

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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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

Getting Away with Murder

Committee to Protect Journalists: 29 October 2019

A study of government effectiveness at solving violent crimes against journalists finds that corruption, ineffective institutions and lack of political will to aggressively investigate and prosecute the killers are all factors that contribute to impunity.

<https://cpj.org/reports/2019/10/getting-away-with-murder-killed-justice.php>

Kenya urges East African prosecutors to jointly combat organized crime

Xinhua: 30 October 2019

Kenya's government asked the nation's prosecutors to seek unity and cooperation with their colleagues throughout East Africa in fighting the expanding scourge of organized crime and to develop avenues for sharing information and pooling resources.

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2019-10/30/c_138516053.htm

For more on this theme:

Public Land, Private Hands

<https://www.occrp.org/en/public-land-private-hands/>

What Does Mario Estrada's Guilty Plea Mean for Guatemala?

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/mario-estrada-guilty-plea-guatemala/>

A Vegas Attorney Who Has Defended Super Hackers Offers Insights On Sports Betting And Cyber Crime

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/wilnicoll/2019/10/21/the-vegas-attorney-who-has-defended-super-hackers-gives-his-insight-on-sports-betting-cyber-crime/#30719d8c70a1>

IOC launch new guide on competition manipulation, corruption and doping

<https://www.insidethegames.biz/articles/1086427/new-ioc-guide-on-corruption-launched>

Corruption among youths

<https://www.nst.com.my/opinion/columnists/2019/10/533939/corruption-among-youths>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Half of All Destroyed Coca Crops Replanted in Colombia

Juan Camilo Jaramillo – InSight Crime: 29 October 2019

Despite Colombia's aggressive coca eradication program, farmers replant 50% to 67% of all the crops destroyed, partially in response to threats from the cartels that control the region and partially because there are no comparable sources of income.

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/half-coca-crops-replanted-colombia/>

Cryptocurrencies complicate effort to stop opioid dealers

Caitlin Reilly – Roll Call: 29 October 2019

New cryptocurrency innovations, such as private blockchains, are making it easier for drug dealers to hide online transactions on the darknet, and much more difficult and expensive for law enforcement to investigate.

<https://www.rollcall.com/news/congress/cryptocurrencies-complicate-effort-stop-opioid-dealers>

For more on this theme:

How Mombasa port became the world's capital of drugs

<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/article/2001346219/how-mombasa-port-became-the-world-s-capital-of-drugs>

Lawyer: Honduran government could be behind prison murder

<https://apnews.com/4f6a291d443b4edfae0f48cbb7c62614>

Mexico's Drug War

<https://www.cfr.org/background/mexicos-drug-war>

Airport-style scanners to tackle 'inventive' drug-smuggling prisoners

<https://www.msn.com/en-gb/news/uknews/airport-style-scanners-to-tackle-'inventive'-drug-smuggling-prisoners/ar-AAJan05>

Police in UAE reveal most common drug smuggling methods

https://www.zawya.com/mena/en/legal/story/Police_in_UAE_reveal_most_common_drug_smuggling_methods-SNG_158043418/

Coast Guard Warns of Increased Drug Smuggling in the Pacific

https://www.theepochtimes.com/coast-guard-warns-of-increased-drug-smuggling-in-the-pacific_3127865.html

Colombia's El Tandil – Where Children's Education Depends on the Coca Leaf

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/colombia-el-tandil-education-coca-leaf/>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Poacher manhunt exposes murky world of Indian wildlife trafficking, where bear bile is big business

Julie Zaugg and Manveena Suri – CNN: 25 October 2019

India set up a special task force within its Forest Department to track down a notorious poacher responsible for killing dozens of sloth black bears and tigers to sell their organs and other body parts.

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/10/25/asia/bear-bile-trafficking-intl-hnk/index.html>

China is Key to Closing Ports to Illegally Caught Fish

Todd Woody – The Maritime Executive: 25 October 2019

A United Nations treaty, in effect since June 2016, aims to protect the world's ocean fisheries by requiring signatory nations to restrict foreign fishing vessels to designated ports where their catch can be tracked and regulated. But for the treaty to be effective, it needs China's participation.

<https://www.maritime-executive.com/editorials/china-is-key-to-closing-ports-to-illegally-caught-fish>

For more on this theme:

Chinese Mafia Moving Contraband Fish Costs Argentina Millions

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/chinese-mafia-dodges-millions-tax-fish-contraband-argentina/>

In Southeast Asia, illegal hunting is a more immediate threat to wildlife than forest degradation

<https://www.fv-berlin.de/en/info-for/the-media-and-public/news/news/wilderei-ist-eine-staerkere-bedrohung-fuer-die-tierwelt-suedostasiens/>

Holding social media companies accountable for facilitating illegal wildlife trade

<https://news.mongabay.com/2019/10/holding-social-media-companies-accountable-for-facilitating-illegal-wildlife-trade-commentary/>

Inside America’s Aladdin’s cave of dead animals

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-49941841>

North Korean illegal fishing causing headaches for Russia

<https://www.seafoodsource.com/news/supply-trade/north-korean-illegal-fishing-causing-headaches-for-russia>

Trafficking ring involving thousands of turtles uncovered by Florida wildlife officials

<https://abcnews.go.com/US/trafficking-ring-involving-thousands-turtles-uncovered-florida-wildlife/story?id=66404333>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Airbnb must face the facts: human trafficking and modern slavery happen in rented accommodation

Michael O’Regan – The Conversation: 30 October 2019

Established hospitality industry organizations have long cooperated with law enforcement and anti-trafficking organizations on awareness measures and training employees to recognize and report trafficking; however, “pop-up brothels” – temporary operations set up in accommodations rented online – add a new dimension to the problem.

<https://theconversation.com/airbnb-must-face-the-facts-human-trafficking-and-modern-slavery-happen-in-rented-accommodation-124933>

For more on this theme:

German police raid suspected people trafficking gangs

<https://www.dw.com/en/german-police-raid-suspected-people-trafficking-gangs/a-50965304>

Beyond the Headlines: the Development Story Behind Irregular Migration

<http://www.ipsnews.net/2019/10/beyond-headlines-development-story-behind-irregular-migration/>

Illegal Chinese Migration to Europe ‘Commonplace’ Despite Risks

<https://theglobepost.com/2019/10/25/chinese-migrants-uk-europe/>

Denying irregular African migrants the right to work in Europe is driving them to stay put

<https://qz.com/africa/1733130/denying-irregular-african-migrants-work-in-europe-makes-them-stay/>

Europe: Raids Net 162 Suspects, Find 476 Trafficking Victims

<https://www.occrp.org/en/daily/10937-europe-police-arrests-162-suspects-of-various-crimes>

Former Argentina Spy and Major Sex Trafficker Arrested in Mexico

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/argentina-spy-sex-trafficker-raul-martins/>

Kuwait insists on combating human trafficking in UNSC session

<https://menafn.com/1099182796/Kuwait-insists-on-combating-human-trafficking-in-UNSC-session?src=Rss>

MONEY LAUNDERING

Afghanistan Tackles Terror Finance

Nesar Yosufzai – Unipath: 9 October 2019

The Financial Transactions and Reports Analysis Centre of Afghanistan is working with foreign partners and domestic law enforcement and intelligence agencies to detect money laundering and block the financing of terrorism.

<https://unipath-magazine.com/afghanistan-tackles-terror-finance/>

Counter-Strike trading found to be ‘nearly all’ money laundering

Alex Hern – The Guardian: 30 October 2019

The trading function on the popular multiplayer video game *Counter-Strike: Global Offensive* was shut down by the company after discovering that virtually all the trading activity was money laundering by an international criminal network.

<https://www.theguardian.com/games/2019/oct/30/counter-strike-trading-found-to-be-nearly-all-money-laundering>

Following The Money

Joseph Wheatley – per Concordiam: 26 June 2019

Financial intelligence units help fill a need in the investigation and prosecution of transnational crime. These government agencies support law enforcement authorities by receiving, analyzing and disseminating financial intelligence so that it may be used quickly and effectively in investigations and prosecutions.

<https://perconcordiam.com/following-the-money/>

For more on this theme:

Money Laundering May Have Fueled Luxury US Lifestyle of Hugo Chavez’s Daughter

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/maria-gabriela-chavez-money-laundering-us/>

EY: Gold, drug money and a major auditor’s ‘cover-up’

<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-50194681>

Crypto Exchanges In The Crosshairs Of Compliance Regulators

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/juliemyerswood/2019/10/28/crypto-exchanges-in-the-crosshairs-of-compliance-regulators/#1fbbaf31e6f>

Treasury’s Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN) Issues Final Rule Concerning Iran Money Laundering Concerns

<https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=816a9879-b80b-4154-a5f2-135fd8bfe95b>

Startup Targets Cryptocurrency Crime - But Will The Big Banks Come On Board?

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/trevorclawson/2019/10/24/startup-targets-cryptocurrency-crimebut-will-the-big-banks-come-on-board/#4db822fa6e73>

Member-owned Australian banks vulnerable to financial crimes: Austrac

<https://www.smh.com.au/business/banking-and-finance/member-owned-australian-banks-vulnerable-to-financial-crimes-austrac-20191030-p5351a.html>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Experts Optimistic About the Next 50 Years of Digital Life

Kathleen Stansberry, Janna Anderson and Lee Rainie – Pew Research Center: 28 October 2019

On the 50th anniversary of the creation of the internet, researchers from the Pew Research Center and Elon University asked a panel of 530 experts what they think the next 50 years of digital life and development will look like and what they think about the future of artificial intelligence.

<https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/2019/10/28/the-next-50-years-of-digital-life-about-this-canvassing-of-experts/>

Full report:

https://www.pewresearch.org/internet/wp-content/uploads/sites/9/2019/10/PI_2019.10.28_The-Next-50-Years-of-Digital-Life_FINAL.pdf

For more on this theme:

(Global) History's message about regulating AI

<https://www.brookings.edu/research/historys-message-about-regulating-ai/>

(China) China's MLPS 2.0: Data grab or legitimate attempt to improve domestic cybersecurity?

<https://www.csoonline.com/article/3448578/chinas-mlps-20-data-grab-or-legitimate-attempt-to-improve-domestic-cybersecurity.html>

(Australia) Cyber Security Strategy 2020: Civil society experts slam 'national security' agenda

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/cyber-security-strategy-2020-civil-society-experts-slam-national-security-agenda/>

(Australia) Consumer watchdog takes legal action against Google for 'misleading' conduct

<https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/politics/federal/consumer-watchdog-takes-legal-action-against-google-for-misleading-conduct-20191029-p535ag.html>

INTERNET FREEDOM

Connecting the world is seen as a humanitarian mission for some technology evangelists – but ensuring a free and open web is a harder problem to solve.

Frank Swain – BBC News: 28 October 2019

The free and open internet is under attack from authoritarian governments around the world. But access to the digital world is critical for the developing world and its people, and more than half the world's population still lacks reliable connectivity.

<https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20191025-the-fight-to-keep-the-internet-free-and-open-for-everyone>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Internet Censorship Rankings – The Worst Countries for a Free Web

<https://tech.co/vpn/internet-censorship-rankings>

(Global) Inside the dystopian nightmare of an internet shutdown

<https://www.cnet.com/features/inside-the-dystopian-nightmare-of-an-internet-shutdown/>

(U.S.) Is Facebook censoring conservatives or is moderating just too hard?

<https://www.cnet.com/features/is-facebook-censoring-conservatives-or-is-moderating-just-too-hard/>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Analysis: China's Surveillance State Has Tens Of Millions Of New Targets

Emile Dirks and Sarah Cook – Freedom House: 23 October 2019

The Chinese government is monitoring tens of millions of “key individuals” online and on the street. People from groups including paroled criminals, drugs users, foreigners and religious believers are monitored through financial records, online activity and facial recognition software linked to nearly ubiquitous surveillance cameras.

<https://freedomhouse.org/china-media/china-media-bulletinkey-individual-police-databases-tiktok-censorship-nba-backlash-no-139>

For more on this theme:

(India, China, Global) The Future of Biometrics: Opportunities and Challenges

<https://thediplomat.com/2019/10/the-future-of-biometrics-opportunities-and-challenges/>

(Israel, U.S.) WhatsApp Says Israeli Firm Used Its App in Spy Program

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/29/technology/whatsapp-nso-lawsuit.html>

(U.S.) YouTube, Hasbro, Mattel And Others Sued Over Children's Privacy

<https://www.mediapost.com/publications/article/342564/youtube-hasbro-mattel-and-others-sued-over-child.html>

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Microsoft Says Russians Hacked Antidoping Agency Computers

Nicole Perloth and Tariq Panja – The New York Times: 28 October 2019

State-backed Russian hackers attacked the networks of at least 15 national and international sports and antidoping agencies just days before the World Anti-Doping Agency was set to announce new penalties for doping by Russian international athletes.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/28/sports/olympics/russia-doping-wada-hacked.html>

For more on this theme:

(Global) What's Blockchain Actually Good for, Anyway? For Now, Not Much

<https://www.wired.com/story/whats-blockchain-good-for-not-much/>

(U.S.) Facing Down the Surveillance State

<https://www.cpomagazine.com/data-protection/facing-down-the-surveillance-state/>

(U.S.) Should Tech CEOs Go to Jail Over Data Misuse? Some Senators Say Yes

<https://www.wired.com/story/wyden-mind-your-own-business-act/>

CYBER ATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

Wannacry: The Marcus Hutchins Story. Video now out.

Tony Morbin – SC Magazine: 25 October 2019

Cyber security researcher Marcus Hutchins, the man who shut down the WannaCry worm and “saved” the internet, was later arrested for writing and selling banking malware in his youth. His story is presented in video.

<https://www.scmagazineuk.com/wannacry-marcus-hutchins-story-video-out/article/1663745>

Video link here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vveLaA-z3-o>

Who Defends The Web?

Africa Defense Forum: 20 June 2019

Militaries typically are charged with defending the nation against foreign threats while police and other security agencies handle domestic issues. But cyber threats are foreign and domestic. The attackers can be states, terrorists, petty criminals or activists. Solutions to the problem vary, but nearly all nations agree the military has a role to play.

<https://adf-magazine.com/who-defends-the-web/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) The scariest hacks and vulnerabilities of 2019

<https://www.zdnet.com/article/the-scariest-hacks-and-vulnerabilities-of-2019/>

(Global) Data Security in the Online Gaming Industry

<https://www.cpomagazine.com/cyber-security/data-security-in-the-online-gaming-industry/>

(Global) Apple Store had apps infected with clicker trojan malware

<https://www.scmagazineuk.com/apple-store-apps-infected-clicker-trojan-malware/article/1663843>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Cozy Bear Is Back in the Spotlight; Notorious Russian Hackers Caught Spying on EU and Eastern European Nations

Scott Ikeda – CPO Magazine: 25 October 2019

Cozy Bear, the Russian intelligence group infamous for hacking the Pentagon and the Democratic Party in the U.S., has resurfaced with attacks on U.S., European Union and Eastern European government networks.

<https://www.cpomagazine.com/cyber-security/cozy-bear-is-back-in-the-spotlight-notorious-russian-hackers-caught-spying-on-eu-and-eastern-european-nations/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) A Wake-Up Call For Critical Infrastructure Owners And Operators

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2019/10/31/a-wake-up-call-for-critical-infrastructure-owners-and-operators/#626e34687704>

(India) Indian Nuclear Power Facility Denies Unverified Reports of a Cyber Attack

<https://thediplomat.com/2019/10/indian-nuclear-power-facility-denies-unverified-reports-of-a-cyber-attack/>

(Global, U.S., Russia, China) Playing with fire: Global offensive cyber operations

<https://thehill.com/opinion/cybersecurity/467701-playing-with-fire-global-offensive-cyber-operations>

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

Identifying Law Enforcement Needs for Conducting Criminal Investigations Involving Evidence on the Dark Web

Sean E. Goodison, Dulani Woods, Jeremy D. Barnum, Adam R. Kemerer, Brian A. Jackson – Rand Corp.: 29 October 2019

A new study by Rand Corp. and the Police Executive Research Forum finds that better training and information sharing are the most important factors for law enforcement to conduct effective investigations and gather evidence on the darknet.

https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2704.html

For more on this theme:

(Australia) ‘Hostile actors’, cybercrime seeking to undermine democracy, PM warns

<https://www.sbs.com.au/news/hostile-actors-cybercrime-seeking-to-undermine-democracy-pm-warns>

(U.S., Global) White Supremacy Thriving Online, Despite Prevention Efforts

<https://www.voanews.com/extremism-watch/white-supremacy-thriving-online-despite-prevention-efforts>

(Global) 3 ways digitalization will help end crime

<https://europeansting.com/2019/10/30/3-ways-digitalization-will-help-end-crime/>

NOTEWORTHY PODCASTS

Feature Podcast: Critical infrastructure security with Eric Rosenbach and Robert M Lee

Patrick Gray – Risky Business: 31 October 2019

Eric Rosenbach, a former U.S. assistant secretary of defense who led the Defense Department’s efforts to counter cyber attacks by Iran and North Korea on U.S. critical infrastructure, and Robert M. Lee, a former U.S. Air Force cyber warfare operations officer, discuss industrial-control system security and the increased risk of offensive cyber warfare against national grids.

<https://risky.biz/HF3/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Amber Baldet on what blockchain technology can do for us beyond cryptocurrency

<https://www.theverge.com/2019/10/29/20936216/amber-baldet-interview-blockchain-facebook-libra-vergecast>

(U.S., Global) Never Underestimate Threat Actors’ Persistence

<https://www.recordedfuture.com/podcast-episode-131/>

(U.S., Canada, Russia, Global) Cyber Security Today – Cancer Society web site hacked, blogs spreading sextortion and a hole in Adobe security

<https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/cyber-security-today-cancer-society-web-site-hacked-blogs-spreading-sextortion-and-a-hole-in-adobe-security/423383>

TRAINING AND EXERCISES

If You Want Cybersecurity, Prepare For Cybercrime

Danny Pehar – Forbes Technology Council: 30 October 2019

If the CIA can get hacked, anyone can. Organizations need to plan and train not only on how to prevent cyber intrusions but, more important, on how to react and recover from them.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2019/10/30/if-you-want-cybersecurity-prepare-for-cybercrime/#68fd4d77432c>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Silicon Valley Lawmaker Proposes Cyber Training for Every Federal Employee

<https://www.nextgov.com/cybersecurity/2019/10/silicon-valley-lawmaker-proposes-cyber-training-every-federal-employee/160715/>

(Global) Cyber defense is a team sport — Train accordingly

<https://www.scmagazine.com/home/security-news/cyber-defense-is-a-team-sport-train-accordingly/>

(U.S.) Hawaii chosen to test energy grid against cyber security threats

<https://www.bizjournals.com/pacific/news/2019/10/30/hawaii-chosen-to-test-energy-grid-against-cyber.html>

STRATEGY AND POLICY

Is the US Losing the Artificial Intelligence Arms Race?

James Johnson – The Diplomat: 30 October 2019

With artificial intelligence destined to revolutionize the way war is fought, U.S. defense leaders are working to develop new strategies to maintain and extend U.S. technological dominance in the face of challenges from China and Russia.

<https://thediplomat.com/2019/10/is-the-us-losing-the-artificial-intelligence-arms-race/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Huawei's Gear Might Have to Go, FCC Tells US Telecom Firms

<https://www.wired.com/story/huaweis-gear-go-fcc-tells-us-telecom/>

(U.S.) If Facebook doesn't launch Libra, someone else should

<https://www.cnn.com/2019/10/23/perspectives/zuckerberg-facebook-libra/index.html>

(India) Hate speech is spreading on Facebook in India again

<https://www.theverge.com/interface/2019/10/30/20938311/facebook-avaaz-india-report-hate-speech-megaphone-warning>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi's True Legacy

Scott Stewart – Stratfor: 29 October 2019

The deceased ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi presided over a widening rift in the jihadist movement that resulted in open combat between al-Qaida and the Islamic State. He also institutionalized sectarian attacks and hypersexualized jihadist activity.

<https://worldview.stratfor.com/article/abu-bakr-al-baghdadis-true-legacy-qaeda-osama-jihadist-militant>

Bursting at the seams: inside an IS prison in Syria

Rouba el Hussein – Digital Journal: 29 October 2019

An Agence France-Presse team was given access to one of the crowded detention facilities in northeastern Syria where Kurdish forces are holding 5,000 Islamic State suspects from dozens of countries that don't want them freed and don't want them back. Some are teenagers, and none has been under the sun even once in many months.

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/news/world/bursting-at-the-seams-inside-an-is-prison-in-syria/article/560725#ixzz63kbzB19z>

For more on this theme:

Leader's Death Will Damage ISIS, but Not Destroy It

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/27/world/middleeast/isis-leader-dead-impact.html>

World reacts to death of ISIL leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2019/10/world-reacts-death-isil-leader-abu-bakr-al-baghdadi-191027145053140.html>

ISIS Names New Leader and Confirms al-Baghdadi's Death

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/31/world/middleeast/isis-al-baghdadi-dead.html>

The US wants to bolster the fight against ISIS in Syria after its leader's death, State Department says

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-baghdadi/u-s-wants-to-bolster-fight-against-islamic-state-after-its-leaders-death-idUSKBN1X71DY>

IS leader's death ushers in new phase for the group

<https://apnews.com/fdcb6e3744c642e2b8b5dd19de807809>

Minorities Express Cautious Optimism after al-Baghdadi's Death

<https://www.voanews.com/extremism-watch/minorities-express-cautious-optimism-after-al-baghdadis-death>

5 Reasons ISIS Is Hanging On

<https://www.politico.com/magazine/story/2019/10/29/baghdadi-isis-future-229887>

Russia casts doubt on US operation to kill Baghdadi

<https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20191029-russia-casts-doubt-on-us-operation-to-kill-baghdadi/>

Turkey detains 43 suspected Islamic State members, foils plot: police, media

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-turkey-security-islamic-state/turkey-detains-43-suspected-islamic-state-members-foils-plot-police-media-idUSKBN1X815Z>

Morocco wants women, minors held in Iraq, Syria to come home

<https://apnews.com/137504d208a748dbbf1b44f83a225d0e>

Death of ISIS Leader Is Scant Consolation to a Changed France

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/31/world/europe/al-baghdadi-isis-france.html>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Al Qaeda-linked group reappears in Nigeria

Caleb Weiss – FDD's Long War Journal: 27 October 2019

Al-Qaida-linked Jamaat al Ansar al Muslimeen fi Bilad al Sudan, better known as Ansaru, has reappeared online after several years of inactivity. The Global Islamic Media Front, a clearinghouse for propaganda of al-Qaida's global network, released a new photo of the group and announced a new media outlet, Al Yaqut Media Center, meant to demonstrate Ansaru's continued existence and presence inside Nigeria.

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2019/10/al-qaeda-linked-group-reappears-in-nigeria.php>

Baghdadi's Death Will Make Global Affiliates More Independent

Colin P. Clarke and Amarnath Amarasingam – Rand Corp.: 28 October 2019

The death of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi will likely weaken the Islamic State's command and control network and cause some of its affiliates to either assert more independence or retreat into the localized conflicts they were previously engaged in.

<https://www.rand.org/blog/2019/10/baghdadis-death-will-make-global-affiliates-more-independent.html>

For more on this theme:

Kenya seeks international help to stop Al-Shabaab financing

<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/article/2001347041/kenya-seeks-international-help-to-stop-al-shabaab-financing>

After Baghdadi death, Southeast Asia expects long fight against Islamic State's influence

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-baghdadi-asia/after-baghdadi-death-southeast-asia-expects-long-fight-against-islamic-states-influence-idUSKBN1X70S9>

US Feds says two brothers with alleged Hezbollah ties are dangerous

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/us-feds-says-two-brothers-with-alleged-hezbollah-ties-are-dangerous/>

Afghan Government Demands Cease-Fire Before Any Taliban Talks

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/29/world/asia/afghanistan-taliban-talks-ceasefire.html>

Germany charges 2 suspected former Syrian secret police

<https://apnews.com/c7b39104caac4e588fe49144e0a533e5>

Netanyahu Accuses Iran of Seeking Means to Hit Israel from Yemen

<https://www.voanews.com/middle-east/netanyahu-accuses-iran-seeking-means-hit-israel-yemen>

Afghanistan bolsters security as Taliban threatens presidential poll

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-afghanistan-election-security/afghanistan-bolsters-security-as-taliban-threatens-presidential-poll-idUSKBN1WB1GJ>

Nigerian Army needs more funds to tackle Boko Haram, insecurity – Buratai

<https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/359912-nigerian-army-needs-more-funds-to-tackle-boko-haram-insecurity-buratai.html>

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Why Democracy Couldn't Prevent Radicalization in Tunisia

Georges Fahmi – Carnegie Europe: 22 October 2019

The aftermath of the fall in 2011 of Tunisian President Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali challenges the assumption that authoritarianism and radicalization go hand in hand. For several reasons, the country's transition to democracy has not prevented radicalization.

<https://carnegieeurope.eu/strategieurope/80137>

Germany Moves to Tighten Gun and Hate Speech Laws After Far-Right Attacks

Melissa Eddy – The New York Times: 30 October 2019

Gun buyers in Germany would have to undergo background checks to ensure they have no ties to extremism and social media companies would be required to report suspicious posts under new proposals advanced by the government. "The threat from far-right extremism and far-right terrorism, and with them anti-Semitism, is high in Germany and we can't stress it often enough," said Horst Seehofer, Germany's interior minister.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/30/world/europe/germany-gun-hate-speech-laws.html>

For more on this theme:

Failure to Treat Those Traumatized by War or Abuse Sparking Radicalization in the North Caucasus, Study Says

<http://windowoneurasia2.blogspot.com/2019/10/failure-to-treat-those-traumatized-by.html>

Chief coroner says new laws are needed to ban extremist propaganda in his report into 2017 London Bridge and Borough Market terror attacks

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-7638573/Chief-coroner-says-new-laws-needed-ban-extremist-propaganda.html>

Obstacles to countering online radicalization in contemporary democracies

<https://eeradicalization.com/obstacles-to-countering-online-radicalization-in-contemporary-democracies/>

Xi, Modi Vow To Defeat 'Radicalization' Amid Dispute Over Kashmir

<https://www.rferl.org/a/xi-modi-vow-to-defeat-radicalization-amid-dispute-over-kashmir/30213085.html>

Sri Lanka candidate pledges laws against religious extremism

<https://apnews.com/c0ed119be25f4e948c4f2e0c37fe80ca>

South Shields man who posted about 'extreme right-wing beliefs' online jailed for four years after terrorism conviction

<https://www.shieldsgazette.com/news/crime/south-shields-man-who-posted-about-extreme-right-wing-beliefs-online-jailed-four-years-after-terrorism-conviction-818900>

IRREGULAR WARFARE

China wants state media to peddle its “soft power” in Africa, but tech platforms are a better bet

Celine Sui – Quartz Africa: 29 October 2019

China’s growing state-backed media presence in Africa has stoked fears among Western observers. But China’s plan to increase its soft power through official outlets that portray the country in a positive light has had a limited impact. Instead, it is Africa’s rapidly evolving digital technology that offers Chinese media influence the most room for growth.

<https://qz.com/africa/1736534/china-daily-cgtn-fight-for-influence-in-africa-vs-bbc-cnn/>

Five Years of War in the Donbas

Robert E. Hamilton – Foreign Policy Research Institute: 24 October 2019

The war in eastern Ukraine has had profound effects on the country: the collapse of the post-Soviet Ukrainian political elite; billions of dollars in direct and indirect losses to the Ukrainian economy; a wholesale restructuring of the Ukrainian Armed Forces; social dislocation and psychological trauma; and unprecedented environmental damage. Despite these sad legacies, there are reasons to be optimistic that an end to the conflict is in view.

<https://www.fpri.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/five-years-of-war-in-the-donbas.pdf>

For more on this theme:

Russia Tests New Disinformation Tactics in Africa to Expand Influence

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/10/30/technology/russia-facebook-disinformation-africa.html>

Russian Intel Chief: Internet Should be Controlled By ‘Proper Authorities’

<https://www.defenseone.com/technology/2018/10/russian-intel-chief-internet-should-be-controlled-proper-authorities/152205/>

Global Terrorism: Threats to the Homeland

<https://www.fbi.gov/news/testimony/global-terrorism-threats-to-the-homeland-103019>

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

Can Egypt’s newest search engine root out extremism?

Shahira Amin – Al-Monitor: 28 October 2019

Egypt’s Islamic authority, Dar al-Ifta, has launched a search engine to track fatwas from terrorist groups and extremists. The data collected will enable clerics to develop indicators to help decision-makers better understand terrorist networks and guide policymakers in formulating effective counterterrorism strategies. Monitoring online hate speech targeting Muslims will also allow Al-Azhar scholars to respond appropriately to bigotry and abuse.

<https://www.al-monitor.com/pulse/originals/2019/10/what-is-behind-dar-al-iftas-new-search-engine.html>

For more on this theme:

Government to introduce stronger counter-terrorism laws to deal with Kiwi jihadist, others

<https://www.tvnz.co.nz/one-news/new-zealand/government-introduce-stronger-counter-terrorism-laws-deal-kiwi-jihadist-others>

Debates Within The Counter-LWE Policy – Analysis

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/30102019-debates-within-the-counter-lwe-policy-analysis/>

The Importance of the India-Japan Dharma Guardian Military Exercises

<https://thediplomat.com/2019/10/the-importance-of-the-india-japan-dharma-guardian-military-exercises/>

Flagging rental car drivers who might pose terrorist threat

<https://apnews.com/4c674f6ca667401d8a2057d927c18136>

Halle shooting shows that the media needs to work with tech, civil society and government — View

<https://www.euronews.com/2019/10/17/halle-shooting-shows-tech-needs-to-work-with-the-media-government-and-civil-society-view>

Using passenger data exchange systems to address risks posed by returning foreign terrorist fighters explored at OSCE-UN Office of Counter-Terrorism Seminar in Vienna

<https://www.osce.org/secretariat/437642?download=true>

