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A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Corrupt Chinese Officials Filled Missiles With Water, Report Says

Aadil Brar – Newsweek: 8 January 2024

Chinese officials filled missiles with water instead of rocket fuel in one example of pervasive corruption, according to a report on United States intelligence assessments of China's military. https://www.newsweek.com/china-missiles-rocket-fuel-corrupt-officials-water-xi-jinping-1858491

Albania: Fight against high-level corruption gains traction

Ani Ruci – Deutsche Welle: 4 January 2024

Former Prime Minister Sali Berisha is under house arrest while he is investigated for possible corruption. Is this the end of impunity for corruption at the highest level in Albania?

https://www.dw.com/en/albania-fight-against-high-level-corruption-gains-traction/a-67887499

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Nigerian president suspends humanitarian minister in corruption scandal

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Guatemalan ex-President Perez enters house arrest after 8 years in prison

https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/guatemalan-ex-president-perez-enters-house-arrest-after-8-years-prison-2024-01-04/

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You Can Change the Narrative in Fight against Corruption, ICPC tells Youth Corpers

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Xi Jinping to go after 'ants and flies' as he intensifies his crackdown on firms

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Ukrainian defense minister reveals massive corruption in armed forces

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Belgium Plans Increased Fight Against Drug Trafficking Through EU Ports *The Maritime Executive: 5 January 2024*

Belgium intends to prioritize the fight against drug trafficking through major ports in the European Union by expanding efforts to rein in rampant smuggling and corruption.

https://maritime-executive.com/article/belgium-plans-increased-fight-against-drug-trafficking-through-euports

Cheap and They Don't Snitch: Drones Are the New Drug Mules

Max Daly – Vice: 5 January 2024

Drones are on the rise in the drug trafficking world, with smugglers using them to shift product across borders, into prisons – and soon to a street near you.

https://www.vice.com/en/article/qjvma7/drug-trafficking-smugglers-using-drones

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Jordan strikes Iran-linked drug dealers in Syria — intelligence sources

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International forum tackles emerging cyber threats targeting youth by drug traffickers

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Elite appetite turns Bangladesh from source to consumer of tiger parts Mahadi Al Hasnat – Mongabay: 9 January 2024

Previously a source country for live tigers and their parts, Bangladesh has transformed into both a consumer market and a global transit hub for the illegal trade, a new study shows.

https://news.mongabay.com/2024/01/elite-appetite-turns-bangladesh-from-source-to-consumer-of-tiger-parts/

The sound maps that predict poachers' movements

Julián Reingold – BBC: 5 January 2024

Digital monitoring tools are helping rangers protect wildlife in South America's Atlantic Forest. Could sound-based maps pin down the poaching threat?

https://www.bbc.com/future/article/20240105-the-maps-fighting-jaguar-poaching-in-south-americas-at-lantic-forest

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South Africa security forces ramp up clampdown on illegal miners

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PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Frontier AI Regulation: Safeguards Amid Rapid Progress

Markus Anderljung and Anton Korinek – Lawfare: 4 January 2023

Artificial Intelligence (AI) governance efforts should be escalated, integrating strong oversight, transparent reporting requirements and effective risk management of the most advanced AI systems to protect public interests.

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Pakistan Internet Disrupted As Opposition Launches Election Campaign Agence France Presse: 7 January 2024

Internet and social media services across Pakistan were severely disrupted on January 7 as the party of jailed former Prime Minister Imran Khan prepared to launch a massive online campaign ahead of elections next month.

https://www.barrons.com/news/pakistan-internet-disrupted-as-opposition-launches-election-campaign-957b77dd

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Africa's deep think in being an AI leader

The Christian Science Monitor: 8 January 2024

Young people are generating advances in artificial intelligence to ensure Africa is an equal partner in the new digital innovation.

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NoName Cyberattacks Escalate, Targeting Diverse Sectors in Finland

Samiksha Jain – The Cyber Express: 10 January 2024

The recent wave of distributed denial-of-service attacks has targeted a wide array of critical sectors in Finland.

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This new cybercrime technique makes it easier for criminals to send fake emails Sead Fadilpašić – TechRadar: 4 January 2024

Hackers can use a flaw in SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol) servers to spoof legitimate email addresses.

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Public-private collaboration is key for water sector cybersecurity Nick Creath – WaterWorld: 14 December 2023

Threat actors have shifted their focus to the operational technology systems of critical infrastructure providers. Collaborative cybersecurity can help minimize disruptions.

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Intelligence assessment raises risk of Hezbollah attack on U.S. soil, personnel abroad *i24NEWS: 11 January 2024*

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Mona Yacoubian - United States Institute of Peace: 8 January 2024

Three months after the Hamas terror attack on Israel, reverberations from the ensuing conflict in Gaza threaten to engulf the region in a wider war.

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