

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

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

- Internet Governance
- Internet Freedom
- Cyber Strategy and Statecraft
- Cyber Capacity Building
- Cyberattacks
- Cybercrime

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

- ISIS and Foreign Fighters
- Terrorism Around the World
- Crime and Conflict
- Russia/Ukraine

The Marshall Center Transnational Weekly is a current awareness, information and policy tool for Marshall Center stakeholders to inform them about online publications by think tanks, research institutes and other organizations that deal with transnational subjects. Use of these brief excerpts and links does not reflect the views of or endorsement by the Marshall Center, the U.S. government or the German government. All original content in these compilations is copyrighted unless specifically noted otherwise. All rights to copyrighted items are reserved.

COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Russia Deems Transparency International ‘Undesirable’ Organization

The Moscow Times: 6 March 2022

Moscow claims that anti-corruption watchdog Transparency International (TI) interferes with Russian internal affairs and threatens its constitutional order. The “undesirable” designation requires that TI dissolve itself within Russia and puts anyone who cooperates with it under threat of felony criminal charges.

<https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2023/03/06/russia-deems-transparency-international-undesirable-organization-a80405>

Trouble in paradise: corruption in the Caribbean has become normalised

Kenneth Mohammed – The Guardian: 4 March 2022

Most Caribbean nations have seen little to no improvement in corruption over the past decade and languish in the bottom half of Transparency International’s (TI) corruption index. Even the TI chapter in Trinidad and Tobago has itself come under scrutiny for corruption.

<https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2023/mar/04/trouble-in-paradise-corruption-in-the-caribbean-has-become-normalised>

For more on this theme:

Ukraine appoints new top anti-corruption investigator

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/ukraine-appoints-new-top-anti-corruption-investigator-2023-03-06/>

Greek Court Acquits Anti-Corruption Prosecutor Eleni Touloupaki

<https://www.occrp.org/en/daily/17391-greek-court-acquits-anti-corruption-prosecutor-eleni-touloupaki>

Reports on COVID fund management show scale of corruption in Africa

<https://globalvoices.org/2023/03/06/reports-on-covid-fund-management-show-scale-of-corruption-in-africa/>

‘Essential ingredient’ for halting corruption in Peru? Common good.

<https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Americas/2023/0301/Essential-ingredient-for-halting-corruption-in-Peru-Common-good>

Public Perception of Corruption Predicts Well-Being

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/intl/blog/where-women-govern/202303/public-perception-of-corruption-predicts-well-being>

Jurors weigh fate of ex-Fox execs in FIFA corruption case

<https://www.reuters.com/article/soccer-fifa-usa-deliberations-idCAKBN2V81AE>

Malaysia Under Pressure to Prove Ex-PM’s Arrest Not Political

<https://www.voanews.com/a/malaysia-under-pressure-to-prove-ex-pm-arrest-not-political/6997968.html>

Why frontier technologies will drive the fight against corruption

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2023/03/frontier-technologies-against-corruption/>

CORRUPTION

Ex-Goldman banker Ng sentenced to 10 years prison in 1MDB corruption case

<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/ex-goldman-banker-ng-sentenced-10-years-prison-1mdb-corruption-case-2023-03-09/>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Firearms, drug trafficking feeding Haiti's cascading security crises: new UNODC assessment

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime: 2 March 2023

With its porous borders and weak government institutions, Haiti remains a transit point for drugs, mostly moving north from South America. Gang violence is exacerbating the ongoing humanitarian crisis, making it harder for aid to reach those in need.

https://www.unodc.org/unodc/frontpage/2023/March/firearms--drug-trafficking-feeding-haitis-cascading-security-crises_-new-unodc-assessment.html

For the full report:

https://www.unodc.org/documents/data-and-analysis/toc/Haiti_assessment_UNODC.pdf

Australian drug kings have gone global

Elle Hardy – UnHerd: 1 March 2023

Australian outlaw motorcycle, or “bikie,” gangs have evolved into sophisticated transnational criminal organizations, reshaping global drug networks. The gangs are increasingly involved in importing drugs into Australia, where street values are much higher than in Europe or the United States.

<https://unherd.com/2023/03/australian-drug-kings-have-gone-global/>

For more on this theme:

Two Canadian Companies Can Now Legally Sell Cocaine and Other Hard Drugs

<https://www.iflscience.com/two-canadian-companies-can-now-legally-sell-cocaine-and-other-hard-drugs-67822>

Peace Leaders in Putumayo, Colombia Bet Their Lives on Coca Crop Substitution

<https://insightcrime.org/investigations/peace-leaders-putumayo-colombia-coca-crop-substitution/>

Ecuadoran Soldier Killed In Clash With Drug Traffickers

<https://www.barrons.com/news/ecuadoran-soldier-killed-in-clash-with-drug-traffickers-58d4b9fd>

'Las Señoritas' Have Been Trafficking Meth for a Cartel Out of US Prisons

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/jgpyd7/cjng-las-senoritas-arrest>

France Records Jump In Cocaine Seizures

<https://www.barrons.com/news/france-records-jump-in-cocaine-seizures-b11aa503>

Cops Just Seized Nearly 9 Tons of Cocaine Hidden in Bananas

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/7k85ae/cocaine-ecuador-banana>

Illicit Pharmaceutical Trade in the Sahel

<https://greydynamics.com/illicit-pharmaceutical-trade-in-the-sahel/>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Pablo Escobar and the Real Criminal Story of the Cocaine Bear

<https://insightcrime.org/news/pablo-escobar-drugs-parachutes-cocaine-bear/>

Treasury Sanctions Mexican Arms Trafficker Supplying U.S.-Sourced Weapons to CJNG

<https://home.treasury.gov/news/press-releases/jy1310>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Machine Learning Helps Researchers Track Illegal Fishing

Roberto González – Eos.: 1 March 2023

Researchers have designed a machine-learning model that helps them track ships engaged in illegal fishing, many of which try to mask their identities through the legal practice of reflagging.

<https://eos.org/articles/machine-learning-helps-researchers-track-illegal-fishing>

In Brazil, criminals dismantle one of the best-preserved swaths of the Amazon

Ana Inova – Mongabay: 23 February 2023

The millions of acres of the Terra do Meio Ecological Station, located in one of the Amazon's most important ecological corridors, is supposed to be devoid of human activity except for scientific research, but satellite imagery shows increasing deforestation from illegal logging, mining and land grabs.

<https://news.mongabay.com/2023/02/in-brazil-criminals-dismantle-one-of-the-best-preserved-swaths-of-the-amazon/>

For more on this theme:

Wildlife Protection Treaty Hits 50 Amid Challenges

<https://insightcrime.org/news/wildlife-protection-treaty-hits-50-amid-challenges/>

Study: Online trade in arachnids threatens some species with extinction

<https://news.mongabay.com/2023/03/study-online-trade-in-arachnids-threatens-some-species-with-extinction/>

Illegal Logging: Environmentalists say there is something rotten in Forestry Dept

<https://www.nst.com.my/news/nation/2023/02/884281/illegal-logging-environmentalists-say-there-something-rotten-forestry>

Comment: Indigenous peoples protect the planet from nature loss – empowering them protects us all

<https://www.reuters.com/business/sustainable-business/comment-indigenous-peoples-protect-planet-nature-loss-empowering-them-protects-2023-02-23/>

A historic sentence in Peru brings hope for land and environmental defenders

<https://www.globalwitness.org/en/blog/historic-sentence-peru-brings-hope-land-and-environmental-defenders/>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Tree Predators: Corporate Lumber Trafficking Destroys Forests And Indigenous Lives In Cambodia

<https://theowp.org/tree-predators-corporate-lumber-trafficking-destroys-forests-and-indigenous-lives-in-cambodia/>

Cambodia ruling party is buying young environmentalists with senior government posts

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/cambodia/environment-ruling-party-02232023100726.html>

Comment: We can help African countries hold onto their forests, and at low cost

<https://www.reuters.com/business/sustainable-business/comment-we-can-help-african-countries-hold-onto-their-forests-low-cost-2023-02-27/>

Brazil cracks down on illegal miners in Amazon's Indigenous land

<https://www.aljazeera.com/gallery/2023/2/28/photos-brazil-cracks-down-on-illegal-gold-miners-in-amazon>

Cocoa industry under threat — illegal miners destroy rehabilitated farms

<https://www.businessghana.com/site/news/business/280750/Cocoa-industry-under-threat-illegal-miners-destroy-rehabilitated-farms>

Brazil Takes Down Group Smuggling Gold to the US and Dubai

<https://www.occrp.org/en/daily/17353-brazil-takes-down-group-smuggling-gold-to-the-us-and-dubai>

China's illegal fishing worldwide is under scrutiny

<https://theprint.in/world/chinas-illegal-fishing-worldwide-is-under-scrutiny/1394567/>

South Korea Expands Use of Drones to Stop Illegal Chinese Fishing

<https://maritime-executive.com/article/south-korea-expands-use-of-drones-to-stop-illegal-chinese-fishing>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

No More “User Beware”: Rewriting the Cybersecurity Pact Between the US Government and Private Sector

Mary Brooks – Wilson Center: 3 March 2023

The new United States cybersecurity strategy reflects a fundamental change in the relationship between operators of private-sector critical infrastructure and the government. Private industry will be expected to meet minimum cybersecurity standards.

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/no-more-user-beware-rewriting-cybersecurity-pact-between-us-government-and-private-sector>

For more on this theme:

(India, Global) India can play a crucial role in bridging the global divide in artificial intelligence

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/india-can-play-a-crucial-role-in-bridging-the-global-divide-in-artificial-intelligence/>

(Global) UNESCO’s Internet for Trust conference calls for regulation of digital platforms

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2257381/media>

(Global) Web3 will reshape the internet across interfaces — users need to be ready

<https://gulfnews.com/business/analysis/web3-will-reshape-the-internet-across-interfaces---users-need-to-be-ready-1.94071833>

(U.S.) Is the US government ready for the rise of artificial intelligence?

<https://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2023/mar/07/us-government-artificial-intelligence-robert-reich>

INTERNET FREEDOM

China’s Control of the “Pipes” of Information and Its Implications for Global Internet Freedom

Joshua Kurlantzick – Council on Foreign Relations: 3 March 2023

In addition to disinformation and other measures meant to control Chinese-language media throughout the world, China is also working to control telecommunications networks and other “pipes.”

<https://thediplomat.com/2023/03/how-china-is-attempting-to-control-the-information-pipes/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Elon Musk, Twitter, and the Role of Free Speech in International Social Media

<https://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/australianoutlook/elon-musk-twitter-and-the-role-of-free-speech-in-international-social-media/>

INTERNET FREEDOM

(Russia) How Internet censorship changed in Russia during the 1st year of military conflict in Ukraine

<https://ooni.org/post/2023-russia-a-year-after-the-conflict/>

(China, Global) China moves to develop its own version of ChatGPT amid censorship concerns

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/ai-chatbot-02242023162006.html>

(Zimbabwe) Internet shutdown scare as Zim heads for key polls

<http://www.thestandard.co.zw/opinion-analysis/article/200008086/internet-shutdown-scare-as-zim-heads-for-key-polls>

CYBER STRATEGY AND STATECRAFT

The political realities that make a national TikTok ban tricky

Ivana Saric – Axios: 6 March 2023

The Chinese social-media app TikTok is widely thought to be a threat to users' data privacy. Some consider it to be an intelligence platform, vacuuming up metadata on Western opinions and behaviors. The U.S. Congress is considering legislation to ban the app.

<https://www.axios.com/2023/03/06/us-tiktok-ban-china>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) US National Cyber Strategy Pushes Regulation, Aggressive Hack-Back Operations

<https://www.securityweek.com/us-national-cyber-strategy-pushes-regulation-aggressive-hack-back-operations/>

(Sri Lanka) Sri Lanka to present Cyber Security Bill in parliament this year

https://www.dailymirror.lk/breaking_news/Sri-Lanka-to-present-Cyber-Security-Bill-in-parliament-this-year/108-254878

(China, Global) US Warns of Massive Chinese Cyberattacks in Taiwan Scenario

<https://www.voanews.com/a/us-warns-of-massive-chinese-cyberattacks-in-taiwan-scenario-/6981396.html>

(Australia) Australia to overhaul cyber security laws: the legal implications coming down the line

<https://lsj.com.au/articles/australia-to-overhaul-cyber-security-laws-the-legal-implications-coming-down-the-line/>

CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

White House Releases National Cybersecurity Strategy

Lexology: 6 March 2023

The new U.S. cyber strategy aims to build a “defensible, resilient digital ecosystem” and is based on five pillars: defending critical infrastructure, disrupting and dismantling threat actors, shaping market forces to drive security and resilience, investing in a resilient future, and forging international partnerships to pursue shared goals.

<https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=78f23a7c-0567-497d-b260-297a165e22dc>

For more on this theme:

(Persian Gulf) Cybersecurity Is Becoming A Priority For GCC Nations

<https://oilprice.com/Energy/Energy-General/Cybersecurity-Is-Becoming-A-Priority-For-GCC-Nations.html>

(Canada) Report sets out cybersecurity objectives for Canadian non-profits

<https://www.itworldcanada.com/article/report-sets-out-cybersecurity-objectives-for-canadian-non-profits/531289>

(U.S.) Lawmakers Intro Bill to Ban Government Use of Facial Recognition

<https://www.nextgov.com/technology-news/2023/03/lawmakers-intro-bill-ban-government-use-facial-recognition/383691/>

(China) China’s cyberspace watchdog aims to ‘clean up’ the internet and fight ‘hostile forces’

<https://www.scmp.com/news/china/politics/article/3212100/chinas-cyberspace-watchdog-aims-clean-internet-and-fight-hostile-forces>

CYBERATTACKS

US Bracing for Bolder, More Brazen Russian Cyberattacks

Jeff Seldin – Voice of America: 7 March 2023

United States government agencies assess that, despite repeated failures on the battlefield, Russia is preparing to unleash a new wave of cyberattacks on Ukraine and its Western allies in hope that it will change the course of the war.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/us-bracing-for-bolder-more-brazen-russian-cyberattacks/6992938.html>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Cyberattackers Double Down on Bypassing MFA

<https://www.darkreading.com/threat-intelligence/cyberattackers-double-down-bypassing-mfa>

(China, Southeast Asia) Pandas With a Soul: Chinese Espionage Attacks Against Southeast Asian Government Entities

<https://research.checkpoint.com/2023/pandas-with-a-soul-chinese-espionage-attacks-against-southeast-asian-government-entities/>

(Israel, Iran) Israel’s National Cyber Directorate: ‘Iran Behind the Cyberattack on Technion’

<https://www.haaretz.com/israel-news/2023-03-07/ty-article/.premium/israels-national-cyber-directorate-iran-behind-the-cyberattack-on-technion/00000186-bb44-df0a-a5af-bbe4ab180000>

CYBERATTACKS

(U.S.) Neo-Nazi cyberattacks on the rise: DHS “very concerned” about power grid

<https://www.salon.com/2023/03/07/neo-nazi-cyberattacks-on-the-rise-dhs-very-concerned-about-power-grid/>

(Nigeria) FG blocked over 200 cyberattacks during presidential, NASS polls

<https://thenationonlineng.net/fg-blocked-over-200-cyberattacks-during-presidential-nass-polls/>

CYBERCRIME

European police, FBI bust international cybercrime gang

Frank Jordans – The Associated Press: 6 March 2023

German and Ukrainian police, the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation and Europol coordinated to disrupt a major ransomware ring linked to a Russia-based cybercrime syndicate.

<https://apnews.com/article/germany-russia-europol-fbi-cybercrime-ukraine-ransomware-f0652c5ef0a281738a50ee02e4191413>

For more on this theme:

(Global) The Implications Of ChatGPT On Cybercrime

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2023/02/24/the-implications-of-chatgpt-on-cybercrime/?sh=71f193494770>

(Africa) Operation across Africa identifies cyber-criminals and at-risk online infrastructure

<https://www.intelligentcio.com/africa/2023/02/26/operation-across-africa-identifies-cyber-criminals-and-at-risk-online-infrastructure/>

(Global) Cybercrime Marketplace Leaks Over 2.1 Million Payment Cards

<https://www.securityweek.com/cybercrime-marketplace-leaks-over-2-1-million-payment-cards/>

(Global) Patrolling the Metaverse: Stopping Cybercrime, Training Forces

<https://www.informationweek.com/security-and-risk-strategy/patrolling-the-metaverse-stopping-cybercrime-training-forces->

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Containing Transnational Jihadists in Syria's North West

Aaron Boehm – International Crisis Group: 6 March 2023

Despite the concerns of Western leaders, Hei'at Tahrir al-Sham — the former al-Qaeda affiliate that controls the city of Idlib in northwest Syria — is not allying with the Islamic State group and has instead suppressed it in the area under its control to the best of its limited ability.

<https://www.crisisgroup.org/middle-east-north-africa/east-mediterranean-mena/syria/239-containing-transnational-jihadists-syrias>

ISIS women using 13-year-old boys as sex slaves to breed new fighters - opinion

Dr. Anne Speckhard – The Jerusalem Post: 1 March 2023

The Islamic State group is infamous for forcing kidnapped women and girls from conquered peoples into sexual slavery. But in camps for foreign Islamic State-aligned women and children in Syria, women are sexually exploiting teenage boys with the aim of breeding new Islamic State fighters.

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-733017>

For more on this theme:

How ISIS and al-Qaeda Exploit the Earthquake in Turkey to Mobilize Support

<https://www.hstoday.us/featured/how-isis-and-al-qaeda-exploit-the-earthquake-in-turkey-to-mobilize-support/>

U.S. Welcomes Move By Kyrgyzstan To Repatriate Women, Children From Syrian Displaced Persons Camps

<https://www.rferl.org/a/kyrgyzstan-repatriates-women-children-syria/32280109.html>

Repatriating Alleged ISIS-Linked Men from Northeast Syria: The Start of Judicial Responses to the Political Stalemate

<https://www.justsecurity.org/85049/repatriating-alleged-isis-linked-men-from-northeast-syria-the-start-of-judicial-responses-to-the-political-stalemate/>

ISIS-K Is Waging a New War in Afghanistan — This Time Against China

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/dy7aqw/isis-anti-china-war-afghanistan>

Islamic State-East Asia still deadliest terror threat in Philippines – report

<https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2023/03/02/2248660/islamic-state-east-asia-still-deadliest-terror-threat-philippines-report>

The Death of Ibrahim al-Qahtani and the Condition of the Islamic State

<https://eeradicalization.com/the-death-of-ibrahim-al-qahtani-and-the-condition-of-the-islamic-state/>

Islamic State Online: A Look at the Group's South Asian Presence on Alternate Platforms

<https://gnet-research.org/2023/02/27/islamic-state-online-a-look-at-the-groups-south-asian-presence-on-alternate-platforms/>

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

UK risks 'unintended consequences' over failure to repatriate ex-Daesh fighters: govt adviser

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2256641/world>

Syrian Catholic monk once kidnapped by ISIS consecrated archbishop

<https://www.catholicnewsagency.com/news/253803/syrian-catholic-monk-once-kidnapped-by-isis-consecrated-archbishop>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

The Taliban, terrorism and transnational organized crime

Arian M. Sharifi – Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime: 20 February 2023

As Afghanistan teeters on the brink of humanitarian disaster, the international community is ready to abandon the country to the Taliban's mismanagement in hope that the Taliban will no longer be a threat to the rest of the world. Unfortunately, with its deep links to transnational organized crime groups, the Taliban is more dangerous than ever.

<https://globalinitiative.net/analysis/taliban-terrorism-ocindex/>

Somalia's Lower House Passes Historic Anti-Terrorism Law

Mohamed Olad Hassan – Voice of America: 8 March 2023

The lower house of Somalia's parliament voted 133-3 in favor of a new counterterrorism bill that gives national security agencies increased powers to go after suspected terrorists. Critics of the bill say the definition of terrorist is too vague.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/somalia-s-lower-house-passes-historic-anti-terrorism-law/6996295.html>

For more on this theme:

Profits and Poppy: How Afghanistan's Drug Trade Supports Terrorism

<https://www.news18.com/news/opinion/profits-and-poppy-how-afghanistans-drug-trade-supports-terrorism-7107193.html>

Need To Counter False Narratives: Singapore President On Radicalisation Of Youths

<https://www.outlookindia.com/international/need-to-counter-false-narratives-singapore-president-on-radicalisation-of-youths-news-265640>

Al-Qaeda-Iran tactical alliance laid bare by UN report on terror group's 'de-facto leader' Saif Al-Adel

<https://www.arabnews.com/node/2257556/middle-east>

Despite Stalemate, Nigeria Can Take Steps to Stop Boko Haram Expansion

<https://eeradicalization.com/despite-stalemate-nigeria-can-take-steps-to-stop-boko-haram-expansion/>

Locating The Crisis In Africa's Sahel Region: Threat To International Peace – OpEd

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/01032023-locating-the-crisis-in-africas-sahel-region-threat-to-international-peace-oped/>

Hezbollah's helping hand?

<https://globalinitiative.net/analysis/organized-crime-lebanon-energy-crisis/>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Hezbollah Has Become Lebanon's Protector in Name Only

<https://thegeopolitics.com/hezbollah-has-become-lebanons-protector-in-name-only/>

South Africa has been grey listed for not stopping money laundering and terrorism funding. What it means

<https://theconversation.com/south-africa-has-been-grey-listed-for-not-stopping-money-laundering-and-terrorism-funding-what-it-means-200696>

Federal jury concludes first day of deliberations in death penalty trial for NYC bike path attacker

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/03/08/us/sayfullo-saipov-nyc-terror-attack-death-penalty-trial/index.html>

Brussels police on lookout over metro terror attack threat

<https://www.politico.eu/article/police-vigilant-brussels-metro-terror-attack-threat/>

23 charged with terrorism in Atlanta 'Cop City' protest

<https://apnews.com/article/atlanta-police-training-site-protest-fire-1ba4362c9337e27ecaf44283fc72fc56>

Alleged Huwara terrorist among six Palestinians killed as IDF raids Jenin

<https://www.timesofisrael.com/at-least-6-palestinians-killed-as-idf-raids-jenin-in-apparent-hunt-for-huwara-gunman/>

CRIME AND CONFLICT

The Italian Job: How the CCP Laundered Mafia Money in Italy

Massimo Introvigne – Bitter Winter: 9 March 2023

Italy's tax police, the Guardia di Finanza, has discovered the Chinese Communist Party launders money for the Italian mafia as well as for Colombian drug cartels and sanctioned Russian oligarchs.

<https://bitterwinter.org/how-the-ccp-laundered-mafia-money-in-italy/>

Ukraine Symposium — The Law of Belligerent Occupation

David Wallace – Lieber Institute: 8 March 2023

The laws governing belligerent occupation, a subset of the laws of warfare, deserve closer attention given the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and Russian actions in occupied Ukrainian territories.

<https://lieber.westpoint.edu/law-belligerent-occupation/>

For more on this theme:

The Background on the Protests in Georgia

<https://www.nytimes.com/2023/03/08/world/europe/georgia-protests-russia-ukraine.html>

Garland supports effort to hold Russia accountable for war crimes

<https://www.npr.org/2023/03/03/1160959713/garland-supports-effort-to-hold-russia-accountable-for-war-crimes>

CRIME AND CONFLICT

On Children and Armed Conflict

<https://editorials.voa.gov/a/on-children-and-armed-conflict/6986797.html>

Mozambique: How does armed conflict in Cabo Delgado affect access to basic services like water, sanitation and health?

<https://www.icrc.org/en/document/mozambique-how-armed-conflict-cabo-delgado-affect-access-basic-services-water>

Conspiracy, fakes, and justification of war crime: Russian Telegram channels react to video of Ukrainian POW execution

<https://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-ato/3679870-conspiracy-fakes-and-justification-of-war-crime-russian-telegram-channels-react-to-video-of-ukrainian-pow-execution.html>

Ukraine probing possible war crime tied to purported footage of POW shot dead

<https://nypost.com/2023/03/07/ukraine-probing-possible-war-crime-tied-to-purported-footage-of-pow-shot-dead/>

US spy chiefs see China-Russia ‘love affair’ continuing

<https://www.reuters.com/world/us-spy-chiefs-see-china-continuing-cooperate-with-russia-despite-ukraine-2023-03-08/>

In shadow of conflict nearby, rebel upsurge hits Congo’s Ituri

<https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/law-order/2373156-in-shadow-of-conflict-nearby-rebel-upsurge-hits-congos-ituri>

New Tribunal Announced to Prosecute Russian Crime of Aggression in Ukraine

<https://visegradinsight.eu/new-tribunal-announced-to-prosecute-russian-crime-of-aggression-in-ukraine/>

No longer trying to shrink the conflict

<https://jewishstandard.timesofisrael.com/no-longer-trying-to-shrink-the-conflict/>

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

Innovation Power: Why Technology Will Define the Future of Geopolitics

Eric Schmidt – Foreign Affairs: 28 February 2023

In defending itself from Russia’s invasion, Ukraine overcame what many thought were impossible odds by leveraging innovation. Ukraine has been more agile and flexible in adapting to changing conditions, adopting new technologies and repurposing existing technologies. The battle of innovation will define the ongoing competition between the United States and China, and all conflict in the future.

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/united-states/eric-schmidt-innovation-power-technology-geopolitics>

Strategic Lessons from the Russia-Ukraine Conflict

Marc J. Berkowitz – National Institute for Public Policy: 6 March 2023

War is always a laboratory on the consequences of threatening to or using armed force in international relations. The fundamental strategic lessons of the Ukraine-Russia war are not new, including the dangers of revanchist autocrats, the ineffectiveness of appeasement and isolationism, and the limits of diplomacy, arms control and deterrence in preventing war.

<https://nipp.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/IS-549.pdf>

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

Russian Offensive Campaign Assessment, March 8, 2023

<https://www.criticalthreats.org/analysis/russian-offensive-campaign-assessment-march-8-2023>

Ukraine in maps: Tracking the war with Russia

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-60506682>

Russian War Report: DFRLab releases investigations on Russian info ops before and after the invasion

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/russian-war-report-dfrlab-releases-investigations-on-russian-info-ops-before-and-after-the-invasion/>

From war crimes, to spies and cyberattacks: Ukraine's domestic spy chief on fighting Russia across all fronts

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/ukraine-russia-war-crimes-putin-b2290489.html>

Ukraine's top nuclear plant lost power for the sixth time. Is disaster imminent?

<https://www.npr.org/2023/03/09/1162172158/ukraine-zaporizhzhia-nuclear-power-russia>

Russia's spring offensive in Ukraine has 'stalled', say western officials

<https://www.standard.co.uk/news/world/ukraine-war-latest-russia-spring-offensive-stalled-western-officials-bakhmut-general-valery-gerasimov-b1065393.html>

Tensions mounting in Moldova amid war in Ukraine

<https://www.dw.com/en/tensions-mounting-in-moldova-amid-war-in-ukraine/video-64916230>

Ukraine denies involvement in Nord Stream pipeline blasts

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-64877979>

Russia can fight in Ukraine for two more years at current intensity, Lithuania says

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russia-can-fight-ukraine-two-more-years-current-intensity-lithuania-says-2023-03-09/>

Continental Drift? India-Russia Ties After One Year of War in Ukraine

<https://www.stimson.org/2023/continental-drift-india-russia-ties-after-one-year-of-war-in-ukraine/>