

THE MARSHALL CENTER

# transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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## COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

### CORRUPTION

#### **Anger grows in Guatemala over COVID vaccine rollout, corruption**

*Sandra Cuffe – Al-Jazeera: 13 May 2021*

There have been sporadic corruption scandals throughout the pandemic, from early revelations of a fraud ring inside the Health Ministry to more recent cases of fraudulent test purchases. And unless Guatemala picks up its pace, experts say coronavirus vaccine doses yet to be administered will expire in June.

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2021/5/13/guatemala-discontent-grows-over-covid-vaccine-rollout-corruption>

#### **Bangladesh arrests journalist known for unearthing graft**

*Julhas Alam – The Associated Press: 18 May 2021*

A journalist in Bangladesh known for her reporting on government corruption was arrested on charges of violating an official secrets act, officials said. The charges carry a possible death penalty.

<https://apnews.com/article/bangladesh-journalists-arrests-health-coronavirus-pandemic-4e4bcecd270f3f-748b455e7648c86003>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **How to fight corruption in Africa: Lessons for Sierra Leone's Julius Maada Bio**

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/opinionista/2021-05-06-how-to-fight-corruption-in-africa-lessons-for-sierra-leones-julius-maada-bio/>

#### **South Africa's president suspends party secretary-general**

<https://apnews.com/article/africa-south-africa-386abdbb0dfb7397f9c67f56d1e2ff8e>

#### **Fighting corruption key to U.S. migrant strategy**

<https://www.reuters.com/video/watch/idRCV009PS6>

#### **Pandemic Spending Immunity Deepens El Salvador Corruption Concerns**

<https://insightcrime.org/news/pandemic-immunity-el-salvador-corruption/>

#### **The forgotten psychological cost of corruption in developing countries**

<https://theconversation.com/the-forgotten-psychological-cost-of-corruption-in-developing-countries-156413>

#### **Full steam ahead on Vietnam's anti-corruption campaign**

<https://www.eastasiasforum.org/2021/05/20/full-steam-ahead-on-vietnams-anti-corruption-campaign/>

#### **North Macedonia Criticized for 'Endemic Corruption' in Prisons**

<https://www.occrp.org/en/daily/14411-north-macedonia-criticized-for-endemic-corruption-in-prisons>

#### **Uproar Forces Malawi Parliament to Confirm Anti-Corruption Chief**

<https://www.voanews.com/africa/uproar-forces-malawi-parliament-confirm-anti-corruption-chief>

#### **South Africa: A first shot at corruption**

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/publications/the-world-today/2021-04/south-africa-first-shot-corruption>

## TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

### **Uganda deploys drones to fight poaching, wildlife trafficking**

*Jonathan Kamoga – The East African: 17 May 2021*

The country has secured funding from the United Nations Development Programme to procure surveillance drones for use in protected areas that are not routinely patrolled by rangers, and to purchase camera traps to help identify poachers and intruders at porous entrances to game parks, according to the Uganda Wildlife Authority.

<https://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/tea/news/east-africa/uganda-deploys-drones-to-fight-poaching-wildlife-trafficking-3401190>

*For more on this theme:*

### **INTERVIEW: Nigeria must conserve wildlife to tackle insecurity, prevent another pandemic – Conservationist**

<https://www.premiumposttimesng.com/features-and-interviews/460646-interview-nigeria-must-conserve-wildlife-to-tackle-insecurity-prevent-another-pandemic-conservationist.html>

### **Illegal Wildlife Trade is Just a Click Away**

<https://whistleblowersblog.org/2021/05/articles/environmental-whistleblowers/illegal-wildlife-trade-is-just-a-click-away/>

### **How to roll back the global trade in wildlife? Pay poor countries, scientists say**

<https://www.sustainability-times.com/environmental-protection/how-to-roll-back-the-global-trade-in-wildlife-pay-poor-countries/>

### **To Prevent Future Pandemics, Start by Protecting Nature**

<https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/29637/under-threat-biodiversity-preservation-nature-protection-are-key-to-preventing-pandemics>

### **Fourteen young dogs join the race to become India's wildlife sniffer dogs**

<https://www.traffic.org/news/fourteen-young-dogs-join-the-race-to-become-indias-wildlife-sniffer-dogs/>

### **Alternative means of livelihood to Poachers can serve our fight against Wildlife Trafficking**

<https://www.theindianwire.com/wildlife/alternative-means-of-livelihood-to-poachers-can-serve-our-fight-against-wildlife-trafficking-312057/>

### **Scientists Develop New App to Predict Future Pandemic by Stopping Illegal Wildlife Trade**

<https://www.natureworldnews.com/articles/45994/20210510/authorized-wildlife-trade-should-be-stopped-scientists-develop-a-new-web-application-to-project-potential-pandemic.htm>

### **The world's donkeys are threatened by demand for Chinese traditional medicine**

<https://www.zmescience.com/science/world-donkeys-threatened-06052021/>

### **A nonprofit promised to preserve wildlife. Then it made millions claiming it could cut down trees**

<https://www.technologyreview.com/2021/05/10/1024751/carbon-credits-massachusetts-audubon-california-logging-co2-emissions-increase/>

## HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

### **Harnessing the power of artificial intelligence to combat human trafficking**

*Tim Sandle – Digital Journal: 17 May 2021*

Lincoln Laboratory has developed algorithms to extract signatures in images, such as specific tattoo designs linked to human trafficking networks, as part of a growing portfolio of technologies to help investigators analyze digital evidence in trafficking cases.

<https://www.digitaljournal.com/tech-science/harnessing-the-power-of-artificial-intelligence-to-combat-human-trafficking/article>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Action plan to combat human trafficking unveiled by Finland**

<https://www.icenews.is/2021/05/14/action-plan-to-combat-human-trafficking-unveiled-by-finland/>

### **Smugglers Head to the Pacific, Ferrying People From Mexico to the US**

<https://insightcrime.org/news/smugglers-head-pacific-ferry-people-from-mexico-to-the-us/>

### **Thousands of migrants swim from Morocco to Spanish enclave of Ceuta**

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/05/18/europe/migrants-swim-morocco-spanish-enclave-ceuta-intl/index.html>

## ORGANIZED CRIME

### **China's New Silk Road: Navigating the organized crime risk**

*Virginia Comolli and Natasha Rose – Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime: May 2021*

Jobs and economic growth associated with China's Belt and Road projects across Asia and Africa are likely to have unintended consequences – including corruption, criminal exploitation and infiltration, according to a recently published report.

<https://globalinitiative.net/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/Chinas-New-Silk-Road-Navigating-the-Organized-Crime-Risk-GITOC.pdf>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Life of Crime: Yakuza Membership Hits New Record Low**

<https://www.nippon.com/en/japan-data/h01007/>

## MONEY LAUNDERING

### **How Chinese Criminals Secretly Move Millions for Mexico Cartels**

*Chris Dalby – InSight Crime: 12 May 2021*

While the involvement of Chinese money-laundering rings in handling drug proceeds from Mexico is nothing new, a number of recent court cases in the United States have revealed crucial information about how these schemes work.

<https://insightcrime.org/news/chinese-money-launderers-mexico-cartels-move-millions-secret/>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Earthly Delights: Religious Groups and Money Laundering in Dominican Republic**

<https://insightcrime.org/news/earthly-delights-religious-non-profits-and-money-laundering-dominican-republic/>

### **Why do we allow money laundering in the auto industry?**

<https://driving.ca/column/lorraine/why-do-we-allow-money-laundering-in-the-auto-industry>

### **UK sends \$5.97 mln of jailed politician's stolen assets to Nigeria**

<https://www.reuters.com/world/uk-sends-597-mln-jailed-politicians-stolen-assets-nigeria-2021-05-18/>

### **Bahrain public prosecution refers Central Bank of Iran, 12 other banks to court for laundering \$1bn**

<https://gulfnnews.com/world/gulf/bahrain/bahrain-public-prosecution-refers-central-bank-of-iran-12-other-banks-to-court-for-laundering-1bn-1.1621352017132>

### **Parliament: EIB must step up money laundering fight**

<https://www.luxtimes.lu/en/european-union/parliament-eib-must-step-up-money-laundering-fight-60a24942de135b92368e6993>

## PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

### INTERNET GOVERNANCE

#### **The UN Struggles to Make Progress on Securing Cyberspace**

*Arindrajit Basu, Irene Poetranto and Justin Lau – Carnegie: 19 May 2021*

United Nations member states have attempted to devise rules for state behavior in cyberspace. Yet disagreements have hampered those efforts, and the root causes of cyber instability remain.

<https://carnegieendowment.org/2021/05/19/un-struggles-to-make-progress-on-securing-cyberspace-pub-84491>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(Global) A People-Centric Approach to Securing Cyberspace**

<https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/29650/colonial-cyber-attack-ransomware-impact-raises-alarm-about-internet-future>

### INTERNET FREEDOM

#### **Africa is paying heavily for Internet shutdowns**

*Faustine Ngila – Daily Monitor: 14 May 2021*

Uganda's internet shutdown in January disabled the entire banking sector and proved costly for the country, according to a Comparitech survey.

<https://www.monitor.co.ug/uganda/business/technology/africa-is-paying-heavily-for-internet-shutdowns--3400242>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **(China) Student Flees China After Questioning Over Sharing of VPN Login**

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/flees-05192021111036.html>

#### **(China) Censorship, Surveillance and Profits: A Hard Bargain for Apple in China**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2021/05/17/technology/apple-china-censorship-data.html>

#### **(Myanmar) Myanmar internet a 'virtual battlefield' as government continues crackdown**

<https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/tech-news/myanmar-internet-virtual-battlefield-government-continues-crackdown-rcna957>

## PRIVACY AND SECURITY

### **Facebook Faces Suspension of Data Transfers in Europe**

*Pierre Briançon – Barron's: 14 May 2021*

Ireland's High Court earlier this month allowed the country's Data Protection Commission to continue with a procedure that could lead to a ban of Facebook's data transfers from the European Union to the U.S.

<https://www.barrons.com/articles/facebook-and-big-tech-face-obstacle-course-on-eu-u-s-data-transfers-51621004143>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(Uzbekistan) Personal Data Of Uzbek Citizens Now Must Be Stored In Uzbekistan**

<https://www.mondaq.com/data-protection/1070336/personal-data-of-uzbek-citizens-now-must-be-stored-in-uzbekistan>

### **(U.S.) The Establishment of a Cyber Safety Review Board**

<https://securityboulevard.com/2021/05/the-establishment-of-a-cyber-safety-review-board/>

### **(Global) 10 Emerging Cybersecurity Trends To Watch In 2021**

<https://www.crn.com/news/security/10-emerging-cybersecurity-trends-to-watch-in-2021>

### **(Global) Cybersecurity spending to hit \$150 billion this year**

<https://www.techrepublic.com/article/cybersecurity-spending-to-hit-150-billion-this-year/>

## CYBER STATECRAFT

### **In Cyber, Differentiating Between State Actors, Criminals Is a Blur**

*C. Todd Lopez – U.S. Department of Defense: 14 May 2021*

Who's hacking U.S. networks? It's not an easy question to answer. Defense leaders told lawmakers that it's never clear whether a malicious cyber attacker is a foreign government, a cybercriminal or a cybercriminal supported by a foreign government.

<https://www.defense.gov/Explore/News/Article/Article/2618386/in-cyber-differentiating-between-state-actors-criminals-is-a-blur/>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(U.S., Global) Ransomware is a national security threat and a big business — and it's wreaking havoc**

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/technology/2021/05/15/ransomware-colonial-darkside-cyber-security/>

### **(U.S.) Biden Proposes Billions for Cybersecurity After Wave of Attacks**

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-05-18/biden-proposes-billions-for-cybersecurity-after-wave-of-attacks>

### **(Myanmar/[Burma]) How Myanmar's military moved in on the telecoms sector to spy on citizens**

<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/how-myanmars-military-moved-telecoms-sector-spy-citizens-2021-05-18/>

## CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

### **Want to understand the extent of the world's digital divide? Look at these 3 charts**

*Vivien Foster, Niccolò Comini and Sharada Srinivasan – World Economic Forum: 14 May 2021*

Data infrastructure policy, one of the building blocks of a data governance framework, helps to level the playing field in the modern data economy, making things more equitable. Without modern data infrastructure at the national level, countries are unable to provide affordable and reliable connectivity to their population.

<https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2021/05/these-3-charts-show-the-importance-of-closing-the-digital-divide>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(Asia) Asia's big digital transformation**

<https://www.businesstimes.com.sg/focus/asia-tech-insights/asias-big-digital-transformation>

### **(U.K., Ghana) UK funds cyber capacity building in Ghana**

<https://www.myjoyonline.com/uk-funds-cyber-capacity-building-in-ghana/>

### **(Organization of American States) Early Warning Cybersecurity System Implemented**

<https://jis.gov.jm/early-warning-cybersecurity-system-implemented/>

## CYBERCRIME

### **Rights group launches tool to stem cybercrime in Africa**

*SciDev.Net – Phys.org: 14 May 2021*

Victims of cyber bullying and related crimes can now get redress, thanks to a new online platform that seeks to empower internet users across Africa to report digital rights violations.

<https://phys.org/news/2021-05-rights-group-tool-stem-cybercrime.html>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(U.K.) UK's NCSC Takes Down 700,595 Scams Last 2020, 15 Times More Before Pandemic**

<https://www.techtimes.com/articles/260055/20210510/uks-ncsc-takes-down-700-595-scams-last-2020-15.htm>

### **(Interpol, Africa) INTERPOL Launches Initiative To Fight Cybercrime In Africa**

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/14052021-interpol-launches-initiative-to-fight-cybercrime-in-africa/>

## CYBERATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

### **Ireland Confirms Second Cyber Attack on Health System**

*Swetha Gopinath and Peter Flanagan – Bloomberg: 16 May 2021*

Ireland's health service grappled with more disruption after hackers prompted the shutdown of its computer systems.

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-05-16/irish-health-care-system-suffers-new-cyber-attack-rte-reports>

*For more on this theme:*

### **(Ireland) Irish internet service providers hit by cyber attacks**

<https://www.independent.ie/business/technology/irish-internet-service-providers-hit-by-cyber-attacks-40441177.html>

### **(New Zealand) New Zealand health service hit by cyber attack**

<https://www.itpro.co.uk/security/cyber-attacks/359596/new-zealand-health-service-hit-by-cyber-attack-hackers-make-contact>

### **(Global) AXA ransomware attack comes just days after insurer pulled coverage for cyber-attack class in France**

<https://portswigger.net/daily-swig/axa-ransomware-attack-comes-just-days-after-insurer-pulled-coverage-for-cyber-attack-class-in-france>

## PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

### ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

#### **The Islamic State Is in Congo. What Now?**

*Haroro J. Ingram and Lorenzo Vidino – Lawfare: 16 May 2021*

ISIS has suffered numerous body blows since it declared its caliphate in 2014. The group has lost its territory in Iraq and Syria, and many of its leaders have been killed or captured. ISIS, however, has spawned numerous affiliates around the globe, which are bloody and dangerous in their own rights.

<https://www.lawfareblog.com/islamic-state-congo-what-now>

#### **US Targets Islamic State Money Men in Turkey, Syria**

*Jeff Seldin – Voice of America: 17 May 2021*

The United States government is working to make it more difficult for ISIS to move money internationally via new sanctions imposed by the Treasury Department.

<https://www.voanews.com/usa/us-targets-islamic-state-money-men-turkey-syria>

*For more on this theme:*

#### **The Venture Capitalists of Terrorism**

<https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/29630/for-isis-africa-offers-best-hope-of-renewal>

#### **Parliament will vote on establishing ISIS court after Eid: MP**

<https://www.rudaw.net/english/kurdistan/070520212>

#### **What Islamic State police files can tell us about everyday life under the caliphate**

<https://theconversation.com/what-islamic-state-police-files-can-tell-us-about-everyday-life-under-the-caliphate-160468>

#### **Islamic State Increases Attacks on Iraqi and Kurdish Forces**

<https://www.voanews.com/extremism-watch/islamic-state-increases-attacks-iraqi-and-kurdish-forces>

#### **The Islamic State's golden opportunity in Mozambique**

<https://thehill.com/opinion/international/551998-the-islamic-states-golden-opportunity-in-mozambique>

#### **Abu Walaa's Islamic State Network and Germany's Counter-Terrorism Prosecutions**

<https://jamestown.org/program/abu-walaas-islamic-state-network-and-germanys-counter-terrorism-prosecutions/>

#### **The Curse of Natural Gas**

<https://www.spiegel.de/international/world/terror-in-mozambique-the-curse-of-natural-gas-a-837db8bd-d37d-4c90-b5cb-025a8444e965>

#### **ISIS Claims Deadly Afghan Mosque Blast**

<https://english.aawsat.com/home/article/2975371/isis-claims-deadly-afghan-mosque-blast>

## TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

### **Nigeria's Boko Haram militants: Six reasons they have not been defeated**

*Ishaq Khalid – BBC: 17 May 2021*

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari's claim in 2015 that the militant group Boko Haram had been "technically defeated" is ringing increasingly hollow. The group and its offshoots have never gone away.

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-57117296>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Improvised Explosive Devices are becoming a growing threat in Africa**

<https://www.defenceweb.co.za/land/land-land/improvised-explosive-devices-are-becoming-a-growing-threat-in-africa/>

### **From Bin Laden to al-Zawahiri: The story of al-Qaeda's rise**

<https://www.theafricareport.com/85342/from-bin-laden-to-al-zawahiri-the-story-of-al-qaedas-rise/>

### **75 percent mining sites in Afghanistan under Taliban, strongmen's control: Report**

<https://in.news.yahoo.com/75-percent-mining-sites-afghanistan-093312675.html>

### **U.S. warns domestic extremists could exploit easing COVID-19 restrictions**

<https://news.trust.org/item/20210514165502-f4e11>

### **COVID-19 pandemic 'feeding' drivers of conflict and instability in Africa: Guterres**

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/05/1092222>

### **Experts Don't Foresee Larger Hezbollah Involvement Amid Israel-Lebanon Border Tensions**

<https://www.voanews.com/middle-east/experts-dont-foresee-larger-hezbollah-involvement-amid-israel-lebanon-border-tensions>

### **Latest US Sanctions Target Hezbollah's Financial Infrastructure in Lebanon**

<https://www.occrp.org/en/daily/14385-latest-us-sanctions-target-hezbollah-s-financial-infrastructure-in-lebanon>

### **How Covid and the Taliban could upend the polio fight**

<https://www.politico.com/newsletters/global-pulse/2021/05/13/how-covid-and-the-taliban-could-upend-polio-fight-492824>

### **In Taliban-controlled areas, girls are fleeing for one thing: an education**

<https://bdnews24.com/world/south-asia/2021/05/18/in-taliban-controlled-areas-girls-are-fleeing-for-one-thing-an-education>

### **Strategic Intelligence Assessment and Data on Domestic Terrorism**

<https://www.fbi.gov/file-repository/fbi-dhs-domestic-terrorism-strategic-report.pdf/view>

### **Cyber Security as Counter-Terrorism: Seeking a Better Debate**

<https://warontherocks.com/2021/05/cyber-security-as-counter-terrorism-seeking-a-better-debate/>

### **First New Steps to Combatting Domestic Terrorism**

[https://www.thecipherbrief.com/column\\_article/first-new-steps-to-combatting-domestic-terrorism](https://www.thecipherbrief.com/column_article/first-new-steps-to-combatting-domestic-terrorism)

## RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

### **What White Supremacists Tell Us About Recruitment and Deradicalization**

*Anne Speckhard and Molly Ellenberg – Homeland Security Today: 17 May 2021*

We need a better understanding of domestic terrorist groups and movements, how they operate, what their ideologies are, and how they find resonance to recruit.

<https://www.hstoday.us/subject-matter-areas/counterterrorism/perspective-what-white-supremacists-tell-us-about-recruitment-and-deradicalization/>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Grandmother Raises An Orphan Of Islamic State, As Kazakhs Confront Reintegration Question**

<https://www.rferl.org/a/kazakhstan-islamic-state-children-repatriation/31259600.html>

### **11th Circuit Hears Appeal Over YouTube's Hosting of Terrorist Propaganda**

<https://www.courthousenews.com/11th-circuit-hears-appeal-over-youtubes-hosting-of-terrorist-propaganda/>

## IRREGULAR WARFARE: PROXY FORCES AND PRIVATE MILITARY GROUPS

### **Factbox: Iranian presence in Syria's Deir ez-Zor province**

*Navar Saban – Atlantic Council: 18 May 2021*

At the beginning of the Syrian conflict in 2011, the Iranian government announced it would provide strategic support to the Bashar al-Assad regime without direct military intervention. However, as the conflict wore on and opposition forces began to wrest control of areas from the regime, Iran directly intervened on various Syrian fronts to prevent the fall of Assad, particularly between 2013 and 2018.

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/menasource/factbox-iranian-presence-in-syrias-deir-ez-zor-province/>

*For more on this theme:*

### **US Report: Militias Have Taken Over ISIS' Legacy in Iraq**

<https://english.aawsat.com/home/article/2961611/us-report-militias-have-taken-over-isis%E2%80%99-legacy-iraq>

### **Iran-backed PMFs are destabilising Iraq's disputed regions**

<https://www.aljazeera.com/opinions/2021/5/8/iran-backed-pmfs-are-destabilising-iraqs-disputed-regions>

### **Putin's Shadow Warriors Stake Claim to Syria's Oil**

<https://foreignpolicy.com/2021/05/17/putin-shadow-warriors-stake-claim-syria-oil-energy-wagner-prigozhin-libya-middle-east/>

### **Russian Mercenaries Are Raping and Murdering Civilians They've Been Hired to Protect**

<https://www.vice.com/en/article/wx5dmn/russian-mercenaries-are-raping-and-murdering-civilians-theyve-been-hired-to-protect>

## IRREGULAR WARFARE: DISINFORMATION AND MALIGN INFLUENCE

### **How China is using social media to polish its image globally**

*Erika Kinetz – The Associated Press: 11 May 2021*

China is known for guiding public opinion at home, but how does the country shape public discourse globally? A seven-month investigation reveals how thousands of inauthentic accounts on Twitter and other social media sites amplify Chinese propaganda.

<https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Asia-Pacific/2021/0511/How-China-is-using-social-media-to-polish-its-image-globally>

*For more on this theme:*

### **How China used media to peddle disinformation about Covid-19**

<https://www.livemint.com/news/world/how-china-used-media-to-peddle-disinformation-about-covid19-11620889275747.html>

### **We need to formalize counter-disinformation education for children and teens**

<https://thehill.com/opinion/technology/553550-we-need-to-formalize-counter-disinformation-education-for-children-and?r=1>

### **How To Combat The Growing ‘Synthetic Content’ In Disinformation Campaigns**

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbesbusinesscouncil/2021/05/17/how-to-combat-the-growing-synthetic-content-in-disinformation-campaigns/?sh=529777e450a9>

### **The case for a ‘disinformation CERN’**

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/the-case-for-a-disinformation-cern/>

### **Psy-ops in high places**

<https://meduza.io/en/feature/2021/05/17/psy-ops-in-high-places>

### **How China used the media to spread its Covid narrative — and win friends around the world**

<https://www.niemanlab.org/2021/05/how-china-used-the-media-to-spread-its-covid-narrative-and-win-friends-around-the-world/>

### **China’s Information Warfare and Media Influence Spawn Confusion in Thailand**

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/china/thailand-infowars-05132021072939.html>

### **Army of fake fans boosts China’s messaging on Twitter**

<https://www.denverpost.com/2021/05/15/fake-twitter-accounts-china/>

## IRREGULAR WARFARE: CYBER

### **Japan lashes out against alleged Chinese military cyberattacks**

*Yuichi Sakaguchi – Nikkei Asia: 16 May 2021*

After Japanese police chief Mitsuhiro Matsumoto officially identified China as responsible for a cyberattack on the country, its National Police Agency has been overwhelmed with inquiries from foreign governments and media organizations regarding the claim, causing a stir among the global cybersecurity community.

<https://asia.nikkei.com/Business/Technology/Japan-lashes-out-against-alleged-Chinese-military-cyberattacks>

*For more on this theme:*

### **Protecting the enterprise against state-sponsored attacks**

<https://www.securitymagazine.com/articles/94817-protecting-the-enterprise-against-state-sponsored-attacks>

### **Why Russia needs to pay for the Colonial Pipeline hack**

<https://thehill.com/blogs/congress-blog/technology/553983-why-russia-needs-to-pay-for-the-colonial-pipeline-hack?rl=1>

### **Russia Gives Safe Harbor to Pirates of the Cyber Seas**

<https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2021-05-14/putin-s-russia-gives-safe-harbor-to-pirates-of-the-cyber-seas>