### 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

Corruption and Gender Inequality in the Age of #MeToo
Caroline Bettinger-Lopez and Rebecca Hughes – Council on Foreign Relations: 28 August 2018
Panelists at a Council on Foreign Relations roundtable addressed the need to mainstream gender into anti-corruption efforts and discussed the impact of gendered forms of corruption, such as “sextortion” — a term that describes the abuse of power to obtain sexual benefits.
https://www.cfr.org/blog/corruption-and-gender-inequality-age-metoo

Colombia anti-corruption referendum comes up shy on votes
Al Jazeera: 27 August 2018
A referendum in Colombia on seven anti-corruption measures failed to draw enough voters, nullifying the results even though each of the measures — including a reduction in lawmakers’ salaries and term limits for elected officials — received at least 99 percent support from those who cast ballots.

For more on this theme:
Argentina tries breaking corrupt habits

Guatemalan Senate Begins Corruption Investigation of President

Australians think our politicians are corrupt, but where is the evidence?
https://theconversation.com/australians-think-our-politicians-are-corrupt-but-where-is-the-evidence-101822

Botswana: Business Community Critical in Fight Against Corruption
https://allafrica.com/stories/201808290281.html

Romania’s Anti-Corruption Protests: What International Media Miss

Is this the way to finally beat corruption?
https://ewn.co.za/2018/08/30/is-this-the-way-to-finally-beat-corruption

Archbishop who called on Pope to resign says corruption reaches the top

‘Iraq is dying’: oil flows freely but corruption fuels growing anger
DRUG TRAFFICKING

BRI could be a Silk Road for the drug trade
John Coyne and Rebecca Moore – Australian Strategic Policy Institute: 28 August 2018

Chinese President Xi Jinping’s Belt and Road Initiative has the potential to boost the illicit drug trade due to the regional and global connectivity it is expected to bring.


We’re failing in the opioid crisis. A new study shows a more serious approach would save lives.
German Lopez – Vox: 23 August 2018

A new study published in the American Journal of Public Health examines how the U.S. can reduce the death toll from opioid overdoses.


For more on this theme:

Why governments struggle to eradicate the illegal drug trade

California and Feds Agree: No Pot Grows on Public Lands

Opioids and trade war create toxic cocktail

Fight Drug Abuse, Don’t Subsidize It

Employers need to plan to address medical marijuana
https://timesbulletin.com/Content/News/News/Article/Employers-need-to-plan-to-address-medical-marijuana/2/4/216256

India committed to work with BIMSTEC member states for combating terror, drug trafficking: PM Modi

Tanzania discovers new drug trafficking route from Asia

Do safe injection sites enable drug users? And other answers to your questions.

Who Controls Colombia’s Enduring Heroin Trade
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Sniffer Dogs Represent the Latest Weapon in the Fight Against the Illegal Ivory Trade
Jason Daley – Smithsonian: 28 August 2018

A pioneering technique that enables dogs to quickly detect illegal ivory and rhino horn is being tested at Kenya’s Mombasa port, one of Africa’s biggest wildlife trafficking hubs. Air samples collected from the inside of shipping containers are taken to a room with dogs that are trained to sit when they detect the scent of the illegal cargo.


Who Is Eating out of the World’s ‘Pangolin Pit’?
Nandini Velho – The Wire: 29 August 2018

Most discussions regarding wildlife trafficking focus on the poachers and how to stop them. But until the demand dries up, poachers will find a way. It’s time to look at the consumer side of the issue and figure out how to end demand.

https://thewire.in/environment/who-is-eating-out-of-the-worlds-pangolin-pit

For more on this theme:

Bangkok conference seeks to build inter-continental cooperation in suppressing wildlife trade and trafficking
https://www.phnompenhpost.com/international/bangkok-conference-seeks-build-inter-continental-cooperation-suppressing-wildlife

Trade of coastal sand is damaging wildlife of poorer nations, study finds

Helping solve the wildest crimes

Empowering whistleblowers is the key to combating wildlife crime

Small-scale miners vow to expose politicians involved in galamsey

Colombian Armed Forces Fight Illegal Gold Mining

Uncontrolled sand mining led to Kerala floods. This is only waiting to happen again

More Than 300 Endangered Sea Turtles Found Dead in Fishing Net Off Mexican Coast
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Afghanistan Promotes Regional Cooperation on Combatting Human Trafficking
International Organization for Migration: 28 August 2018

Afghanistan promoted regional cooperation in the fight against human trafficking as part of a two-day forum hosted by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Kabul, Afghanistan. The IOM brought together nongovernmental organizations from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to discuss cross-border cooperation as an anti-trafficking measure in Central and South Asia.


Addressing modern slavery through building supply chain resilience
Howard Kerr – Open Access Government: 30 August 2018

Combating modern slavery will require several approaches. One way is to increase transparency and resilience in corporate supply chains.

https://www.openaccessgovernment.org/modern-slavery-supply-chain-resilience/51074/

For more on this theme:
- High Profits and Misery Meet at Door of Smugglers’ Stash Houses
- Human Trafficking in Harvey’s Wake: UT Study Aims to Disrupt Supply Networks
- Uganda: Porous Borders Aiding Human Trafficking – Fida
  https://allafrica.com/stories/201808300286.html
- More than 3,000 Vietnamese fell victim to human traffickers in 2017-2012
- Salvation Army tackles risk of human trafficking as thousands flee Venezuela
  https://www.salvationarmy.org/ihq/news/inr240818
- Human trafficking second largest criminal activity
  http://www.nationmultimedia.com/detail/asean-plus/30352974
- New approach to detect human trafficking, smuggling activities in the country
- Immigration Detention in Libya: “A Human Rights Crisis”
- Proposed law reforms how India treats human trafficking victims, gives them care
- New EU project to address root causes of migration
  http://thepoint.gm/africa/gambia/article/new-eu-project-to-address-root-causes-of-migration
PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Can India take the pole position in global cyber governance?
Sameer Patil – Quartz: 30 August 2018

The United States, Russia and China have been battling it out for dominance in the internet governance sphere. Because the three countries have vastly differing opinions about managing cyberspace, little progress has been made globally. India now stands poised to take the lead in global cyber governance.


For more on this theme:

(Africa) Nigeria Hosts ITU Workshop On Internet Governance In Africa

(Global) Taking a Multi-Stakeholder Look at Cyber Norms
http://www.circleid.com/posts/20180827_taking_a_multi_stakeholder_look_at_cyber_norms/

(United Kingdom) Notes on the public debate about digital responsibility

INTERNET FREEDOM

The Link Between More Internet Access and Frequent Internet Shutdowns
Conor Sanchez – Council on Foreign Relations: 22 August 2018

As internet connectivity spreads, many countries where it is growing fastest are responsible for the most repressive internet policies and shutdowns.

https://www.cfr.org/blog/link-between-more-internet-access-and-frequent-internet-shutdowns

For more on this theme:

(Mali) Digital rights groups round on Mali govt over internet disruptions

(Egypt) Egypt Leads the Pack in Internet Censorship Across the Middle East

(China) Google’s China push outweighs censorship concerns
PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Let’s Retire the Phrase ‘Privacy Policy’
Joseph Turow - The New York Times: 20 August 2018
Privacy policies are more like commercial surveillance policies.

For more on this theme:
(Global) Facebook suspends hundreds of apps over data concerns

(U.S.) New report: Facebook and Google among tech firms lobbying Congress for ‘kinder’ federal data privacy laws

(Global) In Major Nod to Privacy, Mozilla to Turn Off Data-Tracking in Firefox Browser ‘By Default’

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Cyber- and electronic warfare at core of Japan’s defense policy
Masaya Kato – Nikkei Asian Review: 29 August 2018
Japan is looking to update its National Defense Program Guidelines, focusing its forces toward modern threats like cyber, space and electronic warfare.

For more on this theme:
(U.S.) Watchdog found military ‘deficiencies’ in cyber ops, public records show

(Ghana) Ghana to get a Digital Strategy Policy soon

(U.S., Global) Cyber Threat Intelligence Leader Warns of Changing Nature of Attacks
https://www.afcea.org/content/cyber-threat-intelligence-leader-warns-changing-nature-attacks
PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Collaboration key to a national cybersecurity strategy
Ian Yip – Government News: 30 August 2018
To improve cyber resilience, public and private sectors need to work together to share information, best practices, resources and people.

For more on this theme:
(India) Infoedge enters into partnership to facilitate research on cyber security
(U.S., Ghana) US-Ghana charts new course to fight cyber crime
(U.S.) Manhattan DA: Cities must partner on cyber crime prevention, go beyond investigation

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

How China steals U.S. secrets
Aarthi Swaminathan and Michael B. Kelley – Yahoo Finance: 18 August 2018
A recent U.S. government report indicates how good China is when it comes to stealing American intellectual property and U.S. government secrets. “China, from a counterintelligence perspective, represents the broadest, most pervasive, most threatening challenge we face as a country,” FBI Director Christopher Wray told the Aspen Security Forum in July.

For more on this theme:
(China) China's Tsinghua University Found to Have Cyber-Spied for Regime's Trade Interests, Belt and Road
https://www.theepochtimes.com/chinas-tsinghua-university-found-to-have-cyber-spied-for-regimes-trade-interests-belt-and-road_2627779.html
(U.S., Mexico, Canada) New NAFTA could include tough intellectual property laws that Canada fought against in TPP
(Iran, U.S.) Alleged Iranian Hackers Target U.S. Universities to Steal Intellectual Property, Report Reveals
CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Why It Is Time For a U.S. Cyber Force
Dave Schroeder and Travis Howard – Center for International Maritime Security:
29 August 2018

Cyberspace threats are real and have been for over a decade. While U.S. efforts have improved the situation incrementally, the nation’s offensive and defensive cyber capabilities suffer from slow progress, inefficiency and the lack of a unified approach.
http://cimsec.org/why-it-is-time-for-a-u-s-cyber-force/37390

For more on this theme:
(Africa) Danbatta calls for policies to fast-track digital growth

(Global) Mexico, Tunisia Join the World's Largest Student-Led Cybersecurity Event

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

Notorious cyber crime gang behind global bank hacking spree returns with new attacks
Danny Palmer – ZDNet: 30 August 2018

The Cobalt cyber crime group is suspected of striking banks in more than 40 countries, causing more than 1 billion euros in damages. Now the group is back and looking to steal more.

For more on this theme:
(U.K., Kenya) UK to build cyber centre in Kenya ‘to ensure British pedophiles have no place to hide’

(Israel, Nigeria) Israel pledges to assist Nigeria tackle cyber crimes, security

(Global) It's time for governments to help their citizens deal with cybersecurity
INFORMATION SHARING

4 Benefits of a World with Less Privacy
Reg Harnish – DarkReading: 30 August 2018

If we shared our information more freely, the cyber realm would be a very different place. There are distinct benefits to loosening up on privacy and embracing information sharing.

https://www.darkreading.com/endpoint/4-benefits-of-a-world-with-less-privacy/a/d-id/1332690

For more on this theme:

(Australia, Canada, New Zealand, U.K., U.S.) Why the Five Eyes boosted intelligence sharing despite tension

(Global) Why your apps could help hackers steal and sell your information on the dark web

(U.K.) Islands co-operate over threat of cyber-attacks

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Government reinforces critical infrastructure against cyber attacks
Swissinfo.ch: 27 August 2018

After a major cyber attack on a government-owned defense firm, Switzerland released minimum standards for companies and organizations to protect the country’s critical infrastructure.


For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Confronting Cyber Attacks to the US Electricity Grid

(Australia) Australia: Protecting the cloud under the sea: Submarine cable infrastructure

(U.S., Global) How Hyperconverged Infrastructure Improves the State and Local Disaster Recovery Process
ISIS

After reign of terror, ISIS’ Baghdadi pleads for relevance
Ben Wedeman – CNN: 25 August 2018

Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi, the leader of ISIS, recorded a message to his followers, calling on them to carry on a fight they’ve already lost. His recording demonstrates how desperate the organization is to remain relevant.


After stinging defeats, IS revamps to survive
Ammar Karim – Agence France-Presse: 28 August 2018

After losing all the urban centers it controlled in Iraq and being reduced to its last desert holdouts in Syria, ISIS has changed its administrative structure and is moving away from the statelike apparatus it once ran.


For more on this theme:

Abu Bakr Al Baghdadi’s message illustrates ISIS threat
https://www.thenational.ae/opinion/editorial/abu-bakr-al-baghdadi-s-message-illustrates-isis-threat-1.763118

Head of Islamic State in Afghanistan killed, government says

Syria: ISIS Holding Children Hostage

ISIS Makes a Comeback — as Trump Opt to Stay in Syria

Analysis: US terror designations target Islamic State’s Southeast Asian network

The Hunt: Is ISIS mounting a comeback?

US Casts Doubt on Islamic State’s Staying Power

Islamic State Has ‘Not Been Vanquished’, Says Foreign Secretary
https://www.forces.net/news/islamic-state-has-not-been-vanquished-says-foreign-secretary

Will ISIS make up for lost territory virtually?
https://www.c4isrnet.com/show-reporter/technet-augusta/2018/08/24/will-isis-make-up-for-lost-territory-virtually/
Hezbollah will fight if Iran attacked  
Hussein Dakroub – The Daily Star: 27 August 2018

Hezbollah is not likely to get into a war with Israel, despite heightened rhetoric. That is, unless the United States or Israel decides to conduct a strike against Iran.


From road tax to courts: The Taliban’s attempts at state-building  
Ruchi Kumar – Al Jazeera: 26 August 2018

“Taliban governance is more coherent than ever before; high-level commissions govern sectors such as finance, health, education, justice and taxation, with clear chains of command and policies from the leadership based in Pakistan down to villages in Afghanistan,” a new report from the Overseas Development Institute says. It notes how Taliban taxes “co-opt Islamic finance concepts, such as oshr and zakat, or mimic official state systems.”


For more on this theme:

Why al-Qaeda is alive and well long after the death of Bin Laden  

Will Al Qaeda Spoil a Peace Deal in Afghanistan?  

Hamas: Between unity with Fatah and a deal with Israel  

The parallel universe of Hassan Nasrallah  
https://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-5338317,00.html

Hezbollah commemorates last year’s joint operation with Lebanese, Syrian militaries  

Talk to the Taliban? It’s worth a try  

Boko Haram’s reign of terror reignites Nigeria’s religious wars  

Understanding Terrorism Is More Than a Numbers Game  
https://worldview.stratfor.com/article/understanding-terrorism-more-numbers-game

The Future of Terrorism: The Practitioners’ View  
http://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/future-terrorism-practitioners-view
RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Islamic clerics can shift Boko Haram’s ideological narrative
Akinola Olojo – Institute for Security Studies: 27 August 2018

Islamic clerics and scholars are able to deconstruct the narrative used by Boko Haram to recruit its members. Having clerics take a more robust role could help address the propaganda.
https://issafrica.org/iss-today/islamic-clerics-can-shift-boko-harams-ideological-narrative

Scholars, Islamic clerics to be part of counter-terror plan: Rajnath Singh
Rahul Tripathi – The Indian Express: 30 August 2018

To check the radicalization attempts by ISIS and other terror groups, Indian Home Minister Rajnath Singh suggests clerics, scholars and the National Commission of Minorities build a counter narrative.

For more on this theme:
NHRC Seeks Deradicalization of Repentant Boko Haram Members

Kosovo, home to many ISIS recruits, is struggling to stamp out its homegrown terrorism problem

The Surge of Terrorism in Mozambique: Causes of Radicalization and Threats to Foreign investors

Germany’s Salafist Muslim children being radicalized faster and younger: intelligence report

Digital hatred, real violence: Majoritarian radicalisation and social media in India

Former police officer reveals indicators of radicalization

New courses in Jeddah aim to counter extremism
http://www.arabnews.com/node/1364426/saudi-arabia

Fighting violent extremism by teaching tolerance
FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Inching Closer to a Showdown Over the Fate of Captured Islamic State Fighters

Robert Chesney – Lawfare: 30 August 2018

With some nations refusing to repatriate ISIS fighters and more of them now in the custody of Syrian Democratic Forces, the situation is coming to a head. Something must be decided soon.

https://www.lawfareblog.com/inching-closer-showdown-over-fate-captured-islamic-state-fighters

For more on this theme:

US considers Guantanamo, Iraqi prisons for ISIS fighters captured by Syrian rebels: report

Is Canada Prepared for the Threat of Returning Jihadists?
https://www.gatestoneinstitute.org/12921/canada-returning-jihadists

Spain Fears Migration of Morocco’s Pardoned Ex-Terrorists, Extremists

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

UK to train Nigerian army counterterror squads to fight Boko Haram under new security partnership

Joe Watts – The Independent: 30 August 2018

The United Kingdom has pledged to train Nigerian Army squads to fight Boko Haram. The new security partnership will include a 13 million-pound initiative to train schoolchildren and counter the group’s propaganda.

https://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/politics/uk-train-nigerian-army-boko-haram-security-partnership-theresa-may-a8513641.html

For more on this theme:

Cooperation to Fight ISIS Needs to be Stepped Up Now, Indonesian Minister Warns

Drone terrorism is now a reality, and we need a plan to counter the threat

Police say constant vigilance, swift response key to stop terrorism
https://www.malaymail.com/s/1666358/police-say-constant-vigilance-swift-response-key-to-stop-terrorism