CONTENTS

COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)
  Corruption
  Drug Trafficking
  Trafficking in Scarce or Protected Resources
  Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)
  Internet Governance
  Internet Freedom
  Privacy and Security
  Cyber Statecraft Development
  Public/Private Partnership
  Protection of Intellectual Property
  Cyber Capacity Building
  Combating Terrorism and Cyber Crime
  Information Sharing
  Cyber Protection of Critical Infrastructure

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)
  ISIS
  Terrorism Around the World
  Radicalization and Messaging
  Foreign Fighters
COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Lessons Learned: Corruption as a Threat to Security and the Stability of States
Peter Conze – Transparency Germany: 12 April 2019

Transparency International hosted a panel at the Munich Security Conference 2019 to discuss lessons learned from Afghanistan and Iraq with regard to corruption.

Brazil Company Wants to Pay Executives to Confess to Corruption
Fabiola Moura and Daniela Milanese – Bloomberg: 18 April 2019

In a highly controversial move, a company in Brazil implicated in the wide-ranging Carwash corruption investigation wants to pay $18 million to 15 former executives so they admit guilt and reveal details to prosecutors. If the executives do so, the company will be cleared of corruption charges.

For more on this theme:
Liberia: YES Conducts Youth Anti-Corruption and Rule of Law Summit

Reflections of an anti-corruption fighter
https://voices.transparency.org/reflections-of-an-anti-corruption-fighter-bc5cfff8f4f3

Asylum for sale: Refugees say some U.N. workers demand bribes for resettlement

In Yemen, Corruption Worsened World’s Worst Cholera Outbreak
http://www.pulitzercenter.org/reporting/yemen-corruption-worsened-worlds-worst-cholera-outbreak

Romania’s president calls referendum on anti-corruption
https://www.euronews.com/2019/04/06/romania-s-president-calls-referendum-on-anti-corruption

Peru ponders corruption probe’s cost after shocking suicide
https://www.apnews.com/efaf08a572754fa2a26bae9b4f6e2adf

Corruption a big issue in muslim-majority nations

Anger in Gambia as the extent of Jammeh-era corruption and brutality surfaces

Kenyans say drought and corruption are their biggest problems – Ipsos
https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/article/2001321618/drought-corruption-biggest-problems-facing-kenyans
DRUG TRAFFICKING

How federal case against drug distributor could change opioid fight
*PBS News Hour: 24 April 2019*

In a groundbreaking move, a top pharmaceutical company and its executives are facing federal criminal charges for their role in the opioid crisis.


---

Working in legal marijuana industry could keep immigrants from becoming citizens
*Dennis Romero – NBC News: 20 April 2019*

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services released new guidance saying that working in the marijuana industry, even in areas where it is legal, could prevent immigrants from attaining citizenship.


For more on this theme:

Drug trade in Darknet becoming more professional, says cybersecurity expert
[https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1105394/drug-trade-in-darknet-becoming-more-professional-says-cybersecurity-expert](https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1105394/drug-trade-in-darknet-becoming-more-professional-says-cybersecurity-expert)

Where the war on weed still rages

Cocaine Haul Shows Sophisticated Trafficking Route Through Honduras’ La Mosquitia

Fentanyl as a WMD? The War on Opioids Reaches a New Level of Misinformation

Heroin Takes Over South Africa
[https://solomonstar.live/heroin-takes-over-south-africa/](https://solomonstar.live/heroin-takes-over-south-africa/)

Cocaine Smugglers Follow Well-Trodden Balkan Heroin Trail

Denver may become the first US city to decriminalize psychedelic mushrooms

US workers are failing drug tests at an incredible rate — but legal weed has the future of these screenings in doubt

Op-Ed: Here’s What a Legal Market for Cocaine Could Look Like

These are the Countries Most Likely to Legalize Weed Next
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Poachers and loggers threaten biodiversity hot spot in Madagascar
Kay Vandette – Earth.com: 23 April 2019

Poachers are targeting lemurs — primates on the edge of extinction — and are chopping down trees, some of them rare hardwoods, to make charcoal. These actions threaten biodiversity on the beautiful island of Madagascar.

How machine learning can help fight illegal wildlife trade on social media
Enrico Di Minin and Christoph Fink – The Conversation: 23 April 2019

Efforts to track and monitor the illegal wildlife trade on social media have met with mixed results. But the use of machine learning could turn the tide against those poachers using social media to sell their illicit products.

For more on this theme:
Amazon deforestation: EU firms linked to illegal logging in Brazil

Saudi youth campaign to save endangered animals
http://www.arabnews.com/node/1479176/saudi-arabia

Conservation may offer common ground in Afghan conflict

Illegal Trafficking of Species and Contraband on the Black Market Between Peru and Ecuador

New secure information-sharing platform for Southern Africa
https://www.traffic.org/news/new-secure-information-sharing-platform-for-southern-africa/

How Blockchain Can Help Reduce Deforestation
https://innotechtoday.com/blockchain-deforestation/

Colombia gold traders laundered more than $3 billion since 2015: prosecution

Nigeria: Govt to Check Revenue Leakage From Illegal Mining
https://allafrica.com/stories/201904240069.html

Seychelles testing drones to monitor waters for illegal fishing, potentially lowering costs
http://www.seychellesnewsagency.com/articles/10863/Seychelles-testing+drones+to+monitor+waters+-+for+illegal+fishing%2C+potentially+lowering+costs
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Human Smuggling and Associated Revenues: What Do or Can We Know About Routes from Central America to the United States?
Victoria A. Greenfield, Blas Nunez-Neto, Ian Mitch, Joseph C. Chang and Etienne Rosas – Rand: April 2019

Human smuggling from Central American countries to the U.S. generated revenue of between $200 million and $2.3 billion for smugglers in 2017, but transnational criminal organizations may not be the primary culprits, according to a Rand Corp. study. Still, the study finds drug-trafficking organizations profit from collecting “taxes” from migrants crossing through their territories.

https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2852.html

For more on this theme:

Call for public-private partnership to prevent human trafficking

Jordan launches 2022-2019 anti-human trafficking strategy

Malaysia begins inquiry into 2015 discovery of mass graves, human trafficking camps

OPINION: How UK immigration policy is making a marketplace for human traffickers
http://news.trust.org/item/20190418081733-03nwq

Sex website shuts down in U.S., blaming ‘dumb’ trafficking laws

Turkmenistan attends workshop on identification, detention & return of irregular migrants
https://www.azernews.az/region/149470.html

Malohiya — the unknown smuggler from Niger

ECOWAS to tackle illegal migration through job creation
https://thenationonlineng.net/ecowas-to-tackle-illegal-migration-through-job-creation/

European Union to create central biometrics database
PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

The U.S. Is Losing a Major Front to China in the New Cold War
Lulu Yilun Chen and Yoolim Lee – Bloomberg: 14 April 2019

Concerns have emerged over the growing international acceptance of the “China model” of internet control. Analysts warn of a “digital iron curtain” separating Washington’s and Beijing’s emerging spheres of global tech influence and competing approaches to internet governance and digital rights.


For more on this theme:

(ASEAN) Is a splinternet emerging? ASEAN nations are turning to a Chinese model on internet censorship
https://www.aseantoday.com/2019/04/is-a-splinternet-emerging-asean-nations-are-turning-to-a-chinese-model-on-internet-censorship/

(Global) The Age of Splinternet: The Inevitable Fracturing of the Internet

(Global) The Rise of Internet Sovereignty and the End of the World Wide Web?

INTERNET FREEDOM

Why Sri Lanka Silenced Social Media
Graeme Wood – The Atlantic: 22 April 2019

In the aftermath of the Easter Sunday attacks in Sri Lanka, the government blocked access to most of the main social networks and chat apps.


For more on this theme:

(Global) When a Country Bans Social Media

(Global) A Brief History of Internet Censorship
https://www.influencive.com/a-brief-history-of-internet-censorship/

(Chad) Chadians feel ‘anger, revolt’ as they struggle without internet for one year
PRIVACY AND SECURITY

**Take a stand for consumer privacy: The anti-surveillance economy**
*Forrester Research – ZDNet: 23 April 2019*

An anti-surveillance economy has emerged in response to widespread corporate monitoring of consumer data.


*For more on this theme:*

(U.K.) Confidence in the internet is wobbling: Here's how to fix it, says cyber chief
https://www.zdnet.com/article/confidence-the-internet-is-wobbling-heres-how-to-fix-it-says-cyber-chief/

(Global) Why global collaboration is needed to protect against a new generation of cyber threats

(Global) Public becoming more aware of privacy abuses and unethical tech

**CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT**

**Can Social Media Change Governance in Central Asia?**
*Colleen Wood – The Diplomat: 25 April 2019*

Central Asian politicians and bureaucrats are realizing that social media can be leveraged as a tool for governance and co-opted to control public discourse.


*For more on this theme:*

(Azerbaijan) Azerbaijan to switch to new model of e-governance
https://www.azernews.az/business/149577.html

(Africa) African economy digitization, a governmental issue

(France) France Develops Cyber Policy For Defence & Offence
PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Collaboration is key in strengthening cybersecurity in Malaysia
Sharmila Nair – The Star Online: 23 April 2019

In our digital economy, the importance of cyber security cannot be understated. It can be strengthened through collaborations among industry players, according to CyberSecurity Malaysia, a public/private partnership that unites Malaysian-registered cyber security firms to deliver improved services.


For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Guest view: Broadband bill is exactly the public-private partnership we need
https://mtstandard.com/opinion/columnists/guest-view-broadband-bill-is-exactly-the-public-private-partnership/article_ae91c096-7c4a-52d2-aedf-a8dcb4b8f6c2.html

(Global) ICC calls for collaborative approach to digital transformation

(U.S.) Public and Private Sector Join Forces on Cybersecurity

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

US-China Trade War: Intellectual Property at Heart of Dispute
MENAFN: 22 April 2019

The most contentious issue in the U.S.–China trade dispute is that of intellectual property (IP). Washington has proof that China is stealing IP from U.S. businesses, universities and government entities and is demanding that Beijing cease doing so.


For more on this theme:

(Africa, Global) Intellectual property protection vital in digital world - Kaspersky Lab

(U.S.) Cyber Security Breaches in the Private Sector: To What Extent Should the Government Be Involved?

(EU) End Of The Internet?: An Analysis of the EU Copyright Directive
https://www.globalpatentfiling.com/blog/end-internet-analysis-eu-copyright-directive
CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Cybersecurity: UK could build an automatic national defence system, says GCHQ chief
Danny Palmer – ZDNet: 24 April 2019

According to the U.K.’s intelligence service, the government, security firms and technology companies should be doing most of the work when it comes to countering cyber attacks.


For more on this theme:
(U.S.) How These Universities are Building D.C.’s Tech Talent Pipeline Ahead of Amazon HQ2

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

National Security Council cyber chief: Criminals are closing the gap with nation-state hackers
Shannon Vavra – CyberScoop: 25 April 2019

Thanks to abundant tools, cyber criminals are catching up to nation-states’ hacking capabilities, and it’s making attribution more difficult.

https://www.cyberscoop.com/cybercriminals-nation-state-tools-grant-schneider/

For more on this theme:
(Poland, EU) Poland joins Europol’s cyber-crime taskforce

(Global) Cyber crime cost organizations $2.7 billion in 2018

(FVEY) ‘Five Eyes’ Spies Meet to Trade Internet Crime Secrets
INFORMATION SHARING

Cybersecurity battleground – Status of cyber threat info sharing
Sean Kelley – Federal News Network: 22 April 2019

Host Sean Kelley talks with an esteemed panel about the status of public/private sectors information sharing.


For more on this theme:
(U.K.) #CYBERUK19: GCHQ Ramps Up Intelligence Sharing with UK Firms
(U.S.) Symantec joins US DoD’s cyber threat information-sharing group
(FVEY) Intelligence Agencies Seek Fast Cyber Threat Dissemination

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Chernobyl’s lessons for critical-infrastructure cybersecurity
Seth Rosenblatt – The Parallax: 26 April 2019

Lessons learned from Chernobyl led to heavier regulation of the nuclear power industry. This scrutiny extends to cyber security, making nuclear power plants more secure than other types of electrical generation, cyber security experts say.


For more on this theme:
(U.S.) ‘Cyber Warriors’ selected to defend critical infrastructure
https://www.army.mil/article/220705/cyber_warriors_selected_to_defend_critical_infrastructure
(U.S.) DNS hacks are attacks on critical infrastructure, senior U.S. diplomat says
https://www.cyberscoop.com/dns-hacks-robert-strayer-united-nations/
(Global) Securing safety systems in industrial installations and critical infrastructures
PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS

Sri Lanka Attack Signals ISIS’ Widening Reach

The so-called ISIS caliphate is virtually gone. And yet on Easter Sunday, the continued influence of ISIS’ ideology became gruesomely apparent: A terrorist attack, one of the most lethal since 9/11, killed over 250 people at churches and luxury hotels in Sri Lanka.


Factbox: After ‘caliphate’ defeat, Islamic State is down but not out
Reuters: 24 April 2019

Even without a physical presence, ISIS has proven that it has ideological links across the globe and remains a security threat in many countries.


For more on this theme:
Proliferation Of Islamic State Produced Weapons: How It Made Its Own Military Industrial Complex – Analysis

True ISIS believers regroup inside refugee camp, terrorize the ‘impious’

ISIS, After Laying Groundwork, Gains Toehold in Congo

Despite panicked predictions, ISIS is not a threat to the West I Opinion

Pro-Con: Does ISIS remain a threat to the US and Europe?

ISIS’ Shifting Focus
https://www.thecipherbrief.com/column/cipher-brief-expert-view/isis-shifting-focus

ISIS steps up attacks on pro-Assad troops in Syria’s Badia desert

ISIS is on the rebound, establishing ‘attack zones’ and support zones
TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Heavy fighting flares between Taliban, Islamic State in Afghanistan

*Reuters:* 24 April 2019

Heavy fighting has erupted in the eastern Nangarhar province of Afghanistan, near the Pakistan border. ISIS forces have launched an attack to try to seize a handful of villages that have been under Taliban control.


Lessons Learned from South Asia’s Terrorism Troubles

*Abdul Basit – The National Interest:* 23 April 2019

South Asia has a high concentration of regional militant groups. To curtail terrorism in the region, India and Pakistan must tackle the issues of extremist group financing and cross-border terrorism.


For more on this theme:

**Terra Incognita: The insidious genocidal evil of terrorism**

**How stolen weapons keep groups like Boko Haram in business**

**Has Islamist extremism arrived in Sri Lanka?**

**New official Al-Qaeda magazine features introduction by Ayman al-Zawahiri**

**Asia Is the New Ground Zero for Islamist Terror**

**Hamas shifts tactics in bitcoin fundraising, highlighting crypto risks: research**

**Israel says Hamas using imported goods to launder money**

**UN Confirms 3rd Hezbollah Tunnel at Lebanon-Israel Border**

**Hezbollah Donation Boxes Show Trump’s Sanctions Are Hurting Iran**
RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

ISIS’s Newest Recruiting Tool: Regional Languages
Krishnadev Calamur – The Atlantic: 24 April 2019

ISIS is not only publishing its propaganda in Arabic and English, it is employing the tactic of reaching out in native languages to regions it targets. This suggests the terrorists employ educated recruits fluent in specialized languages.


Who Has The Power To Regulate Extremist Content On The Internet?
Nikita Malik – Forbes: 23 April 2019

Should the government, citizens or the social media companies be responsible for regulating terrorist content on the internet?


For more on this theme:

How France is struggling with those radicalised by Islamic State

What Doesn’t Cause Islamist Terrorism
https://freebeacon.com/blog/what-doesnt-cause-islamist-terrorism/

Study: Moroccan Counter Terrorism More Successful Than Egypt, Tunisia

Sri Lanka Bombings: A Lesson in Radicalization for Asian Neighbors

Preventing Radicalization: Moving Beyond the Criminal Lens
https://clarionproject.org/preventing-radicalization-moving-beyond-criminal-lens/

INSIGHT-Facebook’s flood of languages leave it struggling to monitor content

Terrorist groups evolve their social media strategy to avoid ban
https://www.jpost.com/Middle-East/Terror-groups-evolve-their-social-media-strategy-to-avoid-ban-587657
FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Report: The return of ISIS fighters threatens European security
Francisco Peregril and Bernardo de Miguel – El País: 24 April 2019

A new report from the Egmont Institute for International Relations explores how Morocco, Egypt and Tunisia are dealing with hundreds of returnees, and what effect this could have on the European Union. A majority of foreign terrorist fighters from Europe were of North African descent.


In camp of diehard IS supporters, some women express regrets
Maya Alleruzzo, Philip Issa and Andrea Rosa – The Associated Press: 23 April 2019

ISIS brides are attempting to create jihadi units within refugee camps. Despite their apparent reluctance to stop supporting ISIS, however, many of the women are appealing to their former nations for permission to come home. Four ISIS brides at the al-Hol and Roj camps in Syria said they traveled to Syria out of “misguided religious faith,” naivety or youthful rebellion.

https://www.apnews.com/7b16f97433cf40b3a2e46b1fc127fced

For more on this theme:

Kosovo repatriates Islamic State fighters and families who had travelled to Syria

Former ISIS Child Fighter: I Would Assist My Father With Decapitations
https://www.memri.org/reports/former-isis-child-fighter-i-would-assist-my-father-decapitations

France rejects demands to repatriate citizens who went to Syria to join ISIS

The attacks in Sri Lanka and the threat of foreign fighters

Iraq Proposes “Pay-To-Prosecute” for IS Foreign Fighters
https://lobelog.com/iraq-proposes-pay-to-prosecute-for-is-foreign-fighters/

What makes someone leave Denmark to fight as an Islamist militant?

Ireland Faces Conundrum of Jihadist Returnees
https://jamestown.org/program/ireland-faces-conundrum-of-jihadist-returnees/