CONTENTS

COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)
  Corruption
  Drug Trafficking
  Trafficking in Scarce or Protected Resources
  Organized Crime and Money Laundering

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)
  Internet Freedom
  Security
  Cyber Statecraft
  Cybercrime
  Cyberattacks, Threats and Vulnerabilities
  Protection of Critical Infrastructure

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)
  ISIS and Foreign Fighters
  Terrorism Around the World
  Radicalization

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

Mozambique: ‘Hidden debt’ trial exposes depth of corruption
Cristina Krippahl – Deutsche Welle: 1 September 2021
A corruption scandal has shaken Mozambique and turned it into an international pariah. As legal proceedings against 19 defendants begin, are the real culprits on trial?

Chinese investments in Nigeria flourish on a Silk Road of corruption
Nwachukwu Egbunike – GlobalVoices: 20 August 2021
Chinese entrepreneurs in Nigeria give bribes to advance their investments.

For more on this theme:
FIFA to receive over $201 million in compensation from corruption probe
https://www.reuters.com/lifestyle/sports/fifa-receive-over-201-million-forfeited-funds-corruption-probe-2021-08-24/
Former head of Tunisia’s Anti-Corruption Committee says he is under house arrest
https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/former-head-tunisias-anti-corruption-committee-says-he-is-under-house-arrest-2021-08-20/
Anti-Corruption Crusader Navalny’s Appeal from His Russian Prison Cell
https://www.justsecurity.org/77952/anti-corruption-crusader-navalnys-appeal-from-his-russian-prison-cell/
Malaysia’s King Names New Prime Minister from Corruption-Mired Party
Lebanon is Collapsing Under a Corruption-fuelled Crisis, Currency Down 90%
Liberia Anti-Corruption Commission Investigates Its Vice Chairman over Corruption, Conflict of Interest Links in NPA Saga
Dozens of Top NLD Officials Detained on Corruption Charges Since Myanmar Coup
Need to tighten up systems to broader protection of whistleblowers: Ramaphosa
https://www.devdiscourse.com/article/headlines/1711184-need-to-tighten-up-systems-to-broader-protection-of-whistleblowers-ramaphosa
Kuwait: $4 billion per year lost to corruption
https://gulfnews.com/world/gulf/kuwait-kuwait-4-billion-per-year-lost-to-corruption-1.81920200
DRUG TRAFFICKING

Drug trafficking and illegal logging threaten Indigenous communities in Peru
Gloria Alvitres – Mongabay: 26 August 2021

Indigenous Kichwa communities in northern Peru say outsiders are illegally invading their land and cutting down rainforests to plant coca and sell timber.


Cargo Ships Act as Trans-Atlantic Drug Carriers, With Crews Unaware
Ashley Pechinski – InSight Crime: 30 August 2021

Police in Brazil have broken up a smuggling ring that had a curious modus operandi. For years, its divers have strapped cocaine to the hulls of cargo ships departing for Europe, an increasingly popular technique that often happens unbeknownst to the crew.


For more on this theme:

Mexico Cartels Find Recruitment Target - Drug Rehab Centers

Inaction, Drug Trafficking, and Corruption Plague Albanian Police per Internal Report

[WATCH] Police Find Thousands Of Pounds Of Marijuana Hidden In Watermelons In Colombia

U.S. Releases Drug Cartel Leader, Mexico Rearrests Him

Pablo Escobar
https://insightcrime.org/colombia-organized-crime-news/pablo-escobar/

Assam: Drug cartels adopting new means, says top cop

Amid Sanctions, Taliban Expected to Double Down on Drug Trafficking
https://www.shadowtruth.org/amid-sanctions-taliban-expected-to-double-down-on-drug-trafficking/

Fentanyl in America: A Barometer of the China-US Relationship

Nearly 300 incidents of children reported missing and drug dealing is likely to blame
https://www.birminghammail.co.uk/news/midlands-news/nearly-300-incidents-children-reported-21455305
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Kenya Hails Anti-Poaching Efforts in First Wildlife Census
Agence France-Presse; 31 August 2021

Kenya has hailed its efforts to crack down on poaching as it released the results of the country’s first national wildlife census, calling the survey a vital weapon in its conservation battle.

With Myanmar’s press muzzled, experts warn of surge in environmental crimes
Carolyn Cowan – Mongabay; 27 August 2021

Myanmar’s military authorities have followed their February 1 coup with a sweeping clampdown on press freedom. As conflict and violence spread throughout the country, forest monitoring, illegal logging and the associated illicit trade on the ground is increasingly risky.

For more on this theme:

Encouraging sustainable sourcing of wildlife products in Vietnamese traditional medicines and food supplements

How Illegal Mining Fuels Pollution and Corruption in Colombia’s Northwest

Chile Loggers Try New Rules to Crack Down on Illegal Timber

Illegal logging on the rise in Arakan amid political instability: environmental group

People of Pakistan’s Gwadar protest against illegal fishing by Chinese trawlers

The Coming Tsunami of Illicit Antiquities from Afghanistan

NGO Offers Checklist for Recognizing Illegal Wildlife Trafficking Posts

Dogs to sniff out wildlife smuggling, with ban on sale of ivory kicking in on Sept 1

Nigeria seeks transnational help to disrupt a still-brisk pangolin trade
ORGANIZED CRIME AND MONEY LAUNDERING

Global watchdog urges Japan to boost fight against money-laundering

Reuters: 30 August 2021

Japan needs to do more to tackle money laundering and terrorist financing even though the country has shown an understanding of the associated risks, according to the global financial watchdog Financial Action Task Force.


Australians could soon attach a PDF or hyperlink to a payment

Asha Barbaschow – ZDNet: 2 September 2021

The Reserve Bank of Australia says information contained in the PDF or URL could help financial institutions with their adherence to the country’s anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism financing regime.

https://www.zdnet.com/article/australians-could-soon-attach-a-pdf-or-hyperlink-to-a-payment/

For more on this theme:

The Zetas’ Model of Organized Crime is Leaving Mexico in Ruins


Record Remittances from US to Mexico Raise Money Laundering Concerns


Yakuza Boss First to be Sentenced to Death in Japan


Watchdogs Hit Money Launderers With Record Fines


The Top Challenges in Anti-Money Laundering and Sanctions Compliance


Responsible Artificial Intelligence for Anti-Money Laundering: How to Address Bias

https://www.finextra.com/blogposting/20830/responsible-artificial-intelligence-for-anti-money-laundering-how-to-address-bias

Bitcoin ATM operators team up to combat money laundering operations


Mexico’s new anti-money laundering reporting requirements for foreign crypto platforms


South Korea creates new digital currency oversight bureau

INTERNET FREEDOM

“Taking control?” Updated RSF report on Internet censorship in Russia
Reporters Without Borders: 31 August 2021

A few weeks before parliamentary elections in Russia on September 19, Reporters Without Borders published a report showing how massively the state leadership under President Vladimir Putin has restricted freedom of the press and freedom of expression.

For more on this theme:

(China) WeChat, Chinese Social Media to Pare Content That ‘Bad Mouths’ Chinese Economy

(South Sudan) Internet disrupted, streets quiet in South Sudan after call for protests

(Cuba) Cyber Law Gives Cuba New Way to Silence Critics, Analysts Say

(China) Beijing scrubbed one of China’s most famous actors from the Internet

SECURITY

Hospitals and Health Care Face Increasing Cybersecurity Risks
Darrell M. West and Emily Skahill – Brink News: 23 August 2021

The fuel shortages and rising gas prices generated by the Colonial Pipeline ransomware attack in May foreshadow the disastrous and far-reaching effects of cyberattacks on critical infrastructure.

For more on this theme:

(Global) Maintaining Cybersecurity During Rapid Digital Transformation

(Africa) Are African countries doing enough to ensure cybersecurity and Internet safety?
https://www.miragenews.com/are-african-countries-doing-enough-to-ensure-623946/

(Global) Is This the Time for Cyber Security ETFs?
Cyber Statecraft

Statecraft and Strategy Under the Eroding Monopoly of Cyber Intelligence
Nina Kollars and Michael Poznansky – Council on Foreign Relations: 31 August 2021

The question of who “owns” cyber intelligence has profound implications for the geopolitical landscape. Grappling with this reality and its consequences is crucial.


For more on this theme:

(Global) Is The World Ready For A Cyberwar?
https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2021/08/30/is-the-world-ready-for-a-cyberwar/

(Dominican Republic) The topics on Dominican Republic's 2030 digital agenda

(South Korea) South Korean space diplomacy reaches for the stars
https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2021/08/31/south-korean-space-diplomacy-reaches-for-the-stars/

(India) Digital India – Towards transformation & empowerment

Cybercrime

Cyberattackers are now quietly selling off their victim’s internet bandwidth
Charlie Osborne – ZDNet: 31 August 2021

Proxyware is yet another way for criminals to generate revenue from their victims.

https://www.zdnet.com/article/cyberattackers-are-now-quietly-selling-off-their-victims-internet-bandwidth/

For more on this theme:

(Global) What you need to know about cyberattacks and ransomware

(U.S.) Microsoft and Google pledge $30bn to fight cyber crime over five years

(Australia) Why Australia is a testing ground for cyber-criminals

(India, Global) Cyber crime challenges: NFSU trains law officers, IPS probationers, police officers from foreign countries
CYBERATTACKS, THREATS AND VULNERABILITIES

Security Service busts Russia-backed bot farm attacking Crimea Platform
Daryna Antoniuk – Kyiv Post: 30 August 2021

Ukraine’s security service, the SBU, detained four Kyiv residents suspected of operating a bot farm to spread disinformation about the Crimea Platform summit on social media.


For more on this theme:
(Global) Cybersecurity warning: Realtek flaw exposes dozens of brands to supply chain attacks

(Global) An Evolving Cyber Threat: Ransomware-as-a-Service

(Global) Beware this new phishing attack that’s after your passwords!

PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Deepwater rigs vulnerable to cyber attacks
Offshore: 27 August 2021

Cyber defense provider Naval Dome and a major international operating company have completed a joint two-year project to identify and mitigate cyber risks common to deep-water drilling rigs.


For more on this theme:
(U.K.) Nine cyber attacks on UK’s transport sector missed by mandatory reporting laws

(U.K.) 91% of Industrial Organizations Vulnerable to Cyber Attacks
ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

What Is Known About ISIS-K Funding in Afghanistan?
Alex Zerden – Lawfare: 30 August 2021

The horrific August 26 complex attack at the Kabul airport in Afghanistan has put international attention on the Islamic State in Khorasan, a relatively small and obscure offshoot of ISIS. The attack raised an important question about the group’s capabilities to conduct further attacks against U.S. interests in Afghanistan and abroad. To fully understand the group and disrupt future terrorist attacks, it is important to know how the group funds its activities.

https://www.lawfareblog.com/what-known-about-isis-k-funding-afghanistan

For more on this theme:

What is ISIS-K? Here’s what the Taliban takeover means for al-Qaeda and the Islamic State’s Afghanistan affiliate.

Statement by the Global Coalition to Defeat Daesh/ISIS
https://www.state.gov/statement-by-the-global-coalition-to-defeat-daesh-isis/

ISIS-K aims to have Caliphate in India: Intel

Clarissa Ward’s chilling interview with ISIS-K leader

Secretary of Defense Austin and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Milley Press Briefing

British-born Islamic State suspect set to plead guilty to charges in US

Germany arrests suspected ‘Islamic State’ fundraiser

Afghanistan: Do Islamic State group jihadists pose a real challenge to the Taliban?
https://uk.news.yahoo.com/afghanistan-islamic-state-group-jihadists-203147048.html

Islamic State orphan may be repatriated to New Zealand if found, advocate says
https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/politics/126254393/islamic-state-orphan-may-be-repatriated-to-new-zealand-if-found-advocate-says
TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Southeast Asia on alert for al-Qaida and ISIS links after Kabul attack
Koya Jibiki and Yuichi Shiga – Nikkei Asia: 31 August 2021

Law enforcement agencies in multiple Southeast Asian nations are on high alert against terrorist groups potentially emboldened by the Taliban’s takeover of Afghanistan and a deadly Islamic State attack at the Kabul airport.
https://asia.nikkei.com/Politics/Terrorism/Southeast-Asia-on-alert-for-al-Qaida-and-ISIS-links-after-Kabul-attack

ANALYSIS: What recent surrender of Boko Haram members means for Nigeria’s fight against insurgency
Nasir Ayitogo – Premium Times: 30 August 2021

Experts caution that there may be more than meets the eye to the recent mass surrender of Boko Haram insurgents to Nigerian and Cameroonian authorities.

For more on this theme:
Why the Taliban will allow Al Qaeda to stay in Afghanistan

What is the Haqqani network, which is linked to the Taliban and al-Qaeda?
https://www.independent.co.uk/asia/south-asia/taliban-al-qaeda-haqqani-network-b1909771.html

New Taliban head of security for Kabul is wanted by U.S. as terrorist

In Taliban's Afghanistan, opportunity for Al Qaeda, ISIS
https://www.csmonitor.com/World/Middle-East/2021/0827/In-Taliban-s-Afghanistan-opportunity-for-Al-Qaeda-ISIS

How are the Taliban, Al Qaeda, IS and Haqqani Network interconnected

France’s drawdown in West Africa fuels local extremists’ hope for a Taliban-style victory

Former Al-Qaeda recruiter warns of rise in online jihadist propaganda after US withdrawal
https://metro.co.uk/2021/08/31/ex-al-qaeda-recruiter-warns-of-rising-jihadist-chatter-after-us-exit-15184386/

Future of Al Qaeda, ISIS & Jihadism
https://www.wilsoncenter.org/article/future-al-qaeda-isis-jihadism
RADICALIZATION

Gateway Extremism: How Australia’s neo-Nazis use combat sports to radicalize and recruit
Karim Zidan – Bloody Elbow: 26 August 2021

How does Australia’s far-right National Socialist Network weaponize combat sports for recruitment and radicalization?


For more on this theme:

Borno govt, stakeholders agree to accept 3000 repentant Boko Haram members

Vigilance is best countermeasure to terrorism threat

KP to set up centre for countering extremism

Nigeria’s troubled exit path for now repentant jihadists
https://news.kuwaittimes.net/website/nigerias-troubled-exit-path-for-now-repentant-jihadists/

TAKE AWAY FROM THE UGANDA SMC: How To Combat Digital Trafficking

Deradicalization: Morocco’s Recipe for Effective Counter-Terrorism

Study stresses need to reform education policies to counter extremism