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CORRUPTION

Costa Rica: Corruption & the public's right to know
Costa Rica Integra – Transparency International: 22 April 2019
Most challenging about corruption in Costa Rica is that the graft operates in the shadows. These corrupt practices feed on poor documentation, disorder and lack of transparency. Public access to information and increased transparency and accountability in government are tools necessary to fight graft.
https://voices.transparency.org/costa-rica-corruption-the-publics-right-to-know-98051911b07b

The cost of systemic corruption in Honduras: Migration north
Patricio Provitina – Global Americans: 23 April 2019
The fragility of the Honduras government is tested over and over by systemic corruption. And that corruption is encouraging migration north toward the U.S.

For more on this theme:
Latvia: How speaking up against corruption can lead to change
https://voices.transparency.org/how-speaking-up-against-corruption-can-lead-to-change-a-story-from-latvia-f275a18bddd
Corruption breeds terrorism, says INTERPOL scribe
https://thenationonlineng.net/corruption-breeds-terrorism-says-interpol-scribe/
Corruption contagion: How legal and finance firms are at greater risk of corruption
Italy coalition fights over corruption probe as markets fret
China formally arrests Interpol's former chief for corruption

In Paraguay, Fighting Graft With Eggs and Toilet Paper
Sierra Leone now has a Special Anti-Corruption Division of the High Court
https://www.thesierraleonetelegraph.com/sierra-leone-now-has-a-special-anti-corruption-division-of-the-high-court/
Chinese Authorities Sack an Entire Environmental Protection Bureau for Corruption Misdeeds
DRUG TRAFFICKING

Majority Of Americans Say Drug Companies Should Be Held Responsible For Opioid Crisis
Brian Mann – National Public Radio: 25 April 2019

An overwhelming majority of Americans want pharmaceutical companies held accountable for the opioid epidemic, according to a new NPR and Ipsos poll. The poll, conducted in April, comes as more than 1,600 civil lawsuits have been filed against drug companies.


Vietnam and the Mekong's Synthetic Drug Epidemic
Hai Thanh Luong – The Diplomat: 2 May 2019

Vietnam, despite its stringent drug laws, is emerging as a transit hub for illegal drugs. Surrounded by drug-producing states, Vietnam is feeling the effects as a thoroughfare for these illicit goods.


For more on this theme:

Top Executives of Insys, an Opioid Company, Are Found Guilty of Racketeering
https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/02/health/insys-trial-verdict-kapoor.html

A new study finds the opioid epidemic has led to tens of billions in lost tax revenue

Mexico's President Says the War on Drugs Is Over. Not All Mexicans Agree.
https://www.thenation.com/article/amlo-drugs-cartels-war/

US Drug Probe Lands Guatemala President in Hot Water

In Mexico, ‘The Cartels Do Not Exist’: A Q&A With Oswaldo Zavala
https://www.thenation.com/article/oswaldo-zavala-interview-mexico-cartels/

Drug Problems, Crowded Jails in Iraqi City

Op-Ed I Buenaventura: Cocaine Path of Least Resistance

Heroin used to pass through South Africa en route to Europe. Now much of it stays, with devastating effects

Yaba: The cheap synthetic drug convulsing a nation

Migrants and Traditional Use
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

This shy Caribbean lizard is now a coveted pet—and critically endangered. How did this happen?

*Dina Fine Maron – National Geographic: 30 April 2019*

Poachers — using reports of scientists who track animal movements and behavior — are capturing endangered lizards and selling them.

https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/2019/04/union-island-gecko-poached-for-pet-trade/

**Exclusive: Gold worth billions smuggled out of Africa**

*David Lewis, Ryan McNeill and Zandi Shabalala – Reuters: 24 April 2019*

Increased underground gold production and smuggling are costing African governments billions of dollars in unpaid taxes, according to a Reuters analysis. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) was the world’s largest African gold importer, followed by China and Switzerland. The UAE’s African gold imports far exceeded declared exports out of the continent.


*For more on this theme:*

**Indian Customs Department installs illegal wildlife trade displays at Delhi International Airport**


**UK government supports global action to fight illegal wildlife trade**


**Wildlife Poaching Dropped 96% in 2 Years With New Tracking Tech**

https://www.livekindly.co/poaching-dropped-96-2-years-tracking-tech/

**Across China: Customs ratchet up publicity campaign against ivory-buying tourists**


**A rare antelope is being killed to make $20,000 scarves**

https://www.nationalgeographic.com/animals/2019/04/tibetan-antelope-killed-to-make-luxury-scarves/

**Illegal logging in Brazil turns Amazon into a powder keg**


**Illegal fishing and Liberia’s battle to save the sea**


**Poachers threaten precious Madagascar forest and lemurs**


**“Wildlife landmines” claim unintended victims**

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

The WHO Has Diagnostic Codes for People Hit by Spacecraft—But Not for Human Trafficking Victims
Jaclyn Gallucci – Fortune: 2 May 2019

The World Health Organization uses a list of diagnostic codes to track the incidence and prevalence of health issues around the world. But one conspicuously absent category is “human trafficking.”

http://fortune.com/2019/05/02/human-trafficking-statistics-data/

For more on this theme:

Interpol: Hundreds of Human Trafficking Victims Rescued in West Africa

Dr. explores technology’s role in fighting human trafficking

Hope Restored aims to eradicate human trafficking in Canada

NGOs, IOM fight human trafficking in post-ISIS Iraq
http://www.rudaw.net/english/middleeast/iraq/280420191

The Fight Against Human Trafficking is Far from Over - How Business Can Help

Torture of migrants: ‘Many are not aware of how bad it really is’
https://www.infomigrants.net/en/post/16638/torture-of-migrants-many-are-not-aware-of-how-bad-it-really-is

Homeland Security to use speedy DNA testing to verify migrant family relationships

Stabilizing the Mediterranean

Migration and Terrorism: The United States Can Learn from Europe’s Mistakes

What 2 new migration compacts tell us about how the world deals with the ‘migration crisis’

Human trafficking in the coastal belt
PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

The End of Cyberspace
Alexis C. Madrigal – The Atlantic: 1 May 2019

The idea of a free and open internet is dead, largely because of government censorship in places like China. What happens next?
https://www.theatlantic.com/technology/archive/2019/05/the-end-of-cyberspace/588340/

For more on this theme:
(Caribbean) Experts Call for Caribbean to Make Its Voice Heard on Global Internet Governance
http://www.circleid.com/posts/20190429_experts_call_for_caribbean_to_make_voice_heard_on_inter-net_gov/

(Global) The Internet is here to stay. We’re the ones who have to change
https://www.theglobeandmail.com/opinion/article-the-internet-is-here-to-stay-were-the-ones-who-have-to-change/

(Global) A Facebook request: Write a code of tech ethics

INTERNET FREEDOM

Singapore urged to make changes to proposed bill against online falsehoods
Eileen Yu – ZDNet: 1 May 2019

Fearful that Singapore’s new bill against online falsehoods would actually stifle free speech, critics are calling for a rewrite before the bill becomes law.
https://www.zdnet.com/article/singapore-urged-to-make-changes-to-proposed-bill-against-online-falsehoods/

For more on this theme:
(Sri Lanka) The Week in Tech: Data Doesn’t Support Sri Lanka’s Social Media Blackout

(Sudan) How social media propels protests in Sudan

(Benin, Africa) Benin Internet Shutdown Repeats Pattern of Government Censorship Across Africa
PRIVACY AND SECURITY

What’s new for Facebook? Mark Zuckerberg says the future is privacy
Jessica Guynn – USA Today: 29 April 2019

Facebook is changing its mind about just how much information should be made public, and Mark Zuckerberg wants to give billions of users their privacy back.

For more on this theme:
(Ireland, U.S.) The Technology 202: Ireland’s privacy watchdog reveals 17 investigations into American tech companies

(U.S.) Data Insecurity Leads to Economic Injustice – and Hits the Pocketbooks of the Poor Most

(Global) Cybersecurity: The key lessons of the Triton malware cyberattack you need to learn

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Can the EU Save the Internet?
William Fisher – Foreign Policy: 30 April 2019

Europe’s new rules put creators and consumers back in the driver’s seat.
https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/04/30/can-the-eu-save-the-internet/

For more on this theme:
(Norway) Norwegian Cyber Strategy, 2019

(Switzerland, Estonia) New Research Finds Estonia Challenging Switzerland’s Crypto Valley Blockchain Leadership
https://coinjournal.net/new-research-finds-estonia-challenging-switzerlands-crypto-valley-blockchain-leadership/

(U.K.) The Huawei 5G partnership is a threat to the UK’s national security
http://www.cityam.com/276672/huawei-5g-partnership-threat-uk-s-national-security
PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Defending the nation in cyberspace — a call to action
Keith B. Alexander and Jamil N. Jaffer – The Hill: 24 April 2019

The authors argue that government and industry must build partnerships to defend against cyber attacks because neither can afford to go it alone. They need to share knowledge, infrastructure and threat data.


For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Pa. panel discusses broadband internet solutions, urges public-private collaboration

(Ghana) Public-private partnership crucial to combat cybercrime in Ghana – ICCS

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Theft of personally identifiable data and Intellectual property key concern: McAfee report
Abhijit Ahaskar – LiveMint: 30 April 2019

A new cyber report from McAfee shows that cyber criminals do not have a singular modus operandi when it comes to stealing data. Polling indicated that 43% of participants were greatly concerned about the theft of personally identifiable information and intellectual property.


For more on this theme:

(Global) US Trade Rep Calls Out Stream-Ripping, Countries Failing to Protect Intellectual Property in New Reports

(Global) IIoT vs. Industrial Cyber-Crime

(U.S., China) Pentagon says China’s military using espionage to steal secrets
https://www.cnn.com/2019/05/02/politics/china-pentagon-report/index.html
CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

All Parties Pitch in to Build a Cyber Workforce
Robert K. Ackerman – The Cyber Edge: 1 May 2019

While the private and public sectors both vie for cyber professionals in the workforce, if they pitch in and work together, they can educate the type of workforce they seek.

https://www.afcea.org/content/all-parties-pitch-build-cyber-workforce

For more on this theme:
(Africa) New digital centre planned for East Africa

(Global) Bangladesh to UN: Multilateralism key to ensuring cybersecurity
https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2019/04/30/bangladesh-to-un-multilateralism-key-to-ensuring-cybersecurity

COMBATTING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

Vietnam ‘on the edge’ of becoming a mid-tier cybercrime hub
Stilgherrian – ZDNet: 30 April 2019

It remains to be seen if Vietnam will become a cyber crime hub, haven for foreign hackers, or possibly a force for good if the country’s technologically sophisticated youth can find positions within the growing economy.


For more on this theme:
(India) Lab to tackle cyber crime on cards

(Global) Cybercrime: 25% Of All Malware Targets Financial Services, Credit Card Fraud Up 200%

(U.K.) Police chief reveals forces are being outgunned in the war on cyber crime
https://www.express.co.uk/news/uk/1121495/cyber-crime-war-police-forces-britain-peter-goodman-harry-rose-which-magazine
INFORMATION SHARING

How information sharing can reduce cybersecurity vulnerabilities
Ben Cole – TechTarget: April 2019

Learning from cyber security vulnerabilities is critical to stopping future attacks, but sharing that information with a wider audience means everyone can learn from each incident.

https://searchsecurity.techtarget.com/feature/How-information-sharing-can-reduce-cybersecurity-vulnerabilities

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) US says it may reassess intel sharing with allies that use Huawei tech in their 5G systems

(U.S.) Defense industrial base cyber program adds a key partner

(Nigeria) Army develops new platform for efficient information sharing
https://www.legit.ng/1235805-army-develops-platform-efficient-information-sharing.html

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

The growing cyber-risk to our electricity grids - and what to do about it
Karime Kuri Tiscareno – World Economic Forum: 30 April 2019

The World Economic Forum lays out the potential risks and damages that could be caused by even a short disruption in a country’s electric grid due to a cyber attack. It says there is an urgent need for collective action to manage the cyber risks.


For more on this theme:

(Singapore) Defending Singapore’s critical information infrastructure against cyberattacks
https://www.enterpriseinnovation.net/article/defending-singapores-critical-information-infrasctructure-against-cyberattacks-204277990

(U.S.) Cyber Command paying closer attention to overseas networks in its national defense mission

(U.S.) ‘Denial of service’ attack caused grid cyber disruption: DOE
https://www.eenews.net/stories/1060254751
PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS

After the Caliphate: A New Global Approach to Defeating ISIS
Nathan A. Sales – Brookings: 30 April 2019

The so-called caliphate is no more. Nevertheless, ISIS has branches and affiliates in many countries, a large underground presence in Iraq and Syria, and numerous sympathizers around the world. Brookings hosted a discussion during which Nathan Sales, ambassador-at-large and coordinator for counterterrorism at the U.S. Department of State, offered this keynote address.


Islamic State: Landless but Still Dangerous
The New York Times: 1 May 2019

No longer burdened by territory and administration, ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi outlined a new path forward for his group in his first video message in five years. He urged terrorist followers to conduct a global “war of attrition.”

https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/01/opinion/baghdadi-islamic-state.html

For more on this theme:

Why Did ISIS Attack Sri Lanka?

The Islamic State’s New Afterlife

Congo: What’s Behind the Islamic State’s Claim of an Attack in Africa?

Cyberspace new battle ground against ISIS, says Mohamad Sabu

Leaked ISIS letters reveal Baghdadi is still alive and leading the terrorist group

IS and the Libyan vacuum - Martin Scicluna

Why the ISIS threat lives on
https://www.macleans.ca/opinion/why-the-isis-threat-lives-on/

The reappearance of Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi
Opinion | Asia as the new ground zero for Islamist terror
Brahma Chellaney – LiveMint: 2 May 2019
Radical Islamic groups have been spreading throughout Asia over the past several years. The recent attacks in Sri Lanka are a reminder that small radical groups can wreak havoc when they combine knowledge with groups like ISIS, al-Qaida or Lashkar-e-Taiba.

Trump weighs labelling Muslim Brotherhood a terrorist group
Steve Holland and Arshad Mohammed – Reuters: 30 April 2019
In a move that could distinguish his foreign policy from that of his predecessors, U.S. President Donald Trump announced a plan to label the Muslim Brotherhood, a nearly 100-year-old transnational Islamist movement, as a terrorist organization.
https://af.reuters.com/article/worldNews/idAFKCN1S616Y

For more on this theme:
US issues new Hezbollah-related sanctions

Analysts: US Initiative First of Many Actions to Drain Hezbollah’s Financing

Afghan peace deal hinges on ceasefire by Taliban: U.S. peace envoy

UN places Pakistan-based JeM militant leader Masood Azhar on blacklist

Hezbollah chief threatens to destroy Israeli forces in global broadcast should they invade Lebanon

Hamas Develops Bitcoin System to Avoid Terror Funding Sanctions
http://www.thetower.org/7284-hamas-develops-bitcoin-system-to-avoid-terror-funding-sanctions/

Hamas and the Terrorism Double Standard
https://www.algemeiner.com/2019/05/02/hamas-and-the-terrorism-double-standard/

Jihadi Extremist Groups Remain Threat to North African Security

Revealed: Why Al-Shabaab is Targeting Doctors
RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

ISIS Recruiting After The Caliphate
National Public Radio: 30 April 2019

Colin Clarke, senior research fellow at The Soufan Center, talks to Jeremy Hobson, host of Here & Now, about ISIS’ current recruiting strategy.
https://www.wbur.org/hereandnow/2019/04/30/isis-recruiting-al-baghdadi-video

Terrorist Organizations Increasingly Recruiting Women For Radicalization, Study Finds
Study Finds: 30 April 2019

A new study highlights potential flaws in existing models of radicalization, threat assessment tools and counterterrorism strategies, all of which rely primarily on data of male terrorists.
https://www.studyfinds.org/terrorist-organizations-targeting-women-radicalization/

For more on this theme:
The Sri Lanka attacks show how Isis is moving east to recruit members
https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/sri-lanka-isis-recruits-east-a8889791.html

The Virtual Islamic State – OpEd

UK lawmakers to social media: “You’re accessories to radicalization, accessories to crimes”, hearing on spread of extremist content

Radicalization of Russian Youth on the Rise
https://jamestown.org/radicalization-of-russian-youth-on-the-rise/

Tackling the threat of online radicalization

The Meme Terrorists
FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Should ISIS brides and children return to their home nations?
Dominique Soguel – The Christian Science Monitor: 26 April 2019

With many countries refusing to repatriate ISIS brides and children, the world must grapple with the question of where they should reside. The question is becoming urgent as military action against ISIS in Syria and Iraq winds down.


Trump accuses European countries of failing to help relocate ISIS prisoners
Caitlin Oprysko – Politico: 30 April 2019

U.S. President Donald Trump accused European nations of “refusing” to take back ISIS prisoners who originally came from their countries. The question concerns the nearly 2,000 ISIS fighters captured in the final assault on terrorist strongholds.


For more on this theme:
ISIS Families Hope For Return Of ‘Caliphate’

Yazidis to accept ISIL rape survivors, but not their children

Tajikistan Repatriates Dozens Of Islamic State Children From Iraq

ISIL fighters’ families stage German protest for their return

We need a long-term solution for captured ISIS members

Governing The ‘Ungoverned’: Suppressing The Islamic State’s Insurgency In Iraq – Analysis

These Women Regret Joining Islamic State, Want to Come Home
https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/these-women-regret-joining-is-want-to-come-home/4889427.html