CONTENTS

COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)
  Corruption
  Drug Trafficking
  Trafficking in Scarce or Protected Resources
  Human Trafficking and Irregular Migration
  Smuggling, Piracy and Counterfeiting
  Money Laundering

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)
  Internet Governance
  Internet Freedom
  Privacy and Security
  Cyber Protection of Critical Infrastructure
  Combating Terrorism and Cyber Crime
  Information Sharing
  Noteworthy Podcasts
  Mass Surveillance and Intelligence Gathering
  Training and Exercises

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)
  ISIS and Foreign Fighters
  Terrorism Around the World
  White Nationalist Terrorism
  Radicalization and Messaging
  Terrorism and the Internet
  Counterterrorism Strategies

IRREGULAR WARFARE
  Use of Soft Power
COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Fighting Corruption In The Former Soviet Republics Is Critical To Western Security
Dan Goure – The National Interest: 6 October 2019

Corruption has been a problem in the former Soviet republics since their independence. Such corruption undermines their stability and security and the trust of citizens in the government.
https://nationalinterest.org/blog/buzz/fighting-corruption-former-soviet-republics-critical-western-security-85846

Laura Kövesi: Corruption can be defeated
Chatham House: October 2019

Laura Kövesi was the first woman to serve as Romania’s prosecutor general and rose to lead the country’s Anticorruption Directorate. Here, she is interviewed about her candidacy to be the chief European prosecutor in Brussels.
https://www.chathamhouse.org/publications/twt/laura-kovesi-corruption-can-be-defeated

For more on this theme:

The Hague’s administration collapses amid corruption probe

Doha’s empty seats tell tale of corruption, warped priorities and vested interests

US sanctions Guptas for South African ‘corruption’

Telecoms corruption more than just a glitch in the system
https://www.thelondoneconomic.com/tech-auto/technology/telecoms-corruption-more-than-just-a-glitch-in-the-system/10/10/

China’s corrupt meritocracy
https://www.afr.com/world/asia/china-s-corrupt-meritocracy-20191010-p52zco

UK Attorney General Accused of Blocking Corruption Probe

Doing anti-corruption work more effectively: How learning and adaptation matter
https://voices.transpose.org/doing-anti-corruption-work-more-effectively-how-learning-and-adaptation-matter-ef604fe777b0

South Africa: Forensic Technology A Critical Tool To Rooting Out Corruption In Africa
http://www.mondaq.com/southafrica/x/851518/White+Collar+Crime+Fraud/The+content+of+this+article+is+intended+to+provide+a+general+guide+to+the+subject+matter+Specialist+advice+should+be+sought+about+your+specific+circumstances
DRUG TRAFFICKING

Drug trade damaging Central America's forests, researchers say
Anastasia Moloney – Reuters: 8 October 2019

Texas State University determined that drug trafficking contributes to deforestation in some of Central America’s most environmentally sensitive tropical rainforests.

Deep in Guatemala’s jungle, drugs and murder are new neighbors to palm oil
Sofia Menchu – Reuters: 9 October 2019

After three Guatemalan naval officers were killed in an eastern coastal region dominated by organized crime, Guatemala’s government enforced martial law, drawing attention to the fact that the country is becoming a cocaine producer.

For more on this theme:

- ONDCP Awards Nearly $13 Million to Boost Overdose Response Strategy, Fund New High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas
- How Elites and Narcos Do Business, Politics in Honduras
- Untangling Webs of Corruption: Trafficking and Terrorism in Central Asia
- ‘The Undercovers’: Are secretive anti-drug operations a dying art?
  https://www.foxnews.com/world/undercovers-drug-lords-secretive-operations-dying-art
- Cracking down on meth
  https://www.bangkokpost.com/thailand/special-reports/1766004/cracking-down-on-meth
- What It’s Like to Report On the Mexican Drug Wars
- Fighting for Compassion in the Philippines' Brutal Drug War
  https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/frontline/article/fighting-for-compassion-in-the-philippines-brutal-drug-war/
- The State of Mexico's Drug Wars With Scott Stewart and Fred Burton
- Undermining the war on drugs
  https://www.manilatimes.net/2019/10/08/opinion/columnists/topanalysis/undermining-the-war-on-drugs/627996/
- Health Officials Urge Caution in Reducing Opioids for Pain Patients
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

**Fighting illegal logging with an app in Ivory Coast**
Sasha Gankin – Deutsche Welle: 5 October 2019

To help farmers grow crops without cutting down trees, a new app called GeoPoppy helps to identify good agricultural land.


**Central Africa’s Rangers Are as Threatened as the Animals They Guard**
Jack Losh – Foreign Policy: 6 October 2019

In Bamingui-Bangoran National Park in the Central African Republic, poachers and militias make life hard not just for the animals, but for the park rangers as well.


*For more on this theme:*

‘Rate of conviction in wildlife crimes is 2%’

Dept monitoring cyberspace for wildlife trade

 Gabon juggles competing demands in fight to protect nature

Illegal mining in Ghana – fighting an ongoing battle

Nigeria loses $2.7bn annually to illegal fishing, piracy

Illegal wildlife trade thrives on Facebook, internet forums

How the Battle to Save Rhinos Became a Full-Scale War
https://www.outsideonline.com/2402704/save-this-rhino-documentary-review

Will Peru’s Gold King Ever Be Held Accountable?
https://www.insightcrime.org/news/brief/perus-gold-king-held-accountable/

Cameroon can’t afford to continue ignoring crime in fisheries sector

$750,000 prize seeks solutions to challenges from small-scale mining

The sea is running out of fish, despite nations’ pledges to stop it
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

New anti-trafficking chief slams ‘abysmal’ global conviction levels
Christine Murray – Reuters: 10 October 2019

According to a senior European security official, governments need to devote more resources to police human trafficking.

For more on this theme:
- Getting to Europe illegally gets tougher, deadlier
- More efforts urged against human trafficking in Saudi Arabia
  https://www.arabnews.com/node/1566136/saudi-arabia
- Africa: Baby Factories Are a New Avenue for Illegal Adoption and Human Trafficking
  https://allafrica.com/stories/201910100043.html
- Human trafficking ‘industry’ worth over US$150 billion
  https://newsday.co.tt/2019/10/07/human-trafficking-industry-worth-over-us150-billion/

SMUGGLING, PIRACY AND COUNTERFEITING

Have Your Cake and Trade It: Is it Possible to Promote Legitimate Commerce While Reducing Illicit Trade?
Anton Moiseienko, Alexandria Reid and Isabella Chase – Royal United Services Institute (RUSI): 1 October 2019

RUSI researchers look at efforts to counteract illicit trade and trade-based money laundering.
https://rusi.org/commentary/have-your-cake-and-trade-it-it-possible-promote-legitimate-commerce-while-reducing

For more on this theme:
- More the Streaming Charges, More the Piracy; Confirms a Study
  https://www.digitalinformationworld.com/2019/10/more-streaming-charges-can-increase-piracy-survey.html#
- Music Piracy Rates are Plunging In 2019 — That’s Good News, Right?
- Ukraine under EU pressure to criminalise tobacco smuggling
MONEY LAUNDERING

Cayman Islands joins global money-laundering crackdown
Reuters: 9 October 2019

Stashing money in the Cayman Islands may get more difficult. The government has pledged to publicize information that could reveal who really owns shell companies laundering money there.

For more on this theme:

Addressing the Abuse of Trade for Money Laundering Purposes
https://rusi.org/commentary/addressing-abuse-trade-money-laundering-purposes

Govt sets up high-level panel to check money laundering activities

Brexit Throws a Wrench Into EU’s Fight Against Money Laundering

United Arab Emirates Issues New AML Law in Context of FATF Evaluation

European Union anti-money laundering laws to include cryptocurrencies
**PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)**

**INTERNET GOVERNANCE**

**Internet 3.0: Decentralizing Everything**

*Allen Taylor – Blockchain Times: 9 October 2019*

Internet 3.0 is an attempt to decentralize the web with a peer-to-peer system that could deprive big players such as Google and Amazon of revenue that some people argue rightly belongs to the computing public.


*For more on this theme:*

(Global) Unleashing the Power of Blockchain in the Enterprise  

(New Zealand) The “Kiwi” Way of Interneting  
http://www.circleid.com/posts/20191010_the_kiwi_way_of_interneting/

(India) Is India’s ambiguous stance on global cyber norms becoming a strategic advantage?  

**INTERNET FREEDOM**

**Turkey’s New Internet Regulations Spark Fears of New Wave of Censorship**

*Dorian Jones – Voice of America: 8 October 2019*

The Turkish government is trying to silence the country’s last platform for independent journalism by extending the powers of the state television and radio watchdog to cover internet broadcasting.


*For more on this theme:*

(China, Russia) Russia and China to sign treaty on combating illegal online content  

(Africa) Forum on Internet Freedom in Africa: Global Voices represents at Addis Ababa digital rights conference  

(Global) These 6 tech companies have made the controversial decision to try to operate in China, where the government can demand social media posts be removed or search results be censored  
PRIVACY AND SECURITY

A Controversial Plan to Encrypt More of the Internet
Lily Hay Newman – Wired: 9 October 2019

Plans by large internet browsers such as Chrome and Firefox to encrypt user data is drawing resistance from critics who think the moves are counterproductive.
https://www.wired.com/story/dns-over-https-encrypted-web/

For more on this theme:
(U.S., Global) Transcript: Cybersecurity Summit

(India) Data pros in demand amid privacy debate

(India, Global) Why data localisation triggers heated debate

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Report finds cyberattacks on critical utility operating systems are increasing
Maggie Miller – The Hill: 4 October 2019

A new survey shows that risk to infrastructure is worsening, with potential for severe financial, environmental and infrastructure damage. Industrywide, readiness is uneven and has common blind spots.
https://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/464373-report-finds-cyberattacks-on-critical-utility-operating-systems-are

Full report:
Caught in the Crosshairs: Are Utilities Keeping Up with the Industrial Cyber Threat?
https://assets.new.siemens.com/siemens/assets/api/uuid:35089d45-e1c2-4b8b-b4e9-7ce8cae81eaa/version:1570030979/siemens-cybersecurity.pdf

For more on this theme:
(U.S.) NSA chief explains new cyber directorate

(U.S., Global) The state of OT cybersecurity in the utilities industry
https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/event/the-state-of-ot-cybersecurity-in-the-utilities-industry/

(U.S.) The Power Grid Is Evolving. Cybersecurity Must Too
https://fortune.com/2019/10/06/power-grid-cyber-security/
COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

Report: Cyber Criminals Target More Firms in Search of Bigger Paydays
Jack Corrigan – Nextgov: 1 October 2019

Data from the firm CrowdStrike suggest criminals ramped up financially motivated attacks during the first half of 2019.


For more on this theme:

(Global) EU police: Cybercrime threats now focus on profits, data
https://www.apnews.com/89b9c3f534cb47f6aefcfff506a3cb71

(Global) Cybercrime: AI’s Growing Threat
https://www.darkreading.com/risk/cybercrime-ais-growing-threat-/a/d-id/1335924

(Australia) Australia’s lack of cyber security engagement remains a perplexing issue

INFORMATION SHARING

U.S. to Expand Information Sharing With U.K., Latin America on Terrorism Threats
Samuel Rubenfeld – Kharon.com: 7 October 2019

The U.S. has encouraged its allies to sign agreements that will increase information sharing about criminal and terrorist threats. An agreement with the United Kingdom would allow electronic data sharing without legal barriers.


For more on this theme:

(Australia, U.S.) US data deal to aid war on terrorism and pedophiles

(Ireland, NATO) Ireland to join Nato cyberintelligence sharing agency
NOTEWORTHY PODCASTS

The future of cybersecurity training: Subscription-based learning — Cyber Work Podcast
Hunter Reed – Security Boulevard: 30 September 2019
Jason Dion, a cyber security training leader, and Cyber Work host Chris Sienko discuss subscription-based cyber security training, study strategies and the skills gap.

For more on this theme:
(Global) Critical Update: The Hidden Threats of 5G
(Global) The ultimate hacking tool.
(Global) The fuzzy boundaries of APT41.

MASS SURVEILLANCE AND INTELLIGENCE GATHERING

Getting a new mobile number in China will involve a facial-recognition test
Jane Li – Quartz: 3 October 2019
Chinese citizens applying for a new mobile and data service plan will need to have their faces scanned by their telecommunications provider. Effective December 1, this new verification requirement is the latest regulation by the Xi administration to control internet access.

For more on this theme:
(Hong Kong, China) Hong Kong Takes Symbolic Stand Against China’s High-Tech Controls
(China) China’s surveillance tech is spreading globally, raising concerns about Beijing’s influence
TRAINING AND EXERCISES

**Cyber Quest**
The U.S. Army Cyber Center of Excellence is using an event called Cyber Quest to partner with talented organizations to solve challenges facing the military.
https://www.dvidshub.net/news/346869/cyber-quest

For more on this theme:

(NATO) The Annual Conference for NATO Cyberspace Operations Education and Training convenes in Tallinn
https://www.baltictimes.com/the_annual_conference_for_nato_cyberspace_operations_education_and_training_convenes_in_tallinn/

(U.K.) Bank of England cyber resilience exercise

(U.S.) AFRL Cyber Center To Train How To Hack Sensors (Think IoT)

(U.S.) 43% of Employees Lack Regular Cyber Security Training
PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

ISIS in Afghanistan is still able to field thousands of fighters despite hellacious fight to destroy it
Shawn Snow – Military Times: 5 October 2019

Despite heroic efforts by the U.S. and its allies to root out ISIS fighters in Afghanistan, they maintain a robust presence — between 2,000 and 4,000 fighters, depending on the source.

Syria: Uzbekistan’s Approach to IS Detainees
Nodirbek Soliev – S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies: 9 October 2019

Uzbekistan is a global leader in repatriating the families — mostly women and children — of ISIS foreign fighters.

For more on this theme:

Violence escalating in al-Hawl camp as Islamic State women open fire on guards, bodies found

France working to bring home children of Isis terrorists, claims foreign minister

Isis jihadist brides aren’t ‘naïve’ victims and knew what they were doing, say experts

Abdullah Qardash: IS Successor to Al-Baghdadi?
https://www.rsis.edu.sg/rsis-publication/icpvtr/abdullah-qardash-is-successor-to-al-baghdadi/#.XaAxD-kxFw2w

Trump Says France, Germany Must Take Back Islamic State Prisoners

Daesh, Twitter and the Social Media Ecosystem: A Study of Outlinks Contained in Tweets Mentioning Rumiyah

In Iraq and Syria, a new phase of the war against Islamic State begins
TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

The Taliban still hasn't broken with al-Qaeda
Javid Ahmad and Husain Haqqani – The Washington Post: 7 October 2019

Despite promises to the contrary, the Taliban appears to be maintaining its close ties to al-Qaida in Afghanistan.

Predicting terror activity before it happens
Northwestern University: 7 October 2019

Researchers have developed a model they say can successfully predict how lethal a terrorist organization will become based on its first 10 attacks.
https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2019/10/191007153457.htm

For more on this theme:
Taliban: From Pariah to Diplomatic Reception

Counter Terrorist Trends and Analyses (CTTA) – Volume 11 Issue 07

How al-Qaida outpaced ISIS in Bangladesh by tuning into youth anger & conservatism

Beyond Counterterrorism: Defeating the Salafi-Jihadi Movement
https://www.criticalthreats.org/analysis/beyond-counterterrorism-defeating-the-salafi-jihadi-movement

Ally of Al Qaeda Killed in Afghanistan Raid, Officials Say, but Taliban Deny It

Attack on U.S. Base and EU Trainers in Somalia Underlines al-Shabaab’s Resilience

The Taliban Go Global
https://thediplomat.com/2019/10/the-taliban-go-global/

Thousands of Nigerian hunters prepare to chase Boko Haram
https://www.apnews.com/dc47d0f5d1a41e9a4077526b386195b

Is lone wolf terrorism on the rise in Israel?

Global Terrorism Decreases in 2018; U.S. Attacks Increase
WHITE NATIONALIST TERRORISM

How the Synagogue Shooting in Germany Fits Into a Global Pattern of Far-Right Terrorism
Rajan Basra, Blyth Crawford and Florence Keen – Time: 10 October 2019

The synagogue shooter in Germany appeared to draw inspiration from other attacks by far-right extremists around the world.

https://time.com/5697553/halle-germany-synagogue-christchurch-terrorism/

For more on this theme:

Threat of right-wing terrorism ‘very high’ in Germany: minister

Americans Equally Worried About Mass Shooting and Terrorism

How the extreme-right gamified terror

RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Lessons Learned from P/CVE Youth Mentorship
Tina Wilchen Christensen – Royal United Services Institute (RUSI): 10 October 2019

RUSI hosted a youth conference in Nairobi, Kenya, called Preventing/Countering Violent Extremism.

https://rusi.org/publication/conference-reports/lessons-learned-pcve-youth-mentorship

The role of women in violent extremism
Institute for Security Studies: 9 October 2019

Africa faces multiple challenges in understanding the connections between gender and terrorism.

https://issafrica.org/media-resources/videos-and-infographics/the-role-of-women-in-violent-extremism

For more on this theme:

Preventing violent extremism: lessons from Africa

Review: ‘A German Youth' documents the radicalization of the Baader Meinhof Gang

French prosecutor finds signs of radicalization in Paris knife attacker
TERRORISM AND THE INTERNET

Fighting Terrorism Online: EU Internet Forum committed to an EU-wide Crisis Protocol
European Commission: 7 October 2019

The fifth annual meeting of the European Union Internet Forum has produced a terrorism Crisis Protocol to address the spread of viral terrorist content online.

For more on this theme:

Neo-Nazi Terrorism Is Evolving Online

How Telegram Became White Nationalists’ Go-To Messaging Platform
https://www.vice.com/en_us/article/59nk3a/how-telegram-became-white-nationalists-go-to-messaging-platform

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

Strategies for combating international terrorism in Central Asia
Shuaib Bahman – Modern Diplomacy: 10 October 2019

Given the increased risk of terrorist groups infiltrating Central Asia, this study suggests that an integrated long-term strategy is most effective.

For more on this theme:

Dealing with ‘problems without passports’: Australia–EU cooperation on counterterrorism

#CounterTerrorism – Commission to sign arrangements with #Albania and #Macedonia as part of Joint Action Plan for the Western Balkans

U.S. Official Says Kazakhstan Could Be A Model For Rescuing Citizens From War Zones
IRREGULAR WARFARE

USE OF SOFT POWER

**Chinese Airport Project in Angola Hit by Delays, Corruption**
*
Frank Fang – Epoch Times: 11 September 2019

Though China uses infrastructure building to expand its influence in certain African nations, the projects are often fraught with corruption. An airport project in Luanda, Angola, is a recent example.


---

**China Is Waging a Silent Media War for Global Influence**
*
Daniel Wagner – The National Interest: 19 September 2019

Beijing is looking to expand its influence and sway public opinion about China by manipulating Western news outlets.

https://nationalinterest.org/feature/china-waging-silent-media-war-global-influence-81906

**For more on this theme:**

**China’s Soft and Sharp Power Strategies in Southeast Asia Accelerating, But Are They Having an Impact?**
*

**Belt And Road Initiative: Geopolitics, Opportunities And Challenges For Regional Integration — OpEd**
*

---

**The United States is Losing Latin America to China**
*
https://nationalinterest.org/feature/united-states-losing-latin-america-china-73906

---

**Africa Has New Suitors — From the Middle East**
*
https://www.ozy.com/fast-forward/africa-has-new-suitors-from-the-middle-east/96468

---

**An Ambassador for Countering Hybrid Threats**
*
https://rusi.org/commentary/ambassador-countering-hybrid-threats

---

**China Steps Up Efforts to Influence Taiwan with Soft Power**
*
https://learningenglish.voanews.com/a/china-steps-up-efforts-to-influence-taiwan-with-soft-power/5079784.html

---

**Scholarship offers driving China’s soft-power play in Africa**
*

---

**Religious tourism as soft power: Strengthening India’s outreach to Southeast Asia**
*