

THE MARSHALL CENTER

# transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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## COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

### CORRUPTION

#### **New research reveals the true extent of corruption in fisheries**

*Yifei Yan and Adam Graycar – World Economic Forum: 22 May 2020*

Corruption is a huge problem through the fishing sector and requires a structured, policy-based approach to address the graft.

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/05/heres-what-we-know-about-corruption-in-fisheries/>

#### **Special Eurobarometer 502: Report – Corruption**

*European Commission: June 2020*

A new report reveals that more than seven in 10 Europeans believe that corruption is widespread in their country. The proportion varied among member states – more than nine in 10 respondents shared that belief in Croatia, Cyprus, Spain, Portugal and Lithuania, while only a minority held that view in Finland, Denmark, Sweden and the Netherlands.

<https://s3.eu-central-1.amazonaws.com/euobs-media/e179b19a3bde99791aa010dac245e56c.pdf>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **Brazil police raid Rio governor's residences amid COVID-19 probe**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-corruption/brazil-police-search-rio-de-janeiro-governors-residences-in-corruption-probe-idUSKBN2321FY>

#### **Balkans, Central Europe Failing to Prevent MPs' Corruption — GRECO**

<https://balkaninsight.com/2020/06/03/balkans-central-europe-failing-to-prevent-mps-corruption-greco/#gsc.tab=0>

#### **Can Digitalization Help Deter Corruption in Africa?**

<https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WP/Issues/2020/05/29/Can-Digitalization-Help-Deter-Corruption-in-Africa-49385>

#### **A brief history of corruption in Ukraine: the Yanukovich era**

<https://eurasianet.org/a-brief-history-of-corruption-in-ukraine-the-yanukovich-era>

#### **A brief history of corruption in Ukraine: the Poroshenko Era**

<https://eurasianet.org/a-brief-history-of-corruption-in-ukraine-the-poroshenko-era>

#### **If we want a less corrupt and more equitable world after the COVID-19 pandemic, we must plan for it**

<https://www.transparency.org/en/news/if-we-want-a-less-corrupt-and-more-equitable-world-after-the-covid-19-pandemic-we-must-plan-for-it>

#### **Corruption is a threat to planet Earth**

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/up-front/2020/06/05/corruption-is-a-threat-to-planet-earth/>

#### **Corruption and Graft Afflict Latin America's Pandemic Response**

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/latin-america-corruption-pandemic/>

## DRUG TRAFFICKING

### **The coronavirus has gutted the price of coca. It could reshape the cocaine trade.**

*Anthony Faiola and Lucien Chauvin – The Washington Post: 9 June 2020*

Travel restrictions in place during the coronavirus pandemic have forced a collapse in the price of one of the building blocks of cocaine, a report says, with the coca leaf plunging as much as 73% in value in some parts of South America.

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the\\_americas/coronavirus-coca-crash-bolivia-colombia-peru-lat-in-america/2020/06/09/8c7da42c-a11f-11ea-be06-af5514ee0385\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/the_americas/coronavirus-coca-crash-bolivia-colombia-peru-lat-in-america/2020/06/09/8c7da42c-a11f-11ea-be06-af5514ee0385_story.html)

### **Impact of COVID-19 on the drug situation in Europe — EMCDDA Director presents findings to European Parliament**

*European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA): 4 June 2020*

EMCDDA Director Alexis Goosdeel presented to the European Parliament the agency's recent research findings on the impact of COVID-19 on the drug phenomenon in Europe.

[https://www.emcdda.europa.eu/news/2020/impact-of-covid-19-on-the-drug-situation-in-europe-emcdda-director-presents-findings-to-european-parliament\\_en](https://www.emcdda.europa.eu/news/2020/impact-of-covid-19-on-the-drug-situation-in-europe-emcdda-director-presents-findings-to-european-parliament_en)

*For more on this theme:*

### **Drug trafficking thrives in Bangladesh amid coronavirus pandemic**

<https://thefinancialexpress.com.bd/national/drug-trafficking-thrives-in-bangladesh-amid-coronavirus-pandemic-1590551317>

### **Cocaine Comeback: New Book Warns Drug Is More Plentiful — And Destructive — Than Ever**

<https://www.wlrn.org/post/cocaine-comeback-new-book-warns-drug-more-plentiful-and-destructive-ever>

### **In search of Myanmar's billion-dollar meth lab**

<https://www.gq-magazine.co.uk/politics/article/myanmar-billion-dollar-meth-lab>

### **U.S. unit to arrive in Colombia to help fight drug trafficking**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-colombia-us-drugs/u-s-unit-to-arrive-in-colombia-to-help-fight-drug-trafficking-idUSKBN23408L>

### **Treating Patients With Opioid Use Disorder in Their Homes**

[https://www.rand.org/pubs/external\\_publications/EP68182.html](https://www.rand.org/pubs/external_publications/EP68182.html)

### **Drug trade expected to boom as furloughed criminals prepare for post-Covid world: 'They're just getting started'**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/independentpremium/world/coronavirus-drug-trade-turkey-covid-trafficking-narcotics-a9545056.html#gsc.tab=0>

### **Rise In Drug Overdoses Could Be Directly Tied To COVID-19 Unemployment**

<https://www.kpbs.org/news/2020/jun/04/rise-in-drug-overdoses-could-be-directly-tied-to/>

### **Chile Sees Drug Trafficking as Most Severe National Security Threat: Survey**

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/chile-drug-trafficking-survey/>

## TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

### **Where Jaguars Are Killed, New Common Factor Emerges: Chinese Investment**

*Rachel Nuwer – The New York Times: 11 June 2020*

The illegal trade in jaguars is growing, and it's likely linked to increased Chinese investment in Central and South America, a new study finds.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/11/science/jaguars-poaching-china.html>

### **China orders pangolin protection amid pandemic**

*The Associated Press: 5 June 2020*

The highly trafficked mammal has been hunted for years and is now stigmatized for unproven COVID-19 connections.

<https://abcnews.go.com/Health/wireStory/latest-india-reports-biggest-single-day-spike-cases-71083528>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Confront illegal wildlife trafficking with international criminal laws, former global trade chief says**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/environment/stop-the-illegal-wildlife-trade-coronavirus-cites-un-animal-trafficking-a9543156.html#gsc.tab=0>

### **Report: Deforestation, linked to pandemics, increased in 2019**

<https://phys.org/news/2020-06-deforestation-linked-pandemics.html>

### **Coronavirus Effect On The Environment: Without Tourism, We Will Lose Elephants**

<https://www.ibtimes.com/coronavirus-effect-environment-without-tourism-we-will-lose-elephants-2985289>

### **Wildlife trade in pictures: campaigners call for global ban**

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/gallery/2020/jun/03/wildlife-trade-in-pictures-campaigners-call-for-global-ban>

### **Romania's 'forest alarm' system to battle illegal logging crisis**

<https://newseu.cgtn.com/news/2020-05-29/Romania-s-forest-alarm-system-to-battle-illegal-logging-crisis-QRXNrbAG6Q/index.html>

### **Political Science Assistant Professor Yuliya Zabyelina Connects Illegal Mining to Organized Crime**

<https://www.jjay.cuny.edu/news/political-science-assistant-professor-yuliya-zabyelina-connects-illegal-mining-organized-crime>

### **Venezuela Relies on Gold as Other Criminal Economies Dry Up**

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/venezuela-depends-gold-industry/>

### **Exposed: The Gambia's Blood Wood Trafficking**

<https://allafrica.com/stories/202006030761.html>

### **Halt in ecotourism threatens conservation efforts worldwide**

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/travel/halt-in-ecotourism-threatens-conservation-efforts-worldwide/2020/06/11/8c73b18c-a409-11ea-b473-04905b1af82b\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/travel/halt-in-ecotourism-threatens-conservation-efforts-worldwide/2020/06/11/8c73b18c-a409-11ea-b473-04905b1af82b_story.html)

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

### **INTERPOL Assesses COVID-19's Effect on Migrant Smuggling and Human Trafficking**

*Security: 12 June 2020*

Interpol has released a report on how organized crime syndicates exploit victims of human trafficking.

<https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/92593-interpol-assesses-covid-19s-effect-on-migrant-smuggling-and-human-trafficking>

### **Hundreds of Nigerian Asylum Seekers Missing in Netherlands**

*Marthe van der Wolf – Voice of America: 11 June 2020*

Almost 1,000 Nigerian refugees disappeared from Dutch asylum centers last year, and there are serious indications many of them have been trafficked, according to a group of investigative reporters from a European journalism collective.

<https://www.voanews.com/africa/hundreds-nigerian-asylum-seekers-missing-netherlands>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Haitian Migrants: Hidden Faces of Human Trafficking in the Dominican Republic**

<https://www.newsecuritybeat.org/2020/06/haitian-migrants-hidden-faces-human-trafficking-dominican-republic/>

### **Amid COVID-19, strong multilateral system key to delivering for world's most vulnerable, European Union Foreign Policy Chief tells Security Council**

<https://reliefweb.int/report/world/amid-covid-19-strong-multilateral-system-key-delivering-world-s-most-vulnerable>

### **As COVID-19 worsens precarity for refugees, Turkey and the EU must work together**

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/06/11/as-covid-19-worsens-precariety-for-refugees-turkey-and-the-eu-must-work-together/>

### **COVID-19, Migrant Labor, and the Case for Labor Recruitment Reform**

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/covid-19-migrant-labor-and-case-labor-recruitment-reform>

### **Austria: New report praises efforts to curb human trafficking, but more must be done**

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/austria-new-report-praises-efforts-to-curb-human-trafficking-but-more-must-be-done>

### **The impact of COVID-19 on refugees and migrants from Venezuela vulnerable to human trafficking and smuggling: key messages to government authorities and law enforcement agencies**

<https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/76848>

### **IOM, UNODC Strengthen Cooperation to Counter Migrant Smuggling and Address Irregular Migration in the Asia Pacific Region**

<https://www.iom.int/news/iom-unodc-strengthen-cooperation-counter-migrant-smuggling-and-address-irregular-migration-asia>

## ORGANIZED CRIME

### **Entering the Void: Chinese illicit networks in Mexico**

*Barbara Kelemen and Ján Slobodník – Central European Institute of Asian Studies:*

*6 June 2020*

This paper analyzes cases related to drug trafficking and the exploitation of natural resources in three Mexican states. The topic is particularly relevant for Latin American countries that have been expanding commercial ties with China. The research suggests that the lack of state supervision in some of these countries could allow alternative structures – such as criminal groups and Chinese organized crime networks – to thrive and fill the security and economic void if not regulated properly.

[https://ceias.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Mexico\\_FINAL.pdf](https://ceias.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Mexico_FINAL.pdf)

*For more on this theme:*

### **Counterfeiters are taking advantage of the pandemic. Here's how to stop them**

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/06/counterfeiters-pandemic-how-to-stop-them/>

### **WEBCAST | Countering Transnational Organized Crime as a Strategy for Peacebuilding in East Africa**

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/event/webcast-countering-transnational-organized-crime-strategy-peace-building-east-africa>

### **Guatemala Officials Say Organized Crime Largely Responsible for Forest Fires**

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/guatemala-crime-forest-fires/>

### **From drug dealers to loan sharks: how coronavirus empowers organised crime**

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2020/jun/07/drug-dealers-loan-sharks-organised-crime-coronavirus>

### **Why Piracy Is a Growing Threat in West Africa's Gulf of Guinea**

<https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/28824/in-west-africa-s-gulf-of-guinea-piracy-is-a-growing-threat>

### **Coronavirus a Mixed Blessing for Russia's Underworld**

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2020/06/10/coronavirus-a-mixed-blessing-for-russias-underworld-a70541>

### **Europol Launches New Center for Financial and Economic Crime**

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/infrastructure-security/europol-launches-new-center-for-financial-and-economic-crime/>

## PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

### INTERNET FREEDOM

#### **Zoom caught in China censorship crossfire as meetings foiled**

*Zen Soo – The Associated Press: 11 June 2020*

At the request of the Chinese government, online video app company Zoom suspended the accounts of U.S.-based activists Zhou Fengsuo and Wang Dan, and Hong Kong pro-democracy activist Lee Cheuk-Yan. It has since reinstated their accounts. Although the accounts were restored, the incident spotlights thorny questions for a company with operations in both countries. It has since vowed to censor accounts only within China.

<https://apnews.com/2ba80f30ecaf5aa37852164c3d149514>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(China, Pakistan) Expert warns of China's inroads into Pakistan's mainstream media and telecommunications**

<https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/expert-warns-of-chinas-inroads-into-pakistans-mainstream-media-and-telecommunications20200612004544/>

#### **(China) They Refused To Censor Their Podcasts. Apple Removed Them From Its Chinese App Store.**

<https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/pranavdixit/pocket-casts-china-app-store-apple>

#### **(Oman) Suppression in Oman: Internet activists face censorship and arrests**

<https://ifex.org/suppression-in-oman-internet-activists-face-censorship-and-arrests/>

### PRIVACY AND SECURITY

#### **Singapore looks to ease privacy fears with 'no internet' wearable device**

*Eileen Yu – ZDNet: 8 June 2020*

To protect citizens' privacy, Singapore has developed wearable devices for COVID-19 contact tracing that will not have GPS, internet or cellular connectivity, so data can be extracted only when the device is physically handed over to the Health Ministry.

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/singapore-looks-to-ease-privacy-fears-with-no-internet-wearable-device/>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(Global) How to improve cybersecurity for artificial intelligence**

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/how-to-improve-cybersecurity-for-artificial-intelligence/>

#### **(U.S.) The Cyberspace Solarium Commission on What the Pandemic Teaches Cybersecurity**

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/cyberspace-solarium-commission-what-pandemic-teaches-cybersecurity>

#### **(China, Europe) TikTok Faces Scrutiny From EU Watchdogs Over Data Practices**

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-06-10/tiktok-faces-scrutiny-from-eu-watchdogs-over-privacy-practices?srnd=technology-vp&sref=zNmRQ0gk>

## CYBER STATECRAFT

### **China Militarizing Stolen U.S. Tech, State Department Says**

*Adam Kredo – The Washington Free Beacon: 3 June 2020*

“The People’s Republic of China for a number of years now has very deliberately been targeting sensitive technologies in the United States,” a senior U.S. State Department official told reporters in a briefing. “These technologies have been put to the use of modernizing China’s military to the detriment of our national security and that of our friends and allies.”

<https://freebeacon-com.cdn.ampproject.org/c/s/freebeacon.com/national-security/china-militarizing-stolen-u-s-tech-state-department-says/amp/>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(North Korea, U.S.) North Korea issues blanket denial to US hacking accusations**

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/north-korea-issues-blanket-denial-us-hacking-accusations/>

#### **(Iran, China, U.S.) Exclusive: Huawei hid business operation in Iran after Reuters reported links to CFO**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-huawei-iran-probe-exclusive-idUSKBN23A19B>

#### **(U.S., Global) Top DHS official says to expect ‘every intelligence service’ to target COVID-19 research**

<https://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/500999-top-dhs-official-says-to-expect-every-intelligence-service-to-target>

## CYBER ATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

### **Honda hit by cyber attack, some production disrupted**

*Reuters: 9 June 2020*

Honda halted manufacturing at some of its plants around the world after being hit by a cyber attack that is widely reported to be ransomware.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-honda-cyber/honda-hit-by-cyber-attack-some-production-disrupted-idUSKBN23G1CI>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(U.K.) Hackers targeting UK research labs amid vaccine race — GCHQ chief**

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jun/04/hackers-targeting-uk-research-labs-amid-vaccine-race-gchq-chief?mid=1#maincontent>

#### **(Germany) Hackers target senior executives at German company procuring PPE**

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/germany-ppe-coronavirus-hackers-ibm/>

#### **(Global) Beware — 20 Million Android Users Have Now Installed These ‘Malicious’ Photo Apps**

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/zakdoffman/2020/06/09/beware-20-million-android-users-must-remove-these-malicious-camera-apps-now/#1e4fd89f58b6>

## CYBER CRIME AND TERRORISM

### **Ransomware: Hackers took just three days to find this fake industrial network and fill it with malware**

*Danny Palmer – ZDNet: 11 June 2020*

Researchers set up a tempting honeypot designed to look like an electricity company to monitor how cyber criminals would exploit it. Then it came under attack – within three days.

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/ransomware-hackers-took-just-three-days-to-find-this-fake-industrial-network-and-fill-it-with-malware/>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(Estonia) Estonia to raise capability for combating cyber crime**

[https://www.baltictimes.com/estonia\\_to\\_raise\\_capability\\_for\\_combating\\_cyber\\_crime/](https://www.baltictimes.com/estonia_to_raise_capability_for_combating_cyber_crime/)

#### **(Asia) Cybercrime in Asia 2020**

<https://www.asiamediacentre.org.nz/features/cybercrime-in-asia-2020/>

#### **(U.S.) Military members are disproportionately affected by cybercrime: Here's why and how to avoid it**

<https://www.militarytimes.com/2020/06/10/military-members-are-disproportionately-affected-by-cybercrime-heres-why-and-how-to-avoid-it/>

#### **(Global) Cybercrime is Winning — What Are You Going to Do About It?**

<https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/blogs/cybercrime-is-winning/>

## INFORMATION SHARING

### **Cyber Command creates new malware sharing portal with National Guard**

*Mark Pomerleau – Fifth Domain: 10 June 2020*

U.S. Cyber Command and the National Guard have developed a program to facilitate data sharing and allow authorities to address a ransomware attack and other cyber threats posed by foreign adversaries.

<https://www.fifthdomain.com/dod/cybercom/2020/06/09/cyber-command-creates-new-malware-sharing-portal-with-national-guard/>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(Global) Globalizing the Fight Against the Pandemic**

<https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/covid19-access-pool-vaccine-data-ip-sharing-by-carlos-alvarado-quesada-and-tedros-adhanom-ghebreyesus-2020-05>

#### **(U.S.) US Maritime Critical Infrastructure Stakeholders Form Nonprofit to Promote Cybersecurity Information Sharing**

<https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/92526-us-maritime-critical-infrastructure-stakeholders-form-nonprofit-to-promote-cybersecurity-information-sharing>

#### **(U.S., Global) Trust us, information sharing can work. Here's how we're doing it.**

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/cyber-threat-alliance-information-sharing-neil-jenkins-op-ed/>

## CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

### **A 'new normal' in cyberwar should scare us to action**

*Brad Glosserman – Japan Times: 10 June 2020*

Although attacks on information technologies – phishing, denial of service, theft – have become routine, attempts to disable physical infrastructure are a troubling escalation in cyber warfare, and experts worry that it soon will become the new normal worldwide.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/opinion/2020/06/10/commentary/world-commentary/new-normal-cyber-war-scare-us-action/>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(U.S.) Study finds vulnerabilities in online voting tool used by several states**

<https://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/501723-study-finds-security-vulnerabilities-in-online-voting-tool-used-in>

### **(U.S.) Espionage Group Hits U.S. Utilities with Sophisticated Spy Tool**

<https://threatpost.com/espionage-group-utilities-spy-tool/156425/?mid=1#cid=1197211>

### **(Global) Ensuring Cybersecurity for Critical Civilian Infrastructure**

<https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/cybersecurity-against-attacks-on-hospitals-by-marietje-schaake-and-stephane-duguin-2020-06>

## NOTEWORTHY PODCASTS

### **Cyber Security Today — A look at the future of work**

*Howard Solomon – IT World Canada: 10 June 2020*

This podcast focuses on the future of office work now that many have been working from home during the COVID-19 pandemic.

<https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/cyber-security-today-a-look-at-the-future-of-work/431830>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(Global) Daily Podcast: Ep 1107**

<https://thecyberwire.com/podcasts/daily-podcast/1107/notes>

### **(U.S.) Cyberspace Solarium Commission adds pandemic effects to threat report**

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/technology-main/2020/06/cyberspace-solarium-commission-adds-pandemic-effects-to-threat-report/>

### **(Global) Daily Podcast: Ep 1103**

<https://thecyberwire.com/podcasts/daily-podcast/1103/notes>

## **PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)**

### **ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS**

#### **ISIS Offensive Exploits Pandemic**

*Andrew Hanna – Wilson Center: 8 June 2020*

ISIS has been increasing its attacks in Iraq, taking advantage of the government's response to unrest, COVID-19 and the international community's shift to focus on other issues.

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/article/isis-offensive-exploits-pandemic>

#### **Can an ISIS Terrorist be Rehabilitated and Reintegrated into Society?**

*The International Center for the Study of Violent Extremism: 10 June 2020*

If terrorists can be rehabilitated and reintegrated into society, it raises a host of questions. This discussion explores these questions and more.

<https://www.icsve.org/can-an-isis-terrorist-be-rehabilitated-and-reintegrated-into-society/>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **Islamic Hackers Group Claims Responsibility for Cyber-Attack That Exposed Personal Info of Hundreds of Israelis**

<https://www.algemeiner.com/2020/06/02/islamic-hackers-group-claims-responsibility-for-cyber-attack-that-exposed-personal-info-of-hundreds-of-israelis/>

#### **Generation Jihad Ep. 12 — The ISIS Spokesman's Latest Rant**

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/06/generation-jihad-ep-12-the-isis-spokesmans-latest-rant.php>

#### **US Warns No End to Fight Against Islamic State**

<https://www.voanews.com/middle-east/us-warns-no-end-fight-against-islamic-state-0>

#### **Remaining and Expanding: The Recovery of Islamic State Operations in Iraq in 2019-2020**

<https://ctc.usma.edu/remaining-and-expanding-the-recovery-of-islamic-state-operations-in-iraq-in-2019-2020/>

#### **Islamic State-Khorasan Remains Potent Force in Afghan Jihad**

<https://jamestown.org/program/islamic-state-khorasan-remains-potent-force-in-afghan-jihad/>

#### **Islamic State in Somalia suffers setbacks despite uptick in claimed activity**

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/06/islamic-state-in-somalia-suffers-setbacks-despite-uptick-in-claimed-activity.php>

#### **The Islamic State in Their Own Words**

<https://www.fpri.org/multimedia/2020/05/the-islamic-state-in-their-own-words/>

#### **Career foreign fighters fuel conflict in the Middle East**

<https://www.dw.com/en/career-foreign-fighters-fuel-conflict-in-the-middle-east/a-53632925>

## TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

### **Beyond the Pandemic, Boko Haram Looms Large in Nigeria**

*John Campbell – Council on Foreign Relations: 11 June 2020*

As Nigeria suffers from the COVID-19 crisis and shrinking oil revenue, security forces will be further strained in their fight against Boko Haram. Through mass kidnappings, bombings and other acts of terrorism, the Islamist insurgent group remains an enduring threat to northern Nigeria and the Lake Chad Basin.

<https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/beyond-pandemic-boko-haram-looms-large-nigeria>

### **The Taliban's emerging tactical terror alliances**

*Javid Ahmad – The Hill: 11 June 2020*

Evidence is growing that certain arms of the Taliban, namely the Haqqani Network, are working with other non-Taliban groups as part of their strategic plan to fight and disrupt peace efforts. The Haqqani Network is reportedly working with ISIS-Khorasan and Lashkar-e-Taiba.

<https://thehill.com/opinion/international/502358-the-talibans-emerging-tactical-terror-alliances>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Hezbollah Brings Lebanon To Its Knees — OpEd**

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/30052020-hezbollah-brings-lebanon-to-its-knees-oped/>

### **French-Led Decapitation Strike on AQIM in Mali**

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/french-led-decapitation-strike-aqim-mali>

### **Massacre in Northern Nigeria Involves Cattle Rustling, Jihadis, and Vigilantes**

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/massacre-northern-nigeria-involves-cattle-rustling-jihadis-and-vigilantes>

### **Counter Terrorist Trends and Analyses (CTTA) — Volume 12 Issue 04**

<https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/icpvtr/counter-terrorist-trends-and-analyses-ctta-volume-12-issue-04/#.XuLj8kxFw2x>

### **Terrorist groups exploiting COVID-19 in Sahel**

<https://modern diplomacy.eu/2020/06/06/terrorist-groups-exploiting-covid-19-in-sahel/>

### **George Floyd death: Al-Qaeda tries to exploit US unrest**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-52999812>

### **Coronavirus hampering regional efforts to help Mozambique contain Islamic militants**

<https://www.irishtimes.com/news/world/africa/coronavirus-hampering-regional-efforts-to-help-mozambique-contain-islamic-militants-1.4276643>

### **Taliban, US Spar Over Al-Qaida Presence in Afghanistan**

<https://www.voanews.com/usa/taliban-us-spar-over-al-qaida-presence-afghanistan>

### **Three top jihadists dominate Sahel after al-Qaeda leader death**

<https://www.dispatchlive.co.za/news/africa/2020-06-09-three-top-jihadists-dominate-sahel-after-al-qaeda-leader-death/>

## RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

### **How the pandemic has changed the threat of violent extremism**

*William C. Danvers – The Hill: 5 June 2020*

“The threat of terrorism is often a consequence of development, humanitarian, human rights and security challenges that terrorist groups continue to exploit,” said United Nations Under Secretary-General Rosemary DiCarlo. The pandemic has exacerbated these conditions, creating circumstances in which terrorist groups such as ISIS, Boko Haram, al-Qaida and its affiliates such as al-Shabaab, can thrive.

<https://thehill.com/opinion/national-security/500063-how-the-pandemic-has-changed-the-threat-of-violent-extremism>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Pangilinan calls for new approach vs radicalization, cites vague anti-terror law provisions**

<https://news.abs-cbn.com/news/06/10/20/pangilinan-calls-for-new-approach-vs-radicalization-cites-vague-anti-terror-law-provisions>

### **Coronavirus: Police warn of lockdown radicalisation threat**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-52997441>

### **UK counter-extremism propaganda unit extending reach around the globe**

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/news/uk-prevent-export-tunisia-iraq-reach-around-globe>

### **603 repentant Boko Haram fighters to be released in July after deradicalization**

<https://www.pulse.ng/news/local/boko-haram-603-repentant-boko-haram-members-to-be-released/10evnvp>

## WHITE NATIONALIST TERRORISM

### **Online searches for far-right content across Canada increase during lockdown, study finds**

*Felicia Parrillo – Global News: 11 June 2020*

A new study makes a connection between the COVID-19 lockdown in Canada and a surge in internet searches for far-right extremist content.

<https://www.msn.com/en-ca/news/canada/online-searches-for-far-right-content-across-canada-increase-during-lockdown-study-finds/ar-BB15mvhN>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Norway: White nationalist gets maximum jail term for killing his stepsister and trying to attack mosque**

<https://news.sky.com/story/norway-white-nationalist-gets-maximum-jail-term-for-killing-his-stepsister-and-trying-to-attack-mosque-12004792>

### **Facebook removed white nationalist accounts encouraging guns at anti-racist protests**

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/facebook-hate-group-removal-proud-boys-george-floyd-protests/>

## IRREGULAR WARFARE: SOFT POWER

### **China's Silk Road diplomacy in Kazakhstan**

*Ahmed Bux Jamali – Asia Times: 5 June 2020*

China's soft-power strategy is to project an image of Beijing as a reliable and pragmatic economic alternative to the West and Russia. In promoting its traditional emphasis on infrastructure development and economic growth as prerequisites for security and political reforms, China is seeking support and legitimization for its development strategy by obtaining wider public support in the region.

<https://asiatimes.com/2020/06/chinas-silk-road-diplomacy-in-kazakhstan/>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Traditional Chinese Medicine: A Cure for China's Soft Power Woes?**

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/traditional-chinese-medicine-cure-chinas-soft-power-woes>

### **It's Time to Stop the Chinese Communist Party's Shadow Campaign for Power at the United Nations**

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/06/its-time-to-stop-the-chinese-communist-partys-shadow-campaign-for-power-at-the-united-nations/>

### **It's time to end China's 'United Front' operations inside the United States**

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/06/10/its-time-end-chinas-united-front-operations-inside-united-states/>

### **What Happens When Soft Power Has to Stay at Home?**

<https://rusi.org/commentary/what-happens-when-soft-power-has-stay-home>

### **For a united, resilient and sovereign Europe**

[https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/80567/united-resilient-and-sovereign-europe\\_en](https://eeas.europa.eu/headquarters/headquarters-homepage/80567/united-resilient-and-sovereign-europe_en)

### **The Chinese firms on the front lines of Covid-19 mask diplomacy in Africa**

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/diplomacy/article/3088075/chinese-firms-front-lines-covid-19-mask-diplomacy-africa>

## CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

### CURRENT STATE OF THE CORONAVIRUS

#### **Satellite data suggests coronavirus may have hit China earlier: Researchers**

*Kaitlyn Folmer and Josh Margolin – ABC News: 8 June 2020*

Researchers at Harvard Medical School say that satellite data and internet search traffic indicate that the coronavirus pandemic began in Wuhan, China, months before authorities alerted the World Health Organization about the virus.

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/satellite-data-suggests-coronavirus-hit-china-earlier-researchers/story?id=71123270>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **Ethiopia's Unconventional COVID-19 Response**

<https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/ethiopia-successful-unconventional-covid19-response-by-arkebe-oqubay-2020-05>

#### **China outraged over Brazil coronavirus comments**

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/04/china-outraged-brazil-coronavirus-comments-200407051954633.html>

#### **Strengthening Routine Immunizations and Responding to Covid-19**

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/strengthening-routine-immunizations-and-responding-covid-19>

#### **Proteins in COVID-19 patients' blood could predict severity of illness, study finds**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-markers/proteins-in-covid-19-patients-blood-could-predict-severity-of-illness-study-finds-idUSKBN23911J?>

#### **Two huge COVID-19 studies are retracted after scientists sound alarms**

<https://www.chicagotribune.com/coronavirus/sns-nyt-coronavirus-hydroxychloroquine-20200605-mbljonusbh7pjcyuqv2g5qqge-story.html>

#### **Exclusive: Half of Singapore's new COVID-19 cases are symptomless, taskforce head says**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-singapore-wong-exc-idUSKBN23F0ZY>

#### **Chinese social-media platform WeChat saw spikes in the terms 'coronavirus,' 'shortness of breath,' and 'SARS,' weeks before the first cases were confirmed, a study suggests**

<https://www.businessinsider.com/wechat-users-posted-coronavirus-before-china-confirmed-cases-2020-2>

#### **In Yemen's Aden, coronavirus death rates are worse than its wartime fatalities**

<https://amp.cnn.com/cnn/2020/06/12/middleeast/yemen-coronavirus-deaths-intl/index.html>

#### **Island nations facing a 'perfect storm' as the coronavirus intersects with hurricane season**

<https://www.cnn.com/amp/2020/06/12/island-nations-face-perfect-storm-as-coronavirus-meets-hurricane-season.html>

## CORONAVIRUS, NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

### **COVID-19 May Ultimately Strengthen Latin America's Democracies, Not Destroy Them**

*Eduardo Levy Yeyati and Andrés Malamud – Americas Quarterly: 10 June 2020*

It is possible that the future of democracy in post-COVID Latin America lies not only in how governments respond to crises without undermining democratic standards, but also in how non-executive institutions, political parties and civil society adapt and react to months of executive arbitrariness and enforce democratic accountability.

<https://americasquarterly.org/article/covid-may-ultimately-strengthen-latin-americas-democracies-not-destroy-them/>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Vietnam greenlights EU trade pact in bid for China-exit deals**

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Economy/Trade/Vietnam-greenlights-EU-trade-pact-in-bid-for-China-exit-deals>

### **Youth or consequences: Put youth at the center of COVID-19 recovery**

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2020/06/08/youth-or-consequences-put-youth-at-the-center-of-covid-19-recovery/>

### **You can't fight pandemics without power — electric power**

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/future-development/2020/06/05/you-cant-fight-pandemics-without-power-electric-power/>

### **T20 Webinar: COVID-19 and the Future of Multilateralism**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gWMV5cLEa-Q&t=8s>

### **A COVID-19 Response for the World's Poor**

<https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/g20-must-strengthen-covid19-response-for-poor-countries-by-erik-berglof-et-al-2020-06?>

### **What Role Should the IMF Play in Responding to COVID-19?**

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/what-role-should-imf-play-responding-covid-19>

### **COVID-19 and Food Security in Asia: How Prepared are We?**

<https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/nts/covid-19-and-food-security-in-asia-how-prepared-are-we/#.XuLEhkxFw2w>

### **COVID-19 and Its Impacts — Pandemic Response: The Women, Peace and Security Agenda**

<https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/nts/global-health-security-covid-19-and-its-impacts-pandemic-response-the-women-peace-and-security-agenda/#.XuLEk0xFw2w>

### **COVID-19 and Its Impacts — Pandemic: The Idea of Social Resilience**

<https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/cens/global-health-security-covid-19-and-its-impacts-pandemic-the-idea-of-social-resilience/#.XuLEnkxFw2w>

### **G20, G7 and Covid-19: An Opportunity for Cooperation**

<https://www.ispionline.it/en/pubblicazione/g20-g7-and-covid-19-opportunity-cooperation-26454>

## CORONAVIRUS, NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS — CONTINUED

### **Violent Non-State Actors and COVID-19: Challenge or Opportunity?**

*Wilson Center: 26 May 2020*

Has the pandemic created challenges or opportunities for nonstate actors across the globe? This discussion focuses on how terrorist groups, transnational crime organizations, gangs and cartels have reacted to COVID-19 and what the future may hold for their operations.

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/event/violent-non-state-actors-and-covid-19-challenge-or-opportunity>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Locked Up During Lockdown: Prisoners in Russia and the World During the Pandemic**

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/locked-during-lockdown-prisoners-russia-and-world-during-pandemic>

### **India's Use of Lock-Ups During the COVID-19 Lockdown**

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/06/indias-use-of-lock-ups-during-the-covid-19-lockdown/>

### **In the W.H.O.'s Coronavirus Stumbles, Some Scientists See a Pattern**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/09/health/coronavirus-asymptomatic-world-health-organization.html>

### **Women integral to battling coronavirus and pushing for lasting peace and security**

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/06/1066162>

### **Threat of Military Action Rattles Brazil as Virus Deaths Surge**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/10/world/americas/bolsonaro-coup-coronavirus-brazil.html>

### **COVID-19 Pandemic Changing How NATO Thinks of Global Security**

<https://news.usni.org/2020/06/09/covid-19-pandemic-changing-how-nato-thinks-of-global-security>

### **How COVID-19 has sparked innovation in health care**

<https://fortune.com/2020/06/11/how-covid-19-has-sparked-innovation-in-health-care-ceo-daily/>

### **COVID-19 Is Reshaping Border Security Enforcement in Malaysia**

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/06/covid-19-is-reshaping-border-security-enforcement-in-malaysia/>

## CORONAVIRUS AND DISINFORMATION

### **EU accuses China of running coronavirus disinformation campaign**

*Barnini Chakraborty – Fox News: 11 June 2020*

China and Russia have been accused by the European Commission of running disinformation campaigns inside the European Union as the bloc set out a plan to tackle a “huge wave” of false facts about the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the charge against Russia has been leveled on many occasions, this is the first time the EU executive has publicly named China as a disinformation source.

<https://www.foxnews.com/world/china-accused-of-running-disinformation-campaign-inside-eu-on-coronavirus>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Younger people and users of niche social media platforms are more likely to share COVID-19 disinformation, says study**

<https://techxplore.com/news/2020-06-younger-people-users-niche-social.html>

### **China's Disinformation Campaign in Italy**

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/06/chinas-disinformation-campaign-in-italy/>

### **Facebook begins labeling posts from foreign state-controlled media**

<https://thehill.com/policy/technology/501177-facebook-begins-labeling-posts-from-foreign-state-controlled-media>

### **Twitter takes down China-linked accounts spreading disinformation on Hong Kong and coronavirus**

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/12/twitter-takes-down-china-linked-accounts-spreading-disinformation.html>

### **EU wants monthly audits from Facebook, Google and Twitter on coronavirus misinformation**

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/06/10/tech/eu-coronavirus-misinformation/index.html>

### **UNDP: Governments must lead fight against coronavirus misinformation and disinformation**

[https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2020/Governments\\_must\\_lead\\_against\\_coronavirus\\_misinformation\\_and\\_disinformation.html](https://www.undp.org/content/undp/en/home/news-centre/news/2020/Governments_must_lead_against_coronavirus_misinformation_and_disinformation.html)

### **Misinformation and COVID-19: An analysis**

<https://iclg.com/briefing/13285-misinformation-and-covid-19-an-analysis>

### **Meet the ‘Corona Guy’ fighting Covid-19 disinformation in Kenya’s refugee camps**

<https://www.codastory.com/disinformation/coronavirus-kenya-refugee-camp/>

### **Behind China’s Twitter Campaign, a Murky Supporting Chorus**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/08/technology/china-twitter-disinformation.html>

### **First Person: Countering COVID-19 misinformation in Venezuela**

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/06/1065682>