

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
- Israel/Hamas
- Russia/Ukraine

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

How much progress has Ukraine's government made against corruption?

Joanna Kakissis – NPR: 10 October 2023

As Ukraine tries to expel Russian forces from its territory, it's fighting a second war – on corruption – as it seeks to join the European Union and NATO and keep U.S. funds flowing.

<https://www.npr.org/2023/10/10/1204800618/how-much-progress-has-ukraine-s-government-made-against-corruption>

For more on this theme:

Indonesia's agriculture minister resigns amid a corruption investigation

<https://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/indonesias-agriculture-minister-resigns-amid-corruption-investigation-103754187>

Burundi: Central Bank governor prosecuted for corruption

<https://www.africanews.com/2023/10/11/burundi-central-bank-governor-prosecuted-for-corruption/>

Head of Moldova's National Anti-corruption Centre Resigns

<https://balkaninsight.com/2023/10/11/head-of-moldovas-national-anti-corruption-centre-resigns/>

Claudia Escobar Mejía: Marshall-Plan Like Effort Needed to Eliminate Corruption in Central America

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/claudia-escobar-mejia-marshall-plan-effort-needed-eliminate-corruption-central-america>

Combating corruption 'pandemic' is Iraq's top priority, Prime Minister tells UNGA

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/iraq/2023/09/22/combating-corruption-pandemic-is-iraqs-top-priority-prime-minister-tells-unga/>

Pakistan anti-corruption body revives cases against former prime ministers

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/world/asia/2023/09/24/pakistan-anti-corruption-body-revives-cases-against-former-prime-ministers/>

Corruption: Tanzania on the Road to Recovery?

<https://thegeopolitics.com/corruption-tanzania-on-the-road-to-recovery/>

Major anti-corruption crackdown in Saudi Arabia: Defence, Public Security officers among detained

<https://gulfnews.com/world/gulf/saudi/major-anti-corruption-crackdown-in-saudi-arabia-defence-public-security-officers-among-detained-1.98351318>

Europe's anti-corruption group says Cyprus must hold politicians more accountable amid distrust

<https://apnews.com/article/cyprus-greco-corruption-accountability-transparency-government-dd3eccdf-98480c9e4df2038e08493831>

Corruption and Russia's war against Ukraine: UK statement to the OSCE

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/corruption-and-russias-war-against-ukraine-uk-statement-to-the-economic-and-environmental-committee>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Cocaine Trafficking from Latin America to Europe on the Rise

Juan Delgado – Diálogo: 11 October 2023

Europe is suffering a flood of cocaine shipments into its ports, while seizures by security authorities are reaching record levels, reported InSight Crime, an organization dedicated to the study of organized crime in Latin America and the Caribbean.

<https://dialogo-americas.com/articles/cocaine-trafficking-from-latin-america-to-europe-on-the-rise/>

The soaring threat of drug drones from Syria

Haid Haid – Middle East Institute: 11 October 2023

Drones slip under the radar, evading detection and interception. This introduces a whole new frontier of security challenges that Jordan cannot afford to ignore.

<https://www.mei.edu/publications/soaring-threat-drug-drones-syria>

For more on this theme:

Illegal drugs loom over Luxembourg's election

<https://www.politico.eu/article/drugs-luxembourg-election-xavier-bettel/>

Colombia's Petro launches new anti-drug plan with focus on opportunity

<https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/colombias-petro-launches-new-anti-drug-plan-with-focus-opportunity-2023-10-03/>

Jordan accuses Syria of causing increase in kingdom's drug cases

<https://www.newarab.com/news/jordan-blames-syria-increased-drug-smuggling-kingdom>

Heroin, cocaine and tik: How SA's drug trade is fuelling (and fuelled by) organised crime groups

<https://www.news24.com/news24/southafrica/news/heroin-cocaine-and-tik-how-sas-drug-trade-is-fuelling-and-fuelled-by-organised-crime-groups-20230930>

'Kids whose insides are destroyed': The return of drug abuse to Mauritius

<https://www.aljazeera.com/features/2023/10/4/kids-whose-insides-are-destroyed-the-return-of-drug-abuse-to-mauritius>

Murders, disappearances and drug trafficking: the criminal nightmare of Zacatecas, Mexico

<https://english.elpais.com/international/2023-09-28/murders-disappearances-and-drug-trafficking-the-criminal-nightmare-of-zacatecas-mexico.html>

US takes aim at China companies, executives over fentanyl supply chain

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/10/4/us-takes-aim-at-chinese-firms-executives-over-fentanyl-drug-supply-chain>

How Google helps people sell cocaine online

<https://www.businessinsider.com/google-loophole-buying-drugs-online-hijack-website-2023-9>

Fentanyl Isn't Just Smuggled In From Mexico. It Also Arrives Duty Free By Mail

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/kenrapoza/2023/10/01/fentanyl-isnt-just-smuggled-in-from-mexico-it-also-arrives-duty-free-by-mail/?sh=5e6912397dee>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

The orchid obsession: How science and smuggling meet in a global trade

Elizabeth Beattie – The Japan Times: 8 October 2023

Orchids have long enraptured hobbyists and scientists. Hunting out their varied forms – an estimated 31,000 species – has even turned some into thieves.

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/environment/2023/10/08/sustainability/orchids-illegal-trade-science/>

Guinea: Illegal Mangrove Logging Devastates Wildlife

Annika Hammerschlag – Voice of America: 11 October 2023

Guinea's mangrove forests are a vital sanctuary for endangered species – from the colobus monkey to the African manatee. But illegal logging further threatens the habitats of these animals.

<https://www.voanews.com/a/guinea-illegal-mangrove-logging-devastates-wildlife/7306146.html>

For more on this theme:

A Look Inside Wildlife Crime Scene Investigators

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/science-nature/wildlife-crime-scene-investigator-dna-trafficking-180982969/>

There's a thriving global market in turtles, and much of that trade is illegal

<https://theconversation.com/theres-a-thriving-global-market-in-turtles-and-much-of-that-trade-is-illegal-205626>

Amphibian crisis: 41% of species deemed threatened with extinction

<https://www.reuters.com/business/environment/amphibian-crisis-41-species-deemed-threatened-with-extinction-2023-10-04/>

Assam: Where have all the smuggled wildlife gone?

<https://nenow.in/north-east-news/assam/assam-where-have-all-the-smuggled-wildlife-gone.html>

Deforestation: Fuel for climate change

<https://radionigeria.gov.ng/2023/09/29/deforestation-fuel-for-climate-change/>

'Operation Mercury' Curbed Illegal Gold Mining in Peru

<https://home.dartmouth.edu/news/2023/09/operation-mercury-curbed-illegal-gold-mining-peru>

Flood damage highlights 'uncontrolled' sand mining in northern India

<https://www.eco-business.com/news/flood-damage-highlights-uncontrolled-sand-mining-in-northern-india/>

Chennai has become India's illegal animal farm

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/chennai-has-become-indias-illegal-animal-farm/article-show/104249742.cms?from=mdr>

Communities track a path of destruction through a Cambodian wildlife sanctuary

<https://news.mongabay.com/2023/10/communities-track-a-path-of-destruction-through-a-cambodian-wildlife-sanctuary/>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Secretary-General's video message to the Internet Governance Forum

United Nations: 9 October 2023

For nearly two decades, cooperation on internet governance has proven remarkably productive and remarkably resilient in the face of growing geopolitical tensions, proliferating crises and widening divisions.

<https://www.un.org/sg/en/content/sg/statement/2023-10-09/secretary-generals-video-message-the-internet-governance-forum>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Why should businesses care about Internet governance?

<https://iccwbo.org/news-publications/news/why-should-businesses-care-about-internet-governance/>

(Global) Fighting online hate: Global internet governance through shared values

<https://www.gzeromedia.com/global-stage/digital-governance/fighting-online-hate-global-internet-governance-through-shared-values>

(Global) Effective AI governance requires global awareness of local problems

<https://blogs.lse.ac.uk/medialse/2023/09/28/effective-ai-governance-requires-global-awareness-of-local-problems/>

INTERNET FREEDOM

Vietnam Cites Child Safety in Calls for Greater Social Media Censorship Used to Stifle Dissent

Koh Ewe – Time: 12 October 2023

Vietnamese authorities say that a monthslong investigation into TikTok found the social media platform failed to filter out content that violates Vietnamese laws.

<https://time.com/6322914/vietnam-tiktok-social-media-censorship-child-safety/>

For more on this theme:

(Russia) Russia VPN services to be banned in yet another censorship crusade

<https://www.techradar.com/pro/vpn/russia-vpn-services-to-be-banned-in-yet-another-censorship-crusade>

(Taiwan) Q&A: Taiwan's Digital Minister Audrey Tang on AI and Censorship

<https://www.voanews.com/a/q-a-taiwan-digital-minister-audrey-tang-on-ai-and-censorship/7289051.html>

(Iran) Iran's Internet Freedom Under Siege: A Global Perspective

<https://irannewsupdate.com/news/society/irans-internet-freedom-under-siege-a-global-perspective/>

CYBER STRATEGY AND RISKS

When the Rubber Meets the Road: Cybersecurity and Kenya's Digital Superhighway

Nanjira Sambuli – Carnegie: 12 October 2023

A series of cyberattacks devastated Kenya's digital infrastructure in July. Now, with major new digital initiatives underway, the country must find a way to restore the public's confidence.

<https://carnegieendowment.org/2023/10/12/when-rubber-meets-road-cybersecurity-and-kenya-s-digital-superhighway-pub-90766>

For more on this theme:

(Latin America) Current Panorama of Cyber Security in Latin America: Threats and Possibilities

<https://iari.site/2023/10/05/current-panorama-of-cyber-security-in-latin-america-threats-and-possibilities/>

(Europe) Scaling up Europe's cybersecurity calls for a practical blueprint

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/cybersecurity/opinion/scaling-up-europes-cybersecurity-calls-for-a-practical-blueprint/>

(EU) Cyber experts urge EU to rethink vulnerability disclosure plans

<https://www.computerweekly.com/news/366554133/Cyber-experts-urge-EU-to-rethink-vulnerability-disclosure-plans>

CYBERATTACKS

Cyberattacks Targeting Israel Are Rising After Hamas Assault

Ryan Gallagher and Jordan Robertson – Bloomberg: 10 October 2023

Hacking groups, including some tied to Russia, are attacking Israeli government and media websites, allying themselves with Hamas after it launched a series of deadly strikes on the country.

<https://time.com/6322175/israel-hamas-cyberattacks-hackers/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Cyber Attack Compromised the International Criminal Court's Information Systems

<https://www.cpomagazine.com/cyber-security/cyber-attack-compromised-the-international-criminal-courts-information-systems/>

(Iran, Saudi Arabia) Iran-Linked APT34 Spy Campaign Targets Saudis

<https://www.darkreading.com/dr-global/iran-linked-apt34-spy-campaign-targets-saudis>

(India, Canada) 'Indian' hackers take down Canada Army website amid soaring diplomatic tensions: Report

<https://techstory.in/indian-hackers-take-down-canada-army-website-amid-soaring-diplomatic-tensions-report/>

CYBERCRIME

Southeast Asian Casinos Emerge as Major Enablers of Global Cybercrime

Cezary Podkul – ProPublica: 5 October 2023

A growing number of casinos in Cambodia, Laos and Myanmar are engaging in large-scale money laundering, facilitating cyber fraud that is costing victims in the U.S. and abroad billions, according to new research by the United Nations.

<https://www.propublica.org/article/casinos-cambodia-myanmar-laos-southeast-asia-fraud-cybercrime>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Proliferating cybercrime group reemerges following FBI takedown

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/05/politics/fbi-cybercrime-qakbot-reemerges/index.html>

(Global) Cybercrime gangs now deploying ransomware within 24 hours of hacking victims

<https://therecord.media/ransomware-deployment-dwell-time-decreasing>

(Southeast Asia) Online scams in Southeast Asia create double victims: those targeted and those forced to carry them out

<https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/online-scams-southeast-asia-create-double-victims-those-targeted-those-forced-carry>

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

ASEAN, EU should work more closely tackling maritime cybercrime

Rahul Mishra and Syaneeza Shahrizal – Asia Times: 6 October 2023

The European Union has an outstanding reputation for maintaining and contributing to maritime security in Asia.

<https://asiatimes.com/2023/10/asean-eu-should-work-more-closely-tackling-maritime-cybercrime/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) Digital Piracy Returns to Sea: Protecting Autonomous Ships from Online Attacks

<https://warontherocks.com/2023/10/digital-piracy-returns-to-sea-protecting-autonomous-ships-from-online-attacks/>

(U.S., Global) Defending critical infrastructure on the cyber battlefield

<https://www.federaltimes.com/opinions/2023/10/06/defending-critical-infrastructure-on-the-cyber-battlefield/>

(Global) Legions of Critical Infrastructure Devices Subject to Cyber Targeting

<https://www.darkreading.com/ics-ot/legions-critical-infrastructure-devices-open-cyber-targeting>

(Global) How is cyber innovation disrupting the energy sector and critical infrastructure?

<https://europeansting.com/2023/10/06/how-is-cyber-innovation-disrupting-the-energy-sector-and-critical-infrastructure/#>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

ISIS as a Narrative Phenomenon

Ajit Maan and Suha Hassen – Homeland Security Today: 7 October 2023

The most effective way to shape a foundational cultural narrative is to insert a manipulative story. Those working to undermine the ability of extremists to recruit understand the power of narrative in that process.

<https://www.hstoday.us/featured/isis-as-a-narrative-phenomenon/>

The ISKP Challenge: Threatening Taliban Control In Afghanistan – OpEd

Zafar Iqbal Yousafzai – Eurasia Review: 6 October 2023

The Islamic State group's Afghanistan affiliate has emerged as a significant security concern, challenging the control and stability of the Taliban regime.

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/06102023-the-iskp-challenge-threatening-taliban-control-in-afghanistan-oped/>

For more on this theme:

Video: Allegations extremist ideology motivated two brothers to plan deadly bushfires in Victoria

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/2023-10-10/allegations-extremist-ideology-motivated-two/102958878>

ISIS official at Lebanon's Ain Al Hilweh camp jailed for 160 years

<https://www.thenationalnews.com/mena/lebanon/2023/09/28/isis-official-at-lebanons-ain-al-hilweh-camp-jailed-for-160-years/>

How popular music videos drove the fight against the Islamic State

<https://theconversation.com/how-popular-music-videos-drove-the-fight-against-the-islamic-state-213148>

Charity Urges Court to Force Australia to Repatriate Detainees in Syrian Refugee Camp

<https://www.voanews.com/a/charity-urges-court-to-force-australia-to-repatriate-detainees-in-syrian-refugee-camp/7284176.html>

Islamic State rising in Balochistan. Pakistan doesn't have the resources to win this fight

<https://theprint.in/opinion/security-code/islamic-state-rising-in-balochistan-pakistan-doesnt-have-the-resources-to-win-this-fight/1789534/>

Even Before the Latest Bombing, Mastung Was a Hotbed for Violent Insurgency

<https://thediplomat.com/2023/10/even-before-the-latest-bombing-mastung-was-a-hotbed-for-violent-insurgency/>

A Brief Biography of Abu al-Hasan al-Hashimi al-Qurashi: The Islamic State's Third Caliph

<https://www.meforum.org/64932/a-brief-biography-of-abu-al-hasan-al-hashimi-al>

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Bullets and Biodiversity: African National Parks as a Key Counterterrorism Strategy

Gitanjali Reddy – Lawfare: 6 October 2023

How can African governments and the international community respond to the threats posed by armed groups in national parks?

<https://www.lawfaremedia.org/article/bullets-and-biodiversity-african-national-parks-as-a-key-counterterrorism-strategy>

Online game could deter people from being radicalised into terrorism

Clare Wilson – New Scientist: 8 October 2023

People in Iraq who used to live under the control of the Islamic State group were better at spotting signs of others being manipulated into joining such groups after playing MindFort.

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2396400-online-game-could-deter-people-from-being-radicalised-into-terrorism/>

For more on this theme:

Iran Seeks to Spread Its Radical Ideology in Latin America

<https://dialogo-americas.com/articles/iran-seeks-to-spread-its-radical-ideology-in-latin-america/>

Far-right terrorism growing threat in Europe, warns EU commissioner

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/europe/far-right-terrorism-growing-threat-in-europe-warns-eu-commissioner/3006321>

The New Online Radicals: The Third Generation of Online Radicalisation

<https://gnet-research.org/2023/10/04/the-new-online-radicals-the-third-generation-of-online-radicalisation/>

Terrorism: Med-Or report, jihadism silent but not dead

<https://finance.yahoo.com/news/terrorism-med-report-jihadism-silent-100600552.html>

Brief: New Jihadist Group Wahdat al-Muslimin Aims to Unite JNIM and ISGS in the Sahel

<https://jamestown.org/program/brief-new-jihadist-group-wahdat-al-muslimin-aims-to-unite-jnim-and-isgs-in-the-sahel/>

Were Jamaat Ansarullo's Incursions into Tajikistan Real or Staged?

<https://jamestown.org/program/were-jamaat-ansarullas-incursions-into-tajikistan-real-or-staged/>

Sahel: Jihadist Insurgencies On The Rise

<https://www.barrons.com/news/sahel-jihadist-insurgencies-on-the-rise-9fc97c1>

A Crucial Step Towards Eliminating al-Shabaab's Terrorism in Somalia

<https://modern diplomacy.eu/2023/10/08/a-crucial-step-towards-eliminating-al-shabaabs-terrorism-in-somalia/>

Pakistan's Never-ending Battle Against Terrorism

<https://thediplomat.com/2023/10/pakistans-never-ending-battle-against-terrorism/>

ISRAEL/HAMAS

Israel's War on Hamas: What to Know

Bruce Hoffman – Council on Foreign Relations: 9 October 2023

Israel will seek to eliminate the threat posed by the Palestinian militant group for good, but its campaign in Gaza could draw in other adversaries, including Hezbollah and al-Qaeda.

<https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/israels-war-hamas-what-know>

For more on this theme:

What is Hamas? What to know about its origins, leaders and funding

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/world/what-is-hamas-what-to-know-about-its-origins-leaders-and-funding>

How Israel and Hamas reached this point — and what comes next

<https://www.npr.org/2023/10/10/1204963434/how-israel-and-hamas-reached-this-point-and-what-comes-next>

Who is Mohammed Deif, the Hamas commander behind the attack on Israel?

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/how-secretive-hamas-commander-masterminded-attack-israel-2023-10-10/>

US Calls Hamas Attack 'ISIS-Level Savagery'

<https://www.voanews.com/a/us-calls-hamas-attack-isis-level-savagery-/7303672.html>

The War Hamas Always Wanted

<https://www.foreignaffairs.com/israel/war-hamas-always-wanted>

Judy Asks: Does Anyone Benefit From the Israel-Hamas War?

<https://carnegieeurope.eu/strategieurope/90762>

Initial Thoughts on Hamas's War

<https://www.lawfaremedia.org/article/initial-thoughts-on-hamas-s-war>

An Intelligence Failure in Israel, but What Kind?

<https://www.lawfaremedia.org/article/an-intelligence-failure-in-israel-but-what-kind>

An Israeli Gap in Drone Defenses

<https://www.lawfaremedia.org/article/an-israeli-gap-in-drone-defenses>

What Happens If Hamas Starts Killing American Hostages?

<https://www.nationalreview.com/corner/what-happens-if-hamas-starts-killing-american-hostages/>

Hamas And Israel: Iran's Role

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/article/hamas-and-israel-irans-role>

A Bird's-Eye View of the Hamas-Israel War and Its Impact on Regional Relations

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/video/smart-take-birds-eye-view-hamas-israel-war-and-its-impact-regional-relations>

Iran, Hamas & Palestinian Islamic Jihad

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/article/iran-hamas-and-palestinian-islamic-jihad>

ISRAEL/HAMAS

For more on this theme:

Israel May Decimate Hamas, but Can It “Win” This War?

<https://www.newyorker.com/news/daily-comment/israel-may-decimate-hamas-but-can-it-win-this-war>

How big is this going to get? What to watch for in the Israel-Hamas battle.

<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/10/08/6-things-national-security-israel-hamas-conflict-00120544>

Hamas is now what Al-Qaeda became after 9/11

<https://www.deccanherald.com/opinion/hamas-is-now-what-al-qaeda-became-after-911-2723048>

Hamas is only one of four Iranian fronts against Israel

<https://www.stimson.org/2023/hamas-is-only-one-of-four-iranian-fronts-against-israel/>

Ideological and Religious Extremism Underlie the War Between Israel and Hamas

<https://www.stimson.org/2023/ideological-and-religious-extremism-underlie-the-war-between-israel-and-hamas/>

Israel's 9/11? How Hamas Terrorist Attacks Will Change the Middle East

<https://warontherocks.com/2023/10/israels-9-11-how-hamas-terrorist-attacks-will-change-the-middle-east/>

The coming Gaza hostage crisis

<https://www.politico.eu/article/hamas-gaza-israel-palestine-hostages-war-executions/>

Dispatch from Jerusalem: How does this end?

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/dispatch-from-jerusalem-how-does-this-end/>

‘Israel Is Going to Have to Make Some Tough Calls’: There’s No Clear Way Out of the Hostage Crisis

<https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2023/10/11/christopher-costa-israel-hostage-dilemma-00121032>

Hamas and Iran are longtime allies. Did Tehran help with its attack on Israel?

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/09/middleeast/hamas-iran-israel-attack-analysis-intl/index.html>

Israel-Hamas conflict: Key questions for a “long and difficult war”

<https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/israel-hamas-conflict-key-questions-long-difficult-war>

What will Hezbollah do next? Here’s how the Hamas-Israel conflict could engulf the region.

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/what-will-hezbollah-do-next-heres-how-the-hamas-israel-conflict-could-engulf-the-region/>

Fighting with Israel signals coordination between Hamas and Hezbollah, analysts say

<https://www.npr.org/2023/10/10/1204789074/israel-hamas-hezbollah-iran>

The Hamas Attack Changes Everything

<https://www.nationalreview.com/2023/10/the-hamas-attack-changes-everything/>

Surprise Palestinian Attack Spawns Fears of Wider Mideast War

<https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/surprise-palestinian-attack-spawns-fears-wider-mideast-war>

ISRAEL/HAMAS

For more on this theme:

An Israeli Dilemma

<https://www.cfr.org/article/israeli-dilemma>

Lebanon's Hezbollah on war footing but moves carefully as conflict widens

<https://www.reuters.com/world/middle-east/lebanons-hezbollah-war-footing-moves-carefully-conflict-widens-2023-10-11/>

Hamas's attack on Israel was straight out of Hezbollah's playbook

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/hamass-attack-on-israel-was-straight-out-of-hezbollahs-playbook/>

Israel-Hamas war likely to result in increased cyber-attacks, Australia told

<https://www.theguardian.com/australia-news/2023/oct/11/israel-hamas-war-cyber-attacks-cyberx>

EU urges Big Tech to tackle terrorist content after Hamas attack

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/eu-expands-warning-over-pro-hamas-content-social-media-2023-10-11/>

Without evidence, it's unwise to assume Iran is Hamas's puppeteer

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/without-evidence-its-unwise-to-assume-iran-is-hamass-puppeteer/>

'They're opportunistic and adaptive': How Hamas is using cryptocurrency to raise funds

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/12/us/hamas-funding-crypto-invs/index.html>

Russia Asks: How to Benefit From the Gaza War?

<https://cepa.org/article/russia-asks-how-to-benefit-from-the-gaza-war/>

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RUSSIA/UKRAINE

Russia's 2024 Budget Shows It's Planning for a Long War in Ukraine

Pavel Luzin and Alexandra Prokopenko – Carnegie: 11 October 2023

By staking everything on rising military expenditure, the Kremlin is forcing the economy into the snare of perpetual war.

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Putin steps abroad, even as an international warrant hangs over his head

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