**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

Exclusive: IMF backs Ukraine anti-corruption court plan
Marc Jones – Reuters: 25 July 2018
The International Monetary Fund has approved Ukraine’s revised plan for an anti-corruption court. The approval brings Kiev one step closer to the next $2 billion loan tranche.

The One Thing Modern Voters Hate Most
Thomas Carothers and Christopher Carothers – Foreign Policy: 24 July 2018
Across the globe, presidents and prime ministers are arousing anger from their constituents over corruption. It appears that people are no longer willing to tolerate graft from their leadership and are either voting them out of office or forcing them out of office.

For more on this theme:

Tackling graft through a strong criminal justice system
https://issafrica.org/iss-today/tackling-graft-through-a-strong-criminal-justice-system

Violence, Sharif corruption case put Pakistan on edge ahead of elections

Stings and surveillance included in ACT corruption watchdog’s powers

The role of the people in the war against corruption

Brazil, weary of corruption, faces bleak poll

China’s expanded new corruption detention system must treat suspects well, says watchdog

Solomons anti-corruption bill passed
https://www.radionz.co.nz/international/pacific-news/362689/solomons-anti-corruption-bill-passed

Honduras: Politicians Jailed Ahead of Corruption Trials
DRUG TRAFFICKING

Budding business: how cannabis could transform Lebanon
Richard Hall – The Guardian: 18 July 2018

Lebanon is considering a plan to legalize cannabis cultivation, one of several proposals by the
global consultant McKinsey & Company to revive the country’s ailing economy.
https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jul/18/budding-business-how-cannabis-could-transform-lebanon

President Santos on the Drug War: “The Cure Has Been Worse Than the Disease”
Juan Manuel Santos – Americas Quarterly: July 2018

The outgoing president of Colombia opines that the punitive approach to the war on drugs has
not solved the problem and suggests several ways to move forward from the failed policies of the
past.
http://www.americasquarterly.org/content/new-way-forward-drug-policy

For more on this theme:
Peru park’s biodiversity at risk from illegal mining, drug production

Colombian Cartel Puts Out $70,000 Hit on Drug-Sniffing Dog

War on Drugs or Decriminalization: the Mexican Dilemma

Shoot-to-kill ineffectual in eliminating drug trafficking

Cheap cocaine fuels huge spike in new users: Number of young people taking Class A
drugs in Britain rises to half a million due to lowest prices in 25 years
http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-5997445/Number-young-people-taking-Class-drugs-Britain-rises-
half-million.html

Criminals or victims? How men entangle women in drug trade
http://www.sundaytimes.lk/180722/news/criminals-or-victims-how-men-entangle-women-in-drug-
trade-303675.html

Watchdog says U.S. wasted more than $15 billion in past 11 years in Afghanistan
http://www.kvoa.com/story/38745261/watchdog-says-us-wasted-more-than-15-billion-in-past-11-years-
in-afghanistan

Philippines’ Duterte to keep up ‘relentless and chilling’ drugs war
https://www.reuters.com/article/us-philippines-duterte/philippines-duterte-to-keep-up-relentless-and-
chilling-drugs-war-idUSKBN15D08

Gen Z Is More Into Coke, Ket and LSD Than We Thought
https://www.vice.com/en_ca/article/d3eymz/gen-z-is-more-into-coke-ket-and-lsd-than-we-thought
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Lawmakers target link between wildlife poaching, terror groups
Caroline Gardner – The Hill: 17 July 2018
Two U.S. lawmakers are calling attention to illegal wildlife poaching and how its profits fund terrorism.

Aerial Images Capture Swathes of Amazon Rainforest Destroyed by Gold Mining
Laura Mallonee – Wired: 19 July 2018
Photos capture how illegal gold mining is destroying expanses of rainforest in Peru. More lucrative than cocaine, illegal mining is destroying the ecosystem.
https://www.wired.com/story/amazon-rainforest-gold-mining-gallery/

For more on this theme:
Intelligent drones crack down on illegal fishing in African waters

Tracking technology helps crack down on illegal fishing practices

The internet is helping fuel global wildlife trafficking

New inter-agency committee to tackle wildlife trafficking

Illicit logging threatens lives and livelihoods in Africa

Everyone can help combat animal smuggling trade

China’s push to export traditional medicine may doom the magical pangolin
https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/chinas-push-to-export-traditional-medicine-may-doom-the-magical-pangolin/2018/07/20/8d8c52d4-7ef1-11e8-a63f-7b5d2aba7ac5_story.html

What Does the World Need to Understand About Wildlife Trafficking?
https://therevelator.org/understand-wildlife-trafficking/

Should you share data of threatened species?

Nigeria’s thriving illegal gold mining activities and challenge of lead poisoning
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

How Romania Became Europe’s Sex Trafficking Hub
Ana Maria Luca – Balkan Insight: 26 July 2018

Romanian women are at risk for human trafficking thanks in part to high poverty rates, poor government oversight and the freedom of movement throughout Europe.

Hospitals Gear Up For New Diagnosis: Human Trafficking
Michelle Andrews – National Public Radio: 24 July 2018

To fight human trafficking, hospital workers in New York are being trained to identify victims and to help them. Questions have been added to intake forms to help workers spot trafficking victims.

For more on this theme:
Dispatches From Mexico’s Southern Border: Mexico’s Migrants
https://www.lawfareblog.com/dispatches-mexicos-southern-border-mexicos-migrants

UN seeks increased efforts to eradicate human trafficking

Human Trafficking Is A Pandemic Of The 21st Century

How this human trafficking survivor gives women a future at home
https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/how-this-human-trafficking-survivor-gives-women-a-future-at-home

Human trafficking in India: Experts express concern over new Indian bill

Human smuggling getting sophisticated on U.S.-Canada border

Over 600 arrested for Australia people-smuggling

EU/Italy/Libya: Disputes Over Rescues Put Lives at Risk

We’ll pay if you take in migrants, Brussels tells EU governments
PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Blockchain May Remake the Internet, Once Bugs Are Worked Out
Joe McKendrick – RTInsights.com: 17 July 2018
Blockchain technologies may help “re-decentralize” the internet, shifting control away from large companies and back into the hands of users.
https://www.rtinsights.com/blockchain-may-remake-the-internet-once-bugs-are-worked-out/

For more on this theme:
(Global) The new federalism: blockchain will decentralise big tech’s power on the internet
(Global) i2Coalition Supports Open Internet and Multistakeholder Model in Comments to NTIA
http://www.circleid.com/posts/20180725_i2coalition_supports_open_internet_multistakeholder_model_ntia/
(Nepal) Governance in the age of social media

INTERNET FREEDOM

Africa’s Attack on Internet Freedom
Hilary Mattess and Jeffrey Smith – Foreign Policy: 13 July 2018
Africa’s internet freedom is in peril. Across the continent, autocrats are blocking or limiting access to sites under the guise of national security.

For more on this theme:
(Uganda) Uganda is making ISPs block pornography from its citizens
(Global) Blockchain Could Be the Savior of Free Speech
(China) China internet censorship roundup: Blockchain, BBC, and Facebook
https://www.vpncompare.co.uk/china-censorship-blockchain-bbc-facebook/
PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Internet users in China are showing more interest in privacy — but is WeChat too big to escape from?
Karen Chiu – Abacus News: 23 July 2018

Disillusioned users are leaving China’s most popular social network over growing privacy fears. But doing so comes at a cost.

For more on this theme:
(Global) As Emerging Economies Bring Their Citizens Online, Global Trust in Internet Media is Changing

(Europe) Facebook lost one million monthly active users to GDPR

(U.S.) Advertising, Data Privacy Prominent In Users' Social Media Dissatisfaction, Study Shows

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

China, EU seize control of the world's cyber agenda
Eric Geller – Politico: 22 July 2018

The U.S. is losing ground to Europe and China when it comes to leadership of the world’s cyber agenda. With recent policies coming from the European Union and China, internet privacy laws are being shaped abroad, to the detriment of American businesses.

For more on this theme:
(Global) Cyber warfare: the dawn of a new era for which we are thoroughly ill-prepared
https://www.thenational.ae/opinion/comment/cyber-warfare-the-dawn-of-a-new-era-for-which-we-are-thoroughly-ill-prepared-1.750502

(Singapore) Singapore cybersecurity agency touts data governance amid growing threat risk
PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Smart industrial cities: A panacea to boost economic growth
Jai Prakash Shivahare – BW Smartcities: 25 July 2018

Public-private partnerships are critical to making smart cities work, and engaging with stakeholders is key.


For more on this theme:

(Global) Smart cities face challenges and opportunities
https://www.computerweekly.com/opinion/Smart-cities-face-challenges-and-opportunities

(Rwanda) Rwanda stands out for mobile broadband coverage

(Global) Cities key to making data a new form of infrastructure, says Nesta

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

How Can We Make Intellectual Property Rights ‘Smarter’ With The Blockchain?
Andrew Rossow – Forbes: 24 July 2018

Using blockchain technology, intellectual property law could be adapted to the digital age.


For more on this theme:

(China, U.S.) Experts: China poses threats to U.S. through technology transfers

(India) India Approves WIPO Internet Treaties, IP Protections for Online Content Creators

(Global) Intellectual property in an AI world
CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

**Athena: Facebook is building a satellite to beam internet down to Earth**
*Hindustan Times: 21 July 2018*

Facebook is building a satellite to send internet signals to Earth. It could lead to a system that can "efficiently provide broadband access to unserved and underserved areas throughout the world."


For more on this theme:

(Bangladesh) The real scenario of internet access
https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/perspective/the-real-scenario-internet-access-1611499

(Nigeria) Nigeria ICT future: Why Building Local Capacity, Internet Inclusion Vital

(Global) Google is building a subsea cable that runs from Virginia to France
https://techstory.in/google-subsea-virginia-atlanticocean-2018/

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

**Starting at $40, hackers can attack your business with services bought on the dark web**
*Macy Bayern – TechRepublic: 25 July 2018*

The market for cyber criminals' services is thriving on the dark web, according to research by the cyber security firm Positive Technologies.


For more on this theme:

(Global) Six ways cyber criminals are getting smarter

(India) ‘Cyber police stations and crime cells set up in each state’

(United Kingdom) Cyber crime could change the face of policing by 2022, says senior officer
INFORMATION SHARING

Measuring the Web of Cyber Information Sharing
Barbara George – Cipher Brief: 27 July 2018

Examining the cyber information sharing system is being done in a piecemeal manner, which leaves everyone with an incomplete and often incorrect picture. Positive results can come only by looking at the problem holistically.


For more on this theme:

(U.S.) In the opaque world of government hacking, private firms grapple with allegiances
https://www.cyberscoop.com/cybersecurity-research-reports-kaspersky-symantec-microsoft-us-government/

(U.S.) The Cybersecurity 202: ‘We have to work together.’ Government struggling with sharing cyberthreat information, officials say

(Global) Collaboration Is The Way To Beat The Cyber Attackers

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Congress wants DoD to hold a national cyber response exercise
Mark Pomerleau – Fifth Domain: 26 July 2018

The U.S. Congress is proposing that the Department of Defense conduct a high-level exercise across all departments to determine how it would support civilian agencies in the event of a large-scale critical infrastructure attack.


For more on this theme:

(U.S., Russia) DHS Warns that Russians Hacked Control Rooms
http://www.powermag.com/dhs-reportedly-warns-that-russians-hacked-control-rooms/

(Global) Global critical infrastructure remains under significant cyber attack

(U.S.) Army applies cyber skills on critical infrastructure protection
PROGAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS

Egypt is winning battle against Islamic State in Sinai — but only temporarily
Avi Issacharoff – The Times of Israel: 27 July 2018

Egypt’s military is doing a good job against ISIS in the Sinai for the time being, but the group remains dangerous, especially if the military withdraws.
https://www.timesofisrael.com/egypt-is-winning-battle-against-islamic-state-in-sinai-but-only-temporarily/

Down, but Not Out: An Updated Examination of the Islamic State’s Visual Propaganda
Daniel Milton – Combating Terrorism Center at West Point: 24 July 2018

This update to a 2016 report highlights the setbacks ISIS faced, including a drop-off in its propaganda production. Despite that reduction, ISIS remains capable of mounting surges that can recapture the headlines.

For more on this theme:

Military Officials Fear Islamic State Still Potent in Iraq, Syria

Fight against terror entering a new phase, still just as vital

Islamic State makes comeback in Iraq with switch to guerrilla tactics

Burying the Lede: The Islamic State Downsizes?
https://ctc.usma.edu/burying-lede-islamic-state-downsizes/

Commentary: The reality of Islamic State in Iraq

A surprising reason for the rise of ISIS

The Current State Of ISIS

ISIS Is Alive and Well in the US
https://clarionproject.org/isis-is-alive-and-well-in-the-us

Watch Out for the ISIS Ideology
https://clarionproject.org/watch-out-for-the-isis-ideology/
TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

How Al-Shabaab Funds Terror with Far-Reaching System of Tax Collection
Bridget Johnson – PJ Media: 20 July 2018

Competing against ISIS, al-Shabaab remains a major tax collector by continuing to use its entrenched system of taxation, which accepts monetary and commodities taxes even in areas not under its control.


What is behind the Hamas-Iran rapprochement?
Adnan Abu Amer – Al Jazeera: 26 July 2018

After a break with Iran in 2012 regarding the conflict in Syria, changes in regional dynamics have Hamas seeking to rebuild its relationship with Iran.

https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/opinion/hamas-iran-rapprochement-180725150509789.html

For more on this theme:

What is terrorism? The controversial label that is used and abused around the world

Families flee as Taliban battle Islamic State in northern Afghanistan

Broken promises force al Shabaab recruits to return home

How we abducted Chibok girls in 2014 — Boko Haram commanders

Prince Khalid Bin Salman proves Iran-Al Qaida ties

Gaza’s future is up to Hamas

Hezbollah fighters return to fanfare welcome

Why Israel Fears Iran’s Presence in Syria

‘A Sudden Burst of Movement’ on the Afghan Peace Process
RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Planning for Prevention: A Framework to Develop and Evaluate National Action Plans to Prevent and Counter Violent Extremism
Sebastien Feve and Mohammed Elshimi – Global Center on Cooperative Security: June 2018

This paper outlines a framework to develop and evaluate national action plans on preventing and countering violent extremism.


Islamic scholars can help counter extremism at community level: Barzani
Rudaw: 24 July 2018

At a gathering of Islamic leaders in Kurdistan, Kurdistan Regional Government Prime Minister Nechirvan Barzani underscored that the group’s discussions are critical to countering extremist ideology.

http://www.rudaw.net/english/kurdistan/240720183

For more on this theme:
Federal funding for research project to counter radicalization to violence

Indonesian children prone to radicalization

Simply Removing All Extremist Content Won’t Stop Radicalisation
https://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/entry/why-simply-removing-all-extremist-content-wont-stop_uk_5b55f329e4b0eb29100e5905

Reintegrating those who have been radicalized — and executing jihadists

Knock Out Extremism: Scheme aims to stop radicalization
https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cambridgeshire-44916002

To end Boko Haram insurgency, include Muslim ummah in de-radicalisation process — SCSN
http://punchng.com/to-end-boko-haram-insurgency-include-muslim-ummah-in-de-radicalisation-process-scsn/
FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Women and children’s role in Islamic State underestimated
Nikolaj Nielsen – EU Observer: 24 July 2018

Experts have warned of the growing threat of women and minors linked to ISIS, suggesting that the number returning to Britain from Syria and Iraq has been significantly underestimated. According to a new report from King’s College London, the combination of an absence of government data and a changing view within ISIS of when women should take up arms, means that the danger they pose is likely to be much greater than official figures suggest.

https://euobserver.com/justice/142447

ISIS behind bars
Souad Mekhennet and Joby Warrick – The Washington Post: 26 July 2018

Crowded European prisons are becoming hotbeds for Islamic extremism. How can Europe face the challenge of keeping prisons from becoming terrorist recruitment centers?


For more on this theme:

Islamic State brides and cubs pose risk to Australia if they are still alive

From Daesh to ‘Diaspora’: Tracing the Women and Minors of Islamic State

The orphans of so-called Islamic State left in Libyan limbo

Iraq Wants to Send Home Wives and Children of Moroccan ISIS Fighters

The women and children of ISIS want to come home

Former ISIS Fighters Are Resettling In Canada

The challenge of female ISIS returnees in the Balkans

Switzerland struggling to bring Swiss IS fighters in Syria before its courts
COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

New priorities for international counter-terrorism
John Raine – International Institute for Strategic Studies: 20 July 2018

International cooperation is critical to solving issues of cross-border terrorism. But what will be the new priorities once terrorist trends shift, and what new approaches will be called for?

https://www.iiss.org/blogs/analysis/2018/07/international-counter-terrorism-priorities

For more on this theme:

Central Asian States Vow To Hike Cooperation On Terrorism, Extremism

Counterterrorism lessons from Paris, after this week’s World Cup celebrations

Terrorism won’t just go away