

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Tackling corruption: 6 takeaways from the World Bank Spring Meetings

Sophie Edwards – Devex: 19 April 2018

At the World Bank's recent spring meetings, representatives from business, technology companies, media and law enforcement gathered to discuss how to work together to combat corruption.

<https://www.devex.com/news/tackling-corruption-6-takeaways-from-the-world-bank-spring-meetings-92569>

NGO trains 45 Islamic scholars on Anti-Corruption

PM News: 19 April 2018

The Just Foundation, a nongovernmental organization of the Al-habibiyah Islamic Society, is working with 45 imams and Islamic clerics in Nigeria to garner their assistance in sensitizing the public to fight corruption.

<https://www.pmnewsnigeria.com/2018/04/19/ngo-trains-45-islamic-scholars-on-anti-corruption/>

For more on this theme:

Corruption and Power in Russia

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2018/04/corruption-and-power-in-russia/>

While the G20 drags its feet, the corrupt continue to benefit from anonymous company ownership

https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/while_the_g20_draggs_its_feet_the_corrupt_continue_to_benefit_from_anonymous

The silencing of Malta's anti-corruption campaigner

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-malta-daphne/the-silencing-of-maltas-anti-corruption-campaigner-idUSKBN1H02QY>

A Job Opening with Guatemala's Corruption Fight in the Balance

<http://americasquarterly.org/content/job-opening-guatemalas-corruption-fight-balance>

Great sports events including World Cup tainted by corruption

<https://www.thenational.ae/world/great-sports-events-including-world-cup-tainted-by-corruption-1.722761>

Romanian president refuses to sack anti-corruption chief

<http://www.dw.com/en/romanian-president-refuses-to-sack-anti-corruption-chief/a-43412188>

Americas Leaders Take Stand on Corruption at Subdued Summit

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2018-04-14/peru-opens-americas-summit-decrying-scourge-of-corruption>

US officials: 16 nations agree to track Venezuela corruption

<https://www.apnews.com/e18edb755a7948a7bf61e9958882b6b4/US-officials:-16-nations-agree-to-track-Venezuela-corruption>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Drug dealers jailed for trafficking teenage girl in landmark UK case

Kieran Guilbert – Reuters: 13 April 2018

In a landmark legal case within the United Kingdom, two gang members pleaded guilty to trafficking a young person for the purpose of exploitation. They kidnapped a 19-year-old girl and forced her to smuggle and sell drugs.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-britain-slavery-court/drug-dealers-jailed-for-trafficking-teenage-girl-in-landmark-uk-case-idUSKBN1HK2VL>

Duterte's Drug War: The Local Government Dimension

Luke Lischin – The Diplomat: 14 April 2018

It is important to understand the role that local government plays in Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte's so-called war on drugs, resulting in thousands – if not tens of thousands – of deaths thus far.

<https://thediplomat.com/2018/04/dutertes-drug-war-the-local-government-dimension/>

For more on this theme:

President Trump lands in Key West to discuss drug trafficking

<http://cbs12.com/news/local/president-trump-to-head-to-key-west>

Ukraine, U.S. to cooperate in fight against international drug trafficking – Avakov

<https://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-society/2443213-ukraine-us-to-cooperate-in-fight-against-international-drug-trafficking-avakov.html>

Will El Chapo's Arrest Make the Drug Trade More Deadly?

<https://reason.com/reasontv/2018/04/19/el-chapo-arrest-drug-war-deadly>

Colombia could use drones to fight cocaine production

http://hosted.ap.org/dynamic/stories/L/LT_COLOMBIA_COCA_ERADICATION?SITE=AP&SECTION=HOME&TEMPLATE=DEFAULT

Greece a hub for drug and human trafficking, police report shows

<http://www.ekathimerini.com/227657/article/ekathimerini/news/greece-a-hub-for-drug-and-human-trafficking-police-report-shows>

Airstrikes cripple Taliban drug labs, costing group \$42 million

<https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2018/04/13/coalition-air-campaign-crippling-taliban-drug-revenues/515605002/>

Drug Cartels Target Candidates in New Wave of Mexico Violence

<https://thecrimereport.org/2018/04/18/drug-cartels-target-candidates-in-new-wave-of-mexico-violence/>

Drug-related violence is soaring in a quiet corner of Latin America, and it's not clear what the new president plans to do about it

<http://www.businessinsider.com/drug-violence-up-in-costa-rica-new-government-has-no-response-2018-4>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

South Africa rhino poaching: 'Web of corruption' blamed

Alastair Leithead – BBC: 19 April 2018

Rhino poaching has climbed to staggering levels over the past five years and a “web of systematic corruption” in the justice system is culpable, according to the conservation group Saving the Wild.

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-43821674>

Why understanding demand for rhino horn will make or break their survival

Tony Carnie – Business Day: 20 April 2018

Targeting and eliminating poachers will do little in the long run to curtail wildlife poaching, particularly when it comes to rhino horn. Researchers say the only way to be successful is to run concurrent campaigns to decrease demand for horn products from countries such as Vietnam and China.

<https://www.businesslive.co.za/bd/national/science-and-environment/2018-04-20-why-understanding-demand-for-rhino-horn-will-make-or-break-their-survival/>

For more on this theme:

Fighting illegal fishing

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2018/03/180319124208.htm>

How data scientists are leading the fight against illegal fishing

<https://thenextweb.com/tech/2018/03/20/data-scientists-leading-fight-illegal-fishing/>

Somali Pirates Return as Illegal, Unregulated, and Unreported Fishing Continues in the Gulf of Aden

<https://www.newsecuritybeat.org/2018/03/somali-pirates-return-illegal-unregulated-unreported-fishing-continues-gulf-aden/>

Mexico's Oil Crisis: Pirates, Cartels, And Corruption

<https://oilprice.com/Energy/Energy-General/Mexicos-Oil-Crisis-Pirates-Cartels-And-Corruption.html>

Logging in Europe's primeval forest ruled illegal

<http://www.sciencemag.org/news/2018/04/logging-europe-s-primeval-forest-ruled-illegal>

Cambodia: where saving the forests is a matter of life and death

<https://www.equaltimes.org/cambodia-where-saving-the-forests#.WtIpx5dG0aE>

Illegal mining threatens Joburg infrastructure – Mashaba

<https://citizen.co.za/news/1899851/illegal-mining-threatens-joburg-infrastructure-mashaba/>

Forestry officers trained in effective prosecution and conviction of wildlife crimes

<http://www.traffic.org/home/2018/4/18/forestry-officers-trained-in-effective-prosecution-and-convi.html>

Dogs to detect wildlife contraband at IGI Airport and KI Airport

<http://www.uniindia.com/~-/dogs-to-detect-wildlife-contraband-at-igi-airport-and-ki-airport/India/news/1200287.html>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Why the anti-trafficking field needs a shared framework

Ariel Zwang – CNN: 19 April 2018

Despite its epic proportions, with research indicating 40 million people are victims of human trafficking annually, there has been little effort to build a global consensus on how to identify, reintegrate and help trafficking victims.

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/04/19/opinions/safe-horizon-anti-trafficking-framework/index.html>

AI Tool Helps Law Enforcement Find Victims of Human Trafficking

Alexandra Ossola – Futurism: 16 April 2018

Seeking to help victims of human trafficking, a researcher helped create the Traffic Jam software, which scours the internet for online sex advertisements. It matches the photos of missing people to the ads to help locate victims.

<https://futurism.com/ai-tool-law-enforcement-stop-human-trafficking/>

For more on this theme:

Cracking down on cyber-human trafficking

<http://www.wrdw.com/content/news/Cracking-down-on-cyber-human-trafficking--480202633.html>

This Startup Is Tackling Human Trafficking By Training Women In 3D-Printed Jewelry Design

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/kittyknowles/2018/04/17/this-startup-is-tackling-human-trafficking-by-training-women-in-3d-printed-jewellery-design/#715554b67daa>

Local groups launch region's first app to report human trafficking

<http://www.themalaymailonline.com/malaysia/article/local-groups-launch-regions-first-app-to-report-human-trafficking>

Human trafficking: UK to support fight with £500,000 in 9 countries

<https://www.worldstagegroup.com/human-trafficking-uk-to-support-fight-with-500000-in-9-countries/>

Federal police conduct 'largest ever' nationwide raid against human trafficking

<https://www.thelocal.de/20180418/largest-ever-police-action-in-nationwide-crackdown-on-organized-crime>

Thailand taps tourists to fight human trafficking and keep the country smiling

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-thailand-trafficking-tourism/thailand-taps-tourists-to-fight-human-trafficking-and-keep-the-country-smiling-idUSKBN1H01D2>

UN Migration Agency Undertakes Information Campaign and Distributes Entertainment Materials to Youth Centers in Ethiopia

<https://reliefweb.int/report/ethiopia/un-migration-agency-undertakes-information-campaign-and-distributes-entertainment>

Sudan Militia Demands EU Payment for Blocking African Migrants

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2018-04-13/sudan-militia-demands-eu-payment-for-blocking-african-migrants>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Australia's .au admins told to reform or get rooted

Simon Sharwood – The Register: 19 April 2018

A government review of auDA – the not-for-profit organization responsible for administering the .au domain – has found its management framework is “no longer fit-for-purpose” and requires urgent reforms to meet the needs of Australia’s internet community.

https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/04/19/auda_review_demands_major_reforms/

For more on this theme:

(Zimbabwe) ZDI, Media Centre push for youth inclusion in internet governance

<https://bulawayo24.com/index-id-news-sc-national-byo-132616.html>

(Europe, Global) DNS is about to get into a world of trouble with GDPR

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/dns-is-about-to-get-into-a-world-of-trouble-with-gdpr/>

INTERNET FREEDOM

A Google update just created a big problem for anti-censorship tools

Russell Brandom – The Verge: 18 April 2018

A recent change to Google App Engine will discontinue a practice called domain fronting, a technique used by dozens of internet freedom tools to work around state-level internet censorship.

<https://www.theverge.com/2018/4/18/17253784/google-domain-fronting-discontinued-signal-tor-vpn>

For more on this theme:

(China) China's internet is reaching new levels of crackdown

<https://www.cnet.com/news/weibos-self-censorship-reveals-chinas-stranglehold-on-internet/>

(Global) Can Internet Freedom Really Exist?

<https://themerkle.com/can-internet-freedom-really-exist/>

(Tanzania) Popular Tanzanian musician arrested in latest internet crackdown

<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/business/article/2001277481/internet-censorship-in-tanzania>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Data privacy: new global survey reveals growing internet anxiety

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development: 16 April 2018

More than half the respondents to a global survey are more concerned about their online privacy today than they were a year ago, according to a recent survey. This is a 5 percent increase from 2017 and reflects growing worldwide concerns about data privacy and online security.

<http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1719>

For more on this theme:

(China) How much do Chinese people care about privacy?

<http://www.dw.com/en/how-much-do-chinese-people-care-about-privacy/a-43358120>

(U.S.) The U.S. Needs a New Paradigm for Data Governance

<https://hbr.org/2018/04/the-u-s-needs-a-new-paradigm-for-data-governance>

(U.S., Global) The Watchdogs That Didn't Bark

<https://slate.com/technology/2018/04/why-arent-privacy-groups-fighting-to-regulate-facebook.html>

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

UK Commonwealth cyber security funding welcomed

Warwick Ashford – Computer Weekly: 19 April 2018

The United Kingdom is committed to providing up to 15 million pounds in funding to help strengthen cyber security in Commonwealth countries. The money is focused on increasing cyber security and assisting efforts to combat cyber crime and hostile state actors.

<https://www.computerweekly.com/news/252439481/UK-Commonwealth-cyber-security-funding-welcomed>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Cyber-Enabled Economic Warfare: Assessing US Strategy

<https://thediplomat.com/2018/03/cyber-enabled-economic-warfare-assessing-us-strategy/>

(U.S., U.K., Russia) US, UK blame Russia for coordinated cyberattacks on internet devices worldwide

<http://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/383364-us-uk-blame-russia-for-coordinated-cyberattacks-on-internet-devices>

(U.S.) Trump sends cyber warfare strategy to Congress

<http://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/384017-trump-sends-cyber-warfare-strategy-to-congress>

PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Manfra: Private sector on board with more robust DHS cyber strategy

Sean Lyngaas – Cyberscoop: 18 April 2018

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security says its new cyber security strategy will enjoy the backing of private firms because, while more aggressive, it remains voluntary for private companies to participate. The new strategy also promotes greater transparency.

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/manfra-private-sector-board-robust-dhs-cyber-strategy/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) ARES Security’s CommandBridge solution partners with others to secure Florida seaports

http://www.securityinfowatch.com/press_release/12408726/ares-securitys-commandbridge-solution-partners-with-others-to-secure-florida-seaports

(U.S.) House panel advances bills to guard energy grid from cyberattacks

<http://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/383746-house-panel-approves-bills-to-guard-energy-grid-from-cyberattacks>

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Russia Hacks Its Way to “the High Ground of the Internet”

Levi Maxey – The Cipher Brief: 16 April 2018

Russian hackers are targeting millions of devices around the world in an effort to spy, steal information and intellectual property, and build networks for potentially devastating cyber attacks, the United States and the United Kingdom revealed. A joint “technical alert” from the countries urged the public and private businesses to help combat vulnerabilities with basic security precautions.

<https://www.thecipherbrief.com/u-s-uk-blame-russia-probing-internet-routers-globally>

For more on this theme:

(Russia, U.S.) Russia is going after the Internet’s jugular. What will America do?

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/russia-is-going-after-the-internets-jugular-what-will-america-do/2018/04/19/e58ad5fa-4346-11e8-ad8f-27a8c409298b_story.html

(Global) Protecting patents and copyright with blockchain

<https://www.raconteur.net/business/protecting-patents-copyright-blockchain>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

How Can Japan-UK Cybersecurity Cooperation Help ASEAN Build Cybersecurity Capacity?

Mihoko Matsubara – Council on Foreign Relations: 16 April 2018

Building on a growing cyber security relationship over the past several years, both Japan and the United Kingdom could get what they are seeking in Southeast Asia. Japan can learn from the U.K., and Japan can provide access to a lucrative Southeast Asian cyber security market for the U.K.

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/how-can-japan-uk-cybersecurity-cooperation-help-asean-build-cybersecurity-capacity>

For more on this theme:

(Europe, Africa) Digital technologies provide fertile ground for Africa, EU says

<http://unctad.org/en/pages/newsdetails.aspx?OriginalVersionID=1723>

(Canada) Libraries ‘loaning out’ internet access via Wi-Fi hotspots

<https://www.ctvnews.ca/lifestyle/libraries-loaning-out-internet-access-via-wi-fi-hotspots-1.3888020>

(India) View: Here comes India’s moment to take full control of its digital destiny. Will it show the will?

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/internet/view-here-comes-indias-moment-to-take-full-control-of-its-digital-destiny-will-it-show-the-will/articleshow/63798719.cms>

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

Sitting with the cyber-sleuths who track cryptocurrency criminals

Douglas Heaven – MIT Technology Review: 19 April 2018

Forensic investigators are taking advantage of security gaps within cryptocurrency networks to follow the money.

<https://www.technologyreview.com/s/610807/sitting-with-the-cyber-sleuths-who-track-cryptocurrency-criminals/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) How the Rise of Cryptocurrencies Is Shaping the Cyber Crime Landscape: Blockchain Infrastructure Use

<https://securityboulevard.com/2018/04/how-the-rise-of-cryptocurrencies-is-shaping-the-cyber-crime-landscapeblockchain-infrastructure-use/>

(U.S., Global) Amazon Wants to Help Crack Down on Crypto Crime — for a Price

<https://futurism.com/amazon-data-marketplace-crypto-crime/>

(Europe) Cybercrime in elections

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/cybercrime/-/cybercrime-in-elections>

INFORMATION SHARING

CTIIC's Role in Keeping America Safe in Cyber

Suzanne Kelly – The Cipher Brief: 15 April 2018

The United States' Cyber Threat Intelligence Integration Center's (CTIIC) mission is to integrate information about emerging threats and keep its government partners up to date – something CTIIC excelled at during the WannaCry ransomware attack last May.

https://www.thecipherbrief.com/column_article/ctiics-role-keeping-america-safe-cyber

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) Information sharing: the key to protecting vehicles from cyber-threats

<https://www.intelligenttransport.com/transport-articles/66692/information-sharing-protect-cyber-threats/>

(U.S., Global) The Critical Need for Threat Intelligence

<https://www.csoonline.com/article/3269066/security/the-critical-need-for-threat-intelligence.html>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

An Examination of Russian Cyberattacks on Critical Infrastructure: What to Do Now

Andrea Carcano – SC Magazine: 18 April 2018

The recent alert about Russian interference targeting critical infrastructure should compel actors to respond appropriately. There are lessons to be learned and clear steps for future protection.

<https://www.scmagazine.com/an-examination-of-russian-cyberattacks-on-critical-infrastructure-what-to-do-now/article/755759/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Alarming Increase in Cybersecurity Threats Prompts Spate of Government Action

<http://www.powermag.com/alarming-increase-in-cybersecurity-threats-prompts-spate-of-government-action/>

(Australia, Global) The public has a vital role to play in preventing future cyber attacks

<https://theconversation.com/the-public-has-a-vital-role-to-play-in-preventing-future-cyber-attacks-95141>

(U.S.) What the Hoover Dam shows about hardening critical infrastructure

<https://www.fifthdomain.com/critical-infrastructure/2018/04/13/what-the-hoover-dam-shows-about-hardening-critical-infrastructure/>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS

Defeating the ISIS Nostalgia Narrative

Colin P. Clarke and Haroro J. Ingram – Foreign Policy Research Institute: 18 April 2018

ISIS is already recovering from its territorial losses as the group reverts to unconventional guerrilla operations. Its propaganda machine is working overtime to disseminate messages, albeit at lower outputs than at its peak. The group continues to lay the groundwork for a future resurgence and is likely to infuse nostalgia narratives to inspire support.

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2018/04/defeating-the-isis-nostalgia-narrative/>

Caliphate

Rukmini Callimachi and Andy Mills – The New York Times: March/April 2018

The New York Times introduced a documentary audio series that follows Rukmini Callimachi, a foreign correspondent for the newspaper, as she reports on the Islamic State and the fall of the Iraqi city of Mosul.

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/04/19/podcasts/caliphate-isis-rukmini-callimachi.html>

For more on this theme:

Understanding how the ISIS insurgency in Syria's eastern desert works and solutions to it

<https://www.almasdarnews.com/article/understanding-how-the-isis-insurgency-in-syrias-eastern-desert-works-and-solutions-to-it/>

Islamic State claims attack in Egypt's Sinai that killed 8

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/islamic-state-claims-attack-in-egypts-sinai-that-killed-8/2018/04/15/42989678-40a5-11e8-b2dc-b0a403e4720a_story.html

What is ISIS? What you need to know about Islamic State in Iraq and Syria

<https://www.nbcnews.com/storyline/isis-uncovered/what-isis-what-you-need-know-about-islamic-state-iraq-n859996>

Islamic State propagandists seek to undermine rival jihadists in Syria

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2018/04/islamic-state-propagandists-seek-to-undermine-rival-jihadists-in-syria.php>

“Virtual Planners” in the Arsenal of Islamic State External Operations

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2018/04/virtual-planners-in-the-arsenal-of-islamic-state-external-operations/>

Pentagon: Islamic State Resurgence Underway in War-Ravaged Syria

<http://www.oann.com/pentagon-islamic-state-resurgence-underway-in-war-ravaged-syria/>

How ISIS is EXPLOITING the ‘safe haven’ of cyberspace to plan attacks and raise funds

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/948655/isis-uk-terrorist-group-darknet-bitcoin-cryptocurrency>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

A new terrorist group is popping up in Syria and capitalizing on ISIS' defeat

Ben Brimelow – Business Insider: 19 April 2018

Since surfacing as the country's most potent militant group, al-Qaida-linked Hayat Tahrir al-Sham has battled ISIS as well as Western-backed rebel groups to extend its control across Idlib province in Syria, enforcing its version of Sharia law and raising funds by taxing the flow of people and goods.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/syria-terrorist-group-hayat-tahrir-al-sham-2018-4>

US warns of growing African terror threat

Ryan Browne – CNN: 19 April 2018

According to Maj. Gen. Marcus Hicks, commander of U.S. special operations in Africa, ISIS and al-Qaida represent major threats and are growing in strength in West Africa. "Both ISIS and al-Qaida franchises here should be taken seriously; they both have either carried out or attempted attacks on Western interests in Africa, and they both have aspirations to continue attacks on Western interests here, and then to attack the West beyond here," Hicks said.

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/04/19/politics/africa-isis-al-qaeda-threat/index.html>

For more on this theme:

Taliban Block Cellphone Service in S. Afghanistan

<https://www.voanews.com/a/taliban-block-telecommunications-operations-southern-afghanistan/4356711.html>

Taliban forces hundreds of schools in Kunduz to close

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2018/04/taliban-forces-hundreds-of-schools-in-kunduz-to-close.php>

Kabul's Overture, the Taliban's Dilemma, and the Way Out

<https://thediplomat.com/2018/04/kabuls-overture-the-talibans-dilemma-and-the-way-out/>

Hamas Sees Gaza Protests as Peaceful — and as a 'Deadly Weapon'

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/04/15/world/middleeast/israel-hamas-gaza-great-return.html>

Upcoming Vote Could Strengthen Hezbollah's Hold over Lebanon

<http://www.thetower.org/6169-upcoming-vote-could-strengthen-hezbollahs-hold-over-lebanon/>

Why Is Trump Going Soft on Hezbollah?

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2018/04/13/why-is-trump-going-soft-on-hezbollah/>

Refugees are Boko Haram's latest soft target

<https://issafrica.org/iss-today/refugees-are-boko-harams-latest-soft-target>

Nigeria's Boko Haram extremists hamper polio eradication

<https://www.apnews.com/3f27aea190ae418483d0eb281eeb97d8>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Why UK's 'Prevent' programme doesn't work

Imran Awan – Al Jazeera: 16 April 2018

The “Prevent” initiative in the United Kingdom was launched in 2015 to train university staff to assess whether a student was at risk for radicalization and to “challenge extremist ideas.” The effort, however, is failing, in addition to risking infringement on basic academic freedoms.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/uk-prevent-programme-doesn-work-180411114522226.html>

Online platforms could redirect people at risk of radicalization, expert says

Andrew Seal – The Globe and Mail: 17 April 2018

With extremist propaganda proliferating on the internet, counternarratives and efforts to delete the messaging were launched with middling success. But a new way may be more effective. A pilot program redirects those searching radicalizing topics by placing ads at the top of the search results.

<https://www.theglobeandmail.com/canada/british-columbia/article-online-platforms-could-redirect-people-at-risk-of-radicalization/>

For more on this theme:

Negotiations with jihadists? A radical idea gains currency in Mali

<http://www.irinnews.org/analysis/2018/04/19/negotiations-jihadists-radical-idea-gains-currency-mali>

SDFG: Sudanese Initiative for Countering Violent Extremism

<https://www.dabangasudan.org/en/all-news/article/sdfg-sudanese-initiative-for-countering-violent-extremism>

UN adopts new strategy to tackle violent extremism

<http://www.ghananewsagency.org/social/un-adopts-new-strategy-to-tackle-violent-extremism-131558>

Soft power in countering extremism

<https://nation.com.pk/20-Apr-2018/soft-power-in-countering-extremism>

FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Russia Works To Rescue The Lost Children Of ISIS Fighters

Samantha Raphelson – NPR: 19 April 2018

Russia is attempting to identify the wives and children of Russian Muslims who took their families to Syria and Iraq when they joined ISIS. Many of the fighters are dead, but Russia is searching for their survivors.

<https://www.npr.org/2018/04/19/603952883/russia-works-to-rescue-the-lost-children-of-isis-fighters>

Beaten, tortured, sexually abused: An American ISIS widow looks for a way home

Nick Paton Walsh and Salma Abdelaziz – CNN: 20 April 2018

An Elkhart, Indiana, woman says she was tricked by her husband into joining ISIS. Now she wants to return to the United States with her four children.

<https://www.cnn.com/2018/04/19/middleeast/syria-us-isis-bride-intl/index.html>

For more on this theme:

What Has Happened To Russian Muslims Who Joined The Islamic State?

<http://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2018/04/18/russian-muslims-islamic-state>

Who are the French and Tunisian Islamic State soldiers?

<https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/comment/2018/4/17/who-are-the-french-and-tunisian-islamic-state-soldiers>

Most Danish foreign fighters have been on benefits

<http://cphpost.dk/news/most-danish-foreign-fighters-have-been-on-benefits.html>

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

Counterterrorism Yearbook 2018: North Africa

Sofia Patel – The Australian Strategic Policy Institute: 18 April 2018

Despite facing even greater threats, Maghreb countries continue to initiate counterterrorism efforts independent of multilateral regional initiatives, according to the Australian Strategic Policy Institute.

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/counterterrorism-yearbook-2018-north-africa/>

For more on this theme:

In Syria, America Moves Back to the War Against ISIS (And Watching Assad Carefully)

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/syria-america-moves-back-the-war-against-isis-watching-assad-25450>

National Counter Terrorism Centre is trapped in a political quagmire

<https://www.livemint.com/Opinion/ajVfsxGmQnEFCQHJARhhCJ/National-Counter-Terrorism-Centre-is-trapped-in-a-political.html>

Here's How the Philippines Could Prevent Another Marawi Siege

<https://international.thenewslens.com/article/93986>