CONTENTS

COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)
- Corruption
- Drug Trafficking
- Trafficking in Scarce or Protected Resources
- Money Laundering

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)
- Internet Governance
- Internet Freedom
- Cyber Capacity Building
- Cyber Attacks, Threats and Vulnerabilities
- Cyber Statecraft and Strategy
- Critical Infrastructure Protection

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)
- ISIS and Foreign Fighters
- Terrorism Around the World
- Radicalization
- Conflict and Crime
- Russia/Ukraine
COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Myanmar’s Suu Kyi charged with bribery as new trial opens
Grant Peck – The Associated Press: 2 May 2022
Supporters say cases against the deposed leader are an attempt to discredit her and legitimize the military’s seizure of power.
https://apnews.com/article/myanmar-aung-san-suu-kyi-4c30161f26bb5243509eb9d818143b5e

Vietnam’s crackdown on corruption in private sector seen as potential turning point
Radio Free Asia: 29 April 2022
Arrests of high-profile executives may cause market jitters but help the economic recovery after COVID.

For more on this theme:
Adapting Anti-Bribery and Corruption Tools to Manage ESG Risks

Oligarch Yacht Hunting Is Energizing The Battle Against Financial Corruption

Peru Arrests Prosecutor over Corruption Allegations

Maltese institutions failing to investigate, prosecute corruption cases, Repubblika says

Myanmar Regime Charges Top Tycoon With Corruption

Corruption costs 1.6% of Serbia’s economy, says Fiscal Council

Freedom House: Corruption is still the Main Issue in Bulgaria
https://www.novinite.com/articles/214817/Freedom+House%3A+Corruption+is+still+the+Main+Issue+in+Bulgaria

Wage war on Putin’s corruption
https://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/wage-war-on-putins-corruption

Tackling corruption must be Africa's top priority — Commonwealth SG
DRUG TRAFFICKING

Ecuador declares emergency in three provinces over drug violence
Al Jazeera: 30 April 2022

Thousands of police and troops will be deployed under the state of emergency, the second to be imposed by the president.

Peru to buy illegal coca crops to battle drug trafficking
Agence France-Presse: 28 April 2022

Peru’s government has announced a plan to buy the nation’s entire supply of illegal coca leaf — the primary ingredient in cocaine — for at least a year, as part of its battle against drug trafficking.

For more on this theme:

Arrest of Leader Shows Mexico's Rojos May Be Increasing Presence in Michoacán

Peace Dissipates as the Cocaine War Intensifies in Putumayo
https://insightcrime.org/noticias/peace-dissipates-cocaine-war-intensifies-putumayo/

Afghan farmers and the Taliban's latest poppy ban

The drug trade now flourishing in Afghanistan: Meth

Colombia extradites accused drug trafficker Otoniel to the United States

The Paraguaná Cartel: Drug Trafficking and Political Power in Venezuela
https://insightcrime.org/investigations/paraguana-cartel-drug-trafficking-political-power-in-venezuela/

Venezuela's Move to Cocaine Production: Crops, Chemists and Criminal Evolution

Maduro Seeks to Regulate the Cocaine Trade
https://insightcrime.org/investigations/maduro-seeks-to-regulate-the-cocaine-trade/

Gordito González and Venezuela's Narco-brokers

Beyond the Cartel of the Suns
https://insightcrime.org/investigations/beyond-the-cartel-of-the-suns/
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Illegal miners bring sexual violence and disease to Indigenous reserve in Brazil
Lais Modelli – Mongabay: 28 April 2022

An investigation shows that Brazil’s largest Indigenous reserve is experiencing the most intense spate of invasions by illegal miners in 30 years. An estimated 15,000 of the Yanomami Indigenous Territory’s Indigenous inhabitants have been directly affected by the mining, with girls as young as 11 lured into sex work with the promise of food and clothing.

Report: African Flag Registries Could Help Fight IUU Fishing
The Maritime Executive: 28 April 2022

Maritime intelligence consultancies highlight how operators exploit African flag registries to avoid repercussions for their illegal fishing. Under-resourced African coastal states are tempting targets for unscrupulous owners who facilitate the theft of African natural resources.

For more on this theme:
Animals Heading For Extinction Over Habitat Destruction, Poaching

Illegal loggers in Vietnam train as jungle tour guides

Tackling the trade in illegal timber: a comparative study of legal frameworks

Deforestation in Colombia: An Intricate Story of Conflict and Power
https://earth.org/deforestation-in-colombia/

Report: Illegal Mining Threatens Brazil’s Yanomami Tribe

Just outside Mexico City, community-run forests provide eco services, livelihoods

How the Cape Town Agreement Can Improve Commercial Fishing Safety

African Flag Registries Exploited by High-Risk Fishing Operators – New Report

The problem with CITES, the convention designed to protect endangered wildlife
https://geographical.co.uk/nature/wildlife/item/4324-the-problem-with-cites
MONEY LAUNDERING

Anti-money laundering experts MONEYVAL publish 2021 report
Council of Europe: 4 May 2022

In its annual report, MONEYVAL examines the action required to improve the effort against money laundering. It also assesses compliance with international standards and developments to prevent money laundering and terrorist financing in the 34 jurisdictions it monitors.


Full report:
Moneyval Annual Report 2021
https://rm.coe.int/moneyval-annual-report-2021-eng-docx/1680a662b1

For more on this theme:
Prosecutors search Deutsche Bank HQ in money laundering investigation

NAB vows to improve its anti-money laundering systems following Austrac investigation

Fully Equip FinCEN to Combat Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism

Reps pass terrorism prevention, money laundering prohibition, two other bills

‘I went undercover to stop Pablo Escobar’s drugs money laundering but cartels still get away with it now’

IRS And Foreign Tax Enforcers Warn NFTs Pose Growing Money Laundering Risks

Searches Conducted into EU funds Fraud, Money Laundering Investigation

Switzerland’s top lawyer seeks tools to curb financial crime
https://apnews.com/article/business-europe-crime-money-laundering-switzerland-bef995d2faab5adc-cafd21c74a82059c
INTERNET GOVERNANCE

**How Europe’s data law could make the internet less toxic**
*Anna Mulrine Grobe – The Christian Science Monitor: 29 April 2022*

Sweeping new European Union legislation seeks to “revolutionize” the internet, forcing social media giants including Facebook and YouTube to take steps to tamp down the spread of extremism and disinformation.


*For more on this theme:*

(China) **China aims to form international standard organizations for cyber dominance**

(U.S., Global) **Readout of National Cyber Director Chris Inglis’s Roundtable with Foreign Dignitaries Following Launch of the Declaration for the Future of the Internet**

(India) **India stays out of global declaration on future on Internet**

INTERNET FREEDOM

**Shanghai Is Rewriting Chinese Censorship Amid Lockdown**
*Morgan Meaker and Will Knight – Wired: 4 May 2022*

Censors are cracking down on free speech online, but people are finding new ways to get around them.

https://www.wired.com/story/shanghai-lockdown-china-censorship/

*For more on this theme:*

(China) **The Twitter account giving a window into China’s internet**

(Uruguay) **Freedom of expression and access to information in the digital age**
https://www.undp.org/blog/freedom-expression-and-access-information-digital-age

(GLOBAL) **Internet Shutdowns Surge From India to Russia After Covid Dip**
CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Google Investment to Help Solve Africa’s Tech Problems
Mohammed Yusuf – Voice of America: 27 April 2022

Google wants to get a bigger share of Africa’s growing online population, which is expected to top 800 million by 2030. The internet search giant announced it is setting up its first product-development center on the continent, based in Kenya’s capital, Nairobi.

https://www.voanews.com/a/google-investment-to-help-solve-africa-s-tech-problems-/6547377.html

For more on this theme:
(Global) The future of the web: policy pathways to an online world for everyone
https://webfoundation.org/2022/05/the-future-of-the-web-policy-pathways-to-an-online-world-for-everyone/

(Africa) Introducing CyberFI: Perspectives on Cybersecurity, Capacity Development, and Financial Inclusion in Africa

(U.S.) Connecting Workers and Communities: Preparing and Supporting the Broadband Workforce

CYBER ATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

Costa Rica receives massive number of cyber-attacks in one 24-hour period
The Tico Times: 2 May 2022

The number of cyberattacks hitting Costa Rica is at an unprecedented level. According to the government, more than 4 million attacks were attempted on public intuitions in a recent day.

https://ticotimes.net/2022/05/02/costa-rica-receives-massive-number-of-cyber-attacks-in-one-24-hour-period

For more on this theme:
(Europe) State-backed hackers ramp up cyber operations in Eastern Europe: Google

(Romania) Cyber Attacks Hit Romanian Government Websites

(Australia) Transport for NSW struck by cyber attack

(Ethiopia) Ethiopia ‘foils’ cyber-attack on Nile dam, financial institutions
https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/rest-of-africa/ethiopia-foils-cyber-attack-on-nile-dam-3803726
CYBER STATECRAFT AND STRATEGY

**NSA Chief: Cyber Command Did 9 International Missions Last Year**

Mariam Baksh – Nextgov: 4 May 2022

The head of the spy agency and military command said the U.S. conducted proactive missions to diffuse cyberthreats to elections and other critical infrastructure. He stressed the importance of artificial intelligence to advance those efforts.


For more on this theme:
-
(U.S., Europe) Privacy Shield 2.0: More Than “Lipstick on a Pig”
https://cepa.org/privacy-shield-2-0-more-than-lipstick-on-a-pig/
-
(Bangladesh) Cyber law in Bangladesh through an international lens
https://www.tbsnews.net/thoughts/cyber-law-bangladesh-through-international-lens-411742
-
(Israel) Seeing hack attacks on the rise, Israel orders telecoms to erect ‘cyber Iron Dome’

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

**CERT-In's directions on reporting data breach will hold companies accountable**

Debangana Ghosh – The Hindu: 29 April 2022

The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team makes it mandatory for firms to report all incidents of cybersecurity vulnerabilities within six hours of noticing them.

https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/cert-ins-directions-on-reporting-data-breach-will-hold-companies-accountable-experts/article65367641.ece

For more on this theme:
-
(U.S.) Breaking Down the CISA Budget Proposal: Critical Infrastructure, Federal Security Investments
-
(Russia, Ukraine, Global) Ukraine cyberthreat activity ramps up against critical infrastructure, governments
-
(Israel) Cyber, communications chiefs: Telecom industry must boost cyberdefenses
-
(U.S.) How is the U.S. government preparing for critical infrastructure attacks?
https://www.helpnetsecurity.com/2022/05/02/critical-infrastructure-threats-video/
PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

ISIS attacks in Syria have declined ‘while new fighters join terror cells’
Nicky Harley – The National: 4 May 2022

The significant drop may be due to fighters from a January prison break being integrated into the group, a terrorism monitor says.

https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/uk-news/2022/05/04/isis-attacks-in-syria-have-declined-while-new-fighters-join-terror-cells/

Islamic State in Afghanistan Looks to Recruit Regional Tajiks, Inflict Violence Against Tajikistan
Lucas Webber and Riccardo Valle – The Diplomat: 29 April 2022

An expanded media campaign targets ethnic Tajik and nationals as the terrorist group sees fertile opportunity in Central Asia.


For more on this theme:

Islamic State Strategies and Propaganda in Iraq Raise Prospects for Resurgence

ISKP’s Uzbekistan-directed attack bolsters rhetoric with deeds

Mosul’s forgotten crisis: Orphans of the war against Daesh

Officials emphasize global efforts, need for non-military solution in long term defeat of Daesh at CJTF-OIR Ambassadors Day

Islamic State ‘Beatle’ sentenced to life for murdering U.S. hostages

ISIS attacks spike in Sinai, elsewhere around world
https://www.jns.org/isis-attacks-spike-in-sinai-elsewhere-around-world/

Partnering to counter ISIS in Africa
https://it.usembassy.gov/partnering-to-counter-isis-in-africa/
TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Fourth Generation Warfare: An Analysis of Child Recruitment and use as a Salafi-Jihadi Doctrine of War
Cecilia Polizzi – Small Wars Journal: 29 April 2022

Child participation in armed conflict and terrorism has undergone a gargantuan acceleration.

Islamist terror violence on rise in African nations: Report
ANI: 28 April 2022

What African nations dismissed as an irrational fear has become a reality: The continent is the new hub for Islamist terrorism, the Policy Research Group says.
https://theprint.in/world/islamist-terror-violence-on-rise-in-african-nations-report/934346/

For more on this theme:
Afghans living in dystopian nightmare sandwiched between Taliban, Islamic State Khorasan: Expert

Hayat Tahrir al-Sham hands over Islamic State jihadists to Turkey

Pakistani Taliban Launches Spring Offensive amid Political Turmoil in Islamabad

East African Community agrees on regional force to try to end Congo unrest

Iran’s Apparent Supply of Combat Drones to Venezuela Highlights Terrorism Risks

Al Shabaab militants mount deadly attack on African Union base in Somalia

Hezbollah leader: Iran could retaliate for Israeli strikes
https://apnews.com/article/iran-jerusalem-israel-syria-middle-east-be8c920c398608aac039e-f6a62a1d0fa

Afghan TV Pioneer Absorbs Taliban’s Blows As Picture Dims For Free Media
https://gandhara.rferl.org/a/afghanistan-tolo-tv-taliban-attacks/31832798.html

Pakistan’s Twin Taliban Problem
https://www.usip.org/publications/2022/05/pakistans-twin-taliban-problem
RADICALIZATION

Moroccan prison program aims to de-radicalize ISIS veterans
Tarik El Barakah – The Associated Press: 1 May 2022
Morocco’s prison authority has been offering “deradicalization” training since 2017 to those convicted of terrorism offenses
https://english.alarabiya.net/News/north-africa/2022/05/01/Moroccan-prison-program-aims-to-de-radicalize-ISIS-veterans

For more on this theme:
Prison terrorism: Warnings over failure to stop radicalisation
Digital Terrorists: Policy and Practice in the Online Counterterrorism Fight
In Nigeria, UN chief welcomes reintegration of extremists

CONFLICT AND CRIME

Here’s How the West Can Help Facilitate Reconciliation Azerbaijanis and Armenians
Fuad Chiragov – The National Interest: 1 May 2022
In order to bring lasting peace to the region, the West should think seriously about addressing the criminal elements lurking in Nagorno-Karabakh.

For more on this theme:
In Ukraine war, Twitter Sherlocks are coming of age
Nigeria struggles to tame banditry ravaging northwest
University of Amsterdam: UvA researchers find proof of Syrian war crimes
https://indiaeducationdiary.in/university-of-amsterdam-uva-researchers-find-proof-of-syrian-war-crimes/
Lauren Baillie on Accountability for Atrocities in Ukraine
https://www.usip.org/publications/2022/05/lauren-baillie-accountability-atrocities-ukraine
What a U.N. team has seen while documenting possible war crimes in Ukraine
https://www.npr.org/2022/04/28/1095277848/ukraine-russia-war-crimes
Rape has reportedly become a weapon in Ukraine. Finding justice may be difficult
https://www.npr.org/2022/04/30/109339262/ukraine-russia-rape-war-crimes
Ukraine war: UN signs framework to assist survivors of sexual violence
CONFLICT AND CRIME

For more on this theme:

The complex effort to hold Vladimir Putin accountable for war crimes
https://www.npr.org/2022/05/03/1096094936/ukraine-russia-war-crimes-investigations

Liberia war crimes: Sierra Leone rebel commander acquitted by court in Finland

Culture, People, and War

Will the Ukraine War Renew Global Commitments to the International Criminal Court?
https://www.usip.org/publications/2022/04/will-ukraine-war-renew-global-commitments-international-criminal-court

Watching from space, satellites collect evidence of war crimes

Colombia Conflict: Soldiers Claimed 6,400 Killed Civilians Were Rebels
https://www.thestkittsnevisobserver.com/colombia-conflict-soldiers-claimed-6400-killed-civilians-were-rebels/

Taliban opium ban could lead to increase in organised crime and terrorism

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

Start with the Political: Explaining Russia’s Bungled Invasion of Ukraine
Jeffrey Edmonds – War on the Rocks: 28 April 2022
There is no doubt Russia’s military has performed more poorly than most anticipated. However, observers should beware of drawing simplistic, overarching conclusions about the country’s military.

For more on this theme:

How the Ukraine conflict is reshaping the dark web
https://www.newstatesman.com/uncategorized/2022/05/how-the-ukraine-conflict-is-reshaping-the-dark-web

Ukraine: Journalists targeted and in danger, warn top rights experts

Russian war censorship denounced on World Press Freedom Day

Beijing’s Ukrainian Battle Lab
https://warontherocks.com/2022/05/beijings-ukrainian-battle-lab/
RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

Russia's Resource Grab in Ukraine
https://foreignpolicy.com/2022/04/28/ukraine-war-russia-resources-energy-oil-gas-commodities-agriculture/

How the widening war in Ukraine will cost the world

A new realization dawns for Washington, Europe, Kyiv and Moscow

Analysis: Russia's Ukrainian quagmire providing tough lessons for China

After Russia's War, a Stronger Ukraine and West Will Emerge
https://cepa.org/after-russias-war-a-stronger-ukraine-and-west-will-emerge/

The Ukraine War Escalates Demands to Reform the United Nations
https://www.usip.org/publications/2022/04/ukraine-war-escalates-demands-reform-united-nations

NATO Must Re-Learn Deterrence
https://cepa.org/nato-must-re-learn-deterrence/

Ukrainians have shown they can out-think, out-influence and out-fight Russia. So what happens if Putin loses?

Boiling the Frog — Russia's Growing Black Sea Aggression Part I

Ukraine, Russia production critical to restoring global food security, UN chief says

Analysis: Erdogan Hoping Russian Invasion Of Ukraine Can Bolster Turkish Regional Power
https://www.rferl.org/a/ukraine-erdogan-russia-regional-power/31828327.html

Moldova: Skating on Thin Ice
https://cepa.org/moldova-skating-on-thin-ice/

How much has Putin's war damaged Russia's economy?
https://www.marketplace.org/2022/05/02/how-much-has-putins-war-damaged-russias-economy/

Revolution in the South Caucasus
https://cepa.org/revolution-in-the-south-caucasus/

Analysis-War a lost opportunity for Turkey's westward outreach
https://www.reuters.com/article/uk-ukraine-crisis-turkey-west-idUSKCN2M06Q
RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

Russia’s Loss of Generals Shows ‘Amazing Incompetence’: Stavridis

G20 Is Too Big To Fail: Time To Compromise On Russia And Save World Economy

India’s Foreign Policy On Ukraine-Russia: ‘Risk Aversion’ Or ‘Risk Management’?

Iran is learning from Russia, North Korea nuclear threats – analysis
https://www.jpost.com/international/article-705595

‘The king of battle’ — How US artillery in the hands of Ukrainians may reshape the war with Russia
https://taskandpurpose.com/analysis/us-military-artillery-ukraine-russia-war/

For Abkhazia And South Ossetia Security With Russia Equals Economic Troubles

Ukraine crisis, a lesson for US to prepare for Chinese invasion of Taiwan

Darkness on the Dniester
https://cepa.org/darkness-on-the-dniester/

For many Syrians, the Russian military’s brutality in Ukraine is all too familiar

A Look at Neutrality Now — and After the Ukraine War

Russia’s Ukraine War Weighs Heavily on Tajikistan
https://www.usip.org/publications/2022/05/russias-ukraine-war-weighs-heavily-tajikistan

https://www.cnbc.com/2022/05/04/women-in-ukraine-face-disproportionate-effects-of-war-u-n-report-finds

‘I find strength to fast’: Ukraine’s Muslims celebrate Eid under Russian bombs
https://english.alaraby.co.uk/analysis/ukraines-muslims-celebrate-eid-under-russian-bombs

What China is learning from Russia’s bungled invasion of Ukraine
RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

- Research exposes long-term failure of Russian propaganda in Ukraine’s Donbas region
- How Russia’s war spills into African energy
  https://www.axios.com/2022/04/29/russias-war-spills-into-african-energy
- US Lend-Lease — Russia Gets Nervous
  https://cepa.org/us-lend-lease-russia-gets-nervous/
- Ukraine War Themed Files Become the Lure of Choice for a Wide Range of Hackers
  https://thehackernews.com/2022/05/ukraine-war-themed-files-become-lure-of.html
- Russia’s war in Ukraine ‘causing £3.6bn of building damage a week’
  https://www.theguardian.com/world/2022/may/03/russias-war-in-ukraine-causing-36bn-of-building-damage-a-week
- Microsoft Documents Over 200 Cyberattacks by Russia Against Ukraine
  https://thehackernews.com/2022/04/microsoft-documents-over-200.html
- Africa Faces New Shock As War Raises Food And Fuel Costs – Analysis
- Contesting Russia Requires Renewed US Engagement In Central Asia – Analysis
- Ukraine’s Electricity System Close to Collapse
  https://cepa.org/ukraines-electricity-system-close-to-collapse/
- Moldova next? How Europe should react to Russia’s implicit threat
  https://ecfr.eu/article/moldova-next-how-europe-should-react-to-russias-implicit-threat/
- The Kremlin’s energy warfare
  https://ecfr.eu/article/the-kremlins-energy-warfare/
- Senior pro-Russian Faces Criminal Charges as Slovakia Swings Decisively Towards NATO
- Inside the Russian geopolitical mind: Pseudo-justifications behind the war in Ukraine
- The surprising resiliency of Russia’s economy (and why it won’t last)
- China Spies on Russians; Microsoft Details Ukraine Attacks
  https://www.bankinfosecurity.com/china-spies-on-russians-microsoft-details-ukraine-attacks-a-18986
RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

**Data scientists are using the most annoying feature on your phones to save lives in Ukraine**
https://fortune.com/2022/05/03/ukraine-war-refugees-mobile-phone-data/

**Russia faces its biggest economic collapse since Putin rose to power**
https://fortune.com/2022/05/02/russia-faces-its-biggest-economic-collapse-since-putin-rose-to-power/

**The Ukraine War Could End Up Revitalizing Humanitarian Law**
https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/30506/for-the-united-nations-ukraine-could-mark-a-new-era-of-accountability

**Russia’s War in Ukraine Must Change the EU**
https://carnegieeurope.eu/strategiceurope/87074

**China’s Messaging On The Ukraine War Is Evolving, But In Which Way?**
https://www.rferl.org/a/china-ukraine-war-messaging-standish/31832716.html

**The internet, social media, and the war in Ukraine**
https://www.arabnews.com/node/2073116/media

**Britain: Russian troll factory is spreading disinformation on social media**
https://www.arabnews.com/node/2074506/media

**CYBERCOM increasing intel collection in light of Russia-Ukraine conflict**

**Russia’s cyber warfare against Ukraine more nuanced than expected**

**Will Russia Turn to Cybercrime to Offset Stringent Economic Sanctions?**
https://www.oodaloop.com/archive/2022/05/03/will-russia-turn-to-cybercrime-to-offset-stringent-economic-sanctions/

**Ukraine: Think Naval War**
https://smallwarsjournal.com/jnl/art/ukraine-think-naval-war