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CORRUPTION

Overwhelming majority of Australians believe federal politicians are corrupt
Christopher Knaus – The Guardian: 20 August 2018

Researchers with Griffith University in Australia and the nongovernmental organization Transparency International released the latest global corruption barometer, an annual survey measuring trust in governments at all levels. The new survey shows 85 percent of Australians believe most or all their members of Parliament are corrupt.


Zuma corruption claims: South Africa state capture inquiry opens
BBC: 20 August 2018

A South African judicial inquiry will examine claims of corruption and fraud in the public sector during former President Jacob Zuma’s rule.


For more on this theme:

Why corruption persists in Uganda

Impunity fuels corruption

Of Notebooks And Dollars: Corruption In Kirchner’s Argentina

Corruption in banking institutions retards nation-building: Court

Is Indonesia’s celebrated antigraft agency missing the corruption for the trees?

Why are anti-corruption success stories still the exception?

China’s Xi says military must resist ‘corrosion’ of corruption

Ukrainian Anti-Corruption Activists Hail Manafort’s Conviction as ‘Victory of Sorts’
DRUG TRAFFICKING

‘What Choice Do I Have?’ Rohingya Refugees Resort To Meth Trade
Amna Zaman – Carbonated TV: August 2018
Some Rohingya men in Bangladesh are peddling yaba, an illegal methamphetamine, just to make ends meet.

Drones hunt cocaine farms in Colombia
BBC: 21 August 2018
Colombia is reportedly testing remote-controlled drones that can find and destroy the illegal coca crops used to make cocaine. The drones carry a powerful herbicide that is sprayed on the crop, killing cocaine production at the source.

For more on this theme:
Ukraine, Kazakhstan to strengthen cooperation in fight against drug trafficking

Drug trafficking and organized crime, agenda topics with the United States
http://qcostarica.com/___trashed-11/

Amnesty Is Not the Answer

Labs can’t identify drugs seized in raids

‘Drug war numbers will still rise’
http://manilastandard.net/news/top-stories/273306/-drug-war-numbers-will-still-rise-.html

Iran’s Drug Problem
https://thenewsrep.com/107388/irans-drug-problem/

Joint US-Mexico effort to focus on drug kingpins’ financial infrastructure

Multi-Country Effort Sinks International Drug Trafficking Network
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

With Facebook’s Help, Middle East Antiquities Trafficking Enters the Digital Age
World Politics Review: 17 August 2018

In this podcast, the news website World Politics Review examines how looters and smugglers use Facebook to traffic Middle Eastern antiquities.


The Fate of Madagascar’s Endangered Rosewoods
Khadija Sharife and Edward Maintikely – Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project: 17 August 2018

Traffickers in illegal rosewood logging in Madagascar are making millions, and the corrupt government allows it to happen. The rare timber is smuggled to China, where it is made into furniture for the ultrawealthy.


For more on this theme:
Dubai at heart of countering global animal trafficking, report finds
https://www.thenational.ae/uae/dubai-at-heart-of-countering-global-animal-trafficking-report-finds-1.761970

Animals, even seahorses, the new front in illegal immigration war

Seizures of endangered animal products trafficked via air rise 40pc as smugglers increasingly look to the skies

Mitigating the Markets for Illegal Wildlife Products: Experts review effective demand reduction messengers and messaging

Civil Affairs Soldiers enhance Tanzanian operations to counter poaching, illicit trafficking
https://www.army.mil/article/210077/civil_affairs_soldiers_enhance_tanzanian_operations_to_counter_poaching_illicit Trafficking

Rangers trained to protect wildlife poaching and illegal logging

Drones Provide Proof of Peru’s Mining, Deforestation Crisis
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Does AI have the solution to climate change and human trafficking?
Eileen Brown – ZDNet: 23 August 2018

The New York-based Good Country movement seeks to use software platforms driven by artificial intelligence to empower 700 million people around the world to crowdsource and solve problems such as climate change and human trafficking.


How can Europe deal with an irregular migration crisis?
Government Europa: 20 August 2018

Eugenio Ambrosi, regional director for the International Organization for Migration, talks about potential solutions for managing the flows of irregular migration.

https://www.governmenteuropa.eu/europe-irregular-migration-crisis/90003/

For more on this theme:

Human trafficking, threat to good governance – NAPTIP

You don’t have to look far to find human trafficking victims
https://theconversation.com/you-dont-have-to-look-far-to-find-human-trafficking-victims-98596

Banks network to flag human traffickers

Uganda’s fight to end human trafficking

Smuggling of Migrants in Libya: A Journey of Torment, Forced Labor, Death

What are the practical alternatives to Libya’s detention centres?
https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/comment/2018/8/22/what-are-the-practical-alternatives-to-libyas-detention-centres
INTERNET GOVERNANCE

The essential elements of the new Internet governance: diversity, optimism and independence
Jonny Shipp – London School of Economics: 23 August 2018

This article discusses the key points raised during a recent conference in the United Kingdom on internet governance and asks what policymakers must do next.


For more on this theme:

(Zimbabwe) Internet governance, freedoms reporting requires a holistic approach - Koliwe Majama

(Africa) Internet Society pushes localisation agenda for Africa

INTERNET FREEDOM

Google’s internal dissent over China plans sheds light on broader transparency issues in China
Elliott Zaagman – TechNode: 20 August 2018

Google employees banded together to push for more information on what exactly their company would be doing with China. The internal dissent stems from a desire not to assist China in its efforts to continue government censorship.

https://technode.com/2018/08/20/china-google-transparency/

For more on this theme:

(China) China is trying to spread its censored version of the Internet to other countries

(China, Global) Wickr Adds New Censorship Circumvention Feature to its Encrypted App

(Egypt) Egypt signs censorship-focused cybercrime bill into law
PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Europe’s new data law upends global online advertising
Kate Holton – Reuters: 23 August 2018

Europe’s new data privacy law favors big tech firms because people are more likely to agree to privacy terms, or abdicate their privacy rights, to continue to use services such as Google and Facebook, putting smaller firms in jeopardy.


For more on this theme:

(China) Who needs democracy when you have data?
https://www.technologyreview.com/s/611815/who-needs-democracy-when-you-have-data/

(Global) Here’s one way to make the Internet of Things a connected reality

(U.S.) California’s internet policy may have good intentions, but is it progressive?
https://www.forbes.com/sites/roslynlayton/2018/08/20/californias-internet-policy-may-have-good-intentions-but-is-it-progressive/#72c78ee2145

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Chancellor Merkel’s digital gurus
Sonja Alvarez – Der Tagesspiegel: 23 August 2018

A newly established council of experts convened for the first time in Germany to advise Chancellor Angela Merkel’s government on digitalization issues. The council consists of academics and business representatives.


For more on this theme:

(U.S.) The Trump Administration Just Threw Out America’s Rules for Cyberweapons

(U.S., Ghana) Ghana And U.S To Facilitate Stronger Bilateral Cooperation On Cyber Issues
PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Puerto Rico's Governor: The Island Is Ready to Welcome Tech
Ricardo Rosselló – Wired: 23 August 2018

Puerto Rican Gov. Ricardo Rosselló argues that tech firms have opportunities to test their latest technologies in Puerto Rico, which is seeking investments to rebuild and improve infrastructure destroyed by natural disasters.

https://www.wired.com/story/opinion-puerto-rico-is-ready-to-welcome-tech/

For more on this theme:
(Brazil) Small Businesses Struggle To Go Digital In Brazil

(Guam) Universal Wi-Fi access bill proposal heard

(U.S.) Rural Broadband Gets Boost In Senate
https://www.smartresilient.com/rural-broadband-gets-boost-senate

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Meet ‘Intrusion Truth,’ the Mysterious Group Doxing Chinese Intel Hackers
Joseph Cox – Motherboard: 21 August 2018

A controversial group known as Intrusion Truth has been leaking the names of hackers working for Chinese intelligence. The group’s unmasking of government-backed hackers can be seen as both a deterrent and retribution for state-sponsored attacks.


For more on this theme:
(Global) IP Tips for Startups

(Europe) The EU Copyright Directive: seeing the funny side?
https://www.information-age.com/the-eu-copyright-directive-123474159/

(China, U.S.) The U.S. is overly paranoid about China’s tech rise
CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

**Cyber Security Challenge UK to scale up**
Warwick Ashford – Computer Weekly: 17 August 2018

To attract new cyber security talent to join industry and government, the United Kingdom is scaling up its events for the Cyber Security Challenge UK.


For more on this theme:

(Zimbabwe) Poor Internet access hampers rural teachers’ educational advancement

(Europe) Meet The Under 30 Who Is Bringing Digital Democracy To European Cities

(Wales) Wales awarded first cyber security centre of excellence

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

**It’s time to debug bug bounty programs**
Craig Searle – CSO: 24 August 2018

It’s time to standardize the rules for bug bounty programs that software companies and websites organize to identify computer bugs and vulnerabilities. The individuals who participate don’t have the legal protections they need when trying to do the right thing.


For more on this theme:

(GLOBAL) As internet ‘spoofing’ gets better, you may surf into a sea of sharks

(GLOBAL) Cyber crime is going nuclear – here’s what your business can do about it

(NATO) NATO’s Locked Shield Exercise: a cybersecurity success?
INFORMATION SHARING

Government’s Getting Faster at Sharing Unclassified Cyber Threat Indicators
Joseph Marks – Nextgov: 22 August 2018

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security is getting better at shortening the time it takes to release unclassified cyber threat information to the public and the affected industries. The department has also improved its declassification process, meaning fewer threats remain confidential.


For more on this theme:
(U.S.) Sharing Vital Cyberinformation: An Interview with the New Jersey CISO
(U.S., Global) Fortinet Signs Cyber Threat Information Sharing Agreement With IBM
(U.S.) Major vendor of voting systems to boost security following criticism

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

MP warns of cyber threat to Australian elections
Rohan Pearce – Computerworld: 21 August 2018

Australian officials are pushing for the government to classify the electoral system as “critical infrastructure” in the hopes that it would bring extra scrutiny and protection.


For more on this theme:
(U.S., Global) Invaders from space — hacks against satellites threaten our critical infrastructure
(U.S.) Verizon throttled ‘unlimited’ data of Calif. fire department during Mendocino wildfire
(GLOBAL) Securing Critical Infrastructure with Artificial Intelligence
**PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)**

**ISIS**

**Joint Task Force ARES and Operation GLOWING SYMPHONY: Cyber Command’s Internet War Against ISIL**

*National Security Archive: 13 August 2018*

Declassified documents obtained through the Freedom of Information Act provide a preliminary assessment of the United States’ anti-ISIS strategy. The strategy, known as Operation Glowing Symphony, was to deny ISIS the use of the internet. Independent data indicates that the program may have had some success.


**Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi: ‘New audio message’ from IS leader released**

*BBC: 23 August 2018*

ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, in his first purported speech in nearly a year, has called on followers to persevere, according to a statement posted on the group’s media outlet. The secretive Islamic State leader has frequently been reported killed or wounded since leading his fighters on a sweep through northern Iraq. His whereabouts are not known, but this latest message suggests he is alive.


For more on this theme:

**U.N. team, approved a year ago, starts work on Islamic State crimes in Iraq**


**Islamic State video purportedly shows youths responsible for attacks in Chechnya**


**Justice and accountability after the Islamic State: ‘Few options’ for victims of IS war crimes**


**In fight against ISIS’s propaganda machine, raids and online trench warfare**


**Entering Mind of ISIS: Captured Member Tells of Unique Meeting of Baghdadi in Remote Syria**


**IS deadly new front in Pakistan’s decades-old terror war**

https://www.apnews.com/e5c3dc41cb7b4a058333509a342e34a3/IS-deadly-new-front-in-Pakistan%27s-decades-old-terror-war
TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Who Is Stronger, ISIS or al-Qaeda?
Ran Meir – Clarion Project: 23 August 2018

With the release of the purported ISIS leader’s tape, the Clarion Project asks: Who is stronger, ISIS or al-Qaeda? The answer depends on where you look.

https://clarionproject.org/al-baghdadis-new-audio-tape/

Boko Haram’s Deadly Impact
John Campbell and Asch Harwood – Council on Foreign Relations: 20 August 2018

A new study shows there is a much higher victim rate from Boko Haram’s reign of terror than previously thought. The study also looks at the group’s reach, tactics and evolution.

https://www.cfr.org/article/boko-harams-deadly-impact

For more on this theme:

Islamic State used as an excuse to stifle dissent in Central Asia

“ISIS Widows” and “Boko Haram Wives”: Overlooked Abuses in Iraq and Nigeria

Al-Shabaab Getting Publicity It Wanted, Somali Leaders Say
https://menafn.com/1097326156/AlShabaab-Getting-Publicity-It-Wanted-Somali-Leaders-Say

The Taliban doesn’t need peace. It’s winning.

Central Asian Jihadists Under Al Qaeda’s And Taliban’s Strategic Ties – Analysis

Al-Qaeda Leader Zawahiri Calls for Muslim Unity in New Speech

The danger of a better-behaved Boko Haram

How the conflict in Yemen could lead to the return of al-Qaeda

A Fourth War With Hamas in Gaza?
https://www.lawfareblog.com/fourth-war-hamas-gaza

Hezbollah is a terror group. The West needs to wake up
RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

**AMISOM Partners with Somali Youth to Stop Violent Extremism**  
*The Kampala Post: 21 August 2018*

The African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) is training youths to partner with security institutions to deter crime and put a check on violent extremism in Somalia. AMISOM is holding sensitization workshops across the country to encourage partnerships between young people and the security forces and government.

https://www.kampalapost.com/content/africa/amisom-partners-somali-youth-stop-violent-extremism

**Catch them early for de-radicalisation: Weaning youths away**  
*Raj Shekhar – The Times of India: 22 August 2018*

After a successful program to rehabilitate nine of 12 youths who formed a terror cell, police in India set up a deradicalization center to keep youths from becoming radicalized by social media.

https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/catch-them-early-for-de-radicalisation-weaning-youths-away-from-terror-path/articleshow/65494400.cms

*For more on this theme:*

**Women, their role in violent extremism & rights agendas are not necessarily incompatible**


**Here’s the Case That Shows How to Handle the Jihadist Prison Radicalization Threat**

https://pjmedia.com/homeland-security/heres-the-case-that-shows-how-to-handle-the-jihadist-prison-radicalization-threat/

**Amsterdam’s mayor shakes up strategy to deal with radicalization**


**Italy in urgent need of national deradicalisation strategy**


**EU plans hefty fines for tech firms that are too slow to remove extremist content**

https://www.siliconrepublic.com/enterprise/eu-fines-terrorist-content

**National Security Podcast: Countering violent extremism**

https://www.policyforum.net/natsecpod-cve/

**The State Department Hired Cambridge Analytica’s Parent Company to Target Terrorist Propaganda**

FOREIGN FIGHTERS

**Foreign militants are taking over Libya’s Fezzan region**
Alessandra Bocchi – The New Arab: 17 August 2018

Ever since the overthrow of Moammar Gadhafi in 2011, Libya’s tribes have been in violent conflict over the control of oil-rich areas and key cities in Libya’s south. Now they are fighting increasing numbers of Nigerian and Chadian mercenaries and militias that have taken control of Libya’s southern Fezzan area.

https://www.alaraby.co.uk/english/indepth/2018/8/17/foreign-militants-are-taking-over-libyas-fezzan-region

*For more on this theme:*

**How an Aussie man slipped under the radar to join the Islamic State**

**Army soldier accused of wanting to be suicide bomber for ISIS to plead guilty, lawyers say**

**UN official highlights risks posed by returning foreign terrorist fighters**

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

**Region’s top militaries meet in SCO anti-terrorism drill**
Asia Times: 23 August 2018

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization is holding a counterterrorism drill this month titled Peace Mission 2018. Troops from China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, India and Pakistan, as well as 10 representatives from Uzbekistan, are participating.


*For more on this theme:*

**Spain’s counterterrorism measures lag behind rapidly changing threat**

**Ukraine confirms importance of consolidated efforts to tackle terrorism**

**Partnering, information-sharing key to counterterrorism success**