Is Charged in the U.S. With Drug Trafficking

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/26/nyregion/venezuela-president-drug-trafficking-nicolas-maduro.html>

North Koreans Put Out of Work by COVID-19 Resort to Drug Trafficking

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/korea/coronavirus-meth-03202020211410.html>

Costa Rica’s Security Minister Talks Cocaine, Killings, and Organized Crime

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/costa-ricas-security-minister-talks-cocaine-killings-and-organized-crime/>

Thailand’s drug smuggling crisis ‘worst ever’

<https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/special-reports/1883665/agonies-of-the-ecstasy-nations-drug-smuggling-crisis-worst-ever>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

China Recommends Bear Bile to Treat COVID-19, Worrying Wildlife Advocates

Jordan Davidson – EcoWatch: 26 March 2020

One of the more controversial COVID-19 cures – endorsed by the Chinese government – is bear bile. Wildlife advocates are alarmed that a zoonotic disease would be so cavalierly treated with yet another form of trafficked wildlife, likely driving up demand for the bear bile.

<https://www.ecowatch.com/china-coronavirus-bear-bile-2645577912.html?rebellitem=1#rebellitem1>

Illegal wildlife trade goes online as China shuts down markets

Michael Standaert – Al Jazeera: 24 March 2020

With the temporary ban on wildlife trade in China, criminals have moved animal trafficking online. According to Al Jazeera, e-commerce sites are now under pressure from activists to help enforce the temporary ban on trading wildlife. Animal activists continue to ask China to make the temporary ban permanent and are asking the government to help provide internet sites the tools to recognize and stop illegal wildlife trading.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/03/illegal-wildlife-trade-online-china-shuts-markets-200324040543868.html>

For more on this theme:

COVID-19: The Wildlife Trade and Human Disease

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/podcast/episode/covid-19-the-wildlife-trade-and-human-disease/>

National parks pay the price as land conflicts intensify in Colombia

<https://news.mongabay.com/2020/03/national-parks-pay-the-price-as-land-conflicts-intensify-in-colombia/>

Time for ASEAN to ban wildlife trade for good

<https://theaseanpost.com/article/time-asean-ban-wildlife-trade-good>

Countering wildlife trafficking through Kenya's ports - a rapid seizures analysis

<https://www.traffic.org/publications/reports/countering-wildlife-trafficking-through-kenyas-ports-a-rapid-seizures-analysis/>

Despite coronavirus fears, Nigeria has taken no action to stop its pangolin trade

<https://qz.com/africa/1823783/coronavirus-nigeria-not-stopping-pangolin-trade-trafficking/>

Coronavirus: Pangolins found to carry related strains

<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-52048195>

Indian scientists building DNA database to protect the elusive red panda

<https://india.mongabay.com/2020/03/indian-scientists-building-dna-database-to-protect-the-elusive-red-panda/>

Environmental law expert: Detecting environmental crime is quite a problem

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/energy-environment/interview/environmental-law-expert-detecting-environmental-crime-is-quite-a-problem/>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

How Singapore start-up's sustainable seafood grown from stem cells could disrupt global shrimp industry

Today: 20 March 2020

At a laboratory in Singapore, researchers are working on a technology that could erase a motivating factor of the modern slave trade – plant-based seafood. Currently the seafood industry is rife with child and forced labor and of human trafficking.

<https://www.todayonline.com/world/how-singapore-start-ups-sustainable-seafood-grown-stem-cells-could-disrupt-global-shrimp>

Coronavirus feared delivering double blow to modern slaves in Britain

Kieran Guilbert – Reuters: 24 March 2020

The coronavirus pandemic could prove deadly for modern slaves in the United Kingdom because they are unlikely to seek help if infected or, if they do, they could be driven further into debt bondage.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-britain-slavery/coronavirus-feared-delivering-double-blow-to-modern-slaves-in-britain-idUSKBN21C09G>

For more on this theme:

Tanzania launches campaign to deter sexual corruption

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/tanzania-launches-campaign-to-deter-sexual-corruption/1775454>

Vietnamese kids missing from Dutch shelters victims of human trafficking: Rapporteur

<https://nl.times.nl/2020/03/26/vietnamese-kids-missing-dutch-shelters-victims-human-trafficking-rapporteur>

Brazil eases residency visa requirements for trafficking victims

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-trafficking-government/brazil-eases-residency-visa-requirements-for-trafficking-victims-idUSKBN21C093>

At Least 60 Migrants Are Found Dead in a Truck in Mozambique

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/24/world/africa/mozambique-truck-migrants-dead.html>

Zimbabwe women still vulnerable to sex trafficking

<https://www.newsday.co.zw/2020/03/zimbabwe-women-still-vulnerable-to-sex-trafficking/>

No country is free from modern slavery, but would you know it if you saw it?

<https://www.dw.com/en/why-modern-slavery-and-human-trafficking-still-exist-world/a-52853992>

Dutch sex workers risk trafficking and abuse as coronavirus bites

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/sex-and-relationships/dutch-sex-workers-risk-trafficking-and-abuse-as-coronavirus-bites/story-wycP9yQBDLAVaKDpLVKqxL.html>

Porn site's free service during coronavirus raises sex trafficking fears

<https://news.trust.org/item/20200326185000-28xei>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Internet Governance and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Part 4: Article 15-13

Klaus Stoll – CircleID: 24 March 2020

This is Part 4 of a series of articles published on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and human rights in the cyberspaces of the Internet Ecosystem.

<http://www.circleid.com/posts/20200324-internet-governance-and-universal-declaration-human-rights-part-4/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) COVID-19 and Social Media Content Moderation

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/covid-19-and-social-media-content-moderation>

(Global) The battle against disinformation is global

<https://www.thestreet.com/phildavis/news/battle-against-disinformation-is-global>

INTERNET FREEDOM

Bangladesh: Internet Ban Risks Rohingya Lives

Human Rights Watch: 26 March 2020

Bangladesh's internet blackout and phone restrictions — in place since September — at Rohingya refugee camps are hindering humanitarian aid, according to Human Rights Watch.

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/03/26/bangladesh-internet-ban-risks-rohingya-lives#>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Arweave's Permanent 'Library Of Alexandria' On Blockchain To Halt Censorship, Empower Information

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/michaelhaley/2020/03/16/arweaves-permanent-library-of-alexandria-on-blockchain-to-halt-censorship-empower-information/#5aefb91d6383>

(China) Chinese citizens fight coronavirus censorship with emojis and ancient languages

<https://www.rappler.com/technology/features/255393-chinese-citizens-fight-coronavirus-censorship-coda-story>

(Global) Internet shutdowns 'not justified' in coronavirus outbreak

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-tech-rights/internet-shutdowns-not-justified-in-coronavirus-outbreak-idUSKBN21809M>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Privacy vs pandemic: government tracking of mobile phones could be a potent weapon against COVID-19

Patrick Fair – The Conversation: 26 March 2020

Tracking location data from phones could offer a more targeted approach to controlling the spread of COVID-19, but is the loss of privacy worth the potential benefit?

<https://theconversation.com/privacy-vs-pandemic-government-tracking-of-mobile-phones-could-be-a-potent-weapon-against-covid-19-134895>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) Business in the time of COVID-19: US Cybersecurity and Privacy Issues for You to Consider

<https://www.natlawreview.com/article/business-time-covid-19-us-cybersecurity-and-privacy-issues-you-to-consider>

(Global) Privacy in a Global Pandemic: Analysis of COVID-19 Guidance By Data Protection Authorities

<https://www.natlawreview.com/article/privacy-global-pandemic-analysis-covid-19-guidance-data-protection-authorities>

(Global) This is how we secure smart cities

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/03/this-is-how-we-secure-smart-cities/>

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Brazil-EU Cyber Cooperation: Swinging Bridges on the Road to Stability in Cyberspace

Hannes Ebert and Louise Marie Hurel – Council on Foreign Relations: 25 March 2020

The cyber dialogue between Brazil and the European Union is critical at a time when cyber threats continue to flourish.

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/brazil-eu-cyber-cooperation-swinging-bridges-road-stability-cyberspace>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Cyber-States and US National Security: Learning from Covid-19

<https://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/cyber-states-and-us-national-security-learning-covid-19>

(Europe, Global) EU video-diplomacy not as effective, minister says

<https://euobserver.com/coronavirus/147857>

(Asia-Pacific) Internet samurai says he'll sell 14,700,000 IPv4 addresses worth \$300m-plus, plow it all into Asia-Pacific connectivity

https://www.theregister.co.uk/2020/03/26/apnic_jun_murai_ipv4_auction/

(Russia, Global) Putin's Secret Intelligence Agency Hacked: Dangerous New 'Cyber Weapons' Now Exposed

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/zakdoffman/2020/03/21/putins-secret-intelligence-agency-hacked-dangerous-new-cyber-weapons-target-your-devices/#790e88d7778a>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Digital stability: How technology can empower future generations in the Middle East

Manuel Langendorf – European Council on Foreign Relations: 24 March 2020

The growing digital economy of the Middle East and North Africa just may be the answer to high youth unemployment. But there are many hurdles to overcome before it can be called a panacea.

https://www.ecfr.eu/publications/summary/digital_stability_how_technology_can_empower_future_generations_middle_east

For more on this theme:

(Global) Coronavirus Brings The Digital Divide Into Stark Relief

<https://wamu.org/story/20/03/23/coronavirus-brings-the-digital-divide-into-stark-relief/>

(Africa, Global) How women in developing countries can harness e-commerce

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/03/women-ecommerce-developing-countries/>

(Pakistan) Digital Transformation: A growing landscape in Pakistan

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/634979-digital-transformation-a-growing-landscape-in-pakistan>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Canadian Volunteers to Form Cyber Civil Defense Brigade

Sarah Coble – InfoSecurity Magazine: 25 March 2020

Canadian cyber professionals are joining together to protect their nation's critical infrastructure and health care system from cyber threats during this time of crisis.

<https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/canadian-volunteers-cyber-defense/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) A Chinese virus has shown why telecom networks are a vital infrastructure for modern society

<https://www.neweurope.eu/article/a-chinese-virus-has-shown-why-telecom-networks-are-a-vital-infrastructure-for-modern-society/>

(U.S.) CISA Releases Guidance on Identifying Critical Infrastructure during COVID-19

<https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/91973-cisa-releases-guidance-on-identifying-critical-infrastructure-during-covid-19>

(U.S.) Paging a Joint Task Force: Cyber Defense of Pandemic Medical Infrastructure

<https://warontherocks.com/2020/03/paging-a-joint-task-force-cyber-defense-of-pandemic-medical-infrastructure/>

(Global) Cybersecurity Pros: Critical Infrastructure Ripe for Cyberattacks

<https://www.channelfutures.com/mssp-insider/cybersecurity-pros-critical-infrastructure-ripe-for-cyberattacks>

(U.S.) Who should be responsible for critical infrastructure's cybersecurity?

<https://www.fifthdomain.com/critical-infrastructure/2020/03/26/who-should-be-responsible-for-critical-infrastructure-cybersecurity/>

NOTEWORTHY PODCASTS

Meeting the Security Challenges of a Global Pandemic

Monica Todros – Recorded Future: 23 March 2020

More people working from home due to the coronavirus outbreak gives threat actors the opening they need to take advantage of a precarious situation. This episode features Allan Liska, a threat intelligence analyst at Recorded Future, who has some practical advice for staying safe and protecting your organization during this time.

<https://www.recordedfuture.com/podcast-episode-151/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) The CyberWire Daily Podcast – Ep 1051

<https://thecyberwire.com/podcasts/daily-podcast/1051/notes>

(U.S.) Telework cybersecurity guidance could be on the way

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/federal-newscast/2020/03/more-telework-guidance-could-be-on-the-way/>

(Global) Cyber Security Today

<https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/cyber-security-today-canadas-trudeau-dragged-into-covid-19-scam-how-not-to-be-victimized-by-sim-card-swaps-nutribullet-hit-and-more/428701>

MASS SURVEILLANCE AND INTELLIGENCE GATHERING

As Coronavirus Surveillance Escalates, Personal Privacy Plummets

Natasha Singer and Choe Sang-Hun – The New York Times: 24 March 2020

Privacy experts are concerned about how governments use data to supposedly track the coronavirus, how it was stored and the potential for authorities to maintain heightened levels of surveillance – even after the coronavirus pandemic is over.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/23/technology/coronavirus-surveillance-tracking-privacy.html>

For more on this theme:

(Russia) In Russia, facial surveillance and threat of prison being used to make coronavirus quarantines stick

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/in-russia-facial-surveillance-and-risk-of-jail-seek-to-make-coronavirus-quarantines-stick/2020/03/24/a590c7e8-6dbf-11ea-a156-0048b62cdb51_story.html

(Global) Blockchain Can Protect Privacy During Coronavirus Crisis

<https://www.ibtimes.com/blockchain-can-protect-privacy-during-coronavirus-crisis-2947017>

(Global) Should Location Data Be Used in Battle Against COVID-19?

<https://www.bankinfosecurity.com/should-location-data-be-used-in-battle-against-covid-19-a-13993>

(Global) 11 countries are now using people's phones to track the coronavirus pandemic, and it heralds a massive increase in surveillance

<https://www.businessinsider.com/countries-tracking-citizens-phones-coronavirus-2020-3>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Coronavirus: 'Islamic State' seeks to profit from pandemic

Lewis Sanders IV and Tom Allinson – Deutsche Welle: 23 March 2020

ISIS stressed in a new editorial on the coronavirus pandemic that countries responding to the virus are distracted, which leaves an opening for jihadists to exploit. In last week's newsletter, the group referred to the COVID-19 pandemic as divine intervention intended to inflict "painful torment" against "crusader nations."

<https://www.dw.com/en/coronavirus-islamic-state-seeks-to-profit-from-pandemic/a-52886753>

Islamic State in West Africa Province's Factional Disputes and the Battle With Boko Haram

Jacob Zenn – The Jamestown Foundation: 20 March 2020

IS in West Africa Province is again experiencing turmoil in its leadership due to factional disputes.

<https://jamestown.org/program/islamic-state-in-west-africa-provinces-factional-disputes-and-the-battle-with-boko-haram/>

For more on this theme:

Inside the Russian region leading the world on bringing back the children of Islamic State

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/03/13/inside-russian-region-leading-world-bringing-back-children-islamic/>

The Outflow of Dagestanis to the Middle East Has Lasting Consequences

<https://jamestown.org/program/the-outflow-of-dagestanis-to-the-middle-east-has-lasting-consequences/>

Repatriating Foreign Fighters from Syria: International Law and Political Will (Part 1)

<https://www.justsecurity.org/69244/repatriating-foreign-fighters-from-syria-international-law-and-political-will-part-1/>

ISIS in Their Own Words: Recruitment, Motivations, Duties and Disillusionment

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/isis-in-their-own-words-recruitment-motivations-duties-and-disillusionment/>

Interview with Tatyana Dronzina: Our Women of ISIS – Terrorists, Victims or Survivors?

<https://www.europeaninterest.eu/article/interview-tatyana-dronzina-women-isis-terrorists-victims-survivors/>

Islamic State claims Mozambique attack close to gas projects

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mozambique-insurgency/islamic-state-claims-mozambique-attack-close-to-gas-projects-idUSKBN21C00N>

Exclusive: ISIS in Iraq... A Growing Threat

<https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/2193131/exclusive-isis-iraq%E2%80%A6-growing-threat>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Why The World Should Not Forget Threat Of Jihadism Amidst COVID-19 – Analysis

Sinduja Umandi Wickramasinghe Jayaratne – Eurasia Review: 26 March 2020

ISIS is encouraging terrorists to take advantage of the coronavirus pandemic by being proactive and innovative in their attacks.

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/26032020-why-the-world-should-not-forget-threat-of-jihadism-amidst-covid-19-analysis/>

Usbat al-Thairen: The new Iran-backed militia on Iraq's block

James Snell – The Arab Weekly: 22 March 2020

Usbat al-Thairen is a new version of an old threat. The group's aim is to expel Western troops from Iraq. But the group is basically other designated terrorist entities working together under a new name. Phillip Smyth, Soref fellow at the Washington Institute of Near East Policy, described Usbat al-Thairen as "just a front for the Iranians to continue their actions against the U.S. and other coalition forces in the area."

<https://theArabweekly.com/usbat-al-thairen-new-iran-backed-militia-iraqs-block>

For more on this theme:

The Terrorist Who Got Away

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/19/magazine/masood-azhar-jaish.html>

Hamas in Moscow to mend ties with Syrian regime

<https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2020/03/international-diplomacy-hamas-damascus-relations-moscow.html>

What Does Myanmar's New Arakan Army Terrorist Designation Mean for the Country's Security?

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/03/what-does-myanmars-new-arakan-army-terrorist-designation-mean-for-the-countrys-security/>

A Fierce Battle in Western Myanmar Has Killed Hundreds as the Country Braces for COVID

<https://www.irrawaddy.com/opinion/commentary/fierce-battle-western-myanmar-killed-hundreds-country-braces-covid.html>

Women, Boko Haram, and Suicide Bombings

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/women-boko-haram-and-suicide-bombings>

How the coronavirus is reshaping terrorists' attack plans

<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/03/27/coronavirus-terrorism-justice-department-150870>

Indonesia's Terrorism Challenge in the Headlines with Jemaah Islamiyah Leader Trial

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/03/indonesias-terrorism-challenge-in-the-headlines-with-jemaah-islamiyah-leader-trial/>

Jihad in Central Asia and Russia and the Prospect of Nuclear Terrorism

<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2020/03/27/jihad-in-central-asia-and-russia-and-the-prospect-of-nuclear-terrorism/>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Self-Isolation Might Stop Coronavirus, but It Will Speed the Spread of Extremism

Nikita Malik – Foreign Policy; 26 March 2020

Unable to leave their homes, the disaffected will be more likely to become radicalized through social media. Terrorist groups exploit the confusion and fear of change and will be taking advantage of the COVID-19 crisis to recruit more people.

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/03/26/self-isolation-might-stop-coronavirus-but-spread-extremism/>

For more on this theme:

Uzbekistan's ISIS problem: persecution at home may be radicalising young Muslims

<https://www.thenational.ae/world/asia/uzbekistan-s-isis-problem-persecution-at-home-may-be-radicalising-young-muslims-1.995701>

Can we de-radicalise the far-right?

<https://www.newsroom.co.nz/2020/03/26/1085579/can-we-de-radicalise-the-far-right>

How neo-Nazi group National Action targeted young people

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-48279225>

WHITE NATIONALIST TERRORISM

White supremacists discussed using the coronavirus as a bioweapon, explosive internal document reveals

Sonam Sheth – Business Insider; 22 March 2020

U.S. federal law enforcement warned that white supremacist terrorists had considered weaponizing coronavirus through saliva-filled spray bottles and contaminating non-white neighborhoods with the virus, according to intelligence briefings.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/coronavirus-white-supremacists-discussed-using-covid-19-as-bio-weapon-2020-3>

For more on this theme:

One year after mosque massacre, New Zealand is fighting rising hate

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-newzealand-shooting-hatecrime/one-year-after-mosque-massacre-new-zealand-is-fighting-rising-hate-idUSKBN20Y0JZ>

FBI: Racially-motivated extremists a “national threat priority”

<https://wdef.com/2020/03/10/fbi-rationally-motivated-extremists-national-threat-priority/>

Assessing the risks of the radical right

<https://www.policyforum.net/assessing-the-risks-of-the-radical-right/>

Vikings vs Neo-Nazis: Battling the Far Right in Sweden

<https://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/witness/2020/03/vikings-neo-nazis-battling-swe-den-200319123918169.html>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: SOFT POWER

China's Mask Diplomacy

Brian Wong – The Diplomat: 25 March 2020

By shipping medical supplies to European countries, China is seeking to boost its image as a responsible global leader.

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/03/chinas-mask-diplomacy/>

How the Coronavirus Threatens Putin's Global Image

Thomas Graham – Council on Foreign Relations: 25 March 2020

Russian President Vladimir Putin had hoped to raise his image both globally and domestically over this next year to solidify himself as a dominant figure on the world stage. The coronavirus epidemic may thwart his plans.

<https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/how-coronavirus-threatens-putins-global-image>

For more on this theme:

China's Coronavirus Information Warfare

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/03/chinas-coronavirus-information-warfare/>

Spain returns faulty test kits to China as COVID-19 death toll passes 4,000-mark

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/coronavirus/news/spain-returns-faulty-test-kits-to-china-as-covid-19-death-toll-passes-4000-mark/>

Flying aid to virus-hit Italy, Moscow flexes soft power

<https://www.france24.com/en/20200326-flying-aid-to-virus-hit-italy-moscow-flexes-soft-power>

Global soft power report examines reputation, influence of nation brands

<https://www.transformmagazine.net/articles/2020/global-soft-power-report-examines-reputation-influence-of-nation-brands/>

COVID19: Impact and response in Southeast Asia amidst China's 'soft power' diplomacy

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/covid19-impact-response-southeast-asia-amidst-china-soft-power-diplomacy-63570/>

CORONAVIRUS AND NATIONAL SECURITY

Behind North Korea's New Missile Launches in the Midst of Coronavirus Pandemic

Santo D. Banerjee – InDepth News: 25 March 2020

While countries around the globe were focused on combating COVID-19, North Korea took this opportunity to launch its first missiles of the year. Whether North Korea continues to provoke the international community will depend heavily on how hard the country is hit by the coronavirus.

<https://www.indepthnews.net/index.php/armaments/nuclear-weapons/3405-behind-north-korea-s-new-missile-launches-in-the-midst-of-coronavirus-pandemic>

For more on this theme:

Going to 'War' Against Coronavirus

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/03/going-to-war-against-coronavirus/>

How the coronavirus pandemic threatens US national security

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/how-the-coronavirus-pandemic-threatens-u-s-national-security>

Economic Impacts of COVID-19

<https://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/economic-impacts-covid-19>

Homeland Security warns terrorists may exploit COVID-19 pandemic

<https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/homeland-security-warns-terrorists-exploit-covid-19-pandemic/story?id=69770582>

COVID-19 is attacking our defense supply chains and our nation's security

<https://thehill.com/opinion/national-security/489375-covid-19-is-attacking-our-defense-supply-chains-and-our-nations>

UN Warns of COVID-19 'Circling Back Around the Globe'

<https://www.hstoday.us/channels/global/un-warns-of-covid-19-circling-back-around-the-globe/>

The Hunt: COVID-19 scenario takes away targets for terrorists

<https://wtop.com/national-security/2020/03/the-hunt-covid-19-scenario-takes-away-targets-for-terrorists/>

Combating COVID-19 Without China

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/03/combating-covid-19-without-china/>

COVID-19: Countering the Economic Contagion

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/03/covid-19-countering-the-economic-contagion/>

Can India Keep up With COVID-19?

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/03/india-challenged-by-covid-19/>

The Comprehensive Timeline of China's COVID-19 Lies

<https://www.nationalreview.com/the-morning-jolt/chinas-devastating-lies/>

Russia Blamed for COVID-19 Disinformation Campaigns

<https://www.bankinfosecurity.com/russia-blamed-for-covid-19-disinformation-campaigns-a-13996>

CORONAVIRUS AND NATIONAL SECURITY - CONTINUED

COVID-19 virus spread prompts food insecurity fears in Africa

Joseph Opoku Gakpo – Cornell Alliance for Science: 26 March 2020

The spread of COVID-19 threatens to exacerbate the problem of food insecurity. Some countries are already experiencing rising prices, panic buying and import-export disruptions.

<https://allianceforscience.cornell.edu/blog/2020/03/covid-19-virus-spread-prompts-food-insecurity-fears-in-africa/>

For more on this theme:

Covid-19 could cause staff shortages in the nuclear power industry

<https://bellona.org/news/nuclear-issues/2020-03-covid-19-could-cause-staff-shortages-in-the-nuclear-power-industry>

US Fingers Iran for Exporting COVID-19

<https://www.voanews.com/science-health/coronavirus-outbreak/us-fingers-iran-exporting-covid-19>

COVID-19 and Violent Conflict: Responding to Predictable Unpredictability

<https://www.justsecurity.org/69340/covid-19-and-violent-conflict-responding-to-predictable-unpredictability/>

Ethiopia: COVID-19 & Constitutional Crisis

<https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/ethiopia-covid-19-constitutional-crisis/>

The EU, coronavirus and crisis management: is ‘solidarity’ real or just a prop?

http://www.realinstitutoelcano.org/wps/portal/rielcano_en/contenido?WCM_GLOBAL_CONTEXT=/elcano/elcano_in/zonas_in/commentary-toygur-eu-coronavirus-and-crisis-management-is-solidarity-real-or-just-a-prop

Analysts: Russia Using Virus Crisis to Sow Discord in West

<https://www.voanews.com/science-health/coronavirus-outbreak/analysts-russia-using-virus-crisis-sow-discord-west>

Central Asian States Can’t Hide the Coronavirus Any Longer

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/03/20/central-asian-states-cant-hide-coronavirus-kazakhstan-uzbekistan-kyrgyzstan-tajikistan-turkmenistan/>

Syria’s Revenge on the World Will Be a Second Wave of Coronavirus

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/03/26/syrias-revenge-on-the-world-will-be-a-second-wave-of-coronavirus/>

Tackling COVID-19: A Problem So Big, You Can See It From Space

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/tackling-covid-19-problem-so-big-you-can-see-it-space>

As coronavirus hits Latin America, expect serious and enduring effects

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/03/26/as-coronavirus-hits-latin-america-expect-serious-and-enduring-effects/>