

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Sudanese corruption committee confiscates Bashir family properties

Reuters: 7 May 2020

A Sudanese anti-corruption committee plans to confiscate several large plots of land and residential properties from relatives of ousted President Omar al-Bashir after investigations found they were acquired largely due to family ties.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-sudan-politics/sudanese-corruption-committee-confiscates-bashir-family-properties-idUSKBN22J3NG>

Global survey on fraud and Covid-19 finds links between corruption and deaths

MedCity News: 6 May 2020

A new study from a Berlin-based anti-fraud company found that it wasn't just the coronavirus that was causing deaths; fraud and corruption have claimed lives as well.

<https://medcitynews.com/2020/05/global-survey-on-fraud-and-covid-19-finds-links-between-corruption-and-deaths/>

For more on this theme:

Anti-corruption official abducted by government-tied militia

<https://www.smh.com.au/world/middle-east/anti-corruption-official-abducted-by-government-tied-militia-20200505-p54pz1.html>

As Coronavirus Cases Rise, Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro Faces Another Snag: Corruption Charges

<https://time.com/5829773/jair-bolsonaro-coronavirus-corruption/>

The Risky Politics of Anti-Money Laundering

<https://www.americasquarterly.org/content/risky-politics-anti-money-laundering>

Fewer corruption reports in 2019 but more cases probed

<https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/courts-crime/fewer-corruption-reports-in-2019-but-more-cases-probed>

Cricket's Dark Underbelly Once Again Exposed After Corruption Bans

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/tristanlavalette/2020/04/30/crickets-dark-underbelly-once-again-exposed-after-corruption-bans/#3d9f523f6c19>

OECD Puts Whistleblowers at Center of Covid-19 Anti-Corruption Initiative

<https://www.whistleblowersblog.org/2020/04/articles/foreign-corruption-whistleblowers/oecd-puts-whistleblowers-at-center-of-covid-19-anti-corruption-initiative/>

Corporate profitability and the global persistence of corruption

<https://voxeu.org/article/corporate-profitability-and-global-persistence-corruption>

Anti-corruption row highlights struggle to control the narrative in Armenia

<https://eurasianet.org/anti-corruption-row-highlights-struggle-to-control-the-narrative-in-armenia>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Now Is the Time for a Crackdown on Narco-Trafficking

Ramon Collado – The National Interest: 7 May 2020

The author calls for the U.S. to take a closer look at the Dominican Republic and crack down on its drug trafficking the same way the U.S. is applying pressure to Venezuela.

<https://nationalinterest.org/feature/now-time-crackdown-narco-trafficking-152001>

The Pandemic Is Disrupting the Illegal Drug Trade

Andrew Davis – Bloomberg: 7 May 2020

Measures by governments across the world to curb the COVID-19 pandemic have led to the widespread disruption of trafficking routes for illegal drugs, mainly by air and on land, upping some prices, according to a new United Nations report.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-05-07/pandemic-disrupting-illegal-drug-trade-as-supply-chain-upended>

Full report:

COVID-19 and the drug supply chain: from production and trafficking to use

<http://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/covid/Covid-19-and-drug-supply-chain-Mai2020.pdf>

For more on this theme:

Mexico drug cartels turn charities in coronavirus pandemic

<https://www.dw.com/en/mexico-drug-cartels-turn-charities-in-coronavirus-pandemic/a-53222555>

Colombia: Former General Jailed For Aiding Narco-Trafficking Group

<https://www.occrp.org/en/daily/12237-colombia-former-general-jailed-for-aiding-narco-trafficking-group>

Coronavirus and narcotics: Can drug cartels survive COVID-19?

<https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/coronavirus-narcotics-drug-cartels-survive-covid-19-200427131004141.html>

How COVID-19 has changed how B.C. gangs operate

<https://www.vancouverisawesome.com/bc-news/how-covid-19-has-changed-how-bc-gangs-operate-2279602>

The Slow Death of Mexico's Santa Rosa de Lima Cartel

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/mexico-santa-rosa-de-lima-cartel/>

Focus on shipping in fight against drug smuggling

<https://lloydlist.maritimeintelligence.informa.com/LL1132202/Focus-on-shipping-in-fight-against-drug-smuggling>

Drug dealers are posing as food delivery workers, warns Interpol

<https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/world-all-news/109042/drugs-dealers-are-posing-as-food-delivery-workers-warns-interpol-cocaine-marijuana-spain-ireland-malaysia/>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Facebook and Google removing MILLIONS of adverts as China's online wildlife trade surges

Callum Hoare – Express: 7 May 2020

Facebook, Google and other technology companies are removing millions of online advertisements associated with wildlife trading. Experts fear listings in China could surge in the wake of coronavirus.

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1279072/facebook-google-online-wildlife-trade-china-wet-market-ban-covid19-wuhan-bat-pangolin-spt>

Conservation in crisis: ecotourism collapse threatens communities and wildlife

Patrick Greenfield and Peter Muiruri – The Guardian: 5 May 2020

From Kenya to the Seychelles, the coronavirus pandemic has dealt a devastating blow to efforts to protect endangered wildlife.

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/may/05/conservation-in-crisis-covid-19-coronavirus-eco-tourism-collapse-threatens-communities-and-wildlife-aoe>

For more on this theme:

EU to step up rules on factory farming, wildlife trading amid pandemic

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-eu-wildlife/eu-to-step-up-rules-on-factory-farming-wildlife-trading-amid-pandemic-idUSKBN21Z2M6>

Covid-19 – a blessing for pangolins?

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2020/apr/18/covid-19-a-blessing-for-pangolins>

What is the wildlife trade? And what are the answers to managing it?

<https://theconversation.com/what-is-the-wildlife-trade-and-what-are-the-answers-to-managing-it-136337>

Coronavirus Disrupts Illegal Wildlife Trafficking, for Now

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/29/science/coronavirus-disrupts-illegal-wildlife-trafficking-for-now.html>

Deforestation and fires in the Amazon rainforest could bring about the next pandemic

<https://www.zmescience.com/science/amazon-next-pandemic-05254/>

How China's Poverty Alleviation Campaign Helped Give Birth to COVID-19

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/04/how-chinas-poverty-alleviation-campaign-helped-give-birth-to-covid-19/>

People want wildlife markets to close — governments should listen

<https://thehill.com/opinion/energy-environment/494365-people-want-wildlife-markets-to-close-governments-should-listen>

Coupling big data and conservation

<https://cosmosmagazine.com/earth-sciences/coupling-big-data-and-conservation>

Virus Puts Focus on Deforestation's Risk to Public Health in ASEAN

<https://www.voanews.com/covid-19-pandemic/virus-puts-focus-deforestations-risk-public-health-asean>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

COVID-19 crisis putting human trafficking victims at risk of further exploitation, experts warn

United Nations News: 6 May 2020

The coronavirus pandemic could increase the prevalence of human trafficking across the globe as vulnerable people seek refuge and criminals capitalize on the disruption, experts warn.

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/05/1063342>

Survivors of Nigeria's 'baby factories' share their stories

Philip Obaji Jr. – Al-Jazeera: 3 May 2020

With limited access to abortion and antenatal care, many young mothers are falling prey to human traffickers, who then sell the women's babies.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/survivors-nigeria-baby-factories-share-stories-200420091556574.html>

For more on this theme:

Free online course on combating trafficking in human beings for law students in Serbia

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/belgrade/-/free-online-course-on-combating-trafficking-in-human-beings-for-law-students-in-serbia>

Experts Worry That the Post-Lockdown World Could See a Surge of Exploitation and 'Modern Slavery'

https://www.vice.com/en_in/article/epgjqm/experts-worry-that-the-post-lockdown-world-could-see-a-surge-of-exploitation-and-modern-slavery

Human Smugglers Could Benefit From Costa Rica-Nicaragua Silence

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/costa-rica-nicaragua-human-smuggling/>

COVID-19's Effect on Displaced Peoples

<https://www.cfr.org/conference-calls/covid-19s-effect-displaced-peoples>

Trafficking warning in Asia as coronavirus pummels economies

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/05/trafficking-warning-asia-coronavirus-pummels-economies-200505062503845.html>

COVID-19 not deterrence to Myanmar human traffickers

<https://www.mmtimes.com/news/covid-19-not-deterrence-myanmar-human-traffickers.html>

Why we Rohingya refugees risk our lives at sea

<http://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/opinion/first-person/2020/05/01/Rohingya-refugees-Bangladesh-human-trafficking-sea>

Report of the Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, especially women and children (A/HRC/44/45)

<https://reliefweb.int/report/world/report-special-rapporteur-trafficking-persons-especially-women-and-children-ahrc4445>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Amid COVID-Related Cyber Threats, the Netherlands Leads UN Efforts

Josh Gold – Council on Foreign Relations: 4 May 2020

The United Nations' Open-Ended Working Group needs to move ahead with developing a global framework to ensure responsible behavior in cyberspace.

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/amid-covid-related-cyber-threats-netherlands-leads-un-efforts>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Cross-Pollination in Cyberspace and the Internet Governance 'Spaghetti-Ball'

<http://www.circleid.com/posts/20200426-cross-pollination-in-cyberspace-internet-governance-spaghetti-ball/>

(Global) ICANN blocks controversial sale of .org domain to a private equity firm

<https://arstechnica.com/tech-policy/2020/05/icann-blocks-controversial-sale-of-org-domain-to-a-private-equity-firm/>

(India) Net neutrality in the time of COVID-19

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/net-neutrality-in-the-time-of-covid-19-65290/>

INTERNET FREEDOM

The Russian Doll of Putin's Internet Clampdown

Justin Sherman – Wired: 1 May 2020

Russia's path toward censorship, surveillance and repression is more complex than one might think.

<https://www.wired.com/story/opinion-the-russian-doll-of-putins-internet-clampdown/>

For more on this theme:

(Turkey) Erdogan Attempts to Use Coronavirus to Crack-down on Internet Freedoms

<https://www.haaretz.com/middle-east-news/turkey/.premium-erdogan-attempts-to-use-coronavirus-to-crack-down-on-internet-freedoms-1.8817103>

(India, Kashmir) High-Speed Internet Ban Keeps Kashmir in Dark, Journalists Say

<https://www.voanews.com/press-freedom/high-speed-internet-ban-keeps-kashmir-dark-journalists-say>

(Global) In 2019, Governments Shut Down Their Countries' Internet 213 Times

<https://www.pcmag.com/news/in-2019-governments-shut-down-their-countries-internet-213-times>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

WhatsApp With India?

Gabrielle Sierra – Council on Foreign Relations: 6 May 2020

India is trying to compel WhatsApp to let the government trace and censor messages. The outcome could change digital freedoms in the world's largest democracy and could have strong implications for the future of privacy.

<https://www.cfr.org/podcasts/whatsapp-india>

For more on this theme:

(China) Exclusive: Warning Over Chinese Mobile Giant Xiaomi Recording Millions Of People's 'Private' Web And Phone Use

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/thomasbrewster/2020/04/30/exclusive-warning-over-chinese-mobile-giant-xiaomi-recording-millions-of-peoples-private-web-and-phone-use/#6e7f647d1b2a>

(U.S., Global) Time to prepare for a cyber version of the coronavirus crisis

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/time-to-prepare-for-a-cyber-version-of-the-coronavirus-crisis/>

(U.S.) Coronavirus sparks new fight over California's internet privacy law

<https://www.sfchronicle.com/politics/article/Coronavirus-sparks-new-fight-over-California-s-15246541.php>

CYBER ATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

Hostile states trying to steal coronavirus research, says UK agency

Jamie Grierson and Hannah Devlin – The Guardian: 3 May 2020

It appears that Russia, Iran and China are behind cyber attacks on universities researching COVID-19, likely trying to steal intellectual property. So far, the attempts have been unsuccessful.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2020/may/03/hostile-states-trying-to-steal-coronavirus-research-says-uk-agency>

For more on this theme:

(China, Vietnam) These tiny islands are at the heart of an uncovered Chinese phishing campaign

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/south-china-sea-maritime-hacking-vietnam/>

(North Korea, China) North Korean hackers expand attacks against Apple computers in China

<https://www.nknews.org/2020/05/north-korean-hackers-expand-attacks-against-apple-computers-in-china/>

(Global) Cybersecurity and COVID-19: The Threat of Ransomware

<https://www.cfr.org/conference-calls/cybersecurity-and-covid-19-threat-ransomware>

CYBER CRIME AND TERRORISM

China's Military Is Tied to Debilitating New Cyberattack Tool

Ronen Bergman and Steven Lee Myers – The New York Times: 7 May 2020

Chinese hacker group Naikon launched a cyber attack on Australia, according to an Israeli security company. The software, called Aria-body, also targeted countries across the Asia-Pacific. Experts say the attack is so complex it can access and copy data without a trace.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/07/world/asia/china-hacking-military-aria.html>

For more on this theme:

(U.K.) Criminal justice system is failing cyber crime victims

<https://www.computerweekly.com/news/252482718/Criminal-justice-system-is-failing-cyber-crime-victims>

(Global) Tackling Cybercrime With AI During COVID-19

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/sap/2020/05/04/tackling-cybercrime-with-ai-during-covid-19/#c867db935ae1>

(Global) Three ways coronavirus is impacting cyber crime

<https://www.itweb.co.za/content/wbrpOqgYpQy7DLZn>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Attempted cyberattack highlights vulnerability of global water infrastructure

Cynthia Brumfield – CSO: 7 May 2020

“Water has always been the one industry that is least resourced and the most capable of causing impact to life and safety,” Lesley Carhart, principal threat analyst at industrial cyber security company Dragos, told CSO.

<https://www.csoonline.com/article/3541837/attempted-cyberattack-highlights-vulnerability-of-global-water-infrastructure.html>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) DHS cyber agency launches new telework security products

<https://www.fifthdomain.com/civilian/dhs/2020/05/04/dhs-cyber-agency-launches-new-telework-security-products/>

(Israel, Iran, U.S.) Iran used US servers in cyberattack on Israeli water facilities – report

<https://www.jpost.com/israel-news/iran-responsible-for-cyberattack-on-israeli-water-facilities-report-627236>

(U.S.) Utility Commissioners Briefed on Cyberspace Solarium Report Recommendations to Boost Security of Critical Infrastructure

<https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/92306-utility-commissioners-briefed-on-cyberspace-solarium-report-recommendations-to-boost-security-of-critical-infrastructure>

MASS SURVEILLANCE AND INTELLIGENCE GATHERING

Coming into Focus: China's Facial Recognition Regulations

Seungha Lee – Center for Strategic & International Studies: 4 May 2020

China introduced new facial recognition technology that can identify faces even when wearing a mask. What does this mean for privacy?

<https://www.csis.org/blogs/trustee-china-hand/coming-focus-chinas-facial-recognition-regulations>

For more on this theme:

(China, U.S., Australia) China's Novel Health Tracker: Green on Public Health, Red on Data Surveillance

<https://www.csis.org/blogs/trustee-china-hand/chinas-novel-health-tracker-green-public-health-red-data-surveillance>

(India) India's Growing Surveillance State

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/india/2020-02-19/indias-growing-surveillance-state>

(U.K.) Towards a Trustworthy Coronavirus Contact Tracing App

<https://rusi.org/commentary/towards-trustworthy-coronavirus-contact-tracing-app>

(U.S., Global) Here come COVID-19 tracing apps - and privacy trade-offs

<https://abcstlouis.com/news/nation-world/here-come-covid-19-tracing-apps-and-privacy-trade-offs>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

ISIS seeks to exploit pandemic to mount resurgence in Iraq and Syria

Ryan Browne – CNN: 7 May 2020

ISIS has carried out a spate of attacks on security forces in Iraq and Syria in recent weeks.

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/05/07/politics/isis-coronavirus-iraq-syria/index.html>

ISIS eyes Covid-19 weakness in Indonesia

John McBeth – Asia Times: 6 May 2020

ISIS' Indonesian affiliates appear to be answering the call to exploit the health crisis.

<https://asiatimes.com/2020/05/isis-eyes-covid-19-weakness-in-indonesia/>

For more on this theme:

Mozambique admits presence of Islamic State fighters for first time

<https://www.thesouthafrican.com/news/mozambique/mozambique-admits-presence-of-islamic-state-fighters-for-first-time/>

Islamic Terrorists Confront Coronavirus

<https://www.nationalreview.com/2020/04/coronavirus-pandemic-islamic-terrorists-confront-virus/>

Another Plan for Foreign Fighters Falls Apart

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/another-european-plan-foreign-fighters-falls-apart>

European prisons releasing 1,000 returned ISIS fighters in 2020 poses new security challenge

<https://www.thenational.ae/world/european-prisons-releasing-1-000-returned-isis-fighters-in-2020-poses-new-security-challenge-1.1015907>

Islamic State claims responsibility for army attack in Egypt's Sinai

<https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2020/05/isis-egypt-sinai-insurgency-attack-sisi-army-islamic-state.html>

Mozambique: Is Cabo Delgado the latest Islamic State outpost?

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-52532741>

Analysis: The Islamic State's ideological campaign against al-Qaeda

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/05/analysis-the-islamic-states-ideological-campaign-against-al-qaeda.php>

Drone discovers mass grave of Islamic State victims at bottom of gorge in Syria

<https://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2020/05/05/drone-discovers-mass-grave-islamic-state-victims-bottom-gorge/>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Extremist Groups Stepping up Operations during the Covid-19 Outbreak in Sub-Saharan Africa

Emilia Columbo and Marielle Harris – Center for Strategic & International Studies: 1 May 2020

Sub-Saharan African terrorists are taking advantage of the COVID-19 pandemic to increase violent attacks in the region and boost their propaganda.

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/extremist-groups-stepping-operations-during-covid-19-outbreak-sub-saharan-africa>

Al-Shabaab Threatens COVID-19 Interventions in Somalia

Sunguta West – The Jamestown Foundation: 1 May 2020

Al-Shabaab has ramped up attacks as global attention focuses on defeating the deadly coronavirus.

<https://jamestown.org/program/al-shabaab-threatens-covid-19-interventions-in-somalia/>

For more on this theme:

Terror groups are gaining ground in India's neighbourhood

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/india/security-terror-groups-are-gaining-ground-in-indias-neighbourhood-5188551.html>

How Boko Haram Sustain Operations Through International Trade in Smoked Fish

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

What Kenya stands to lose and gain by withdrawing from Somalia

<https://theconversation.com/what-kenya-stands-to-lose-and-gain-by-withdrawing-from-somalia-133640>

Al-Shabaab Crafts New Ways to Replenish Funds

<https://www.nation.co.ke/news/Shabaab-crafts-new-ways-to-replenish-funds-/1056-5534812-o20563/index.html>

Exclusive - New Secrets Revealed about Bin Laden's Years in Sudan

<https://aawsat.com/english/home/article/2262106/exclusive-new-secrets-revealed-about-bin-laden%E2%80%99s-years-sudan>

Terrorism During a Pandemic: Assessing the Threat and Balancing the Hype

<https://www.justsecurity.org/69895/terrorism-during-a-pandemic-assessing-the-threat-and-balancing-the-hype/>

How Europe's terrorists take advantage of the pandemic

<https://euobserver.com/opinion/148173>

Saraya al Quds reminds Israel that COVID-19 hasn't slowed jihadist activity

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/05/saraya-al-quds-reminds-israel-that-covid-19-hasnt-slowed-jihadist-activity.php>

Insurgency in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado shifts to mimic tactics that led to al-Shabaab's revival

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2020-05-08-insurgency-in-mozambiques-cabo-delgado-shifts-to-mimic-tactics-that-led-to-al-shabaabs-revival/>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Closing places of worship to limit virus risk creates new risk of radicalisation

Hussein Khalid – The Star: 2 May 2020

During the COVID-19 pandemic, people are searching the internet for religious knowledge, insights and ideologies. But what religious content is out there? Are extremists taking advantage of online worshiping to radicalize?

<https://www.the-star.co.ke/siasa/2020-05-02-closing-places-of-worship-to-limit-virus-risk-creates-new-risk-of-radicalisation/>

For more on this theme:

Encrypted messaging apps are the future of propaganda

<https://www.brookings.edu/techstream/encrypted-messaging-apps-are-the-future-of-propaganda/>

Hundreds of children under the age of SIX have been referred to the government's counter-extremism scheme Prevent by public bodies including schools and nurseries

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-8280005/Hundreds-children-age-six-referred-governments-counterextremism-scheme.html>

Parents warned to look out for signs of online radicalisation during coronavirus lockdown

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/crime/online-radicalisation-warning-coronavirus-lockdown-a4429191.html>

Indonesia: Perennial Issue of Terrorist Recidivism

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

Delegitimizing ISIS and Militant Jihadist Ideologies May Also Require Addressing Anti-Western Biases

<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2020/05/05/delegitimizing-isis-and-militant-jihadist-ideologies-may-also-require-addressing-anti-western-biases/>

Non-Muslim people in the terrorist organizations: A case of Russia

<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2020/05/03/non-muslim-people-in-the-terrorist-organizations-a-case-of-russia/>

The Challenge of Boko Haram Defectors in Chad

<https://warontherocks.com/2020/05/the-challenge-of-boko-haram-defectors-in-chad/>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: SOFT POWER

Assessing the Early Response to Beijing's Pandemic Diplomacy

Kirk Lancaster and Michael Rubin – Council on Foreign Relations: 30 April 2020

Since the COVID-19 epidemic has gone global, China has launched a campaign to cast itself as a global health leader. But not all countries are falling for China's propaganda and soft-power push.

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/assessing-early-response-beijings-pandemic-diplomacy>

For more on this theme:

Great Power Competition and the Scramble for Africa

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2020/04/great-power-competition-and-the-scramble-for-africa/>

Australia should flex soft power in Asia Pacific 'neighbourhood'

<https://news.griffith.edu.au/2020/04/30/australia-should-flex-soft-power-in-asia-pacific-neighbourhood/>

China's soft power will be hardened by the virus

<https://www.nasdaq.com/articles/breakingviews-chinas-soft-power-will-be-hardened-by-the-virus-2020-05-08-0>

Will Internet Celebrities Become China's New Channel for Projecting Soft Power?

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/05/will-internet-celebrities-become-chinas-new-channel-for-projecting-soft-power/>

The rise of India's soft power in Corona times

<https://www.dailyo.in/variety/covid-19-coronavirus-pandemic-indias-soft-power-namaste-ayurved-prince-charles-syed-akbaruddin/story/1/32852.html>

CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

CURRENT STATE OF THE CORONAVIRUS

China tries to contain new coronavirus outbreak

Deutsche Welle: 29 April 2020

A series of new COVID-19 cases in China's far northeastern Heilongjiang province is raising concerns that a second wave of the virus could emerge in the Asian country.

<https://amp-dw-com.cdn.ampproject.org/c/s/amp.dw.com/en/china-tries-to-contain-new-coronavirus-outbreak/a-53280411>

For more on this theme:

Expert report predicts up to two more years of pandemic misery

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/30/health/report-covid-two-more-years/index.html>

U.S. arms makers and medical device firms team up to make ventilators

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-industry-idUSKBN22G12C>

U.S. Intelligence Officials Believe China Covered Up Severity of Coronavirus Outbreak to Stock Up on Medical Supplies

<https://time.com/5831511/us-intel-china-covered-up-coronavirus/>

Coronavirus Survivors Want Answers, and China Is Silencing Them

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/05/04/world/asia/china-coronavirus-answers.amp.html>

COVID-19: Trouble on the China-Russia Border

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/05/covid-19-trouble-on-the-china-russia-border/>

Coronavirus health fears outweigh concern for economy: global survey

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-politics-trust-idUSKBN22H098>

Aid groups desperately look for other options to combat coronavirus

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/menasource/aid-groups-desperately-look-for-other-options-to-combat-coronavirus/>

Responding to Covid-19: Are lockdowns doing more harm than good?

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/responding-to-covid-19-are-lockdowns-doing-more-harm-than-good/>

China, Russia take advantage of virus emergency, U.S defense secretary says

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-usa-security-idUSKBN22G00T>

CORONAVIRUS, NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Coronavirus and International Security: Risks and Opportunities

Alistair Harris – Royal United Services Institute: 1 May 2020

The Global South is facing new challenges as a result of the pandemic, and these require new approaches, however difficult the current situation is. As the United Nations secretary-general said in April, “In an interconnected world, none of us is safe until all of us are safe. COVID-19 respects no borders. COVID-19 anywhere is a threat to people everywhere.”

<https://rusi.org/commentary/coronavirus-and-international-security-risks-and-opportunities>

For more on this theme:

Turning back the Poverty Clock: How will COVID-19 impact the world’s poorest people?

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2020/05/06/turning-back-the-poverty-clock-how-will-covid-19-impact-the-worlds-poorest-people/>

China was in violation of International Health Regulations. What do we do now?

<https://www.macleans.ca/opinion/china-was-in-violation-of-international-health-regulations-what-do-we-do-now/>

How to Hold China Accountable for COVID-19

<https://www.heritage.org/asia/commentary/how-hold-china-accountable-covid-19>

Esper Worried COVID-19 Response Will Constrain Defense Budgets

<https://www.nationaldefensemagazine.org/articles/2020/5/4/pentagon-concerned-spending-on-covid-19-response-will-constrain-future-defense-budgets>

Free Press, Fake News, and Repression during Covid-19: Venezuela, Brazil, and Nicaragua

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/free-press-fake-news-and-repression-during-covid-19-venezuela-brazil-and-nicaragua>

Another Victim of COVID-19: Sustainable Development

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/another-victim-covid-19-sustainable-development>

Covid-19 in Africa: The good news and the bad

<https://mg.co.za/article/2020-05-02-covid-19-in-africa-the-good-news-and-the-bad/>

Nicaragua’s response to COVID-19 endangers not only its own people, but also its neighbors

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/nicaraguas-response-to-covid-19-endangers-not-only-its-own-people-but-also-its-neighbors/>

China’s Covid-19 quandary as stricken Africa asks for debt relief

<https://www.inkstonenews.com/politics/chinas-covid-19-quandary-stricken-africa-asks-debt-relief/article/3083129>

Telework programs at DoD could stick around after coronavirus

<https://www.c4isrnet.com/it-networks/2020/05/06/telework-programs-at-dod-could-stick-around-after-coronavirus/>

CORONAVIRUS, NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS — CONTINUED

The Future of European Governance in a Post-COVID World

*Michael Mosser, Lorinc Redei, Amanda Sloat and Paul Edgar – War On The Rocks:
1 May 2020*

In this episode, the participants discuss the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on European governance. Their discussion reviews the impact of the novel coronavirus on governance issues such as the timing of European elections, the trend to authoritarianism in some European countries, and the likely impact on the future of the European Union.

<https://warontherocks.com/2020/05/the-future-of-european-governance-in-a-post-covid-world/>

For more on this theme:

How is the Russian Military Responding to COVID-19?

<https://warontherocks.com/2020/05/how-is-the-russian-military-responding-to-covid-19/>

During Coronavirus, Domestic Violence is on the Rise in Several Countries

<https://english.aawsat.com//home/article/2270326/during-coronavirus-domestic-violence-rise-several-countries>

The ABCs of the post-COVID economic recovery

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2020/05/04/the-abcs-of-the-post-covid-economic-recovery/>

German court decision complicates ECB coronavirus efforts

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/german-court-decision-complicates-ecb-coronavirus-efforts/>

COVID-19 and terrorism: assessing the short and long-term impacts of terrorism

<https://www.cranfield.ac.uk/press/news-2020/covid19-and-terrorism-assessing-the-short-and-longterm-impacts>

Using the Military to Help Fight COVID-19

<https://warontherocks.com/2020/04/using-the-military-to-help-fight-covid-19/>

Iran's Perplexing Pandemic Response

<https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/irans-perplexing-pandemic-response>

Six Ways Coronavirus is Impacting Organized Crime in the Americas

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/coronavirus-organized-crime-latin-america/>

CORONAVIRUS AND DISINFORMATION

COVID-19 misinformation is a crisis of content mediation

Robyn Caplan – Brookings: 7 May 2020

In the case of COVID-19, the misinformation being spread has had a profound impact around the globe.

<https://www.brookings.edu/techstream/covid-19-misinformation-is-a-crisis-of-content-mediation/>

For more on this theme:

Uncovering A Pro-Chinese Government Information Operation On Twitter and Facebook: Analysis Of The #MilesGuo Bot Network

<https://www.bellingcat.com/news/2020/05/05/uncovering-a-pro-chinese-government-information-operation-on-twitter-and-facebook-analysis-of-the-milesguo-bot-network/>

Chinese Communist Party Information Warfare: US–China Competition during the COVID-19 Pandemic

<https://www.airuniversity.af.edu/JIPA/Article/2173156/chinese-communist-party-information-warfare-uschina-competition-during-the-covi/>

Policy, Guns and Money: Covid disinformation and Vietnam’s virus response

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/policy-guns-and-money-covid-disinformation-and-vietnams-virus-response/>

COVID-19: Study highlights sources of misinformation

<https://www.medicalnewstoday.com/articles/covid-19-study-highlights-sources-of-misinformation>

Press freedom critical to countering COVID-19 ‘pandemic of misinformation’: UN chief

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/05/1063152>

How to fight the COVID-19 infodemic: lessons from 3 Asian countries

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/05/how-to-fight-the-covid-19-infodemic-lessons-from-3-asian-countries/>

US expects Russia to target Covid-19 vaccine in disinformation campaign

<https://www.thenational.ae/world/europe/us-expects-russia-to-target-covid-19-vaccine-in-disinformation-campaign-1.1016399>

Webinar — Disinformation pandemic: Russian and Chinese information operations in the COVID-19 era

<https://www.criticalthreats.org/analysis/webinar-disinformation-pandemic-russian-and-chinese-information-operations-in-the-covid-19-era>

U.S.: Russia, China Spinning Coronavirus Conspiracies To Blame West

<https://www.rferl.org/a/us-russia-china-spinning-coronavirus-conspiracies-to-blame-west/30597680.html>