

THE MARSHALL CENTER

transnational weekly



A CURRENT AWARENESS SERVICE FROM THE MARSHALL CENTER

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COUNTERING TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME (CTOC)

CORRUPTION

Indonesia: Corruption scandals escalate as election nears

Arti Ekawati – Deutsche Welle: 18 October 2023

Corruption continues to blight Indonesia as President Jokowi nears the end of his second term. Four political figures related to his regime have recently been sentenced for wrongdoing.

<https://www.dw.com/en/indonesia-corruption-scandals-escalate-as-election-nears/a-67130795>

The Nexus of Human Trafficking, Democracy, and Corruption

Ann Norris – Council on Foreign Relations: 12 October 2023

The fight against human trafficking in Mexico and the Northern Triangle countries of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras requires a comprehensive approach that acknowledges the profound impact of weak or nonexistent democratic institutions.

<https://www.cfr.org/blog/nexus-human-trafficking-democracy-and-corruption>

For more on this theme:

Former Bank of China boss arrested on corruption charges

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/2023/oct/16/former-bank-china-boss-liu-liange-arrested-corruption-charges>

Ukrainian Corruption, Russian Corruption

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/blog-post/ukrainian-corruption-russian-corruption>

EU advises Ukraine to strengthen combating corruption and arms smuggling

<https://news.yahoo.com/eu-advises-ukraine-strengthen-combating-205500003.html>

Experts Say Tackling Corruption Key to Stopping Nigerian Crude Theft

<https://www.voanews.com/a/experts-say-tackling-corruption-key-to-stopping-nigerian-crude-theft/7296781.html>

Austerity, corruption, and neglect: How the Greek railway became Europe's deadliest

<https://moderndiplomacy.eu/2023/09/30/austerity-corruption-and-abandonment-how-the-greek-railway-became-the-deadliest-in-europe/>

Value of experienced CEO fades when working in regions vulnerable to corruption, political instability

<https://phys.org/news/2023-09-experienced-ceo-regions-vulnerable-corruption.html>

Iran's Economic Corruption: A Stranglehold on the Iranian People

<https://irannewsupdate.com/news/economy/irans-economic-corruption-a-stranglehold-on-the-iranian-people/>

Bangladesh's Anti-corruption Commission Questions Nobel Laureate Muhammad Yunus

<https://thediplomat.com/2023/10/bangladeshs-anti-corruption-commission-questions-nobel-laureate-muhammad-yunus/>

DRUG TRAFFICKING

Crossroads: Kazakhstan's changing illicit drug economy

Yulia Vorobyeva – Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime: 12 October 2023

Kazakhstan has long been an important transit corridor for drugs, being strategically situated between production areas in South Asia – mainly Afghanistan – and drug consumption markets in Russia and Europe.

<https://globalinitiative.net/analysis/kazakhstans-illicit-drug-economy/>

European Commission Seeks to Support Ports in Fight Against Drug Smuggling

The Maritime Executive: 15 October 2023

The commission has mapped out an aggressive plan designed to step up the fight against trafficking across member states.

<https://maritime-executive.com/article/european-commission-seeks-to-support-ports-in-fight-against-drug-smuggling>

For more on this theme:

Ecuador: from Darwin to drug trafficking

<https://www.france24.com/en/live-news/20231013-ecuador-from-darwin-to-drug-trafficking>

US offers \$5 million reward for information on killing of Ecuadorean presidential candidate

<https://www.reuters.com/world/us-offers-5-mln-reward-information-killing-ecuadorian-presidential-candidate-2023-09-28/>

Fentanyl frenzy driving up cartel employment in Mexico

<https://fox2now.com/news/border-report/fentanyl-frenzy-driving-up-cartel-employment-in-mexico/>

Tackling drug abuse: Kingdom reveals strategy

<https://www.phnompenhpost.com/national-post-depth/tackling-drug-abuse-kingdom-reveals-strategy>

Narco Taliban: Why Afghan meth is India's big headache

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/blogs/toi-editorials/narco-taliban-why-afghan-meth-is-indias-big-headache/>

Ecuador presidential hopefuls pledge action on ports, where bananas hide cocaine

<https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/ecuador-presidential-hopefuls-pledge-action-ports-where-bananas-hide-cocaine-2023-10-11/>

Chile Ups Efforts Against 'Narco' Mausoleums and Funerals

<https://insightcrime.org/news/chile-ups-efforts-against-narco-mausoleums-funerals/>

Morocco Pledges to Intensify Crackdown on 'l'Poufa' Drug

<https://www.moroccoworldnews.com/2023/10/358118/morocco-pledges-to-intensify-crackdown-on-lpoufa-drug>

Why the U.S. is pressuring China amid a crackdown on the global fentanyl trade

<https://www.pbs.org/newshour/show/why-the-u-s-is-pressuring-china-amid-a-crackdown-on-the-global-fentanyl-trade>

TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Cocaine Codfish: How the War on Drugs Can Inform the Fight against Illegal Fishing

Aaron Delano-Johnson – *War on the Rocks*: 16 October 2023

Up to 1 in 5 fish caught worldwide is the product of predatory practices, which continue to destabilize coastal nations around the world.

<https://warontherocks.com/2023/10/cocaine-codfish-how-the-war-on-drugs-can-inform-the-fight-against-illegal-fishing/>

US Launches International Initiative Against Environmental Crimes and Criminal Networks

Julietta Pelcastre – *Diálogo*: 17 October 2023

The United States, Gabon, Norway and several environmental organizations have launched the Nature Crime Alliance.

<https://dialogo-americas.com/articles/us-launches-international-initiative-against-environmental-crimes-and-criminal-networks/>

For more on this theme:

Legal Impunity for Loggers Behind the Brutal Murders of Four Indigenous Earth Defenders in Saweto

<https://amazonwatch.org/news/2023/1005-legal-impunity-for-loggers-behind-the-brutal-murders-of-four-indigenous-earth-defenders-in-saweto>

Cut down once again: Uncontrolled logging puts new Sahel reforestation projects at risk

<https://news.mongabay.com/2023/10/cut-down-once-again-uncontrolled-logging-puts-new-sahel-reforestation-projects-at-risk/>

Gabon takes major step to fight corruption and promote sustainable forestry

<https://africa.businessinsider.com/local/markets/gabon-takes-major-step-to-fight-corruption-and-promote-sustainable-forestry/9ngtbb0>

Brazil strikes intruders of Amazon's most deforested Indigenous land

<https://news.mongabay.com/2023/10/brazil-strikes-intruders-of-amazons-most-deforested-indigenous-land/>

Operation Mercury vs. Gold Fever: Peru's Tug-of-War in the Amazon With a Pandemic Twist

<https://scitechdaily.com/operation-mercury-vs-gold-fever-perus-tug-of-war-in-the-amazon-with-a-pandemic-twist/>

Kachin rebels press villagers to move to make way for jade mining

<https://www.rfa.org/english/news/myanmar/kachin-mining-resettlement-10052023163346.html>

From Bait to Plate — How Forced Labor in China Taints America's Seafood Supply Chain

<https://www.cecc.gov/events/hearings/from-bait-to-plate%E2%80%9494how-forced-labor-in-china-taints-the-american-seafood-industry>

PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

Bridging the Digital Divides

UNESCO: 17 October 2023

The ROAM-X session explores internet access and governance in Africa.

<https://www.unesco.org/en/articles/bridging-digital-divides>

For more on this theme:

(G7) G7 to draw up AI code of conduct this autumn: Kishida

<https://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2023/10/09/japan/politics/kishida-ai-code-of-conduct-g7/>

(Global) Is There a Role for ICANN in Satellite Internet Governance?

<https://circleid.com/posts/20231014-is-there-a-role-for-icann-in-satellite-internet-governance>

(Global) The Evolving Internet: Navigating Risks Amidst Immersion, Decentralization, And Generative AI

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/bernardmarr/2023/10/18/the-evolving-internet-navigating-risks-amidst-immersion-decentralization-and-generative-ai/?sh=356898c6eed8>

INTERNET FREEDOM

Turkish court censors online content on judicial bribery allegations

Stockholm Center for Freedom: 17 October 2023

The ruling blocks news articles, columns, social media posts and videos covering allegations implicating prominent judges, Free Web Turkey reported.

<https://stockholmcf.org/turkish-court-censors-online-content-on-judicial-bribery-allegations/>

For more on this theme:

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

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

(Global) How to fight for internet freedom

<https://www.technologyreview.com/2023/10/09/1081215/how-to-fight-for-internet-freedom/>

(Russia) Russia wants to isolate its internet, but experts warn it won't be easy

<https://therecord.media/russia-internet-isolation-challenges>

CYBER STRATEGY AND RISKS

Shields beyond the horizon: landing Australia's 2023 cybersecurity strategy

Mike Bareja – The Strategist: 18 October 2023

Home Affairs Minister Clare O'Neil and National Cyber Security Coordinator Darren Goldie have familiarized the government and industry with the strategy's six "cyber shields" and timeline of two-year "horizons" out to 2030.

<https://www.aspistrategist.org.au/shields-beyond-the-horizon-landing-australias-2023-cybersecurity-strategy/>

For more on this theme:

(Global) The Future of Cyberwar is being Shaped in Ukraine

https://www.realcleardefense.com/2023/09/28/the_future_of_cyberwar_is_being_shaped_in_ukraine_982542.html

(Taiwan, China) Taiwan Bracing for Cyberwar With China: US Official

https://www.thedefensepost.com/2023/10/04/taiwan-bracing-cyberwar-china/?expand_article=1

(Global) Limitations on the Strategic Use of Ransomware in Armed Conflicts

<https://lieber.westpoint.edu/limitations-strategic-use-ransomware-armed-conflicts/>

CYBERATTACKS

Lloyd's of London finds hypothetical cyberattack could cost world economy \$3.5 trillion

Alexander Martin – The Record: 18 October 2023

The insurance giant has warned that the global economy could lose \$3.5 trillion as a result of a major cyberattack targeting payment systems.

<https://therecord.media/lloyds-finds-cyberattack-would-cost-trillions>

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Clorox and MGM Resorts aren't the only companies dealing with cyberattack damage

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/06/clorox-mgm-resorts-deal-with-cyberattack-fallout.html>

(U.K.) Manufacturing services tech giant hit with cyberattack

<https://therecord.media/manufacturing-giant-hit-with-cyberattack>

(U.S.) US construction giant unearths concrete evidence of cyberattack

https://www.theregister.com/2023/10/12/simpson_manufacturing_security_incident/

(Australia, Global) Australian Scholars Develop Cyberattack Protection for Military Robots

<https://www.thedefensepost.com/2023/10/12/cyberattack-protection-military-robots/>

CYBERCRIME

Urgent global response needed for “insidious” cybercrime

Interpol: 16 October 2023

New types of cybercrime are emerging. Well-organized criminals are exploiting digital technologies to tailor their attacks and target weaknesses in online systems, networks and infrastructures.

<https://www.interpol.int/fr/Actualites-et-evenements/Actualites/2023/Urgent-global-response-needed-for-insidious-cybercrime>

For more on this theme:

(Global) UN cybercrime treaty: A menace in the making

<https://www.euractiv.com/section/cybersecurity/opinion/un-cybercrime-treaty-a-menace-in-the-making/>

(Global) Data weaponisation: a new era of cybercrime

<https://www.technologydecisions.com.au/content/security/article/data-weaponisation-a-new-era-of-cybercrime-1475237379>

(Global) Report: Shipping is an Easy and Lucrative Cybercrime Target

<https://maritime-executive.com/article/shipping-is-easy-cybercrime-target-causing-350-increase-in-ransom-demands>

CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION

Protecting the EU’s critical infrastructure from cyberattacks in a changing environment

Juan C. Asenjo – Security Boulevard: 16 October 2023

In today’s interconnected high-technology world, protecting the critical infrastructure has gained growing attention. Increasing threats and a changing geopolitical environment are giving us reasons to reconsider how we define and protect these vital systems.

<https://securityboulevard.com/2023/10/protecting-the-eus-critical-infrastructure-from-cyberattacks-in-a-changing-environment/>

For more on this theme:

(Canada) Hackers are coming for Canada’s critical infrastructure. Are we ready?

https://www.thespec.com/opinion/contributors/hackers-are-coming-for-canada-s-critical-infrastructure-are-we-ready/article_81232d65-974f-5011-a2f0-263413b42915.html

(Global) Perspective: It’s Time to Treat Satellites as Critical Infrastructure

<https://www.hstoday.us/featured/perspective-its-time-to-treat-satellites-as-critical-infrastructure/>

(South Africa) Growing threats to SA’s critical infrastructure

<https://www.cajnewsafrika.com/2023/10/09/growing-threats-to-sas-critical-infrastructure/>

PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS AND FOREIGN FIGHTERS

What Will Happen To The Evidence Of Daesh Atrocities Against The Yazidis?

Ewelina U. Ochab – Forbes: 10 October 2023

News reports suggest there are plans to close the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Daesh/ISIL, which collects and preserves evidence of atrocities perpetrated by the Islamic State group.

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/ewelinaochab/2023/10/10/what-will-happen-to-the-evidence-of-daesh-atrocities-against-the-yazidis/?sh=cdece4c5c52e>

Analysis: Islamic State strikes in western Uganda

Caleb Weiss & Ryan O'Farrell – Long War Journal: 18 October 2023

The Islamic State group, through its Central Africa Province – known locally as the Allied Democratic Forces – has conducted and officially claimed two ambushes recently against civilians.

<https://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2023/10/analysis-islamic-state-strikes-in-western-uganda.php>

For more on this theme:

Revelation of Terror Collaboration: HuT, ISIS Joined Hands For Operations in India

<https://www.freepressjournal.in/india/revelation-of-terror-collaboration-hut-isis-joined-hands-for-operations-in-india>

Canadian Woman Repatriated From Syria Charged With Terrorism

<https://www.voanews.com/a/canadian-woman-repatriated-from-syria-charged-with-terrorism-/7300700.html>

Killer of French school teacher claims attack for Islamic State group

<https://www.france24.com/en/france/20231017-killer-of-french-school-teacher-claims-attack-for-islamic-state-group>

Alleged Islamic State 'Beate' pleads guilty to terrorism offences

<https://www.reuters.com/world/uk/alleged-islamic-state-beate-pleads-guilty-terrorism-offences-2023-10-16/>

Islamic State claims responsibility for attack on Afghan Shi'ite mosque

<https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/islamic-state-claims-responsibility-attack-afghan-shi-ite-mosque-2023-10-13/>

Former Brooklyn Resident Sentenced to Life in Prison for Aiding Islamic State Group as Sniper

<https://www.voanews.com/a/former-brooklyn-resident-sentenced-to-life-in-prison-for-aiding-islamic-state-group-as-sniper-/7315103.html>

Islamic state claims responsibility for Brussels attack – group's channel on Telegram

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/islamic-state-claims-responsibility-brussels-attack-groups-channel-telegram-2023-10-17/>

ISRAEL/HAMAS

Middle East on 'verge of the abyss' UN warns, as Israel-Hamas conflict deepens Gaza crisis

United Nations: 15 October 2023

The U.N. secretary-general appealed to Hamas to immediately release all hostages and to Israel to grant “unimpeded access for humanitarian aid” into the Gaza Strip.

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2023/10/1142377>

For more on this theme:

The Israel-Hamas War: The Humanitarian Crisis in Gaza

<https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/israel-hamas-war-humanitarian-crisis-gaza>

The how and what of the latest Israel-Hamas war

<https://www.colorado.edu/today/2023/10/13/how-and-what-latest-israel-hamas-war>

In claiming neutrality, China picks a side in Israel-Hamas war

<https://www.axios.com/2023/10/15/china-israel-hamas-war>

Iran-backed Hezbollah joining Israel-Hamas conflict would be a 'game changer,' Middle East expert says

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/13/hezbollah-joining-conflict-in-neighboring-israel-would-be-a-game-changer.html>

The Rules of War and Human Rights in the Israel-Hamas War

<https://publichealth.jhu.edu/2023/the-rules-of-war-and-human-rights-in-the-israel-hamas-war>

Expert Guidance: Law of Armed Conflict in the Israel-Hamas War

<https://www.justsecurity.org/89489/expert-guidance-law-of-armed-conflict-in-the-israel-hamas-war/>

Disinformation surge threatens to fuel Israel-Hamas conflict

<https://www.reuters.com/world/disinformation-surge-threatens-fuel-israel-hamas-conflict-2023-10-18/>

Israel-Hamas war risks further deglobalization and inflation

<https://www.cnn.com/2023/10/15/economy/stocks-week-ahead-deglobalization/index.html>

How does Iran fit into the war between Israel and Hamas?

<https://www.vox.com/world-politics/2023/10/14/23917078/israel-hamas-war-gaza-iran-hezbollah-khamenei-lebanon>

Israel-Hamas war is changing the political landscape in France

<https://www.politico.eu/article/israel-hamas-war-change-political-landscape-france/>

Israel-Hamas 2023 Symposium — The Evacuation of Northern Gaza: Practical and Legal Aspects

<https://lieber.westpoint.edu/evacuation-northern-gaza-practical-legal-aspects/>

Israel-Hamas conflict divides opinion in Africa

<https://www.dw.com/en/israel-hamas-conflict-divides-opinion-in-africa/a-67074671>

ISRAEL/HAMAS

For more on this theme:

How hackers piled onto the Israeli-Hamas conflict

<https://www.politico.com/news/2023/10/15/hackers-israel-hamas-war-00121593>

A Dangerous New Phase in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict

<https://www.fpri.org/article/2023/10/a-dangerous-new-phase-in-the-israeli-palestinian-conflict/>

The Hamas-Israel War and Regional Security in MENA

<https://www.wilsoncenter.org/collection/hamas-israel-war-and-regional-security-mena>

Israel-Hamas 2023 Symposium — A “Complete Siege” of Gaza in accordance with International Humanitarian Law

<https://lieber.westpoint.edu/complete-siege-gaza-in-accordance-international-humanitarian-law/>

China Exploits Israel-Hamas Conflict To Diminish US Global Influence – Analysis

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/15102023-china-exploits-israel-hamas-conflict-to-diminish-us-global-influence-analysis/>

Will Egypt Play a Role in Easing the Gaza War?

<https://www.cfr.org/in-brief/will-egypt-play-role-easing-gaza-war>

Deterring Escalation and Expansion of the Gaza War by Iran’s “Axis of Resistance”

<https://www.washingtoninstitute.org/policy-analysis/deterring-escalation-and-expansion-gaza-war-irans-axis-resistance>

Russia-Iran-China: Geopolitical Shadows On Hamas-Israel War – Analysis

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/16102023-russia-iran-china-geopolitical-shadows-on-hamas-israel-war-analysis/>

Ukraine-Russia And Hamas-Israel Wars: Adaptation Is Key – Analysis

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/13102023-ukraine-russia-and-hamas-israel-wars-adaptation-is-key-analysis/>

Israel-Gaza conflict: when social media fakes are rampant, news verification is vital

<https://theconversation.com/israel-gaza-conflict-when-social-media-fakes-are-rampant-news-verification-is-vital-215496>

Israel: Hamas And Islamic Jihad Attack – Analysis

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/13102023-israel-hamas-and-islamic-jihad-attack-analysis/>

Israel-Hamas 2023 Symposium — Siege Law and Military Necessity

<https://lieber.westpoint.edu/siege-law-military-necessity/>

Normalizing Saudi-Israeli Ties is the Best Response to the Hamas Attack

<https://nationalinterest.org/feature/normalizing-saudi-israeli-ties-best-response-hamas-attack-206909>

Taiwan Monitors Israel-Hamas Conflict Amid China Concerns

<https://www.voanews.com/a/taiwan-monitors-israel-hamas-conflict-amid-china-concerns/7309471.html>

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

Israel-Hamas War Creates Prospects, Problems For Russia As It Invades Ukraine And Seeks Clout In Mideast

Todd Prince – Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty: 18 October 2023

The new war may help the Kremlin by drawing attention away from the carnage it is causing in Ukraine, but a widening of the conflict could strain Moscow's carefully cultivated Middle East ties and jeopardize its clout in the region.

<https://www.rferl.org/a/russia-israel-hamas-war-prospects-problems/32643160.html>

For more on this theme:

Prigozhin Is Gone, But Wagner's Power in Africa Is Only Growing

<https://newlinesinstitute.org/state-resilience-fragility/prigozhin-is-gone-but-wagners-power-in-africa-is-only-growing/>

Political-Military-Mercenary Triangulation: A Look At The Wagner Group – Analysis

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/01102023-political-military-mercenary-triangulation-a-look-at-the-wagner-group-analysis/>

'Without Leaving Home, We Became Foreigners': Ukrainians Escape Russian Occupation Through The Only Open Border Crossing

<https://www.rferl.org/a/ukrainians-escape-russian-occupation-border-crossing/32636052.html>

The Russians Fighting for Ukraine

<https://www.crisisgroup.org/europe-central-asia/eastern-europe/ukraine/russians-fighting-ukraine>

Putin Is Not "Protecting" Ethnic Russians in Ukraine or Elsewhere

<https://www.geopoliticalmonitor.com/putin-is-not-protecting-ethnic-russians-in-ukraine-or-elsewhere/>

Russia attempts to seize military, diplomatic initiative against Ukraine

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2023/10/18/russia-attempts-to-seize-military-diplomatic-initiative-against-ukraine>

Putin hammers Ukraine with West distracted by Middle East crisis

<https://www.politico.eu/article/leaders-distracted-war-hamas-israel-crisis-russia-putin-attacks-ukraine-kherson/>

Russia's Ukraine invasion highlights the need for fundamental UN reform

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/russias-ukraine-invasion-highlights-the-need-for-fundamental-un-reform/>

What to look for as Putin and Xi meet at the Belt and Road Forum

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/what-to-look-for-as-putin-and-xi-meet-at-the-belt-and-road-forum/>

Russia's Potential Withdrawal From Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Underlines Urgent Arms Control Problem – Analysis

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/19102023-russias-potential-withdrawal-from-comprehensive-nuclear-test-ban-treaty-underlines-urgent-arms-control-problem-analysis/>

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

Russian Nuclear Threats — A Cry for Attention, Not Armageddon's Dawn

<https://cepa.org/article/russian-nuclear-threats-a-cry-for-attention-not-armageddons-dawn/>

Behind the Lines: Russia's Brainwashing of Teenagers in Occupied Ukraine

<https://cepa.org/article/behind-the-lines-russias-brainwashing-of-teenagers-in-occupied-ukraine/>

The Wagner Group Evolves After The Death Of Prigozhin – Analysis

<https://www.eurasiareview.com/13102023-the-wagner-group-evolves-after-the-death-of-prigozhin-analysis/>

The role of AI in Russia's invasion of Ukraine: Interview with expert Anton Tarasyuk

<https://globalvoices.org/2023/10/13/the-role-of-ai-in-russias-invasion-of-ukraine-interview-with-expert-anton-tarasyuk/>

Russia can gain from Middle East turmoil — but it could backfire if the war spirals out of control

<https://www.cnbc.com/2023/10/13/russia-benefits-from-the-war-between-israel-and-hamas-in-3-ways.html>

Snubbed by Russia, Israel and Ukraine draw closer after Hamas attack

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2023/10/snubbed-russia-israel-and-ukraine-draw-closer-after-hamas-attack>

Russia's foreign minister thanks North Korea for 'unwavering' support of its war in Ukraine

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/world/russia-ukraine-north-korea-sergey-lavrov-rcna121159>

The state of Russia's war on Ukraine as it nears 2024

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/the-russia-ukraine-war-in-2024/>

UK explores using frozen Russian assets to fund Ukraine defence

<https://www.bbc.com/news/business-67098994>

Russia Will Survive a Defeat in Ukraine. It's Time to Prepare for What Comes Next.

<https://www.politico.com/news/magazine/2023/10/15/thomas-graham-russia-ukraine-00121247>

Ukraine finance minister says donor 'tiredness' growing as war drags on

<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/ukraine-finance-minister-says-donor-tiredness-growing-war-drags-2023-10-14/>

Russia recruits Serbs in drive to replenish military forces in Ukraine

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2023/oct/18/russia-recruits-serbs-in-drive-to-replenish-military-forces-in-ukraine>

Ukraine: Russia's losses mount — but self-sacrifice in war is part of the country's mythology

<https://theconversation.com/ukraine-russias-losses-mount-but-self-sacrifice-in-war-is-part-of-the-countrys-mythology-215235>

RUSSIA/UKRAINE

For more on this theme:

Rebuilding Ukraine's Economy Starts Now

<https://warontherocks.com/2023/10/rebuilding-ukraines-economy-starts-now/>

'Creating Chaos Wherever He Can': Khodorkovsky Argues Ukraine War Is Taxing Putin's Hold On Power

<https://www.rferl.org/a/khodorkovsky-interview-russia-putin-ukraine-war/32639952.html>

Ukraine's neglected Danube region is a crucial front in the war with Russia

<https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/ukrainealert/ukraines-neglected-danube-region-is-a-crucial-front-in-the-war-with-russia/>