

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

CONTENTS

COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

- Corruption
- Drug Trafficking
- Trafficking in Scarce or Protected Resources
- Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

- Internet Governance
- Internet Freedom
- Privacy and Security
- Cyber Attacks, Threats and Vulnerabilities
- Cyber Crime and Terrorism
- Cyber Protection of Critical Infrastructure
- Mass Surveillance and Intelligence Gathering

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

- ISIS and Foreign Fighters
- Terrorism Around the World
- Radicalization and Messaging

CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

- Current State of the Coronavirus
- Coronavirus, National Security and International Organizations
- Coronavirus and Disinformation

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

COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

A pandemic of corruption: \$40 masks, questionable contracts, rice-stealing bureaucrats mar coronavirus response

Anthony Faiola and Ana Vanessa Herrero – The Washington Post: 26 April 2020

As governments race to provide for their increasingly sick populaces, they are prioritizing speed over transparency, leading to the Catch-22 of helping their populations or fueling corruption.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/coronavirus-corruption-colombia-argentina-romania-bangladesh/2020/04/26/c88a9a44-8007-11ea-84c2-0792d8591911_story.html

Yuen Yuen Ang on Corruption and Growth in China

Shannon Tiezzi – The Diplomat: 30 April 2020

Chinese corruption actually fuels growth – but at a steep cost. The Diplomat interviews Yuen Yuen Ang about her research into corruption in China, its impact on the economy, and the connection to the country's handling of the novel coronavirus.

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/yuen-yuen-ang-on-corruption-and-growth-in-china/>

For more on this theme:

In Europe's Scramble to Buy COVID-19 Supplies, Anti-Corruption Measures Fall Away

<https://www.occrp.org/en/coronavirus/in-europes-scramble-to-buy-covid-19-supplies-anti-corruption-measures-fall-away>

Lebanon's relaxed cannabis laws 'could lead to more corruption'

<https://www.thenational.ae/world/mena/lebanon-s-relaxed-cannabis-laws-could-lead-to-more-corruption-1.1009856>

News GRECO warns of Covid-19 corruption risks

<https://emerging-europe.com/news/greco-warns-of-covid-19-corruption-risks/>

COVID-19: A perfect storm for the corrupt?

<https://voices.transparency.org/covid-19-perfect-storm-for-the-corrupt-c42eb9dfc234>

Pandemic a Symptom of Beijing's 'Culture of Corruption and Criminality': Former Justice Minister

https://www.theepochtimes.com/pandemic-a-symptom-of-beijings-culture-of-corruption-and-criminality-former-justice-minister_3321711.html

Tunisia: Fakhfakh's Government Accused of Whitewashing Corruption

<https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/2245036/tunisia-fakhfakh%E2%80%99s-government-accused-whitewashing-corruption>

Corruption, not coronavirus, is ravaging Lebanon

<https://english.alaraby.co.uk/english/comment/2020/4/30/corruption-not-coronavirus-is-ravaging-lebanon>

Could Covid-19 kill corruption? Don't bet on it

<https://www.the-star.co.ke/siasa/2020-04-28-could-covid-19-kill-corruption-dont-bet-on-it/>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Narcos in the time of Covid-19

Gareth Rice – The Strategist: 21 April 2020

It seems likely that drug-trafficking organizations will face their fair share of challenges (as well as opportunities) as this pandemic unfolds. The disruption of supply lines has led many to diversify routes, reduce the purity of their drugs, and change lines of criminal activity altogether.

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/narcos-in-the-time-of-covid-19/>

Coronavirus chokes the drug trade — from Wuhan, through Mexico and onto US streets

Kate Linthicum – Los Angeles Times: 24 April 2020

Before it saw its first COVID-19 cases, Wuhan, China, was a global hub for ingredients needed to make fentanyl and synthetic opioids. But Wuhan's chemical factories have shut down over the past few months, leading to shortages that have sent street drug prices soaring as far away as the United States, the *Los Angeles Times* reports.

<https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2020-04-24/wuhan-china-coronavirus-fentanyl-global-drug-trade>

For more on this theme:

Mexican cartels are providing COVID-19 assistance. Why that's not surprising.

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/04/27/mexican-cartels-are-providing-covid-19-assistance-why-thats-not-surprising/>

Coronavirus: Latin American crime gangs adapt to pandemic

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-52367898>

Arrest of Top Trafficker Unlikely to Slow Growth of Brazil's PCC

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/pcc-fuminho-arrest-brazil/>

Special Report: Peruvian coca farmers to Paris pushers, coronavirus upends global narcotics trade

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-latam-narcotics-sp/special-report-peruvian-coca-farmers-to-paris-pushers-coronavirus-upends-global-narcotics-trade-idUSKCN2242ZI>

Mexican Farmers Are Growing Cartel-Free 'Ethical' Weed

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/n7jajg/mexican-farmers-are-growing-cartel-free-ethical-weed

How COVID-19 is Affecting Mexico's Criminal Economy

<https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/how-covid-19-is-affecting-mexicos-criminal-economy/>

Japanese Gangs Vie for Power Amid Pandemic

<https://www.occrp.org/en/coronavirus/japanese-gangs-vie-for-power-amid-pandemic>

Drug Traffickers Are Getting Very Creative to Smuggle Cocaine Into Europe

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/z3bj8a/drug-smugglers-in-europe-are-getting-creative-with-shipments-of-squid-and-face-masks

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Murder, Logging and Land Theft: Inside a Crime Factory in the Amazon

Maurício Monteiro – Mongabay: 30 April 2020

In the remote Brazilian city of Lábrea, land grabbing, illegal logging and murder are routine.

<https://news.mongabay.com/2020/04/murder-logging-and-land-theft-inside-a-crime-factory-in-the-amazon/>

'Filthy bloody business:' Poachers kill more animals as coronavirus crushes tourism to Africa

Emma Newburger – CNBC: 24 April 2020

As the coronavirus pandemic halts tourism to Africa, poachers are encroaching on land and killing rhinos in travel hot spots now devoid of visitors and safari guides.

<https://www.cnbc.com/2020/04/24/coronavirus-poachers-kill-more-animals-as-tourism-to-africa-plum-mets.html>

For more on this theme:

Illegal loggers uncowed by coronavirus as deforestation rises in Brazil

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-environment/illegal-loggers-uncowed-by-coronavirus-as-deforestation-rises-in-brazil-idUSKCN21S111>

Brazil's Amazon Rainforest Has Become the Wild West for Illegal Gold Miners

<https://www.ecowatch.com/amazon-brazil-gold-mining-2645732733.html>

Coast Guard: Illegal Fishing in Oceans a National Security Issue

<https://seapowermagazine.org/coast-guard-illegal-fishing-in-oceans-a-national-security-issue/>

These apes and monkeys escaped poaching and trafficking. Now they must battle a pandemic.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/science/2020/04/17/these-apes-monkeys-escaped-poaching-trafficking-now-they-must-battle-pandemic/>

Report reveals growing wildlife trafficking in airport sector

<https://www.airport-technology.com/news/wildlife-trafficking-airport-sector/>

COVID-19 brings new scrutiny to illegal wildlife trafficking

<https://www.pri.org/stories/2020-04-17/covid-19-brings-new-scrutiny-illegal-wildlife-trafficking>

Scientists track the link between wildlife and COVID-19

<https://news.usc.edu/168960/wildlife-covid-19-pandemic-usc-scientists-animal-trafficking/>

Coronavirus: Live animal markets and wildlife trade continue in Asia amid growing calls for crackdown

<https://www.independent.co.uk/environment/wildlife-trafficking-campaign-wet-markets-china-coronavirus-pandemic-a9476821.html>

U.S. Pressures China To Close Wet Markets Thought To Be Source Of COVID-19

<https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/04/23/842178010/u-s-pressures-china-to-close-wet-markets-thought-to-be-source-of-covid-19>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Can I Stay or Can I Go Now? Longer-term Impacts of Covid-19 on Global Migration

Erol Yayboke – Center for Strategic & International Studies: 20 April 2020

COVID-19 has humans locked down globally, which is particularly problematic for migrants.

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/can-i-stay-or-can-i-go-now-longer-term-impacts-covid-19-global-migration>

Drugs, oil ... women? Mexican cartels turn to human trafficking

Christine Murray – Reuters: 29 April 2020

Organized criminal activity in Mexico that traditionally concentrated on shadowy gangs involved in drug smuggling, extortion or stealing oil has evolved into a multibillion-dollar human-trafficking enterprise, according to Mexican law enforcement officials.

<https://news.trust.org/item/20200429164955-34hfv/>

For more on this theme:

Kremlin Provides Financial Support to Stranded and Abandoned Central Asian Migrants

<https://jamestown.org/program/kremlin-provides-financial-support-to-stranded-and-abandoned-central-asian-migrants/>

Opinion: Don't let human traffickers exploit pandemic

<https://www.detroitnews.com/story/opinion/2020/04/24/opinion-dont-let-human-traffickers-exploit-pandemic/3010747001/>

COVID-19 through a migration lens: policy responses should be inclusive of migrants

<https://blogs.worldbank.org/peoplemove/covid-19-through-migration-lens-policy-responses-should-be-inclusive-migrants>

Turkey and COVID-19: Don't forget refugees

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/04/20/turkey-and-covid-19-dont-forget-refugees/>

Colombian National Police: Combating Human and Drug Trafficking

<https://inpublicsafety.com/2020/04/colombian-national-police-combating-human-and-drug-trafficking/>

Illegal drug trade struggles amid coronavirus, giving law enforcement the upper hand

<https://www.foxnews.com/us/coronavirus-illegal-drug-trade-law-enforcement-covid19>

The Pandemic's Hidden Human Trafficking Crisis

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/04/30/coronavirus-pandemic-human-trafficking-crisis/>

Migrants jobless and trapped under Thai coronavirus lockdown

<https://news.trust.org/item/20200429100559-lfb9y/>

COVID-19 and Modern Slavery: Challenges, Opportunities, and the Future of the Fight

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/covid-19-and-modern-slavery-challenges-opportunities-and-future-fight>

Hundreds of Rohingya Muslims Stuck at Sea in Refugee Crisis With 'Zero Hope'

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/01/world/asia/rohingya-muslim-refugee-crisis.html>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Europe wants to scuttle China's plan to create a new Internet

Brian Adam – Intallaght: April 2020

The Chinese Communist Party wants to remake the internet in its own image. Internet governance group RIPE has opposed the proposal for a new authoritarian-friendly internet architecture that would likely offer governments the ability to manage and monitor every device connected to the network.

<https://intallaght.ie/europe-wants-to-scuttle-chinas-plan-to-create-a-new-internet/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) The Internet's Titans Make a Power Grab

<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2020/04/pandemic-facebook-and-twitter-grab-more-power/610213/>

(Global) Is It Time for an Internet Bill of Rights? (infographic)

<https://www.digitalinformationworld.com/2020/04/nearly-1-in-3-americans-want-the-right-to-social-media-privacy.html>

(Global) A Splinternet Prevention Plan

<https://www.project-syndicate.org/onpoint/splinternet-threat-demands-global-governance-by-dambisa-moyo-2020-04?barrier=accesspaylog>

INTERNET FREEDOM

Cuban government imposes more limitations on independent journalism by censoring content on social networks during pandemic

Paola Nalvarte – Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas: 28 April 2020

Since the pandemic began, the persecution of journalists and cyber bullying in Cuba have worsened, according to Maykel González, director of the digital magazine Tremenda Nota. “We are all more muzzled than ever,” González told the Knight Center.

<https://knightcenter.utexas.edu/blog/00-21782-cuban-government-imposes-more-limitations-independent-journalism-censoring-content-soc>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Coronavirus protests test Facebook's free speech pledges

<https://www.politico.com/news/2020/04/20/coronavirus-protests-test-facebooks-free-speech-pledges-197724>

(China) Detentions, Site Closures Hit Archives of Censored COVID Content

<https://chinadigitaltimes.net/2020/04/detentions-site-closures-hit-archives-of-censored-covid-content/>

(China) Skirting Chinese censorship with emoticons and telegraph codes

<https://www.brookings.edu/techstream/skirting-chinese-censorship-with-emoticons-and-telegraph-codes/>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Friend request: How India's battle with Facebook will change the internet

Megha Bahree – Nikkei Asian Review: 29 April 2020

WhatsApp encryption is targeted as the tech giant navigates fake news and hacked accounts.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Cover-Story/Friend-request-How-India-s-battle-with-Facebook-will-change-the-internet>

For more on this theme:

(China) China to impose new cybersecurity rules for networks

<https://technode.com/2020/04/30/china-to-impose-new-cybersecurity-rules-for-networks/>

(Vietnam) Online campaign teaches children to use internet safely amid COVID-19

<https://vietnamnews.vn/society/715861/online-campaign-teaches-children-to-use-internet-safely-amid-covid-19.html>

(Europe) Europe's Privacy Law Hasn't Shown Its Teeth, Frustrating Advocates

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/27/technology/GDPR-privacy-law-europe.html>

CYBER ATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

This new Android mobile malware targets banks, financial services across Europe

Charlie Osborne – ZDNet: 30 April 2020

A new form of Android mobile malware has emerged with its eye on consumer and business financial data. Researchers believe EventBot has the potential to become the “next big mobile threat.”

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/this-new-android-mobile-malware-is-striking-banks-financial-services-across-europe/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Artificial intelligence will be used to power cyberattacks, warn security experts

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/artificial-intelligence-will-be-used-to-power-cyber-attacks-warn-security-experts/>

(China, Vietnam) Offensive Cyber Capabilities and Public Health Intelligence: Vietnam, APT32, and COVID-19

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/offensive-cyber-capabilities-and-public-health-intelligence-vietnam-apt32-and-covid-19/>

(Global) COVID-Related Boom Reveals Video Conferencing's Dark Side – Analysis

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/01052020-covid-related-boom-reveals-video-conferencings-dark-side-analysis/>

CYBER CRIME AND TERRORISM

Covid-19 and the crime–terror nexus in the cyber domain

Jose Sousa-Santos – The Strategist: 24 April 2020

Transnational organized crime syndicates and terrorist groups are adapting to the challenges and opportunities posed by the coronavirus pandemic. From a cyber- and crime–terror nexus lens, two dynamics are evident: There’s likely to be greater convergence between organized crime syndicates and terrorist groups, and that will lead to greater access to and activities in the cyber domain by both criminal and terrorist organizations.

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/covid-19-and-the-crime-terror-nexus-in-the-cyber-domain/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Feds can now spot the signs of pandemic phishing

<https://www.fifthdomain.com/civilian/2020/04/29/amid-pandemic-several-agencies-have-seen-changes-in-phishing-lures/>

(U.S.) Several people are hacking: Feds turn to civilian Slack groups for help during coronavirus

<https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/security/several-people-are-hacking-feds-turn-civilian-slack-groups-help-n1194286>

(U.S.) The Department of Defense Should Not Wage Cyber War Against Criminal Hackers During the Coronavirus Crisis

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/department-defense-should-not-wage-cyber-war-against-criminal-hackers-during-coronavirus>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Israeli cyber defenders warn of attacks on water supply

Doug Olenick – SC Media: 27 April 2020

Israel’s National Cyber Array reported that cyber attacks were launched on control systems of wastewater treatment plants, pumping stations and sewers – all part of critical infrastructure.

<https://www.scmagazine.com/home/security-news/cyberattack/israeli-cyber-defenders-warn-of-attacks-on-water-supply/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) U.S. senators urge cybersecurity officials to defend health sector

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-cyber/senators-call-on-u-s-cyber-officials-to-defend-health-sector-idUSKCN22320G>

(U.S.) Election Security 2020: Feds and States Coordinate on IT Security

<https://fedtechmagazine.com/article/2020/04/election-security-2020-feds-and-states-coordinate-it-security>

(Australia) Labor floats active cyber defence and a civilian cyber corps for Australia

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/labor-floats-active-cyber-defence-and-a-civilian-cyber-corps-for-australia/>

MASS SURVEILLANCE AND INTELLIGENCE GATHERING

How surveillance technology powered South Korea's COVID-19 response

Justin Fendos – Brookings: 29 April 2020

South Korea used technology easily available in most technologically advanced countries to track and contain the coronavirus epidemic. There is no question it can be done elsewhere. But should it happen, and how would the public feel about it?

<https://www.brookings.edu/techstream/how-surveillance-technology-powered-south-koreas-covid-19-response/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) Contact-tracing apps are not a solution to the COVID-19 crisis

<https://www.brookings.edu/techstream/inaccurate-and-insecure-why-contact-tracing-apps-could-be-a-disaster/>

(U.K.) UK data think-tanks clash over the use of contact-tracing apps

<https://www.itpro.co.uk/policy-legislation/data-governance/355426/conflict-over-the-use-of-personal-data-after-lockdown>

(Europe) Your Data or Your Life? Towards the Acceptance of Digital Technologies and Data in Medicine

<http://www.circleid.com/posts/20200428-your-data-or-your-life-towards-acceptance-of-digital-medicine/>

(U.S., Global) COVID-19, Speech and Surveillance: A Response

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/covid-19-speech-and-surveillance-response>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

With the World Busy Fighting COVID-19, Could ISIS Mount a Resurgence?

Joseph Hincks – Time: 29 April 2020

“Since the pandemic started and weakened the capacity of law or security enforcement around the world, ISIS has persisted in operations across Afghanistan, West Africa, Central Africa, the Sahel, Egypt and Yemen,” says Rita Katz, director of the SITE Intelligence Group, which tracks online networks affiliated with jihadist and white supremacist organizations. ISIS has “specifically exploited the pandemic with attacks in Iraq, the Maldives and the Philippines,” she adds, and aggressively publicized calls for attacks on the West.

<https://time.com/5828630/isis-coronavirus/>

The Islamic State Remains Alive in Afghanistan

Agnieszka Pikulicka-Wilczewska – The Diplomat: 27 April 2020

In early April, Afghan forces captured the latest head of the ISIS branch in Afghanistan — but will it matter?

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/the-islamic-state-remains-alive-in-afghanistan/>

For more on this theme:

Sri Lanka terror strike: One year on, it's time for regional resolve against transnational terror

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/sri-lanka-terror-strike-one-year-time-regional-resolve-transnational-terror-64955/>

11 Filipino Soldiers Are Killed Trying to Track an ISIS Leader

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/17/world/asia/11-filipino-soldiers-are-killed-trying-to-track-an-isis-leader.html>

ISIS looks to prosper in a world distracted by the virus

<https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/isis-looks-prosper-world-distracted-virus>

Recruiting from Beyond the Grave: A European Follows Anwar al-Awlaki Into ISIS

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/recruiting-from-beyond-the-grave-a-european-follows-anwar-al-awlaki-into-isis/>

Who is de facto leader of Daesh/ISIS in Afghanistan?

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/who-is-de-facto-leader-of-daesh-isis-in-afghanistan/1824335>

IS Militants Stepping Up Attacks in Syria's Desert

<https://www.voanews.com/extremism-watch/militants-stepping-attacks-syrias-desert>

Virus Keeps Bosnian Families Of Islamic State Fighters In Syrian Camps – Analysis

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/29042020-virus-keeps-bosnian-families-of-islamic-state-fighters-in-syrian-camps-analysis/>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

EU official warns terrorist, extremist groups aiming to regain influence amid pandemic

Laura Kelly – The Hill: 30 April 2020

The coronavirus pandemic is fueling extremism on the far right and far left in Europe and giving the Islamic State and other terrorists cover to regain influence, the European Union's counterterrorism chief has warned.

<https://thehill.com/policy/international/495495-eu-official-warns-terrorist-extremist-groups-aiming-to-regain-influence>

How Boko Haram Sustain Operations Through International Trade in Smoked Fish

Ahmad Salkida – Premium Times: 26 April 2020

Boko Haram has created an economy based on careful control of the international trade on smoked fish as well as red pepper in Lake Chad. But they continue to overrun towns and military bases to stock their weapons and supplies and to abduct hostages for ransom.

<https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/headlines/389916-how-boko-haram-sustain-operations-through-international-trade-in-smoked-fish.html>

For more on this theme:

Defections threaten Hayat Tahrir al-Sham in Idlib

<https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2020/04/syria-hayat-tahrir-al-sham-al-qaeda-defections-tension.html>

Interactive graphic: Salafi-jihadi ecosystem in the Sahel

<https://www.criticalthreats.org/analysis/interactive-graphic-salafi-jihadi-ecosystem-in-the-sahel>

Counter Terrorist Trends and Analyses (CTTA) – Volume 12 Issue 03

<https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/icpvtr/counter-terrorist-trends-and-analyses-ctta-volume-12-issue-03/>

Al-Qaeda Under Zawahiri and the Challenge of ISIS

<https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/2260781/al-qaeda-under-zawahiri-and-challenge-isis>

Potential Prisoner Swap between Hamas, Israel

<https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/2262186/potential-prisoner-swap-between-hamas-israel>

COVID-19 and violent extremist groups: adapting to an evolving crisis

<https://lens.monash.edu/@politics-society/2020/04/28/1380103/covid-19-and-non-state-armed-groups-adapting-to-an-evolving-crisis>

Female squad of Tablighi Jamaat

<https://www.weeklyblitz.net/news/female-squad-of-tablighi-jamaat/>

As Muslims go digital amid pandemic, far-right groups are 'Zoombombing' faith-based meetings

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/us-far-right-zoombombing-muslims-meetings-digital-ramadan>

COVID-19 an opportunity for terrorists or a threat to their existence

<https://www.defenceconnect.com.au/key-enablers/5995-global-terror-and-covid-19>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

UN chief: Extremists using COVID-19 to recruit online youths

Edith M. Lederer – The Associated Press: 28 April 2020

U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres is warning that extremist groups are taking advantage of COVID-19 lockdowns to intensify social media efforts to spread hatred and recruit young people who are spending more time online.

<https://apnews.com/a6cf967c03f7ff00e170949a9eae11a>

Shared Themes, Tactics in White Supremacist and Islamist Extremist Propaganda

Bridget Johnson – Homeland Security Today: 28 April 2020

Islamist extremist propaganda and white supremacist propaganda not only reflect similar themes and memes in the ways they recruit and incite, they also pose the shared danger of reeling in followers and potentially driving them to violent acts.

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/shared-themes-recruitment-tactics-in-white-supremacist-and-islamist-extremist-propaganda/>

For more on this theme:

Extremists Use COVID-19 Fears To Spread Hate, Authorities Say

<https://www.kccu.org/post/extremists-use-covid-19-fears-spread-hate-authorities-say>

Indonesia: Perennial Issue of Terrorist Recidivism

<https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/rsis/indonesia-perennial-issue-of-terrorist-recidivism/>

Convicted terrorists less likely to reoffend than other criminals – study

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/apr/28/convicted-terrorists-less-likely-to-reoffend-than-other-criminals-study>

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/police-warn-of-greater-risk-of-radicalization-during-covid-19-lockdown/>

Radicalization and violent extremism in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic

<https://www.capitalfm.co.ke/news/2020/04/radicalization-and-violent-extremism-in-the-wake-of-covid-19-pandemic/>

New Podcast Rabbit Hole Delves Into Online Radicalization

<https://www.thestranger.com/slog/2020/04/28/43530183/new-podcast-rabbit-hole-delves-into-online-radicalization>

Preventing violent extremism during and after the COVID-19 pandemic

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/04/28/preventing-violent-extremism-during-and-after-the-covid-19-pandemic/>

COVID-19 Can Be ‘Perfect Opportunity’ for Extremist Recruitment, Experts Warn

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/covid-19-can-be-perfect-opportunity-for-extremist-recruitment-experts-warn/>

Covid-19: Experts warn of potential wave of extremism

<https://www.nation.co.ke/news/africa/Experts-warn-of-extremism-during-pandemic/1066-5534244-nj4f8/index.html>

CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

CURRENT STATE OF THE CORONAVIRUS

China Should Embrace a Coronavirus Investigation. Here's Why.

Simon Lester – The National Interest: 28 April 2020

China should embrace the investigations into the pandemic's origins and governments' responses to figure out how to better deal with similar situations in the future.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/coronavirus/china-should-embrace-coronavirus-investigation-heres-why-149006>

For more on this theme:

Protectionism is no cure for pandemics

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/protectionism-is-no-cure-for-pandemics/>

Online Event: Unpacking the Covid-19 Crisis in Africa

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/online-event-unpacking-covid-19-crisis-africa>

Strengths and Vulnerabilities in Southeast Asia's response to the Covid-19 Pandemic

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/strengths-and-vulnerabilities-southeast-asias-response-covid-19-pandemic>

Potential coronavirus vaccine being tested in Germany could 'supply millions' by end of year

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/29/europe/germany-pfizer-coronavirus-vaccine-test-intl/index.html>

Trump says China could have stopped coronavirus, Beijing decries shifting of blame

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa-china-trump-idUSKCN229310>

China lab rejects COVID-19 conspiracy claims, but virus origins still a mystery

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-china-lab-idUSKCN22A0MM>

COVID-19 Update: How to Reopen Society as Soon and Safely as Possible

<https://www.cfr.org/conference-calls/covid-19-update-how-reopen-society-soon-and-safely-possible>

How to lift the lockdown when lockdown is the only COVID-19 vaccine available

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/how-lift-lockdown-when-lockdown-only-covid19-vaccine-available-65334/>

The Pandemic Crisis Erupts Into Riots in the North Caucasus

<https://jamestown.org/program/the-pandemic-crisis-erupts-into-riots-in-the-north-caucasus/>

CORONAVIRUS, NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

China threatens economic consequences if Australia launches investigation of Beijing's handling of coronavirus

Laura Kelly – The Hill: 27 April 2020

According to Australian media, Chinese officials are threatening economic consequences if Australia moves ahead with an investigation into Beijing's early handling of the coronavirus outbreak.

<https://thehill.com/policy/international/494860-china-threatens-economic-consequences-if-australia-launches>

For more on this theme:

How is the coronavirus outbreak affecting China's relations with India?

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/04/30/how-is-the-coronavirus-outbreak-affecting-chinas-relations-with-india/>

Preparing for the crisis after the crisis

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/preparing-for-the-crisis-after-the-crisis/>

Indonesia Needs to Change Its Security-Heavy Approach to COVID-19

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/indonesia-needs-to-change-its-security-heavy-approach-to-covid-19/>

The pandemic challenges democracies — but really hurts dictators

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2020/04/30/pandemic-challenges-democracies-really-hurts-dictators/>

Why this pandemic is different

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/why-this-pandemic-is-different/>

How to Get Coronavirus-Relief Efforts on North Korea Right

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/korea-watch/how-get-coronavirus-relief-efforts-north-korea-right-148586>

Covid-19 and Europe-China Relations

<https://ceias.eu/covid-19-europe-china-relations/>

Police Abuse, Prison Deaths Draw Concern as Philippines Tightens Lockdown Measures

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/police-abuse-prison-deaths-draw-concern-as-philippines-tightens-lockdown-measures/>

COVID-19 will prolong conflict in the Middle East

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/04/24/covid-19-will-prolong-conflict-in-the-middle-east/>

China's Investment in Africa Cannot Buy the Silence of a Continent

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/chinas-investment-in-africa-cannot-buy-the-silence-of-a-continent/>

Coronavirus and Farmworkers: Is the Food Supply at Risk?

<https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/coronavirus-and-farmworkers-food-supply-risk>

CORONAVIRUS, NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS - CONTINUED

To Hold China Accountable for Delayed COVID-19 Action, Target the 'Great Firewall'

Michael Sobolik – The Diplomat: 29 April 2020

While the U.S. focuses on the current COVID-19 crisis, it should keep in mind that the best way to deal with China's lack of transparency, disinformation and dangerous withholding of critical information is to target the source of China's control over such information – the "Great Firewall."

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/to-hold-china-accountable-for-delayed-covid-19-action-target-the-great-firewall/>

Pandemic will force organised crime groups to find new business models

John Coyne – The Strategist: 29 April 2020

Because criminal groups have different structures, their responses to the pandemic have varied significantly. There will be winners and losers.

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/pandemic-will-force-organised-crime-groups-to-find-new-business-models/>

For more on this theme:

China's Neighbors Face a Belligerent Post-Pandemic Beijing

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/04/29/china-southeast-asia-coronavirus-pandemic-india-pakistan/>

India Cracks Down on Chinese Investment as Mood Turns Against Beijing

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/04/28/india-china-fdi-restrictions-coronavirus/>

The COVID-19 Catastrophe in Bangladesh

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/the-covid-19-catastrophe-in-bangladesh/>

COVID-19 Strategy: The Japan Model

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/covid-19-strategy-the-japan-model/>

What Role Does the Intelligence Community Play in a Pandemic?

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2020/04/what-role-does-the-intelligence-community-play-in-a-pandemic/>

Suing China over the coronavirus won't help. Here's what can work.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/04/23/suing-china-over-coronavirus-wont-help-heres-what-can-work/>

How Can Low-Income Countries Cope With Coronavirus Debt?

<https://www.cfr.org/article/how-can-low-income-countries-cope-coronavirus-debt>

Can a Pandemic Defeat the Politics of Austerity?

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/2020-04-22/can-pandemic-defeat-politics-austerity>

The European Union Will Survive COVID-19

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2020/04/the-european-union-will-survive-covid-19/>

Why the mafia are taking care of everyone's business

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/apr/25/why-mafia-taking-care-of-everyones-business-in-pandemic>

CORONAVIRUS AND DISINFORMATION

Learning from the Russians: Beijing's changing media tactics at a time of Coronavirus

Robert Ballante – Central European Institute of Asian Studies: 29 April 2020

China has taken a page from Russia's propaganda book and has begun using some of the same techniques and procedures to spread disinformation about the coronavirus pandemic.

<https://ceias.eu/learning-from-the-russians/>

For more on this theme:

China's Disinformation Addiction: Spreading Disinformation on COVID-19

<https://news.clearancejobs.com/2020/04/25/chinas-disinformation-addiction-spreading-disinformation-on-covid-19/>

Covid-19 will permanently alter China's relations with the world

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/covid-19-will-permanently-alter-chinas-relations-with-the-world/>

WhatsApp Viral Message Forwarding Drops 70% After New Limits To Stop Coronavirus Misinformation

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/isabeltogoh/2020/04/27/whatsapp-viral-message-forwarding-drops-70-after-new-limits-to-stop-coronavirus-misinformation/#1ec5b4a0490d>

Internal EU report on coronavirus disinformation was harsher on China than public release

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/coronavirus-china-european-union-disinformation/>

COVID-19 is triggering a massive experiment in algorithmic content moderation

<https://www.brookings.edu/techstream/covid-19-is-triggering-a-massive-experiment-in-algorithmic-content-moderation/>

Chinese diplomacy ramps up social media offensive in COVID-19 info war

<https://www.politico.eu/article/china-disinformation-covid19-coronavirus/>

Disinformation in the Time of COVID-19: NATO Targeted by Chinese and Russian Disinformation Campaigns

<https://news.clearancejobs.com/2020/04/29/disinformation-in-the-time-of-covid-19-nato-targeted-by-chinese-and-russian-disinformation-campaigns/>

Russian Population Does Not Trust the Authorities but Still Believes the Propaganda