

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
- Organized Crime

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

- Internet Freedom
- Privacy and Security
- Cyber Statecraft
- Cyber Capacity Building
- Cyber Attacks, Threats and Vulnerabilities
- Cyber Crime
- Cyber Protection of Critical Infrastructure

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

- ISIS and Foreign Fighters
- Terrorism Around the World
- Radicalization and Messaging
- Irregular Warfare: Disinformation and Malign Influence

CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

- Coronavirus Pandemic

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Three Ways Ungass 2021 Can Create A Pathbreaking Legacy In Addressing Grand Corruption

Delia Ferreira Rubio – Transparency International: 7 September 2020

Delia Ferreira Rubio, Transparency International's chair, spoke at the September special session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption and called for the upcoming U.N. General Assembly Against Corruption (UNGASS 2021) to focus on fighting grand corruption.

<https://www.transparency.org/en/blog/three-reform-areas-grand-corruption-ungass-2021>

How corruption undermines peacebuilding in Nigeria's oil region

Obasesam Okoi – The Conversation: 8 September 2020

Nigeria's peace-building program, meant to reintegrate amnestied insurgents into the economy and society, is low on resources due to mismanagement and malfeasance by vendors contracted to offer the program's services.

<https://theconversation.com/how-corruption-undermines-peacebuilding-in-nigerias-oil-region-145121>

For more on this theme:

In South Africa, Covid-19 Has Exposed Greed And Spurred Long-Needed Action Against Corruption

<https://www.transparency.org/en/blog/in-south-africa-covid-19-has-exposed-greed-and-spurred-long-needed-action-against-corruption>

Poll suggests corruption is getting worse and many expect it will worsen

<https://mexiconewsdaily.com/news/poll-suggests-corruption-is-getting-worse-and-many-expect-it-will-worsen/>

Riyadh to Probe Chief of Saudi Forces in Yemen for Graft

<https://www.occrp.org/en/daily/13061-riyadh-to-probe-chief-of-saudi-forces-in-yemen-for-graft>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Cornwall's Drug Dealers Are Teaming Up to Combat Big City Drug Gangs

Rebecca Tidy – Vice: 9 September 2020

Smaller-scale drug dealers in rural England are teaming up to keep big-city drug gangs from infringing on their territories, sometimes violently. Like an illicit chamber of commerce, an organization of local drug dealers in Cornwall even has regular meetings to discuss business issues.

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/dyz9bz/cornwall-drug-dealers-county-lines-an-gof

Colombia-Mexico Links Alleged in Narco-Sub Caught in Pacific

Parker Asmann – InSight Crime: 1 September 2020

A semisubmersible vessel loaded with more than 1 ton of cocaine was intercepted and impounded by the Colombian Navy. The \$1 million submarine, carrying drugs from former FARC revolutionaries turned drug traffickers to Mexico's Jalisco New Generation cartel, is an example of the cash-rich cartels' innovation.

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/colombia-mexico-links-alleged-in-narco-sub-caught-in-pacific/>

For more on this theme:

Mexico to Probe the Diversion of U.S. Chemicals Into Drug Trade

<https://www.bloombergquint.com/onweb/mexico-to-probe-the-diversion-of-u-s-chemicals-into-drug-trade>

Man ran two-year drug smuggling operation from three prisons

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-scotland-tayside-central-54062677>

DEA: Drug traffickers are finding creative ways to smuggle meth across the border

<https://foxsanantonio.com/news/yami-investigates/dea-drug-traffickers-are-finding-creative-ways-to-smuggle-meth-across-the-border>

Urabeños Reactivate Montes de María Drug Route in Northern Colombia

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/urabenos-montes-de-maria-colombia/>

Morocco Seizes 3,700 Kilograms of Cannabis Resin Near Casablanca

<https://www.moroccoworldnews.com/2020/09/317626/morocco-seizes-3700-kilograms-of-cannabis-resin-near-casablanca/>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

In bid to protect a Philippine pangolin stronghold, little talk of enforcement

Keith Anthony Fabro – Mongabay: 9 September 2020

Authorities in the Philippines have a new management plan to ecologically protect the island of Palawan, which is enduring deforestation due to illegal logging and poaching of the endangered Philippine pangolin, as well as illegal mining. Critics say the plan won't work without greatly increased enforcement of violations.

<https://news.mongabay.com/2020/09/in-bid-to-protect-a-philippine-pangolin-stronghold-little-talk-of-enforcement/>

COVID-19, Rising Gold Prices and Illegal Mining Threaten Indigenous Lands in the Amazon

Peter Veit and Patricia Quijano Vallejos – World Resources Institute: 8 September 2020

Due to the economic impact of COVID-19 stay-at-home orders, many people in South America have lost their means of making a living, while the pandemic has also caused a spike in the price of gold as a hedge against economic uncertainty. The combination has incentivized a new gold rush in the Amazon.

<https://www.wri.org/blog/2020/09/covid-19-rising-gold-prices-and-illegal-mining-threaten-indigenous-lands-amazon>

For more on this theme:

New tracking technology will help fight rhino poaching in Namibia

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2020/09/200909124022.htm>

Agents bust international shark finning, drug trafficking ring

https://www.upi.com/Top_News/US/2020/09/04/Agents-bust-international-shark-finning-drug-trafficking-ring/3371599192805/

How China's expanding fishing fleet is depleting the world's oceans

<https://www.greenbiz.com/article/how-chinas-expanding-fishing-fleet-depleting-worlds-oceans>

South Africa's Illegal Miners Risk Everything for Gold

<https://www.voanews.com/africa/south-africas-illegal-miners-risk-everything-gold>

Venezuela Fuels an Amazon Gold Rush With Petrodollars Drying Up

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2020-08-31/venezuela-fuels-amazonian-gold-rush-with-petrodollars-drying-up>

Porcupines Face a Poaching Crisis—and It's All Because of What's in Their Stomachs

<https://www.scientificamerican.com/article/porcupines-face-a-poaching-crisis-mdash-and-its-all-because-of-whats-in-their-stomachs/>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

How UNODC is Fighting Human Trafficking

Jacob E. Lee – Borgen Magazine: 9 September 2020

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, in partnership with the European Union and the International Organization for Migration, started a program to stop targeted trafficking in Asia and the Middle East by assisting governments and supporting victims. The Global Action against Trafficking in Persons and the Smuggling of Migrants initiative is being implemented in four countries.

<https://www.borgenmagazine.com/unodc/>

Muslim migrants and refugees, who is responsible for them?

Asad Mirza – Kashmir Images: 10 September 2020

Islam teaches that Muslims have a religious and humanitarian obligation to take in and protect refugees and should stop blaming the West and looking for the West to solve the current refugee crisis that afflicts so many Muslims.

<https://thekashmirimages.com/2020/09/10/muslim-migrants-and-refugees-who-is-responsible-for-them/>

For more on this theme:

Thousands of Asylum Seekers Homeless After Europe's Largest Migrant Camp Burns to the Ground

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/n7wyx8/moria-refugee-camp-fire

Migrants trying to reach Europe pushed to deadly Atlantic

<https://apnews.com/714bd1e3dd8320993866303413db5fb7>

New USD 1.5 million Law Enforcement Project to Counter Trafficking in Persons in Ethiopia

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/frontpage/2020/September/new-usd-1-5-million-law-enforcement-project-to-counter-trafficking-in-persons-in-ethiopia.html>

Child sex trafficking risks are increasing because of COVID-19. Why?

<https://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/opinion/columnists/iowa-view/2020/09/05/child-sex-trafficking-risks-increasing-because-covid-19/5685465002/>

Largest Rohingya Group to Arrive in Indonesia Since 2015 Receives Support in North Aceh

<https://www.iom.int/news/largest-rohingya-group-arrive-indonesia-2015-receives-support-north-aceh>

UK, Romania Bust Ring Trafficking Girls to Europe

<https://balkaninsight.com/2020/09/10/uk-romania-bust-ring-trafficking-girls-to-europe/>

UNHCR and IOM call for urgent disembarkation of rescued migrants and refugees in Central Mediterranean Sea

<https://www.unhcr.org/news/press/2020/8/5f491cb64/unhcr-iom-call-urgent-disembarkation-rescued-migrants-refugees-central.html>

US Marshals rescue 8 missing children in Indiana; 73 recovered nationwide since August

<https://www.christianpost.com/news/us-marshals-rescue-8-missing-children-in-indiana-73-recovered-nationwide-since-august.html>

ORGANIZED CRIME

How to Run a Criminal Network in a Pandemic

Lindsey Kennedy and Nathan Paul Southern – Foreign Policy: 5 September 2020

Organized crime groups, always innovative and resilient, are finding workarounds to the same distribution issues that trouble legitimate businesses during the pandemic. Demand for drugs and other illicit goods has not diminished, and dealers are upgrading marketing and delivery processes.

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2020/09/05/pandemic-criminal-network-drug-dealers-human-traffickers/>

Holy Rollers: The Religious Leaders Using Churches to Launder Illicit Cash Across the Americas

Columbia Journalism Investigations and the Latin American Center for Investigative Journalism – Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project: 27 August 2020

Churches throughout the Western Hemisphere have long been used to launder illicit money. Protected by tax and privacy laws in many countries – and holding a special place of respect and consideration in many communities – churches are often well placed to launder money.

<https://www.occrp.org/en/investigations/holy-rollers-the-religious-leaders-using-churches-to-launder-illicit-cash-across-the-americas>

For more on this theme:

Venezuela's Baseball Academies Batting Away Extortion Threats

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/venezuela-baseball-academies-batting-away-extortion/>

New EU-wide AML system is needed to co-ordinate national supervisors – European Commission FinCrime chief interview

<https://amlintelligence.com/2020/09/new-eu-wide-aml-system-needed-to-co-ordinate-national-supervisors-european-commission-fincrime-chief/>

Kuwait targeted by international money launderers

https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/legal/story/Kuwait_targeted_by_international_money_launderers-SNG_183954441/

Powerful Slovak Businessman Cleared of Murdering Journalist

<https://www.occrp.org/en/a-journalists-undying-legacy/powerful-slovak-businessman-accused-of-murdering-journalist-walks-free>

3 Dirty Secrets Revealed by the El Salvador Gang 'Negotiations'

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/secrets-el-salvador-gang-negotiations/>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET FREEDOM

Internet Governance Key to Media Freedom in Albania

Sofija Todorović – Balkan Insight: 10 September 2020

Proposed regulations on internet content providers in Albania, intended to place guidelines on social media, are a threat to freedom of information and the media, critics say. A new report looks at the rights and responsibility of online publications and governance, which are important for strengthening freedom of expression and professional online journalism.

<https://balkaninsight.com/2020/09/10/internet-governance-key-to-media-freedom-in-albania/>

For more on this theme:

(Uganda) Government to license online posts in fresh assault on freedom of expression

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2020/09/uganda-government-to-license-online-posts-in-fresh-assault-on-freedom-of-expression/>

(Brazil) Brazil's "fake news" bill won't solve its misinformation problem

<https://www.technologyreview.com/2020/09/10/1008254/brazil-fake-news-bill-misinformation-opinion/>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

7 Cybersecurity Priorities for Government Agencies & Political Campaigns

Dan Blum – Dark Reading: 9 September 2020

As Election Day approaches in the United States, concerned organizations need to take measures to protect their digital systems from attack, including campaign processes, voter registration systems and election infrastructure.

<https://www.darkreading.com/application-security/7-cybersecurity-priorities-for-government-agencies-and-political-campaigns/a/d-id/1338814>

For more on this theme:

(Global) VPNs: The Cyber Elephant in the Room

<https://www.darkreading.com/vulnerabilities---threats/vpns-the-cyber-elephant-in-the-room/a/d-id/1338810>

(Global) Twitch Launches Encrypted Messaging, In-Chat Payments on BSV Blockchain

<https://www.coindesk.com/twitch-chat-encrypted-messaging-bsv>

(U.S., Global) Most cyber-security reports only focus on the cool threats

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/most-cyber-security-reports-only-focus-on-the-cool-threats/>

CYBER STATECRAFT

From Reaction to Action: Adopting a Competitive Posture in Cyber Diplomacy

Emily O. Goldman – Texas National Security Review: Fall 2020

Cyberspace has become a major battleground for great power competition where illiberal regimes are working to line up the digital ecosystem with their authoritarian values. The United States and its allies need to regain the initiative in strategic cyber competition and proactively take the lead in developing cyber norms.

<https://tnsr.org/2020/09/from-reaction-to-action-adopting-a-competitive-posture-in-cyber-diplomacy/>

For more on this theme:

(Italy) Revisiting Italy's Artificial Intelligence National Strategy – Analysis

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/05092020-revisiting-italys-artificial-intelligence-national-strategy-analysis/>

(Australia) Australia: Government's vision for a cyber secure future

<https://www.dataguidance.com/opinion/australia-governments-vision-cyber-secure-future>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Making A U.S. Digital Service Academy Work

Harrison Schramm and Todd Lyons – War on the Rocks: 10 September 2020

A proposal for the United States to create a Digital Service Academy along the same lines as its military service academies would vastly improve the quality and quantity of the cyber workforce and establish a standard of competency by which digital education and the broader workforce can be measured.

<https://warontherocks.com/2020/09/making-a-u-s-digital-service-academy-work/>

For more on this theme:

(China, U.S., Global) Chinese cyber power is neck-and-neck with US, Harvard research finds

<https://www.cyberscoop.com/chinese-cyber-power-united-states-harvard-belfer-research/>

(U.S.) How to Compete in Cyberspace: An Accompaniment

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/how-compete-cyberspace-accompaniment>

(EU) Europe falling behind the US and China on cybersecurity funding, expertise

<https://portswigger.net/daily-swig/europe-falling-behind-the-us-and-china-on-cybersecurity-funding-expertise>

CYBER ATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

Hackers Are Trying To Break Into This Bitcoin Wallet Holding \$690 Million

Lorenzo Franceschi-Bicchieri – Vice: 9 September 2020

Hackers have been trading a Bitcoin “wallet” that allegedly contains \$690 million worth of the cyber currency. However, nobody has been able to break the security algorithms and some analysts think the wallet may have been forged to con the hacker-thieves.

https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/bv8k4v/hackers-are-trying-to-break-into-this-bitcoin-wallet-holding-dollar690-million

For more on this theme:

(Norway) A foreign state may be behind the computer attack on parliament

<https://norwaytoday.info/news/a-foreign-state-may-be-behind-the-computer-attack-on-parliament/>

(France) France warns of Emotet attacking companies, administration

<https://www.bleepingcomputer.com/news/security/france-warns-of-emotet-attacking-companies-administration/>

(Argentina) Argentina Refuses to Pay Ransom After Hackers Force Border Shutdown, Demand Millions in Bitcoin

<https://www.newsweek.com/argentina-ransom-hackers-bitcoin-1530889>

CYBER CRIME

Ransomware: Huge rise in attacks this year as cyber criminals hunt bigger pay days

Danny Palmer – ZDNet: 9 September 2020

Ransomware attacks have increased sevenfold in 2020 since the COVID-19 pandemic sent a large percentage of the white-collar workforce home to work remotely. And the cyber criminals’ tactics are evolving – and becoming more damaging – as fast as countermeasures are developed.

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/ransomware-huge-rise-in-attacks-this-year-as-cyber-criminals-hunt-bigger-pay-days/>

For more on this theme:

(Ireland) Cybercrime in Ireland now double global average with record levels of fraud

<https://www.siliconrepublic.com/enterprise/pwc-cybercrime-2020-report-fraud>

(Bangladesh, North Korea) ‘Danger is over’: Bangladesh ‘thwarts’ cyber-heist bid by North Korean hackers

<https://bdnews24.com/economy/2020/09/09/danger-is-over-bangladesh-thwarts-cyber-heist-bid-by-north-korean-hackers>

(U.K.) Bank of England to Tackle Cybercrime

<https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/bank-of-england-to-tackle/>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

U.S. and Allies Move to Secure Space Assets Against Hacking, Cyber Attacks

Shaun Waterman – Signal: 9 September 2020

The global economy depends on vital space systems that are vulnerable to hackers, cyber attacks and espionage, and the importance of these systems is growing. The United States, the European Union, NATO and individual governments are taking measures to protect space infrastructure.

<https://www.afcea.org/content/us-and-allies-move-secure-space-assets-against-hacking-cyber-attacks>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) US Issues Cybersecurity Principles for Space Systems

<https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/news/us-issues-cybersecurity-principles/>

(U.S.) Does Trump grid order have a 'big deal' blind spot?

<https://www.eenews.net/stories/1063713357>

(U.K.) Government and water industry warned of cyber-security 'blind spots'

<https://www.waterpowermagazine.com/opinion/opiniongovernment-and-water-industry-warned-of-cyber-security-blind-spots-8127226/>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Syria Kurds Transfer Some ISIS-Linked Foreign Families from Camp

Asharq Al-Awsat: 8 September 2020

Syrian Kurds have started to transfer the “least radical” foreign women and their children linked to ISIS out of an overcrowded camp in northeast Syria to begin rehabilitation. So far, 76 families have been moved since July from Al-Hol to the Roj camp at their request after showing remorse over their ties to the extremist group, according to a Kurdish official.

<https://english.aawsat.com/home/article/2496116/syria-kurds-transfer-some-isis-linked-foreign-families-camp>

For more on this theme:

US reducing troop size in Iraq to 3,000

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/us-reducing-troop-size-iraq-3000/story?id=72896857>

Morocco busts ISIS-linked cell plotting suicide attacks

<https://english.alarabiya.net/en/News/north-africa/2020/09/10/Morocco-busts-ISIS-linked-cell-plotting-suicide-attacks>

One of ISIS leaders detained in Kyiv

<https://112.international/society/one-of-isis-leaders-detained-in-kyiv-54581.html>

Turkish police arrest 11 Daesh/ISIS suspects

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkish-police-arrest-11-daesh-isis-suspects-3548893>

American IS Follower Pleads Guilty to Terror Charges

<https://www.voanews.com/usa/american-follower-pleads-guilty-terror-charges>

Alleged ISIS Recruiter Arrested After Making Bomb Threat Against University Of Houston During Zoom Lecture

<https://dailycaller.com/2020/09/08/texas-ibraheem-ahmed-al-bayati-arrested-bomb-threat-university-of-houston-zoom-isis/>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Stabilizing Eastern Syria After ISIS

James A. Shear, Jeffrey Martini, Eric Robinson, Michelle E. Miro and James Dobbins – Rand Corp.: 8 September 2020

The U.S.-led international coalition to defeat ISIS has achieved substantial progress over the past several years, but the counter-ISIS campaign is not over. The authors assess humanitarian needs in eastern Syria's Middle Euphrates River Valley and examine how locally focused stabilization efforts might be orchestrated to help preclude the Islamic State's recapture of territory, even as Syria's larger civil conflict grows more complex.

https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2541.html

For more on this theme:

Biometrics Commissioner supports emergency extension of UK police fingerprint and DNA data retention powers

<https://www.biometricupdate.com/202009/biometrics-commissioner-supports-emergency-extension-of-uk-police-fingerprint-and-dna-data-retention-powers>

Truck Bomb in Somalia Kills 3 and Wounds 3, Including a U.S. Soldier

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/07/world/africa/somalia-attack-us-soldier.html?searchResultPosition=3>

Afghan Vice President Survives Deadly Blast

<https://www.voanews.com/south-central-asia/afghan-vice-president-survives-deadly-blast>

Ghuwayran prison | International Coalition helicopters fly over the prison, as ISIS riot still underway

<https://www.syriahr.com/en/183248/>

ISIS terrorists seize gas field in Syria, some media report

<https://bulgarianmilitary.com/2020/09/09/isis-terrorists-seize-gas-field-in-syria-some-media-report/>

Diyala: Seven ISIS strongholds are destroyed

<https://www.shafaaq.com/en/Iraq-News/Diyala-Seven-ISIS-strongholds-are-destroyed>

Turkey captures senior Daesh/ISIS member

<https://www.yenisafak.com/en/news/turkey-captures-senior-daesh-isis-member-3548701>

Insecurity: CAS harps on intelligence as key to winning war against terrorism

<https://guardian.ng/news/insecurity-cas-harps-on-intelligence-as-key-to-winning-war-against-terrorism/>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Indian States, Deradicalisation and Online Platforms

Kabir Taneja - ORF: 9 September 2020

India has embarked on systemic deradicalization programs as part of its counterterrorism strategy. Some Indian states have started their own programs, with an emphasis on holistic approaches to counter the ideological radicalization

<https://www.orfonline.org/research/indian-states-deradicalisation-and-online-platforms/?amp>

For more on this theme:

Iraq's Pro-Iran Militia TV Active After US Seizes Website

<https://www.voanews.com/extremism-watch/iraqs-pro-iran-militia-tv-active-after-us-seizes-website>

IRREGULAR WARFARE: DISINFORMATION AND MALIGN INFLUENCE

On Disinformation

Alicia Wanless – Carnegie Endowment for International Peace

Even when evidence reveals the work of an influence operation campaign, it's hard to measure the effects and harder still to counteract them.

<https://carnegieendowment.org/2020/09/09/on-disinformation-pub-82529>

Colourless green content: AI, disinformation and geopolitical risk

Quinten Temby – The Interpreter: 9 September 2020

If we are now sliding into a second Cold War, as some have argued, the analogue to nuclear energy is artificial intelligence, or AI. This time, the most important technology race is not in the realm of atoms, but in the world of bits.

<https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/colourless-green-content-ai-disinformation-and-geopolitical-risk>

For more on this theme:

How China Ramped Up Disinformation Efforts During the Pandemic

<https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/how-china-ramped-disinformation-efforts-during-pandemic>

U.S.-backed Radio Free Europe returns to counter 'disinformation' in Hungary

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2020/sep/8/radio-free-europe-returns-counter-disinformation-h/>

Russia Protests Germany's 'Unfounded Accusations' In Navalny Poisoning Case

<https://www.rferl.org/a/russia-protests-germany-s-unfounded-accusations-in-navalny-poisoning-case/30828886.html>

Coronavirus disinformation adds conspiratorial fuel to a volatile Middle East

<https://thebulletin.org/2020/09/coronavirus-disinformation-adds-conspiratorial-fuel-to-a-volatile-middle-east/>

Belarusian, Russian state-run media tweak disinformation narratives to conform them to each other

<http://euromaidanpress.com/2020/09/08/belarusian-russian-state-run-media-tweak-disinformation-narratives-to-conform-them-to-each-other/>

Debunking Disinformation: Can India learn from the West?

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/debunking-disinformation-can-india-learn-from-the-west/?amp>

CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

The unfinished agenda of financing Africa's COVID-19 response

Brahima Sangafowa Coulibaly, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Vera Songwe, Tidjane Thiam, Donald Kaberuka, Trevor Manuel, Abderrahmane Benkhalfa, and Strive Masiyiwa – Brookings: 8 September 2020

Few countries are prepared for the anticipated spread of COVID-19 this autumn. This is particularly true in Africa, where the public-health and economic response has not come anywhere near matching the scale of the crisis. So far, Africa has reported more than 1.2 million COVID-19 infections and over 30,000 deaths. Yet only 12 of Africa's 54 countries have tested more than 10% of their population. And while community transmission increases, contact-tracing efforts remain tentative.

<https://www.brookings.edu/opinions/the-unfinished-agenda-of-financing-africas-covid-19-response/>

Disinformation: EU assesses the Code of Practice and publishes platform report on coronavirus related disinformation

European Commission: 10 September 2020

The assessment shows that the code has proven to be a very valuable instrument, the first one of its kind worldwide, and has provided a framework for a structured dialogue between relevant stakeholders to ensure greater transparency of platforms' policies against disinformation within the European Union. At the same time, the assessment highlights certain shortcomings, mainly due to the code's self-regulatory nature.

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_20_1568

News article on the assessment:

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-eu-tech-disinformation-idUSKBN2610GU>

For more on this theme:

Race for Coronavirus Vaccine Pits Spy Against Spy

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/09/05/us/politics/coronavirus-vaccine-espionage.html?searchResultPosition=8>

Government floats £1.4m social-media analytics deal to identify 'key influencers' to support Covid messaging

<https://www.publictechnology.net/articles/news/government-floats-%C2%A314m-social-media-analytics-deal-identify-%E2%80%98key-influencers%E2%80%99-support>

Study: Without Right Messaging, Masks Could Lead to More COVID-19 Spread

https://www.newswise.com/coronavirus/study-without-right-messaging-masks-could-lead-to-more-infections/?article_id=737661

Italy's Bergamo is calling back coronavirus survivors. About half say they haven't fully recovered.

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