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CORRUPTION

Guatemala court blocks anti-corruption agreement  
A Guatemalan court has tossed out a deal that made it easier to prosecute bribery involving the Brazilian construction giant Odebrecht.
https://apnews.com/article/politics-caribbean-central-america-guatemala-fdaa27bce922db46ea8e6502832cf4

We need an International Anti-Corruption Court  
Danilo Türk – Politico: 24 June 2022
Taking kleptocracy seriously requires ambitious solutions to deter and punish corrupt leaders enjoying impunity in the countries they rule.
https://www.politico.eu/article/need-international-anti-corruption-court/

For more on this theme:

Xi Says China’s Corruption Still Severe and Complicated  

Malawi President Strips VP’s Power After Corruption Allegations  

Corruption and instability in Iraq cast doubts on ambitious new oil targets  

The state of anti-bribery and corruption risk in the Middle East  

Peruvian president faces investigation in corruption case  
https://apnews.com/article/politics-caribbean-peru-lima-40712700a9cc15790823e5e6da22fb1

3 anti-corruption takeaways from the war in Ukraine  
https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/06/ukraine-war-russian-sanctions-anticorruption/

What it’ll take for the Guptas to face corruption charges in South Africa  

Mysterious Group of Companies Tied to Bank Rossiya Unites Billions of Dollars in Assets Connected to Vladimir Putin  

Corruption in oil revenue in the Niger Delta  
https://r4d.org/blog/corruption-in-oil-revenue-in-the-niger-delta/

Ramaphosa Talks Tough on Corruption After Rebuke From Judge  
DRUG TRAFFICKING

Drug use high in West and Central Africa, trafficking funds conflict: U.N.
Reuters: 27 June 2022

Opioid and cannabis abuse are above global averages in the region, while cocaine trafficking is financing militant violence in the Sahel, the United Nations said in a recent report.


Full report:
World Drug Report 2022

Ukraine War Could Boost Illegal Drug Production, says UN
Agence France-Presse: 26 June 2022

The war in Ukraine could allow illegal drug production to flourish, while the opium market's future hinges on the fate of crisis-wracked Afghanistan, the United Nations warned.


For more on this theme:
Rivals for the Throne — Can Argentina’s Alvarado Clan Threaten the Monos?

The Final Resurrection of Honduras' Montes-Bobadilla Clan

“The Assad Regime Would Not Survive Loss of Captagon Revenues”

Crime groups using illicit tobacco to finance drug trade and terrorism as cigarette prices soar, says Australian Criminal Intelligence Commission

Framing the issue: Countering the synthetic-drug market in South East Asia
https://globalinitiative.net/analysis/south-east-asia-drugs-ocindex/

Afghanistan’s opium trade thriving under local Taliban officials despite narcotics ban
https://archive.ph/nKRwP#selection-1002.0-1002.1

The Taliban’s Drug Ban Is Off to a Slow Start
https://www.worldpoliticsreview.com/articles/30614/for-taliban-afghanistan-opium-ban-will-be-hard-to-implement

The Rise of Narco-Terrorism in the Age of the Internet
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Indigenous Ecuadorians fight back as metal mining eats into Amazon
Kimberley Brown – Reuters: 24 June 2022

Job prospects are not enough for indigenous Ecuadorians who value the natural wonders of the Amazon over its stores of copper and gold. Communities are fighting back against mining on their lands and are the rainforest’s best bet, experts say.
https://news.trust.org/item/20220623162631-7v1p8

For more on this theme:

Wildlife to have a new shield against poachers
https://www.financialexpress.com/lifestyle/wildlife-to-have-a-new-shield-against-poachers/2560851/

Timber poaching: The secretive crime decimating North America’s forests

Nigeria’s forests are rapidly disappearing as loggers struggle to eke out a living

Somalia attempts to revive lands blighted by deforestation

Illegal mining threatens one of the last forest links between the Andes and Ecuador’s Amazon

In Bolivia’s Amazon, wildcat gold mining boom stokes tension over environment

Extent of Global Dark Fleets Mapped for the First Time

Tiger strolls through Mexico town as illegal trade spills into streets

Illegal timber trade persists in The Gambia’s Upper River Region

New restrictions aim to save ‘ivory of the forest’
https://asiatimes.com/2022/06/new-restrictions-aim-to-save-ivory-of-the-forest/

What we know about the dirty business of environmental crime in the age of climate change
INTERNET GOVERNANCE

**Toward Digital Solidarity**
Pablo Chavez – Lawfare: 28 June 2022

The pandemic and Russia’s war have helped accelerate many countries’ growing embrace of a form of technological self-sufficiency known as digital sovereignty.

https://www.lawfareblog.com/toward-digital-solidarity

For more on this theme:

*(Global) What Does Web3 Truly Look Like?*

*(Nigeria) Democracy day, e-governance and better Nigeria*
https://guardian.ng/opinion/democracy-day-e-governance-and-better-nigeria/

*(Global) Metaverse: Open for business?*
https://www.technologyreview.com/2022/06/27/1054974/metaverse-open-for-business/

INTERNET FREEDOM

**Indian Government Ordered Takedown Of Tweets Criticising Internet Censorship**
Chetan Thathoo – Inc42 :42 June 2022

India reportedly ordered Twitter to delete tweets from 2021 that purportedly criticized internet censorship in the country.


For more on this theme:

*(Russia) Building trust in the tool millions are using to pierce Putin’s digital iron curtain*

*(Philippines) HRW slams Philippine move to block websites over alleged communist links*

*(Global) Internet shutdowns hurt much more than we realise: UN rights office*
CYBER STATECRAFT AND STRATEGY

How to enhance EU cybersecurity
Kenneth Lasoen – EUObserver: 24 June 2022

The EU Commission’s new cybersecurity regulation intends to improve its institutions’ “governance, risk management and control in the cybersecurity area.”
https://euobserver.com/opinion/155266

For more on this theme:
(Indonesia, Finland) Smart Cities Cooperation: Indonesia and Finland

(EU) EU task force calls for digital commons foundation launch

(U.S.) Navy about to release unified cyber strategy

(U.S.) State Department cyber strategy emphasizes proactively hunting for threats
https://www.cyberscoop.com/state-department-cyber-strategy/

CYBER ATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

How Russian Cybercrime Group, Conti, Terrorized Latin America and Vanished
Scott Mistler-Ferguson – InSight Crime: 27 June 2022

Two months ago, Conti, one of the most feared cybercrime operations, unleashed raids against government websites in Costa Rica and Peru. Why is it now off the radar?

For more on this theme:
(Iran) Cyberattack forces Iran steel company to halt production
https://news.yahoo.com/cyberattack-forces-iran-steel-company-080410491.html

(Lithuania) Russian hacker group says cyber attacks continue on Lithuania

(Norway) Norway blames “pro-Russian group” for cyber attack
CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Digital opportunities await if Africa can overcome roadblocks
_Nigerian Tribune: 29 June 2022_

For the continent to seize the opportunities offered by the digital age, improving Internet infrastructure and governance are critical priorities.

https://tribuneonlineng.com/digital-opportunities-await-if-africa-can-overcome-roadblocks/

For more on this theme:
(U.S., Gulf States) More Than Energy: Why Biden and the Gulf States Must Discuss Tech

(U.S.) DHS and Treasury to Assess Need for a Federal Response to Cyber Attack Insurance

(Indonesia) As Cyber Threats Grow, Indonesia's Data Protection Efforts Are Falling Short

CYBERCRIME

Critics Say Russia Wants UN Cyber Treaty to Harm Rights, Protect Criminals
_Will Neal – Organized Crime & Corruption Reporting Project: 23 June 2022_

As talks on a U.N. cybercrime treaty gather pace, some accuse Russia of trying to forge cover for human rights abuses and criminal groups staging attacks against the West.


For more on this theme:
(Global) International Law Enforcement Partnership Takes Down Russian Botnet; Illicit Proxy Service Had Been Selling Hacked IP Addresses

(Global) Cybercrime: A Clear and Present Danger
https://www.infosecurity-magazine.com/blogs/cybercrime-clear-present-danger/

(Global) Ransomware is the biggest global cyber threat. And the attacks are still evolving
PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Relocating or expanding? Islamic State Mozambique’s reaction to foreign intervention
Ryan O’Farrell – Long War Journal: 27 June 2022

Despite notable successes following interventions by both the Southern African Development Community and the Rwandan Defense Forces in July and August 2021, the Islamic State’s Mozambique Province — known locally as Al Shabaab — and its insurgency in Mozambique’s Cabo Delgado Province has remained resilient and adaptable.

https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2022/06/relocating-or-expanding-islamic-state-mozambiques-reaction-to-foreign-intervention.php

For more on this theme:

Civilians bear brunt of heavy fighting in Mali

Australian High Court Rules Government Cannot Strip Citizenship of Dual Nationals Suspected of Terrorism

Counterterror ops rake in ‘high-value targets’ in Iraq, Syria
https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/06/counterterror-ops-rake-high-value-targets-iraq-syria

Belgium repatriates ISIL-linked children, mothers from Syria

Turkish courts continue to let ISIS suspects go after brief detentions as part of revolving door policy

ISIS claims the attack on graphite mine in Mozambique
https://www.sabcnews.com/sabcnews/isis-claims-the-attack-on-graphite-mine-in-mozambique/

UN Experts Warn of Islamic State Tie to Islamist Rebels in Congo

Salafi-Jihadi Global Tracker: Assessing the Islamic State’s Role in the Owo Church Massacre in Nigeria

Islamic State Khorasan Propaganda Targets New Audience with Release of Pashto Magazine Khurasan Ghag
TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Al Qaeda Leader Reappears to Revive Islamist Jihadi Ideology
Romany Shaker – The National Interest: 24 June 2022

Despite rumors about Ayman al-Zawahiri's death, the elderly Egyptian leader of Al Qaeda has reappeared in several videos after having tactfully remained out of sight for an extended period.

For more on this theme:

Taliban face growing armed resistance across Afghanistan

How Sinai Peacekeeping Could Forge a Breakthrough in the Middle East
https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/how-sinai-peacekeeping-could-forge-breakthrough-middle-east-203068

Over 130 Malian Civilians 'Systematically' Killed by Suspected Jihadists
https://www.thedefensepost.com/2022/06/21/mali-civilians-killed-jihadists/

Talking to the Pakistani Taliban
https://www.newsweekpakistan.com/talking-to-the-pakistani-taliban/

Considering Political Engagement with Al-Shabaab in Somalia

US Offers $10 Million Reward for Information on Hezbollah Financier

Terrorist activities increasing across Afghanistan in Taliban regime: Envoy

Five Things to Watch in the Islamabad-Pakistani Taliban Talks
https://www.usip.org/publications/2022/06/five-things-watch-islamabad-pakistani-taliban-talks

New anti-Taliban forces in Afghanistan: Genesis of a low-intensity conflict?

To fight white supremacist terrorism at home, fight it abroad

Upward Trend in Children Arrested for Terrorism Offenses Continues in the U.K.

Swarming Terror
https://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/swarming-terror
CONFLICT AND CRIME

Vladimir Putin's Ukrainian genocide is proceeding in plain view
Taras Kuzio – Atlantic Council: 29 June 2022

It has become abundantly clear that Moscow aims to extinguish Ukrainian statehood and eradicate all traces of Ukrainian identity while incorporating much of the country into Russia itself.


For more on this theme:

In The Heart Of Russia, A Hunt For Soldiers Accused Of War Crimes In Ukraine

Putin’s partner in war crimes
https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/belarusalert/putins-partner-in-war-crimes/

Suffer Not the Little Children
https://cepa.org/suffer-not-the-little-children/

Truth Commission: Colombia needs radical policy changes to end conflict
https://colombiareports.com/truth-commission-colombia-needs-radical-policy-changes-for-peace/

Deadly Mariupol Theatre Strike in Ukraine ‘a Clear War Crime’ by Russian Forces — New Investigation

Children in Armed Conflict Subjected to Unspeakable Horrors: UNICEF
https://www.voanews.com/a/6636634.html

Prosecuting crimes against humanity in Ethiopia: where is the law?
https://issafrica.org/iss-today/prosecuting-crimes-against-humanity-in-ethiopia-where-is-the-law

Colombia’s tribunal exposes how troops kidnapped and killed thousands of civilians
https://www.npr.org/transcripts/1103324447

UN expert calls for Myanmar action as death toll tops 2,000

Myanmar Military Junta’s War Crimes
https://www.indepthnews.net/index.php/opinion/5409-myanmar-military-junta-s-war-crimes

Ukraine Symposium – The Atrocity Crimes Advisory Group & Ukrainian Prosecutions of Russian POWs – Part 3

Ukraine: Cycle of death, destruction, dislocation, and disruption ‘must stop’
RUSSIA/UKRAINE

Interview: Why Ukrainian And Russian Forces Are Preparing For A Long War
Reid Standish – Radio Free Liberty/Radio Europe: 23 June 2022

Despite the predictions of lost momentum, the war seems far from over. NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg said on June 20 that it could last years, an assessment echoed by British Prime Minister Boris Johnson.

https://www.rferl.org/a/russia-ukraine-long-war-analysis/31912134.html

For more on this theme:
Would Russia use bioweapons in Ukraine?

Ukraine war: as the conflict at sea intensifies, Russia’s prospects of victory look further off than ever

Turkey and the War in Ukraine: An Opportunity to Unify NATO’s southern flank

Britain Slaps More Trade And Financial Sanctions On Russia Over War In Ukraine
https://www.rferl.org/a/britain-trade-financial-sanctions-russia/31911604.html

Russia is gaining advantage in eastern Ukraine as forces learn from earlier mistakes, US officials say

Belarus caught up in Putin’s plotting on Ukrainian and Lithuanian fronts

Russia’s Perceptual Loss Of Global Stature Post-Ukraine Invasion – Analysis

Why Finland and Sweden’s Accession Is a Game-Changer for NATO
https://cepa.org/why-finland-and-swedens-accession-is-a-game-changer-for-nato/

Ukraine war: all eyes on Lithuania as sanctions close Russian land access to Kaliningrad
https://theconversation.com/ukraine-war-all-eyes-on-lithuania-as-sanctions-close-russian-land-access-to-kaliningrad-185720

The AP Interview: Estonian PM says Russia not weary of war
https://apnews.com/article/kaja-kallas-estonia-prime-minister-interview-5ad4bccc1f76d9c5530129160fa-fa814

Indonesia Confirms President Jokowi’s Trip to Russia, Ukraine
https://thediplomat.com/2022/06/indonesia-confirms-president-jokowis-trip-to-russia-ukraine/
RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

Strategic responsibility: Rebalancing European and trans-Atlantic defense

How Kaliningrad Blockade Could Spark Escalation of Russia-Ukraine War

Don't Let Russia Dominate the Strategic Concept

Understanding Russia's Strategy In Ukraine – OpEd

Odesa rejects Russia: Putin’s Ukraine War turns old allies into bitter enemies

Chinese Firms Aiding Russia’s War on Ukraine, Says Biden Admin

NATO — Back in the Black (Sea)?
https://cepa.org/nato-back-in-the-black-sea/

Russia Pushes for Republican Units in the North Caucasus to Fight in Ukraine

Russia is disappearing Ukrainian civilians. Their families want answers
https://www.npr.org/2022/06/24/1107022067/russia-ukraine-detention-enforced-disappearance

‘We cannot pause our lives’: Ukrainians begin rebuilding
https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-world-news-1854978769965afbd39d5262cda1ad0f3

China continues to snap up Russian coal at steep discounts
https://www.cnbc.com/2022/06/30/china-snaps-up-russian-coal-at-deep-discounts-as-ukraine-war-continues.html

Sanctioning Russia is a long game. Here’s how to win.
https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/sanctioning-russia-is-a-long-game-heres-how-to-win/

Russia is conducting covert mobilisation campaign, Ukraine spy chief says

Missed Targets: the Struggles of Russia’s Missile Industry
https://cepa.org/missed-targets-the-struggles-of-russias-missile-industry

Ukraine: Think Deep Attacks Against Russian Logistics
https://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/ukraine-think-deep-attacks-against-russian-logistics
RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

**Russian Information Warfare Activities in the Temporarily Occupied Territories of Ukraine**

**The war in Ukraine is showing the limits of cyberattacks**
https://techmonitor.ai/technology/cybersecurity/cyberattacks-ukraine-russia-war

**How NATO Will Change If Finland and Sweden Become Members**

**Japan’s China Conundrum Amidst The Ukraine Crisis – Analysis**

**The West Wants A Price Cap On Russian Oil. Could It Work?**
https://www.rferl.org/a/russia-oil-price-cap-ukraine-war-revenues-analysis/31912057.html

**How Japan’s Russia policy changed after Ukraine**
https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2022/06/24/how-japans-russia-policy-changed-after-ukraine/

**The Russian Federation’s Ongoing Aggression Against Ukraine**
https://osce.usmission.gov/the-russian-federations-ongoing-aggression-against-ukraine-15/

**Ukraine edges closer to EU dream despite horrors of Putin’s war**

**Russia’s War in Ukraine — The Devastation of Health and Human Rights**

**Russia’s narratives about its invasion of Ukraine are lingering in Africa**

**The Ukraine War Is Bleeding Russia Dry**
https://www.19fortyfive.com/2022/06/the-ukraine-war-is-bleeding-russia-dry/

**Two Less Obvious Lessons for Baltic Defense from Russia’s Invasion of Ukraine**

**Ukraine war: Is Kazakhstan going cool on Russia?**

**Russia’s Establishment Turns Militant on Ukraine**
https://cepa.org/russias-establishment-turns-militant-on-ukraine/

**Russia Isn’t Winning in Ukraine, ‘but It’s No Longer Losing’**
RUSSIA/UKRAINE

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Hindsight Up Front | Defining a Successful Resolution to Russia’s War in Ukraine
https://www.wilsoncenter.org/event/hindsight-front-defining-successful-resolution-russias-war-ukraine

Interview: How Much Is China Helping Russia Finance Its War In Ukraine?
https://www.rferl.org/a/china-russia-ukraine-war-sanctions-analysis/31915619.html

What Russia’s military shake-up reveals about Putin’s war in Ukraine
https://www.spectator.co.uk/article/what-russia-s-military-shake-up-reveals-about-putin-s-war-in-ukraine

Concerns grow that India is ‘back door’ into Europe for Russian oil
https://www.theguardian.com/business/2022/jun/26/concerns-india-back-door-into-europe-for-russian-oil

Tide turns in the Ukraine war as Russia makes progress in the east

Interview: Can Russia Maintain Its Momentum In Ukraine’s East?
https://www.rferl.org/a/ukraine-analysis-russia-momentum-east-war/31919783.html

Heavy Losses Could Persuade Russia, Putin to Pause Ukraine War

It Pays For Companies To Leave Russia
https://corpgov.law.harvard.edu/2022/06/24/it-pays-for-companies-to-leave-russia/

Ukraine’s ‘tactical realignment’ in the east isn’t a sign it’s losing the war against Russia

Russia’s ‘Shadow Mobilization’ Accelerates With New Ethnic Units From The North Caucasus
https://www.rferl.org/a/russia-ukraine-war-north-caucasus-recruitment/31915842.html

The fallout of Russia’s grain blockade

Why is Kaliningrad at the center of a new Russia-NATO faceoff?

The Tide Retreats from Russia’s IT Sector
https://cepa.org/the-tide-retreats-from-russias-it-sector/