

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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 Strategy and Risks
- Cyberattacks
- Cybercrime
- Critical Infrastructure Protection

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

- ISIS and Foreign Fighters
- Terrorism Around the World
- 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

US increases pressure on Ukraine to do more to counter corruption

Natasha Bertrand and Alex Marquardt – CNN: 3 October 2023

The United States is increasingly urging Ukraine to do more to combat governmental corruption, issuing several notices to Kyiv in the last few weeks indicating that certain kinds of economic aid will be linked to Ukraine's progress in reforming its institutions.

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/03/politics/us-ukraine-pressure-counter-corruption/index.html>

For more on this theme:

Guatemalan Judge Who Exposed Corruption Flees to US After Citing Fears for His Life

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-09-28/guatemalan-judge-who-exposed-corruption-flees-to-us-after-citing-fears-for-his-life#xj4y7vzkg>

Albania: how one of the most corrupt countries in Europe is tackling crime at the highest level

<https://theconversation.com/albania-how-one-of-the-most-corrupt-countries-in-europe-is-tackling-crime-at-the-highest-level-212312>

The public face of China's military under corruption probe

<https://www.reuters.com/world/china/public-face-chinas-military-under-corruption-probe-2023-09-16/>

Africa's Newest Oil Jackpot Comes With a Corruption Curse

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/africa-newest-oil-jackpot-comes-040007616.html>

Libya was mired in chaos and corruption. For years, warnings the Derna dams may burst went unheeded

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/corrupt-libya-longtime-warnings-collapse-derna-dams-unheeded-103270780>

Europol Report Highlights Money Laundering and Corruption in the EU

<https://complyadvantage.com/insights/europol-report-highlights-money-laundering-and-corruption-in-the-eu/>

Haftar's sons rise in Libya's east, bringing 'corruption, death, destruction'

<https://www.france24.com/en/africa/20230920-haftar-s-sons-rise-in-libya-s-east-bringing-corruption-death-destruction>

How corruption within Libya's warring factions worsened the impact of floods

<https://www.wunc.org/2023-09-23/how-corruption-within-libyas-warring-factions-worsened-the-impact-of-floods>

Measuring Corruption in China

<https://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/study-examines-off-the-book-incomes-of-chinese-officials-by-yongheng-deng-and-shang-jin-wei-2023-09>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Syria's drug problem casts shadow over Assad's rehabilitation

Nadeen Ebrahim – CNN: 29 September 2023

Almost five months after Arab states extended an olive branch to Syrian President Bashar al-Assad, there are signs that some key architects of the initiative may be growing skeptical about his commitment to the agreement.

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/09/29/middleeast/syria-captagon-drug-assad-rehabilitation-mime-intl/index.html>

Banners purportedly from Mexico's Sinaloa cartel say gang has sworn off sales of fentanyl

The Associated Press: 2 October 2023

Banners appeared in northern Mexico, purportedly signed by a faction of the Sinaloa cartel, claiming that the gang has sworn off the sale and production of the synthetic opioid fentanyl.

<https://apnews.com/article/mexico-sinaloa-cartel-banners-fentanyl-60e11544c7e4ebbfedc4e260e8d-3fae>

For more on this theme:

Hoarding, smuggling and drug trade by mafias bleeding Pakistan's economy: Report

<https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/hoarding-smuggling-and-drug-trade-by-mafias-bleeding-pakistans-economy-report20230914172701/>

Portable device instantly detects illegal drugs with 95% accuracy

<https://phys.org/news/2023-09-portable-device-instantly-illegal-drugs.html>

How many people work for the Mexican drug cartels? Researchers have an answer

<https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2023-09-21/how-many-people-work-for-the-mexican-drug-cartels>

Europe key to Syrian regime's amphetamine trade, finds report

<https://www.euronews.com/2023/09/24/europe-key-to-syrian-regimes-amphetamine-trade-finds-report>

The drug trade is taking over Latin America

<https://www.pressenza.com/2023/09/the-drug-trade-is-taking-over-latin-america/>

Opinion: Will 'Poor Man's Cocaine' Fuel the Next U.S. Drug Crisis?

<https://undark.org/2023/09/21/will-poor-mans-cocaine-fuel-the-next-u-s-drug-crisis/>

Gambia partnership with EU's Seacop making waves in disrupting widespread maritime drug trafficking

<https://www.dailymaverick.co.za/article/2023-09-26-gambia-partnership-with-eus-seacop-making-waves-in-disrupting-widespread-maritime-drug-trafficking/>

Ireland 'no soft touch' on drugs, says minister

<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/cqq7rr4y92no>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Vietnamese Syndicates Wiping out African Megafauna

Gregory McCann – Asia Sentinel: 29 September 2023

Vietnamese poaching syndicates, involved in trafficking a wide variety of animal products, reach their tentacles into the remotest corners of the continent.

<https://www.asiasentinel.com/p/vietnamese-syndicates-wipe-out-african-megafauna>

Logging route cut into Cambodia's Prey Lang from Think Biotech's concession

Gerald Flynn, Andy Ball and Meng Kroypunlok – Mongabay: 5 October 2023

A road carved from a reforestation concession into the heart of the Prey Lang Wildlife Sanctuary in Cambodia appears to be facilitating the illegal logging and trafficking of valuable timber.

<https://news.mongabay.com/2023/10/logging-route-cut-into-cambodias-prey-lang-from-think-biotechs-concession/>

For more on this theme:

Scaling-up demand reduction for illegal exotic pets and wildlife products in Europe

<https://www.traffic.org/news/scaling-up-demand-reduction-for-illegal-exotic-pets-and-wildlife-products-in-europe/>

Farmed rhinos will soon 'rewild' the African savanna

<https://theconversation.com/farmed-rhinos-will-soon-rewild-the-african-savanna-213932>

Wildlife crime investigation training for newly recruited foresters conducted at Kaziranga National Park

<https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/wildlife-crime-investigation-training-for-newly-recruited-foresters-conducted-at-kaziranga-national-park20230921201641/>

What to Know About Vietnam's Persistent Crackdown on Environmentalists

<https://time.com/6316575/vietnam-environmental-crackdown/>

Just-in: Zamfara Gov Bans Illegal Mining, Orders Shoot-on-Sight Against Violators

<https://leadership.ng/just-in-zamfara-gov-bans-illegal-mining-orders-shoot-on-sight-against-violators/>

Venezuela Evicts Over 14,000 Illegal Miners From Yapacana Park

<https://www.telesurenglish.net/news/Ve`zuela-Evicts-Over-14000-Illegal-Miners-From-Yapacana-Park-20230924-0006.html>

New agency to crack down on illegal mining of natural resources

<https://ewnews.com/government-introducing-new-agency-to-enforce-countrys-laws-on-natural-resources>

Gold And Mercury, Not Books, For Venezuela's Child Miners

<https://www.barrons.com/news/gold-and-mercury-not-books-for-venezuela-s-child-miners-22db4d9c>

Surveillance Tech Helps Indigenous Groups Protect the Amazon

<https://www.bnnbloomberg.ca/surveillance-tech-helps-indigenous-groups-protect-the-amazon-1.1974454>

Report: China Holds the Key to Fixing Illegal Fishing in West Africa

<https://maritime-executive.com/article/report-china-holds-key-to-fixing-illegal-fishing-in-west-africa>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

AI Safety Summit: Can Britain write the AI rulebook?

Olivia O'Sullivan – Chatham House: 29 September 2023

When world leaders, tech leaders and academics gather for Britain's AI Safety Summit in November, their focus will be on controlling risks at the frontier of artificial intelligence (AI) development. The summit will seek to address concerns that the most powerful AI systems could pose unforeseen risks.

<https://www.chathamhouse.org/publications/the-world-today/2023-10/ai-safety-summit-can-britain-write-ai-rulebook>

For more on this theme:

(Africa) FG calls for open, secure Internet at Africa Internet Governance Forum

<https://hallmarknews.com/fg-calls-for-open-secure-internet-at-africa-internet-governance-forum/>

(China) The future of AI policy in China

<https://www.eastasiaforum.org/2023/09/27/the-future-of-ai-policy-in-china/>

(Global) Governments race to regulate AI tools

<https://www.reuters.com/technology/governments-race-regulate-ai-tools-2023-09-22/>

INTERNET FREEDOM

How generative AI is boosting the spread of disinformation and propaganda

Tate Ryan-Mosley – MIT Technology Review: 4 October 2023

Artificial intelligence (AI) has turbocharged state efforts to crack down on internet freedoms over the past year. In a new report, Freedom House documents the ways governments are using AI to amplify censorship.

<https://www.technologyreview.com/2023/10/04/1080801/generative-ai-boosting-disinformation-and-propaganda-freedom-house/>

For more on this theme:

(India) 'A tool of political control': how India became the world leader in internet blackouts

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/sep/25/a-tool-of-political-control-how-india-became-the-world-leader-in-internet-blackouts>

(Africa) African countries that have imposed internet restrictions so far in 2023

<https://africa.businessinsider.com/local/lifestyle/african-countries-that-have-imposed-internet-restrictions-so-far-in-2023/by9bxhq>

(Africa) Sub-Saharan Africa: Role of media subverted by internet shutdowns

<https://ifex.org/sub-saharan-africa-role-of-media-subverted-by-internet-shutdowns/>

CYBER STRATEGY AND RISKS

Pentagon's Unclassified Cyber Strategy is Influenced by Russia-Ukraine War, China

Anastasia Obis – GovCIO: 29 September 2023

The unclassified summary of the U.S. Defense Department's 2023 cyber strategy presents a broad-ranging plan informed by the lessons learned from the Russia-Ukraine war, as well as the growing tensions between the U.S. and China in cyberspace. It anticipates election security issues and suggests an independent cyber service.

<https://www.governmentciomedia.com/pentagons-unclassified-cyber-strategy-influenced-russia-ukraine-war-china>

For more on this theme:

(Australia) Australia's new cybersecurity strategy: Build "cyber shields" around the country

<https://www.csoonline.com/article/652708/australias-new-cybersecurity-strategy-to-build-6-cyber-shields-around-the-country.html>

(U.S.) The Biden Administration's Implementation Plan for the National Cybersecurity Strategy

<https://www.lawfaremedia.org/article/the-biden-administration-s-implementation-plan-for-the-national-cybersecurity-strategy>

(China) China's offensive cyber operations support "soft power" agenda in Africa

<https://www.csoonline.com/article/652934/chinas-offensive-cyber-operations-support-soft-power-agenda-in-africa.html>

CYBERATTACKS

Bermuda probes major cyberattack as officials slowly bring operations back online

The Associated Press: 28 September 2023

Bermuda's premier says the government is slowly restoring operations after being hit by a "very sophisticated" cyberattack.

<https://apnews.com/article/bermuda-cyberattack-government-operations-e2b1028b11867f191754c-b84eaf058c8>

For more on this theme:

(Russia) Russian flight booking system suffers 'massive' cyberattack

<https://therecord.media/russia-flight-booking-system-leonardo-ddos>

(NATO) NATO says it is addressing an apparent cyberattack after strategy documents posted online

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/03/politics/nato-cyber-attack-strategy/index.html>

(Russia, UK) Royal family's website suffers Russia-linked cyberattack

<https://www.csoonline.com/article/654092/royal-familys-website-suffers-russia-linked-cyberattack.html>

CYBERCRIME

Boost defense vs cybercrime, lawmaker urges gov't

Adrian Parungao – Inquirer.net: 4 October 2023

Following a cyberattack on a healthcare system, Philippine Sen. Grace Poe says the government must maintain a strong defense against such attacks.

<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1841157/govt-must-have-most-secure-defenses-vs-cybercrime>

For more on this theme:

(Kenya) Kenya hit by record 860m cyber-attacks in a year

<https://www.africanews.com/2023/10/03/kenya-hit-by-record-860m-cyber-attacks-in-a-year/>

(Africa) Cybercrime: Africa needs to put a strong, workable institutional framework to be fully involved

<https://www.businessdailyafrica.com/bd/corporate/technology/cybercrime-africa-needs-to-put-a-strong-workable-framework--4386174>

(Southeast Asia) UN Report Details Massive Scale of Southeast Asia's 'Scamdemic'

<https://thediplomat.com/2023/09/un-report-details-massive-scale-of-southeast-asias-scamdemic/>

(Global) Youth hacking ring at the center of cybercrime spree

<https://cyberscoop.com/youth-hacking-ring-at-the-center-of-cybercrime-spreed/>

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

Critical Contours: Navigating Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Priorities in a Dynamic World

Diego Laje – The Cyber Edge: October 2023

An alleged massive cyberattack on Kenya's government underscores debates on defining critical infrastructure.

<https://www.afcea.org/signal-media/cyber-edge/critical-contours-navigating-cybersecurity-and-infrastructure-priorities>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) What Cyber Response Can Learn from Traditional Disasters

<https://www.govtech.com/security/what-cyber-response-can-learn-from-traditional-disasters>

(Ukraine, Russia) Ukraine Cyber Defenders Prepare for Winter

<https://www.bankinfosecurity.com/ukraine-cyber-defenders-prepare-for-winter-a-23173>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

Interview: Why ISIS, other extremist groups are growing in Africa – US Official

Pearl Matibe – Premium Times: 3 October 2023

The deputy special envoy for the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS, Ian J. McCary, says his organization has “established a focus group to help African states build up their counter terrorism capabilities.”

<https://www.premiumtimesng.com/features-and-interviews/630269-interview-why-isis-other-extremist-groups-are-growing-in-africa-us-official.html>

Pakistan’s security forces grapple with ominous rise in ISIS violence

Muhammad Shahid – The Nation: 1 October 2023

The rugged, mountainous province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa has become the epicenter of the Islamic State group’s violence in Pakistan, raising the specter of a new threat to the country’s security.

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/asia/2023/10/01/pakistans-security-forces-grapple-with-ominous-rise-in-isis-violence/>

For more on this theme:

US launched two raids against ISIS within a week

<https://taskandpurpose.com/news/us-military-isis-syria-raids/>

Why are the Canadian women of ISIS coming home without being charged?

https://globalnews.ca/news/9872246/canadian-women-of-isis-coming-home-not-charged__trashed/

ISKP And Afghan Taliban – OpEd

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/14092023-iskp-and-afghan-taliban-oped/>

Islamic State in Somalia Province: Before and After the Death of Bilal al-Sudani

<https://jamestown.org/program/islamic-state-in-somalia-province-before-and-after-the-death-of-bilal-al-sudani/>

ISKP Attacks Pakistan’s Religious Political Parties for Participating in Elections

<https://jamestown.org/program/iskp-attacks-pakistans-religious-political-parties-for-participating-in-elections/>

We must deliver justice for survivors of Daesh’s atrocities: UK statement at the Security Council

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/we-must-deliver-justice-for-survivors-of-daeshs-atrocities-uk-statement-at-the-security-council>

Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS renews focus on Sahel as terror group gains ground

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/us-news/2023/09/25/global-coalition-to-defeat-isis-renews-focus-on-sahel-as-terror-group-gains-ground/>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Increasing Terror Threats from the Sahel to the Horn of Africa

Isidore Agha – Politics Today: 29 September 2023

Almost all countries in the Horn of Africa have experienced terrorist activities. Al-Shabaab stands out as the region's most significant terrorist group.

<https://politicstoday.org/terror-threats-the-sahel-the-horn-of-africa/>

Mali in meltdown as militants advance and U.N. withdraws

Edward Mcallister – Reuters: 3 October 2023

Islamist militants in Mali began a blockade of Timbuktu by cutting road access in August, then shut off river and air routes. That has put the city once again on the frontline of a jihadist insurgency.

<https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/mali-meltdown-militants-advance-un-withdraws-2023-10-03/>

For more on this theme:

Hezbollah's assertive posture in south Lebanon places UNIFIL in a difficult position

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/menasource/hezbollahs-posture-unifil-israel/>

Taliban Pledge To 'Neutralize' Activities of Afghan-Based Pakistani Militants

<https://www.voanews.com/a/taliban-pledge-to-neutralize-activities-of-afghan-based-pakistani-militants/7279359.html>

Reconceptualizing the Threat: Challenges to the Analysis of Terrorism

<https://ict.org.il/reconceptualizing-the-threat-challenges-to-the-analysis-of-terrorism/>

A Fatal Necessity: The Weaponization Of Water By Terrorists

<https://theowp.org/reports/a-fatal-necessity-the-weaponization-of-water-by-terrorists/>

The Sahel faces resurgence of terrorist attacks

<https://globalvoices.org/2023/09/26/the-sahel-faces-resurgence-of-terrorist-attacks/>

Mali: Al-Qaeda offshoot intensifies attacks on Mali army

<https://north-africa.com/mali-al-qaeda-offshoot-intensifying-attacks-on-mali-army/>

Kidnappings in the Sahel – a favoured weapon of war

<https://issafrika.org/iss-today/kidnappings-in-the-sahel-a-favoured-weapon-of-war>

In Burkina Faso, a million children out of school due to insecurity – UNICEF

<https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/burkina-faso-million-children-out-school-due-insecurity-unicef-2023-10-02/>

Radicalization and Terrorism in East Africa

<https://politicstoday.org/radicalization-and-terrorism-in-east-africa/>

New Hezbollah museum puts spotlight on Syria intervention

<https://www.newarab.com/analysis/new-hezbollah-museum-puts-spotlight-syria-intervention>

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

What Awaits Ukraine Once the War Ends? Prosperity, For One Thing

Jeffrey A. Sonnenfeld – *Yale Insights*: 29 October 2023

The war-torn but resilient nation has the ingredients to become a technological, cultural and agricultural powerhouse once freed from Russian aggression.

<https://insights.som.yale.edu/insights/what-awaits-ukraine-once-the-war-ends-prosperity-for-one-thing>

For more on this theme:

After Putin, the deluge?

<https://www.clingendael.org/publication/after-putin-deluge>

IntelBrief: Is Slovakia's Election a Harbinger of Eroding European Support for Ukraine?

<https://thesoufancenter.org/intelbrief-2023-october-4/>

IntelBrief: Iran's Strategic Partnership with Russia Continues to Expand

<https://thesoufancenter.org/intelbrief-2023-september-27/>

Ukraine holds the line against Russian attacks, makes small gains

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/10/4/ukraine-holds-the-line-against-russian-attacks-makes-small-gains>

Russia says no new mobilization planned, claims 335,000 entered military service this year alone

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/03/ukraine-war-live-updates-latest-news-on-russia-and-the-war-in-ukraine.html>

Anger grows over Ukraine's largest Orthodox church, aligned with Moscow despite war

<https://www.npr.org/2023/09/30/1201065400/ukraine-russian-orthodox-church-tensions>

How surging trade with China is boosting Russia's war in Ukraine

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/trade-china-boosting-russia-war-ukraine-rcna117652>

Romania bolsters defences to stop Ukraine war crossing NATO threshold

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/romania-bolsters-defences-stop-ukraine-war-crossing-nato-threshold-2023-09-29/>

Putin's "bluff": a cautionary note about underestimating the possibility of nuclear escalation in Ukraine

<https://thebulletin.org/2023/10/putins-bluff-a-cautionary-note-about-underestimating-the-possibility-of-nuclear-escalation-in-ukraine/>

Russia is luring Cubans to Ukraine with fast-tracked citizenship and a lucrative signing bonus: 'Almost all of our friends have gone'

<https://www.businessinsider.com/russia-cuba-ukraine-fast-tracked-citizenship-signing-bonus-2023-9>

Ukraine accuses Chinese oil and gas firms of sponsoring Russia's war

<https://www.politico.eu/article/ukraine-accuses-chinese-energy-oil-gas-firms-sponsoring-russia-war/>

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

Mass still matters: What the US military should learn from Ukraine

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/mass-still-matters-what-the-us-military-should-learn-from-ukraine/>

Vladimir Putin is still convinced he can outlast the West in Ukraine

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/vladimir-putin-is-still-convinced-he-can-outlast-the-west-in-ukraine/>

Putin's fleet retreats: Ukraine is winning the Battle of the Black Sea

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/putins-fleet-retreats-ukraine-is-winning-the-battle-of-the-black-sea/>

Ukraine's counteroffensive is making real progress on the Crimean front

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/ukraines-counteroffensive-is-making-real-progress-on-the-crimean-front/>

Weakness is Lethal: Why Putin Invaded Ukraine and How the War Must End

<https://www.criticalthreats.org/analysis/weakness-is-lethal-why-putin-invaded-ukraine-and-how-the-war-must-end>

Ukraine's War of the Treelines

<https://cepa.org/article/ukraines-war-of-the-treelines/>

Behind the Lines: Russia's 'Adoption' Campaign in Occupied Ukraine

<https://cepa.org/article/behind-the-lines-russias-adoption-campaign-in-occupied-ukraine/>

Ukraine's Counteroffensive — Lessons From 1940

<https://cepa.org/article/ukraines-counteroffensive-lessons-from-1940/>

Ukraine War Outcome Will Shape China's Behavior, Say US Senators

<https://cepa.org/article/ukraine-war-outcome-will-shape-chinas-behavior-say-us-senators/>

Commercial Space Assets in Modern Warfare: Lessons from Russia-Ukraine Conflict

<https://thegeopolitics.com/commercial-space-assets-in-modern-warfare-lessons-from-russia-ukraine-conflict/>

How China Cut Off One of Ukraine's Most Important Weapons

<https://www.newsweek.com/china-ukraine-russia-war-drone-uav-supply-chain-1831391>

'No turning back': how the Ukraine war has profoundly changed the EU

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/sep/30/ukraine-russia-war-changed-eu>

Ukraine recap: Ukraine and allies maintain optimism despite slow progress on the battlefield

<https://theconversation.com/ukraine-recap-ukraine-and-allies-maintain-optimism-despite-slow-progress-on-the-battlefield-214605>

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

Holding Russia Accountable: Progress in Investigating and Prosecuting War Crimes in Ukraine

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/event/holding-russia-accountable-progress-investigating-and-prosecuting-war-crimes-ukraine>

The Power of Russian Cultural Othering in Ukraine

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/power-russian-cultural-othering-ukraine>

The international recruits joining Russia's war on Ukraine

<https://theweek.com/news/world-news/russia/955940/foreigners-travelling-ukraine-fight-russia-invasion>

How Putin's Coup-Proofing Measures Have Undermined Russia's War Effort in Ukraine

<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2023/09/29/how-putins-coup-proofing-measures-have-undermined-russias-war-effort-in-ukraine/>

Russia's Gray Zone Threat after Ukraine

<https://nationalinterest.org/feature/russia%E2%80%99s-gray-zone-threat-after-ukraine-206837>