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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Zuma’s Corruption Stalls Popular Trust in South African Taxation
John Campbell – Council on Foreign Relations: 13 June 2018
South Africa depends on taxes to keep its government going, but when its senior leaders shirk their tax duties, it sends a message of mistrust and illegitimacy of the governing systems.
https://www.cfr.org/blog/zumas-corruption-stalls-popular-trust-south-african-taxation

Ukraine Forms Anti-Graft Court; Opens Corruption Park
Jesse Chase-Lubitz – Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project: 12 June 2018
Ukraine is taking steps to counter corruption, opening a “corruption park” where visitors can learn about major corruption schemes and view expensive items confiscated during arrests. Shortly after the park’s opening, Ukraine President Petro Poroshenko signed a bill to create an anti-corruption court.

For more on this theme:

Kenya corruption threatens to engulf government, auditor general says

Study examines how corruption is concealed in China

What we, the youth can do to put a stop to culture of corruption
https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/article/2001284155/what-we-the-youth-can-do-to-put-a-stop-to-culture-of-corruption

Puerto Rico Officials Investigated for Corruption During Hurricane Relief

Democracy, Corruption and a New Cuban Government
https://www.havanatimes.org/?p=134616

A Corruption Crackdown Changed Brazilian Politics. Its Soccer Stayed the Same.
http://www.americasquarterly.org/content/corruption-crackdown-changed-brazilian-politics-its-soccer-stayed-same

Former First Lady of El Salvador Arrested For Corruption

Nigeria jails another governor for corruption
**DRUG TRAFFICKING**

**US painkiller restriction linked to ‘significant’ increase in illicit online drug trading**
*Nick Adams – Swinburne University of Technology: 14 June 2018*

A new study shows the trading of prescription opioids through the darknet increased after the U.S. government imposed tighter regulations on prescribing the drugs.


**Afghanistan is producing a lot more opium than before the US invasion. The US just can’t stop it**
*Christopher Woody – Business Insider: 14 June 2018*

The drug trade in Afghanistan, which helps fund the insurgency and impedes reconstruction efforts, is growing despite the billions of dollars spent by the U.S. to fight it, according to the Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction.


*For more on this theme:*

- **India battles sales of illicit online drugs to US, Europe**
  http://www.atimes.com/article/india-battles-supply-of-illicit-online-drugs-to-us-europe/

- **How America got hooked on a deadly drug**

- **Jamaica Deals Blow to Drug Trafficking**

- **Drug testers at festivals will tell you if that MDMA you bought is actually sugar**
  https://metro.co.uk/2018/06/14/drug-tests-festivals-wont-stop-getting-arrested-save-life-7631688/

- **Death Toll Rises in Bangladesh’s Anti-Drug War**

- **Asia’s new methamphetamine hotspot fueling regional unrest**

- **Mexico Drug War Fast Facts**
  http://www.kpax.com/story/38407363/mexico-drug-war-fast-facts

- **A Violation of Rights in Bangladesh**

- **Leave Marijuana Policy to the States**
  https://www.nationalreview.com/2018/06/marijuana-policy-should-be-left-to-states/
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Southeast Asia’s appetite for pet otters supplied online
TRAFFIC: 8 June 2018

Southeast Asia’s illegal trade in wild otters has moved online to target buyers across the region and as far away as Japan, according to TRAFFIC, a group that monitors wildlife trafficking.


An Environmental Report Card for Southeast Asia
Gregory McCann – The Diplomat: 11 June 2018

The author, a project coordinator for the conservation group Habitat ID, examined the environmental achievements and missteps of Southeast Asian nations, giving grades to each country. With no nation scoring better than a B-minus, the situation looks grim.


For more on this theme:
Are Hong Kong courts taking illegal wildlife trade seriously, despite tougher laws?

Buyers of Endangered Animal Products See Purchases as ‘Socially Acceptable’

How seeing rhinos may help save them

Anti-poaching: Communities get on board
https://www.daily-mail.co.zm/anti-poaching-communities-get-on-board/

How China is combating wildlife trafficking in Africa
http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-06/08/c_137240161.htm

‘More action needed to protect Africa’s elephants’ says the African Elephant Coalition
https://www.independent.co.uk/voices/campaigns/elephant-campaign/more-action-needed-to-protect-africa-s-elephants-a8391536.html

New Technology Is Lighting Up ‘Dark’ Fishing Fleets

Illegal, Unreported And Unregulated Fishing Must Be Addressed: Moceica

Award-winning smart drones to take on illegal fishing
https://www.reuters.com/article/us-global-fishing-tech/award-winning-smart-drones-to-take-on-illegal-fishing-idUSKCN1J42HC

Ecuadorean Army Wages Enduring Campaign against Illegal Mining
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

UN Blacklists Libyan Coast Guard Leader for Migrant Smuggling
The Maritime Executive: 8 June 2018

The United Nations Security Council sanctioned six people, including a Libyan Coast Guard officer, for involvement in human trafficking and the smuggling of migrants in Libya. The proposal came after a CNN video that appeared to show African migrants being sold as slaves sparked global outrage.


UN says people smuggling worth $7bn a year
Asian Correspondent: 14 June 2018

People smugglers made billions on the backs of some 2.5 million desperate migrants in 2016, the United Nations said. The report, issued by the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime, said the smuggling rings earned $7 billion in 2016 — an amount equal to U.S. and European Union humanitarian aid that year.

https://asiancorrespondent.com/2018/06/un-says-people-smuggling-worth-7bn-a-year/#cXt9Itx9YXkC-jWlF.97

For more on this theme:

The new migrant path to Europe: People smugglers open new Balkan route through Albania to EU member Croatia after Hungary sealed its borders following 2015 crisis

Human Trafficking: The methods of coercion

Sweden: progress made in combating human trafficking, but need to address all forms of trafficking

Journey Unto Death: Group tackles irregular migration through advocacy

Merkel coalition at risk as talks on refugee policy falter

EU to triple border security, management and migration funding
https://www.governmenteuropa.eu/eu-border-security-management-migration/88377/
INTERNET GOVERNANCE

US govt mulls snatching back full control of the internet’s domain name and IP address admin
Kieren McCarthy – The Register: 5 June 2018

The U.S. government doubts the effectiveness of the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN) and wonders whether it should reassert control over its stewardship of the world’s domain-name system, IP address allocation and network protocol number assignments.

https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/06/05/us_government_icann_iana/

For more on this theme:

(Global) Why Cyber Norms are Dumb and Serve Russian Interests
https://www.thecipherbrief.com/column_article/cyber-norms-dumb-serve-russian-interests

(Global) ICANN Puts First GDPR Measures Into Place
https://www.silicon.co.uk/workspace/icann-first-gdpr-measures-233681?inf_by=5afe9b5c671db-89c238b5200

(Nigeria) NIGF 2018 to boost e-governance in Nigeria

INTERNET FREEDOM

Censorship in the Age of Large Cloud Providers
Bruce Schneier – Lawfare: 7 June 2018

By pressuring the large cloud providers that host applications and websites, internet censors have a new way of cutting off “undesirable” content.

https://www.lawfareblog.com/censorship-age-large-cloud-providers

For more on this theme:

(U.S., Global) The De-Americanization of Internet Freedom
https://www.lawfareblog.com/de-americanization-internet-freedom

(U.S.) Net neutrality is officially repealed. Here’s what happens next.

(Vietnam) Vietnam’s new cyber security law draws concern for restricting free speech
PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Why Africa’s private sector should be concerned about more than the GDPR
Omo Osagiede – CSO: 6 June 2018

Africa has many of the foundations necessary for data protection, and they certainly collect vast amounts of data in need of special protection, but they are lacking in a few crucial aspects necessary for good data practices.


For more on this theme:

(Europe) EU can become a leading player in cybersecurity
https://www.theparliamentmagazine.eu/articles/opinion/eu-can-become-leading-player-cybersecurity

(Global) Global cybersecurity: Do we need more law?

(EU) New European Rules May Give US Internet Users True Privacy Choices for the First Time

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

State Department Reports Prioritize Working with Allies to Address Cyber Threats
Klara Jordan and Anca Ioana Agachi – Atlantic Council: 13 June 2018

According to recent State Department reports, the United States should reinforce cooperation with its allies and partners while acknowledging that cyber security is indivisibly linked to shared threats.


For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Trump Administration Cyber Reports Offer No New Ideas and Highlight Problems with Its Own Actions

(Canada, U.S.) The Time Canada Wanted Its Own Internet Because It Thought the US Would Mess It Up
PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

When the FBI Can Help Companies Deal With a Cyber Event
Avi Gesser and Joseph Kniaz – New York Law Journal: 1 June 2018

For one reason or another, instead of turning to the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) after a cyber attack, many companies turn to cyber security companies and law firms when the FBI could be very helpful.


For more on this theme:
(India) CoE on cyber security in Telangana soon

(Canada) Ottawa to set up network of cyber security experts to help protect critical infrastructure

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Illegal memes? Weak Safe Harbor? Unpacking the proposed EU copyright overhaul
Glyn Moody – Ars Technica: 12 June 2018

The European Union is working on reforms to its respective copyright laws, some of which have been deemed too extreme by critics. The EU, for example, would like to force websites to enable “upload filters” and to pay for linking to other websites.


For more on this theme:
(EU) Internet luminaries urge EU to kill off automated copyright filter proposal
https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/06/12/eu_copyright_filter/

(Global) Cyber threat intelligence versus business risk intelligence: What you need to know

(China, U.S.) Chinese hackers stole sensitive data from Navy contractor: report
CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Hyderabad to have largest cyber security hub
Y V Phani Raj – Telangana Today: 7 June 2018

The new Hyderabad Security Cluster in India is designed to be the hub for cyber security, focusing on cyber forensics, critical security infrastructure, national security, counterterrorism and electronic warfare.
https://telanganatoday.com/hyderabad-to-have-largest-cyber-security-hub

For more on this theme:
(U.S.) Students interested in cyber security get to work with FBI

(U.S.) Top Marine says cyber warriors must get more flexibility

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

Kaspersky To Halt Cooperation With Europe To Fight Cybercrime
Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty: 14 June 2018

A new European Parliament document calls out Kaspersky Lab software as “malicious” and says it should be banned. In response, Kaspersky says it will end cooperation with Europol.
https://www.rferl.org/a/kaspersky-to-halt-cooperation-with-europe-to-fight-cybercrime/29290747.html

For more on this theme:
(Africa) Cybercrime is costing Africa's businesses billions

(Canada) A new tool for small businesses in the fight against cybercrime

(Europe) Snapshot of Council of Europe’s approach on Cybercrime and electronic evidence and CyberSouth project
INFORMATION SHARING

Fortinet, Interpol sign threat information sharing agreement
ITWeb: 14 June 2018

Cyber security provider Fortinet and Interpol have signed an agreement to proactively combat cyber crime and threats to privacy worldwide through the sharing of threat information. Fortinet will share the data generated by its global threat research team and will be involved in operational briefings at Interpol and vice versa.

https://www.itweb.co.za/content/DZQ58MVJpWyMzXy2

For more on this theme:
(Australia) Australia’s cyber threat sharing centres add 35 partners

(Global) FS-ISAC Launches The CERES Forum: World’s First Threat Information Sharing Group For Central Banks, Regulators And Supervisors

(New Zealand) Sharing information to protect .nz domains

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Army Boss: Transport Infrastructure at Risk of Cyber-Attack
Phil Muncaster – Infosecurity Magazine: 14 June 2018

Fresh warnings about the vulnerability of national infrastructure to cyber attacks show the need for securing and monitoring associated control systems connected to the internet.


For more on this theme:
(North America) North America Critical Infrastructure Protection Market Report 2018

(U.S.) How Energy’s new cyber shop will work

(U.S.) Parsons Survey Reveals Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity Gaps
PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS

**Islamic State Emboldened in Afghanistan**  
Farhan Zahid – The Jamestown Foundation: 14 June 2018

ISIS has entrenched itself in the districts of eastern Afghanistan. Recently, due to improved relations with the Taliban, ISIS has been able to carry out a series of horrific attacks.

[https://jamestown.org/program/islamic-state-emboldened-in-afghanistan/](https://jamestown.org/program/islamic-state-emboldened-in-afghanistan/)

**Iraqis Flee Homes Amid New IS Insurgency**  
Voice of America: 13 June 2018

ISIS militants in the areas near Kirkuk and Diyala in northeast Iraq have driven residents from their homes as the extremists seek hiding places from Iraqi militias and government forces.


*For more on this theme:*

**Syria's desert is staging ground for Islamic State's insurgency**  
[https://www.upi.com/Syrias-desert-is-staging-ground-for-Islamic-States-insurgency/1171528978939/](https://www.upi.com/Syrias-desert-is-staging-ground-for-Islamic-States-insurgency/1171528978939/)

**Op-Ed: An Assessment of the Islamic State in 2018**  

**Islamic State claims responsibility for bombing outside Afghan ministry in Kabul**  

**Islamic State threatens World Cup with video of burning stadium**  

**Islamic State preparing for massive attacks in Iraq: sources**  

**Syrian Army, Hezbollah Seize More Areas From Islamic State**  

**Former FBI agent Ali Soufan: ‘Isis is not over — it will take a different shape’**  
TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Is another Boko Haram or al-Shabaab erupting in Mozambique?
Peter Fabricius – ISS Today: 14 June 2018

Mozambique’s Cabo Delgado province is being held for ransom by an Islamist guerrilla movement. After months of skirmishes between police and members of the Al Sunnah wa Jama'ah, the region has erupted into full-scale violence.


Rare tensions between Assad’s backers as Syria’s war unwinds
Bassem Mroue – Associate Press: 9 June 2018

Hezbollah refuses to withdraw from western and southwestern borders of Homs with Lebanon as the Russians demanded.

https://www.apnews.com/bebd6b8568ac44b0b568b3ceca4c6c24

For more on this theme:

Cinemas, Wrestling in Saudi Arabia Are ‘Sinful Projects,’ Al-Qaeda Says

How Al Shabaab ambushed US forces and other comments

Al Shabaab cracks widen as leader Abu Ubeiydah battles cancer

VOA Interview: Mother of Boko Haram Leader Speaks Out

The Unofficial ‘Banks’ Born Out of Nigeria’s Boko Haram Years

Afghan Taliban chief calls for direct talks with US

US and Turkish Ties to Malaysia’s Hamas Lobby

Where’s the Coverage? Hezbollah Helps Hamas Build Terror Camps, Israel Calls for U.N. Help
http://blog.camera.org/archives/2018/06/_wheres_the_coverage_hezbollah.html

How Al-Qaeda’s ‘historian’ Mustafa Hamed spreads propaganda from Iran

Al Nusrah Front Returns To The Embrace Of Al Qaeda – Analysis
RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

**Kurz shuts down mosques, takes aims at ‘political Islam’**  
*Benas Gerdzunas – Politico: 8 June 2018*

Dozens of foreign-funded radical imams and seven mosques are on the chopping block in Austria, according to an announcement by Chancellor Sebastian Kurz.  

**Why is radicalism growing among Indonesian students?**  
*Ayu Purwaningsih – Deutsche Welle: 11 June 2018*

Once thought to be a stronghold against radicalization, Indonesia is facing an increase in radicalized youth linked to the country’s educational institutions.  

*For more on this theme:*

**Youth radicalization is rising, and the international community is unprepared**  
[https://www.aei.org/publication/youth-radicalization-on-rise/](https://www.aei.org/publication/youth-radicalization-on-rise/)

**Curbing radicalism and violence through education**  

**Former Guantanamo Detainee Says He Now Helps to Fight Radicalization And Islamic Terror In Europe**  

**Military Not Responsible For Radicalization of Repentant Boko Haram — Major General Bamidele**  

**Nigeria to help repentant Boko Haram members back to communities**  

**When Mental Illness Becomes an Excuse for Terrorists**  
[https://www.algemeiner.com/2018/06/12/when-mental-illness-becomes-an-excuse-for-terrorists/](https://www.algemeiner.com/2018/06/12/when-mental-illness-becomes-an-excuse-for-terrorists/)

**West could learn counter-extremism lessons from the Gulf**  
[http://www.arabnews.com/node/1320831](http://www.arabnews.com/node/1320831)

**Why don't most people become radicalised?**  

**Belgium: tackling the ‘root problem’ of radicalisation**  
FOREIGN FIGHTERS

**Islamic State’s Foreign Fighters Bring Terrorism Expertise Back to Europe, Jane’s by IHS Markit Says**
*Business Wire: 11 June 2018*

Foreign fighters returning from Syria and Iraq will raise the risk of complex and large-scale terror attacks in Europe, according to a report by Jane’s Terrorism and Insurgency Centre.


*For more on this theme:*

**ISIS Wives, With Children In Tow, Are Handed Long Jail Sentences Or Death Penalty**

**BACK ON OUR STREETS: Almost 400 British jihadis free to roam UK after return from fighting with ISIS in Syria as just ONE IN TEN prosecuted**

**A Refugee Camp For Returning ISIS Fighters In Albania?**

**The Foreign Fighter Phenomenon (FFP), (Learn More, Multi-Video)**

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

**U.S. military operations against IS in Afghanistan to intensify**
*Idrees Ali and Robin Emmott – Reuters: 8 June 2018*

The U.S. will intensify combat against an Islamic State affiliate in Afghanistan during the Kabul government’s temporary halt to attacks on the Taliban, senior U.S. officials said.


*For more on this theme:*

**‘Internet can be used for terrorism, but also for fighting it’**
https://www.thenews.com.pk/print/328465-internet-can-be-used-for-terrorism-but-also-for-fighting-it

**Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines to Conduct Joint Training for Anti-IS Ground Patrols: Indonesian Minister**
CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

DEALING WITH DISASTER

How AI and mobile can provide help during natural disasters
Wyatt Urmey – Mobile Business Insights: 14 June 2018

The combination of mobile technology, internet of things and artificial intelligence is proving to be the most effective and efficient means of reaching and informing the public during natural disasters. But we still have a long way to go.


Betting on Disaster: Why Risk Management Is a Leadership Issue
Howard Kunreuther and Michael Useem – Knowledge@Wharton: 14 June 2018

The Wharton business school’s Howard Kunreuther and Michael Useem discuss their new book, Mastering Catastrophic Risk.

http://knowledge.wharton.upenn.edu/article/companies-prep-natural-disasters/

For more on this theme:

Haj pilgrims get training in disaster management

Effective Disaster Management is touchstone of good governance; Chairman NDMA.

All risk, no reward: funding disaster mitigation can prove difficult

Congress needs to back legislation supporting disaster preparedness

Society Needs to Flip Its Disaster Spending, Insurance Report Says

Disaster Preparedness: Building African Resilience

The bedrocks of peace and prosperity
http://www.adaptation-undp.org/bedrocks-peace-and-prosperity

Ignoring conflict undercuts disaster protection efforts, researchers warn
http://news.trust.org/item/20180608123331-7d0hg/