

THE MARSHALL CENTER

# transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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## COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

### CORRUPTION

#### **Vietnam Widens Crackdown Amid Public Outcry Over Corruption**

*Ralph Jennings – Voice of America: 18 December 2017*

In response to the public's alarm over corruption, the number of Vietnam's anti-graft cases has picked up under the country's new leadership. So far, investors in the private sector have welcomed efforts to reduce red tape and bribes.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/vietnam-anti-corruption-expanding/4168105.html>

#### **Bulgaria rolls out anti-corruption law before taking over EU presidency**

*EURACTIV.com with Agence France-Presse: 21 December 2017*

Bulgaria's parliament adopted a new law that establishes a single body to oversee the fight against corruption, but critics of the bill say its provisions will have the opposite effect. The new law merges several institutions tasked with fighting corruption.

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/justice-home-affairs/news/bulgaria-rolls-out-anti-corruption-law-before-taking-over-eu-presidency/>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **Iranian director facing jail for film attacking corruption**

<https://citizen.co.za/lifestyle/your-life-entertainment-your-life/1766542/entertainment-iran-film-corruption/>

#### **UNDP Supports Anti-Corruption Commission With State-of-Art Tools**

<https://www.frontpageafricaonline.com/index.php/news/6453-undp-supports-anti-corruption-commission-with-state-of-art-tools>

#### **We See You: A Silent Anti-Corruption Movement Erupts in Romania**

[https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/we-see-you-a-silent-anti-corruption-movement-erupts\\_us\\_5a3637f5e4b02bd1c8c6077e](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/we-see-you-a-silent-anti-corruption-movement-erupts_us_5a3637f5e4b02bd1c8c6077e)

#### **South Africa's new leader to focus on corruption and 'radical economic transformation'**

<https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Africa/2017/1221/South-Africa-s-new-leader-to-focus-on-corruption-and-radical-economic-transformation>

#### **Zimbabwe's Mnangagwa promises zero tolerance in corruption fight**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-zimbabwe-politics/zimbabwes-mnangagwa-promises-zero-tolerance-in-corruption-fight-idUSKBN1EE25P>

#### **Interview: Mining companies use data analytics to beat corruption**

<http://www.digitaljournal.com/tech-and-science/technology/interview-mining-companies-use-data-analytics-to-beat-corruption/article/510306>

#### **Scientists learned to predict public corruption with neural networks**

[https://www.eurekalert.org/pub\\_releases/2017-12/nruh-slt122117.php](https://www.eurekalert.org/pub_releases/2017-12/nruh-slt122117.php)

#### **Are Mexicans Imagining Their Corruption Problem?**

<http://www.americasquarterly.org/content/are-mexicans-imagining-their-corruption-problem>

## DRUG TRAFFICKING

### **Opioid tramadol destabilizes, fuels terror in parts of Africa, UN warns**

*Radina Gigova – CNN: 15 December 2017*

The United Nations has warned of a rise in trafficking and use of the illegal synthetic opioid tramadol across West Africa. One official revealed it is being found in the pockets of suicide bombers.

<http://www.cnn.com/2017/12/14/health/un-tramadol-trafficking-intl/index.html>

### **Mexico to legalize marijuana-based product sales next year**

*Reuters: 20 December 2017*

Mexico is set to legalize the sale of marijuana-based products early next year, despite the country's struggles with the illicit drug trade. Mexico's health regulator announced plans to permit the sale of cannabis-based foods, drinks, medicines and cosmetics.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-mexico-marijuana/mexico-to-legalize-marijuana-based-product-sales-next-year-idUSKBN1EF022>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Mexico's drug trade hits home**

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2017/world/mexico-s-drug-traffic-is-now-hitting-home/?utm\\_term=.fd6c6d32c84e](https://www.washingtonpost.com/graphics/2017/world/mexico-s-drug-traffic-is-now-hitting-home/?utm_term=.fd6c6d32c84e)

### **Police struggling to curb J&K's 'lucrative' drugs trade**

<http://www.sundayguardianlive.com/news/12034-police-struggling-curb-jk-s-lucrative-drugs-trade>

### **Cops Seize Guns, Drugs Sold Through Secret Facebook Groups**

<http://chicago.cbslocal.com/2017/12/21/facebook-black-market-guns-drugs/>

### **How The U.S. And Mexico Plan To Stop The Flow Of Illegal Drugs**

<https://hightimes.com/news/how-us-mexico-plan-stop-flow-illegal-drugs/>

### **How Drug-Free School Zones Backfired**

<https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/12/just-say-no-to-drug-free-school-zones/548714/>

### **Increased cocaine production in Colombia driving cocaine trafficking: Europol**

<https://colombiareports.com/increased-cocaine-production-colombia-driving-drug-trafficking-europol/>

### **Mexico Drug War Fast Facts**

<http://www.wtva.com/content/national/465504583.html?ref=583>

### **2017: The Year Pot Policy Stood Still as Opioids Ravaged the Nation**

<https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/features/2017-pot-policy-stood-still-as-opioids-ravaged-nation-w514505>

### **Legal Pot? Doesn't Matter, Colleges Say**

<https://www.insidehighered.com/news/2017/12/19/despite-more-open-marijuana-laws-colleges-still-banning-it>

### **To fight the opioid epidemic, take drug makers to court?**

<http://www.futurity.org/suing-opioid-manufacturers-1635662/>

## TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

### **Elephant Skin Auctions in Zimbabwe Are Booming — And Legal**

*Eric Scigliano – National Geographic: 20 December 2017*

Most U.S. states allow the sale of African elephant hide. The absence of laws banning the sale is stirring up controversy as elephants are hunted into extinction.

<https://news.nationalgeographic.com/2017/12/wildlife-watch-zimbabwe-elephant-skins-trade/>

### **Trophy hunting is macabre, but it may also be endangered species' best hope for survival**

*Gabriel Zarate – National Post: 21 December 2017*

While trophy hunting isn't ideal, it may be the best way to save endangered species that are otherwise killed because they are nuisances, dangerous or lucrative.

<http://nationalpost.com/opinion/trophy-hunting-is-macabre-but-it-may-also-be-endangered-species-best-hope-for-survival>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Illegal trade hammering Critically Endangered Sunda Pangolin stronghold**

<http://www.traffic.org/home/2017/12/21/illegal-trade-hammering-critically-endangered-sunda-pangolin.html>

### **Conservation group says Japan aiding in illegal ivory trade (Update)**

<https://phys.org/news/2017-12-group-japan-aiding-illegal-ivory.html>

### **Treasury Sanctions Lord's Resistance Army Facilitators Involved in the Illicit Trade of Ivory, Weapons, and Money in Central Africa**

<https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/sm0234>

### **Illegal wildlife trade is one of the biggest threats to endangered species – and the UK is a key player**

<http://www.independent.co.uk/environment/illegal-wildlife-trade-is-one-of-the-biggest-threats-to-endangered-species-and-the-uk-is-a-key-a8103381.html>

### **'A vicious cycle towards extinction:' Hunting and trade can push even abundant wildlife populations to the brink**

<https://news.mongabay.com/2017/12/a-vicious-cycle-towards-extinction-hunting-and-trade-can-push-even-abundant-wildlife-populations-to-the-brink/>

### **As China bans ivory, prices and poaching fall, other countries follow**

<https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/3323663>

### **Colombia Combats Illegal Gold Mining**

<https://dialogo-americas.com/en/articles/colombia-combats-illegal-gold-mining>

### **Can Cambodia Protect Enough Forest for Ecotourism?**

<https://www.asiasentinel.com/society/cambodia-enough-ecotourism/>

### **Government to provide alternative livelihood for illegal miners**

<https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/business/Government-to-provide-alternative-livelihood-for-illegal-miners-611123>

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

### **Exclusive: Italy plans big handover of sea rescues to Libya coastguard**

*Steve Scherer and Aidan Lewis – Reuters: 15 December 2017*

Italy proposed funneling \$52 million into the Libyan Coast Guard to take responsibility for intercepting and returning migrants to Africa within the next three years. Currently unable to patrol its own borders and accused of facilitating slave markets, Libya has a long way to go before this plan can be realized.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-europe-migrants-libya-exclusive/exclusive-italy-plans-big-handover-of-sea-rescues-to-libya-coastguard-idUSKBN1E91SG?il=0>

### **Joint AU-EU-UN Taskforce Meeting to Address the Migrant Situation in Libya**

*African Union: 14 December 2017*

The African Union, European Union and United Nations task force on migration has vowed to strengthen efforts against human trafficking and criminal networks. The task force is coordinating with Libyan authorities to dismantle the networks and help countries tackle the root causes of migration via development opportunities and stability.

<https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20171214/joint-au-eu-un-taskforce-meeting-address-migrant-situation-libya>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Hotels Are Key In The Fight To End Human Trafficking**

<https://www.fastcompany.com/40510138/hotels-are-key-in-the-fight-to-end-human-trafficking>

### **Human Trafficking Countries Ranking and List: Worldwide Country Statistics**

<https://www.insidermonkey.com/blog/human-trafficking-countries-ranking-and-list-worldwide-country-statistics-614725/>

### **European Leaders Pursue Migration Deals with North African Countries, Sparking Concerns about Human Costs**

<https://www.migrationpolicy.org/article/top-10-2017-issue-3-european-leaders-pursue-migration-deals-north-african-countries>

### **To stop human trafficking, crack down on demand for cheap labour – JRS**

<https://www.timesofmalta.com/articles/view/20171217/local/to-stop-human-trafficking-crack-down-on-demand-for-cheap-labour-jrs.665799>

### **Modern slavery laws must fully decriminalise sex work, advocates say**

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2017/dec/22/modern-slavery-laws-must-fully-decriminalise-sex-work-advocates-say>

### **Africa: Slave Trade in Africa in the 21st Century?**

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201712150738.html>

### **Good and evil: the role of smugglers in the migrant crisis [excerpt]**

<https://blog.oup.com/2017/12/good-evil-role-smugglers-migrant-crisis-excerpt/>

### **Anti-online sex trafficking bill gets crushed under Big Tech's lobbying**

<http://thehill.com/opinion/civil-rights/365295-anti-online-sex-trafficking-bill-gets-crushed-under-big-techs-lobbying>

## PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

### INTERNET GOVERNANCE

#### **Internet Society Official On Internet Governance Challenges, Role In Solving Issues**

*Intellectual Property Watch: 20 December 2017*

In an interview with Constance Bommalaer, senior director of Global Policy of the Internet Society, the independent news service Intellectual Property Watch sought answers to questions about the pressing issues of internet governance and the internet of things.

<https://www.ip-watch.org/2017/12/20/internet-society-official-internet-governance-challenges-role-solving-issues/>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(Global) Is Multi-Stakeholder Internet Governance Dying?**

<https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2017/12/multi-stakeholder-internet-governance-dying>

#### **(Global) UN chief highlights need for Internet governance to support innovation, prevent criminal use**

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=58310#.WjzV3zd0kaE>

#### **(Global) Internet Governance Forum Opening: Wish List For An Open, Trustworthy, Accessible Internet**

<https://www.ip-watch.org/2017/12/19/internet-governance-forum-opening-wish-list-open-trustworthy-accessible-internet/>

### INTERNET FREEDOM

#### **Man in China sentenced to five years in jail for running VPN**

*Benjamin Haas – The Guardian: 21 December 2017*

A seller of virtual private network (VPN) services has been sentenced in China for running an “illegal” business. It marks the most severe sentence to be handed out for helping users evade China’s internet filters.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/dec/22/man-in-china-sentenced-to-five-years-jail-for-running-vpn>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(U.S.) U.N. freedom of speech expert concerned about net neutrality**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-internet-un/u-n-freedom-of-speech-expert-concerned-about-net-neutrality-idUSKBN1EE2DA>

#### **(China) China reminds tech companies they need to play by the country’s rules if they want access**

<http://mashable.com/2017/12/18/china-censorship-reminder-internet/#h8kujr5J5Zqn>

#### **(Europe) How Europe’s New Internet Laws Threaten Freedom of Expression**

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/europe/2017-12-18/how-europes-new-internet-laws-threaten-freedom-expression>

## PRIVACY AND SECURITY

### **Public Opinion Often Sets Privacy Standards for Smart City Tech**

*Zack Quaintance – Government Technology: 18 December 2017*

As smart cities proliferate across the globe, individual privacy rights become more of a concern. Local governments rarely have specific laws on the books, and often the technology outpaces such legal frameworks. Citizens must be mindful of such concerns and push for privacy standards.

<http://www.govtech.com/civic/Public-Opinion-Often-Sets-Privacy-Standards-for-Smart-City-Tech.html>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(Global) EU Data Privacy Regulations: A Sign of Hope?**

[https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/eu-data-privacy-regulations-a-sign-of-hope\\_us\\_5a383632e4b0cebf48e9f661](https://www.huffingtonpost.com/entry/eu-data-privacy-regulations-a-sign-of-hope_us_5a383632e4b0cebf48e9f661)

### **(China) China Focus: What do Internet-linked surveillance cameras mean for privacy?**

[http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-12/19/c\\_136837930.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-12/19/c_136837930.htm)

### **(U.S.) Why the End of Net Neutrality and the Demise of the Open Internet Could Have Unintended Consequences for Data Privacy and Cyber Security**

<https://www.cpomagazine.com/2017/12/18/end-net-neutrality-demise-open-internet-unintended-consequences-data-privacy-cyber-security/>

## CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

### **COLUMN-Commentary: Making sense of North Korea's hacking strategy**

*Donghui Park and Jessica L. Beyer – Reuters: 21 December 2017*

The U.S. recently blamed North Korea for the WannaCry attack that spread across the globe. North Korea's hacking ventures are being developed to probe critical infrastructure, get around financial sanctions and gain leverage, should the U.S. engage offensively.

<https://www.reuters.com/article/beyer-cyber/column-commentary-making-sense-of-north-koreas-hacking-strategy-idUSL1N1OL289>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(Global) At Internet Governance Forum, Developing Countries Explain Need To Tread Carefully On E-Commerce Policy**

<https://www.ip-watch.org/2017/12/18/internet-governance-forum-developing-countries-explain-need-tread-carefully-e-commerce-policy/>

### **(U.S.) Cybersecurity in the 2017 National Security Strategy**

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/cybersecurity-2017-national-security-strategy>

### **(U.S.) Year in Review: The Trump Administration Disrupts U.S. Cyber Diplomacy**

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/year-review-trump-administration-disrupts-us-cyber-diplomacy>

## PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

### **Press Briefing on the Attribution of the WannaCry Malware Attack to North Korea**

*U.S. White House: 19 December 2017*

The worldwide WannaCry attack in May 2017 has been officially blamed on North Korea. In a press briefing, U.S. President Donald Trump's homeland security advisor declared North Korea's culpability, and a Department of Homeland Security official continued to note the importance of public/private partnership in cyber defense.

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/press-briefing-on-the-attribution-of-the-wannacry-malware-attack-to-north-korea-121917/>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(U.S., Global) Private-Sector Attribution of Cyber Attacks: A Growing Concern for the U.S. Government?**

<https://lawfareblog.com/private-sector-attribution-cyber-attacks-growing-concern-us-government>

### **(U.S.) NSF awards nearly \$5.7M to defend America's cyberspace**

[https://www.nsf.gov/news/news\\_summ.jsp?cntn\\_id=243987&WT.mc\\_id=USNSF\\_51&WT.mc\\_ev=click](https://www.nsf.gov/news/news_summ.jsp?cntn_id=243987&WT.mc_id=USNSF_51&WT.mc_ev=click)

## PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

### **China's Economic Espionage via the Non-Attributable Hand**

*Christopher Burgess – Security Boulevard: 21 December 2017*

While the Chinese-sponsored hacking of economic targets decreased immediately following the U.S./China agreement, the hacks are again on the rise. Businesses must ask themselves if they are on the target list and act accordingly to protect intellectual property.

<https://securityboulevard.com/2017/12/chinas-economic-espionage-via-non-attributable-hand/>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(India) Most Indian organizations see ransomware as biggest threat**

<https://www.gizbot.com/news/most-indian-organizations-see-ransomware-as-biggest-threat-046465.html>

### **(Global) Facebook reveals data on copyright and trademark complaints**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-facebook-transparency/facebook-reveals-data-on-copyright-and-trademark-complaints-idUSKBN1EC2MZ>

### **(China, U.S.) Chinese hackers go after think tanks in wave of more surgical strikes**

<https://arstechnica.com/information-technology/2017/12/chinese-hackers-go-after-think-tanks-in-wave-of-more-surgical-strikes/>

## CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

### **Brazil Organizes First Ibero-American Cyber Defense Exercise**

*Eduardo Szklarz – Diálogo: 21 December 2017*

In the first of its kind, Brazil hosted an Ibero-American Cyber Defense Exercise for military from Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Portugal and Spain, as well as observers from Peru.

<https://dialogo-americas.com/en/articles/brazil-organizes-first-ibero-american-cyber-defense-exercise>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(Japan) Preparing for Cyber Attacks on Japan**

<https://thediplomat.com/2017/12/preparing-for-cyber-attacks-on-japan/>

### **(EU) Cybersecurity: EU institutions strengthen cooperation to counter cyber-attacks**

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2017/12/20/cybersecurity-eu-institutions-strengthen-cooperation-to-counter-cyber-attacks/>

### **(U.K.) UK's Offensive Cyber Warfare Ability 'More Than Doubles'**

[http://www.silicon.co.uk/e-regulation/governance/uks-cyber-warfare-ability-226365?inf\\_by=5a15718e671db8022a8b4a5f](http://www.silicon.co.uk/e-regulation/governance/uks-cyber-warfare-ability-226365?inf_by=5a15718e671db8022a8b4a5f)

## COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

### **How organised is organised cybercrime?**

*Davey Winder – Raconteur: 17 December 2017*

Just as law enforcement works with myriad partners, so do cyber criminals. “Cyber crime units possess roles that we typically come across in any large, legitimate business, such as partner networks, associates, resellers and vendors,” says Kevin Curran, professor of cyber security at Ulster University in Northern Ireland, “and they even have dedicated call centers, which are typically used to help with requests from ransomware victims.”

<https://www.raconteur.net/technology/how-organised-is-organised-cybercrime>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(India) Law enforcement agencies feel not enough laws to tackle cyber crimes: KPMG**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/law-enforcement-agencies-feel-not-enough-laws-to-tackle-cyber-crimes-kpmg-117121500600\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/law-enforcement-agencies-feel-not-enough-laws-to-tackle-cyber-crimes-kpmg-117121500600_1.html)

### **(Global) Top 10 cyber crime stories of 2017**

<http://www.computerweekly.com/news/450431761/Top-10-cyber-crime-stories-of-2017>

### **(New Zealand) New minister wants NZ to up ante against cyber-crime**

<https://www.stuff.co.nz/business/99843032/new-minister-wants-nz-to-up-ante-against-cybercrime>

## INFORMATION SHARING

### **How DHS wants to build on its 'defining moment' for cyber**

*Jason Miller – Federal News Radio: 20 December 2017*

The U.S. Department of Homeland security is looking to beef up efforts in detecting, sharing and stopping potential threats.

<https://federalnewsradio.com/cybersecurity/2017/12/how-dhs-wants-to-build-on-its-defining-moment-for-cyber/>

For more on this theme:

### **(U.S.) The response to North Korea's WannaCry attack shows collective defense works**

<http://www.cnn.com/2017/12/19/opinions/wanna-cry-and-north-korea-collective-defense-opinion-krebs/index.html>

### **(U.S.) US FERC eyes mandatory reporting of certain cybersecurity incidents**

<https://www.platts.com/latest-news/electric-power/washington/us-ferc-eyes-mandatory-reporting-of-certain-cybersecurity-21891850>

### **(Global) Why Cisco, McAfee Say Security Vendors Must Share Threat Intel to Beat the Baddies**

<https://www.sdxcentral.com/articles/news/cisco-mcafee-say-security-vendors-must-share-threat-intel-beat-baddies/2017/12/>

## CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

### **Cyberattack Targets Safety System at Saudi Aramco**

*Elias Groll – Foreign Policy: 21 December 2017*

A computer security firm reported that Iran is the likely perpetrator of the most recent malware attack on critical infrastructure. Security experts identified Saudi Aramco as the target of the attack, although the oil company denies it took place.

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2017/12/21/cyber-attack-targets-safety-system-at-saudi-aramco/>

For more on this theme:

### **(U.K) Cyber-attacks on critical national infrastructure firms may double by 2020**

<https://teiss.co.uk/news/cyber-attacks-critical-national-infrastructure-firms/>

### **(U.S., Russia) Russian 'cyber war' behind bipartisan push to protect elections, senator says**

<http://abcnews.go.com/Politics/russian-cyber-war-bipartisan-push-protect-elections-senator/story?id=51940736>

### **(Ukraine) It's the Holiday Season Again. Will Ukraine Be Ready for the Next Cyberattack?**

<http://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/it-s-the-holiday-season-again-will-ukraine-be-ready-for-the-next-cyberattack>

## PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS

### **In Iraq, the danger of a dormant Islamic State**

*Editorial Board – Chicago Tribune: 21 December 2017*

While ISIS appears down and out, it will likely rise again if the U.S. and Iraq do not come to a mutually beneficial agreement for securing Iraq.

<http://www.chicagotribune.com/news/opinion/editorials/ct-edit-islamic-state-iraq-20171220-story.html>

### **Has ISIS Really Been Defeated?**

*Hashem Osseiran – Pacific Standard: 21 December 2017*

Despite declarations by Russian and Syrian leaders that ISIS has been defeated in Syria, the terror group still has a presence in the country. Several ISIS convoys have been spotted in recent weeks traveling through Syrian territory. It is unclear whether the fighters are aiming to regroup in Syria or head toward Europe.

<https://psmag.com/news/has-the-demise-of-isis-been-exaggerated>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Islamic State in Yemen has ‘doubled in size’ since 2016: Pentagon**

<https://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/dec/21/islamic-state-yemen-has-doubled-size/>

### **Islamic State Blasts Afghanistan’s Spy Agency**

<https://warisboring.com/islamic-state-blasts-afghanistans-spy-agency/>

### **Islamic State claims air base attack in Egypt’s North Sinai**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-egypt-security-claim/islamic-state-claims-air-base-attack-in-egypts-north-sinai-idUSKBN1EE1SA>

### **Could Islamic State make inroads in Kashmir?**

<https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/indepth/2017/12/20/could-islamic-state-make-inroads-in-kashmir>

### **Islamic State Threatens Berlin, London, New York With ‘Holiday’ Attacks**

<http://www.breitbart.com/london/2017/12/16/islamic-state-threatens-berlin-london-new-york-with-holiday-attacks/>

### **ISIS Could Rise Again**

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/articles/syria/2017-12-15/isis-could-rise-again>

### **The next war: ISIS plus expertise**

<https://www.opendemocracy.net/paul-rogers/wars-next-phase-isis-plus-expertise>

### **ISIS Is Gearing Up For A Comeback In The Philippines**

<http://taskandpurpose.com/isis-gearing-comeback-philippines/>

## TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

### **Terrorist Violence Escalates Across Afghanistan And Pakistan**

*Samantha Raphelson – National Public Radio: 18 December 2017*

Afghanistan and Pakistan have been the targets of growing violence in recent weeks – signaling an escalation in the ongoing conflict.

<https://www.npr.org/2017/12/18/571705394/terrorist-violence-escalates-across-afghanistan-and-pakistan>

### **How Al-Qaeda Came to Kashmir**

*Riyaz Wani – The Diplomat: 20 December 2017*

Despite opposition from already well-established insurgent groups, al-Qaida was able to gain a foothold in Kashmir in mid-2017.

<https://thediplomat.com/2017/12/how-al-qaeda-came-to-kashmir/>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Deadly Taliban Attacks on NATO Convoy and Police in Afghanistan**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/12/17/world/asia/afghanistan-taliban-attacks.html>

### **Al-Shabaab uses women as spies in Coast region**

<http://www.nation.co.ke/counties/lamu/Shabaab-new-tactics-emerge-/3444912-4234038-nkwhk/index.html>

### **Why the Taliban Is Winning in Pakistan**

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/why-the-taliban-winning-pakistan-23734>

### **Thousands Of Ancient Treasures Threatened By Taliban: Report**

<http://www.toloneews.com/science-technology/thousands-ancient-treasures-threatened-taliban-report>

### **Hamas Is Arresting and Torturing Jihadis to Prevent War With Israel**

<http://www.newsweek.com/hamas-arresting-and-torturing-jihadis-prevent-war-israel-752108>

### **Despite its anti-Israel rhetoric, Hamas' weakness limits military options and means it cannot abandon reconciliation with Fatah**

<http://www.janes.com/article/76477/despite-its-anti-israel-rhetoric-hamas-weakness-limits-military-options-and-means-it-cannot-abandon-reconciliation-with-fatah>

### **EU, U.S. at odds over Hezbollah's terrorist designation**

<https://en.annahar.com/article/717387-eu-us-at-odds-over-hezbollahs-terrorist-designation>

### **Al-Qaeda divisions may aid Assad as he eyes Syria's Idlib**

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/al-qaeda-divisions-may-aid-assad-as-he-eyes-syrias-idlib/2017/12/19/3ef14f7c-e486-11e7-927a-e72eac1e73b6\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/al-qaeda-divisions-may-aid-assad-as-he-eyes-syrias-idlib/2017/12/19/3ef14f7c-e486-11e7-927a-e72eac1e73b6_story.html)

### **Islamic State may be over, but al-Qaeda isn't**

<http://cyprus-mail.com/2017/12/17/islamic-state-may-al-qaeda-isnt/>

### **Hezbollah's young adherents emboldened after US announcement on Jerusalem**

<http://www.dw.com/en/hezbollahs-young-adherents-emboldened-after-us-announcement-on-jerusalem/a-41861041>

## FOREIGN FIGHTERS

### **How ISIS Members Fled The Caliphate, Perhaps To Fight Another Day**

*Mike Giglio and Munzer al-Awad – BuzzFeed News: 19 December 2017*

U.S. officials and Turkish smugglers are telling a different story when it comes to foreign fighters. The U.S. says most have been killed but the smugglers claim many have escaped across the border – leaving open the possibility of ISIS attacks globally from returning foreign fighters.

[https://www.buzzfeed.com/mikegiglio/how-isis-members-fled-the-caliphate-perhaps-to-fight?utm\\_term=.sfE12pazl#.di493Zm59](https://www.buzzfeed.com/mikegiglio/how-isis-members-fled-the-caliphate-perhaps-to-fight?utm_term=.sfE12pazl#.di493Zm59)

### **North Africa Braces for Impact as Islamic State Fighters Return**

*Jamie Dettmer – Voice of America: 19 December 2017*

The African Union estimates that about 6,000 foreign fighters have returned or are returning home. Officials fear these returning fighters will join other insurgent groups across Africa or conduct lone wolf attacks.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/north-africa-braces-impact-islamic-state-fighters-return/4170589.html>

*For more on this theme:*

### **How Belgium copes with returning Islamic State fighters**

<https://www.economist.com/news/europe/21732835-caliphates-foreign-fighters-are-coming-home-places-do-not-want-them-how-belgium-cope>

### **MI5 fear a generation of children who grew up under Islamic State may return to the UK as killers**

<http://www.mirror.co.uk/news/politics/mi5-fear-generation-children-who-11730754>

### **Raqqa: Defeat and disillusionment sink in for Islamic State's foreign converts**

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/2017-12-20/how-indonesian-cook-became-an-is-group-fighter/9267544>

### **Islamic State: What happened to all the foreign fighters?**

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2017/12/16/world/islamic-state-happened-foreign-fighters/#.WjzjpDd0kaE>

### **Islamic State is dead, but fanatics will look for new home**

<https://www.thespec.com/opinion-story/7999217-islamic-state-is-dead-but-fanatics-will-look-for-new-home/>

### **Terrorism risks rising in Malaysia as Islamic State militants return**

<https://globalriskinsights.com/2017/12/islamic-state-militants-malaysia-terrorism/>

### **Justin Trudeau: Returning Islamic State Jihadists Can Be 'Extraordinarily Powerful Voice' in Canada**

<http://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2017/12/20/trudeau-returning-islamic-state-jihadists-extraordinarily-powerful-voice-canada/>

### **German teen reunites with family after running away to join Islamic State**

<http://www.newshub.co.nz/home/world/2017/12/german-teen-reunites-with-family-after-running-away-to-join-islamic-state.html>

## RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

### **Inside the collapse of Islamic State's propaganda machine**

*Charlie Winter – Wired: 20 December 2017*

ISIS propaganda has gone from touting its utopian paradise in the form of the “caliphate” to focusing solely on the war at hand. It is clear that the message has changed, and this article attempts to explain why.

<http://www.wired.co.uk/article/isis-islamic-state-propaganda-content-strategy>

### **Preventing radicalization in Calgary gets \$1.3M boost from Ottawa**

*CBC News: 18 December 2017*

A pilot project aimed at giving young people a sense of belonging so they are less vulnerable to recruitment by criminal or terrorist groups will continue with full funding from the Canadian government. Police and community organizations in Calgary launched the Redirect program in 2015 to help young people deemed vulnerable to radicalization.

<http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/funding-radicalization-youth-redirect-calgary-police-ottawa-federal-extremism-1.4454730>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Brainwashed by ISIS?**

<https://clarionproject.org/brainwashed-by-isis/>

### **On social media, ISIS uses fantastical propaganda to recruit members**

<https://theconversation.com/on-social-media-isis-uses-fantastical-propaganda-to-recruit-members-86626>

### **Anti-radicalisation should tackle anger driving terrorism**

<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/article/2001263434/anti-radicalisation-should-tackle-anger-driving-terrorism>

### **Promoting Peace and Preventing Youth Radicalization in Mindanao, Philippines**

<https://www.hdcentre.org/updates/promoting-peace-and-preventing-youth-radicalization-in-mindanao-philippines/>

### **Sorry, Mr. Scheer. De-radicalization works. Prison doesn't.**

<https://ipolitics.ca/2017/12/15/sorry-mr-scheer-de-radicalization-works-prison-doesnt/>

### **Mubin Shaikh: Why Did a Former Extremist Go Undercover To Fight Terrorism?**

<https://www.npr.org/2017/12/15/570811080/mubin-shaikh-why-did-a-former-extremist-go-undercover-to-fight-terrorism>

### **Terrorism & Radicalization remain common challenges for India & Mali: VP**

<http://ddinews.gov.in/national/terrorism-radicalization-remain-common-challenges-india-mali-vp>

### **Mama Boko Haram renews pledge to de-radicalize insurgents**

<http://thenationonlineng.net/mama-boko-haram-renews-pledge-de-radicalize-insurgents/>

### **Want to Stop Homegrown Attacks? Start With Locally-Driven Violence Prevention**

<https://www.justsecurity.org/49671/prevent-homegrown-attacks-start-locally-driven-violence-prevention/>

## COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

### **In the Sahel, a Counterterrorism Force Fights for More Than Funding**

*Stratfor: 22 December 2017*

Even with additional funds coming in, the G5 Sahel Force is going to struggle to make a dent in the terrorism and conflict of the region, according to an analysis by the geopolitical intelligence platform Stratfor.

<https://worldview.stratfor.com/article/sahel-counterterrorism-force-fights-more-funding>

*For more on this theme:*

### **The Philippines just extended martial law. How far will Duterte go to stop terrorism?**

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/12/14/the-philippines-just-extended-martial-law-how-far-will-duterte-go-to-stop-terrorism/>

### **Islamic State is a savvy enemy and we need a Home Affairs department to beat them**

<http://www.smh.com.au/comment/isis-is-a-savvy-enemy-and-we-need-a-home-affairs-department-to-beat-them-20171218-h06yg9.html>

### **How the Pentagon's cyber offensive against ISIS could shape the future for elite U.S. forces**

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/checkpoint/wp/2017/12/16/how-the-pentagons-cyber-offensive-against-isis-could-shape-the-future-for-elite-u-s-forces/>

### **Egypt's Counter-Terrorism Failure: The Misplaced Priorities**

<http://www.eubulletin.com/7939-egypts-counter-terrorism-failure-the-misplaced-priorities.html>