

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

South Africa's Ramaphosa Tackles Corruption and Strengthens His Hand

John Campbell – Council on Foreign Relations: 3 September 2020

While critics have accused South African President Cyril Ramaphosa of moving too slowly on reforms and corruption, he has been looking to shut down graft, especially in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. He has called for members of his own party to be suspended from office if accused of corruption.

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/south-africas-ramaphosa-tackles-corruption-and-strengthens-his-hand>

When Corruption Funds the Political System: A Case Study of Honduras

Daniel Sabet – Wilson Center: August 2020

This report focuses on the four most salient types of corruption in Honduras: embezzlement of social development funds, procurement corruption, organized crime corruption, and patronage abuses in the bureaucracy. While each is distinct, in all four cases, corrupt proceeds help fund political campaigns, making corruption a core input to the political system.

https://www.wilsoncenter.org/sites/default/files/media/uploads/documents/When%20Corruption%20Funds%20the%20Political%20System_Final.pdf

For more on this theme:

Saudi governors, commanders fired over corruption at tourism projects

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/1722506/saudi-arabia>

Mexico's Anti-Graft President Hit Where It Hurts Him Most

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-08-23/mexico-s-anti-corruption-president-hit-where-it-hurts-him-most>

Corruption in purchase of Covid-19 PPEs is murder, WHO boss says

<https://nation.africa/kenya/news/corruption-in-purchase-of-covid-19-ppes-is-murder-who-boss-says-1923960>

Denmark proposes use of blockchain in fight against corruption

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/denmark-proposes-use-of-blockchain-in-fight-against-corruption>

Ex-Venezuela Official Flees to Aid U.S. in Corruption Probe

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-08-31/ex-venezuela-official-flees-to-aid-u-s-in-corruption-probe>

30 Years of Corruption: Lebanon's Struggle for Reform

<https://intpolicydigest.org/2020/08/30/30-years-of-corruption-lebanon-s-struggle-for-reform/>

Covid Graft Plague Spurs Political Shake-Up Across Africa

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-09-03/covid-corruption-plague-spurs-political-shake-up-across-africa?srnd=premium>

Mexican president forges crucible for corruption fight, eyeing key vote

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mexico-president-analysis/mexican-president-forges-crucible-for-corruption-fight-eyeing-key-vote-idUSKBN2501PT>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

The pitfalls of poppy licensing in Mexico

Vanda Felbab-Brown – Brookings: 31 August 2020

Early on, President Andrés Manuel López Obrador's administration seemed ready to explore whether licensing opium poppy for medical purposes was a way to address the plant's significant illegal cultivation in Mexico. But poppy licensing is not an easy proposition.

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/08/31/the-pitfalls-of-poppy-licensing-in-mexico/>

COVID-19 No Match for Southeast Asia's Booming Drug Trade

Zsombor Peter – Voice of America: 30 August 2020

"We think it's business as usual in 2020, which is to say that supply is still surging just as it has been in the last few years," says Jeremy Douglas, Southeast Asia and the Pacific chief for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, about the Southeast Asian drug trade.

<https://www.voanews.com/south-central-asia/covid-19-no-match-southeast-asias-booming-drug-trade>

For more on this theme:

Drug trafficking, a challenge for international cooperation in times of pandemic

<https://en.yabiladi.com/articles/details/98381/drug-trafficking-challenge-international-cooperation.html>

Brazil police arrest more than 400 people in drug gang crackdown

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-brazil-crime/brazil-police-arrest-more-than-400-people-in-drug-gang-crackdown-idUSKBN25R22B?il=0>

DOJ: Transnational wildlife and drug trafficking operation dismantled

<https://www.wtoc.com/2020/09/03/transnational-wildlife-drug-trafficking-operation-dismantled/>

Pakistan: Anti Narcotics Force capacity enhanced to counter drug trafficking

<https://gulfnnews.com/world/asia/pakistan/pakistan-anti-narcotics-force-capacity-enhanced-to-counter-drug-trafficking-1.73486693>

How badly does India crave for banned drugs?

<https://www.indiatoday.in/diu/story/india-crave-banned-drug-national-drug-sushant-singh-ra-jput-1717793-2020-09-02>

Gang Busted Vicious drugs gang promised jobs to vulnerable people before sending them to work in grow houses and sell heroin

<https://www.thesun.ie/news/5834597/drugs-gang-jobs-vulnerable-work-heroin/>

The Sicilianization of Mexican Drug Cartels

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/the-sicilianization-of-mexican-drug-cartels/>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Vietnam Wildlife Trafficking Arrests Rise, After COVID-19 Link to Animals

Voice of America: 1 September 2020

Data suggests that authorities in Vietnam are following through with their post-COVID discovery wildlife bans.

<https://www.voanews.com/covid-19-pandemic/vietnam-wildlife-trafficking-arrests-rise-after-covid-19-link-animals>

Under cover of COVID-19, loggers plunder Cambodian wildlife sanctuary

Chris Humphrey – Mongabay: 31 August 2020

Keo Seima Wildlife Sanctuary in Cambodia has lost almost a fifth of its forest cover since 2010, largely to agricultural expansion, illegal logging and land grabbing. The COVID-19 pandemic has exacerbated the problem by locking out international conservation groups that would otherwise maintain a presence on the ground.

<https://news.mongabay.com/2020/08/under-cover-of-covid-19-loggers-plunder-cambodian-wildlife-sanctuary/>

For more on this theme:

Illegal mining costs Afghanistan millions annually: UN

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/asia-pacific/illegal-mining-costs-afghanistan-millions-annually-un/1952838>

The threat of illegal, unreported and unregulated (IUU) fishing

<https://www.newdelhitimes.com/the-threat-of-illegal-unreported-and-unregulated-iuu-fishing/>

How We Can Use the CITES Wildlife Trade Agreement to Help Prevent Pandemics

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/how-we-can-use-the-cites-wildlife-trade-agreement-to-help-prevent-pandemics/>

Philippine wildlife reporting app promises to upgrade fight against trafficking

<https://news.mongabay.com/2020/09/philippine-wildlife-reporting-app-promises-to-upgrade-fight-against-trafficking/>

Illegal wildlife trade in Southeast Asia and China

<https://www.traffic.org/publications/reports/shifting-dynamics-of-illegal-wildlife-trade-in-southeast-asia-and-china/>

Five reasons people buy illegal wildlife products – and how to stop them

<https://theconversation.com/five-reasons-people-buy-illegal-wildlife-products-and-how-to-stop-them-145493>

Covid deals a blow to saving critically endangered Northern White rhino

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/covid-deals-blow-saving-northern-white-rhino-a9698091.html>

Amazon tribes are using drones to track deforestation in the Brazilian rainforest

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/09/01/americas/amazon-drones-brazil-deforestation-cte-spc-intl/index.html>

China's demand for luxury wood furniture 'fuels' West Africa's deforestation

<https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/rest-of-africa/china-s-demand-for-luxury-wood-furniture-fuels-west-africa-s-deforestation-1930440>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Channel migrants: Facebook and YouTube accused of allowing posts linked to people

Nigel Morris – inews: 3 September 2020

Facebook, YouTube and other social media organizations have refused to shut down many pages understood to be used by networks for people-smuggling, despite requests from United Kingdom Home Office staff and police, members of Parliament have been told.

<https://inews.co.uk/news/politics/channel-migrants-latest-facebook-youtube-accused-posts-people-smuggling-dangerous-crossings-626645>

For more on this theme:

225 anti-human-trafficking units in India exist only on paper

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/delhi/2020/sep/01/225-anti-human-trafficking-units-in-india-exist-only-on-paper-2190943.html>

COVID-19 fallout drives Tunisians to Italy despite deportations

<https://www.thenewhumanitarian.org/news-feature/2020/09/01/Italy-Tunisia-migration-deportations-coronavirus>

ORGANIZED CRIME

The burgeoning Balkan-Latin American crime nexus threatening the Balkans' future

Ryan C. Berg and Ivana Stradner – American Enterprise Institute: 3 September 2020

In a significant development in the world of organized crime, Balkan criminal groups are now deeply connected to Latin America's prolific drug trafficking networks. Criminal groups throughout Latin America now count Balkan organized crime groups as some of their most valued international partners.

<https://www.aei.org/foreign-and-defense-policy/the-burgeoning-balkan-latin-american-crime-nexus-threatening-the-balkans-future/>

For more on this theme:

The Impact of Organized Crime in Fisheries Extends Far Beyond the Ocean

<https://www.wri.org/blog/2020/08/fisheries-organized-crime>

Criminal Governance Under Coronavirus: How Colombian Groups Seized the Day

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/criminal-governance-coronavirus-colombia/>

How Colombia's Lockdown Created Ideal Conditions for Child Recruitment

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/colombia-lockdown-child-recruitment/>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET FREEDOM

Iran Proposes Bill For Tighter Online Censorship, 'Military Control' Of Internet

Golnaz Esfandiari – Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty: 29 August 2020

Iranian lawmakers submitted a controversial draft bill to the parliament that could result in harsher online censorship by giving control of the country's internet gateways to the armed forces, including the notorious Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps.

<https://www.rferl.org/a/iran-tighter-online-censorship-military-control-of-internet/30810346.html>

For more on this theme:

(Iran) Iran Lawmakers Aim To Fully Ban All 'Foreign' Messaging Apps

<https://en.radiofarda.com/a/iran-lawmakers-aim-to-fully-ban-all-foreign-messaging-apps/30802448.html>

(China) Former Chinese Censor Calls on Social Media Users to Stand Up For Free Speech

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/censor-09022020095239.html>

(Cambodia) Cambodia plans China-style internet firewall

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Cambodia-plans-China-style-internet-firewall>

(Belarus) Belarus: Internet Disruptions, Online Censorship

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2020/08/28/belarus-internet-disruptions-online-censorship>

CYBER STATECRAFT

Australian government releases voluntary IoT cybersecurity code of practice

Aimee Chanthadavong – ZDNet: 3 September 2020

The Australian government has released a voluntary code of practice for securing the internet of things in Australia.

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/australian-government-releases-voluntary-iot-cybersecurity-code-of-practice/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) Federal cyber agency releases strategy to secure 5G networks

<https://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/513449-federal-cyber-agency-releases-strategy-to-secure-us-5g-networks>

(U.S., China) FBI warns corporations about Chinese theft

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/aug/26/fbi-warns-businesses-about-chinas-theft/>

(U.S., U.K.) Coordinating Artificial Intelligence: Six Lessons from the US

<https://www.rusi.org/commentary/coordinating-artificial-intelligence-six-lessons-us>

(Australia, China) Cyber attacks from state-based actor increasing

<https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/cyber-attacks-from-state-based-actor-increasing-20200903-p55s0g.html>

CYBER ATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

Pioneer Kitten APT Sells Corporate Network Access

Elizabeth Montalbano – Threat Post: 1 September 2020

An advanced persistent threat (APT) group known as Pioneer Kitten, linked to Iran, has been spotted selling corporate-network credentials on hacker forums. The credentials would let other cyber criminal groups and APTs perform cyber espionage and other nefarious cyber activity.

<https://threatpost.com/pioneer-kitten-apt-sells-corporate-network-access/158833/>

For more on this theme:

(China, Global) China-based APT Debuts Sepulcher Malware in Spear-Phishing Attacks

<https://threatpost.com/chinese-apt-sepulcher-malware-phishing-attacks/158871/>

(New Zealand) Minister: New Zealand enduring wave of cyberattacks

<https://apnews.com/ad1290487ce5475644c567525d77d064>

(Norway) Cyber-Attack on Norwegian Parliament

<https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/cyberattack-on-norwegian/>

(Global) Nearly A Million Printers At Risk Of Attack, Thousands Hacked To Prove It

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/leemathews/2020/08/31/800000-printers-vulnerable-28000-hacked/?ss=cybersecurity#14dd1d18d8a9>

(U.S., Global) Musk confirms Tesla Nevada factory was target of ‘serious’ cyberattack

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-tesla-cyber/musk-confirms-tesla-nevada-factory-was-target-of-serious-cyberattack-idUSKBN25007K>

CYBER CRIME

Cybercrime, deterrence and evading attack

Nicholas Coppel and Lennon Yao-Chung Chang – The Strategist: 2 September 2020

Australia’s 2020 cyber security strategy says the government can choose to name and shame countries behind malicious cyber attacks. While it has the capacity to do so, what are the options for economies that are much smaller or less developed?

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/cybercrime-deterrence-and-evading-attack/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) The most popular brand websites that hackers use for typosquatting campaigns

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/typosquatting-palo-alto-networks-unit-42-wells-fargo-netflix-facebook-microsoft/>

(U.S., China) Chinese researcher charged with destroying evidence relating to illegal transfer of US tech

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/chinese-ucla-researcher-charged-with-destroying-evidence-relating-to-illegal-transfer-of-us-tech/>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Expert commentary says only 10% of tech talent has cyber skills to fill skills gap

FE News: 4 September 2020

Only 10% of internet technology professionals have the cyber security skills the United Kingdom's tech sector needs to fill the skills gap, according to a recent study by recruitment firm Robert Walters and data firm Vacancysoft.

<https://www.fenews.co.uk/press-releases/54318-expert-commentary-says-only-10-of-tech-talent-has-cyber-skills-to-fill-skills-gap>

For more on this theme:

(Lesotho) Lesotho should prioritise affordable internet access for all its people

<https://www.businesslive.co.za/bd/opinion/2020-09-02-lesotho-should-prioritise-affordable-internet-access-for-all-its-people/>

(ASEAN) Pan-ASEAN Covid-19 recovery plan needed to thrust bloc into Internet 4.0

<https://www.phnompenhpost.com/opinion/pan-asean-covid-19-recovery-plan-needed-thrust-bloc-internet-40>

(India) 'Digital India' is not prepared for digital education

<https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/digital-education-online-classes-learning-coronavirus-national-education-policy-6580744/>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Australia to embed intelligence officers within some private companies: cyber chief

Colin Packham – Reuters: 3 September 2020

As part of the strengthening of cyber defenses, Australia will embed intelligence officers in some private companies. This move comes in the wake of a spate of cyber attacks this year on critical infrastructure.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-australia-security/australia-to-embed-intelligence-officers-within-some-private-companies-cyber-chief-idUSKBN25U1YT>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Is Critical Infrastructure Ready for Quantum?

<https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/opinions/critical-infrastructure-quantum/>

(U.S., Global) The Energy-Sector Threat: How to Address Cybersecurity Vulnerabilities

<https://www.powermag.com/the-energy-sector-threat-how-to-address-cybersecurity-vulnerabilities/>

(Germany, Global) Protection against cyberattacks: More IT security in port terminals

<https://techxplore.com/news/2020-09-cyberattacks-port-terminals.html>

CYBER EXERCISES AND TRAINING

Wargaming Cyber Security

Benjamin Schechter – War on the Rocks: 4 September 2020

“Wargames can save lives” is axiomatic in the wargame community. But can they save your network? Designed well and used appropriately, cyber wargames are a powerful tool for cyber research and education. However, misconceptions about what cyber wargames are, their uses, and potential abuses pose challenges to the development of cyber wargaming.

<https://warontherocks.com/2020/09/wargaming-cyber-security/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Here's what US Cyber Command wants next for its training platform

<https://www.c4isrnet.com/cyber/2020/08/20/heres-what-us-cyber-command-wants-next-for-its-training-platform/>

(U.S.) National Guard cyber exercise to increase focus on information operations

<https://www.c4isrnet.com/cyber/2020/09/02/national-guard-cyber-exercise-to-increase-focus-on-information-operations/>

(Global) (ISC)² gives out blueprint for building enterprise-wide cyber training programs

<https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/93269-isc-gives-out-blueprint-for-building-enterprise-wide-cyber-training-programs>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Who Is the New Leader of Islamic State-Khorasan Province?

Abdul Sayed – Lawfare: 2 September 2020

The Islamic State in Khorasan Province (ISKP), appears to be struggling in Afghanistan. But the remnants of ISKP are trying to reconstitute the group. Recently, ISKP appointed Shahab al-Muhajir as its new regional chief. According to multiple sources, the newly appointed head of ISKP is an Arab from the Middle East who was previously with al-Qaida in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region.

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/who-new-leader-islamic-state-khorasan-province>

2020 Jolo Suicide Attack: Evolving Tactics

Kenneth Yeo and Remy Mahzam – S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies: 31 August 2020

The 24 August 2020 suicide bombing in Jolo, which involved female attackers, has brought attention to the emergence of the pro-ISIS Hatib Hajan Sawadjaan faction of the Abu Sayyaf Group and its tactic of engaging women for this role.

<https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/icpvtr/2020-jolo-suicide-attack-evolving-tactics/#.X1F2BUxF-w2w>

For more on this theme:

Pro-IS Home-Based Schooling in Indonesia

<https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/icpvtr/pro-is-home-based-schooling-in-indonesia/#.X1F2CExF-w2w>

ISIS launched more than 100 attacks in Iraq in August, a sharp uptick from previous month

<https://www.foxnews.com/world/isis-launches-more-than-100-attacks-in-iraq-throughout-august-a-sharp-uptick-from-previous-month>

Amid peace talks with Taliban, ISIS is gaining strength

<https://sofrep.com/news/taliban-peace-talks-make-room-for-isis/>

Spending the Pandemic in an Iraqi Jail

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/09/03/islamic-state-women-rusafa-prison-covid-19-release/>

Islamic State: Giant library of group's online propaganda discovered

<https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-54011034>

Turkey Announces Arrest of a Major Islamic State Militant

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/01/world/middleeast/turkey-islamic-state-arrest.html>

A Policy Response to Islamic State Extremist Fighter Battlefield Migration

<https://publications.armywarcollege.edu/pubs/3734.pdf>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Breaking Hezbollah's 'Golden Rule': An Inside Look at the Modus Operandi of Hezbollah's Islamic Jihad Organization

Matthew Levitt – Universiteit Leiden: August 2020

Hezbollah is a multifaceted organization engaged in a wide range of activities, from overt social and political activities to covert militant, criminal and terrorist activities. While Hezbollah has a vested interest in publicizing the former, which it does through the television, radio, online and social media platforms it operates, the group goes to great lengths to conceal its militant and criminal activities.

<https://www.universiteitleiden.nl/binaries/content/assets/customsites/perspectives-on-terrorism/2020/issue-4/levitt.pdf>

For more on this theme:

What's Left of the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan?

<https://thediplomat.com/2020/08/whats-left-of-the-islamic-movement-of-uzbekistan/>

Mutating Terror Threat Still Looms Over Europe

<https://www.thedefensepost.com/2020/08/28/terror-threat-europe/>

France's terrorism risk remains 'extremely high', says minister

<https://www.dw.com/en/frances-terrorism-risk-remains-extremely-high-says-minister/a-54774142>

Change of guard for Al-Shabaab as leader falls sick

<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/africa/article/2001384609/change-of-guard-for-al-shabaab-as-leader-falls-sick>

After the Beirut Blast, Hezbollah Almost Went to War

<https://www.thenation.com/article/world/lebanon-hezbollah-israel-war/>

Lebanon Is Paralyzed by Fear of Another Civil War

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/09/02/lebanon-is-nearing-the-brink-of-civil-war-again/>

Hamas announces new deal to end escalation of conflict with Israel

<https://www.dw.com/en/hamas-announces-new-deal-to-end-escalation-of-conflict-with-israel/a-54775150>

Expansion of Boko Haram continues to present security challenges in West Africa

<https://www.newdelhitimes.com/expansion-of-boko-haram-continues-to-present-security-challenges-in-west-africa/>

Watchdog Warns of 'Limited Progress' in Africa Counterterror Fight

<https://www.voanews.com/covid-19-pandemic/watchdog-warns-limited-progress-africa-counterterror-fight>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

The Islamic State's gendered recruitment tactics

Nethra Palepu and Rutvi Zamre – Observer Research Foundation: 29 August 2020

ISIS effectively uses propaganda to recruit and indoctrinate its members. It does so through widespread English publications that facilitate the recruitment of Muslims from all over the world. While these publications are largely targeted toward men who can answer ISIS' call to arms, they also address their "sisters" in various corners of the world, encouraging them to join the Islamic State.

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/the-islamic-states-gendered-recruitment-tactics/>

For more on this theme:

Understanding the full spectrum of hate

<https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/understanding-full-spectrum-hate>

PERSPECTIVE: How Men and Women Were Drawn to the Hyper-Gendered ISIS Caliphate

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/perspective-how-men-and-women-were-drawn-to-the-hyper-gendered-isis-caliphate/>

Why Fewer Indians Have Joined ISIS

<https://idsa.in/issuebrief/why-fewer-indians-have-joined-isis-arasheed-310820>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: DISINFORMATION AND MALIGN INFLUENCE

Pushing back against the Chinese Communist Party's coercive diplomacy

Fergus Hanson, Emilia Currey and Tracy Beattie – The Strategist: 1 September 2020

The Chinese Communist Party's coercive diplomacy over the past few years has spanned commodities and continents. However, countries' responses have remained largely short-sighted and unilateral.

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/pushing-back-against-the-chinese-communist-partys-coercive-diplomacy/>

Full report:

The Chinese Communist Party's coercive diplomacy

<https://www.aspi.org.au/report/chinese-communist-partys-coercive-diplomacy>

For more on this theme:

COVID-19 and China's information diplomacy in Southeast Asia

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/09/03/covid-19-and-chinas-information-diplomacy-in-southeast-asia/>

The Czechs are giving Europe a lesson on how to deal with China

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/2020/09/03/czechs-are-giving-europe-lesson-how-deal-with-china/>

Exclusive: India steps up scrutiny of Chinese influence group

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-india-china-visas-exclusive/exclusive-india-steps-up-scrutiny-of-chinese-influence-group-idUSKBN25U1KW>

CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

World ‘Can’t Pretend Pandemic is Over,’ WHO Chief Says

Voice of America: 1 September 2020

The head of the World Health Organization is warning that “no country can just pretend the pandemic is over.” Speaking to reporters during a virtual briefing from the agency’s headquarters in Geneva, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said countries must be serious about “suppressing transmission and saving lives” if they are considering reopening their economies to everyday activities in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic.

<https://www.voanews.com/covid-19-pandemic/world-cant-pretend-pandemic-over-who-chief-says>

For more on this theme:

Regionalism and COVID-19: How EU-ASEAN Inter-regionalism Can Strengthen Pandemic Management

https://www.rsis.edu.sg/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/PR200826_Regionalism-and-Covid19_v2.pdf

COVID-19 is a perfect cover for Xi Jinping’s stealth nationalization

<https://www.aei.org/foreign-and-defense-policy/covid-19-is-a-perfect-cover-for-xi-jinpings-stealth-nationalization/>

Governance in the Arab region: Experts discuss public responses to COVID-19

<https://www.brookings.edu/opinions/governance-in-the-arab-region-experts-discuss-public-responses-to-covid-19/>

South Africa Provides Good News on Seasonal Influenza

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/south-africa-provides-good-news-seasonal-influenza>

Humanitarian Assistance in the Asia-Pacific during COVID-19

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