# the marshall center transnational WeekLly

# A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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

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# COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

# ORGANIZED CRIME AROUND THE WORLD

# Organized crime fuels Mexico's election violence, plus Europe's Southern Cone cocaine pipeline

Shannon K. O'Neil and Will Freeman - Council on Foreign Relations: 24 April 2024

Mexico's June 2 elections are set to be the most violent in the country's recent history, with nearly 30 candidates murdered so far.

https://www.cfr.org/blog/organized-crime-fuels-mexicos-election-violence-plus-europes-southern-cone-cocaine-pipeline

For more on this theme:

### Europol report reveals Italian, Georgian criminal networks operating in Malta

https://www.maltatoday.com.mt/news/national/128615/europol\_report\_reveals\_italian\_georgian\_ criminal\_networks\_operating\_in\_malta

China Forces Myanmar Scam Syndicates to Move to Thai Border

https://www.usip.org/publications/2024/04/china-forces-myanmar-scam-syndicates-move-thai-border

Ecuador: Organized crime threatens the state

https://www.gisreportsonline.com/r/ecuador-crime-state/

Ecuadorians Back President's Security Agenda But Challenges Await

https://insightcrime.org/news/ecuador-president-security-referendum/

# Alleged Italian Mobsters Grew Powerful in Toronto. Experts Say Canadian Law Can't Stop Them.

https://www.occrp.org/en/investigations/alleged-italian-mobsters-grew-powerful-in-toronto-experts-say-canadian-law-cant-stop-them

# SPORTS CORRUPTION

# Spanish Govt To 'Oversee' Scandal-hit Football Federation Agence France Presse: 25 April 2024

"The Spanish government adopted this decision to redress the serious situation of the RFEF so that the organization could enter a stage of renewal in a stable climate," the National Sports Council, an agency dependent on the Ministry of Sports, announced.

https://www.barrons.com/news/spanish-govt-to-oversee-scandal-hit-football-federation-025afc13

For more on this theme:

# **Bulgarian Tennis Official Receives Lifetime Ban for Serious Corruption Breaches**

https://www.covers.com/industry/bulgarian-tennis-official-receives-lifetime-ban-for-corruption-breachesapril-22-2024

# **Corruption Killing Our Football – Stages Glassco**

https://frontpageafricaonline.com/sports/corruption-killing-our-football-stages-glassco/



# DRUG TRAFFICKING

# **Central Asia Cracks Down on Drug Trafficking**

Syed Fazl-e-Haider – The Jamestown Foundation: 16 April 2024

The region's states are becoming more concerned with the surge in drugs being trafficked from Afghanistan since the Taliban retook power in 2021. The increased trafficking is contributing to cross-border crime, corruption, degradation of public institutions, human trafficking and money laundering.

https://jamestown.org/program/central-asia-cracks-down-on-drug-trafficking/

For more on this theme:

### Report: China continues to subsidize deadly fentanyl exports

https://www.npr.org/2024/04/16/1244964595/fentanyl-china-precursor-overdose

#### Amsterdam mayor wants to regulate cocaine: AFP interview

https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20240416-amsterdam-mayor-wants-to-regulate-cocaine-afp-interview

# Cocaine trafficking in Côte d'Ivoire: 'In organised crime there is a law of silence'

https://www.theafricareport.com/344964/cocaine-trafficking-in-cote-divoire-in-organised-crime-there-is-a-law-of-silence/

# The limits of renewed US-China counternarcotics cooperation

https://www.brookings.edu/articles/the-limits-of-renewed-us-china-counternarcotics-cooperation/

# Captagon Crisis in Syria: Trafficking and Militancy

https://greydynamics.com/syria-captagon-crisis/

# HUMAN TRAFFICKING

# The Libyan Political Crisis: Implication for Human Trafficking Skylar Watkins – Foreign Policy Research Institute: 25 April 2024

According to the Global Organized Crime Index, Libya has one of the highest human-trafficking ranks in the world, scoring an 8.5 out of 10. Because of the nature of the crimes, as well as the inability of the Libyan government to identify and prosecute them, an accurate number of victims in the country is unknown.

https://www.fpri.org/article/2024/04/the-libyan-political-crisis-implication-for-human-trafficking/

# For more on this theme:

# Eight Latin American countries fighting human trafficking together

https://www.unodc.org/unodc/frontpage/2024/April/nine-latin-american-countries-fighting-human-trafficking-together.html

# EU Parliament votes to strengthen protection for human trafficking victims

https://www.euractiv.com/section/justice-home-affairs/news/eu-parliament-votes-to-strengthen-protection-for-human-trafficking-victims/

# Northeastern researcher exposes child labor trafficking as a hidden crime after investigating 132 victims

https://news.northeastern.edu/2024/04/24/child-labor-trafficking-research/

# TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

# Roads of destruction: we found vast numbers of illegal 'ghost roads' used to crack open pristine rainforest

Bill Laurance – The Conversation: 10 April 2024

One of Brazil's top scientists, Eneas Salati, once said, "The best thing you could do for the Amazon rainforest is to blow up all the roads." He wasn't joking. And he had a point.

https://theconversation.com/roads-of-destruction-we-found-vast-numbers-of-illegal-ghost-roads-used-to-crack-open-pristine-rainforest-227222

For more on this theme:

# Sumatra villages count cost of deadly river tsunami swelled by illegal logging

https://news.mongabay.com/2024/04/sumatra-villages-count-cost-of-deadly-river-tsunami-swelled-by-illegal-logging/

# Brazil's illegal gold trade takes a hammering, but persists underground

https://news.mongabay.com/2024/04/brazils-illegal-gold-trade-takes-a-hammering-but-persists-underground/

# Fighting illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing: new report on 2020-2023 achievements

 $https://oceans-and-fisheries.ec.europa.eu/news/fighting-illegal-unreported-and-unregulated-fishing-new-report-2020-2023-achievements-2024-04-18\_en$ 

# After Sanctions, Will Ecuador Put a Stop to Shark-Fin Trafficking?

https://insightcrime.org/news/ecuador-sanctions-shark-fin-trafficking/

# WASTE TRAFFICKING

# How European trash illegally ends up in Southeast Asia

Enno Hinz – Deutsche Welle: 17 April 2024

The illegal waste trade has emerged as a highly profitable, low-risk criminal enterprise with a major impact on the environment, economy and human health.

https://www.dw.com/en/how-european-trash-illegally-ends-up-in-southeast-asia/a-68850068

For more on this theme:

# Why Asean will be desperate for a global treaty to address plastic pollution

https://www.thenationalnews.com/opinion/comment/2024/04/24/why-asean-will-be-desperate-for-a-global-treaty-to-address-plastic-pollution/



# INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY CRIME AND CURRENCY COUNTERFEITING

# Fashion brands launch new watchdog to counter Chinese counterfeits

Ko Dong-hwan – The Korea Times: 21 April 2024

The country's small- and medium-sized enterprises in the fashion industry have jointly launched a watchdog agency against sellers of Chinese products that illegally copy original designs from Korean products, according to the industry observers.

https://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/tech/2024/04/129\_373136.html

### For more on this theme:

# Counterfeits Undermine Sustainable Development. Let's Work to Stop Them.

https://www.uschamber.com/intellectual-property/counterfeits-undermine-sustainable-development-lets-work-to-stop-them

# Counterfeiting platform PandaBuy partially shut down by police raid

https://www.retaildetail.eu/news/general/counterfeiting-platform-pandabuy-partially-shut-down-by-police-raid/

# Superfakes: Copycat manufacturers are becoming increasingly skilled at producing knock-off designer handbags

https://abcnews.go.com/Business/superfakes-copycat-manufacturers-becoming-increasingly-skilled-producing-knock/story?id=109344382

# Fake Royal Mail stamps: Ministers urged to probe claims Chinese counterfeiters behind huge scam

https://uk.news.yahoo.com/ministers-urged-probe-claims-chinese-094352234.html

# CYBERCRIME (FRAUD, EXPLOITATION, ETC.)

# **New UNODC campaign set to raise awareness of online child sexual exploitation** *United Nations: 25 April 2024*

The initiative was launched by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The campaign, called Beware the Share, targets children, parents, guardians and government agencies in Southeast Asia.

https://www.unodc.org/roseap/en/2024/04/beware-the-share/story.html

### For more on this theme:

## In fight against online frauds, banks moot syncing systems with MHA's cybercrime portal

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/in-fight-against-online-frauds-banks-moot-syncing-systems-with-mhas-cybercrime-portal/articleshow/109443603.cms?from=mdr

# Deepfakes Make Up 66% of Al Fraud While Crypto Scams Halved

https://www.ccn.com/news/technology/deepfakes-ai-fraud-crypto-scams/

# How search empowers cybersecurity, fraud prevention and detection

https://www.afr.com/technology/how-search-empowers-cybersecurity-fraud-prevention-and-detection-20240417-p5fkh4

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

# INTERNET GOVERNANCE AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE REGULATION

Future of the internet: Why we need convergence and governance for sustained growth Thomas Beckley and Ross Genovese – World Economic Forum: 25 April 2024

Over the next decade, the convergence of technologies will give rise to virtual experiences for consumers, the workforce and enterprise. Companies will benefit if they can harness these technological combinations.

https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2024/04/future-of-the-internet-convergence-governance/

# For more on this theme:

# (Global) Four new reports released on Open Internet approaches in Africa

https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/four-new-reports-released-open-internet-approaches-africa\_en?s=352

#### (Global) How To Harness AI With Governance

https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2024/04/25/how-to-harness-ai-with-governance/?sh=3a7c7ba349d6

# (Global) Why the Global Digital Compact's focus on digital trust and security is key to the future of internet

https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2024/04/united-nations-global-digital-compact-trust-security/

# DATA PRIVACY AND PROTECTION

**Dutch watchdog says government should stop using Facebook if there are privacy concerns** Lauren Chadwick – Euronews.next: 22 April 2024

The Netherlands' data watchdog recommended the government not use the social media site to communicate with the public if it is unclear what happens to users' personal data.

https://www.euronews.com/next/2024/04/22/dutch-watchdog-says-government-should-stop-using-facebook-if-there-are-privacy-concerns

For more on this theme:

# (U.S.) Navigating The Complexity Of The Latest Data Privacy Regulations

https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2024/04/19/navigating-the-complexity-of-the-latest-data-privacy-regulations/?sh=3d8f623129e1

### (U.K., Global) Grindr facing U.K. lawsuit over alleged data protection breaches

https://www.nbcnews.com/nbc-out/out-news/grindr-facing-uk-lawsuit-alleged-data-protection-breaches-rcna148787

### (Global) Are Data Privacy And Generative AI Mutually Exclusive?

https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2024/04/22/are-data-privacy-and-generative-aimutually-exclusive/?sh=402035f956e1

# (EU, U.S.) Questions & Answers: EU-US Data Privacy Framework

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/it/QANDA\_23\_3752



# CYBER STRATEGY AND WARFARE

### Cybersecurity in the UK

Adam Clark - UK Parliament: 19 April 2024

This overview explains the nature of the cyber threat, including how cyberattacks work. It describes the policy and regulatory frameworks, as well as areas of reform such as "ethical hacking."

https://commonslibrary.parliament.uk/research-briefings/cbp-9821/

### For more on this theme:

# (China, North Korea) Advanced Cyber Tactics: China and North Korea's New Era of Digital Influence

https://elblog.pl/2024/04/19/advanced-cyber-tactics-china-and-north-koreas-new-era-of-digital-influence/

# (U.S., Ukraine) What America Learned from Cyber War in Ukraine — Before the First Shots were Fired

https://www.wilsoncenter.org/publication/what-america-learned-cyber-war-ukraine-first-shots-were-fired

### (Russia, Ukraine) World's first full-fledged cyber war raging since 2022

https://asiatimes.com/2024/04/worlds-1st-full-fledged-cyber-war-raging-since-2022/

# (Global) Digital Blitzkrieg: Unveiling Cyber-Logistics Warfare

https://www.darkreading.com/cyberattacks-data-breaches/digital-blitzkrieg-unveiling-cyber-logistics-warfare

# MILITARY'S ROLE IN CYBER

# Cybercom takes on its newest mission set: partnerships

Mark Pomerleau – DefenseScoop: 12 April 2024

The new head of U.S. Cyber Command is making cooperation with allies and partners one of his top three priorities in conjunction with the Department of Defense officially adding that as a mission set for CYBERCOM.

https://defensescoop.com/2024/04/12/cybercom-fourth-mission-set-partnerships-haugh/

For more on this theme:

# (U.S.) Breaking Down the DOD's New Defense Industrial Base Cybersecurity Strategy

https://www.govconwire.com/2024/04/breaking-down-the-dods-new-defense-industrial-base-cybersecurity-strategy/

# (U.S.) Marine Corps' overseas cyber force mission seeks stronger critical infrastructure defenses

https://www.scmagazine.com/brief/marine-corps-overseas-cyber-force-mission-seeks-stronger-critical-infrastructure-defenses

# (U.S.) DOD launching fully operational vulnerability disclosure program for defense industrial base

https://defensescoop.com/2024/04/19/dod-vulnerability-disclosure-program-dib-vdp/

# (China) China military's biggest shakeup in 9 years adds info, cyber, space units

https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Defense/China-military-s-biggest-shakeup-in-9-years-adds-info-cyber-space-units

# ELECTION SECURITY

# Election 2024: Championing Proactive Cybersecurity To Fortify National Security Emil Sayegh – Forbes: 23 April 2024

As the U.S. prepares for the forthcoming election, it brings the significance of cybersecurity policies to the forefront.

https://www.forbes.com/sites/emilsayegh/2024/04/23/election-2024-championing-proactive-cybersecurity-to-fortify-national-security/?sh=3f9b96c94500

For more on this theme:

# (India) Government has a '100-day' plan to protect you from online scams

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/technology/tech-news/government-may-have-a-plan-for-real-time-defence-against-online-scams/articleshow/109590191.cms

# (U.S., Global) The troubling kaleidoscope of 2024 election security

https://www.federaltimes.com/opinions/2024/04/24/the-troubling-kaleidoscope-of-2024-election-security/

### (India) AI and India's General Elections

https://thediplomat.com/2024/04/ai-and-indias-general-elections/

# PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Russian hacking group claims responsibility for cyberattack on Indiana wastewater plant Sophia Fox-Sowell – StateScoop: 25 April 2024

A video from the "People's Cyber Army of Russia" claims responsibility for the attack on the Tipton West Wastewater Treatment Plant.

https://statescoop.com/russian-cyberattack-wastewater-tipton-indiana/

#### For more on this theme:

# (U.S., Russia) Russian Cyberattack Group Sandworm Linked to Bold Attacks on Critical US Infrastructure, Water Utilities

https://www.techtimes.com/articles/303700/20240417/russian-cyberattack-group-sandworm-linked-bold-attacks-critical-infrastructure-water.htm

# (China, U.S.) FBI director warns of China's preparations for disruptive infrastructure attacks

https://cyberscoop.com/fbi-warns-china-preparing-for-disruptive-attacks/

### (U.S.) America needs to treat 'the cloud' as critical infrastructure

https://thehill.com/opinion/cybersecurity/4621718-america-needs-to-treat-the-cloud-as-critical-infrastructure/

# (Europe) Debate Over Space as a Critical Infrastructure in Europe Takes Center Stage at Cysat

https://www.satellitetoday.com/cybersecurity/2024/04/24/debate-over-space-as-a-critical-infrastructure-in-europe-takes-center-stage-at-cysat/

# CYBERATTACKS

# A Massive Cyber Attack Disrupts Operations Across Numerous French Municipalities Alicia Hope – CPO Magazine: 23 April 2024

A "large-scale cyberattack" has taken down local government services since April 9. Local media reported that municipal workers were instructed not to switch on their computers or use other devices.

https://www.cpomagazine.com/cyber-security/a-massive-cyber-attack-disrupts-operations-across-numerous-french-municipalities/

For more on this theme:

### (UK) Carpetright Pulls Plug After Cyber-Attack

https://insight.scmagazineuk.com/carpetright-pulls-plug-after-cyber-attack

# (U.S., Iran) \$10 Million Bounty on Iranian Hackers for Cyberattacks on US Gov, Defense Contractors

https://www.securityweek.com/10-million-bounty-on-iranian-hackers-for-cyber-attacks-on-us-gov-defense-contractors/

# (Denmark) UNDP, City of Copenhagen Targeted in Data-Extortion Cyberattack

https://www.darkreading.com/cyberattacks-data-breaches/undp-city-of-copenhagen-targeted-in-data-extortion-cyberattack

# (U.S.) California library IT systems go dark weeks after ransomware attack

https://statescoop.com/solano-county-california-library-ransomware-cyberattack/

# RANSOMWARE

# UnitedHealth: Ransomware Attackers Stole Huge Amount of Data Jeffrey Burt – Security Boulevard: 23 April 2024

The group stole customers' private healthcare data, the latest in a continuing string of information coming out about the data breach.

https://securityboulevard.com/2024/04/unitedhealth-ransomware-attackers-stole-huge-amount-of-data/

# For more on this theme:

# (U.S.) Food and agriculture sector hit with more than 160 ransomware attacks last year

https://therecord.media/food-and-agriculture-hit-with-ransomware-attacks

(U.S., Global) Infiltrating ransomware gangs on the dark web

https://www.cbsnews.com/news/infiltrating-ransomware-gangs-on-the-dark-web-60-minutes/

# (U.S.) Preventing Ransomware Attacks at Scale

https://hbr.org/2024/04/preventing-ransomware-attacks-at-scale

(U.S.) CISA ransomware warning program has sent out more than 2,000 alerts

https://cyberscoop.com/cisa-ransomware-warning-easterly/

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

# TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

### "Chibok Girls": Ten Years On and Boko Haram Still Thrives

Joana Ama Osei-Tutu – Australian Institute of International Affairs: 26 April 2024

A decade ago, Abubakar Shekau, the former leader of Boko Haram, released a video boasting: "I abducted your girls ... I will sell them in the market, by Allah! I will marry off a woman at the age of 12." This caused outrage, disbelief, and calls to unite and #bringbackourgirls to their families.

https://www.internationalaffairs.org.au/australianoutlook/chibok-girls-ten-years-on-and-boko-haram-still-thrives/

For more on this theme:

### African leaders spearhead efforts to tackle terrorism across the continent

https://www.cnn.com/2024/04/23/africa/african-leaders-spearhead-efforts-to-tackle-terrorism-intl/index.html

# Is the world prepared for more Islamic State attacks?

https://www.abc.net.au/listen/programs/saturdayextra/new-isis/103701720

# Afghan Taliban's Support For TTP And Its Implications For Regional Stability – OpEd

https://www.eurasiareview.com/15042024-afghan-talibans-support-for-ttp-and-its-implications-for-regional-stability-oped/

# Maalim Ayman: A Post-Mortem of al-Shabaab's Commander Tasked with Attacking Kenya

https://jamestown.org/brief/maalim-ayman-a-post-mortem-of-al-shabaabs-commander-tasked-with-attacking-kenya/

# A Decade After Chibok: Assessing Nigeria's Regional Response to Boko Haram

https://acleddata.com/2024/04/16/a-decade-after-chibok-assessing-nigerias-regional-response-to-boko-haram/

# A decade after the kidnapping of the Chibok girls in Nigeria, what has the #BringBackOurGirls movement achieved?

https://theconversation.com/a-decade-after-the-kidnapping-of-the-chibok-girls-in-nigeria-what-has-the-bringbackourgirls-movement-achieved-227544

# Tajikistan striving to convince the world that it can contain terrorism

https://eurasianet.org/tajikistan-striving-to-convince-the-world-that-it-can-contain-terrorism

# What constitutes a terrorist attack? What is Australia's current terror threat level? And who decides those things?

https://www.abc.net.au/news/2024-04-16/what-makes-a-terrorist-attack/103728428

### Tajik Regime Alarmed As Moscow Terror Attack Fallout Has Migrants Streaming Home

https://www.rferl.org/a/tajik-regime-alarmed-moscow-terror-attack-migrants/32902685.html

IntelBrief: Radicalization and Extremism in Russia's North Caucasus Region

https://thesoufancenter.org/intelbrief-2024-april-12/

# GRAY ZONE DYNAMICS AND INFLUENCE OPERATIONS

# **Building Resilience Against Election Influence Operations**

Daria Azariev North, Krystyna Sikora, David Levine and Nikoleta Diossy – International Foundation for Electoral Systems: 23 April 2024

In 2024, nearly half of the world's population is heading to the polls. One of the biggest of these contests is the European Parliament elections. This year's elections are taking place amid increasingly shifting geopolitical and technological landscapes. Now is the time for European countries and their partners to review and adapt the tools in their arsenals to combat malign election-influence operations.

https://www.ifes.org/publications/building-resilience-against-election-influence-operations

#### For more on this theme:

# Hundreds of Chinese Websites Pose as Local News to Disseminate Disinformation

https://dialogo-americas.com/articles/hundreds-of-chinese-websites-pose-as-local-news-to-disseminate-disinformation/

#### South China Sea Dispute: China's 'Gray Zone' Is Shrinking

https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/south-china-sea-dispute-chinas-gray-zone-is-shrinking/

# Call in the Coast Guard: How Maritime Law Enforcement Can Combat China's Gray-Zone Aggression

https://warontherocks.com/2024/04/call-in-the-coast-guard-how-maritime-law-enforcement-cancombat-chinas-gray-zone-aggression/

# What's behind China's 'gray-zone' strategy that threatens the Philippines?

https://www3.nhk.or.jp/nhkworld/en/news/backstories/3244/

# **Russia Kowtows to China**

https://jamestown.org/program/russia-kowtows-to-china/

# Limitations of China's grey zone tactics

https://www.uni.lodz.pl/en/news/details/limitations-of-chinas-grey-zone-tactics

# Al Manipulation in Influence Operations and How to Deal With It

https://japan-forward.com/ai-manipulation-in-influence-operations-and-how-to-deal-with-it/

# F-16 Fighter Sale to Argentina Could Help Drive China Out of Latin America

https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/f-16-fighter-sale-argentina-could-help-drive-china-out-latin-america-210690

#### Microsoft says China using AI to sow division in US

https://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/microsoft-says-china-using-ai-to-sow-division-in-us/ar-BB1I8LJr?item=flightsprg-tipsubsc-v1a

# Three factors hardening China's stance on Taiwan

https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/three-factors-hardening-china-s-stance-taiwan

# ISRAEL/HAMAS/IRAN

#### Iran and Israel's Dangerous Gambit

Nicole Grajewski - Carnegie: 18 April 2024

The adversaries have moved from a long-simmering shadow conflict to direct confrontation. https://carnegieendowment.org/2024/04/18/iran-and-israel-s-dangerous-gambit-pub-92254

For more on this theme:

Chronology of Israel's war in Gaza

https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/major-events-during-war-gaza-2024-02-27/

# **Understanding Israel-Hezbollah Clashes Since October 7**

https://nationalinterest.org/feature/understanding-israel-hezbollah-clashes-october-7-210691

This round of Iran-Israel escalation is over, but the next could be just around the corner

https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/iransource/israel-iran-escalation-syria-zahedi/

# Independent Thinking: Are Israel and Iran on the brink of all-out war?

https://www.chathamhouse.org/2024/04/independent-thinking-are-israel-and-iran-brink-all-out-war

Iran-Israel: The escalation calculus

https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/iran-israel-escalation-calculus

#### Israel's Strike on Iran: A Limited Attack but a Potentially Big Signal

https://www.yahoo.com/news/israel-strike-iran-limited-attack-143042469.html

### Israel Planned Bigger Attack on Iran, but Scaled It Back to Avoid War

https://www.yahoo.com/news/israel-planned-bigger-attack-iran-112102679.html

### 'Neutrality' issues found at UNRWA, but no terrorism proof, says review

https://www.france24.com/en/video/20240423-neutrality-issues-found-at-unrwa-but-no-terrorism-proof-says-review

# Israel indicts sister of Hamas leader Haniyeh on terrorism incitement

https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/israel-indicts-sister-hamas-leader-haniyeh-terrorism-incitement-2024-04-21/

# Opinion I Israel's Head-hunting Addiction: Assassinations Are No Substitute for Diplomacy

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# Hamas officials say group willing to disarm if Palestinian state is established

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# Hamas again raises the possibility of a 2-state compromise. Israel and its allies aren't convinced

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# ISRAEL/HAMAS/IRAN

# For more on this theme:

# Report on UNRWA concludes Israel has not provided evidence of employees' militancy

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# The Malaysia-Iran-Israel Triangle Amid the Gaza War

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# The Palestinian Arena in the Shadow of the Iran-Israel Crisis

https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/palestinian-arena-shadow-iran-israel-crisis

# Israel is already at war in the North, escalation with Lebanon is inevitable - opinion

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# Half of Hezbollah commanders in south of Lebanon 'eliminated,' Israel defence minister says

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# Iran-Israel exchanges are a test for China's influence in the Gulf

https://www.chathamhouse.org/2024/04/iran-israel-exchanges-are-test-chinas-influence-gulf

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# Israel-Gaza war protests spread to more universities across US

https://www.voanews.com/a/anti-gaza-war-protests-spread-to-universities-across-us-/7585423.html

# Israeli military intelligence chief resigns in connection with October Hamas attack

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# ISRAEL/HAMAS/IRAN

# For more on this theme:

Russia tried to stay on good terms with Iran and Israel. Then they started fighting.

https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Europe/2024/0424/Russia-tried-to-stay-on-good-terms-with-Iran-and-Israel.-Then-they-started-fighting

# Dutch intelligence sees the wars in Gaza and Ukraine as triggers for terrorist threats

https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/dutch-intelligence-sees-wars-gaza-ukraine-triggers-terrorist-109533833

# RUSSIA/UKRAINE

# The war in Ukraine could reach a decision point by the NATO Summit. Policymakers need to prepare now.

Andrew A. Michta – Atlantic Council: 23 April 2024

Russia has launched its third major mobilization wave in anticipation of its upcoming spring/ summer campaign to take more land. Ukrainian estimates put the number of soldiers who could be inducted in the third Russian mobilization drive at as many as 300,000 by June.

https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/the-war-in-ukraine-could-reach-a-decision-point-by-the-nato-summit/

#### For more on this theme:

# How a store manager from India ended up killed on the battlefields of Ukraine fighting for Russia

https://www.cnn.com/2024/04/19/india/india-russia-ukraine-one-mans-death-intl-hnk-ml/index.html

### Russia warns of direct clash with West over Ukraine

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### Russia warns Europe: if you take our assets, we have a response that will hurt

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# The West Should Brace for Long-Term Deterrence of Russia

https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/west-should-brace-long-term-deterrence-russia

# **Opposition Divided over History Leading to Putin**

https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/opposition-divided-over-history-leading-putin

# Russia's "Catch Me If You Can" over the Baltic Sea

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### Podcast: Is Putin Prioritizing Regime Survival Over Fighting Terrorism?

https://carnegieendowment.org/politika/92272

# RUSSIA/UKRAINE

### For more on this theme:

# Why do the US and its allies want to seize Russian reserves to aid Ukraine?

https://www.brookings.edu/articles/why-do-the-u-s-and-its-allies-want-to-seize-russian-reserves-to-aid-ukraine/

# Ukraine urgently needs support to defend democracy

https://www.brookings.edu/articles/ukraine-urgently-needs-support-to-defend-democracy/

# Where have the current account surpluses gone? Russia's accumulation of foreign assets since the invasion of Ukraine

https://www.brookings.edu/articles/where-have-the-current-account-surpluses-gone/

# **Putin's Brittle Regime**

https://www.foreignaffairs.com/russian-federation/putins-brittle-regime

# Personnel Stagnation to Splinter Putin Elite With Battle of Lost Generations https://carnegieendowment.org/politika/92258

### The Kyrgyzstan route facilitating Russia's invasion of Ukraine

https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/kyrgyzstan-route-facilitating-russia-s-invasion-ukraine

#### Back in Stock? The State of Russia's Defense Industry after Two Years of the War

https://www.csis.org/analysis/back-stock-state-russias-defense-industry-after-two-years-war

# More US aid will help Ukraine avoid defeat in its war with Russia. Winning is another matter

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https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/putins-plan-to-depopulate-ukraine/

### Qatar hails mediation 'milestone' as it hosts freed Ukrainian, Russian kids

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# US accuses China of backing Russia's invasion of Ukraine

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### Russia will strike in unexpected places this summer, Ukraine says

https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/russia-will-strike-unexpected-places-this-summer-ukraine-says-2024-04-23/

# How US and allies might use Russia's frozen assets to aid Ukraine

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# RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

# The US is now allowed to seize Russian state assets. How would that work?

https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-treasury-sanctions-assets-congress-0a3bc97a2d6d77ce365 0c767db6ea7ed

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### One Winner Of The Ukraine War Is Azerbaijan

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# The Historical Roots of Russia's Quest to Dominate Ukraine

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#### Prospects for a partitioning of Ukraine

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# India looks beyond Russia for defense imports

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# **Russia's Growing Isolation Changes Balance of War**

https://jamestown.org/program/russias-growing-isolation-changes-balance-of-war/

### **Moscow Seemingly Escalates Confrontation With Europe**

https://jamestown.org/program/moscow-seemingly-escalates-confrontation-with-europe/

### **Belarus's Strategy to Avoid War**

https://jamestown.org/program/belaruss-strategy-to-avoid-war/

# Russia Determined to Take Over Moldova or Break It (Part One)

https://jamestown.org/program/russia-determined-to-take-over-moldova-or-break-it-part-one/

