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CORRUPTION

Uzbekistan: How to support the real victims of grand corruption
Transparency International: 2 November 2017
Finding and returning assets lost to graft isn’t easy. But it’s even more difficult when the corrupt individuals are still in charge of the government. How can the public be certain the money is being returned to the people instead of corrupt government officials?
https://www.transparency.org/news/feature/uzbekistan_how_to_support_the_real_victims_of_grand_corruption

Anti-corruption policies are hurting the world’s poorest. Here’s how to make them better.
Charles Kenny – Devex: 27 October 2017
Measuring the quality of projects and progress toward goals might be a better way to help the poor when governments are rife with corruption.
https://www.devex.com/news/opinion-anti-corruption-policies-are-hurting-the-world-s-poorest-here-s-how-to-make-them-better-91381

For more on this theme:
Guatemala judge orders former president tried for corruption

Panama Social Organizations Protest Corruption and Impunity

Lawyer says Foreign Office told her to ignore EU corruption evidence
https://www.theguardian.com/politics/2017/nov/02/lawyer-says-foreign-office-told-her-to-ignore-eu-corruption-evidence

A Simple Proposal to Combat Corruption in Mexico
https://splinternews.com/a-simple-proposal-to-combat-corruption-in-mexico-1820017351

The anti-corruption fight of Nigeria’s president Buhari has hit close to home

Corruption-free India still a far cry, 45 per cent admit they paid bribe in past 1 year
http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/india-corruption-45-per-cent-bribe/1/1080682.html

Canada Bans Facilitation Payments Under Foreign Anti-Corruption Law
https://globalcompliancenews.com/canada-facilitation-payments-20171102/

Mexican anger over corruption deepens – but will politicians change their ways?

Understanding Chinese President Xi’s anti-corruption campaign
https://theconversation.com/understanding-chinese-president-xis-anti-corruption-campaign-86396
DRUG TRAFFICKING

Afghan Taliban Awash in Heroin Cash, a Troubling Turn for War

Afghanistan has long been one of the world’s biggest producers of opium, which is used to make heroin, and the Taliban has made a lucrative business from taxing and providing security to producers and smugglers in the region.


Is Marijuana Good for Health? How Drug Laws Restrict Research of Cannabis Treatments
Kastalia Medrano – Newsweek: 2 November 2017

Because marijuana is still banned in the United States at the federal level, it is difficult for companies to test its benefits despite efforts from states that have decriminalized or legalized the drug.

http://www.newsweek.com/medical-marijuana-pain-illness-700303

For more on this theme:
The Christian Vigilantes Fighting Myanmar’s Heroin Epidemic

Tell-All Interview Exposes Details of Colombia’s Cocaine Trade

Why We Need China’s Cooperation To Fight Our Opioid Crisis

Terrorists rely on drugs as a source of funding, says Saudi anti-drugs chief
http://www.arabnews.com/node/1186396/saudi-arabia

Para-legal: How a Complicated History Led to Paraguay Becoming a Hub for Illicit Trade

Study Sheds New Light on Roots of Mexico Cartel Wars

The War on Drugs: The Narco States of North America
http://nationalinterest.org/feature/the-war-drugs-the-narco-states-north-america-22967

Decriminalising drugs will only worsen the problem
http://www.todayonline.com/singapore/decriminalising-drugs-will-only-worsen-problem

Mexico's Record Violence Is a Crisis 20 Years in the Making
TRAFFICKING IN SCARCE OR PROTECTED RESOURCES

Security tightened after illegal miners attack government posts in the Amazon
Karla Mendes – Reuters: 29 October 2017

The fight against illegal mining in the Amazon has taken an ugly turn. Government buildings and vehicles have been set on fire in retaliation for the burning of barges used by miners.

The Difficult Discussion on Cambodia’s Forests
Tyler Roney – The Diplomat: 30 October 2017

Cambodia’s government is in denial about how much deforestation is occurring due to illegal logging, and officials have become quite belligerent about the subject. Despite the government’s obstinacy, it has done its best to crack down on the illegal logging practice — but its best isn’t good enough.
https://thediplomat.com/2017/10/the-difficult-discussion-on-cambodias-forests/

For more on this theme:

Romania to investigate illegal logging in national park

The benefits of legalising artisanal mining in South Africa

UK announces global conference to crack down on wildlife crime
http://www.traffic.org/home/2017/10/30/uk-announces-global-conference-to-crack-down-on-wildlife-cri.html

Illegal logging biggest threat to forest cover: experts
https://dailymail.co.uk/news/article-10198566/Illegal-logging-biggest-threat-forest-cover-experts.html

Mali’s Desert Elephants, on Edge of Annihilation, Get a Fighting Chance

Golden Triangle is ‘ground zero’ for wildlife trafficking — WWF
http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/942533/golden-triangle-is-ground-zero-for-wildlife-trafficking-wwf

APEC moves to save forests
http://vietnamnews.vn/politics-laws/416689/apec-moves-to-save-forests.html#KEWzAqDqjHaK06i.97

Malawi turns to British troops in poaching war

Wildlife Action Plan: More work ahead from a marine conservation perspective

Forest crime suppression forces determined to nab transnational Siamese rosewood logging gang
http://www.nationmultimedia.com/detail/national/30330530
HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

**Mexico cartels recruit children to smuggle people to US**
*Lucina Melesio and John Holman – Al-Jazeera: 30 October 2017*

Mexican organized crime groups are using minors to smuggle people across the border because they are unlikely to suffer under U.S. laws if caught. The cartels are recruiting impoverished youths along the border by offering them massive amounts of cash.


**The new ways of Nigeria’s human traffickers**
*Katrin Gänsler – Deutsche Welle: 30 October 2017*

A lack of jobs and education for Nigeria’s youth has fueled a human trafficking trade in which young women and men are sold into slavery and prostitution under the false pretense of well-paid jobs and a good education.


*For more on this theme:*

- **Magu: Human Trafficking an offshoot of corruption**

- **Foster care children at risk for sex-trafficking recruitment**

- **Powers to tackle human trafficking risk come into force**

- **The Libyan migrant “prisons” of Europe’s making**

- **$2bn EU-Africa ‘anti-migration’ fund too opaque, say critics**

- **Migration out of Senegal: ‘modern-day slave trade’ or long-held practice?**
  https://www.opendemocracy.net/beyondslavery/stephanie-maher/migration-out-of-senegal-modern-day-slave-trade-or-long-held-practice

- **When and how can foreign aid slow migration?**

- **Australia’s asylum boat turnbacks are illegal and risk lives, UN told**

- **Libyan path to Europe turns into dead end for desperate migrants**
  https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/oct/30/libyan-migrants-detention-centres-europe-unhcr
PROGRAM ON CYBER SECURITY STUDIES (PCSS)

INTERNET GOVERNANCE

China Wants To Make The World Web Less Wide And Run Its Own Splinternet
Fergus Ryan – Huffington Post: 2 November 2017

Instead of having one big, free and open internet, many despotic governments wish to splinter off a piece of the pie that they can fully control. China is helping those governments by exporting its online censorship regime to authoritarian governments around the world.


For more on this theme:
(Global) EFF to ICANN’s Registrars: Don’t Pick Up the Censor’s Pen
https://www.eff.org/deeplinks/2017/10/eff-icanns-registrars-dont-pick-censors-pen

(Global) Why Facebook and Twitter Can’t Be Trusted to Police Themselves

INTERNET FREEDOM

Explainer: What is Russia’s new VPN law all about?
Ksenia Idrisova – BBC: 1 November 2017

Following in China’s footsteps, Russia has made it more difficult to bypass internet censors by restricting proxy avoidance tools such as virtual private networks and anonymizers.


For more on this theme:
(China) China’s New, Severe Curbs on the Internet Leave Little Left to Censor

(U.S., Canada) Google Wins Ruling to Block Global Censorship Order from Canadian Court
http://fortune.com/2017/11/03/google-canada-censorship/

(U.S.) Conservative Group Claims YouTube Is Censoring Its Videos
http://dailysignal.com/2017/11/01/conservative-group-claims-youtube-is-censoring-their-videos/
PRIVACY AND SECURITY

Cybersecurity Budgets Across the Globe
Dwight Davis – CSO: 2 November 2017
An AT&T global survey on cyber security spending found that companies in the Asia-Pacific region are spending considerably more than the rest of the world on cyber security defenses and cyber insurance.

For more on this theme:
(EU) Lessons for EU to protect against next cyber attack
https://euobserver.com/opinion/139708

(Global) Smart cities open door to cyber-attacks, say security experts
https://www.thenational.ae/uae/smart-cities-open-door-to-cyber-attacks-say-security-experts-1.672214

(EU, Global) New EU Privacy Laws That May Impact US Private Fund Sponsors

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

The Sorry State of Pakistan’s Digital Diplomacy
Zushan Hashmi – The Diplomat: 31 October 2017
Pakistan’s politicians seem to have no interest in using the internet to reach their citizens or other countries. This absence of a digital presence is in direct juxtaposition to the growing number of connected Pakistani citizens.

For more on this theme:
(Philippines) Engaging Filipinos And The World Through Digital Diplomacy – Analysis

(China, U.S.) How Are US-China Cyber Relations Progressing?

(EU) New EU framework allows members to consider cyber-attacks acts of war
PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Govt plans fibre-to-the-home services
Mansi Taneja – Daily News & Analysis: 31 October 2017

India is working with the private sector to improve digital connectivity.

For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Minnesota is leading the way in bringing broadband to rural communities
http://www.hometownfocus.us/news/2017-11-03/Features/Minnesota_is_leading_the_way_in_bringing_broadband.html

(U.S.) GO-Biz Launches Cyber-Health IT Advisory Board with USC Center for Body Computing

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

China Tests the Limits of Its US Hacking Truce
Andy Greenberg – Wired: 31 October 2017

Despite agreements not to hack into each other’s private sector companies, China’s intrusions into U.S. companies have continued over the past two years.
https://www.wired.com/story/china-tests-limits-of-us-hacking-truce/

For more on this theme:

(Global) Enemy Cyber Campaigns Target Private Sector

(Japan) Japanese businesses are the latest victims of attacks disguised as ransomware
https://www.cyberscoop.com/japan-ransomware-mbr-ontonicybereason/

(U.S., Global) Does Sharing A Link To Online Content Amount To Copyright Infringement?
https://abovethelaw.com/2017/11/does-sharing-a-link-to-online-content-amount-to-copyright-infringement/
CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Saudi Arabia sets up new authority for cyber security

*Reuters: 1 November 2017*

Saudi Arabia is in the process of establishing a new cyber security agency, having already appointed a new minister to oversee the project.


For more on this theme:

(U.S.) New law creates Michigan cyber-security corps


(Australia) Big boost for cyber security


(Global) Nonprofit FIRST aims at global coverage for cyber incident responders


COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

Trump signs cybercrime bill

*Morgan Chalfant – The Hill: 2 November 2017*

U.S. President Donald Trump signed a law to help law enforcement better combat cyber crime. The legislation codifies the National Computer Forensics Institute as a training center for state and local law officials in digital evidence collection.


For more on this theme:

(Brazil) How Brazilian Women Are Fighting Back Against Data Theft


(Israel) Israeli hacking firm’s founders to move into cyber defence


(Global) A third of the Internet is under attack

INFORMATION SHARING

Enrollment for threat sharing program continues to lag
Derek B. Johnson – FCW: 1 November 2017

Mistrust of the federal government by the private sector hinders the public-private cyber security information exchange set up by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

For more on this theme:
(U.S.) HHS continuing to push for health care cyberthreat sharing

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Canadian government suffers dozens of successful state-sponsored cyber attacks: Report
Howard Solomon – IT World Canada: 1 November 2017

An evaluation of the Canadian government’s cyber security strategy has found mixed results. Government departments have improved the protection of federal internet technology networks, but attacks are still breaking through the defenses.

For more on this theme:
(U.S.) More must be done to protect America’s nuclear power plants from cyberattacks
http://thehill.com/opinion/cybersecurity/357902-more-must-be-done-to-protect-americas-nuclear-power-plants-from

(U.S., Global) Quantum Encryption Could Protect Electric Grid
https://www.meritalk.com/articles/quantum-encryption-could-protect-electric-grid-cybersecurity/

(U.S.) Navy Cyber Mission Force Teams Achieve Full Operational Capability

(U.S.) U.S. ports lack key cyber tools
PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

ISIS

Making ‘a million dollars per day,’ welcome to ISIS' oil smuggling empire
Francesca Astori – Al Arabiya: 30 October 2017
According to an exposé from the Italian Finance Guard, oil is being smuggled from ISIS-held territories in Libya to be sold in the European energy markets.
http://english.alarabiya.net/en/features/2017/10/30/A-million-dollars-per-day-welcome-to-ISIS-s-oil-smuggling-empire-.html

ISIS Takes Fight to Cyber Battlefield
Kimberly Underwood – Signal: 1 November 2017
The deputy director of the U.S. National Counterterrorism Center warns that as ISIS loses physical territory, it will extend the battlefield to the cyber domain.
https://www.afcea.org/content/isis-takes-fight-cyber-battlefield

For more on this theme:
How do we know ISIS is losing? Now it's asking women to fight.

The invisible Islamic State
http://registerguard.com/rg/opinion/36106840-78/the-invisible-islamic-state.html.csp

Analysts: Islamic State’s Global Reach Shrinking
https://www.voanews.com/a/europe-middle-east-islamic-state/4095213.html

Prime targets: Islamic State’s hit list of high profile individuals

The Islamic State in Egypt — and at Israel’s Doorstep

New York Attack Turns Focus to Central Asian Militancy

Is ISIS winning on the information battlefield?
https://www.cbsnews.com/news/is-isis-winning-on-the-information-battlefield/

Moving deeper into Syria’s desert, ISIS appears to be regrouping

With the destruction of the caliphate, the Islamic State has lost far more than territory
https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/10/31/the-caliphate-that-was/?utm_term=.a125cc270ca7
TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

Taliban, IS Face Off In Afghanistan
Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty: 30 October 2017

Afghan leadership is worried about the confrontations between the Taliban and ISIS in two provinces of Afghanistan. The fighting has left many dead and forced thousands of civilians to flee their homes.

https://gandhara.rferl.org/a/afghanistan-is-taliban-face-off/28824567.html

Iran’s Secret Funding For al-Qaeda In Exchange For Attacks On U.S. Targets Exposed in Bin Laden Files
Callum Paton – Newsweek: 2 November 2017

Recently declassified documents from the 2011 raid on Osama bin Laden’s compound revealed that Iran offered extensive support to al-Qaida in exchange for the group’s attacks against U.S. targets.

http://www.newsweek.com/irans-secret-funding-al-qaeda-exchange-attacks-us-targets-exposed-bin-laden-699370

For more on this theme:
‘150,000 Americans couldn't beat us': Taliban fighters defiant in Afghanistan

Documenting al Qaeda’s Durability
http://www.weeklystandard.com/documenting-al-qaedas-durability/article/2010339

Turkey's Silent Al Qaeda Partner in Syria

The ivory trade and terrorism: al-Shabaab’s potential diversionary source of income
SOFREP Original Content

Hezbollah, Hamas leaders meet in Beirut
https://www.almasdarnews.com/article/hezbollah-hamas-leaders-meet-beirut/

Deadly Somalia Bombings Highlight Failed Bid to Quash Al-Shabaab

New CIA files link bin Laden to Al Shabaab
https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/article/2001259172/new-cia-files-link-bin-laden-to-al-shabaab

Boko Haram causes more mental cases in N/East
https://www.dailytrust.com.ng/boko-haram-causes-more-mental-cases-in-n-east.html

Osama bin Laden still matters. Islamic State leader Baghdadi not so much.
RADICALIZATION AND MESSAGING

Empowering women to fight radicalization
Euronews: 1 November 2017

At the Crans Montana Forum’s African Women Initiative in Brussels, one of the main topics of discussion was the critical role women can play in the fight against radicalization.


How Uzbekistan became ripe recruiting territory for ISIS
Sajjan Gohel – CNN: 1 November 2017

The October 31 deadly terror attack in New York was perpetrated by a suspected Uzbek national linked to ISIS. Experts say Central Asians, and Uzbeks in particular, are a prominent fighting force in the militant group’s jihad.


For more on this theme:

The long fight against extremism
https://www.theworldweekly.com/reader/view/magazine/2017-11-02/the-long-fight-against-extremism/10349

Why ‘lone wolves’ are drawn to the Islamic State: Experts say it ‘reaffirms the values of the marginalized’
http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-5043787/Why-lone-wolves-drawn-Islamic-State.html

India’s ‘love jihad’ - Are women being recruited for ‘Islamic State’?

Rescued and deradicalised women are returning to Boko Haram. Why?

What Singapore's Radical Preacher Ban Says About ASEAN's Terror War

NYPD counterterrorism official John Miller on the “arc” of radicalization

Protecting youth from radicalization, a State’s priority

Balfour ‘unresolved issue’ fuels radicalization in Britain
http://www.arabnews.com/node/1184351/world
FOREIGN FIGHTERS

What the Attack in New York Revealed About the Islamic State’s Supporters
Graeme Wood – The Atlantic: 31 October 2017

As ISIS loses territory and foreign fighters return home, countries fear that knowledgeable and battle-tested extremists will conduct advanced terror attacks on their soil.

For more on this theme:
Thousands of ISIS Fighters Returning to Western Countries, Including United States

British Islamic State militant seeks to return home to face justice, expresses disillusionment with terror network

Officials Don’t Know Whereabouts of Most U.S. Citizen Islamic State Recruits
http://thesoufancenter.org/research/beyond-caliphate/

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

How harsh counterterrorism measures can play into the hands of the Islamic State
Rick Noack – The Washington Post: 1 November 2017

Countries around the world take great pains to ensure foreign fighters don’t return home — from trying to ensure their deaths on the battlefield, removing their citizenship or enacting draconian punishments for those who return. These tactics work in some cases, but they may also fuel the cycle of radicalization.

For more on this theme:
All eyes fixed on West Africa as US role in combat grows

G5 Sahel counterterrorism force explained

Niger: Armed Drones Add to Struggling Counterterrorism Efforts
https://worldview.stratfor.com/article/niger-armed-drones-add-struggling-counterterrorism-efforts

The Rise of Soft-Target Terror Attacks Is a Symptom of Police Success

The War on Terrorism as Imperial Policing
CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

DEALING WITH DISASTERS

**Argentine Air Force Develops Drones Using Domestic Technology**
*Eduardo Szklarz – Diálogo: 31 October 2017*

The Argentine Air Force is developing unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) to be used for military tasks and to assist during natural disasters. The UAVs are equipped with the latest surveillance, control, and search and rescue equipment.


**Tsunami Prone Nations Learn from Disasters to Prevent Future Ones**
*Margaret Besheer – Voice of America: 1 November 2017*

After several major disasters, countries in Southeast Asia assessed their preparedness and planning for natural disasters. Enacting early warning systems, educating youth and building for resilience are among the keys to their preparations for the next big disaster.


For more on this theme:

**Here’s what we can do in between natural and man-made disasters**

**Preparing for the Inevitable: Natural Disasters**
[http://www.give2asia.org/blogpage/fpirohv7239e96fqdeksh6172yew0](http://www.give2asia.org/blogpage/fpirohv7239e96fqdeksh6172yew0)

**Disaster preparedness: lessons from recent hurricanes**

**Twenty six cities at high risk of disaster**

**Japanese school uses innovative techniques for disaster preparedness**

**Mitigating impact of natural disasters as important as managing fiscal front, debt: World Bank**

**Widespread Natural Disasters Threaten Development Goals**

**UN urges action, long-term measures to tackle disasters**