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COUNTERING NARCOTICS AND ILLICIT TRAFFICKING (CNIT)

HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND IRREGULAR MIGRATION

Libya’s migrant-smuggling highway: Lessons for Europe

Unsure of how to handle the influx of migrants, Europe is attempting to pull together policies to cope with the hundreds of thousands of refugees flooding its borders. But a smart policy will need to deal with smugglers and the reasons people are fleeing their homes in Africa and the Middle East.

http://www.ecfr.eu/article/commentary_libyas_migrant_smuggling_highway_lessons_for_europe

For more on this theme:
Australia and Indonesia: A road to progress on human trafficking?

Sudan Urges More Support to Check Human Trafficking, Migration

Human Trafficking: The New Legal Landscape

CORRUPTION

Structural Problems Perpetuate Widespread Corruption in Paraguay
Miguel Salazar and Edwin Nieves – Council on Hemispheric Affairs: 10 November 2015

For 25 years, Paraguay has struggled with rampant corruption in government. The country’s inability to address poverty and rising criminal violence are underscored by corruption within the military. Without effective reforms, economic stagnation will continue and problems will worsen.


Stakeholders’ Conference on Combating Corruption in Africa
Konrad Adenauer Stiftung: November 2015

A conference organized by the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung political foundation and the non-profit Accountability Now in South Africa brought together experts and leaders from 10 African nations to discuss fighting corruption in the region.

Expert Panel Identifies Ways to Defeat Corruption in Ukraine
Larry Luxner – The Atlantic Council: 10 November 2015

Experts gathered to discuss the necessary components of Ukrainian corruption reform and how to repair the economy and encourage investment. Without addressing graft, Ukraine will fail to bring in much-needed investment as it struggles to rebuild from the conflict with Russia. The panel was co-sponsored by the Atlantic Council and the American Center for a European Ukraine.


Behind Iraq’s Crony State

While the world focuses on ISIS, Iraq faces another battle: internal corruption. Blessed with one of the planet’s largest oil reserves, Iraq is well-positioned for economic independence. But crime and corruption undermine the government and legitimacy.


For more on this theme:
INTERPOL supporting French investigation into athletics corruption

The detention of Hennadiy Korban — a fight against corruption, or against political opponents?

A List of Russia’s Responses to the Doping Scandal

Zambia: govt launches e-voucher system for farmers

COSP6 event emphasizes parliamentarians’ role in global anti-corruption fight

DRUG TRAFFICKING
Mexico’s Sinaloa and Jalisco Cartels: Competing or Collaborating?
Jesus Perez Caballero – InSight Crime: 10 November 2015

Experts disagree on the status of the relationship between the Jalisco and Sinaloa cartels — are they friends, enemies or something in between? The answer to the question is critical to predicting how much drug violence Mexico can expect.

http://www.insightcrime.org/news-analysis/mexico-sinaloa-jalisco-cartel-competing-or-collaborating
Serving the cartels, armed cells led to an explosion of violence
El Daily Post: 30 October 2015
Drug smuggling breeds violence. But a disturbing trend in Mexico since the 1990s is violence without relation to the drug trade, demonstrating the expansion of cartels into the realms of civilian intimidation and extortion.

Will Synthetic Drugs Replace Cocaine in Latin America?
David Gagne – InSight Crime: 12 November 2015
Peru’s anti-drug czar believes a downturn in demand for cocaine will foster interest in synthetic drugs. With the sheer variety of drugs and the lack of a legal framework for dealing with such substances, synthetic drugs are easier to traffic than cocaine.

An Update on Narco Submarines and Maritime Law Enforcement Agencies’ Efforts to Thwart Their Operational Effectiveness
In this addendum to their original paper, the authors discuss how drug traffickers are using improved technology and narcosubmarines. They also discuss how the U.S. Coast Guard and U.S. Navy are adapting in trying to detect and capture these vessels.

For more on this theme:
The Legal Process to Reschedule Marijuana
https://www.hsdl.org/?view&did=788319
Should Drug Addicts Be Forced Into Treatment?
Bolivia Purchases Radars to Combat Cocaine Air Bridge
http://www.insightcrime.org/news-briefs/bolivia-purchase-radars-to-combat-cocaine-air-bridge
Colombia Narcos Give Away Land, in Effort to Avoid Police
What Next, After Mexico Marijuana Reforms?
Is Smoking Weed a Human Right?
Mexico's Small Step is a Big Step for Drug Policy

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INTERNET GOVERNANCE

‘Turn digital divides into digital opportunities,’ Ban tells annual UN forum on Internet governance
United Nations News Centre: 10 November 2015

At the 10th annual Internet Governance Forum, United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon emphasized the need to use information and communications technologies to fulfill the recently approved global 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development goals. He acknowledged the obstacles and encouraged the body to find ways to overcome the digital divide.


For more on this theme:
(Global) One in Three: Internet Governance and Children’s Rights
https://www.cigionline.org/sites/default/files/no22_2.pdf

(Global) Users, Governments Give Views On Internet Governance Going Forward

(China, U.S.) Chinese Cyber Power: Not Learning From the United States’ Mistakes

INTERNET FREEDOM

These 4 States—and 1 Terror Group—Rule Social Media
Ian Bremmer – Time: 5 November 2015

The ability of citizens to use social media to share information helped spread discontent that led to the Arab Spring uprisings. But savvy leaders are also using social media to try to control their populations.

http://time.com/4101870/these-4-states-and-one-terror-group-rule-social-media/

For more on this theme:
(Global) Governments have gone to war on Internet freedom
https://www.aei.org/publication/governments-have-gone-to-war-on-internet-freedom/

(Global) 5 Ways Social Media Helps Dictators
http://nationalinterest.org/feature/5-ways-social-media-helps-dictators-14330

(Russia, Global) Netizen Report: Russia Could Have the Power to Knock (Some) Websites Offline Worldwide
http://www.slate.com/blogs/future_tense/2015/11/12/netizen_report_russia_could_have_power_to_knock_some_websites_offline.html
PRIVACY AND SECURITY

UN privacy chief: UK surveillance bill is ‘worse than scary’
Matt Burgess – Wired: 10 November 2015

Adding to the long list of opponents to the United Kingdom’s new surveillance proposal, the United Nations privacy chief dismissed the effectiveness of mass surveillance and accused Parliament of a blatant power grab.


For more on this theme:
(Global) Internet Society Reinforces Need to Connect the Unconnected, Build Trust
http://www.circleid.com/posts/20151111_isoc_reinforces_need_to_connect_unconnected_and_build_trust/

(Global) Tech companies fail to make the grade on privacy

(U.S.) Carnegie Mellon may have ratted out Tor users to the FBI

CYBER STATECRAFT DEVELOPMENT

Three Priorities for Cyber Diplomacy under the German OSCE Chairmanship 2016
Annegret Bendiek, Christoph Berlich and Tobias Metzger – Stiftung Wissenschaft und Politik: 11 November 2015

As it assumes the chairmanship of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), Germany could take the lead on cyber diplomacy and make it fundamental to cooperation within the OSCE.


For more on this theme:
(Lithuania) National Cyber Security Organisation: Lithuania

(Hungary) National Cyber Security Organisation: Hungary

(Global) Cybersecurity treaties may be nice, but it’s really every country for itself
https://www.wilsoncenter.org/article/cybersecurity-treaties-may-be-nice-its-really-every-country-for-itself

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PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

Northrop Grumman Corporation: Northrop Grumman to be Industry Partner in “CyberInvest” UK University Research Initiative
Northrop Grumman: 9 November 2015

Northrop Grumman announced a partnership with the United Kingdom to improve cybersecurity research in academia. Northrop will be working through the country’s CyberInvest initiative, a public/private-sector program to ensure a competitive advantage in technology.


For more on this theme:
(U.S.) One Defense: Bridging the Pentagon and Silicon Valley

(U.S.) Cyber security talent deficit could be opportunity

(U.S.) 1,004 victims of child sexual exploitation identified, rescued by ICE in 2015

PROTECTION OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Proactive Counter Espionage as a Part of Business Continuity and Resiliency
Lydia Kostopoulos – Institut für Strategie- Politik- Sicherheits- und Wirtschaftsberatung: November 2015

Intellectual property is a valuable commodity at ever-increasing risk from the expansion of digital connectivity. Countering these threats is critical to preserving valuable proprietary information. This paper advocates that businesses adopt counterespionage plans.


For more on this theme:
(Global) IGF Brazil: Creative Commons Licences For International Organisations, Like WIPO

(U.S.) Three men charged with largest cyber hacking scheme in US history

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CYBER CAPACITY BUILDING

Indonesia's trade minister practically runs his ministry on WhatsApp
Terence Lee – TechInAsia: 12 November 2015

The new Indonesian trade minister loves to conduct business via new technology. He uses his iPhone and WhatsApp account to conduct business daily, relying on encryption technology to keep his data safe. But not everyone appreciates this new way of doing business.


For more on this theme:

(U.S.) Homeland Security to Fast Track Hiring of up to 1,000 New Cyber Personnel

(U.S.) Where the Cloud Rises From the Sea

COMBATING TERRORISM AND CYBER CRIME

European Authorities Take Down Iranian Hackers Identified By Israeli Cybersecurity Firm
TheTower.org: 11 November 2015

Raids across Europe foiled a team of state-sponsored Iranian hackers. Intelligence leading to the arrests reportedly came from an Israeli-American cyber security firm.


For more on this theme:

(U.S.) US Still Doesn’t Know Who’s In Charge of What If Massive Cyber Attack Strikes Nation

(U.S.) OPM Appoints New Cybersecurity Adviser

(India) Indian Army Major wins hacking contest
INFORMATION SHARING

Safe Harbour or into the storm? EU-US data transfers after the Schrems judgment
Sergio Carrera and Elspeth Guild – Centre for European Policy Studies: 12 November 2015

Now that the European Court of Justice shut down the Safe Harbor framework, information sharing between the U.S. and Europe is in flux. The implications are clear: Any new framework must protect third-party data and ensure information is obtained and transferred legally.


For more on this theme:
(U.S.) Report Finds Gaps in Health Industry Cyber Threat Indicator Sharing

(U.K.) NCA and Cert-UK call on more firms to share cyber-threat data

(U.K., U.S.) US and UK test financial sector response to cyber attack

CYBER PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Cyber attacks on energy supplies, nuclear power stations and defence industry double in 12 months: Seven ‘significant’ attacks every day are being identified by GCHQ
Ian Drury – Daily Mail: 9 November 2015

United Kingdom officials say the government is subjected to approximately 200 “significant” cyber attacks per month. Criminals and state-sponsored hackers are targeting critical infrastructure and may seek to bring down electrical grids or communications.

http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3311292/Cyber-attacks-energy-supplies-nuclear-power-stations-defence-industry-double-12-months-Seven-significant-attacks-day-identified-GCHQ.html

For more on this theme:
(Australia) Aust increasingly at risk of cyber attack

(Global) McAfee forecasts growing cyber threats for the next five years
http://fedscoop.com/mcafee-forecasts-major-cyber-threats-of-the-next-five-years

(U.S.) States’ Cybersecurity Readiness Presents “Grim Picture” Pell Study Finds

(Germany) Germany is finalising legislation to shore up CNI cyber security

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PROGRAM ON TERRORISM AND SECURITY STUDIES (PTSS)

TERRORISM AND THE INTERNET

ISIS Is Not Winning the War of Ideas

Contrary to the narrative being touted in popular media, the U.S. is not losing the war of ideas to ISIS, the author says. Effectively altering perceptions through marketing, ISIS motivates a tiny minority of sympathizers to become active and vocal.


For more on this theme:

Online Activism and Social Media Usage Among Indonesian Extremists

Crowdsourcing Terrorism
http://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/crowdsourcing-terrorism

Step-by-Step Online CVE

Digital vigilantes: the online fight against Islamic State

‘New frontier’: Russian brothers’ platform attracts jihadis driven from Facebook, Twitter

ISIS

Islamic State in Libya Fights to Emulate Iraq, Syria Success

Despite appearing to be a bastion of lawlessness and chaos where ISIS could expand its influence, Libya has proven more difficult to conquer than previously thought. Local fighters are pushing back, and lack of support and resources prevents ISIS from establishing a strong foothold.

http://www.reuters.com/article/2015/11/13/us-libya-security-insight-idUSKCN0T20J520151113#k-WAfDqYAOkyLQ8Im.97

Where ISIS Has Directed and Inspired Attacks Around the World

The authors lay out where ISIS has spread and conducted attacks, either directly or by proxy.

http://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2015/06/17/world/middleeast/map-isis-attacks-around-the-world.html?_r=1
Islamic State Militants' Wives Tell Their Story

In this video, two young women who were married to ISIS foreign fighters discuss their lives as ISIS wives and their subsequent flight to Turkey. Originally buying into the group’s extremist philosophy, both young women had a change of heart that drove them away.
http://www.rferl.org/media/video/islamic-state-syria-turkey/27358524.html

For more on this theme:

Lebanon mourns 44 killed in Beirut double bomb attack

Russian plane crash: Waiting for that 0.1%

Senior Indonesian civil servant abandons post to join ISIS

The Islamic State’s Horrors in Afghanistan

The Rise of ISIS: ‘Remaining and Expanding’

Is Bombing a Civilian Airliner a Game-Changer for the Islamic State?
http://politicalviolenceataglance.org/2015/11/10/is-bombing-a-civilian-airliner-a-game-changer-for-the-islamic-state/

IS Found To Commit Genocide Against Iraq’s Yazidis
http://www.rferl.org/content/islamic-state-found-committing-genocide-against-iraqs-yazidis/27362744.html

ISIS: a Threat to the Greater Caucasus
http://russiancouncil.ru/en/inner/?id_4=6823#top-content

An ISIS Recruiting Ring in Europe

The ISIS threat and Moscow’s influence in Central Asia and the Middle East

TERRORISM AROUND THE WORLD

ISIS and al-Qaeda squabble like schoolboys

The feud between ISIS and al-Qaeda has existed for several years as ISIS has grown in prominence. In a tit for tat exchange, the two groups have resorted to name-calling and other childish pursuits. But in reality, the groups are ideologically similar.

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State Department offers rewards for information on 6 Shabaab leaders

Thomas Joscelyn – The Long War Journal: 10 November 2015

Turning its attention to al-Shabaab, the U.S. Department of State offered a $6 million reward for information leading to the capture of Abu Ubaidah Ahmad Umar, al-Shabaab’s self-styled emir.


For more on this theme:

Kenya’s terrible dilemma: Run out of energy, or risk terrorists seizing a nuclear power plant


What is Islamic Jihad’s role in the intifada?


Krekar ‘jihadist network’ targeted in Europe terror raids


Downed plane reminds: War on terror not over

https://www.aei.org/publication/downed-plane-reminds-war-on-terror-not-over/

New Trends in the Terror Threat to Turkey: Improvised Explosive Devices and Suicide Bombings


AQAP shows fighting in strategic Yemeni city in new video


Deputy emir of ‘moderate’ Taliban faction oversaw ‘massacre of thousands of Shiites’


Rival Taliban factions clash in southeastern Afghanistan


Recent evolution of terrorism in the Maghreb


Fight Against Boko Haram Terrorists Continues To Gain Momentum

COUNTERTERRORISM STRATEGIES

Only a real Islamic caliphate can stand up to the sham of ISIL
Haroon Moghul – Quartz: 11 November 2015

It is the vacuum left by the dissolution of the Ottoman caliphate that caused the Middle East to fall into disarray and allowed ISIS' false caliphate to emerge, according to the author. He argues that the West doesn’t understand what a caliphate brings to the table and has only seen bastardized versions provided by ISIS.
http://qz.com/546973/only-a-real-islamic-caliphate-can-stand-up-to-the-sham-of-isil/

Economic inclusion can help prevent violent extremism in the Arab world
Hafez Ghanem – Brookings: 10 November 2015

Violent extremism was the topic at a recent meeting of the Club de Madrid, an organization of former democratic presidents and prime ministers. A paper released after the meeting concluded that economic exclusion breeds contempt and radicalism among vulnerable populations.

A Better, Smarter Approach to Beating ISIS

Bombing ISIS will do little to defeat the terror group. It may weaken the group in the short term, but will likely inspire radicalization in others. For the anti-ISIS coalition to succeed, it must follow the playbook of the terrorists and maintain a presence while working toward a long-term counter-ISIS strategy.
http://nationalinterest.org/feature/better-smarter-approach-beating-isis-14331

For more on this theme:

The six dangers of overreacting to terrorism
https://www.opencanada.org/features/six-dangers-overreacting-terrorism/

Islamic State Sinai ‘province’ commander killed in Cairo, Egyptian government says

The Role of CCTV in Terrorist TTPs: Camera System Avoidance and Targeting
CONSEQUENCE MANAGEMENT

HEALTH SECURITY

Cholera Is Coming
Laurie Garrett – Foreign Policy: 2 November 2015

As natural and man-made crises sweep through the Middle East and East Africa, they bring with them another potentially deadly epidemic — water-borne cholera. The current bacterial outbreak is relatively small, but if left unchecked could easily surpass past outbreaks in reach and deadliness.


A ‘perfect storm’ for the emergence of drug-resistant bacteria
Roger Bate – American Enterprise Institute: 12 November 2015

Substandard medical practices around the globe may be fueling a rise in drug-resistant bacteria. Illnesses are outpacing efforts to find new antibiotics as old medicines become ineffective.

https://www.aei.org/publication/a-perfect-storm-for-the-emergence-of-drug-resistant-bacteria/

Epidemics on the Move
Amanda Silverman – Foreign Policy: 10 November 2015

The global health threat posed by human migration, particularly refugees, poses a problem for governments and their health care systems. Identifying, treating and quarantining outbreaks becomes exponentially more difficult as people carry the diseases from one state to another while on the move.


For more on this theme:

How substandard medicines drive antimicrobial resistance

Finally free of Ebola, Sierra Leone celebrates — but must remain on guard
http://www.rescue.org/blog/finally-free-ebola-sierra-leone-celebrates

Global Health and the WHO: Revival or Marginalization?

Global Maternal Mortality Rates Drop By Nearly Half Since 1990: U.N.

First line of defence in global health security
http://www.ft.com/intl/cms/s/0/fd1d53c2-8706-11e5-9f8c-a8d619fa707c.html#axzz3rOOEdXik

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