

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
- Organized Crime

### **PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)**

- Internet Governance
- Internet Freedom
- Cyber Strategy and Risks
- Cyberattacks
- Cybercrime
- Protection of Critical Infrastructure

### **PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)**

- Terrorism Around the World
- Israel/Hamas
- Russia/Ukraine

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## COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

### CORRUPTION

#### **Corruption Perceptions Index**

*Transparency International: January 2024*

The 2023 Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) shows that corruption is thriving across the world. The CPI ranks 180 countries and territories around the globe by their perceived levels of public sector corruption.

<https://www.transparency.org/en/cpi/2023>

#### **CPI 2023: Corruption and (in)justice**

*Roberto Martinez B. Kukutschka – Transparency International: 30 January 2024*

Corruption and justice are closely linked: Where justice prevails, there is little room for corruption, but where corruption thrives, it throws the scales of justice out of balance.

<https://www.transparency.org/en/news/cpi-2023-corruption-and-injustice>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **Malaysian anti-corruption agency asks another Mahathir son to declare assets as probe expands**

<https://www.scmp.com/news/asia/southeast-asia/article/3250001/malaysian-anti-corruption-agency-asks-another-mahathir-son-declare-assets-probe-expands>

#### **Pakistan's Imran Khan and His Wife Sentenced to 14 Years in Prison on Corruption Charges**

<https://time.com/6590345/pakistan-imran-khan-prison-sentence-corruption/>

#### **Japan PM Kishida is fighting a party corruption scandal. Here's a look at what it's about**

<https://apnews.com/article/japan-politics-kishida-party-scandal-corruption-9a24f47e73552422a1a41a1f537e0760>

#### **Ukraine says it uncovered \$40 million corruption scheme in weapons procurement**

<https://www.cnn.com/2024/01/28/europe/ukraine-weapons-procurement-corruption-shell-intl/index.html>

#### **Cultivating gender equality could cut corruption, research suggests**

<https://phys.org/news/2024-01-cultivating-gender-equality-corruption.html>

#### **Video: Why can't Indonesia solve the problem of corruption?**

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-01-25/political-dynasties-have-long-ruled-indonesia-%E2%80%93/103387412>

#### **Why is Bangladesh so weak at fighting corruption?**

<https://www.tbsnews.net/features/panorama/why-bangladesh-so-weak-fighting-corruption-779666>

#### **He Hunted Corrupt Chinese Officials. Now He's Set to Be Foreign Minister.**

<https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/he-hunted-corrupt-chinese-officials-now-he-s-set-to-be-foreign-minister/ar-BB1hactN>

## DRUG TRAFFICKING

### **Drug-fueled organized crime in Ecuador, reaches new levels**

*Jorge Valencia – NPR: 28 January 2024*

Organized drug gangs are threatening to consume Ecuador in some of the worst violence seen in years. How did it get this bad and what are the government's options?

<https://www.npr.org/2024/01/28/1227487414/drug-fueled-organized-crime-in-ecuador-reaches-new-levels>

*For more on this theme:*

### **AI monitoring system targets illegal drug sales online**

[https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2024/01/113\\_366822.html](https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/nation/2024/01/113_366822.html)

### **Record Amount of Cocaine Smuggled Through Belgian Ports in 2023**

<https://maritime-executive.com/article/record-amount-of-cocaine-smuggled-through-belgian-ports-in-2023>

### **Mining Industry Sees a Way to Navigate Narco Crisis in Ecuador**

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2024-01-11/mining-industry-sees-a-way-to-navigate-narco-crisis-in-ecuador>

### **Drugs on the front line**

<https://globalinitiative.net/analysis/ukraine-synthetic-drugs-ocindex/>

### **Record Seizures in Bolivia Suggest Growing Role in Cocaine Exports**

<https://insightcrime.org/news/record-seizures-in-bolivia-suggest-growing-role-in-cocaine-exports/>

### **Record Cocaine Seizure Blow to Ecuador's Gangs**

<https://insightcrime.org/news/record-cocaine-seizure-blow-to-ecuadors-gangs/>

### **Threats to a governor put spotlight on drug trafficking violence in Argentina**

<https://english.elpais.com/international/2024-01-18/threats-to-a-governor-put-spotlight-on-drug-trafficking-violence-in-argentina.html>

### **Germany calls for more global action against drug smugglers**

<https://www.dw.com/en/germany-calls-for-more-global-action-against-drug-smugglers/a-68051625>

### **How smuggling gangs use drones to deliver drugs across the border**

<https://www.foxnews.com/tech/how-smuggling-gangs-use-drones-to-deliver-drugs-across-border>

### **Fentanyl Boom Fails to Lower Cocaine Demand**

<https://dialogo-americas.com/articles/fentanyl-boom-fails-to-lower-cocaine-demand/>

### **A Belgian port seized tons of cocaine. Criminals tried to take it back**

<https://www.spokesman.com/stories/2024/jan/20/a-belgian-port-seized-tons-of-cocaine-criminals-tr/>

### **Cocaine washes up on beaches across Sydney as police warn of growing drug trade**

<https://www.straitstimes.com/asia/australianz/cocaine-washes-up-on-beaches-across-sydney-as-police-warn-of-growing-drug-trade>

### **No end to Bengaluru's battle with drugs**

<https://www.deccanherald.com/india/karnataka/bengaluru/no-end-to-bengalurus-battle-with-drugs-2856972>

## TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

### **Brazil intercepts illegal flight over Indigenous land invaded by gold miners**

*Reuters: 30 January 2024*

The Brazilian Air Force said it fired warning shots at a plane and forced it to land for violating a no-fly ban over the Yanomami Indigenous reservation.

<https://www.reuters.com/sustainability/land-use-biodiversity/brazil-intercepts-illegal-flight-over-indigenous-land-invaded-by-gold-miners-2024-01-30/>

*For more on this theme:*

### **New network aims to stop wildlife trafficking, care for animals**

<https://spectrumnews1.com/ca/la-east/animals/2024/01/30/new-network-aims-to-stop-wildlife-traffic--care-for-animals->

### **Opinion: Peru's revised forestry law will undermine citizens' human rights**

<https://dialogochino.net/en/climate-energy/388343-opinion-peru-forestry-law-will-undermine-its-citizens-human-rights/>

### **Illegal logging a danger to forestry industry: Chibamba**

<https://newsinvasion24.com/illegal-logging-a-danger-to-forestry-industry-chibamba/>

### **NGA seeks ideas for using data to predict illegal fishing**

<https://federalnewsnetwork.com/big-data/2024/01/nga-seeks-ideas-for-using-data-to-predict-illegal-fishing/>

### **Temperatures rising: Illegal and unregulated fisheries, climate change, and armed conflict at sea**

<https://www.brookings.edu/events/temperatures-rising-illegal-and-unregulated-fisheries-climate-change-and-armed-conflict-at-sea/>

### **Brazil indigenous group report: government efforts to improve Yanomami living conditions and stop illegal mining are 'insufficient'**

<https://www.jurist.org/news/2024/01/brazil-indigenous-group-report-government-efforts-to-improve-yanomami-living-conditions-and-stop-illegal-mining-are-insufficient/#>

### **Illegal miners blow up high-voltage tower at Peru's Poderosa**

<https://www.mining-journal.com/precious-metals/news/4168077/illegal-miners-blow-voltage-tower-peru-poderosa>

### **Military involvement in reining in illegal mining successful – Modise**

<https://www.defenceweb.co.za/security/civil-security/military-involvement-in-reining-in-illegal-mining-successful-modise/>

## ORGANIZED CRIME

### **Violence and organized crime, the great challenges for development in Latin America and the Caribbean**

*Carlos Felipe Jaramillo – The World Bank: 30 January 2024*

The region has 9% of the global population and one-third of the world's total deaths by homicide.

<https://blogs.worldbank.org/latinamerica/violence-organized-crime-development-latin-america-caribbean>

*For more on this theme:*

### **'Significant' money laundering through property market**

<https://timesofmalta.com/articles/view/significant-money-laundering-property-market.1079268>

### **Organised crime may be profiting from student loan fraud worth £60m – report**

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2024/jan/18/organised-may-be-profiting-from-student-loan-worth-60m-report>

### **Intelligence-led investigations can curb Ethiopia's kidnappings**

<https://issafrica.org/iss-today/intelligence-led-investigations-can-curb-ethiopias-kidnappings>

### **Why Ecuador's Criminal Organizations Can Pose a 'Formidable Challenge' to the Government**

<https://www.latintimes.com/why-ecuadors-criminal-organizations-can-pose-formidable-challenge-government-550579>

### **The deep roots of Latin America's organized crime problem**

<https://brazilian.report/opinion/2024/01/24/latin-america-organized-crime-problem/>

### **The internationalization of organized crime in Brazil**

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-internationalization-of-organized-crime-in-brazil/>

### **Criminal Organisations Party to an Armed Conflict and the Question of Targeting**

<https://lieber.westpoint.edu/criminal-organisations-party-armed-conflict-question-targeting/>

### **Chinese crime and geopolitics in 2024**

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/chinese-crime-and-geopolitics-in-2024/>

### **Organized crime and the role of women in criminal networks in focus at OSCE lecture**

<https://www.osce.org/secretariat/562209>

### **Interview: Technology 'supercharging illicit economies' in Southeast Asia**

<https://news.un.org/en/interview/2024/01/1145952>

### **Countries of the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Vow to Combat Transnational Crime**

<https://dialogo-americas.com/articles/countries-of-the-amazon-cooperation-treaty-vow-to-combat-transnational-crime/>

### **Venezuela 2024: Elections and Criminal Consolidation**

<https://insightcrime.org/news/venezuela-2024-elections-and-criminal-consolidation/>

## PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

### INTERNET GOVERNANCE

#### **Effective AI regulation requires understanding general-purpose AI**

*Aylin Caliskan and Kristian Lum – Brookings: 29 January 2024*

The latest generation of AI models are more general-purpose than previous generations, creating challenges for regulation.

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/effective-ai-regulation-requires-understanding-general-purpose-ai/>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(Global) It takes a village to regulate AI**

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/it-takes-a-village-to-regulate-ai/>

#### **(Russia) Another Brick In The Great Kremlin Firewall: Mass Internet Outages Part Of 'Sovereign Internet'**

<https://www.rferl.org/a/russia-mass-internet-outages-kremlin-firewall/32799971.html>

#### **(India) Govt seeks ideas to push AI-driven e-governance**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/technology/genai-in-governance-domain-experts-suggest-smart-solutions-from-cataract-to-crop-pests/articleshow/107173508.cms?from=mdr>

### INTERNET FREEDOM

#### **Europe sanctions Russian internet censorship agency and its leader**

*Daryna Antoniuk – The Record: 29 January 2024*

The European Council said the para-governmental organization called the Safe Internet League “aids the Russian government in enforcing censorship practices.”

<https://therecord.media/europe-russia-internet-censorship-sanctions>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(Turkey) Turkey: Internet censorship before local elections**

<https://www.dw.com/en/turkeys-internet-censorship-escalates-before-local-elections/a-68066987>

#### **(Russia) Russia further ramps up internet censorship**

<https://www.computing.co.uk/news/4165619/russia-ramps-internet-censorship>

#### **(China) Chinese controls 'more efficient' as country marks 30 years online**

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/internet-access-01112024113024.html>

#### **(Kenya) Kenya lost \$27m during Telegram shutdown in 2023**

<https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/business/kenya-lost-27m-during-telegram-shutdown-in-2023-4490520>

## CYBER STRATEGY AND RISKS

### **The State of Cyber Defense Cooperation in ASEAN**

*Gavin Harris – Real Clear Defense: 31 January 2024*

To address the severe threats to their economies and critical infrastructure, members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) must strengthen the ASEAN Cyber Defense Network and continue to integrate their military cyber defense agencies.

[https://www.realcleardefense.com/articles/2024/01/31/the\\_state\\_of\\_cyber\\_defense\\_cooperation\\_in\\_asean\\_1008628.html](https://www.realcleardefense.com/articles/2024/01/31/the_state_of_cyber_defense_cooperation_in_asean_1008628.html)

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(Canada, Philippines) Canada, PH to work together vs cybersecurity threat**

<https://mb.com.ph/2024/1/17/canada-ph-to-work-together-vs-cybersecurity-threat>

#### **(Nepal) Empowering Nepal's Digital Economy: The Role of Data Centers and Cloud Services and the Stakeholder Perspectives**

<https://www.nepalitelecom.com/2024/01/empowering-nepals-digital-economy-the-role-of-data-centers-and-cloud-services-and-the-stakeholder-perspectives.html>

#### **(Israel) Israel must double down on cyber in time of crisis**

<https://www.calcalistech.com/ctechnews/article/rkz9inskt>

#### **(Israel) How a Group of Israel-Linked Hackers Has Pushed the Limits of Cyberwar**

<https://www.wired.com/story/predatory-sparrow-cyberattack-timeline/>

## CYBERATTACKS

### **Cyber 'Kidnapping' Scams Target Chinese Students**

*Voice of America: 15 January 2024*

Criminals are targeting students around the world and pretending to kidnap them.

<https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/cyber-kidnapping-scams-target-chinese-students/7434825.html>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(Cuba) Cuba delays Feb. 1 fuel price hike, cites cyberattack**

<https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/cuba-delays-feb-1-fuel-price-hike-cites-cyberattack-2024-01-31/>

#### **(U.S.) Cyberattacks on state and local governments rose in 2023, says CIS report**

<https://statescoop.com/ransomware-malware-cyberattacks-cis-report-2024/>

#### **(Ukraine) Ukraine's prisoners of war agency hit by cyberattack**

<https://therecord.media/ukraine-pow-agency-cyberattack-russia>

#### **(Ukraine, Russia) Ukraine Claims Cyberattack On Russia's Defence Ministry**

<https://www.barrons.com/news/ukraine-claims-cyberattack-on-russia-s-defence-ministry-96047c43>

## CYBERCRIME

### **UN Cybercrime Convention: Time Is Running Out to Address Draft's Urgent Risks to Human Rights**

*Maria Paz Canales – CircleID: 22 January 2024*

Soon, final negotiations will begin on a document that has elicited widespread concern from civil society, industry groups and some states due to the serious risks it poses to privacy and the freedom of expression.

<https://circleid.com/posts/20240122-un-cybercrime-convention-time-is-running-out-to-address-drafts-urgent-risks-to-human-rights>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(Vietnam) Vietnam Law Enforcement to Tackle Growing Cybercrime**

<https://www.occrp.org/en/daily/18395-vietnam-law-enforcement-to-tackle-growing-cybercrime>

#### **(Nigeria) Tinubu tasks EFCC to sustain fight against internet crimes**

<https://blueprint.ng/tinubu-tasks-efcc-to-sustain-fight-against-internet-crimes/>

#### **(Global) Generative AI is the Pride of Cybercrime Services**

<https://blog.checkpoint.com/research/generative-ai-is-the-pride-of-cybercrime-services/>

## PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

### **US Disrupted Chinese Hacking Operation Aimed at Critical Infrastructure: Report**

*Eduard Kovacs – Security Week: 30 January 2024*

The U.S. disabled parts of a botnet-powered cyber campaign conducted by the threat actor Volt Typhoon.

<https://www.securityweek.com/us-disrupted-chinese-hacking-operation-aimed-at-critical-infrastructure-report/>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(Global) Guarding the Gates: A Look at Critical Infrastructure Security in 2024**

<https://www.cdontrends.com/story/3757/guarding-gates-look-critical-infrastructure-security-2024?refresh=auto>

#### **(Global) Unprecedented surge in critical infrastructure cyberattacks**

<https://securitybrief.asia/story/unprecedented-surge-in-critical-infrastructure-cyberattacks>

#### **(U.S.) Veolia's Municipal Water division suffers ransomware cyberattack**

<https://www.waterworld.com/water-utility-management/article/14304119/veolias-municipal-water-division-suffers-ransomware-cyberattack>

#### **(U.S., China) FBI: China seeks to 'wreak havoc' by targeting US water, electricity**

<https://thehill.com/policy/national-security/4440146-fbi-warns-china-havoc-water-electric/>



## PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

### TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

#### **Islamic State Trying to Rise Under the Radar**

*Jeff Seldin – Voice of America: 31 January 2024*

The Islamic State group is pushing a new campaign it says is focused on killing the group's enemies wherever they can be found.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/islamic-state-trying-to-rise-under-the-radar/7465654.html>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **US warned Iran that ISIS-K was preparing attack ahead of deadly Kerman blasts, a US official says**

<https://apnews.com/article/kerman-us-warning-isisk-bombings-bcb47f04165b3eb7b9bc7b-4868c8399c>

#### **US Sanctions Two ISIS-Affiliated 'Cybersecurity Experts'**

<https://www.securityweek.com/us-sanctions-two-isis-affiliated-cybersecurity-experts/>

#### **Unveiling the Motivations: Tajik ISKP's Calculated Strikes on Iran**

<https://thediplomat.com/2024/01/unveiling-the-motivations-tajik-iskps-calculated-strikes-on-iran/>

#### **Iran's Connection To Hamas, Hezbollah, The Houthis — And Now 3 U.S. Soldier Deaths**

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/zacharyfolk/2024/01/28/irans-connection-to-hamas-hezbollah-the-houthis-and-now-3-us-soldier-deaths/?sh=719489e85758>

#### **US takes aim at IRGC and Hezbollah financial networks with new sanctions**

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/us-news/2024/01/31/us-takes-aim-at-irgc-and-hezbollah-financial-networks-in-new-sanctions/>

#### **Unraveling Extremism In Pakistan: Historical Roots And Contemporary Evaluation – OpEd**

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/15012024-unraveling-extremism-in-pakistan-historical-roots-and-contemporary-evaluation-oped/>

#### **The pragmatic approach to counter international terrorism**

<https://www.dailypioneer.com/2024/columnists/the-pragmatic-approach-to-counter-international-terrorism.html>

#### **We all have a role in fighting violent extremism**

<https://nation.africa/kenya/blogs-opinion/blogs/we-all-have-a-role-in-fighting-violent-extremism-4490954>

#### **Behind the Dangerous Resurgence of 'Al Qaeda' in Bangladesh**

<https://indepthnews.net/behind-the-dangerous-resurgence-of-al-qaeda-in-bangladesh/>

#### **Beyond Boko Haram: Bandits rise as Nigeria's new terror threat**

<https://businessday.ng/columnist/article/beyond-boko-haram-bandits-rise-as-nigerias-new-terror-threat/>

## TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

*For more on this theme:*

### **Afghan Journalist Detained In Taliban's Continued Crackdown On Independent Media**

<https://www.rferl.org/a/afghanistan-taliban-journalist-detained/32787205.html>

### **The Plight of Hazaras Under the Taliban Government**

<https://thediplomat.com/2024/01/the-plight-of-hazaras-under-the-taliban-government/>

### **Africa now 'global epicentre' of terrorism: UN chief**

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2024/01/1145852>

### **Terrorists from Tajikistan have become a global menace**

<https://globalvoices.org/2024/01/22/terrorists-from-tajikistan-have-become-a-global-menace/>

### **Hizb ut-Tahrir proscribed as terrorist organization**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/hizb-ut-tahrir-proscribed-as-terrorist-organisation>

### **UNGA President calls on international community to redouble efforts to eliminate global terrorism**

<https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/unga-president-calls-on-international-community-to-redouble-efforts-to-eliminate-global-terrorism20240124191840/>

### **Israel– Hamas War's Impact on Afghan and Pakistani Jihadist Ecosystem**

<https://jamestown.org/program/israel-hamas-wars-impact-on-afghan-and-pakistani-jihadist-ecosystem/>

### **Al Qaeda opens 8 new training camps, 5 madrasas, and a facilitation network to Iran in Afghanistan**

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2024/02/al-qaeda-opens-8-new-training-camps-5-madrasas-and-a-facilitation-network-to-iran-in-afghanistan.php>

### **A predictive AI-model developed to detect extremist users and ISIS-related content on X**

<https://www.firstpost.com/world/a-predictive-ai-model-developed-to-detect-extremist-users-and-isis-related-content-on-x-13660832.html>

### **While Small in Number, Tajik Fighters an Asset for Islamic State-Khorasan**

<https://www.voanews.com/a/while-small-in-number-tajik-fighters-an-asset-for-islamic-state-khorasan/7465311.html>

### **The Islamic State in Khorasan between Taliban counter-terrorism and resurgence prospects**

<https://www.icct.nl/publication/islamic-state-khorasan-between-taliban-counter-terrorism-and-resurgence-prospects>

### **West Africa: The New “Epicenter” of Global Terrorism?**

<https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/west-africa-the-new-epicenter-of-global-terrorism/>

### **TTP backed by Al Qaeda, Afghan Taliban: UN**

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1810228/ttp-backed-by-al-qaeda-afghan-taliban-un>

## ISRAEL/HAMAS

### **Top UN court orders Israel to prevent genocide in Gaza but stops short of ordering cease-fire**

*Ike Corder and Raf Casert – The Associated Press: 26 January 2024*

The United Nations' top court ordered Israel to do all it can to prevent death, destruction and any acts of genocide in Gaza, but the panel stopped short of ordering an end to the military offensive.

<https://apnews.com/article/israel-gaza-genocide-court-south-africa-27cf84e16082cde-798395a95e9143c06>

*For more on this theme:*

### **The Gaza War and the Danger of Extremism**

<https://carnegieendowment.org/sada/91464>

### **Governing Gaza After the War: The Israeli Perspectives**

<https://carnegieendowment.org/2024/02/01/governing-gaza-after-war-israeli-perspectives-pub-91515>

### **Pressure mounts on Israeli government to secure a deal to free hostages**

<https://www.cnn.com/videos/world/2024/01/31/exp-israel-hostage-negotiations-aaron-david-miller-in-tv-013103aseg1-cnni-world.cnn>

### **From Houthis to Hezbollah, a look at the Iran-allied groups rallying to arms around Middle East**

<https://apnews.com/article/hamas-hezbollah-houthis-iran-militant-groups-745bfc36e23997ee3f0bc499a9f-5c16d>

### **How the Houthis joined the Israel-Gaza crisis**

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/how-the-houthis-joined-the-israel-gaza-crisis/>

### **What is Hamas and why is it fighting with Israel in Gaza?**

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-67039975>

### **Israel and Lebanon are prepping for a war neither wants, but many fear it's becoming inevitable**

<https://apnews.com/article/israel-lebanon-hezbollah-war-preparedness-civilians-military-aafd7a0048dceb-810456b93ceecf543c>

### **As Israel and Hezbollah fight heats up, France takes on role of mediator**

<https://breakingdefense.com/2024/01/as-israel-and-hezbollah-fight-heats-up-france-takes-on-role-of-mediator/>

### **Iran's Regional Armed Network**

<https://www.cfr.org/article/irans-regional-armed-network>

### **Document spells out allegations against 12 UN employees Israel says participated in Hamas attack**

<https://apnews.com/article/israel-hamas-war-news-01-29-2024-4c49c2fb89c3bfd4963f2260b34943c1>

## ISRAEL/HAMAS

*For more on this theme:*

### **What Is UNRWA, Aid Provider in Gaza Accused of Militant Links?**

<https://www.voanews.com/a/what-is-unrwa-aid-provider-in-gaza-accused-of-militant-links-/7461159.html>

### **Analysis: Is Israel winning the war against Hamas?**

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/analysis-is-israel-winning-war-hamas/story?id=106795525>

### **Israel vows to fight Hamas all the way to Gaza's southern border. That's fueling tension with Egypt**

<https://apnews.com/article/israel-egypt-gaza-war-border-philadelphia-corridor-2b8c101ef0cb591552e264f11b1e99f8>

### **Qatar's prime minister warns an intolerable Gaza situation poses regional risk**

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<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/israel-gaza-hamas-uk-palestinian-state-two-state-solution/>

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## RUSSIA/UKRAINE

### **A midwinter update on Ukraine**

*Constanze Stelzenmüller – Brookings: 26 January 2024*

With the second anniversary of Russia's invasion approaching and the European continent in the grip of deep winter, the Kremlin is redoubling its attacks against Ukraine on land and from the skies.

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/a-midwinter-update-on-ukraine/>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Anti-War Presidential Bid Causes Headache for Kremlin**

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### **Ukraine: Digital resilience in a time of war**

<https://www.brookings.edu/articles/ukraine-digital-resilience-in-a-time-of-war/>

### **Russia's Oil Industry Threatened by Ukrainian Drones, Western Sanctions**

<https://carnegieendowment.org/politika/91473>

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## RUSSIA/UKRAINE

*For more on this theme:*

### **Ukrainian Drones Are Obstructing The New Russian Offensive**

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/vikrammittal/2024/01/27/ukrainian-drones-are-obstructing-the-new-russian-offensive/?sh=5def89ed2d90>

### **Putin Falsely Claims ‘De-Nazification’ of Ukraine as Pretext for War**

<https://www.voanews.com/a/ukraine-russia-trade-blame-over-downing-of-russia-plane-carrying-pows/7458993.html>

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<https://www.wired.com/story/robots-are-fighting-robots-in-russias-war-in-ukraine/>

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## RUSSIA/UKRAINE

*For more on this theme:*

### **Russia is spending so much invading Ukraine that the war is actually good for its economy now**

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### **Slovak Vote Shows Need for NATO Action on Russian Disinformation**

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### **Containing Russia, Securing Europe**

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### **Strong European backing for Ukraine leaves 'little space' for exploitation of pro-Russian politics, study shows**

<https://phys.org/news/2024-01-strong-european-ukraine-space-exploitation.html>

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<https://jamestown.org/program/moscow-alarmed-by-kyivs-increased-interest-in-ethnic-ukrainians-across-russia/>