## CONTENTS

### COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)
- Corruption
- Drug Trafficking
- Trafficking in Scarce or Protected Resources

### PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)
- Internet Governance
- Internet Freedom
- Cyber Statecraft and Strategy
- Cyber Attacks, Threats and Vulnerabilities
- Cyber Capacity Building
- Cybercrime

### PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)
- ISIS and Foreign Fighters
- Terrorism Around the World
- Al-Qaeda
- Conflict and Crime
- Russia/Ukraine

The Marshall Center Transnational Weekly is a current awareness, information and policy tool for Marshall Center stakeholders to inform them about online publications by think tanks, research institutes and other organizations that deal with transnational subjects. Use of these brief excerpts and links does not reflect the views of or endorsement by the Marshall Center, the U.S. government or the German government. All original content in these compilations is copyrighted unless specifically noted otherwise. All rights to copyrighted items are reserved.
COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Paraguayan vice president to stay on after corruption accusations
AlJazeera: 16 August 2022
Hugo Velazquez reverses his decision to resign after the U.S. accused him of involvement in significant corruption.

Corruption Investigation Rocks Iran's Largest Steelmaker, Pins Graft On Rohani Administration
Radio Farda: 23 August 2022
One of Iran’s biggest cash cows, the Mobarakeh Steel Co., is reeling from the release of a lengthy parliamentary investigation that alleges corruption amounting to billions tied to the administration of former President Hassan Rohani.
https://www.rferl.org/a/iran-mobarekeh-steel-corruption-investigation-rohani/32001399.html

For more on this theme:
Paraguayan prosecutor opens probe of vice president accused by U.S. of corruption

Corruption Cash Frozen in Switzerland to Fund Development in Uzbekistan

Macau: The world’s gambling hub tumbles over China’s anti-corruption campaign and zero-COVID policy

Kazakh Anti-Corruption Agency Ends Investigation Into Nazarbaev’s Detained Nephew
https://www.rferl.org/a/kazakhstan-nazarbaev-nephew/32003046.html

Is corruption really getting worse in Europe or are perceptions all wrong?
https://www.euronews.com/my-europe/2022/08/18/is-corruption-really-getting-worse-in-europe-or-are-perceptions-all-wrong

Malaysia’s top court sends ex-PM Najib to prison on corruption charges

Can Honduras tackle deep-seated police corruption?

Former Albanian President Under Investigation by Corruption Prosecutor
DRUG TRAFFICKING

Chinese money laundering scheme boosts drug trafficking in US
Christopher Urben – The Hill: 22 August 2022

Chinese organized crime has taken over money laundering for the Mexican drug cartels, providing a more efficient system for transferring drug sales profits to Mexico. This has increased net profits for the cartels and empowered them to expand their operations.

Portugal Fighting Back Against Rising Tide of Cocaine
Alessandro Ford – InSight Crime: 25 August 2022

Portugal has seized record amounts of cocaine from South America in recent months, underscoring how the country is regaining its place as a significant drug entry point and transit hub.

For more on this theme:

String of bomb attacks reported as Antwerp's drugs war escalates
https://eutoday.net/news/security-defence/2022/string-of-bomb-attacks-reported-as-antwerps-drugs-war-escalates

What Policy Changes Could Help Save Lives from Illicit Synthetic Opioids Overdose?
https://www.rand.org/pubs/conf_proceedings/CFA1468-1.html

Booming cocaine trade now stains most of Latin America

Rainbow fentanyl: Large amounts of colorful pills seized at the US-Mexico border

Drug traffickers infiltrating port of Antwerp through job offers

Narco Riots Target Civilians and Companies in Post-Chapo Mexico

Why Ambulances Remain Convenient Way to Move Drugs in Colombia

The triangles and crescent of drug trafficking
https://www.sundayguardianlive.com/opinion/triangles-crescent-drug-trafficking

Ecuador, Third Country Worldwide with Largest Cocaine Seizures
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Cheetahs to chimps: Trafficked wildlife a growing ‘status symbol’ in GCC, experts say
Jennifer Bell – Al Arabiya: 23 August 2022

The trend of owning big cats and primates and showcasing them on social media is fueling a growth in the Persian Gulf states’ illegal animal trafficking trade, according to experts.

Quad to curb China’s illegal fishing in Indo-Pacific
ANI: 20 August 2022

Quadrilateral Security Dialogue nations — Australia, India, Japan and the United States — are planning to curb China’s illegal fishing in the Indo-Pacific using satellite tracking technology. China is accused of being the biggest beneficiary of not-so-legal fishing, so much so that there is a risk of fish stock being depleted in the Pacific and the seas near the Chinese coast.
https://theprint.in/world/quad-to-curb-chinas-illegal-fishing-in-indo-pacific/1091356/

For more on this theme:
Women are leading the restoration of the world’s second largest tropical rainforest — here’s how
https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/08/congo-rainforest-women-reforestation/

UK Unveils New Maritime Strategy to Tackle Emerging Threats

Online sales of endangered wild monkeys boom in Myanmar

The AI of the tiger: A high-tech bid to save an iconic species

Cambodian Deforestation and Poverty
https://www.borgenmagazine.com/cambodian-deforestation-and-poverty/

CFAC Prepared to Combat Deforestation
https://dialogo-americas.com/articles/cfac-prepared-to-combat-deforestation/

Illegal Mining in the Amazon, with Manuela Andreoni
https://www.resources.org/resources-radio/illegal-mining-in-the-amazon-with-manuela-andreoni/

Opinion: To end illegal fishing, we need transparency now

New program in Tuvalu tightening net on IUU fishing in Pacific
PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

**Chinese discourse power: Ambitions and reality in the digital domain**

*Kenton Thibaut – Atlantic Council: 24 August 2022*

As China’s military and economic power has grown, so has its ambition to shape global norms to suit its priorities.


*For more on this theme:*

**Global** Navigating the United Nations Global Digital Compact: Key questions from the civil society perspective

[https://webfoundation.org/2022/08/navigating-the-united-nations-global-digital-compact-key-questions-from-the-civil-society-perspective/](https://webfoundation.org/2022/08/navigating-the-united-nations-global-digital-compact-key-questions-from-the-civil-society-perspective/)

**Global** Can open-source technologies support open societies?

[https://www.brookings.edu/research/can-open-source-technologies-support-open-societies/](https://www.brookings.edu/research/can-open-source-technologies-support-open-societies/)

**Global** Would a Splinternet Be That Bad?

[https://www.oodaloop.com/archive/2022/08/22/would-a-splinternet-be-that-bad/](https://www.oodaloop.com/archive/2022/08/22/would-a-splinternet-be-that-bad/)

INTERNET FREEDOM

**How Putin used internet censorship and fake news for six months to push the Ukraine war agenda**

*Jack Taylor, Sanya Burgess and Victoria Elms – Sky News: 24 August 2022*

Some Ukrainians are swapping SIM cards and deleting apps on their phones to evade Russia’s information war as Moscow’s propaganda spending booms.


*For more on this theme:*

**Russia, Ukraine** Russian Digital Rights Violations in Ukraine


**China** China steps up domestic censorship, overseas propaganda ahead of party congress


**Russia** Unfreedom Monitor Report: Russia

CYBER STATECRAFT AND STRATEGY

China’s Digital Inroads in the Global South
Bryce C. Barros and Nathan Kohlenberg – The Diplomat: 19 August 2022

China’s party-state is deepening its hold on the digital information ecosystems of developing countries.

For more on this theme:

(U.K.) New maritime security strategy to target latest physical and cyber threats

(EU, U.S.) Why the European Union is opening a Silicon Valley ‘embassy’

(U.S.) Can the Military Harness the Internet of Things’ True Potential?

CYBER ATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

Estonia hit by ‘most extensive’ cyberattack since 2007 amid tensions with Russia over Ukraine war
Pascale Davies – euronews.next: 18 August 2022

The Baltic state said it was subject to the cyberattack one day after it started removing Soviet-era war monuments from public areas.

For more on this theme:

(Global) Inside the cyber-attack map, an endless list of threats targets nations
https://techwireasia.com/2022/08/inside-the-cyber-attack-map-an-endless-list-of-threats-targets-nations/

(Russia, Ukraine, Global) Ukraine war drives DDoS attack volumes ever higher

(Global) Google blocks ‘largest ever’ web DDoS attack
CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Australia needs a long-term strategy to combat IP theft
Ben Stevens and Gatra Priyandita – The Strategist: 15 August 2022

In their first-ever joint speech, the heads of MI5 and the FBI warned business leaders that one of the biggest threats facing advanced economies is a “coordinated campaign on a grand scale” of economic espionage — particularly over intellectual property — by the Chinese Communist Party.


For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Ex-CISA chief Krebs advocates for standalone cyber agency. Experts say that's impractical.

(Global) When Countries Are Attacked: Making the Case for More Private-Public Cooperation
https://www.darkreading.com/threat-intelligence/when-countries-are-attacked-making-the-case-for-more-private-public-cooperation

(U.S.) New Cross-Industry Group Launches Open Cybersecurity Framework
https://www.darkreading.com/threat-intelligence/new-cross-industry-group-launches-open-cybersecurity-framework

CYBERCRIME

Data overload: UN negotiations on criminal use of ICT take off
Summer Walker – Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime: 22 August 2022

In early 2022, governments at the United Nations began negotiations to draft a global instrument to address cybercrime — or to “counter the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes” — to use the official title of the process.

https://globalinitiative.net/analysis/un-cybercrime-negotiations-ict/

For more on this theme:

(Global) Why Proactive Cybersecurity Is a Must in Today's Sophisticated Threat Environment

(Global) Before paying a ransom, hacked companies should consider their ethics and values
https://theconversation.com/before-paying-a-ransom-hacked-companies-should-consider-their-ethics-and-values-188677

(Africa) Togo’s new cybersecurity center will serve the whole of Africa
https://qz.com/securing-africas-cyberspace-will-be-coordinated-from-to-1849440176
**PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)**

**ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS**

**Member of ‘ISIS Beatles’ given eight life sentences for role in hostage-taking, killing of Americans**

Jennifer Hansler and Holmes Lybrand – CNN: 19 August 2022

El Shafee Elsheikh was sentenced to life in prison in the United States for his role in the hostage-taking and deaths of four Americans and several others.


**The Changing Character of War: IS’ Military Tactics**

Montassar Adaili – Small Wars Journal: 23 August 2022

In 2014, the Islamic State emerged as a dangerous terrorist group that applied asymmetric military tactics and succeeded in defeating regular forces and occupying territories. This paper seeks to explain the changing character of war by analyzing ISIS military tactics.

https://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/changing-character-war-military-tactics

For more on this theme:

**African Security Expert Briefs UN About Increasing Terrorism in Africa**


**How strong is the Islamic State in Taliban-ruled Afghanistan?**

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/2022/08/18/faq-islamic-state-khorasan-afghanistan-taliban/

**ISIS will re-emerge if Turkey invades NE Syria, says former French Minister**

https://medyanews.net/isis-will-re-emerge-if-turkey-invades-ne-syria-says-former-french-minister/

**Gen. David Petraeus reveals why Islamic State is a greater terrorist threat than al Qaeda**


**Egypt army makes gains against Islamic State in western Sinai**


**Islamic State threatens Kurdish workers in northeast Syria**


**Kerala engineer ‘Abu Bakr’ who was killed fighting for Islamic State in Libya, appears in IS magazine, security agencies on alert**


**Islamic State Terror Plot: ‘Daesh has already made inroads in India’**

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

IntelBrief: Al-Shabaab Attack Demonstrates Continued Resilience in Somalia
The Soufan Center: 23 August 2022

A siege by al-Shabaab — al-Qaida’s affiliate in Somalia — at an upscale Mogadishu hotel killed 21 people and injured more than 100. Al-Shabaab has repeatedly shown that it remains highly resilient, proving to Somalis that the government and security forces are unable to protect them.


For more on this theme:

Will the United States designate Russia a state sponsor of terrorism?

What’s behind terrorist attacks on churches in Nigeria

A year after the fall of Kabul, Taliban’s false commitments on terrorism have been fully exposed
https://theconversation.com/a-year-after-the-fall-of-kabul-talibans-false-commitments-on-terrorism-have-been-fully-exposed-188132

The Iranian Revolution and Hezbollah: A Constant and Global Threat

The State of Jihad: An Interview with Daveed Gartenstein-Ross

Can Nigeria finance its war against insurgents?
https://issafrica.org/iss-today/can-nigeria-finance-its-war-against-insurgents

Taliban circulates video of Haqqanis plotting 2010 suicide raid against U.S. troops

Al-Shabab: Somalia's Islamist militant group

Hezbollah chief vows ‘escalation’ if Lebanon does not get maritime rights

Islamic Jihad denies rift with Hamas
https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/08/islamic-jihad-denies-rift-hamas

The Israel-PIJ Mini War Was All About Hamas
https://nationalinterest.org/blog/middle-east-watch/israel-pij-mini-war-was-all-about-hamas-204309
**AL-QAIDA**

**How Al-Qaeda in Indian Subcontinent Exploits the Prophet Controversy in India**

*European Eye on Radicalization: 19 August 2022*

Al-Qaeda in the Indian subcontinent — one of the most resilient regional affiliates of the trans-national terror group — issued multiple threats to carry out suicide bombings and other targeted attacks in India after remarks about the Prophet Muhammad and the Quran were made by senior members of India’s ruling party.


*For more on this theme:*

**Generation Killed: The Challenges of Routinizing Global Jihad**


**IntelBrief: The Global Jihadist Movement in a Post-Zawahiri Era**


**Al-Shabaab intended to replace Al-Qaeda soon**

https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2022/08/19/al-shabaab-intended-to-replace-al-qaeda-soon/

**Zawahiri’s death is unlikely to constrain the world’s jihadist movements**


**The Loneliness of a Global Jihadist: Al-Qa’ida Under al-Zawahiri**


**CONFLICT AND CRIME**

**Russia’s ‘most hidden crime’ in Ukraine war: Rape of women, girls, men and boys**

*Laura King – Los Angeles Times: 21 August 2022*

Investigators have laid the groundwork for what are now more than 25,000 active cases of suspected war crimes, covering a wide variety of offenses.


*For more on this theme:*

**Slavery and war are tightly connected – but we had no idea just how much until we crunched the data**

https://theconversation.com/slavery-and-war-are-tightly-connected-but-we-had-no-idea-just-how-much-until-we-crunched-the-data-169904

**Haiti’s Gangs Engage in Campaigns of Mass Sexual Violence**


**Ukraine warns Moscow against ‘despicable show trial’ of POWs**

https://www.politico.eu/article/ukraine-moscow-despicable-show-trial-pows/
CONFLICT AND CRIME

For more on this theme:

Holding Russia to Account for War Crimes in Ukraine

Thousand Ukrainian Children Given ‘New Families’ in Russia: ISW

Addressing the Continuing Phenomenon of Enforced Disappearances
https://www.csis.org/analysis/addressing-continuing-phenomenon-enforced-disappearances

War Crimes in Ukraine: In Search of a Response
https://www.fpri.org/article/2022/08/war-crimes-in-ukraine/

“Weaponizing” Sexual Violence In War – An IHL Problem
https://lieber.westpoint.edu/weaponizing-sexual-violence-war-ihl-problem/

Ukraine calls on world to create special tribunal for Russia's crimes
https://www.ukrinform.net/rubric-politics/3557330-ukraine-calls-on-world-to-create-special-tribunal-for-russias-crimes.html

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

Ukraine celebrates Independence Day, with a new level of meaning as it fights back against Russia
Emily Channell-Justice – The Conversation: 23 August 2022
Ukraine marked its 31st year of independence on Aug. 24, 2022. A scholar of protest movements explains why Ukrainians have never taken its independence for granted.

For more on this theme:

Nasty Nancy Drews — a Russian Anti-Saboteur Plan
https://cepa.org/nasty-nancy-drews-a-russian-anti-saboteur-plan/

Six months of war in Ukraine: Europe's life and fate
https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/six-months-war-ukraine-europe-s-life-fate

How long can Turkey play both sides in the Ukraine war?

Explainer: Blood, treasure and chaos — the cost of Russia’s war in Ukraine

With International Army Games, Russia tries to show it's not ‘a pariah state’
RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

Russia's war on Ukraine is becoming a battle for Belarus as well
https://www.euractiv.com/section/global-europe/opinion/russias-war-on-ukraine-is-becoming-a-battle-for-belarus-as-well/

Dogs of War
https://cepa.org/dogs-of-war/

Ukraine war has ‘ripple effects’ on other conflicts: Red Cross

Ukrainian refugees who ended up in Russia must now decide what comes next

Information Warfare in Russia’s War in Ukraine

A strong Ukraine is the best solution to Europe’s Russia problem

A look at Ukraine, 6 months into its war with Russia
https://www.npr.org/2022/08/20/1118619825/a-look-at-ukraine-6-months-into-its-war-with-russia

How Russia is harnessing cyber warfare in its conflict with Ukraine: State-sponsored attackers are using malware to steal data, spy on citizens and attack national infrastructure, study reveals
https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-11123525/How-Russia-harnessing-cyber-warfare-conflict-Ukraine.html

Joint Statement on Six Months of Russia’s Full-Scale Invasion Of Ukraine

Lukashenka: Looking Out for Number One
https://cepa.org/lukashenka-looking-out-for-number-one/

Interview: How Russia’s Intelligence Agencies Have Adapted After Six Months Of War
https://www.rferl.org/a/russia-intelligence-agencies-ukraine-war-six-months/32003096.html

How does Russia’s war with Ukraine end
https://www.nbcnews.com/think/opinion/russia-losing-war-ukraine-rcna44437

The War in Ukraine at the Half-Year Mark: How Has the Media Fared?
https://rusi.org/explore-our-research/publications/commentary/war-ukraine-half-year-mark-how-has-media-fared

Flashpoint Ukraine: What is Russia’s “Firehose of Falsehood?”
RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

Ukraine war: Russia appeals for new recruits for war effort

‘The biggest movement in the history’ — Ukraine evacuates the front line

Sweden and Finland are on their way to NATO membership. Here’s what needs to happen next.

Amid War in Ukraine, Russia’s Lavrov Goes on Diplomatic Offensive

Assessing Potential Outcomes of the Ukraine War
https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/assessing-potential-outcomes-of-the-ukraine-war/

The Paradox of the Russia-China Relationship

From Kyiv To Bucharest: Has Chinese Influence Peaked In Eastern Europe?
https://www.rferl.org/a/china-russia-eastern-europe-influence-waning-analysis/32003696.html

Russia — Relegated to the Second-Division of Military Powers
https://cepa.org/russia-relegated-to-the-second-division-of-military-powers/

Analysis: Putin bets winter gas chokehold will yield Ukraine peace — on his terms

A grim winter will test Europe's support for Ukraine like never before

Analysis: As Ukraine war drags on, Europe's economy succumbs to crisis

New Analysis Demonstrates How Covid Crisis and Russia’s Invasion of Ukraine Are Derailing Energy Development in Emerging and Frontier Economies

Smart Take: Ukraine’s Defensive Strategy Against Russia
https://www.wilsoncenter.org/video/smart-take-ukraines-defensive-strategy-against-russia
RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

Russia’s New Nuclear Threat: Power Plants as Weapons
https://www.usip.org/publications/2022/08/russias-new-nuclear-threat-power-plants-weapons

BNN analyses | Lithuania calls on Russia’s collective responsibility for the Ukraine war
https://bnn-news.com/bnn-analyses-lithuania-calls-on-russias-collective-responsibility-for-the-ukraine-war-237330

Watching the War on Russian Television
https://www.fpri.org/article/2022/08/watching-the-war-on-russian-television/

How Deep Are China-Russia Military Ties?
https://chinapower.csis.org/china-russia-military-cooperation-arms-sales-exercises/

Creating a New Energy Strategy for a Post Ukraine War World
https://www.csis.org/analysis/creating-new-energy-strategy-post-ukraine-war-world

Can Russia Continue to Fight a Long War?
https://rusi.org/explore-our-research/publications/commentary/can-russia-continue-fight-long-war

What Ukraine needs to win the war
https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/what-ukraine-needs-to-win-the-war/

Restraining Russian Ransomware
https://www.fpri.org/article/2022/08/restraining-russian-ransomware/

Ukraine Symposium – Protected Zones in International Humanitarian Law
https://lieber.westpoint.edu/protected-zones-international-humanitarian-law/

Ukraine Symposium – The Escalating Military Use of the Zaporizhzhia Nuclear Plant
https://lieber.westpoint.edu/escalating-military-use-zaporizhzhia-nuclear-plant/

Russia’s Marginalised Ethnic Minorities Are Fighting Back Against Putin

Russian Use of Cyberweapons in Ukraine and the Growing Threat to the West
https://www.securityweek.com/russian-use-cyberweapons-ukraine-and-growing-threat-west

How Ukraine used Russia’s digital playbook against the Kremlin

Georgia: A Deluge of Russians
https://cepa.org/georgia-a-deluge-of-russians/

Ukraine’s six key conditions for peace talks with Putin’s Russia
https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/ukraines-six-key-conditions-for-peace-talks-with-putins-russia/
RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

UK spy chief says Putin is losing information war in Ukraine – The Economist

Wagner PMC Recruits Russian Criminals and Convicts for War in Ukraine
https://jamestown.org/program/wagner PMC-recruits-russian-criminals-and-convicts-for-war-in-ukraine/

Unmoved: Why a ban on Russians’ visas won’t help
https://ecfr.eu/article/unmoved-why-a-ban-on-russians-visas-wont-help/

6 key numbers that reveal the staggering impact of Russia’s war in Ukraine
https://www.npr.org/2022/08/24/1119202240/ukraine-russia-war-by-numbers

Russia’s War on Ukraine: Six Months of Lies, Implemented
https://www.state.gov/disarming-disinformation/russias-war-on-ukraine-six-months-of-lies-implemented/

Russia's war at 6 months: A global economy in growing danger
https://apnews.com/article/russia-ukraine-inflation-covid-health-2f23aa3df0f-2f6916ad458785dd52c59

Chechen Kadyrov’s ‘Holy Jihad’ in Ukraine and Anti-Americanism