

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

CONTENTS

COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

- Corruption
- Drug Trafficking
- Trafficking in Scarce or Protected Resources
- Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

- Internet Governance
- Internet Freedom
- Privacy and Security
- Cyber Statecraft Development
- Public/Private Partnership
- Protection of Intellectual Property
- Cyber Capacity Building
- Combating Terrorism and Cyber Crime
- Information Sharing
- Cyber Protection of Critical Infrastructure

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

- ISIS
- Terrorism Around the World
- Radicalization and Messaging
- Foreign Fighters
- Counterterrorism Strategies

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Taking Stock of Indonesia's Anti-Corruption Effort

Ahmad Novindri Aji Sukma – The Diplomat: 15 December 2018

Indonesia has been diligently working on its anti-corruption protocols for decades, but problems remain with its policies. The Corruption Eradication Commission lacks the resources to do its job, the nation's laws are inadequate, and civil society participation is lackluster in the fight against graft.

<https://thediplomat.com/2018/12/taking-stock-of-indonesias-anti-corruption-effort/>

Watch: Romania's anti-corruption activists mark a year of consecutive protests

Rachael Kennedy – Euronews: 11 December 2018

While some protests in Romania have been huge and loud, particularly in the capital, every day for the past year in Sibiu, Transylvania, activists have gathered in silent protest of the ruling Social Democrat Party's corruption.

<https://www.euronews.com/2018/12/11/watch-romania-s-anti-corruption-activists-mark-a-year-of-consecutive-protests>

For more on this theme:

Estonia to further enhance anti-corruption efforts in the government and the police, says anti-corruption group

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/greco/-/estonia-to-further-enhance-anti-corruption-efforts-in-the-government-and-the-police-says-anti-corruption-group>

Honduran Activist's Murder Trial Addresses Symptoms, Not Causes, of Violence

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/12/07/honduran-activist-murder-trial-addresses-symptoms-not-causes-of-violence/>

Jordanians brave downpour to protest at corruption in Amman

<https://www.thenational.ae/world/mena/jordanians-brave-downpour-to-protest-at-corruption-in-amman-1.804884>

Thousands protest corruption in northeast Sudan

<https://citizentv.co.ke/news/thousands-protest-corruption-in-northeast-sudan-224027/>

Latest Corruption Network Dismantled in Venezuelan Oil Industry

<https://venezuelanalysis.com/news/14193>

Guatemala expels investigators from U.N. anti-corruption group

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-guatemala-politics/guatemala-expels-investigators-from-u-n-anti-corruption-group-idUSKBN10H2A6>

Brazil's President Faces New Corruption And Money Laundering Charges

<https://www.newsy.com/stories/brazil-s-temer-faces-corruption-money-laundering-charges/>

Iran's 'corruption courts' fuel surge in executions

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2018/dec/17/iran-corruption-courts-fuel-surge-executions/>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

United Nations Anti-Crime Chief Spotlights Alarming Drug Trafficking Trends in West, Central Africa, Outlining Disruption Efforts to Security Council

United Nations Security Council: 19 December 2018

The U.N. drugs and crime chief said his office is registering “new, alarming trends” in drug trafficking in West and Central Africa that are destabilizing the country’s ability to govern and hindering its security, economic growth and public health.

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2018/sc13635.doc.htm>

How Legalizing Marijuana Is Securing the Border: The Border Wall, Drug Smuggling, and Lessons for Immigration Policy

David Bier – CATO Institute: 19 December 2018

The CATO Institute examined drug trafficking numbers to determine whether building a wall between Mexico and the U.S. would have any impact on marijuana smuggling. According to the analysis, a border wall or more Border Patrol agents would make little sense, while legalizing marijuana would greatly reduce trafficking.

<https://www.cato.org/publications/policy-analysis/how-legalizing-marijuana-securing-border-border-wall-drug-smuggling>

For more on this theme:

Russia Is Punishing People for Helping Drug Users

https://www.vice.com/en_au/article/qvqxd7/russia-is-punishing-people-for-helping-drug-users

More Venezuela Drug Plane Seizures Signal Trafficking Increase

<https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/venezuela-drug-plane-seizures-signal-trafficking-increase/>

Geography research in Central America leads to international drug trafficking

<https://newswise.com/articles/geography-research-in-central-america-leads-to-international-drug-trafficking>.

Dark web dealers voluntarily ban deadly fentanyl

<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/dec/01/dark-web-dealers-voluntary-ban-deadly-fentanyl>

Fentanyl’s spread likely linked to heroin shortage: report

<https://www.thechronicleherald.ca/news/local/fentanyls-spread-likely-linked-to-heroin-shortage-report-265769/>

China Killed Prince

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/12/07/china-killed-prince-drugs-fentanyl-export/>

It’s Time to Privatize the War on Drugs

<https://intpolicydigest.org/2018/12/10/it-s-time-to-privatize-the-war-on-drugs/>

Western countries will face ‘massive influx of drugs’ if Iran becomes weakened by U.S. sanctions, President Hassan Rouhani warns

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/asia/iran-us-sanctions-drugs-trafficking-opium-heroin-terrorism-conference-hassan-rouhani-a8673681.html>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Pakistan launches Smart new tool to protect wildlife

Sana Jamal – Gulf News: 18 December 2018

World Wildlife Fund Pakistan held an international workshop on the Spatial Monitoring and Reporting Tool (SMART) for eliminating poaching and illegal wildlife trade in the country.

<https://gulfnews.com/world/asia/pakistan/pakistan-launches-smart-new-tool-to-protect-wildlife-1.61007582>

The vast majority of animals in the wildlife trade are not protected

Rachel Nuwer – National Geographic: 14 December 2018

Though heavily trafficked, most animals aren't protected by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, known as the CITES conservation treaty. Only highly endangered species are fully protected, and many animals are not on the list because no one has ever done a census of the animal to gauge how endangered it is.

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/2018/12/animals-dying-without-protection/>

For more on this theme:

Malaysia a key link for Asia's wildlife trafficking networks

<https://menafn.com/1097814894/Malaysia-a-key-link-for-Asias-wildlife-trafficking-networks>

Voracity of Chinese Fishing Vessels Threaten Latin American Seas

<https://dialogo-americas.com/en/articles/voracity-chinese-fishing-vessels-threaten-latin-american-seas>

How Poverty Is Causing Deforestation Across Africa

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/expert/comment/how-poverty-causing-deforestation-across-africa>

Conservation officers forced online in fight against bird trafficking

<https://news.mongabay.com/2018/12/conservation-officers-forced-online-in-fight-against-bird-trafficking/>

China ups fight against wildlife crime with tech partnership

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-12/19/c_137685179.htm

KENYA: Elephants and rhinos gradually escape the claws of poaching

<https://www.afrik21.africa/en/kenya-elephants-and-rhinos-gradually-escape-the-claws-of-poaching/>

World-leading UK Ivory Bill becomes law

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/world-leading-uk-ivory-bill-becomes-law--2>

Wildlife groups join hands to fight ivory trade

<https://www.nation.co.ke/news/Wildlife-groups-join-hands-to-fight-ivory-trade/1056-4899768-svglavz/index.html>

Will mainstreaming traditional Chinese medicine threaten wildlife?

<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/2018/12/traditional-medicine-decision-threatens-wildlife/>

From jaguar teeth to the nail of the great beast: the evolution of animal medicines

<https://theconversation.com/from-jaguar-teeth-to-the-nail-of-the-great-beast-the-evolution-of-animal-medicines-107821>

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Reported U.S. trafficking cases on the rise as victims seek help by texting

Ellen Wulffhorst – Reuters: 18 December 2018

Reports of human trafficking made to the U.S. National Human Trafficking Hotline are up by 25 percent in 2018 over 2017 because of the addition of an around-the-clock, text-based system.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trafficking/reported-u-s-trafficking-cases-on-the-rise-as-victims-seek-help-by-texting-idUSKBN10I02A>

Desperate and Dangerous: Report on the human rights situation of migrants and refugees in Libya

United Nations Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and U.N. Support Mission in Libya: 18 December 2018

A U.N. report documents a litany of violations and abuses committed against migrants and refugees in Libya. The U.N.'s human rights office says state officials, armed groups, smugglers and traffickers have been known to subject the migrants and refugees to "unimaginable horrors." These include unlawful killings, torture, arbitrary detention, gang rape, slavery, forced labor and extortion.

<https://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/LY/LibyaMigrationReport.pdf>

For more on this theme:

Dangerous Alliances on Migration

<https://yaleglobal.yale.edu/content/dangerous-alliances-migration>

Confronting the challenges of migration in West and Central Africa

<https://www.un.org/africarenewal/magazine/december-2018-march-2019/confronting-challenges-migration-west-and-central-africa>

The Complex Effects of Development Aid on Migration

<https://www.newsdeeply.com/refugees/community/2018/12/13/the-complex-effects-of-development-aid-on-migration>

Migrant Deaths to Rise as Mediterranean Rescue Mission Ends?

<https://allafrica.com/view/group/main/main/id/00065369.html>

Italy cracks down on asylum seekers' opportunities to integrate

<https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/indepth/2018/12/13/italy-cracks-down-on-asylum-seekers-opportunities-to-integrate>

From Refugee to Commodity

<https://features.weather.com/exodus/chapter/from-refugee-to-commodity/>

Indonesia's climate refugees are being forced into deadly labor abroad

<https://qz.com/1490598/indonesias-climate-refugees-are-forced-into-deadly-migrant-trafficking/>

Why Economic Freedom Is a Proven Antidote to the Scourge of Human Trafficking

<https://www.dailysignal.com/2018/12/20/why-economic-freedom-is-a-proven-antidote-to-the-scourge-of-human-trafficking/>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Our Shared Digital Future Building an Inclusive, Trustworthy and Sustainable Digital Society

World Economic Forum: 10 December 2018

Building a digital economy and society that is trusted, inclusive and sustainable requires urgent attention in six priority areas, according to “Our Shared Digital Futures,” a new report by the World Economic Forum.

<https://www.weforum.org/reports/our-shared-digital-future-building-an-inclusive-trustworthy-and-sustainable-digital-society>

For more on this theme:

(Global) The internet is going to hell and its creators want your help fixing it

https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/12/11/tinternet_needs_work/

(Global) The War-Torn Web

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2018/12/19/the-war-torn-web-internet-warring-states-cyber-espionage/>

(ASEAN) Unleashing ASEAN’s full potential with data-driven governance

<https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/asean-business/unleashing-asean%E2%80%99s-full-potential-with-data-driven-governance>

INTERNET FREEDOM

The most common forms of censorship the public doesn’t know about

Justin Kosslyn – TechCrunch: 19 December 2018

The internet wasn’t designed to protect your privacy, so censorship and surveillance are easy to impose. To make the internet private and secure will take reshaping the technical standards of the global internet.

<https://techcrunch.com/2018/12/19/the-most-common-forms-of-censorship-the-public-doesnt-know-about/>

For more on this theme:

(Albania) Albania PM Accused of Planning Online Media Censorship

<http://www.balkaninsight.com/en/article/albania-pm-accused-of-planning-online-media-censorship-12-18-2018>

(China) How Google took on China—and lost

<https://www.technologyreview.com/s/612601/how-google-took-on-china-and-lost/>

(China) China Steps Up Internet Surveillance by Recording User Activities

<https://www.cpomagazine.com/2018/12/19/china-steps-up-internet-surveillance-by-recording-user-activities/>

PRIVACY AND SECURITY

EU ministers raise privacy concerns in e-evidence bill

Phys.org: 7 December 2018

Some members of the European Commission are concerned that its digital evidence bill for cross-border terrorism cases will not protect its citizens' rights.

<https://phys.org/news/2018-12-eu-ministers-privacy-e-evidence-bill.html>

For more on this theme:

(Australia) Australia's Controversial Encryption Legislation May Threaten More Than Online Privacy

<https://www.nasdaq.com/article/australias-controversial-encryption-legislation-may-threaten-more-than-online-privacy-cm1067566>

(Global) Your Apps Know Where You Were Last Night, and They're Not Keeping It Secret

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2018/12/10/business/location-data-privacy-apps.html>

(Global) Tech's invasion of our privacy made us more paranoid in 2018

<https://www.cnet.com/news/techs-invasion-of-our-privacy-made-us-more-paranoid-in-2018/>

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Russian lawmakers seek tighter internet control to counter 'aggressive' U.S.

Reuters: 14 December 2018

Russian lawmakers have accused the U.S. of "aggressive" cyber actions and are looking to tighten state control over the internet in yet another power grab.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-russia-internet-security-idUSKBN10D28N>

For more on this theme:

(Europe) Making Europe a world leader in information & communication technology

<https://www.openaccessgovernment.org/europe-world-leader-ict/55471/>

(India) India's big leap into the digital future

<https://egov.eletsonline.com/2018/12/indias-big-leap-into-the-digital-future/>

(Australia) Australian government unveils 'Tech Future' strategy – strong focus on skills, inclusion and data

<https://government.diginomica.com/2018/12/20/australian-government-unveils-tech-future-strategy-strong-focus-on-skills-inclusion-and-data/>

PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Tunisian Internet Agency Signs Strategic Partnership With Blockchain Platform

Ana Alexandre – CoinTelegraph: 20 December 2018

The Tunisian Internet Agency has signed a 10-year strategic partnership with the blockchain platform Universa to further blockchain's growth in the country. The agreement involves joint projects in the field of blockchain as a service, which includes digital currency, digital identity, smart cities and e-governance.

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/tunisia-internet-agency-signs-strategic-partnership-with-blockchain-platform>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Your Next Internet Service Option Could Be One of These Companies

<https://medium.com/nyc-mayors-office-of-the-cto/your-next-internet-service-option-could-be-one-of-these-companies-bdd0967ce800>

(Pakistan) New digital policy focuses on tribal districts

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1452715/new-digital-policy-focuses-on-tribal-districts>

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Chinese Internet Court Uses Blockchain To Combat Online Plagiarism

CCN: 19 December 2018

A newly established Internet Court in the Chinese city of Hangzhou will use blockchain technology in its fight against plagiarism for online writers. The blockchain technology will save time and reduce court costs.

<https://www.ccn.com/chinese-internet-court-to-use-blockchain-to-combat-online-plagiarism/>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., China) U.S. Accuses Chinese Nationals of Infiltrating Corporate and Government Technology

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/20/us/politics/us-and-other-nations-to-announce-china-crackdown.html>

(Global) Blockchain Presents A Revolutionary Approach To The Intellectual Property

<https://www.btcwires.com/round-the-block/blockchain-presents-a-revolutionary-approach-to-the-intellectual-property/>

(New Zealand, China) Cyber campaign attributed to China

<http://www.scoop.co.nz/stories/PO1812/S00276/cyber-campaign-attributed-to-china.htm>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Closing the Global Cyber Enforcement Gap

Allison Peters – *Lawfare*: 18 December 2018

The “Paris Call for Trust and Stability in Cyberspace,” a multistakeholder effort by governments, companies and civil societies to establish global internet norms, will only be useful if the norms are enforced.

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/closing-global-cyber-enforcement-gap>

For more on this theme:

(UAE) Dubai ranks first globally in ‘Scientific and Technical Employment’

<https://www.emirates247.com/news/emirates/dubai-ranks-first-globally-in-scientific-and-technical-employment-2018-12-19-1.676799>

(U.S., Global) Expanding cyber defense

<https://www.dvidshub.net/news/304667/expanding-cyber-defense>

(Ghana) Cyber Security Authority to be Established in 2019

<https://www.modernghana.com/news/904308/cyber-security-authority-to-be-established-in-2019.html>

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

The ‘Global Cybercrime Problem’ Is Actually the ‘Russia Problem’

John P. Carlin – *The Atlantic*: 16 December 2018

To deter Russian cyber intrusions, misinformation and malicious actions, the U.S. must convince Putin that it is serious about retaliation by responding swiftly to each attack.

<https://www.theatlantic.com/ideas/archive/2018/12/how-trump-can-stand-russian-cybercrime/578185/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) To Catch a Hacker: Toward a comprehensive strategy to identify, pursue, and punish malicious cyber actors

<https://www.thirdway.org/report/to-catch-a-hacker-toward-a-comprehensive-strategy-to-identify-pursue-and-punish-malicious-cyber-actors>

(U.S.) Local tech wiz-kids launch company to fight cyber-crimes

<https://www.wusa9.com/article/news/local/dc/local-tech-wiz-kids-launch-company-to-fight-cyber-crimes/65-ac20e6fd-0255-4ca5-a11d-039e3b0e58f0>

(U.S., Global) MSU finds certain personality traits can make you more suspect to cybercrime

<https://www.wlns.com/news/msu-finds-certain-personality-traits-can-make-you-more-suspect-to-cyber-crime/1666788092>

INFORMATION SHARING

Shared knowledge vital to tackling cyber-crime in financial sector

John Maslen – Asset Finance International: 14 December 2018

Financial services are under constant threat of malicious cyber attacks. These attacks are frequent and rapidly increasing. Sharing information is critical to fighting these threats in the financial sector.

<https://www.assetfinanceinternational.com/index.php/technology/technology-archive/technology-articles/17758-shared-knowledge-vital-to-tackling-cyber-crime-in-financial-sector>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) As problems with data and misinformation mount, securing networks and data is more crucial than ever

<https://www.aei.org/publication/as-problems-with-data-and-misinformation-mount-securing-networks-and-data-is-more-critical-than-ever/>

(U.S.) Exchange of Competitively Sensitive Information Among Competitors Prompts DOJ Enforcement Action

<https://www.arnoldporter.com/en/perspectives/publications/2018/12/exchange-of-competitively-sensitive-information>

(U.S.) The Cybersecurity 202: Senate Democrats launch new privacy effort to protect consumer data

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/powerpost/paloma/the-cybersecurity-202/2018/12/18/the-cybersecurity-202-senate-democrats-launch-new-privacy-effort-to-protect-consumer-data/5c17d9e91b326b2d6629d4cd/>

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Cybersecurity: The Hackers Are Already Through The Utilities' Doors, So What's Next?

Peter Kelly-Detwiler – Forbes: 20 December 2018

Hackers are already attempting to infiltrate our critical infrastructure daily. It is likely they have found vulnerabilities and are just waiting to exploit them. Why then isn't management of such facilities sufficiently focused on the threat?

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/peterdetwiler/2018/12/20/cybersecurity-the-hackers-are-already-through-the-utilities-doors-so-whats-next/#50fbb9b4158b>

For more on this theme:

(Bulgaria) Mandatory cyber security standards apply to operators of critical infrastructure, digital and public service providers in Bulgaria

<https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=2551ac57-acee-4f43-93a8-dde5ac8eeeb5>

(Czech Republic) Cyber security centre warns against use of Huawei devices in critical state infrastructure

<https://www.radio.cz/en/section/curraffrs/cyber-security-centre-warns-against-use-of-huawei-devices-in-critical-state-infrastructure>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS

Despite Assurances From Trump, the U.S. Battle Against ISIS in Eastern Syria Is Far From Over

Ali Younes, Trevor Aaronson and Murtaza Hussain – The Intercept: 20 December 2018

For many security experts, the depiction of the Islamic State as “defeated” – as President Donald Trump declared via Twitter – is not only inaccurate, but dangerously misleading. Despite its setbacks, the terrorist group maintains a formidable presence in Syria and Iraq, commanding fanatical, highly trained fighters believed to number in the thousands, including many who went into hiding after the fall of the group’s self-declared caliphate.

<https://theintercept.com/2018/12/20/syria-civil-war-isis-us-airstrikes/>

Interpol warns of ISIS 2.0 when Islamic State supporters serving short sentences across Europe are freed from prison

Charlie Moore – Daily Mail: 20 December 2018

With crowded prisons and short sentences, many ISIS-related prisoners will be released soon. Interpol is concerned that this could be the beginning of ISIS 2.0. – either in Europe or in Africa.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-6516759/Interpol-warns-ISIS-2-0-launching-wave-attacks-Europe.html>

For more on this theme:

Amnesty International: Islamic State Wrought Havoc in Rural Iraq

<https://www.voanews.com/a/amnesty-international-islamic-state-wrought-havoc-in-rural-iraq/4698733.html>

The Islamic State in Khorasan: A review

<https://nation.com.pk/14-Dec-2018/the-islamic-state-in-khorasan-a-review>

Islamic State not defeated, just transforming: experts

<http://www.rudaw.net/english/analysis/14122018>

The Islamic State’s Toxic Legacy is an Environmental Catastrophe, Too

<https://www.newsweek.com/islamic-state-wells-environment-yezidis-war-1259483>

The Islamic State is not defeated in Syria. Or anywhere else. Look at Africa.

<https://www.aei.org/publication/the-islamic-state-is-not-defeated-in-syria-or-anywhere-else-look-at-africa/>

U.S. Exit Seen as a Betrayal of the Kurds, and a Boon for ISIS

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/12/19/world/middleeast/syria-kurds-isis-us.html>

Turkey threatens to ‘bury’ Kurdish forces in Syria amid U.S. withdrawal

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/turkey-threatens-to-bury-kurdish-militants-in-syria-amid-us-withdrawal/2018/12/20/06d8eb18-0460-11e9-958c-0a601226ff6b_story.html

US Syria pullout could hurt fight against Islamic State: Germany

<https://www.timesnownews.com/international/article/us-syria-pullout-could-hurt-fight-against-islamic-state-germany/334372>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Islamic State claims clashes with Shabaab in Somalia

Caleb Weiss – Long War Journal: 16 December 2018

For the first time, ISIS has openly and publicly announced its fighters clashed with and killed al-Shabaab fighters. Skirmishes have happened in the past, but both sides officially kept quiet about those incidents.

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2018/12/islamic-state-claims-clashes-with-shabaab-in-somalia.php>

From the IRA to the Islamic State: The Evolving Terrorism Threat in Europe

Seth G. Jones, Boris Toucas and Maxwell B. Markusen – Center for Strategic & International Studies: December 2018

This report takes a renewed look at Europe and compiles new data on the threat to Europe. It also examines the counterterrorism response by European governments, especially the United Kingdom and France.

https://csis-prod.s3.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/publication/181219_EuropeanTerrorism.pdf

For more on this theme:

Israel and Hezbollah: The borderline of war

<https://english.alarabiya.net/en/views/news/middle-east/2018/12/12/Israel-and-Hezbollah-The-borderline-of-war.html>

Where the Terrorists Will Strike Next

<https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2018-12-08/trends-in-terrorism-where-the-terrorists-will-strike-next>

US tech giant has been offering cybersecurity to terrorist groups: report

<https://thehill.com/policy/technology/421427-us-tech-giant-has-been-offering-cybersecurity-to-terrorist-groups-report>

What Stanley McChrystal learned from Al Qaeda's leader in Iraq before leading the operation to kill him

<https://www.businessinsider.com/stanley-mcchrystal-leaders-and-lessons-from-al-qaeda-leader-al-zarqawi-2018-12>

Al Qaeda branch pressures governments for ransom payments

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2018/12/al-qaeda-branch-presses-governments-for-ransom-payments.php>

Sub-Saharan Africa becoming new battleground against violent extremism as jihad 'goes south'

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/africa/sub-saharan-africa-isis-boko-haram-al-qaeda-terror-attacks-islam-jihad-extremism-a8689126.html>

A Damning Measure of the War on Terror's Failure

https://www.realclearworld.com/articles/2018/12/19/a_damning_measure_of_the_war_on_terrors_failure_112934.html

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Trends in the Draw of Americans to Foreign Terrorist Organizations from 9/11 to Today

Heather J. Williams, Nathan Chandler and Eric Robinson – Rand: 18 December 2018

Despite its recent battlefield losses in Iraq and Syria, the Islamic State has now surpassed al-Qaida in the race to recruit future jihadis from the U.S., Europe and across the globe. The Islamic State's ascendancy has had the most impact on U.S.-based recruits, according to the Rand Corp.

https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2545.html

The Spanish Approach to Preventing and Fighting Violent Radicalization

Maria Lozano Alia – European Eye on Radicalization: 18 December 2018

Spain has produced a National Strategic Plan for the fight against violent radicalization. While it has some experience dealing with terrorism, it can learn from other European Union nations with more experience – including learning from their mistakes.

<https://eeradicalization.com/the-spanish-approach-to-preventing-and-fighting-violent-radicalization/>

For more on this theme:

Reframing Prevention: If Government Won't Lead, Civil Society Must Step Up to Curb Extremism

<https://www.justsecurity.org/61755/reframing-prevention-government-lead-civil-society-step-curb-extremism/>

King: ISIS will use Syria withdrawal to recruit

<https://www.cnn.com/videos/politics/2018/12/20/sen-angus-king-intv-syria-withdrawal-isis-recruiting-tool-sot-newday-vpx.cnn>

The Italian approach to de-radicalization

https://www.ict.org.il/Article/2302/The_Italian_approach_to_de-radicalization#gsc.tab=0

Lessons From the Strasbourg Attack

<https://eeradicalization.com/lessons-from-the-strasbourg-attack/>

Strasbourg shooting: Why known extremists can carry out terror attacks

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-46557305>

Stockholm Talks on Yemen: What Consequences for Local CVE?

<https://eeradicalization.com/stockholm-talks-on-yemen-what-consequences-for-local-cve/>

PVE vs CVE — What's the Difference?

<https://clarionproject.org/pve-vs-cve/>

War on jihadists won't end unless West tackles root causes: experts

<https://www.pulse.ng/news/world/war-on-jihadists-wont-end-unless-west-tackles-root-causes-experts/kdlzflc>

How Spanish women are being lured into Jihadism

https://elpais.com/elpais/2018/12/13/inenglish/1544690262_450989.html

FOREIGN FIGHTERS

The jihadists no one wants

Liz Sly – The Washington Post: 21 December 2018

What will happen to the roughly 2,700 men, women and children piled up in the prisons and camps in Syria once the U.S. withdraws? Nobody wants to be responsible for those being held – not the Kurds holding them or their countries of origin.

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2018/world/syria/isis-prisoners/>

For more on this theme:

Kerala's ticking time bomb: The silent returnees of the Islamic State are back

<https://www.oneindia.com/india/kerala-s-ticking-time-bomb-the-silent-returnees-of-the-islamic-state-are-back-2824045.html>

Taliban denial of presence of foreign fighters in Afghanistan is absurd

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2018/12/taliban-denial-of-presence-of-foreign-fighters-in-afghanistan-is-absurd.php>

SDF could release 3,200 of its ISIS prisoners, withdraw from frontline: monitor

<http://www.rudaw.net/english/middleeast/syria/201220181>

Returning jihadists 'threaten new wave of terror in Europe'

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/dec/19/returning-jihadists-threaten-new-wave-of-terror-in-europe>

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

How Special Ops Can Step It Up

Jonathan Schroden – War on the Rocks: 19 December 2018

If U.S. Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) wants to remain a priority within the National Defense Strategy and the Defense Department's portfolio of capabilities, it needs to think outside the box and be a leader. The author argues that USSOCOM must undertake some critical self-examination, engage in rigorous force analysis and design, and make some hard choices about its future roles, missions and associated capabilities.

<https://warontherocks.com/2018/12/how-special-ops-can-step-it-up/>

For more on this theme:

Prevent counter-terrorism strategy remains unfair on British Muslims, despite Home Office efforts

<https://theconversation.com/prevent-counter-terrorism-strategy-remains-unfair-on-british-muslims-despite-home-office-efforts-108779>

Can America's Countering Violent Extremism Efforts be Salvaged?

<https://warontherocks.com/2018/12/can-americas-countering-violent-extremism-efforts-be-salvaged/>

Experts say Nigeria must change its strategy to defeat Boko Haram

<https://www.dw.com/en/experts-say-nigeria-must-change-its-strategy-to-defeat-boko-haram/a-46803622>