

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Corruption, impunity in Mexico wiping out world's smallest porpoise

Cody Copeland – Courthouse News Service: 10 April 2023

As few as eight vaquitas could be left in the Gulf of California, and the fervor for what has come to be known as the “cocaine of the sea” could wipe them out completely if drastic measures are not taken.

<https://www.courthousenews.com/corruption-impunity-in-mexico-wiping-out-worlds-smallest-porpoise/>

The Dominican Republic's corruption crackdown – what you need to know

Bnamericas: 13 April 2023

The Dominican Republic's ongoing corruption crackdown is causing a stir in the political system.

<https://www.bnamericas.com/en/features/the-dominican-republics-corruption-crackdown--what-you-need-to-know>

For more on this theme:

IMF's Package to Sri Lanka Includes Corruption Fixing

<https://thediplomat.com/2023/03/imfs-package-to-sri-lanka-includes-corruption-fixing/>

Thai game 'Corrupt' helps kids think about sensitive social issues

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Society/Thai-game-Corrupt-helps-kids-think-about-sensitive-social-issues>

Ukraine anti-corruption agency adds Chinese construction giant to list of international sponsors of war

<https://news.yahoo.com/ukraine-anti-corruption-agency-adds-114700911.html>

EU corruption scandal: Eva Kaili moved to house arrest

<https://www.dw.com/en/eu-corruption-scandal-eva-kaili-moved-to-house-arrest/a-65296493>

Ugandan court charges minister over corruption

<https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/ugandas-public-prosecutor-charge-minister-over-corruption-2023-04-06/>

US puts sanctions on four Georgian judges over 'significant corruption'

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/apr/12/us-puts-sanctions-on-four-georgian-judges-over-significant-corruption>

Venezuela doubles down on anti-corruption internal purges

<https://english.elpais.com/international/2023-04-07/venezuela-doubles-down-on-anti-corruption-internal-purges.html>

'A War On Two Fronts': Ukraine Takes On Corruption As It Fights Russia

<https://www.defenseone.com/policy/2023/04/war-two-fronts-ukraine-takes-corruption-it-fights-russia/385068/>

Malawi President Pardons Former Minister Jailed for Corruption

<https://www.voanews.com/a/malawi-president-pardons-former-minister-jailed-for-corruption/7046204.html>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

A little-known drug brought billions to Syria's coffers. Now it's a bargaining chip

Celine Alkhalidi – CNN: 11 April 2023

A highly addictive drug that became Syria's economic lifeline over a decade of isolation may now be serving as leverage as it tries to normalize ties with neighboring states, analysts say.

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/04/10/middleeast/syria-drugs-bargaining-chip-mime-intl/index.html>

Are Fentanyl Trafficking Routes Shifting on the US-Mexico Border?

Isaac Norris – InSight Crime: 6 April 2023

Over the past eight months, U.S. officials have seized more illicit fentanyl at Arizona's ports of entry than anywhere else on the border, suggesting a possible shift in synthetic drug trafficking routes.

<https://insightcrime.org/news/are-fentanyl-trafficking-routes-shifting-us-mexico-border/>

For more on this theme:

Maritime routes, digital tools, Dark Web: How drugs find their way into India

<https://www.deccanherald.com/national/maritime-routes-digital-tools-dark-web-how-drugs-find-their-way-into-india-1205918.html>

SWJ El Centro Book Review – Clash of the Cartels: Unmasking the global drug kingpins stalking South Africa

<https://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/swj-el-centro-book-review-clash-cartels-unmasking-global-drug-kingpins-stalking-south>

Brazil Gangs Behind Surging Violence on Colombia, Peru Tri-Border

<https://insightcrime.org/news/brazilian-gangs-lead-surge-violence-border-colombia-peru/>

South America's Cocaine Supply Boom Shows Up in European Wastewater Analysis

<https://insightcrime.org/news/south-americas-cocaine-supply-boom-shows-up-european-wastewater-analysis/>

Venezuela Becomes Colombia's 'Creepy' Marijuana Drug Corridor

<https://insightcrime.org/news/venezuela-becomes-colombias-creepy-marijuana-drug-corridor/>

US fighting fentanyl smuggling with new technology

<https://www.aol.com/us-fighting-fentanyl-smuggling-technology-183300209.html>

Venezuela Built Drug 'Super Cartel' to Attack the US, Think Tank Says

<https://dialogo-americas.com/articles/venezuela-built-drug-super-cartel-to-attack-the-us-think-tank-says/>

Taliban poppy ban puts Europe on fentanyl alert

<https://www.politico.eu/article/taliban-afghanistan-europe-fentanyl-drugs-health-care-opium-alert/>

White House announces increased sanctions to combat fentanyl trafficking

<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/04/11/white-houses-new-sanctions-to-combat-fentanyl-trafficking-00091370>

Russia Emerges as Alternative Route for Cocaine Headed to Europe

<https://insightcrime.org/news/russia-emerges-as-alternative-route-for-latin-america-cocaine-europe/>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

The illicit monkey trade is booming in Cambodia — but the powerful are making too much money to want to stop it

Jack Adamović Davies – Benar News: 6 April 2023

Once an unremarkable player in the business of providing the animals for a global research industry, Cambodia has become a hub for exports of long-tail macaques – a lucrative but shadowy business tied to the nation’s political elite.

<https://www.benarnews.org/english/news/thai/monkey-trade-04062023113033.html>

‘Gold library’ helps Brazil crack down on Amazon’s illegal mining

Ignacio Amigo, Sam Cowie and Avenir Prado – Mongabay: 6 April 2023

Launched in 2019, the Ouro Alvo program is creating a gold database with samples obtained from different parts of Brazil. The information is allowing the Federal Police to create a chemical fingerprint of each sample, which they can then use to cross-reference the origin of seized or suspicious gold.

<https://news.mongabay.com/2023/04/gold-library-helps-brazil-crack-down-on-amazons-illegal-mining/>

For more on this theme:

‘Gone wrong’: Doubts on carbon-credit program in Peru forest

<https://apnews.com/article/peru-cordillera-azul-carbon-credits-deforestation-d02b-39c4f90896c29319f31afef11b2d>

Illegal Amazon Miners Are Expanding Into Copper as Prices Surge

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-03-31/illegal-amazon-miners-are-expanding-into-copper-as-prices-surge#xj4y7vzkg>

Guatemala pledges to fight illegal mining to boost industry’s public image

<https://www.bnamericas.com/en/news/guatemala-pledges-to-fight-illegal-mining-to-boost-industrys-public-image>

Myanmar’s largest lake is threatened by illegal gold mining

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/myanmar-lake-04022023203438.html>

Exclusive: China out of UN’s wildlife survey for pandemic controls

<https://www.reuters.com/world/china/china-out-uns-wildlife-survey-pandemic-controls-source-2023-04-13/>

DNA is used to track Thailand’s trafficked tigers

<https://www.cnn.com/videos/tv/2023/04/05/mission-tiger-thailand-wildlife-forensics-rescued-tiger-cubs-spc-intl-hnk.cnn>

Satellite images reveal extensive illegal logging in Afrin: report

<https://www.kurdistan24.net/en/story/31177-Satellite-images-reveal-extensive-illegal-logging-in-Afrin:-report>

Uganda turns to bamboo farming to combat deforestation

<https://www.africanews.com/2023/04/09/uganda-turns-to-bamboo-farming-to-combat-deforestation/>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

BWIGF: Ensuring women have a say in internet governance

UNB: 9 April 2023

The Bangladesh Internet Governance Forum and its special body the Bangladesh Women IGF organized a workshop on governance in the capital.

<https://unb.com.bd/category/Tech/bwigf-ensuring-women-have-a-say-in-internet-governance/113420>

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) ICANN: Governance & Authority

<https://circleid.com/posts/20230410-icann-governance-authority>

(Africa) Digital rights forum calls for balanced internet regulations across Africa

<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/national/article/2001470793/digital-rights-forum-calls-for-balanced-internet-regulations-across-africa>

(Global) Cyberspace Freedom, Allied and Partner Nations Resist Authoritarian Controls Imposed Under the Guise of Digital Sovereignty

<https://dialogo-americas.com/articles/cyberspace-freedom-allied-and-partner-nations-resist-authoritarian-controls-imposed-under-the-guise-of-digital-sovereignty/>

INTERNET FREEDOM

Russia VPN crackdown persists as authorities launch new campaign

Chiara Castro – TechRadar: 13 April 2023

The agency that censors mass media opposes the use of virtual private networks, claiming they increase Russians' risk of having personal data compromised.

<https://www.techradar.com/news/russia-vpn-crackdown-persists-as-authorities-launch-new-campaign>

For more on this theme:

(Pakistan) Pakistan's recent Wikipedia ban sparks controversy over blasphemy laws and freedom of speech

<https://globalvoices.org/2023/04/04/pakistans-recent-wikipedia-ban-sparks-controversy-over-blasphemy-laws-and-freedom-of-speech/>

(Turkmenistan) New study finds internet censorship in Turkmenistan reaches over 122,000 domains

<https://advoc.globalvoices.org/2023/04/12/new-study-finds-internet-censorship-in-turkmenistan-reaches-over-122000-domains/>

(China) Interview: 'There is nothing that adds up to incitement to subversion'

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/interview-blogger-04062023162035.html>

(India) Govt says fact-check body to curb misinformation, critics allege censorship

<https://indianexpress.com/article/business/economy/govt-says-fact-check-body-to-curb-misinformation-critics-allege-censorship-8546318/>

CYBER STRATEGY

U.K. National Cyber Force, Responsible Cyber Power, and Cyber Persistence Theory

Richard J. Harknett, Michael P. Fischerkeller and Emily O. Goldman – Lawfare: 5 April 2023

The National Cyber Force: Responsible Cyber Power in Practice report builds on the United Kingdom's 2022 National Cyber Strategy and provides details about how the NCF is currently operating responsibly.

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/uk-national-cyber-force-responsible-cyber-power-and-cyber-persistence-theory>

For more on this theme:

(South Africa) Digital solutions can help SA improve service delivery, strengthen governance

<https://www.itweb.co.za/content/lwrKxq3YnK87mg1o>

(India) Towards Evidence-Based Policymaking: India's Open-Data Initiatives

<https://www.orfonline.org/research/towards-evidence-based-policymaking-indias-open-data-initiatives/>

(China) Being a Cyberpower – China's Ambitions in Cyberspace

<https://techpolicy.press/being-a-cyberpower-chinas-ambitions-in-cyberspace/>

(North Korea) Breaking down North Korea's advancing cyber prowess

<https://www.axios.com/2023/04/11/north-korea-cybersecurity-hacking-supply-chain>

CYBERATTACKS

MSI urges caution when downloading BIOS and firmware updates following cyberattack and rumors of \$4 million ransom demand

Sofia Wyciślik-Wilson – BetaNews: 8 April 2023

Computer maker MSI has confirmed that it fell victim to a security breach. The Taiwanese company says that it “suffered a cyberattack on part of its information systems” and has warned customers.

<https://betanews.com/2023/04/08/msi-urges-caution-when-downloading-bios-and-firmware-updates-following-cyberattack-and-rumors-of-4-million-ransom-demand/>

For more on this theme:

(Australia) Push to ban ransomware payments following Australia's biggest cyberattack

<https://cointelegraph.com/news/push-to-ban-ransomware-payments-following-australia-s-biggest-cyber-attack>

(Germany) German Superyacht Maker Lürssen Was Just Hit by a Cyberattack

<https://robbreport.com/motors/marine/superyacht-maker-lurssen-cyberattack-1234829503/>

(U.S.) Americans now fear cyberattack more than nuclear attack

<https://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/3938210-americans-now-fear-cyberattack-more-than-nuclear-attack/>

(China, Slovenia) Chinese hackers suspected of cyberattack on Slovenian Foreign Ministry

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/politics/news/chinese-hackers-suspected-of-cyberattack-on-slovenian-foreign-ministry/>

CYBERCRIME

International Law Enforcement Shuts Down Notorious Cybercrime Marketplace

D. Howard Kass – MSSP Alert: 6 April 2023

The U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation and European law enforcement agencies have taken down the domains and infrastructure of Genesis Market, one of the world's most prolific marketplaces for stolen credentials from malware-infected computers.

<https://www.msspalert.com/cybersecurity-breaches-and-attacks/malware/international-law-enforcement-shuts-down-notorious-cyber-crime-marketplace/>

For more on this theme:

(Australia) Australia May Inadvertently Fuel Cyber Crime, Says Data Theft Victim Service

<https://www.usnews.com/news/world/articles/2023-04-05/australia-invites-cyber-criminals-says-data-theft-victim-service>

(Global) The war in Ukraine has changed the cybercrime landscape. SMEs must beware

<https://techmonitor.ai/technology/cybersecurity/the-cybercrime-landscape-has-changed>

(Global) Spring forward: States to review part II of draft cybercrime treaty

<https://globalinitiative.net/analysis/untoc-review-cybercrime-treaty/>

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

Banks take part in government cyber war games

Daniel Croft – CyberSecurity Connect: 11 April 2023

The federal government has begun running Australia's major banks and financial organizations through scenarios in response to the growing number of cyberattacks on critical infrastructure and major institutions.

<https://www.cybersecurityconnect.com.au/strategy/8903-banks-take-part-in-government-cyber-war-games>

For more on this theme:

(India) G7 states adopt cautious approach to India's push for digital public infra

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/indias-digital-public-infrastructure-dpi-gains-more-interest-from-developing-countries-despite-pushback-from-g7-states-says-report-101681327576846.html>

(U.S.) Supply Chain Attacks and Critical Infrastructure: How CISA Helps Secure a Nation's Crown Jewels

<https://thehackernews.com/2023/04/supply-chain-attacks-and-critical.html>

(Canada) Canadian energy infrastructure unharmed after cyberattack, says Trudeau

<https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/canadian-energy-infrastructure-unharmed-after-cyberattack-says-trudeau-2023-04-11/>

(Israel) Israel Faces Fresh Wave of Cyberattacks Targeting Critical Infrastructure

<https://www.hackread.com/israel-cyberattacks-hit-critical-infrastructure/>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Still Waiting for an International Tribunal on ISIS

Omar Mohammed – Defense One: 10 April 2023

It would help Iraq restore the rule of law, deter future violence and give victims a mechanism for redress and healing.

<https://www.defenseone.com/ideas/2023/04/still-waiting-international-tribunal-isis/385009/>

EER Webinar: “Beyond Syria and Iraq: The Islamic State’s Growth Around the World”

European Eye on Radicalization: 10 April 2023

It is now four years since the destruction of the Islamic State group’s “caliphate.” The group no longer overtly controls cities in Iraq and Syria, the terrorism wave in Europe and the United States has been reduced, and three “caliphs” have been eliminated. Unfortunately, the group continues to show not only signs of life but of growth.

<https://eeradicalization.com/eer-webinar-beyond-syria-and-iraq-the-islamic-states-growth-around-the-world/>

For more on this theme:

US forces capture ‘ISIS attack facilitator’ in helicopter raid in Syria

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/04/12/politics/us-military-central-command-syria-isis-operative-capture/index.html>

IS-Khorasan Leader in Alleged Audio Message Discusses Afghanistan Losses

<https://www.voanews.com/a/is-khorasan-leader-in-alleged-audio-message-discusses-afghanistan-losses-7034359.html>

U.S. citizen gets 20 years for joining Islamic State group

<https://abcnews.go.com/US/wireStory/us-citizen-gets-20-years-joining-islamic-state-98302691>

IS Group-Affiliated Militants Take Key Mali Village

<https://www.voanews.com/a/islamic-state-group-affiliated-militants-take-key-mali-village-7047719.html>

Locking Down ISIS

<https://academicminute.org/2023/04/dawn-brancati-yale-university-locking-down-isis/>

The Metastasising ISKP Menace for India

<https://idsa.in/idsacomments/the-metastasising-iskp-menace-for-india-arasheed-pghosh-050423>

Is South India in the Crosshairs of Islamic State?

<https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/is-south-india-in-the-crosshairs-of-islamic-state/>

Terrorist Bots: How Islamic State has Automated Management of its Online Community on Telegram

<https://gnet-research.org/2023/04/04/terrorist-bots-how-islamic-state-has-automated-management-of-its-online-community-on-telegram/>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula

The Armed Conflict Location & Event Data Project: 6 April 2023

Sustained resurgence in Yemen or signs of further decline?

<https://acleddata.com/2023/04/06/al-qaeda-in-the-arabian-peninsula-sustained-resurgence-in-yemen-or-signs-of-further-decline/>

Civilians Adapt To Survive As Insurgents Fight For Influence In Africa's Central Sahel

Aliyu Dahiru – HumAngle: 12 April 2023

Violence and instability plague the Central Sahel region, including Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger. But “social contracts” are developing between the insurgent groups and local civilians, new research says.

<https://humanglemedia.com/civilians-adapt-to-survive-as-insurgents-fight-for-influence-in-africas-central-sahel/>

For more on this theme:

A Tale of Two Lebanons: Stuck Between Hezbollah and a Republic

<https://nationalinterest.org/blog/lebanon-watch/tale-two-lebanons-stuck-between-hezbollah-and-republic-206376>

Ghana Beefs Up Security Near Burkina Border as Ethnic War Attracts Terrorists

<https://www.voanews.com/a/ghana-beefs-up-security-near-burkina-border-as-ethnic-war-attracts-terrorists-7041209.html>

Afghanistan Under the Taliban: The Global Jihadist Threat to Europe and the Middle East

<https://eeradicalization.com/taliban-afghanistan-global-jihadist-threat-antonio-giustozzi/>

The Taliban Are Back in the Hostage Business

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2023/04/05/taliban-afghanistan-hostage-diplomacy-western-prisoners/>

Terrorwave: The Aesthetics of Violence and Terrorist Imagery in Militant Accelerationist Subcultures

<https://gnet-research.org/2023/04/05/terrorwave-the-aesthetics-of-violence-and-terrorist-imagery-in-militant-accelerationist-subcultures/>

Analysis: Why Nigeria's terrorism keeps increasing despite global decline

<https://dailynigerian.com/analysis-why-nigeria/>

Defeating Terrorism In Africa Through Multilateral Cooperation

<https://www.opinionnigeria.com/defeating-terrorism-in-africa-through-multilateral-cooperation-by-kester-kenn-klomegah/>

Turning Grief Into A War Cry: The Women On The Frontline Against Boko Haram

<https://humanglemedia.com/turning-grief-into-a-war-cry-the-women-on-the-frontline-against-boko-haram/>

CRIME AND CONFLICT

War crimes tribunal centres on how much former Kosovan president knew

Peter Beaumont – The Guardian: 10 April 2023

A quarter-century ago, in the midst of the war in Kosovo and its aftermath, senior international figures beat a path to the door of Hashim Thaçi, the Kosovo Liberation Army commander who would later become the country's most prominent politician.

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/apr/10/hashim-thaci-war-crimes-tribunal-hague-kla-commander-kosovo>

For more on this theme:

The business of killing: Assassinations in South Africa

<https://globalinitiative.net/analysis/assassinations-targeted-killings-south-africa/>

Burkina Faso: Coups and conflict drive crisis

<https://www.rescue.org/article/burkina-faso-coups-and-conflict-drive-crisis>

Provisional Measures at the ICJ in the Cases of Armenia and Azerbaijan

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/provisional-measures-icj-cases-armenia-and-azerbaijan>

When criminals rule the land

<https://news.yahoo.com/criminals-rule-land-070000827.html>

Ukrainian groups learn about DNA use to identify war victims

<https://apnews.com/article/ukraine-russia-war-missing-people-dna-9ef70af8df8c3ecbcb7dc7ecd-f48b21d>

Delegates Grapple with Definition of Crimes against Humanity That Supports Future Development, Has Legal Certainty, as Sixth Committee Continues Resumed Session

<https://press.un.org/en/2023/gal3680.doc.htm>

Scourge Of Conflicts And Rights Abuses Continue Affecting Sub-Saharan Africa

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/11042023-scourge-of-conflicts-and-rights-abuses-continue-affecting-sub-saharan-africa-oped/>

UN agency investigating humanitarian food theft in Ethiopia

<https://www.newsnationnow.com/crime/un-agency-investigating-humanitarian-food-theft-in-ethiopia/>

The United States' Proposal on Prosecuting Russians for the Crime of Aggression Against Ukraine is a Step in the Right Direction

<https://www.justsecurity.org/85886/the-united-states-proposal-on-prosecuting-russians-for-the-crime-of-aggression-against-ukraine-is-a-step-in-the-right-direction/>

Ukraine: Russian Torture Center in Kherson

<https://www.hrw.org/news/2023/04/13/ukraine-russian-torture-center-kherson>

'Just the way the Nazis did': Evidence suggests Russians are stealing art from Ukraine on a World War II scale

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/russia-stealing-art-ukraine-nazi-level-world-war-2-rcna77879>

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

What does China want in Ukraine?

Ved Shinde – The Interpreter: 10 April 2023

Beijing has reservations about Putin's war, but seeing Moscow take a beating is not in China's interests.

<https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/what-does-china-want-ukraine>

For more on this theme:

Russia's Far-Right Campaign in Europe

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/russias-far-right-campaign-europe>

Ukraine war: the devastating effects of conflict on infant mortality rates – new research

<https://theconversation.com/ukraine-war-the-devastating-effects-of-conflict-on-infant-mortality-rates-new-research-203187>

Europe's ammunition will help bring a just peace in Ukraine

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/europes-ammunition-will-help-bring-a-just-peace-in-ukraine/>

Russia foreign policy: the search for new friends

<https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/russia-foreign-policy-search-new-friends>

Macron fails to move Xi Jinping over Russia's war on Ukraine

<https://www.politico.eu/article/emmanuel-macron-xi-jinping-china-russia-war-ukraine/>

Ukraine war: Russian parliament approves online call-up

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-65239093>

Ukraine gives Russia two options: Leave Crimea peacefully or be ready for battle

<https://www.politico.eu/article/ukraine-russia-crimea-war-peace-volodymyr-zelensky/>

Are States Aiding and Assisting Ukraine and Russia Using Force?

<https://lieber.westpoint.edu/are-states-aid-assisting-ukraine-russia-using-force/>

Russia loses election to three UN bodies over Ukraine

<https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-un-lost-elections-95b7078b7e0b86ea1d2cc17726a6db3b>

Arming Ukraine without crossing Russia's red lines

<https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2023/04/06/arming-ukraine-without-crossing-russias-red-lines/>

Russia's Winter War on Ukraine's Energy Has Failed: U.K.

<https://www.newsweek.com/russia-winter-war-ukraine-energy-grid-failed-uk-mod-1793269>

Russia May Propose Ceasefire in Bid to Stop Ukraine Counteroffensive: ISW

<https://www.newsweek.com/russia-ukraine-ceasefire-counteroffensive-orthodox-easter-1793377>

As Ukraine War Costs Grow, So Does Debate In The West Over Whether And How To Use Frozen Russian Reserves

<https://www.rferl.org/a/ukraine-war-costs-russia-reserves-frozen/32359417.html>

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

Kremlin says its strategic aim is to create a ‘new world order’ – as it happened

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/live/2023/apr/07/russia-ukraine-war-live-pentagon-investigating-leak-of-us-and-nato-files-report-macron-and-von-der-leyens-last-day-in-china>

With war in next-door Ukraine, this tiny country fears it’s in Russia’s crosshairs too

<https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2023-04-12/moldova-fears-russia-subversion-ukraine-war-next-door>

Ukraine is preparing to strike back against Russia. Timing will be key

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/04/06/europe/ukraine-strike-back-offensive-russia-intl/index.html>

As the Ukraine war grinds on, the EU finds it needs China more than ever

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/04/07/europe/russia-ukraine-eu-needs-china-intl-cmd/index.html>

Finland Likely To Tread Cautiously Despite NATO Membership – Analysis

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/06042023-finland-likely-to-tread-cautiously-despite-nato-membership-analysis/>

A ‘Revolution’ in Military Recruitment for Russia

<https://jamestown.org/program/a-revolution-in-military-recruitment-for-russia/>

Moscow Wants Russian Society to Pay for War in Ukraine (Part One)

<https://jamestown.org/program/moscow-wants-russian-society-to-pay-for-war-in-ukraine-part-one/>

Potential for Conflict Growing in Russian Society

<https://jamestown.org/program/potential-for-conflict-growing-in-russian-society/>

Putin’s Political Bubble Tightens Up

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The Role of the Union State of Russia and Belarus in the Russo-Ukrainian War

<https://jamestown.org/program/the-role-of-the-union-state-of-russia-and-belarus-in-the-russo-ukrainian-war/>

Human wave tactics are demoralizing the Russian army in Ukraine

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/human-wave-tactics-are-demoralizing-the-russian-army-in-ukraine/>

Poland and Ukraine: The emerging alliance that could reshape Europe

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/poland-and-ukraine-the-emerging-alliance-that-could-reshape-europe/>

Russian nukes in Belarus: Putin’s creeping annexation continues

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/russian-nukes-in-belarus-putins-creeping-annexation-continues/>

Putin cancels Victory Day parades as Ukraine invasion continues to unravel

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/putin-cancels-victory-day-parades-as-ukraine-invasion-continues-to-unravel>

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

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What's Really Going on Between Russia and China

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/united-states/whats-really-going-between-russia-and-china>

Holy War: The Fight for Ukraine's Churches and Monasteries

<https://carnegieendowment.org/politika/89496>

How Putin's "Special Military Operation" Became a People's War

<https://carnegieendowment.org/politika/89486>

Is the Ukraine war boosting or damaging the Russian economy?

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/apr/10/is-the-ukraine-war-boosting-or-damaging-the-russian-economy>

Analysis: Europe facing costly winter without enough long-term LNG deals

<https://www.reuters.com/business/energy/europe-facing-costly-winter-without-enough-long-term-lng-deals-2023-04-06/>

The Russian Rally

<https://cepa.org/article/the-russian-rally/>

Disruptions in exports of grains from Ukraine and Russia cost the world's economy more than \$1.6 billion: Study

<https://phys.org/news/2023-04-disruptions-exports-grains-ukraine-russia.html>

Russia's invasion of Ukraine reveals the future of cyberattacks

<https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/99182-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-reveals-the-future-of-cyberattacks>

US Warns Russia Getting Creative in Cyberspace

<https://www.voanews.com/a/us-warns-russia-getting-creative-in-cyberspace-/7046275.html>