

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
- Cyber Statecraft
- Cyber Attacks, Threats and Vulnerabilities
- Cyber Crime and Terrorism
- Cyber Exercises and Training
- Noteworthy Podcasts
- Mass Surveillance and Intelligence Gathering

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

- ISIS and Foreign Fighters
- Terrorism Around the World
- Radicalization and Messaging
- White Nationalist Terrorism
- Irregular Warfare: Soft Power
- Irregular Warfare: Proxy Forces
- Irregular Warfare: Disinformation and Malign Influence

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

Oil, gas, and mining corruption: Is it inevitable?

Victoria Bassetti and Norman Eisen – Brookings: 28 June 2020

Extractive industries such as oil, gas and mining are particularly prone to the corruption risks that undermine good governance. Given the complexity of these governance challenges, can natural resource corruption be reduced or even eliminated?

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/fixgov/2020/06/28/oil-gas-and-mining-corruption-is-it-inevitable/>

Full report:

The TAP-Plus Approach to Anti-Corruption in the Natural Resource Value Chain

https://www.brookings.edu/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/LTRC_Corruption_vfinal_x2screenreader4.pdf

New Index Finds Corruption Worsening Across Latin America

Anastasia Austin – InSight Crime: 30 June 2020

COVID-19 is posing unprecedented challenges to Latin America, including its efforts to combat corruption. All countries in the region have been forced to quickly mobilize massive resources to fight the virus. In this environment of emergency spending, relaxed controls and remote working, the risk of corruption and mismanagement of funds has increased.

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

Full report:

2020 Capacity to Combat Corruption (CCC) Index

https://www.as-coa.org/sites/default/files/archive/2020_CCC_Report.pdf

For more on this theme:

Iranian judge accused of corruption found dead in Romanian hotel

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-romania-iran-judge/iranian-judge-accused-of-corruption-found-dead-in-romanian-hotel-idUSKBN23Q2QS>

Coronavirus: Zimbabwe health minister in court on corruption charges

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-53119989>

Honduras' new penal code lightens sentences for corruption

<https://apnews.com/1efbd7e8a44f6c2458fb6a15c2950642>

Panama ex-president Martinelli facing corruption charges

<https://news.yahoo.com/panama-ex-president-martinelli-facing-corruption-charges-220651712.html>

'They took it over by force': Corruption and palm oil in Sierra Leone

<https://news.mongabay.com/2020/06/they-took-it-over-by-force-corruption-and-palm-oil-in-sierra-leone/>

Inequality and corruption: Why Peru is losing its COVID-19 battle

<https://www.devex.com/news/inequality-and-corruption-why-peru-is-losing-its-covid-19-battle-97604>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Hardship may push people into making drugs for a living: UNODC

Devesh K. Pandey – The Hindu: 27 June 2020

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) annual drug report shows that the health crisis and attendant economic downturn could lead the poor and disadvantaged to drug use and drug trafficking and cultivation to earn money.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/un-report-flags-covid-19-fallout-on-illegal-drug-trade/article31926920.ece>

Full report:

World Drug Report 2020

<https://wdr.unodc.org/wdr2020/index.html>

Drug Trade Thriving Amid Pandemic

Athira Nortajuddin – The ASEAN Post: 26 June 2020

Drug production and trafficking are out of control in East Asia and Southeast Asia, according to a United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime report. More people than ever before are using narcotics.

<https://theaseanpost.com/article/drug-trade-thriving-amid-pandemic>

For more on this theme:

Coronavirus pandemic is innovating all around — even when it comes to drug trafficking

<https://www.businessinsider.in/india/news/coronavirus-pandemic-is-innovating-all-around-even-when-it-comes-to-drug-trafficking/articleshow/76623918.cms>

Drugs Keep Washing up on Indian Shores

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/dyz3ey/drugs-crystal-meth-hash-cannabis-keep-washing-up-on-indian-shores

'Cries for help': Drug overdoses are soaring during the coronavirus pandemic

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/health/2020/07/01/coronavirus-drug-overdose/>

'In-house' drug sales net cartels hundreds of millions in profits in Juarez

<https://www.valleycentral.com/news/in-house-drug-sales-net-cartels-hundreds-of-millions-in-profits-in-juarez/>

EXCLUSIVE: Southcom commander says Trump's ships are saving American lives

<https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/policy/defense-national-security/exclusive-southcom-commander-says-trumps-ships-are-saving-american-lives>

International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking: facing COVID19 challenges

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/international-day-against-drug-abuse-and-drug-trafficking-facing-covid19-challenges>

Bulgaria: Anti-drug chief detained on corruption suspicion

<https://apnews.com/d3842a36341493f54421011e70de7241>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Can social media be weaponised against the illegal wildlife trade?

Emma Ledger – Independent: 1 July 2020

Facebook might have a role to play in dismantling the criminal networks getting rich from trading endangered animals.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/environment/stop-the-wildlife-trade-facebook-social-media-tool-traffic-ing-a9592241.html>

'If we don't buy, they don't die': Tackling the global demand that's driving the illegal wildlife trade

Louise Boyle – Independent: 1 July 2020

Stopping global wildlife trafficking needs to start with the demand side of the equation. Without demand, there is no need to illegally traffic animals.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/environment/china-animal-trade-markets-wild-ivory-pangolins-a9594591.html>

For more on this theme:

Illegal wildlife trade a global threat: FATF report

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/illegal-wildlife-trade-a-global-threat-fatf-report/article31918041.ece>

Out of Sight: Wildlife Trafficking Responses in Colombia

<https://gfintegrity.org/out-of-sight-wildlife-trafficking-responses-in-colombia/>

Primates, pangolin scales, leopard bones: The perils of poaching

<https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/primates-pangolin-scales-leopard-bones-perils-poaching-200624111921181.html>

Coronavirus Has Not Slowed Looting of Latin America's Maritime Species

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/coronavirus-trafficking-maritime-biodiversity/>

Wildlife Trade Spreads Coronaviruses as Animals Get to Market

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/19/science/coronavirus-rats-vietnam.html>

Coronavirus: Can Asia End Its Uncontrolled Consumption of Wildlife?

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/reboot/coronavirus-can-asia-end-its-uncontrolled-consumption-wildlife-162945>

Official Order to End Illegal Logging Deemed 'Show' by Cambodian Activists

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/cambodia/forest-06252020171222.html>

Ukraine to crack down on illegal logging

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-ukraine-logging/ukraine-to-crack-down-on-illegal-logging-idUSKB-N23W281>

Floods Afflict Ukraine as It Tries to Control the Coronavirus

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/24/world/europe/ukraine-flood-coronavirus.html>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

How trade concessions can improve refugee self-reliance

Kemal Kirışci – Brookings: 29 June 2020

Granting trade concessions to countries hosting large numbers of refugees would be a novel way to support those refugees' independence and livelihoods, the author asserts.

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/06/29/how-trade-concessions-can-improve-refugee-self-reliance>

The UK's Modern Slavery Gangs Have Found New Ways to Exploit Their Victims

Andy Jones – VICE: 26 June 2020

Under lockdown, trafficked people usually forced to work in brothels and nail salons are being hidden even deeper within the black-market economy because of the coronavirus lockdown.

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/pkykk7/modern-slavery-uk-gangs-coronavirus-lockdown

For more on this theme:

U.S. Adds Afghanistan To List Of Worst Human Traffickers Over Child Sexual Slavery, Child Soldiers

<https://www.rferl.org/a/us-adds-afghanistan-to-list-of-worst-human-traffickers/30690934.html>

Improving the standing and the rights of victims of human trafficking in judicial proceedings in North Macedonia

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/skopje/-/improving-the-standing-and-the-rights-of-victims-of-human-trafficking-in-judicial-proceedings-in-north-macedonia>

This Tiny Nigerian State Has Driven Half the Country's Human Trafficking for Centuries

<https://www.ozy.com/news-and-politics/the-tiny-nigerian-state-driving-half-its-human-trafficking-for-centuries/288062/>

Thousands of potential trafficking victims 'not given vital support'

<https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2020/jun/24/thousands-of-potential-trafficking-victims-not-given-vital-support>

World Refugee Day: Trafficked people must be protected from dangers back home

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/anti-human-trafficking/-/world-refugee-day-trafficked-people-must-be-protected-from-dangers-back-home>

IOM Launches Online Course on Counter Trafficking in Humanitarian Settings

<https://reliefweb.int/report/world/iom-launches-online-course-counter-trafficking-humanitarian-settings>

New guide to international protection for victims of trafficking

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/new-guide-to-international-protection-for-victims-of-trafficking>

Frontex Reveals Prices for People Smuggling on Central and Western Mediterranean Routes

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/border-security/frontex-reveals-prices-for-people-smuggling-on-central-and-western-mediterranean-routes/>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Who Will Make Rules for the Internet?

Miroslava Sawiris – Fair Observer: 22 June 2020

It is difficult for many European countries to enforce cyber laws because the tech giants operate under arbitrary guidelines and disparate policies. The European Union's Digital Services Act is designed to address these issues.

<https://www.fairobserver.com/region/europe/miroslava-sawiris-globsec-slovakia-european-union-eu-facebook-mark-zuckerberg-social-media-16837/>

For more on this theme:

(Estonia) Patrik Maldre: The state of Estonia's cyber security

<https://estonianworld.com/opinion/the-state-of-estonias-cyber-security/>

(Togo, Africa) African regional court rules Togo 2017 internet shutdown was illegal

<https://cpj.org/2020/06/african-regional-court-rules-togo-2017-internet-shutdown-was-illegal/>

(Indonesia) Indonesian court rules internet curbs in Papua unlawful

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-indonesia-papua-internet/indonesian-court-rules-internet-curbs-in-papua-unlawful-idUSKBN23A23F>

INTERNET FREEDOM

Is Private Internet Censorship Unconstitutional?

Mitchell Nemeth – Foundation for Economic Education: 27 June 2020

Social media companies face increasing cries of censorship for the arbitrary removal or restriction of users' content that violates company policies against posting falsehoods or offensive material. The author argues that government action to regulate the social media companies is unnecessary and potentially unconstitutional.

<https://fee.org/articles/is-private-internet-censorship-unconstitutional/>

For more on this theme:

(China) A Singing Xi Jinping Look-Alike Battles the Censors in China

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/29/world/asia/china-xi-jinping-opera-lookalike.html>

(Kyrgyzstan) Kyrgyzstan: Internet gagging law brings demonstrators onto the street

<https://eurasianet.org/kyrgyzstan-internet-gagging-law-brings-demonstrators-onto-the-street>

(Iran) Iran Internet Activist Defies Summons to Prison for Criticizing Government

<https://www.voanews.com/middle-east/voa-news-iran/iran-internet-activist-defies-summons-prison-criticizing-government>

(India, China) India Bans TikTok, UC Browser and 57 Other Chinese Apps to 'Safeguard Interests' of Users

<https://thewire.in/tech/india-bans-tiktok-uc-browser-and-57-other-chinese-apps-to-safeguard-the-interests-of-internet-users>

CYBER STATECRAFT

Estonia's Crucial Role in Tackling Growing Cyber Threats

Esther Naylor – Chatham House: 22 June 2020

In taking over the presidency of the United Nations Security Council for the first time, Estonia is focusing on cyber security at a time when dangerous cyber attacks have been directed at European hospitals and health infrastructure in the midst of a pandemic.

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/expert/comment/estonia-s-crucial-role-tackling-growing-cyber-threats>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., China, Global) Exclusive: Trump administration says Huawei, Hikvision backed by Chinese military

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-china-military/trump-administration-labels-huawei-hikvision-as-backed-by-chinese-military-document-idUSKBN23V309?il=0>

(India) India needs to review its 2013 cyber security policy

<https://www.orfonline.org/research/india-needs-to-review-its-2013-cyber-security-policy-68267/>

(Europe) The European Union and the search for digital sovereignty: Building “Fortress Europe” or preparing for a new world?

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/in-depth-research-reports/issue-brief/the-european-union-and-the-search-for-digital-sovereignty/>

CYBER ATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

There's No Vaccine For Data Leaks: Why One Cyber Attack Leads To Another

Emil Sayegh – Forbes: 24 June 2020

As cyber threats to organizational internet technology grow more sophisticated and dangerous, too many organizations now seem to regard them mainly as a nuisance and the normal cost of doing business.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/emilsayegh/2020/06/24/theres-no-vaccine-for-data-leaks-why-one-cyber-attack-leads-to-another/#7fbf4e7300b3>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Notorious Ransomware Gang Says It Struck International Electronics Giant LG

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/leemathews/2020/06/25/notorious-ransomware-gang-says-it-struck-international-electronics-giant-lg/#6a57bdee336c>

(Global) Unpatched Wi-Fi Extender Opens Home Networks to Remote Control

<https://threatpost.com/unpatched-wi-fi-extender-remote-control/156990/>

(U.S., Global) US Cyber Command says foreign hackers will attempt to exploit new PAN-OS security bug

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/us-cyber-command-says-foreign-hackers-will-attempt-to-exploit-new-pan-os-security-bug/>

CYBER CRIME AND TERRORISM

FCC formally declares Huawei, ZTE 'national security threats'

Zack Whittaker and Devin Coldewey – Tech Crunch: 30 June 2020

The U.S. Federal Communications Commission has formally declared Chinese information technology companies Huawei and ZTE to be threats to U.S. national security. Their close association to the Chinese government makes them potential avenues for Chinese intelligence to exploit vulnerabilities in U.S. critical communications infrastructure.

<https://techcrunch.com/2020/06/30/fcc-huawei-zte-national-security/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) The Rise of Cyber-Terrorism, and the Future of its Detection

<https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/next-gen-infosec/cyber-terrorism-detection/>

(Russia) Russian Criminal Group Finds New Target: Americans Working at Home

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/25/us/politics/russia-ransomware-coronavirus-work-home.html>

(China, Australia) Chinese malware used in attacks against Australian orgs

<https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/chinese-malware-used-in-attacks-against-australian-orgs/>

CYBER EXERCISES AND TRAINING

How to vaccinate your organization against a cyber pandemic

Dmitry Samartsev – World Economic Forum: 1 July 2020

The Cyber Polygon cyber training exercise will be offered via livestream by the World Economic Forum on July 8, 2020. The forum's targeted training will feature experts from international organizations and major tech companies.

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/07/vaccinate-organization-cyberattack-pandemic/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) For the first time, Cyber Command's major exercise will use new training platform

<https://www.fifthdomain.com/dod/cybercom/2020/06/15/for-the-first-time-cyber-commands-major-exercise-will-use-new-training-platform/>

(U.S.) Army releases \$1B cyber training request

<https://www.fifthdomain.com/dod/cybercom/2020/06/12/army-releases-1b-cyber-training-request/>

(Kosovo) Kosovo: Emerging Europe's unlikely cybersecurity pioneer

<https://emerging-europe.com/news/kosovo-emerging-europes-unlikely-cybersecurity-pioneer/>

(U.S., U.K., New Zealand, Canada) US, allies prep for cyber attacks in time of COVID-19 with virtual war games

<https://www.wraltechwire.com/2020/06/27/us-allies-prep-for-cyber-attacks-in-time-of-covid-19-with-virtual-war-games/>

NOTEWORTHY PODCASTS

A former FBI agent's insights from the dark web

ETCIO: 1 July 2020

Former U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigations agent Jeff Lanza discusses the evolution of cyber attacks, the current increase in ransomware attacks, how stolen data is marketed on the darknet, and the difficulties of investigating and prosecuting cyber crimes.

<https://cio.economicstimes.indiatimes.com/podcast/a-former-fbi-agents-insights-from-the-dark-web/76714860>

For more on this theme:

(Global) The Cyberlaw Podcast: Bill Barr Crosses the Rubicon

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/cyberlaw-podcast-bill-barr-crosses-rubicon>

(Australia, Global) Protecting yourself against cyber crime

<https://www.nestegg.com.au/resources/podcast/protecting-yourself-against-cybercrime>

(Global) Policy is a mess.

<https://thecyberwire.com/podcasts/caveat/35/notes>

MASS SURVEILLANCE AND INTELLIGENCE GATHERING

The Encryption Wars Are Back but in Disguise

Whitfield Diffie – Scientific American: 30 June 2020

Many governments are lobbying tech companies to limit encryption or to build in back doors for law enforcement to access information on their platforms, arguing that it is necessary to fight terrorism, organized crime and child pornography.

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-encryption-wars-are-back-but-in-disguise/>

For more on this theme:

(India) India's Great Firewall Against China Could Backfire

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/07/indias-great-firewall-against-china-could-backfire/>

(Global) TikTok and 32 other iOS apps still snoop your sensitive clipboard data

<https://arstechnica.com/gadgets/2020/06/tiktok-and-53-other-ios-apps-still-snoop-your-sensitive-clipboard-data/>

(Global) We can increase public participation in data and avoid surveillance states: Here is how

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/geotech-cues/we-can-increase-public-participation-in-data-and-avoid-surveillance-states-here-is-how/>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Italian police seize over \$1 billion of 'ISIS-made' Captagon amphetamines

Jack Guy, Stephanie Halasz, Valentina DiDonato and Gul Tuysuz – CNN: 1 July 2020

Authorities in Italy have seized the largest shipment of amphetamines on record. The drugs are believed to have been manufactured by ISIS and were likely bound for distribution across Europe by organized crime groups.

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/07/01/europe/isis-drug-seizure-italy-scli-intl/index.html>

What Was ISIS's Real Estate Market Like? GW University Releases "The ISIS Files"

Matthew Petti – The National Interest: 29 June 2020

George Washington University has released the first batch of its "ISIS Files," a trove of bureaucratic documents captured from the terrorist group during the Iraqi offensive in Mosul.

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/middle-east-watch/what-was-isis%E2%80%99s-real-estate-market-gw-university-releases-%E2%80%9C-isis-files%E2%80%9D>

For more on this theme:

'There hasn't been rehabilitation': Afghanistan struggles with fate of 'Daesh wives'

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2020/jun/26/there-hasnt-been-rehabilitation-afghanistan-struggles-with-fate-of-daesh-isis-wives>

France Brings 10 Children of French Jihadists Home From Syria

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/06/22/world/europe/france-isis-children-repatriated.html>

Islamic State calls for followers to spread coronavirus, exploit pandemic and protests

<https://theconversation.com/islamic-state-calls-for-followers-to-spread-coronavirus-exploit-pandemic-and-protests-136224>

Islamic State strengthens its presence on online messaging apps

<https://www.newdelhitimes.com/islamic-state-strengthens-its-presence-on-online-messaging-apps/>

Uncertain Future For European Kids Detained In Syria's Terror Prison Camps

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/alsadairlane/2020/06/22/uncertain-future-for-european-kids-detained-in-syrias-terror-prisons/#5e6e3d42f395>

Southeast Asia: Returning Foreign Fighters

<https://www.thedefensepost.com/2020/06/23/asian-foreign-fighters/>

In Syrian camp for women and children who left ISIS caliphate, a struggle even to register names

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/syria-al-hol-annex-isis-caliphate-women-children/2020/06/28/80ddabb4-b71b-11ea-9a1d-d3db1cbe07ce_story.html

ISIS Magazine Ranks 'Media Frontline' Jihad as 'One of the Best Deeds'

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/isis-magazine-ranks-media-frontline-jihad-as-one-of-the-best-deeds/>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

'Terrorist sanctuaries': Pentagon warns of Taliban cooperation with al Qaeda

Ben Wolfgang – The Washington Times: 1 July 2020

Al-Qaida's regional affiliate in Afghanistan maintains "close ties" to the Taliban and has an "enduring interest" in attacking U.S. troops, the U.S. military said in a new report.

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/jul/1/taliban-working-al-qaeda-other-terrorists-groups-p/>

Generation Jihad Ep. 16 – Al Qaeda's Never-ending Problems in Syria

Thomas Joscelyn and Bill Roggio – FDD's Long War Journal: 30 June 2020

Hosts Tom Joscelyn and Bill Roggio discuss al-Qaida's problems in Syria, where a series of disputes have upset the group's chain of command. They also discuss the U.S. State Department's latest terrorism report and what it says about Pakistan's sponsorship of the Taliban.

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/06/generation-jihad-ep-16-al-qaedas-never-ending-problems-in-syria.php>

For more on this theme:

Terror groups using digital platforms to promote 'jihad'

<https://www.bignetwork.com/news/265537667/terror-groups-using-digital-platforms-to-promote-jihad>

Terrorism and COVID-19: Are We Over-Estimating the Threat?

<https://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/terrorism-and-covid-19-are-we-over-estimating-threat>

Amid the coronavirus, where are US-Gulf counterterrorism efforts headed?

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/menasource/amid-the-coronavirus-where-are-us-gulf-counterterrorism-efforts-headed/>

A divided Taliban could unleash a new proxy war in Afghanistan

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/a-divided-taliban-could-unleash-a-new-proxy-war-in-afghanistan/>

Pandemic politics: Fighting extremist groups during COVID-19

<https://www.brookings.edu/opinions/pandemic-politics-fighting-extremist-groups-during-covid-19/>

Myanmar alleges 'one foreign country' arming insurgent groups on its territory

https://m.economictimes.com/news/defence/myanmar-alleges-one-foreign-country-arming-insurgent-groups-on-its-territory/amp_articleshow/76694151.cms

When the war on terror isn't a war

<https://www.csmonitor.com/Commentary/the-monitors-view/2020/0630/When-the-war-on-terror-isn-t-a-war>

How Terrorists Use Cryptocurrency in Southeast Asia

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/06/how-terrorists-use-cryptocurrency-in-southeast-asia/>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism Through Education Initiatives: Assessing the Evidence Base

Claudia Wallner – Royal United Services Institute: 30 June 2020

This paper assesses the effectiveness of preventing and countering violent extremism through education initiatives and highlights what can work (and what does not).

https://www.rusi.org/sites/default/files/pcve_education_final_web_version.pdf

For more on this theme:

Preventing Violent Extremism: Building Capacities and Engaging Communities

<https://www.orfonline.org/research/preventing-violent-extremism-68701/>

DHS Predicted A Summer of Violence, Radicalization, and Conspiracies

<https://www.defenseone.com/threats/2020/06/dhs-predicted-summer-violence-radicalization-and-conspiracies/166441/>

Opinion: Psychosocial support for children counters the legacy of violent extremism in Syria

<https://www.devex.com/news/sponsored/opinion-psychosocial-support-for-children-counters-the-legacy-of-violent-extremism-in-syria-97573>

WHITE NATIONALIST TERRORISM

UK saw highest number of far-right terror attacks and plots in Europe in 2019, Europol says

Lizzie Dearden – Independent: 23 June 2020

Europol's annual "Terrorism Situation and Trend" report found that the United Kingdom reported the highest number of far-right terror attacks and plots in Europe in 2019.

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/terror-attacks-far-right-islamist-europe-uk-stanwell-2019-a9581921.html>

Full report:

European Union Terrorism Situation and Trend report (TE-SAT) 2020

<https://www.europol.europa.eu/activities-services/main-reports/european-union-terrorism-situation-and-trend-report-te-sat-2020>

For more on this theme:

How dangerous is the boogaloo?

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/how-dangerous-is-the-boogaloo/>

Germany Just Banned a Neo-Nazi Group That Was Allegedly Plotting Terror Attacks

https://www.vice.com/en_in/article/bv8jqz/germany-just-banned-a-neo-nazi-group-investigated-for-plotting-terror-attacks

A Safe Space to Hate: White Supremacist Mobilization on Telegram

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/a-safe-space-to-hate-white-supremacist-mobilization-on-telegram/>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: SOFT POWER

Mapping Russia's soft power efforts in Syria through humanitarian aid

Marika Sosnowski and Jonathan Robinson – Atlantic Council: 25 June 2020

Though Russia's soft power tactics in Syria are at best shallow and symbolic, they do offer avenues for engagement.

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/menasource/mapping-russias-soft-power-efforts-in-syria-through-humanitarian-aid/>

For more on this theme:

Vietnam Objects to China's Undersea Cable Construction in Paracels

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/vietnam/objects-06112020164738.html>

China's Indian Ocean ambitions: Investment, influence, and military advantage

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/chinas-indian-ocean-ambitions/>

Cyberwarfare in Latvia: A Call for New Cyberwarfare Terminology

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2020/06/cyberwarfare-in-latvia-a-call-for-new-cyberwarfare-terminology/>

Why India is pushing back against Chinese soft power

<https://medium.com/enrique-dans/why-india-is-pushing-back-against-chinese-soft-power-5a420589dc44>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: PROXY FORCES

Implausible Deniability: Russia's Private Military Companies

Paul Stronski – Carnegie: 2 June 2020

Operating as public-private partnerships, private military companies offer Russia a cheap, low-risk front to carry out its activist foreign policy.

<https://carnegieendowment.org/2020/06/02/implausible-deniability-russia-s-private-military-companies-pub-81954>

For more on this theme:

Arrested Chinese operative, example of 'military-civil fusion strategy'

<https://www.jpost.com/international/arrested-chinese-operative-example-of-military-civil-fusion-strategy-631607>

Libya's proxy sponsors face a dilemma

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/06/15/libyas-proxy-sponsors-face-a-dilemma/>

Moscow's Next Front: Russia's Expanding Military Footprint in Libya

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/moscows-next-front-russias-expanding-military-footprint-libya>

Iran Is 'Foremost Sponsor of Terrorism', US Report Says

<https://en.radiofarda.com/a/iran-is-foremost-sponsor-of-terrorism-us-report-says/30688981.html>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: DISINFORMATION AND MALIGN INFLUENCE

Inside China's strategy to influence the world's media

International Federation of Journalists: 27 June 2020

China's strategy to embed itself in the global news landscape and build its discourse power beyond borders is one of the key findings of a new report launched by the International Federation of Journalists.

<https://www.ifj.org/media-centre/news/detail/category/press-releases/article/inside-chinas-strategy-to-influence-the-worlds-media.html>

Full report:

The China Story: Reshaping the World's Media

https://www.ifj.org/fileadmin/user_upload/IFJ_Report_2020_-_The_China_Story.pdf

For more on this theme:

North Korea Begins Reinstalling Propaganda Loudspeakers Along Inter-Korean Border

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/06/north-korea-begins-reinstalling-propaganda-loudspeakers-along-inter-korean-border/>

Great power rivalry in the Red Sea

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/great-power-rivalry-in-the-red-sea/>

Collaborative Models for Understanding Influence Operations: Lessons From Defense Research

<https://carnegieendowment.org/2020/06/25/collaborative-models-for-understanding-influence-operations-lessons-from-defense-research-pub-82150>

Pompeo: China uses disinformation to split Europe, US

<https://apnews.com/b4c410ed886dfb4141017e158f1c1ddf>

China's disinformation threat is real. We need better defences against state-based cyber campaigns

<https://theconversation.com/chinas-disinformation-threat-is-real-we-need-better-defences-against-state-based-cyber-campaigns-141044>

Peers urge hefty fines for social media disinformation

<https://tech.newstatesman.com/policy/committee-on-democracy-and-digital-technology>

China's 'grooming' of British business elites REVEALED in explosive new book

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/world/1302856/china-news-latest-uk-Britain-business-xi-jinping-48-group-club-corruption>

CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

CURRENT STATE OF THE CORONAVIRUS

WHO sending team to China to investigate origins of coronavirus

France 24 : 24 June 2020

The World Health Organization is sending a team to China to search for the origin of the virus that sparked the COVID-19 pandemic that is far from over.

<https://www.france24.com/en/20200629-who-sending-team-to-china-to-investigate-origins-of-coronavirus>

For more on this theme:

Italian whole-town study finds 40% of coronavirus cases had no symptoms

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-italy-vo-idUSKBN241228>

WHO Chief On COVID-19 Pandemic: 'The Worst Is Yet To Come'

<https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/06/29/885049691/who-chief-on-covid-19-pandemic-the-worst-is-yet-to-come>

Developing Resilience Is an Important Tool to Help You Deal with Coronavirus and the Surge in Cases

<https://www.nextgov.com/ideas/2020/06/developing-resilience-important-tool-help-you-deal-coronavirus-and-surge-cases/166440/>

Tracking coronavirus cases proves difficult amid new surge

<https://apnews.com/fe2fd477ac117c7d81d458ac2bf08cbc>

Timeline: How the global coronavirus pandemic unfolded

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-timeline/timeline-how-the-global-coronavirus-pandemic-unfolded-idUSKBN23ZOUW>

The line is forming for a COVID-19 vaccine. Who should be at the front?

<https://www.sciencemag.org/news/2020/06/line-forming-covid-19-vaccine-who-should-be-front>

CORONAVIRUS, NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Humanitarian Operations During COVID-19: A Conversation with Philippe Lazzarini of UNRWA

Center for Strategic & International Studies (CSIS): 29 June 2020

This podcast is part of a featured series by the Humanitarian Agenda that looks at the impacts of COVID-19 on the humanitarian spectrum. This episode features Commissioner-General Philippe Lazzarini of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees and the Near East and Dr. Jon Alterman, senior vice president of CSIS and director of CSIS's Middle East program.

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/humanitarian-operations-during-covid-19-conversation-philippe-lazzarini-unrwa>

For more on this theme:

The poor lose again: impact of COVID-19 on Africa

<https://issafrica.org/iss-today/the-poor-lose-again-impact-of-covid-19-on-africa>

Can the AU protect citizens against COVID-19 abuses?

<https://issafrica.org/iss-today/can-the-au-protect-citizens-against-covid-19-abuses>

Jordan's Economy During Covid-19

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/jordans-economy-during-covid-19>

As Africa Faces COVID-19, Chinese Debt Relief is a Welcome Development

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/africa-faces-covid-19-chinese-debt-relief-welcome-development>

Adjusting to coronavirus impacts on national security

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/defense-main/2020/06/adjusting-to-coronavirus-impacts-on-national-security/>

U.N. Security Council Demands Cease-Fire In Conflict Areas, Due To COVID-19

<https://www.npr.org/sections/coronavirus-live-updates/2020/07/01/886079785/u-n-security-council-demands-cease-fire-in-conflict-areas-due-to-covid-19>

CORONAVIRUS AND DISINFORMATION

COVID-19 Disinformation From Russia, China More Influential Than Domestic News Sources, Study Finds

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty: 29 June 2020

Coronavirus disinformation published by Chinese and Russian state media outlets in France, Spain and Germany is in some cases reaching a greater audience on social media than news coverage of the global pandemic produced by major domestic media outlets in those countries, according to a study by the Oxford Internet Institute (OII). “Many of these state-backed outlets blend reputable, fact-based reporting about the coronavirus with misleading or false information, which can lead to greater uncertainty among public audiences trying to make sense of the COVID-19 pandemic,” OII research assistant Katarina Rebello said in a press release.

<https://www.rferl.org/a/covid-19-disinformation-from-russian-chinese-media-more-influential-than-domestic-news/30696566.html>

For more on this theme:

Good News and Bad News about COVID-19 Misinformation

<https://blogs.scientificamerican.com/observations/good-news-and-bad-news-about-covid-19-misinformation/>

Fighting the Battle for the Pandemic Narrative: The PRC White Paper on Its COVID-19 Response

<https://jamestown.org/program/fighting-the-battle-for-the-pandemic-narrative-the-prc-white-paper-on-its-covid-19-response/>

A machine-learning approach could help counter disinformation

<https://www.c4isrnet.com/opinion/2020/06/25/a-machine-learning-approach-could-help-counter-disinformation/>

We’re fighting the pandemic. Now it’s time to eradicate the infodemic

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/06/covid19-pandemic-infodemic-misinformation-fake-news/>

Experts renew calls for a government body to tackle foreign disinformation

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/experts-renew-calls-for-a-government-body-to-tackle-foreign-disinformation/>

Political fight grows over EU response to China disinformation

<https://www.politico.eu/article/european-union-disinformation-china-russia/>

COVID-19 in Russia: Fake News and Forced Confessions

<https://www.aljazeera.com/programmes/listeningpost/2020/06/covid-19-russia-fake-news-forced-confessions-200620080950345.html>

Disinformation on coronavirus ‘massive’ says report

<https://medicalxpress.com/news/2020-07-disinformation-coronavirus-massive.html>