

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

The Confluence of Conflict, Corruption, and Coronavirus in Burkina Faso

John Campbell – The Council on Foreign Relations: 16 April 2020

The small West African state of Burkina Faso is dealing with political, institutional and societal breakdown while trying to deal with COVID-19. Corruption makes helping the country incredibly difficult as it also faces crime and terrorism. And it's not the only country in the region facing these threats.

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/confluence-conflict-corruption-and-coronavirus-burkina-faso>

Corruption risks in Middle East and North Africa threaten national responses to COVID-19

Transparency International: 9 April 2020

Transparency International is calling for special measures to protect funds donated in the name of COVID-19 to corruption-rife countries in the Middle East and North Africa to ensure the money is not lost to graft.

https://www.transparency.org/news/pressrelease/corruption_risks_in_middle_east_and_north_africa_threaten_national_response

For more on this theme:

Turkey: Connection Between The Fight Against Corruption And Fight Against COVID-19

<https://www.mondaq.com/turkey/Criminal-Law/909320/Connection-Between-The-Fight-Against-Corruption-And-Fight-Against-COVID-19>

After Exposing Corruption in Russian Courts, He's Now in Jail Himself

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/03/27/world/europe/russian-corruption-prank-sergei-davydov.html>

Watchdog: Graft will Allow Pandemic to Kill Many in South Africa

<https://www.occrp.org/en/daily/11994-watchdog-graft-will-allow-pandemic-to-kill-many-in-south-africa>

Ecuador's Former President Convicted on Corruption Charges

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/07/world/americas/ecuador-correa-corruption-verdict.html>

Iraq's designated prime minister says to control arms, fight corruption

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iraq-politics/iraqs-designated-prime-minister-says-to-control-arms-fight-corruption-idUSKCN21R3F0>

IMF: Make COVID-19 Funds Transparent, Accountable

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/04/09/imf-make-covid-19-funds-transparent-accountable#>

Bribery, corruption and fraud on the rise due to covid-19

<https://www.consultancy.com.au/news/1851/bribery-corruption-and-fraud-on-the-rise-due-to-covid-19>

New book shows how corruption took root in democratic South Africa

<https://theconversation.com/new-book-shows-how-corruption-took-root-in-democratic-south-africa-135443>

The Human Factor of the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) and Corruption

<https://www.globaltrademag.com/the-human-factor-of-the-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-and-corruption/>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Now joining the fight against coronavirus: The world's armed rebels, drug cartels and gangs

Kevin Sieff, Susannah George and Kareem Fahim – The Washington Post: 13 April 2020

As governments around the world have responded to COVID-19, armed insurgents, terrorist groups, and drug cartels and gangs are offering a parallel underworld of public health policy and strategic messaging. It is not the first time such groups have attempted to fill the role of government.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/coronavirus-taliban-ms-13-drug-cartels-gangs/2020/04/13/83aa07ac-79c2-11ea-a311-adb1344719a9_story.html

Coronavirus triggers UK shortage of illicit drugs

Jamie Grierson – The Guardian: 12 April 2020

Increased security and reduced global travel have limited the supply of illicit drugs in the U.K., and government officials worry that users will turn to more dangerous, but readily available, alternatives.

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/apr/12/coronavirus-triggers-uk-shortage-of-illicit-drugs>

For more on this theme:

COVID-19 chokes up drug trafficking

<https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/covid-19-chokes-up-drug-trafficking.783470>

Drug Users Released From Rehabilitation Due To Coronavirus Cause Public Concern In Iran

<https://en.radiofarda.com/a/drug-users-released-from-iran-s-rehabilitation-centers-due-to-coronavirus-cause-public-concern/30530518.html>

Bitcoin's Diminishing Role in the Drug Trade

<https://cryptobriefing.com/bitcoins-diminishing-role-drug-trade/>

Drug Dealers Are Dressing Up as Delivery Drivers, Joggers and Nurses to Sell Heroin During Lockdown

https://www.vice.com/en_uk/article/n7jgyg/drug-dealers-crack-heroin-coronavirus-lockdown

A drop in demand for cocaine, a switch to cannabis: How the crisis is affecting drug crime in Ireland

<https://www.thejournal.ie/ireland-drugs-gangs-covid-19-5064620-Apr2020/>

It's stockpiling, but not as you know it. Why coronavirus is making people hoard illegal drugs

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/05/uk/illegal-drug-shortage-coronavirus-gbr-intl/index.html>

Why COVID-19 Is Hitting Drug Addicts So Hard

<https://worldcrunch.com/coronavirus/why-covid-19-is-hitting-drug-addicts-so-hard>

Drug crime is thriving in Mexico, and many fear coronavirus will make it worse

<https://www.dallasnews.com/news/public-health/2020/04/09/drug-crime-is-thriving-in-mexico-and-many-fear-coronavirus-will-make-it-worse/>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Most laws ignore human-wildlife conflict — this makes us vulnerable to pandemics

Katie Woolaston – The Conversation: 8 April 2020

The “human-wildlife conflict” is a problem today and ultimately is the likely cause of COVID-19. International and domestic laws often ignore this problem, which can be disastrous.

<https://theconversation.com/most-laws-ignore-human-wildlife-conflict-this-makes-us-vulnerable-to-pandemics-135191>

Can China Finally End Its Wildlife Trade?

Adam Minter – Bloomberg: 16 April 2020

The multibillion-dollar wildlife trade must be brought to an end if we want to avoid more pandemics in the future.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2020-04-17/can-china-finally-end-its-wildlife-trade>

For more on this theme:

Mexico’s Environmental Activists Killed for Resisting Infrastructure Projects

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/mexico-environmental-activists-killed/>

Coronavirus: Putting the spotlight on the global wildlife trade

<https://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-52125309>

Why Coronavirus Could Lead to More Rhino Poaching

<https://earthier.gizmodo.com/why-coronavirus-could-lead-to-more-rhino-poaching-1842754861>

Conservation Groups Fear Wildlife Trade Will Resume as China Lifts Restrictions

<https://www.voanews.com/science-health/coronavirus-outbreak/conservation-groups-fear-wildlife-trade-will-resume-china-lifts>

China snake village scales down as coronavirus prompts wildlife trade ban

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-china-snakes/china-snake-village-scales-down-as-coronavirus-prompts-wildlife-trade-ban-idUSKBN21Q0ZH>

Machetes in hand, women join forces to fight logging in Solomon Islands

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-asiapac-women-logging-feature-trfn/machetes-in-hand-women-join-forces-to-fight-logging-in-solomon-islands-idUSKCN21R007>

Coronavirus: Will This Be the Nail in the Coffin for Wildlife Trade?

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/coronavirus-will-be-nail-coffin-wildlife-trade-140022>

China Reclassifies Dogs from Livestock to Pets in Response to Coronavirus

<https://www.nationalreview.com/news/coronavirus-pandemic-china-reclassifies-dogs-from-livestock-to-pets/>

Human impact on wildlife to blame for spread of viruses, says study

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/apr/08/human-impact-on-wildlife-to-blame-for-spread-of-viruses-says-study-aoe>

How China can take the lead on protecting nature after COVID-19

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/04/covid-19-china-nature-risks-environmental-protection/>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Global Health Security – Impact of COVID-19: Can Irregular Migrants Cope?

S. Nanthini – S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies: 16 April 2020

As if they didn't face enough challenges, irregular migrants are some of the hardest hit by COVID-19.

<https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/nts/global-health-security-impact-of-covid-19-can-irregular-migrants-cope/#.XpkOqUxFyZ8>

AI Is Helping Us Combat The Economic Problem Of Human Trafficking

Jun Wu – Forbes: 14 April 2020

“Big Data and AI enable us to have an impact on human trafficking today that we couldn't 8 years or 10 years ago. As a behavioral scientist, I can draw inferences from behaviors I can see about the behaviors that I can't see. Machine learning can help us understand patterns in seconds that a human might take several life spans to be able to understand,” says Dr. Gary M. Shiffman, Founder of Giant Oak.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/cognitiveworld/2020/04/14/ai-is-helping-us-combat-the-economic-problem-of-human-trafficking/#6ab48fd3752c>

For more on this theme:

Frame law to end child trafficking

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/in-perspective/frame-law-to-end-child-trafficking-821856.html>

Migrant Workers Can't Afford a Lockdown

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/04/08/qatar-south-asian-migrant-workers-cant-afford-coronavirus-lockdown-world-cup-2022/>

Bangladesh vows help to sex workers hit by coronavirus for as long as needed

<https://news.trust.org/item/20200406134645-a325h/>

Fewer migrants to Europe, bigger problems for Africa

<https://issafrica.org/iss-today/fewer-migrants-to-europe-bigger-problems-for-africa>

Hundreds of migrants stuck in Niger amid coronavirus pandemic

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/04/hundreds-migrants-stuck-niger-coronavirus-pandemic-200409131745319.html>

COVID-19 responses in Africa must include migrants and refugees

<https://issafrica.org/iss-today/covid-19-responses-in-africa-must-include-migrants-and-refugees>

Trafficking Still A Problem In Malaysia

<https://theasianpost.com/article/trafficking-still-problem-malaysia>

Coronavirus Exposes Central Asian Migrants' Vulnerability

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/coronavirus-exposes-central-asian-migrants-vulnerability/>

COVID19 pandemic and Rohingya refugees

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/covid19-pandemic-rohingya-refugees-64511/>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

The Cyberspace Solarium Commission on Norms

Sang Lee, Ainsley Katz, Karrie Jefferson, Val Cofield and Laura Bate – Council on Foreign Relations: 16 April 2020

A Cyberspace Solarium Commission task force has focused on using norms and nonmilitary tools of state power to secure cyberspace. To strengthen norms, the task force recommends the creation of a new bureau within the U.S. Department of State to coordinate their implementation with like-minded states.

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/cyberspace-solarium-commission-norms>

For more on this theme:

(Global) No, the Internet Is Not Good Again

<https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2020/04/zoom-facebook-moderation-ai-coronavirus-internet/610099/>

(Global) The Cyber Terrain Infestation: Efficacy of Multi-Stakeholder Initiatives

<https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/opinions/multi-stakeholder-initiatives/>

(Global) Making Cyberspace Safe for Democracy

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/china/2020-04-13/making-cyberspace-safe-democracy>

INTERNET FREEDOM

China to ban online gaming, chatting with foreigners outside Great Firewall

Sophia Yang – Taiwan News: 15 April 2020

The Chinese government reportedly plans to draft a new protocol prohibiting all types of online gaming and chat groups in the country. The report states explicitly that the coverage of the gaming ban will be to exclusively disconnect all Chinese gamers from all foreign gamers outside the country.

<https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/3916690>

For more on this theme:

(China) China's "New IP" proposal to replace TCP/IP has a built in "shut up command" for censorship

<https://www.privateinternetaccess.com/blog/chinas-new-ip-proposal-to-replace-tcp-ip-has-a-built-in-shut-up-command-for-censorship/>

(Global) The Most Censored Countries 2020

<https://www.universitymagazine.ca/the-most-censored-countries-2020/>

(China) China's Limitations on Distance Education

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2020/04/16/chinese-limits-internet-complicate-distance-education>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

'Digital divide': lower income households struggle with internet access

Lisa Visentin – The Sydney Morning Herald: 17 April 2020

Disadvantaged Australians are likely to face greater difficulty working from home or completing virtual schooling due to the lack of internet availability – causing a major digital divide that is being magnified by the current crisis.

<https://www.smh.com.au/national/nsw/digital-divide-lower-income-households-struggle-with-internet-access-20200416-p54kfm.html>

For more on this theme:

(India) E-Education & Access To Information In Lockdown: Digital Divide

<https://feminisminindia.com/2020/04/17/e-education-access-information-lockdown-digital-divide/>

(Estonia, Benin, Ukraine) Estonia's e-Governance Academy helps deliver digital services in Benin and Ukraine

<https://estonianworld.com/technology/estonias-e-governance-academy-helps-deliver-digital-services-in-benin-and-ukraine/>

CYBER ATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

Security Companies in South Korea Discover North Korean Cyberattack

Radio Free Asia: 10 April 2020

Private security companies in South Korea have detected evidence that North Korea attempted to hack into the personal computers of select targets by using documents that appeared to be related to former North Korean citizens running in South Korea's legislative elections.

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/korea/hacking-04102020214906.html>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) New York State Investigates Network Hack

<https://www.bankinfosecurity.com/new-york-state-investigates-network-hack-a-14124>

(Global) 500,000 Hacked Zoom Accounts Being Sold on Dark Web: Report

<https://gadgets.ndtv.com/apps/news/zoom-hacked-accounts-dark-web-free-penny-report-2211698>

(Global) Academics steal data from air-gapped systems using PC fan vibrations

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/academics-steal-data-from-air-gapped-systems-using-pc-fan-vibrations/>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

COVID-19: Emerging technologies are now critical infrastructure — what that means for governance

Kimmy Bettinger – World Economic Forum: 10 April 2020

The work-from-home environment of the COVID-19 global lockdown has shown us that tools like the “internet of things,” artificial intelligence and other emerging technologies should be considered critical infrastructure.

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/04/covid-19-emerging-technologies-are-now-critical-infrastructure-what-that-means-for-governance/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Massive Data Leak Exposes US Energy Sector To Cyber Attack — 70,000 Private Files Leaked

<https://cybersecuritynews.com/data-leak-exposes-us-energy-to-cyber-attack/>

(India) Cyber Attacks on Critical Infrastructure of India Is a Worrying Trend: Kiran Zachariah, VP- IoT at Subex

<https://analyticsindiamag.com/cyberattacks-on-critical-infrastructure-of-india-is-a-worrying-trend-kiran-zachariah-vp-iot-at-subex/>

(U.S.) How Can Critical National Infrastructure Be Protected From Cyber Threats?

<https://www.cpomagazine.com/cyber-security/how-can-critical-national-infrastructure-be-protected-from-cyber-threats/>

(U.S., North Korea) North Korean hackers could disrupt critical infrastructure, U.S. warns

<https://www.nknews.org/2020/04/north-korean-hackers-could-disrupt-critical-infrastructure-u-s-warns/>

CYBER PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Chinese spies are trying to snoop on Zoom conversations, US intel experts say

Nicolas Vega – New York Post: 10 April 2020

“Zoom-bombing” and Zoom espionage are becoming more and more common as telecommuting grows due to COVID-19 lockdowns. Cyber spies from China, Russia, Iran and North Korea have tried to monitor meetings held on Zoom, three anonymous officials stated. “More than anyone else, the Chinese are interested in what American companies are doing,” one official said.

<https://nypost.com/2020/04/10/chinese-spies-are-trying-to-snoop-on-zoom-chats-experts-say/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) Coronavirus scientists are big targets for foreign cyber-espionage, FBI says

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/coronavirus-research-cyber-espionage-fbi-warning/>

(China) How Chinese hackers exploited Linux servers undetected for eight years

<https://diginomica.com/how-chinese-hackers-exploited-linux-servers-undetected-eight-years>

NOTEWORTHY PODCASTS

Staying Cyber-Secure Amid COVID-19

Stratfor: 14 April 2020

In this episode of Stratfor's Essential Geopolitics podcast, Fred Burton speaks to Thomas Abi-Hanna, a Stratfor analyst focusing on security. He says that in this COVID-19 reality of working from home the bad actors are not waiting to pounce. He shares tips on best practices and a warning: "You can invest in the best cyber security technology in the world. But if the person behind the keyboard isn't aware of the threat, it essentially becomes useless."

<https://worldview.stratfor.com/article/staying-cyber-secure-amid-covid-19>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Cyber Security Today

<https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/cyber-security-today-covid-19-hiring-and-sob-story-scams-apple-and-google-partner-on-contact-tracing-cops-make-arrests-and-more/429514>

(Global) They're getting smart, but we're getting smarter.

<https://theycyberwire.com/podcasts/hacking-humans/94/notes>

(Nigeria, Global) Profiling an audacious Nigerian cybercriminal.

<https://theycyberwire.com/podcasts/research-saturday>

MASS SURVEILLANCE AND INTELLIGENCE GATHERING

Syrian government surveillance campaign turns to spreading malware in coronavirus apps

Shannon Vavra – CyberScoop: 16 April 2020

According to a mobile security firm, a Syrian-backed hacking campaign is using spyware masquerading as coronavirus-themed mobile apps.

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/coronavirus-syria-surveillance-apps-lookout/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) Google and Apple Plan to Turn Phones into COVID-19 Contact-Tracking Devices

<https://thehackernews.com/2020/04/iphone-android-coronavirus-tracing.html>

(Global) WhatsApp v. NSO Group: State Immunity and Cyber Spying

<https://www.justsecurity.org/69684/whatsapp-v-nso-group-state-immunity-and-cyber-spying/>

(Australia) Australia's COVID-19 trace tracking app still 'weeks away'

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/australias-covid-19-trace-tracking-app-still-weeks-away/>

(Russia) Moscow rolls out digital tracking to enforce lockdown. Critics dub it a 'cyber Gulag'

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/14/world/moscow-cyber-tracking-qr-code-intl/index.html>

(India) India Virus-Track App Gets 50 Million Users Amid Privacy Concern

<https://news.bloomberglaw.com/privacy-and-data-security/india-virus-track-app-gets-50-million-users-amid-privacy-concern>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Islamic State seeks comeback under cover of coronavirus

Omar Sattar – Al Monitor: 9 April 2020

ISIS is trying to take advantage of the current crisis to reassert itself in Iraq. “Despite the suspension of the global coalition’s operations, Iraqi forces are conducting operations to hunt down the terrorist organization on the border with Syria,” Iraq Defense Ministry spokesperson Yahya Rasoul told Al-Monitor. “IS has incurred huge losses in recent days as it tried to exploit the coronavirus crisis to expand its terrorist operations.”

<https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2020/04/iraq-islamic-state-us-coalition-terrorism.html>

Islamic State propaganda in India

Kabir Taneja – Observer Research Foundation: 16 April 2020

ISIS’ newsletter has a page dedicated to India as the group tries to exploit the current domestic political situation to sow dissent.

<https://www.orfonline.org/research/islamic-state-propaganda-india-64715/>

For more on this theme:

Generation Jihad: Ep. 4 — ISIS: A History of the Caliphate

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/04/generation-jihad-ep-4-isis-a-history-of-the-caliphate.php>

Wives of ISIS members: Coronavirus is for infidels and non-Muslims

<https://www.rudaw.net/english/middleeast/syria/090420202>

U.S. military fears pandemic could lead to ISIS resurgence in Syria

<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/04/02/us-military-fears-isis-resurgence-coronavirus-pandemic-162046>

Virus Fears Spread at Camps for ISIS Families in Syria's North East

<https://reliefweb.int/report/syrian-arab-republic/virus-fears-spread-camps-isis-families-syria-s-north-east>

US Moves to Bolster Prisons Holding Captured Islamic State Fighters

<https://www.voanews.com/middle-east/us-moves-bolster-prisons-holding-captured-islamic-state-fighters>

Islamic State claims responsibility for attack on CRPF in south Kashmir

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/isis-claims-responsibility-for-attack-on-crpf-in-south-kashmir-1664555-2020-04-08>

Covid-19 sows Islamic trouble in Maldives paradise

<https://asiatimes.com/2020/04/covid-19-sows-islamic-trouble-in-maldives-paradise/>

ISIS in the Maldives?

<https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/icpvtr/isis-in-the-maldives/>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Is counter-terrorism history repeating itself in Lake Chad Basin?

Remadji Hoinathy – Institute for Security Studies: 15 April 2020

Chad's retaliation against Boko Haram is unprecedented, but hard lessons show that solutions must be holistic and sustainable.

<https://issafrica.org/iss-today/is-counter-terrorism-history-repeating-itself-in-lake-chad-basin>

Beware of terrorists offering COVID19 aid

Kabir Taneja and Raffaello Pantucci – Observer Research Foundation: 17 April 2020

Although terrorists are trying to offer aid to win favor during the current global pandemic, their efforts don't actually have much impact and should be treated as such.

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/beware-of-terrorists-offering-covid19-aid-64731/>

For more on this theme:

How crime is closely linked to Al-Shabaab's survival strategy

<https://theconversation.com/how-crime-is-closely-linked-to-al-shabaabs-survival-strategy-134432>

Transnational Terror: Sri Lankan Easter Attacks

<https://harvardpolitics.com/world/transnational-terror-sri-lankan-easter-attacks/>

Generation Jihad: Ep. 5 — Banned in Pakistan

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/04/generation-jihad-ep-5-banned-in-pakistan.php>

Hamas-affiliated Humat al Aqsa promotes its joint military operations with Gaza's militant groups

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/04/hamas-affiliated-humat-al-aqsa-promotes-its-joint-military-operations-with-gazas-militant-groups.php>

From “Western education is forbidden” to the world's deadliest terrorist group

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/from-western-education-is-forbidden-to-the-worlds-deadliest-terrorist-group/>

Resilient social networks: Southeast Asia's enduring terrorist threat

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/resilient-social-networks-southeast-asias-enduring-terrorist-threat/>

The growing threat of ISIS and Al-Qaeda in Africa

<https://southerntimesafrica.com/site/news/the-growing-threat-of-isis-and-al-qaeda-in-africa>

How Terrorists Are Trying to Make Coronavirus More Friend Than Foe

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/how-terrorists-are-trying-to-make-coronavirus-more-friend-than-foe/>

Extremists in Northern Mozambique Declare Goal of Caliphate

<https://www.voanews.com/africa/extremists-northern-mozambique-declare-goal-caliphate>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Authorities Alarmed by Reported Spread of Islamic Extremism in Russian Prisons

Valery Dzutsati – The Jamestown Foundation: 15 April 2020

Russian officials believe that Islamic extremists are focusing on recruiting within the prison system.

<https://jamestown.org/program/authorities-alarmed-by-reported-spread-of-islamic-extremism-in-russian-prisons/>

For more on this theme:

The effectiveness of deradicalisation programmes

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/effectiveness-of-deradicalisation-programmes-64412/>

Youngsters ‘at risk of online radicalisation’

<http://www.gdnonline.com/Details/799568/Youngsters-%E2%80%98at-risk-of-online-radicalisation%E2%80%99>

Inside the world of repentant Boko Haram members

<https://www.sunnewsonline.com/inside-the-world-of-repentant-boko-haram-members/>

Partners in crime? A historical perspective on cumulative extremism in Denmark

<https://phys.org/news/2020-04-partners-crime-historical-perspective-cumulative.html>

WHITE NATIONALIST TERRORISM

Far-right terrorist ringleader found to be teenager in Estonia

Jenipher Camino Gonzalez – Deutsche Welle: 10 April 2020

Police in Estonia said a 13-year-old has been linked to an international hate group that advocates for a race war and has ties to terrorist plots. Authorities said the child was a leader within the neo-Nazi group Feuerkrieg Division.

<https://www.dw.com/en/far-right-terrorist-ringleader-found-to-be-teenager-in-estonia/a-53085442>

For more on this theme:

Experts say domestic terrorists could see coronavirus as window of opportunity

<https://fox11online.com/news/spotlight-on-america/experts-say-domestic-terrorists-could-see-coronavirus-as-window-of-opportunity>

He Says His Nazi Days Are Over. Do You Believe Him?

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/04/us/jeff-schoep-white-nationalist-reformer.html>

The State Department Should Designate the Russian Imperial Movement as a Foreign Terrorist Organization

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/state-department-should-designate-russian-imperial-movement-for-foreign-terrorist-organization>

‘A Perfect Storm’: Extremists Look For Ways To Exploit Coronavirus Pandemic

<https://www.npr.org/2020/04/16/835343965/-a-perfect-storm-extremists-look-for-ways-to-exploit-coronavirus-pandemic>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: SOFT POWER

Russian foreign minister calls for unity in fighting virus

Vladimir Isachenkov – The Associated Press: 14 April 2020

Russia's foreign minister has angrily rejected Western claims that Moscow is using the COVID-19 crisis to expand its political influence.

<https://apnews.com/9d94092dea3cd3b9c6d9c419874c7eac>

Trump Can Counter China's Influence Operations In Latin America

Adam Ratzlaff and Pierina Anton – The National Interest: 14 April 2020

Closed societies, like that of China, are not able to use people-to-people exchanges or cultural diplomacy as effectively as open societies because they are concerned with influencing their citizens. The United States has the tools to boost its soft power in the Americas vis-à-vis China, but the real question is whether it will use them.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/trump-can-counter-chinas-influence-operations-latin-america-144302>

For more on this theme:

Not Always Selfless

<https://visegradinsight.eu/not-always-selfless-china-soft-power/>

Fears of a Chinese global takeover are greatly exaggerated

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/04/09/fears-of-a-chinese-global-takeover-are-greatly-exaggerated/>

ChinaTalk: How the Party Takes its Propaganda Global

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/chinatalk-how-party-takes-its-propaganda-global>

Daily Telegraph stops publishing section paid for by China

<https://www.theguardian.com/media/2020/apr/14/daily-telegraph-stops-publishing-section-paid-for-by-china>

COVID-19 pandemic is no soft power victory for China

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/opinion/2020/04/15/commentary/world-commentary/covid-19-pandemic-no-soft-power-victory-china/#.Xpfsfi8pChB>

Behind China's Influence in Africa

<https://www.cfr.org/explainer-video/behind-chinas-influence-africa>

China's soft power during the coronavirus is winning over the Gulf states

<https://atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/menasource/chinas-soft-power-during-the-coronavirus-is-winning-over-the-gulf-states/>

CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

CURRENT STATE OF THE CORONAVIRUS

The Coronavirus's Impact Throughout Africa, With Michelle D. Gavin

Council on Foreign Relations: 14 April 2020

Michelle D. Gavin, CFR's senior fellow for Africa studies, sits down with James M. Lindsay to discuss how the novel coronavirus is affecting Angola, Botswana, Sudan and other nations throughout Africa.

<https://www.cfr.org/podcasts/coronaviruss-impact-throughout-africa-michelle-d-gavin>

For more on this theme:

Fighting COVID-19: Experiences and lessons from the frontlines in Asia

<https://www.brookings.edu/events/webcast-only-fighting-covid-19-experiences-and-lessons-from-the-frontlines-in-asia/>

Covid-19 death rate rises in counties with high air pollution, study says

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/07/health/covid-19-air-pollution-risks-wellness/index.html>

South Korea Reports More Recovered Coronavirus Patients Testing Positive Again

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2020-04-13/south-korea-reports-more-recovered-coronavirus-patients-testing-positive-again>

Joint Chiefs chairman: U.S. intel investigating whether coronavirus leaked from Wuhan lab

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/apr/14/mark-milley-us-intelligence-investigating-whether-/>

Hackers Have Some of the Best Ideas in War Against Coronavirus

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-04-15/hackers-have-some-of-the-best-ideas-in-war-against-coronavirus>

Documents: Chinese Government Allowed Massive Public Gatherings Despite Coronavirus Dangers

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/coronavirus/documents-chinese-government-allowed-massive-public-gatherings-despite-coronavirus>

ASEAN Leaders Meet Online, Reallocate Funds to Combat COVID-19

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/vietnam/asean-coronavirus-04142020164532.html>

China Didn't Warn Public of Likely Pandemic for 6 Key Days

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/china-didnt-warn-public-of-likely-pandemic-for-6-key-days/>

COVID-19 in Asia: A Country-By-Country Guide

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/covid-19-in-asia-a-country-by-country-guide/>

Beijing tightens grip over coronavirus research, amid US-China row on virus origin

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/12/asia/china-coronavirus-research-restrictions-intl-hnk/index.html?fbclid=IwAR2bXxzwYpTgD76ORQQtfpbf5IltqK0knOFEIPVx3JTVcwyTtWbksUNhGg>

CORONAVIRUS, NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Poll finds Americans see infectious diseases, terrorism, cyberattacks as top threats

Maggie Miller – The Hill: 13 April 2020

A Pew Research Center study found that 79% of American respondents think that infectious diseases are the top threat to the country. It was followed closely by terrorist attacks and cyber attacks.

<https://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/492529-poll-finds-americans-see-infectious-diseases-terrorism-cyberattacks-as>

Full report:

Americans See Spread of Disease as Top International Threat, Along With Terrorism, Nuclear Weapons, Cyberattacks

<https://www.pewresearch.org/global/2020/04/13/americans-see-spread-of-disease-as-top-international-threat-along-with-terrorism-nuclear-weapons-cyberattacks/>

For more on this theme:

Pandemic may replace the nation-state: But with what?

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/content-series/beyond-covid-19/pandemic-may-replace-the-nation-state-but-with-what/>

When Systems Fail: What Pandemics and Cyberspace Tell Us About the Future of National Security

<https://warontherocks.com/2020/04/when-systems-fail-what-pandemics-and-cyberspace-tell-us-about-the-future-of-national-security/>

In Global Life-Death Struggle, Democracy Changes Course

<https://www.voanews.com/science-health/coronavirus-outbreak/global-life-death-struggle-democracy-changes-course>

Webinar: Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell on COVID-19 and the economy

<https://www.brookings.edu/events/webinar-federal-reserve-chair-jerome-powell-on-covid-19-and-the-economy/>

COVID-19 and the gameplay of West Asia's geopolitics

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/covid-19-and-the-game-play-of-west-asias-geopolitics-64288/>

The Lawfare Podcast: The United Nations and the Coronavirus Crisis

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/lawfare-podcast-united-nations-and-coronavirus-crisis>

The Pandemic and Organized Crime in Latin America: Ten Unknowns

<https://www.americasquarterly.org/content/pandemic-and-organized-crime-latin-america-ten-unknowns>

Sweden goes it alone: The EU's coronavirus exception

https://www.ecfr.eu/article/commentary_sweden_goes_it_alone_the_eus_coronavirus_exception

How Coronavirus Could Make the Middle East Even More Dangerous

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/middle-east-watch/how-coronavirus-could-make-middle-east-even-more-dangerous-143102>

CORONAVIRUS, NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS — CONTINUED

How Coronavirus Is Contributing to Greater Inequality

Steve Schifferes – The National Interest: 12 April 2020

Around the world, the poor are more susceptible to COVID-19. If the pandemic is followed by a major recession, the effect on inequality could worsen dramatically.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/how-coronavirus-contributing-greater-inequality-143012>

For more on this theme:

Epidemic-Related Unrest and the CCP's Reinforced Political Loyalty Indoctrination for China's Police

<https://jamestown.org/program/epidemic-related-unrest-and-the-ccps-reinforced-political-loyalty-indoctrination-for-chinas-police/>

How China Deceived the WHO

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2020/04/world-health-organization-blame-pandemic-coronavirus/609820/>

Military sees no quick exit from 'new world' of coronavirus

<https://apnews.com/fc7a62c8550eeeff61f1b7766a5d0f99>

The Belt and Road After COVID-19

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/the-belt-and-road-after-covid-19/>

Russia Tries to Capitalize on the Coronavirus Pandemic

<https://jamestown.org/program/russia-tries-to-capitalize-on-the-coronavirus-pandemic/>

Could the Coronavirus Start a War Between Taiwan and China?

<https://nationalinterest.org/feature/could-coronavirus-start-war-between-taiwan-and-china-144642>

Global Health Security — War on COVID-19: More Than One Front

<https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/icpvtr/global-health-security-war-on-covid-19-more-than-one-front/#.XpkOsUxFyZ8>

Schultz: Coast Guard Response to COVID-19 Highlights Modernization Needs

<https://news.usni.org/2020/04/13/schultz-coast-guard-response-to-covid-19-highlights-modernization-needs>

Amid coronavirus chaos, Russian spies see opportunity: Intelligence assessment

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/amid-coronavirus-chaos-russian-spies-opportunity-intelligence-assessment/story?id=70129688>

Responding to the Epidemic in Wuhan: Insights into Chinese Military Logistics

<https://jamestown.org/program/responding-to-the-epidemic-in-wuhan-insights-into-chinese-military-logistics/>

COVID-19 NEWS: Coronavirus Could Stymie U.S. Cybersecurity Enhancements

<https://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/articles/2020/4/14/coronavirus-could-stymie-us-cybersecurity-enhancements>

CORONAVIRUS AND DISINFORMATION

Putin's Long War Against American Science

William J. Broad – The New York Times: 13 April 2020

A decade of health disinformation promoted by President Vladimir Putin of Russia has sown wide confusion, hurt major institutions and encouraged the spread of deadly illnesses.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/13/science/putin-russia-disinformation-health-coronavirus.html?sm-typ=cur&smid=fb-nytimes>

For more on this theme:

China Censors Academic Research, Spreads Disinformation About COVID

<https://chinadigitaltimes.net/2020/04/china-censors-academic-research-spreads-disinformation-about-covid/>

Russia's state-backed media uses the pandemic to spin anti-Western views. They are not alone.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/coronavirus-russia-china-turkey-media/2020/04/11/fe34e7b2-7a53-11ea-a311-adb1344719a9_story.html

China's bid to repair its coronavirus-hit image is backfiring in the West

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/chinas-bid-to-repair-its-coronavirus-hit-image-is-backfiring-in-the-west/2020/04/14/8611bbba-7978-11ea-a311-adb1344719a9_story.html

Why Chinese Embassies Have Embraced Aggressive Diplomacy

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/04/15/chinese-embassies-embrace-aggressive-diplomacy-coronavirus-pandemic-misinformation/>

Belarus Fights COVID-19 and an Information War

<https://jamestown.org/program/belarus-fights-covid-19-and-an-information-war/>

No, China isn't winning the virus propaganda battle

<https://www.orfonline.org/research/no-china-isnt-winning-the-virus-propaganda-battle-64386/>

Hatred going viral in 'dangerous epidemic of misinformation' during COVID-19 pandemic

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1061682>