

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

International Donors Can End Lebanon's Corruption

Dr. Lina Khatib – Chatham House: 10 August 2020

Lebanon needs a government able to fight corruption and enact reforms after a devastating explosion at the Beirut port that has kindled protests and led the government to resign.

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/expert/comment/international-donors-can-end-lebanons-corruption>

Integrity: an answer to corruption

Quynh Tong – Transparency International: 12 August 2020

Corruption remains a serious problem in Vietnam. The Vietnam Integrity School brings young people together across Vietnam to learn about anti-corruption, exchange ideas and discuss what integrity means in their daily lives, including family, school and work, as well as at the national level.

<https://www.transparency.org/en/blog/integrity-an-answer-to-corruption#>

For more on this theme:

Rwanda courts to launch new electronic auctioning system to curb corruption

<https://africa.cgtn.com/2020/08/05/rwanda-courts-to-launch-new-electronic-auctioning-system-to-curb-corruption/>

Spain's former king to leave the country amid corruption claims

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2020/08/spain-king-leave-country-corruption-claims-200803170631909.html>

Brazil police bust alleged coronavirus corruption racket in Sao Paulo

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-health-coronavirus-brazil-corruption/brazil-police-bust-alleged-coronavirus-corruption-racket-in-sao-paulo-idUSKCN2521RM>

El Salvador: A recipe for corruption

<https://www.transparency.org/en/blog/el-salvador-bloated-budgets-and-little-oversight-a-recipe-for-disaster#>

Mexico: Ex-President Enrique Peña Nieto accused of corruption and bribery

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-53746715>

Corruption and Poverty Made West Africa Hot Spot for Piracy

<https://www.occrp.org/en/blog/12933-corruption-and-poverty-made-west-africa-hot-spot-for-piracy>

Corruption and the Fruits of Kleptocracy: The Saga of the Karimova Sisters Continues

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/08/corruption-and-the-fruits-of-kleptocracy-the-saga-of-the-karimova-sisters-continues/>

Timor-Leste's Draft Defamation Law Will Make It Harder to Curb Corruption

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/08/timor-lestes-draft-defamation-law-will-make-it-harder-to-curb-corruption/>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

In Chile, Drug Trafficking Becoming More Prominent and Violent

Zachary Goodwin – InSight Crime: 7 August 2020

A new report correlates data from public opinion polling suggesting Chileans are increasingly worried about the threat posed by organized crime. Drug trafficking has, in fact, become more prominent, diversified and violent.

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

How a Quiet Corner of Northern Europe Became a Theatre of Extreme Drug Warfare

Niko Vorobyov – VICE: 11 August 2020

Underworld violence is on the rise in the otherwise peaceful countries of Belgium and the Netherlands – and it's all linked to the international cocaine trade.

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/z3e8b3/belgium-netherlands-cocaine-trafficking-narcostate

For more on this theme:

The Islamic State Isn't Behind Syria's Amphetamine Trade

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/08/10/syria-captagon-amphetamine-trade-islamic-state-assad-regime-drug-seizure-salerno/>

An old, dangerous drug has made a comeback with a new generation of users

<https://www.nbcnews.com/feature/nbc-out/dangerous-party-drug-has-been-everywhere-even-amazon-n1236481>

Covid-19 impact on narcotic trafficking is ringing alarm bell along Siliguri 'Narco' Corridor

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/covid-19-impact-on-narcotic-trafficking-is-ringing-alarm-bell-along-siliguri-narco-corridor/articleshow/77425512.cms>

Heroin is now a major urban development challenge in Africa

<https://enactafrica.org/enact-observer/heroin-is-now-a-major-urban-development-challenge-in-africa>

Past Governments Turned Mexico into Narco-State, Says President

<https://www.ocrp.org/en/daily/12936-amlo-past-governments-turned-mexico-into-narco-state>

The Mullahs and Hezbollah, Lords of Drug Smuggling

<https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/16332/iran-hezbollah-drug-smuggling>

CJNG: Mexico's emerging drug cartel

<https://sofrep.com/news/cjng-mexicos-emerging-drug-cartel/>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Sweeping illegal sand mining under the rug in Uganda

Mohamed Daghar – Institute for Security Studies: 10 August 2020

Uganda's rampant illegal sand mining is the source of lost revenue, environmental damage and exploitation of vulnerable communities.

<https://issafrica.org/iss-today/sweeping-illegal-sand-mining-under-the-rug-in-uganda>

Changing people's behaviour can stop wildlife trade and help prevent pandemics

Georgina Kenyon – The Strategist: 13 August 2020

Ending the wildlife trade must start with ending the demand for wild animals. Behavioral psychologists are helping international organizations get the right message to the right audience.

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/changing-peoples-behaviour-can-stop-wildlife-trade-and-help-prevent-pandemics/>

For more on this theme:

Large-scale Control of Illegal Fishing Needs Innovative Technology

https://wwf.panda.org/wwf_news/?364700/drones-and-sturgeons

A silent extinction: Elephants, rhinos and giraffes among endangered species facing fresh threat during global pandemic

<https://www.independent.co.uk/environment/wildlife-endangered-species-rhinos-elephants-pangolins-jaguars-giraffes-a9644756.html>

Endangered by Trade: The ongoing illegal pangolin trade in the Philippines

<https://www.traffic.org/publications/reports/ongoing-illegal-pangolin-trade-in-the-philippines/>

Facial recognition tech for chimps looks to bust online ape trafficking

<https://news.mongabay.com/2020/08/facial-recognition-tech-for-chimps-looks-to-bust-online-ape-trafficking/>

Facebook purges ads for illegal wildlife in SE Asia as online trade surges

<https://news.trust.org/item/20200806031844-4zgpk/>

Chinese Fishing Near North Korea Is a Symptom of a Bigger Problem

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/07/chinese-fishing-near-north-korea-is-a-symptom-of-a-bigger-problem/>

Pollution from Illegal Coal Mining in Qinghai Creates Hardship for Tibetan Nomads

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/tibet/coal-08112020161828.html>

An alarming surge in illegal wildlife trade in Southeast Asia

<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2020/08/12/an-alarming-surge-in-illegal-wildlife-trade-in-southeast-asia/>

Is that ivory from an elephant or a nut? A new guide shows how to tell

<https://news.mongabay.com/2020/08/is-that-ivory-from-an-elephant-or-a-nut-a-new-guide-shows-how-to-tell/>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

As the Global Economy Melts Down, Human Trafficking Is Booming

Jamille Bigio and Haydn Welch – Foreign Policy: 10 August 2020

The COVID-19 pandemic is making the already difficult task of ending modern slavery even more challenging. Increasing financial constraints and increased time online make a fruitful ground for human traffickers.

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/08/10/as-the-global-economy-melts-down-human-trafficking-is-booming/>

For more on this theme:

West and Central Africa — Irregular Migration Routes to Europe (January - June 2020)

<https://reliefweb.int/report/world/west-and-central-africa-irregular-migration-routes-europe-january-june-2020>

2020 RMRP Appeal: Regional Migrants Response Plan for the Horn of Africa and Yemen 2018–2020

<https://reliefweb.int/report/yemen/2020-rmrp-appeal-regional-migrants-response-plan-horn-africa-and-yemen-2018-2020>

On the world counter-trafficking day IOM reports a sad record in trafficking from Ukraine

<http://www.un.org.ua/en/information-centre/news/4979-on-the-world-counter-trafficking-day-iom-reports-a-sad-record-in-trafficking-from-ukraine>

New study to review COVID's impact on modern slavery survivors

<https://phys.org/news/2020-08-covid-impact-modern-slavery-survivors.html>

ORGANIZED CRIME

Bargaining with the Devil to Avoid Hell?

Vanda Felbab-Brown – Institute for Integrated Transitions: July 2020

Negotiations with long-standing criminal groups are controversial at best. Yet sometimes they are the best or the only option. If that is the case, how should it be done and with whom?

<https://www.ifit-transitions.org/publications/major-publications-briefings/bargaining-with-the-devil-to-avoid-hell/bargaining-with-the-devil-to-avoid-hell-a-discussion-paper-on-negotiations-with-criminal-groups-in-latin-america-and-the-caribbean.pdf/view>

For more on this theme:

Information Sharing in the Era of Coronavirus Tracing Apps – A New Context for Fighting Financial Crime?

<https://www.rusi.org/commentary/information-sharing-era-coronavirus-tracing-apps>

Ex-Ecuadorian President Detained in New Criminal Probe

<https://www.voanews.com/americas/ex-ecuadorian-president-detained-new-criminal-probe>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET FREEDOM

Better Transparency Reporting Can Shed Light on Russian Internet Censorship

Sergei Hovyadinov – Lawfare: 7 August 2020

The Russian internet has been transformed over the last decade from relatively free and open to highly controlled and oppressed. Much of the censorship is outsourced to the private sector, which provides information to the government. Transparency of these transactions is virtually nonexistent.

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/better-transparency-reporting-can-shed-light-russian-internet-censorship>

For more on this theme:

(Africa) Technologies of Freedom Enabling Democracy in Africa

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/technologies-freedom-enabling-democracy-africa>

(China) China is now blocking all encrypted HTTPS traffic that uses TLS 1.3 and ESNI

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/china-is-now-blocking-all-encrypted-https-traffic-using-tls-1-3-and-esni/>

(Belarus) Belarus Has Shut Down the Internet Amid a Controversial Election

<https://www.wired.com/story/belarus-internet-outage-election/>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Why haven't we 'solved' cybersecurity?

Gregory Conti – Federal News Network: 12 August 2020

Cyber security challenges are not in short supply. But it is possible to overcome most, if not all of them.

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/commentary/2020/08/why-havent-we-solved-cybersecurity/>

For more on this theme:

(Europe) The EU is launching a market for personal data. Here's what that means for privacy.

<https://www.technologyreview.com/2020/08/11/1006555/eu-data-trust-trusts-project-privacy-policy-opinion/>

(Global) We need to rethink cybersecurity for a post-pandemic world. Here's how

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/08/rethink-cybersecurity-post-pandemic-world/>

(U.S.) Big Tech Feeling Legislative Heat After Contentious Congressional Hearing on Privacy Issues and Acquisitions

<https://www.cpomagazine.com/data-privacy/big-tech-feeling-legislative-heat-after-contentious-congressional-hearing-on-privacy-issues-and-acquisitions/>

CYBER STATECRAFT

Estonia's Digital Solutions to COVID-19

Isabella Basile – Foreign Policy Research Institute: 12 August 2020

Estonia's coronavirus response is most distinguishable from its global counterparts because of its digital capabilities and "solutions" to the virus.

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2020/08/estonias-digital-solutions-to-covid-19/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) Defend Forward and Cyber Countermeasures

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/defend-forward-and-cyber-countermeasures>

(China, Global) A Rising China Could Mean Rising Cyberthreats Worldwide

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2020/08/12/a-rising-china-could-mean-rising-cyber-threats-worldwide/#79c5ef924218>

(U.S.) The new strategy from Navy's cyber command

<https://www.c4isrnet.com/cyber/2020/08/13/the-new-strategy-from-navys-cyber-command/>

CYBER ATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

NSA, FBI expose Russian intelligence hacking tool – report

Christopher Bing – Reuters: 13 August 2020

The U.S. National Security Agency and Federal Bureau of Investigation have exposed a sophisticated Russian hacking tool. In a rare public report, the agencies offered new insight into Russia's arsenal of digital weapons.

<https://in.reuters.com/article/usa-cyber-russia/nsa-fbi-expose-russian-intelligence-hacking-tool-report-idINKCN2592HG>

For more on this theme:

(Global) New "Meow" Cyber Attack That Wipes Unsecured Databases Is a Malicious Throwback

<https://www.cpomagazine.com/cyber-security/new-meow-cyber-attack-that-wipes-unsecured-databases-is-a-malicious-throwback/>

(Global) Hacked government, college sites push malware via fake hacking tools

<https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/hacked-government-college-sites-push-malware-via-fake-hacking-tools/>

(U.K.) 96% of UK Businesses Suffered a Damaging Cyber Attack in the Last Year

<https://www.cbronline.com/news/uk-businesses-cyber-attacks>

(U.S.) Federal agency warns 'malicious cyber actor' targeting coronavirus small business loan program

<https://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/511757-federal-cyber-agency-warns-malicious-actor-spoofing-coronavirus-small>

CYBER CRIME

Morrison pursues tougher powers in fight against cyber attacks and criminals' activity

Michelle Grattan – The Conversation: 5 August 2020

The Australian cyber plan includes funds and a way to bolster the powers of the Australian Federal Police to pursue criminal networks on the dark web.

<https://theconversation.com/morrison-pursues-tougher-powers-in-fight-against-cyber-attacks-and-criminals-activity-144027>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) CISA working on cyber-risk framework to prioritize emerging threats

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/cybersecurity/2020/08/cisa-working-on-cyber-risk-framework-to-prioritize-emerging-threats/>

(Australia) Australian cyber crime on the rise during COVID lockdown

<https://itbrief.com.au/story/australian-cyber-crime-on-the-rise-during-covid-lockdown>

(India) Gautam Budh Nagar gets dedicated helpline for cybercrime

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/noida/gautam-budh-nagar-gets-dedicated-helpline-for-cybercrime/story-E30AfYKS5KAv9AZfiCbKSM.html>

(Global) How to Help Spoil the Cybercrime Economy

<https://www.darkreading.com/attacks-breaches/how-to-help-spoil-the-cybercrime-economy/a/d-id/1338527>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

The promise of using WhatsApp for low-tech distance learning

Massachusetts Institute of Technology: 6 August 2020

Teaching community organizers via WhatsApp yields encouraging results in South Africa, according to MIT Governance Lab research.

<http://news.mit.edu/2020/mit-study-promise-of-whatsapp-for-low-tech-distance-learning-0806>

For more on this theme:

(South Africa) Critical Health Centres receive broadband internet

<https://www.sanews.gov.za/south-africa/critical-health-centres-receive-broadband-internet>

(India) Microsoft unveils new platform to help Indian firms return to work

<https://telecom.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/microsoft-unveils-new-platform-to-help-indian-firms-return-to-work/77387227>

(Liberia) Cyber Crimes Has Increased Considerably In Liberia's Cyberspace: A Call To Adopt Policy And Strategy

<https://frontpageafricaonline.com/opinion/cyber-crimes-has-increased-considerably-in-liberias-cyberspace-a-call-to-adopt-policy-and-strategy/>

MASS SURVEILLANCE AND INTELLIGENCE GATHERING

How China Uses Facial Recognition To Control Human Behavior

Alfred Ng – CNET: 11 August 2020

China uses facial recognition to “name and shame” people for minor infractions as part of its effort to establish a system of social credits. “The idea is that the authorities are trying to put in place comprehensive surveillance and behavioral engineering on a mass scale,” said Maya Wang, a senior researcher on China at Human Rights Watch. “The authorities want to create a kind of society that would be very easy for them to manage.”

<https://www.cnet.com/news/in-china-facial-recognition-public-shaming-and-control-go-hand-in-hand/>

For more on this theme:

(China, Hong Kong) China Is Sending a COVID Testing Team to Hong Kong. Locals Worry It Might Be a Front for Government Spying.

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/xg85ek/china-hong-kong-coronavirus-surveillance

(China, ASEAN) Even in Southeast Asia, Uighur Muslims Are Under Surveillance. Here's How China Does It.

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/y3zx3m/even-in-southeast-asia-uighur-muslims-are-under-surveillance-heres-how-china-does-it

(Global) How online facial-recognition systems could endanger our privacy

<https://eandt.theiet.org/content/articles/2020/08/how-online-facial-recognition-systems-could-endanger-our-personal-privacy/>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Why Women Joined the Islamic State

Center for Strategic & International Studies: 11 August 2020

This is an interview with Azadeh Moaveni, a writer and journalist who serves as the gender project director at the International Crisis Group. She is also the author, most recently, of *Guest House for Young Widows*, which tells the story of 13 women who joined the Islamic state.

<https://www.csis.org/analysis/why-women-joined-islamic-state>

ISIS Allegedly Ran a Covid-19 PPE Scam Site

Andy Greenberg – Wired: 13 August 2020

Terror groups based in the Middle East are targeting American first responders in an online scam, federal prosecutors said. ISIS allegedly used the website facemaskcenter.com as a front for peddling fake N95 masks, according to a senior Department of Justice official. Their targets also allegedly included hospitals and nursing homes.

<https://www.wired.com/story/isis-allegedly-ran-a-covid-19-ppe-scam-site/>

For more on this theme:

ISIS Video Urges Arson as ‘Five-Star’ Terror Tactic, Shows California Burning

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/isis-video-urges-arson-as-five-star-terror-tactic-shows-california-burning/>

Albania transfers ‘Islamic State’ terror suspect to Germany

<https://www.dw.com/en/albania-transfers-islamic-state-terror-suspect-to-germany/a-54433596>

Islamic State ‘Struggling’ With Online Presence

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/cybersecurity/islamic-state-struggling-with-online-presence/>

ISIS and the Militant Jihad on Instagram

<https://modern diplomacy.eu/2020/08/03/isis-and-the-militant-jihad-on-instagram/>

ISIS in South Asia: Struggle for Survival Beyond ‘Khorasan’

<https://cgpolicy.org/articles/isis-in-south-asia-struggle-for-survival-beyond-khorasan/>

Islamic State-Linked Fighters Seize Mozambique LNG Port Town

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-08-12/islamic-state-linked-fighters-seize-key-mozambique-lng-port-town>

Jalalabad Jailbreak Highlights Resurgence of ‘Eliminated’ ISIS

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/08/07/jalalabad-jailbreak-highlights-resurgence-of-eliminated-isis/>

ISIS Shows Seizure, Study of U.S.-Made Drone in Sinai

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/airport-aviation-security/isis-shows-seizure-study-of-u-s-made-drone-in-sinai/>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

More Than 100 Boko Haram, Captives Surrender Along Cameroon-Nigeria Border

Moki Edwin Kindzeka – Voice of America: 7 August 2020

Nigerian Maj. Gen. Ibrahim Manu Yusuf, commander of the Multinational Joint Task Force fighting the Boko Haram Islamist insurgency in the Lake Chad Basin, announced that 109 Boko Haram fighters and their prisoners had defected on the Nigerian-Cameroonian border. Yusuf said the move was encouraged by a campaign that would allow Boko Haram fighters who defect to be pardoned.

<https://www.voanews.com/africa/more-100-boko-haram-captives-surrender-along-cameroon-nigeria-border>

Why terrorism continues in Nigeria and how to turn the tide

Sheriff Folarin – The Conversation: 10 August 2020

The Nigerian crisis with Boko Haram is rooted in ethnic, religious and partisan politics, and corruption, according to the author. Tackling these issues will help put an end to the violence.

<https://theconversation.com/why-terrorism-continues-in-nigeria-and-how-to-turn-the-tide-143479>

For more on this theme:

US Announces Disruption of 3 Terror Groups' Cyber Financing Campaigns

<https://www.voanews.com/usa/us-announces-disruption-3-terror-groups-cyber-financing-campaigns>

Terrorism and COVID-19: Brutality of Boko Haram in Africa

<https://modern diplomacy.eu/2020/08/09/terrorism-and-covid-19-brutality-of-boko-haram-in-africa/>

Army says it is taking warning of ISIS, al-Qaeda presence in West Africa seriously

<https://guardian.ng/news/army-says-it-is-taking-warning-of-isis-al-qaeda-presence-in-west-africa-seriously/>

Al Qaeda-linked group claims attack in northwestern Nigeria

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2020/08/al-qaeda-linked-group-claims-attack-in-northwestern-nigeria.php>

Boko Haram now recruiting child soldiers – MNJTF

<https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/408600-boko-haram-now-recruiting-child-soldiers-mnjtf.html>

Macron has the power to change the EU's Hezbollah policy

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/macron-has-the-power-to-change-the-eus-hezbollah-policy/>

Stage Set for Afghan Peace Talks as Ghani Orders Release of 400 Taliban Prisoners

<https://www.voanews.com/south-central-asia/stage-set-afghan-peace-talks-ghani-orders-release-400-taliban-prisoners>

The Top 10 Ways COVID-19 Could Impact Terrorism

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/the-top-10-ways-covid-19-could-impact-terrorism/>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Assessing Communications-Based Activities to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism

Michael Jones – Royal United Services Institute: 7 August 2020

Serious doubts persist about the effectiveness of media efforts to counter the narrative of violent extremism.

<https://www.rusi.org/commentary/assessing-communications-based-activities-prevent-and-counter-violent-extremism>

For more on this theme:

Can an ISIS Terrorist be Rehabilitated and Reintegrated into Society?

<https://modern diplomacy.eu/2020/08/04/can-an-isis-terrorist-be-rehabilitated-and-reintegrated-into-society/>

From Fears to Conviction: Why Internet Shutdowns Don't Work

<https://gnet-research.org/2020/07/31/from-fears-to-conviction-why-internet-shutdowns-dont-work/>

Teaching youngsters to make anti-extremism videos 'effective' in tackling radicalisation

<https://www.thenational.ae/world/teaching-youngsters-to-make-anti-extremism-videos-effective-in-tackling-radicalisation-1.1058490>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: SOFT POWER

As China's Vloggers Draw International Fans, Beijing Sees Soft Power Opportunity

Jill Li – Voice of America: 12 August 2020

Experts say that China is trying to tap into its vast pool of talented cyber celebrities to generate soft power for the country. "The Chinese government would certainly see these celebrities as a potential resource, but one that needs to be harnessed and controlled," one expert said.

<https://www.voanews.com/east-asia-pacific/voa-news-china/chinas-vloggers-draw-international-fans-beijing-sees-soft-power>

For more on this theme:

China's Infrastructure-Heavy Model for African Growth Is Failing

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/07/chinas-infrastructure-heavy-model-for-african-growth-is-failing/>

From visas to youth exchanges, govt weighs options to limit China's soft power in India

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/govt-weighs-options-to-limit-chinas-soft-power-in-india/articleshow/77379977.cms>

Iran: China's Newest Colony?

<https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/16309/iran-china-colony>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: DISINFORMATION AND MALIGN INFLUENCE

COVID-19 and China's information control policy

Dr. Fu Kingwah – Global Voices: 7 August 2020

Weiboscope, a censorship monitoring project that monitors the Chinese social platform Weibo for disinformation, misinformation and censorship, has observed how the Chinese government has exerted information control over COVID-19 narratives inside China since the early stage of the outbreak.

<https://globalvoices.org/2020/08/07/covid-19-and-chinas-information-control-policy/>

For more on this theme:

Securing Freedom in the Heart of Europe

<https://www.state.gov/securing-freedom-in-the-heart-of-europe/>

China's Houston consulate a center of malign activity

<https://share.america.gov/chinas-houston-consulate-center-of-malign-activity/>

Google, Facebook and Others Broaden Group to Secure U.S. Election

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/08/12/technology/google-facebook-coalition-us-election.html>

From Russia With Lure: Why We're Still Beset By Bots And Trolls Pushing Disinformation

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/robpegoraro/2020/08/07/from-russia-with-lure-why-were-still-beset-by-bots-and-trolls-pushing-disinformation/#79d868b65542>

CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

CURRENT STATE OF THE CORONAVIRUS

Cutting Corners in the Race for a Vaccine

Alexander Chernyshev, Wu Dandan, Georg Fahrion, Christina Hebel, Laura Höflinger and Bernhard Zand – Der Spiegel: 7 August 2020

Russia, China and India are racing to find a coronavirus vaccine. But international standards are not always being respected. Some researchers have even tested possible remedies on themselves.

<https://www.spiegel.de/international/world/corona-cutting-corners-in-the-race-for-a-vaccine-a-a5276781-7d13-432e-8862-6caf3922906c>

For more on this theme:

What's Behind Mainland Southeast Asia's Surprising Success Against COVID-19

<https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/28979/what-s-behind-mainland-southeast-asia-s-surprising-success-against-covid-19>

Who would benefit from a successful Chinese COVID-19 vaccine?

<https://thehill.com/opinion/healthcare/511612-who-will-benefit-from-a-successful-chinese-covid-19-vaccine>

CORONAVIRUS, NATIONAL SECURITY AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Pandemic's Squeeze on International Trade

Seema Gahlaut – Stimson: 7 August 2020

This is an interview with Seema Gahlaut, a senior fellow with the Trade, Technology and Security Program at the Stimson Center on the pandemic's implications for globalization, foreign direct investment, supply chains and some recommendations for post-pandemic recovery.

<https://www.stimson.org/2020/the-pandemics-squeeze-on-international-trade/>

For more on this theme:

How COVID-19 Sheds Light on Disaster Policy's Need to Prepare for Multiple, Sequential Emergencies

<https://www.rand.org/blog/2020/08/how-covid-19-sheds-light-on-disaster-policys-need-to.html>

Lessons from Coronavirus: Is Finland's Preparedness as Stellar as its Reputation?

<https://www.rusi.org/commentary/lessons-coronavirus-finland-preparation>

From COVID19 pandemic to epidemic of spurious analysis

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/from-covid19-pandemic-to-epidemic-of-spurious-analysis/>

Global Health Security: COVID-19 and Its Impacts – Small States and Pandemic: The UAE Approach

<https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/rsis/global-health-security-covid-19-and-its-impacts-small-states-and-pandemic-the-uae-approach/#.XzWcxUxFw2x>