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
  Counterterrorism Strategies
COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Mexico Must Solve Corruption Before it Can Attack Violence
Hector Dominguez Ruvalcaba – The Globe Post: 16 May 2019

Though he campaigned on an anti-corruption and counterviolence platform, Mexico’s new president is struggling to curtail violence in the country. His anti-graft efforts must come first if he expects to end violence in Mexico.
https://theglobepost.com/2019/05/16/mexico-violence-corruption/

Deadly anti-corruption protests restart in Iraq’s Najaf
Sangar Ali – Kurdistan 16 :24 May 2019

Four people were killed and 17 injured in violent protests in the Iraqi city of Najaf. Originally planned as sit-ins, the protests were sparked by a call from influential cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, who asked protesters to surround “corrupt” businesses and “disrupt their affairs” for three days.
https://www.kurdistan24.net/en/news/03f7c3b4-6f0c-4a38-95da-fd583285fe3f

For more on this theme:
What Will Happen When a Corruption Probe Starts in Venezuela?
https://www.americasquarterly.org/content/what-will-happen-when-corruption-probe-starts-venezuela

US Corruption List Omits Key Central American Officials
https://www.insightcrime.org/news/analysis/us-corruption-list-omits-key-central-american-officials/

Corruption rife throughout our civil service
https://mg.co.za/article/2019-04-18-00-corruption-rife-throughout-our-civil-service

Fight Corruption to Reclaim Europe’s Soul

Leveraging Reform: Fighting Corruption in Post-Election DR Congo
https://enoughproject.org/policy-briefs/leveraging-reform-dr-congo

Mahathir’s Super Plan – Corruption in Malaysia
https://intpolicydigest.org/2019/05/02/mahathir-s-super-plan-corruption-in-malaysia/

Special unit of foreigners probing corruption cases
https://www.guardian.co.tt/news/special-unit-of-foreigners-probing-corruption-cases-6.2.836464.8ea0d-475cf

Are Zambia and Africa by extension, losing the fight against corruption?

The problem with corruption
https://thearabweekly.com/problem-corruption
DRUG TRAFFICKING

Mexico Wants to Decriminalize All Drugs and Negotiate With the U.S. to Do the Same
Jason Lemon – Newsweek: 9 May 2019

Mexico’s president is proposing major drug reform. He wants to decriminalize illegal drugs and transfer resources from fighting trafficking to reducing addiction. He is inviting the United States to pursue the same course.

https://www.newsweek.com/mexico-decriminalize-drugs-negotiate-us-1421395

Latin America’s Cannabis Belt Is Going Legit
Wesley Tomaselli – OZY: 10 May 2019

With the global medical marijuana market expected to reach $146 billion by 2025, Latin American startups are challenging Canada and the United Kingdom’s current dominance of pot production, OZY reports. Low overhead and 12 hours of daily sunlight year-round are major advantages.

https://www.ozy.com/fast-forward/potpreneurs-plant-seeds-for-rejuvenating-latin-americas-image/93747

For more on this theme:
India’s Northeast Emerges as a Drug-Trafficking Corridor Between Myanmar and Bangladesh

When will Australia accept it has a drug problem?
https://asiancorrespondent.com/2019/05/when-will-australia-accept-it-has-a-drug-problem/

A Brief History Of The War On Drugs
https://www.npr.org/2019/04/26/717389563/a-brief-history-of-the-war-on-drugs

Ex-drug policy adviser: Marijuana legalization push is ‘about a small number of people who want to get rich’
https://thehill.com/hilltv/rising/440828-ex-drug-policy-advisor-marijuana-legalization-push-is-about-a-small-number-of

A fundamental contradiction in EU drug policy
https://euobserver.com/opinion/144753

The 10th Asian Informal Drug Policy Dialogue

US fentanyl crisis could end opium era in Mexico: ‘the only crop that paid’
https://www.theguardian.com/world/2019/may/02/fentanyl-use-could-end-the-opium-era-in-mexico-the-only-crop-that-paid

Mexico Cartel Presence in Colombia May Have Been Exaggerated

Extensive trafficking routes, customs loopholes make Vietnam a drug transit hub
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Stopping Wildlife Trafficking Needs More Teeth – OpEd
Michael A. Bengwayan – Eurasia Review: 10 May 2019

Current international laws and agreements are not sufficient to protect against the illegal trade of international wildlife. In theory, countries would have their own laws to supplement these international treaties. But in practice, that is rarely the case.


The brutal ‘industrial enterprise’ of black-market tiger trafficking
PBS News Hour: 10 May 2019

Tigers are enduring a horrible existence in “tiger farms” where they are bred, raised and then killed for their body parts. Tigers are being poached to extinction in the wild, and these farms are meant to fulfill the demand for tiger parts.

https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/the-brutal-industrial-enterprise-of-black-market-tiger-trafficking

For more on this theme:

Rainforest Connection Taps High-Tech To Thwart Illegal Logging

Report: China Ranks Worst on Global Illegal Fishing Index

The Old Challenge in the New Indonesia-Vietnam South China Sea Clash

Logistics companies commit to refusing transportation of illegal wildlife products

How Anti-Poaching Technology Is Saving Wildlife
http://theowp.org/how-anti-poaching-technology-is-saving-wildlife/

Cambodia’s sanctuaries under threat
https://theaseanpost.com/article/cambodias-sanctuaries-under-threat

‘I’m helping cause extinctions’: Inside Indonesia’s illegal wildlife trade

Social media enables the illegal wildlife pet trade in Malaysia

Duke of Cambridge calls for ‘evil’ wildlife traffickers to be jailed

China, Vietnam to strengthen cooperation against wildlife smuggling
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Report: Human traffickers in Africa shifting business models
Elias Meseret – The Associated Press: 10 May 2019

Countermigration efforts are changing the way human traffickers do business, according to a report by the Research and Evidence Facility. People smugglers in East Africa and North Africa have shifted to new routes to avoid detection.

https://apnews.com/700dd32ab00b4f5b8f6119071f14f1554

North Korea women in China trapped in sex trade
Elizabeth Shim – UPI: 16 May 2019

Human traffickers have increasingly forced North Korean women into the Chinese sex trade. Previously, the women were often forced into marriages to counteract the overwhelming ratio of males to females in China. But the traffickers have switched tactics and are forcing the women into sexual slavery.


For more on this theme:

How to combat human trafficking with data science

Organised crime groups driving human trafficking and modern slavery in the UK
https://www.thenational.ae/world/europe/organised-crime-groups-driving-human-trafficking-and-modern-slavery-in-the-uk-1.861287

‘Prostitution is seen as a leisure activity here’: tackling Spain’s sex traffickers

The Billion-Dollar Business of Human and Drug Smuggling

Escape from Rukban: Syria’s deadly, men-only desert smuggling route
https://www.thenational.ae/world/escape-from-rukban-syria-s-deadly-men-only-desert-smuggling-route-1.861937

Migrant-Boat Capsize in the Mediterranean: Can we stop such tragedies from recurring?
https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/perspective/news/migrant-boat-capsize-the-mediterranean-can-we-stop-such-tragedies-recurring-1744525

10,000 Ghanaian Youth Learn about Pitfalls of Irregular Migration
https://www.africanews.com/2019/05/14/10000-ghanaian-youth-learn-about-pitfalls-of-irregular-migration/

How Europe Can Win on Migration
INTERNET GOVERNANCE

The global internet is disintegrating. What comes next?
Sally Adee – BBC: 15 May 2019

Just a decade ago, the United Nations affirmed that creating boundaries to the internet would allow too much control to individual nations. Now, those concerns have been overcome by events as Russia and others create "sovereign internets" in their countries.


For more on this theme:
(Caribbean) Caribbean telecommunications experts' participation in global internet governance

(Russia) Why Russia Wants to Break the Internet

(Global) The Blockchain Paradox

INTERNET FREEDOM

Wikipedia Is Now Banned in China in All Languages
Hillary Leung – Time: 15 May 2019

An internet censorship initiative called the Open Observatory of Network Interference reported that China had extended its ban of the free online encyclopedia to include all available languages, not just the Chinese version.

http://time.com/5589439/china-wikipedia-online-censorship/

For more on this theme:
(India) Any regulation of online speech in India must safeguard the rights to free speech and privacy

(Global) ‘Fake News' Is a Really Dangerous Excuse for Censorship
https://reason.com/2019/05/13/fake-news-is-a-really-dangerous-excuse-for-censorship/

(U.S., China) Waging 'The Good Fight' Against Censorship
https://www.npr.org/2019/05/11/722389741/waging-the-good-fight-against-censorship
PRIVACY AND SECURITY

What's been done for data privacy since GDPR?
Ken Mortensen – TechRadar: 15 May 2019

To increase respect for personal privacy and data governance in the year since the General Data Protection Regulation was passed, businesses have developed new roles dedicated to protecting privacy.


For more on this theme:

(Global) Bad Actors Want To Target the Internet's Infrastructure. If That Happens, We’re in Trouble.
https://www.brinknews.com/bad-actors-want-to-target-the-internets-infrastructure-if-that-happens-were-in-trouble/

(U.S.) Many Executives Lack Confidence in Healthcare IoT Security, Privacy

(U.S.) California’s new data privacy law could change the internet in the US

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Signaling, Victory, and Strategy in France’s Military Cyber Doctrine
Stéphane Taillat – War on the Rocks: 8 May 2019

France has unveiled a new cyber security strategy for its military that addresses defensive and offensive actions. The strategy sets the stage for military cyber operations.


For more on this theme:

(Estonia) Cyberwar: lessons from the Estonian experience.

(Israel) The State of Cyber and Israel’s place at its heart
https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=5ffeec93-6b4c-40fd-80ae-75f5a947f0b0
PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Rhode Island launches cyber crime hotline
Susan Miller – GCN: 13 May 2019

Thanks to a public/private partnership, Rhode Island unveiled a first-of-its-kind resource to report cyber crimes. 211 is the first statewide hotline in the country for reporting cyber crimes, including cyber stalking, identity theft, financial fraud, cyber bullying and more.
https://gcn.com/articles/2019/05/13/rhode-island-cyber-crime-211.aspx

For more on this theme:
(Greece) PPP tender for ultrafast broadband

(U.S.) AT&T: Mike Zeto highlights features of new public-private partnership with the city of San Jose

(Norway) Norwegian industry and state must combine to counter cyber threats

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Israel’s Iron Dome Headache (As In China Might Have Stolen the Specs On It)
Michael Peck – The National Interest: 5 May 2019

Israel has a robust cyber security industry and world-class white-hat hackers, but China reportedly was able to break into Israeli computers and steal the specs to the nation’s Iron Dome defense project. If the Chinese can beat Israel, they can beat anyone.
https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/israels-iron-dome-headache-china-might-have-stolen-specs-it-56067

For more on this theme:
(Global) YouTube and its users face an existential threat from the EU’s new copyright directive

(India) 69% Indian firms face serious cyber attack risk: Study

(North Korea) North Korean Hackers Deploy New Cyber Espionage Tools
CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

The Age of the Internet Calls for Younger Leaders
Selorm Branttie – Inter Press Service: 10 May 2019

Recent actions by the older generation of African leaders indicate they have little understanding of, and tolerance for, social media and the internet, especially in times of crisis within their countries. With only 5% of Africans over the age of 65 and 70% under the age of 35, why are a majority of Africa’s leaders and political influencers over 65?

http://www.ipsnews.net/2019/05/age-internet-calls-younger-leaders/

For more on this theme:
(U.S.) Cyber threats are a collective danger: States and industry must respond collectively
(U.S.) How To Wage Global Cyber War: Nakasone, Norton, & Deasy
https://breakingdefense.com/2019/05/how-to-wage-global-cyber-war-nakasone-norton-deasy/
(Global) The Race for Global Internet Access Is Not a Zero-Sum Game

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

Macron, Ardern lead call to eliminate online terrorist content
Mark Scott, Rym Mottaz and Laura Kayal – Politico: 16 May 2019

French President Emmanuel Macron and New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern have joined forces to fight online extremism, launching the “Christchurch Call,” an intergovernmental appeal to put an end to terrorist acts stemming from online radicalization.


For more on this theme:
(Global) Authorities Dismantle Transnational Cybercrime Group
https://www.npr.org/2019/05/16/723983442/authorities-dismantle-transnational-cybercrime-group
(Global) How Can Companies And Individuals Protect Themselves From Cyber-Crime?
(Global) Cyber law and governance in the cyber crime age
https://www.itweb.co.za/content/dgp45vaGw1WMX9/8
INFORMATION SHARING

National Security Podcast: Tech, law, and when cyber turned kinetic
Angie Raymond, Abbey Stemler, Scott Schakelford and Katherine Mansted – Asia & The Pacific Policy Society: 16 May 2019

On this episode of National Security Podcast, Katherine Mansted speaks to Scott Schakelford, Angie Raymond and Abbey Stemler on social media’s influence on democracies and what international law says about data sharing.


For more on this theme:
(U.S.) How military leaders got a clearer view of the cyber environment

(GLOBAL) How We Collectively Can Improve Cyber Resilience

(Australia) Information sharing and privacy in a cyber security context

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Active Cyber Defense Strategy Could Use Private Sector Bounty Hunters to Protect Critical Infrastructure
Nicole Lindsey – CPO Magazine: 15 May 2019

Thinking out of the box about the potential threats posed to critical infrastructure, top U.S. defense strategists are proposing an active cyber defense strategy. This would include the employment of bounty hunters and private-sector hackers to track down and dismantle threats.


For more on this theme:
(U.S.) US power sector recognizes cyber risks, but violations show enforcement issues

(Singapore) Singapore’s Port Authority Opens New Cybersecurity Center

(U.S., Global) Why There’s No Need to Panic About a ‘Cyber 9/11’
PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS
ISIS announces new India and Pakistan provinces, casually breaking up Khorasan
On May 10, ISIS announced it had established its first “province” in India. Just five days later, on the heels of an ISIS-claimed attack, the group touted its new branch in Pakistan.
https://thedefensepost.com/2019/05/15/islamic-state-pakistan-province-al-hind/

Daesh in the Congo: red herring or Central African Wilayat?
Greg Hackleton – Foreign Brief: 5 May 2019
ISIS recently claimed a violent attack on a Congolese town. The Democratic Republic of the Congo’s officials claim it was the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), a group known to have ISIS ties. How much cooperation occurred between the two groups is debatable, but there is a greater potential for further attacks because the government lacks control in the areas where the ADF operates.

For more on this theme:
Destroyed on the battlefield, ISIS begins new chapter of terror
ISIS’s New Target: South Asia
https://foreignpolicy.com/2019/05/02/isiss-new-target-south-asia/
Why Baghdadi Risked a Video Appearance
Infographic: So-called Islamic State still a threat in many countries
Before the Sri Lanka attacks, much of South Asia seemed resistant to ISIS. Now it’s reassessing the risks.
ISIS Lost the War. Now It’s Dangerous.
From the ashes of ISIS
https://ashesofisis.thenational.ae/
ISIS cannot be allowed to regroup in Libya
https://www.thenational.ae/opinion/editorial/isis-cannot-be-allowed-to-regroup-in-libya-1.857629
TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Shabaab official justifies attacks on civilians while preaching the sanctity of Muslim blood
Thomas Joscelyn – Long War Journal: 13 May 2019

A senior al-Shabaab leader cautioned his militants to avoid shedding Muslim blood. The speech contradicts the group’s usual tactics of targeting civilian areas in Mogadishu, including hotels and restaurants.


Al Qaeda video emphasizes unity with Taliban’s Islamic emirate
Thomas Joscelyn – Long War Journal: 11 May 2019

Though the group previously kept its presence in Afghanistan as quiet as possible, a new video suggests that al-Qaida is working closely with the Taliban in some areas. In addition to showing footage of an attack on the Afghan Army, the video specifically affirmed al-Qaida’s alliance with the Taliban.


For more on this theme:

When terror runs in the family
https://www.aei.org/publication/when-terror-runs-in-the-family/

Al-Qaeda: Still Deadly Threat in Yemen

Hezbollah’s Foundation for the Wounded: purpose, modus operandi and funding methods

After UNSC ban on JeM, Pakistan’s ISI sets up new terror group Jaish-e-Mutqi

The forgotten toll of terrorism in Nigeria

How to End the Civil War in Somalia: Negotiate with al-Shabaab
https://warontherocks.com/2019/05/how-to-end-the-civil-war-in-somalia-negotiate-with-al-shabaab/

Hunting Ayman Al Zawahiri: Where has the Al Qaeda leader been hiding for 18 years?
https://www.foxnews.com/world/hunting-ayman-al-zawahiri-where-has-the-al-qaeda-leader-been-hiding-for-eighteen-years

Designating the Muslim Brotherhood a Foreign Terrorist Organization Harms America
https://nationalinterest.org/blog/middle-east-watch/designating-muslim-brotherhood-foreign-terrorist-organization-harms-america
RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

New study analyzes tweets to reveal how ISIS still inspires low-level attacks
SAGE Publications – Phys.org: 16 May 2019
By calling for “lone jihad,” ISIS is still able to inspire small-scale attacks despite losing its territory, according to a new study published by SAGE. An analysis of 26.2 million tweets indicates that ISIS still has global reach and remains a global threat, thanks to the myriad followers it is able to inspire to conduct terror attacks.

Kicked Off Facebook And Twitter, ISIS Turns To INSTAGRAM
Emily Zanotti – The Daily Wire: 13 May 2019
After recent crackdowns by Facebook and Twitter on ISIS and terrorism groups in general, they have been forced to look elsewhere to influence followers. ISIS in particular has focused recent efforts on Instagram, the photo-driven Facebook subsidiary.

For more on this theme:
Group refutes ISIS beliefs
https://www.defenceweb.co.za/middle-east/middle-east-middle-east/group-refutes-isis-beliefs/
Like ISIS Before Them, Far-Right Extremists Are Migrating To Telegram
https://www.huffpost.com/entry/telegram-far-right-isis-extremists-infowars_n_5cd5988e4b0705e47d-b36ef
Revisiting religious narratives to combat violent extremism
https://aliran.com/web-specials/revisiting-religious-narratives-to-combat-violent-extremism/
Tech Giants Sign-Up for ‘Christchurch Call’ to Address the Spread of Extremist Content
Homegrown Extremists Recruited Online May Mobilize Quickly
https://efficientgov.com/blog/2019/05/16/homegrown-extremists-recruited-online-may-mobilize-quickly/
Ottawa is right to tackle online radicalization
https://www.thestar.com/opinion/contributors/2019/05/16/ottawa-is-right-to-tackle-online-radicalization.html
Trudeau’s Digital Charter plan can help fight extremism online
FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Road warriors: Foreign fighters in the armies of jihad
Brookings: 10 May 2019

On May 10, Brookings hosted a book launch for Road Warriors by Daniel Byman that featured a discussion with the author. Afterward, Byman answered questions from the audience.


For more on this theme:
Kazakhstan repatriates 156 children of ISIS fighters from Syria
https://thedefensepost.com/2019/05/10/kazakhstan-repatriates-156-isis-children/

France Taken to EU Court for Denying Entry to Children of ISIS Jihadists

No nationality heeded the call to come fight for ISIS like Tunisians did. Now they're stuck.

Ex-foreign fighter turns youth away from life of terrorism

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

A Military Exercise in the Philippines That Contends With Both ISIS and China

This is what happened during a recent military exercise in which American soldiers trained Philippine troops to fight both a major foreign power and a band of insurgents.
https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/10/magazine/military-philippines-china-isis.html

For more on this theme:
To Defeat Terrorism, We Need to Invest in Communities

UN launches innovative programme to detect and disrupt terrorist travel

Sweden to host international meeting on ISIS tribunal
http://www.rudaw.net/english/world/17052019

You Can't Defeat Tomorrow's Terrorists by Fighting Yesterday's Enemy