

ASIA-PACIFIC & GLOBAL SITUATIONAL AWARENESS UPDATE

28 JANUARY 2016

A WEEKLY OPEN-SOURCE NEWS UPDATE ACROSS THE ASIA-PACIFIC REGION AND THE GLOBE

ASIA-PACIFIC

Japanese Emperor, Empress On State Visit To Philippines, Will Pay Their Respects To Victims Of World War II



Japan's Emperor Akihito and Empress Michiko. (Photo: Reuters/Issei Kato)

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/japanese-emperor-empress/2456394.html>

<http://gulfnnews.com/news/asia/philippines/japan-s-akihito-in-philippines-to-honour-second-world-war-dead-1.1660419>

North Korea May Be Readying Long-Range Missile Launch Soon: Kyodo



<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-missile-idUSKCN0V52TZ>

<http://www.cnn.com/2016/01/27/asia/north-korea-missile-launch-concerns/>

<http://www.koreatimesus.com/n-korea-could-conduct-long-range-missile-launch-in-a-week-japanese-news-report/>

North Korea Likely To Launch Long-Range Missile 'Abruptly': South Korea Defense Ministry

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2016/01/28/0200000000AEN20160128005300315.html?input=rss>

North Korea Views Nuclear Program As Self-Defense

<http://www.cnn.com/videos/world/2016/01/13/north-korea-nuclear-program-pkg-hancocks.cnn>

South Korea Suspects North Korea Is Attempting Cyberattacks On It

<http://www.msn.com/en-us/news/world/skorea-says-suspects-nkorea-may-have-attempted-cyber-attacks/ar-BBoKAf4>

<http://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/267159-south-korea-suspects-north-of-cyberattacks>

Why the World Should Fear North Korea's Biological Weapons

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/why-the-world-should-fear-north-koreas-biological-weapons-14951>

U.S. Secretary Kerry Off To Asia To Address Maritime Disputes, North Korea Nukes



<http://globalnation.inquirer.net/135479/kerry-off-to-asia-to-address-maritime-disputes-north-korea-nukes>

U.S. Begins 2016 Asia Outreach With Laos

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/us-begins-2016-asia-outreach-with-laos/>

U.S. Faces Challenges as it Seeks to Make Inroads in Laos, Cambodia

<http://www.voanews.com/content/us-faces-challenges-as-it-seeks-to-make-inroads-in-laos-cambodia/3162870.html>

Challenge To U.S.: Look To Southeast Asia's Dynamic Future, Not Its Past

<http://www.rappler.com/thought-leaders/120165-us-southeast-asia-partnership>

Sec. Kerry To Tell China No More 'Business As Usual' On North Korea Nukes

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Asia-Pacific/2016/0125/Sec.-Kerry-to-tell-China-no-more-business-as-usual-on-N.-Korea-nukes>

China Denounces 'Irresponsible' U.S. Official's Remarks On North Korea



<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-northkorea-nuclear-china-usa-idUSKCN0V40PP>

Kerry Asking China to Rein In North Korea's Nuclear Tests

<http://www.voanews.com/content/north-korea-nuclear-tests-a-focal-point-for-kerry/3162754.html>

North Korea Sanctions Top Agenda For Kerry Visit To Beijing

<http://gulfnews.com/opinion/thinkers/north-korea-sanctions-top-agenda-for-kerry-visit-to-beijing-1.1659031>

Kerry Push for North Korea Sanctions Faces Hard Sell in Beijing

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-01-26/kerry-push-for-north-korea-sanctions-faces-hard-sell-in-beijing>

Ahead of Kerry Visit, China Doubles Down on North Korea Position

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/ahead-of-kerry-visit-china-doubles-down-on-north-korea-position/>

China Backs U.N. Move To Denounce North Korea Over Nuclear Test



https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/china-agrees-to-sanctions-against-north-korea-during-kerry-visit/2016/01/27/2d09569a-bfcd-11e5-98c8-7fab78677d51_story.html

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-35416532>

Kerry to China: U.S. 'Will Protect Allies' in Face of North Korean Threat

<http://www.voanews.com/content/kerry-china-focus-on-tensions-with-north-korea-over-nuclear-test/3164464.html>

President Park Proposes Five-Nation Talks Over North Korea

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2016/01/22/0200000000AEN20160122002851315.html>

70 Countries Pledge Joint Efforts To Prevent Transfer Of WMD Technology To N. Korea

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/news/2016/01/28/0200000000AEN20160128005500315.html?input=rss>

South Korea's President Park Mulls Visit To Iran

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2016/01/28/2016012801822.html

Russia: Leaving North Korea Out Of Nuclear Talks Would Isolate Regime

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2016/01/26/Russia-Leaving-North-Korea-out-of-nuclear-talks-would-isolate-regime/1541453824015/

Russia, Japan and North Korea's Nuclear Test

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/russia-japan-and-north-koreas-nuclear-test/>

South Korea, U.S., Japan To Set Up New Channel To Share Info On North Korea

<http://english.yonhapnews.co.kr/national/2016/01/22/8/0301000000AEN20160122001600315F.html>

Kerry: N.K. Leader 'Questionable In Terms Of Judgment'

"I look forward to having solid conversations -- serious conversations -- about one of the most serious issues on the planet today, which is a clearly reckless and dangerous, evolving security threat in the hands of somebody who is questionable in terms of judgment and has proven thus to China," Kerry said.

<http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20160126000178>

What Davos Missed by Excluding North Korea

The organization said it would welcome the North in the future if the latter "acts as a responsible and responsive member of the international community." Yet the current challenge is convincing the DPRK to act that way. How without talking to Pyongyang?

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-skeptics/what-davos-missed-by-excluding-north-korea-14998>

Defense Minister Says THAAD Deployment Needs Consideration

<http://www.koreaherald.com/view.php?ud=20160125001258>

Pay Attention to North Korea Between Nuke Tests Too

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/pay-attention-north-korea-between-nuke-tests-too-15001>

North Korea Sanctions Expected to Clear US Senate Panel

<http://www.voanews.com/content/north-korea-sanctions-expected-clear-senate-panel/3165408.html>

Moving Beyond Timid Incrementalism: Time to Fully Implement U.S. Laws on North Korea

<http://www.heritage.org/research/testimony/moving-beyond-timid-incrementalism-time-to-fully-implement-us-laws-on-north-korea>

How to Plan for the Worst in North Korea



<http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/01/12/north-korea-kim-jong-un-nuclear-china/>

The Detention of a U.S. Student in North Korea Underscores the Risks of Traveling There

<http://time.com/4192050/north-korea-kim-jong-un-otto-frederick-warmbier-human-rights/>

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/01/22/463928126/n-korea-state-media-claim-it-has-u-s-student-in-custody>

North Korea Tours Continue After Arrest of American Student

<http://www.voanews.com/content/north-korea-tours-continue-after-arrest-of-american-student/3162818.html>

Previous Arrests of Tourists in North Korea

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/previous-arrests-tourists-north-korea-36541853>

North Korea's Arrest Of American Casts Glare On Tourists' Safety

<http://atimes.com/2016/01/north-koreas-arrest-of-american-casts-glare-on-tourists-safety/>

Why Did Russian Nuclear-Capable Bombers Circumnavigate Japan?



<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/why-did-russian-nuclear-capable-bombers-circumnavigate-japan/>

What the United States Owes to Taiwan and its Interests in Asia



<http://warontherocks.com/2016/01/what-the-united-states-owes-to-taiwan-and-its-interests-in-asia/>

Taiwan's President Ma to Visit Disputed South China Sea Island



<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/taiwans-president-ma-to-visit-disputed-south-china-sea-island/>

Taiwan's Submarine Program: Lessons from the Past and Expected Challenges



<http://thinking-taiwan.com/taiwan-sub-program-lessons-challenges-him/>

Offset by Denial: Inverting the Anti-Access Challenge - Three Offsets for American Landpower Dominance

<http://warontherocks.com/2015/11/three-offsets-for-american-landpower-dominance/>

U.S. Department Of State Seeks To Clarify Meaning Of China's 9-Dash Line (Parts 1 & 2)



<http://cimsec.org/us-department-state-seeks-clarify-meaning-chinas-9-dash-line-iv/19925>

<http://cimsec.org/us-department-state-seeks-clarify-meaning-chinas-9-dash-line-part-two/19929>

China And The Sea: Will It Come To Prize Trade Flows Over A Maritime Fortress? (Or Is Its Goal Both?)

<http://www.lowyinterpreter.org/post/2015/12/22/China-and-the-sea-Will-it-come-to-prize-trade-flows-over-a-maritime-fortress.aspx>

South China Sea Arbitration Case Could Exacerbate Disputes In The SCS: "The tribunal's Decision Is Illogical, Unfair, And Risks Escalating Tensions In The South China Sea."

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/the-south-china-sea-arbitration-case-could-exacerbate-disputes-in-the-south-china-sea/>

The Costs and Benefits of an 'Accidental' FONOP in the South China Sea

<http://thediplomat.com/2015/12/the-costs-and-benefits-of-an-accidental-fonop-in-the-south-china-sea/>

Will America Go To War For The Philippines?

<http://atimes.com/2016/01/will-america-go-to-war-for-the-philippines/>

Why the New US-Philippine Defense Pact Could Be a Double-Edged Sword



<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/why-the-new-us-philippine-defense-pact-could-be-a-double-edged-sword/>

Philippines: India Has A Solution To The Chinese Threat

Chinese air and naval power since the 1980s makes any planned increase in Filipino military power useless. The Chinese are too numerous and too strong and if they become too aggressive the Philippines will not be able to resist with current and planned forces.

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/phillip/articles/20160122.aspx>

India To Build Satellite Tracking Station In Vietnam That Offers Eye On China

<http://in.reuters.com/article/india-vietnam-satellite-china-idINKCN0V309W>

Is China Interfering in Vietnam's Politics With Its South China Sea Moves?

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/is-china-interfering-in-vietnams-politics-with-its-south-china-sea-moves/>

Japan Warns against China's Maritime Activities

<http://www.maritimeprofessional.com/news/japan-warns-against-chinas-maritime-283853>

China To Launch The World's Most Powerful Hyperspectral Satellite, Will Spot Missile Bunkers And Launchers

<http://www.popsci.com/china-to-launch-worlds-most-powerful-hyperspectral-satellite>

U.S. Admiral Warns of China's and Russia's Growing Space Weapons Arsenal

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/us-admiral-warns-of-chinas-and-russias-growing-space-weapons-arsenal/>

China Launches Another Large Coast Guard Cutter



<http://www.popularmechanics.com/military/navy-ships/a18990/china-launches-second-monster-coast-guard-cutter/>

China Is Buying Giant Attack Hovercraft From Russia



<http://www.popularmechanics.com/military/navy-ships/a18723/chinas-growing-giant-hovercraft-fleet/>

China's 2,500 Mile-Range 'Carrier-Killer' Missile: A Nuclear Threat?

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/chinas-2500-mile-range-carrier-killer-missile-nuclear-threat-14669?page=2>

How China's New Russian Air Defense System Could Change Asia



<http://warontherocks.com/2016/01/how-chinas-new-russian-air-defense-system-could-change-asia/>

Why Does China Want Aircraft Carriers?

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/why-does-china-want-aircraft-carriers-14686>

Every Aircraft Carrier In The World



<http://www.popularmechanics.com/military/navy-ships/g2412/a-global-roundup-of-aircraft-carriers/>

America's Naval Presence Problem

<http://warontherocks.com/2016/01/americas-naval-presence-problem/>

Japan's Slumping Trade Numbers Show The Long Reach Of China's Slowdown

<http://qz.com/602167/japans-slumping-trade-numbers-show-the-long-reach-of-chinas-slowdown/>

The Race To Get Money Out Of China



Investors worried about China's plummeting currency are pouring money into assets overseas, and as Tara Joseph reports the flow of money is getting bigger just as authorities need investment back home.

<http://www.reuters.com/video/2016/01/25/the-race-to-get-money-out-of-china?videoId=367163243>

China to Billionaire Investor George Soros: Do Not Doubt Us

<http://time.com/4194029/china-george-soros/>

China Warns Soros Against 'Declaring War' On Its Currency

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/china-warns-soros-against-declaring-war-on-its-currency-2016-01-26>

China To Abstain From Veto Power At Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

<http://atimes.com/2016/01/china-to-abstain-from-veto-power-at-asian-infrastructure-investment-bank/>

Cutting Costs and Cutting Jobs in Asia

<http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/cutting-costs-and-cutting-jobs-in-asia>

The Sky Is Not Falling in China

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/the-sky-not-falling-china-15020>

The TPP and the Sputtering Global Trade System

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/the-tpp-and-the-sputtering-global-trade-system/>

The Surprising Historical Truth About the 'Silk Road'

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/the-surprising-historical-truth-about-the-silk-road/>

Southeast Asian Maritime Terrorism Warning

<http://splash247.com/southeast-asian-maritime-terrorism-warning/>

ISIS In Indonesia: A Warning Shot Across ASEAN's Bow

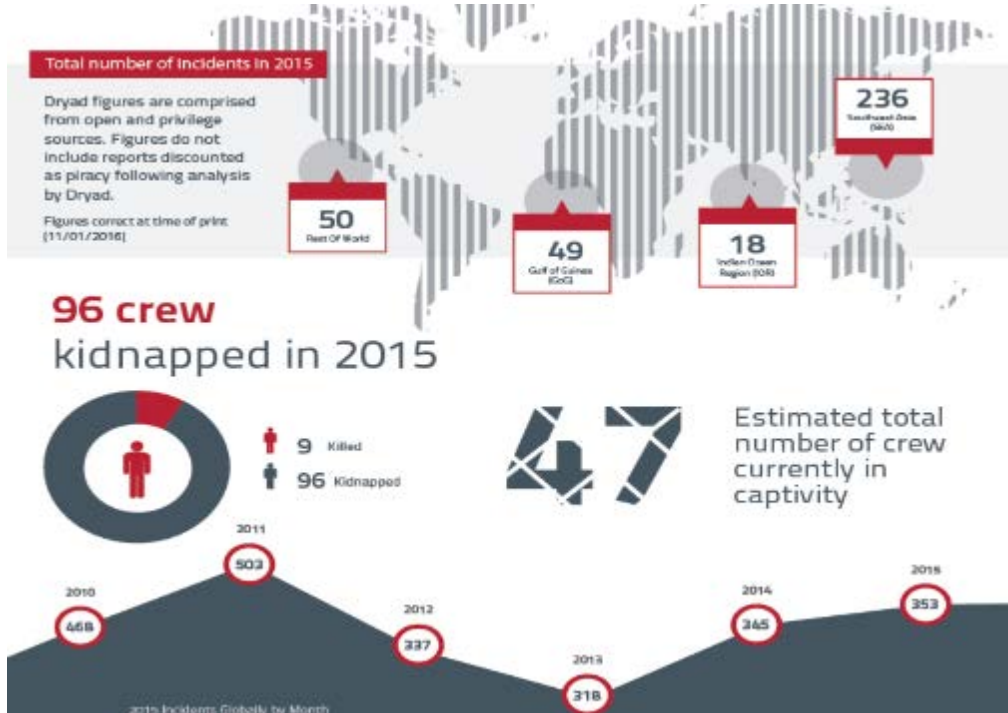
http://www.lowyinterpreter.org/post/2016/01/27/ISIS-in-Indonesia-A-Warning-Shot-Across-ASEANs-Bow.aspx?utm_source=Lowy+Interpreter&utm_campaign=6f918894f8-

[RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_eed7d14b56-6f918894f8-59369797](http://www.lowyinterpreter.org/post/2016/01/27/ISIS-in-Indonesia-A-Warning-Shot-Across-ASEANs-Bow.aspx?utm_source=Lowy+Interpreter&utm_campaign=6f918894f8-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_eed7d14b56-6f918894f8-59369797)

Australia, Thailand Mull New Terror Pact Amid Islamic State Fears

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/australia-thailand-mull-new-terror-pact-amid-islamic-state-fears/>

Annual Maritime Crime Statistics for 2015



<http://www.maritimeprofessional.com/news/annual-maritime-crime-statistics-2015-283843>

<http://images.maritimeprofessional.com/images/maritime/54421>

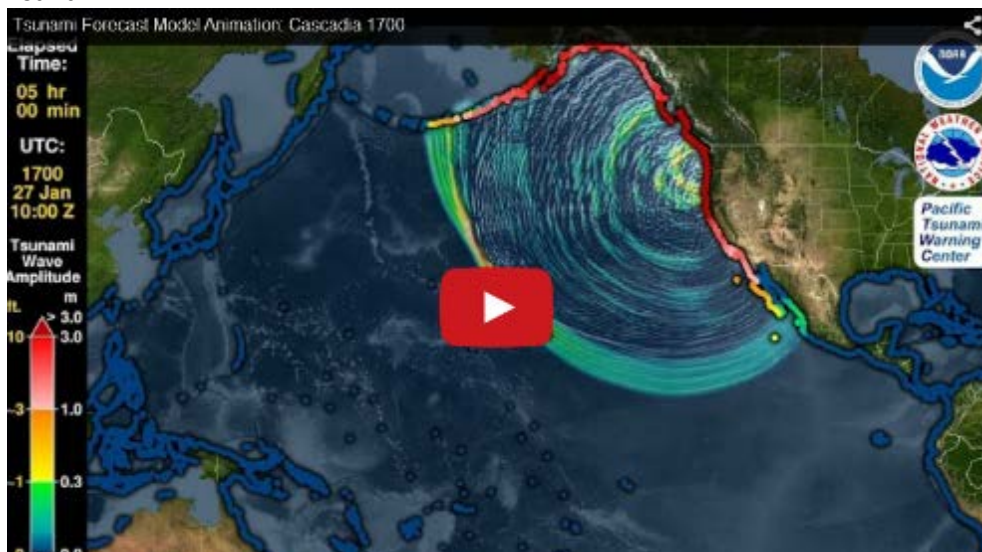
Southeast Asia Dominates Maritime Crime Globally

<http://www.maritimeprofessional.com/news/southeast-asia-dominates-maritime-crime-283800>

Indonesia Steps Up Anti-Piracy Campaign

<http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/indonesia-steps-up-anti-piracy-campaign>

Pacific Tsunami Warning Center: Here's What Would Happen If an Earthquake Caused a Mega-Tsunami



<http://www.popularmechanics.com/science/environment/a19132/video-earthquake-tsunami/>

VIETNAM

Vietnam: Cautious, but Unpredictable in a Crisis



<https://www.stratfor.com/analysis/vietnam-cautious-unpredictable-crisis>

Vietnam: Democracy or Police State?

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/01/22/the-ugly-thugs-running-vietnam-arent-experimenting-with-democracy/>

Vietnam Ruling Party Boss Re-Elected, Cements Hold On Power



<http://atimes.com/2016/01/vietnam-ruling-party-boss-re-elected-cements-hold-on-power/>

Vietnam PM Out Of Communist Party Chief Race

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/vietnam-pm-out-of/2457386.html>

Vietnam Communist Party Chief Easily Wins Seat on Key Panel

<http://www.voanews.com/content/vietnam-communist-party-chief-easily-wins-seat-on-key-panel/3163085.html>

Inside Hanoi's Gated Communities: Elite Enclaves Where Even The Air Is Cleaner

<http://www.theguardian.com/cities/2016/jan/21/inside-hanoi-gated-communities-elite-enclaves-air-cleaner>

THAILAND

Thailand Quarantines 32 People After Second MERS Case Confirmed

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/thailand-quarantines-32/2456874.html>

Thai Coup Leader Vows Parliamentary Elections Next Year

<http://www.voanews.com/content/thai-coup-leader-vows-parliamentary-elections-next-year/3162923.html>

MALAYSIA

Terrorism And Violent Extremism Are Real Threats: Malaysian Prime Minister

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/terrorism-and-violent/2455588.html>

Malaysian PM Defends Strict Security Laws To Fight Terrorism

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/malaysian-pm-defends-strict-security-laws-fight-terrorism-36494605>

Malaysia to Launch New Center to Counter ISIS Messaging in May



<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/malaysia-to-launch-new-center-to-counter-isis-messaging/>

Islamic State Vows Revenge On Malaysia Amid Crackdown, Terror Meeting



“If you catch us, we will only increase in number but if you let us be, we will be closer to our goal of bringing back the rule of the Khalifah (caliph),” the video warns. “We will never bow down to the democratic system of governance as we will only follow Allah’s rules.”

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/islamic-state-vows-revenge-on-malaysia-amid-crackdown-terror-meet/>

INDONESIA

Indonesia: Additional Attacks Foiled, Police Say

<https://www.stratfor.com/situation-report/indonesia-additional-attacks-foiled-police-say>

Hundreds Of Elite Indonesian Troops Deployed To Hunt Most-Wanted Terror Suspect Santoso

<http://www.straitstimes.com/asia/se-asia/hundreds-of-elite-indonesian-troops-deployed-to-hunt-most-wanted-terror-suspect-santoso>

Indonesia’s Restrained Response To The Recent Jakarta Attacks Is Welcome: Staying Calm And Carrying On

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/indonesia-staying-calm-and-carrying-on/>

After Terror Attack: Jakarta Police Chief Calls For Establishments To Provide More Relevant Training To Their Security Officers, And For More Security Cameras

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/jakarta-police-chief/2456310.html>

Jakarta Attackers Possibly Brought Together By Local IS-Affiliated Bahrun



<http://www.thestar.com.my/news/regional/2016/01/25/different-regions-same-ideology-jakarta-attackers-possibly-brought-together-by-local-isaffiliated-ba/>

LGBT Should Be Barred From University Campuses: Minister Muhammad Nasir

“There are standards of values and morals to uphold. A university is a moral safeguard,” Technology, Research and Higher Education Minister Muhammad Nasir said on Sunday as quoted by Antara news agency. According to Nasir, the LGBT community corrupts the morals of the nation, while a university should be able to uphold moral values and the values of the ancestors of Indonesia.

<http://www.thejakartapost.com/news/2016/01/25/lgbt-not-welcome-university-minister.html>

Indonesian Shipyard Launches Frigate



<http://www.maritimeprofessional.com/news/indonesian-shipyard-launches-frigate-283632>

Indonesia To Open Mini LNG Terminal In March

<http://www.maritimeprofessional.com/news/indonesia-open-mini-terminal-march-283849>

PHILIPPINES

Philippine Muslim Rebels Say Concerned At Rising Radicalism

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/philippine-muslim-rebels/2456058.html>

AUSTRALIA

Australia, U.S. Vow To Step Up Online ISIS Fight

<http://thehill.com/policy/cybersecurity/266316-australia-us-discussing-strategies-to-fight-isis-online>

JAPAN

Candidates Opposed To U.S. Military Transfers Lose In Okinawa, Iwakuni



<http://www.stripes.com/news/pacific/candidates-opposed-to-us-military-transfers-lose-in-okinawa-iwakuni-1.390495>

Supporters of Okinawa Base Relocation Plan Claim a Win in Local Elections

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/supporters-of-okinawa-base-relocation-plan-claim-a-win-in-local-elections/>

NORTH KOREA

Rare Opportunity For North Korea

<http://www.thenational.ae/business/economy/rare-opportunity-for-north-korea>

North Korea Loves Accusing Americans of ‘Hostile Acts.’ That’s Because ‘Hostile Acts’ Can Be Just About Anything.

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/01/22/north-korea-loves-accusing-americans-of-hostile-acts-thats-because-hostile-acts-can-be-just-about-anything/>

Canadian Plans Hockey Tournament In Pyongyang

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/sports/hockey/north-korea-on-ice-canadian-plans-hockey-tournament-in-pyongyang/article28415787/>

SOUTH KOREA

Hyundai Heavy Industries Closes Rig-Building Yard



Hyundai Heavy Industries (HHI) has announced that it will temporarily close its offshore manufacturing facility in Onsan, South Korea, from March. The closure comes as a result of a lack of orders and leaves just one of the company's offshore facilities operational. The Onsan factory will be used as a warehouse. HHI opened the 200,000-square-meter factory in November 2012, but has already cut 700 of the 1,000-strong workforce there. Around 60 of the remaining staff are expected to be relocated, the others retrenched.

<http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/hhi-closes-rig-building-yard>

CHINA

Two Chinese Killed In 'Bomb' Blast In Laos

<http://www.thestar.com.my/news/world/2016/01/25/two-chinese-killed-in-bomb-blast-in-laos--xinhua/>

China's New Anti-Terrorism Law May Call on Foreign Tech Firms

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2015-12-27/china-passes-counter-terrorism-law-that-triggered-u-s-concerns>

China: The Power of Military Organization



<https://www.stratfor.com/analysis/china-power-military-organization>

Strategic Weapons: Return Of The Nuke Trains

<http://www.strategypage.com/htm/hticbm/articles/20160122.aspx>

China's Marines Conduct First Military Exercises in the Gobi Desert

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/chinas-marines-conduct-first-military-exercises-in-the-gobi-desert/>

China's Military Promotes New 'Masculine and Vigorous' Aerobics Routine (video)



<http://blogs.wsj.com/chinarealtime/2015/11/06/watch-chinas-military-promotes-new-masculine-and-vigorous-aerobics-routine/>

China Pursues Critics Reaching Across International Borders, And Nobody Is Stopping It

https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/asia_pacific/pursuing-critics-china-reaches-across-borders-and-nobody-is-stopping-it/2016/01/26/cd4959dc-6793-473f-8b74-6cbac3f46422_story.html?tid=pm_world_pop_b

China Shuttters Uyghur Websites For 'Harming Ethnic Unity'

<http://atimes.com/2016/01/china-shuttters-uyghur-websites-for-harming-ethnic-unity/>

China's Working-Age Population Sees Biggest Decline Ever

<http://blogs.wsj.com/chinarealtime/2016/01/22/chinas-working-age-population-sees-biggest-ever-decline/>

MYANMAR/BURMA

10 Habits Of Highly Effective Countries: Steps Myanmar's Aung San Suu Kyi Needs To Take To Ensure Democracy



http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/01/19/myanmar_democracy_human_rights/

Aung San Suu Kyi Meets Myanmar Army Chief As Power Transition Looms

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/aung-san-suu-kyi-meets/2456946.html>

INDIA

Indian Jet Shoots Down Balloon-Shaped Object

<http://gulfnews.com/news/asia/india/indian-jet-shoots-down-balloon-shaped-object-1.1660436>

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india/iaf-spots-balloon-shaped-object-on-radar-fighter-jet-shoots-it-down-over-barmer/story-HiJbm9uybvKUCgtQTIdYK.html>

India Displays Military Prowess, Cultural Heritage At Republic Day



<http://gulfnews.com/multimedia/framed/news/india-displays-military-prowess-cultural-heritage-at-republic-day-1.1660261>

What's on François Hollande's Agenda in India?



<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/whats-on-francois-hollandes-agenda-in-india/>

<http://news.yahoo.com/frances-hollande-views-indian-republic-day-parade-060628919.html>

India, France Talk Tough On Terror, Stuck On Price Of Rafale Jets

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/india-france-talk-tough-on-terror-stuck-on-rafale-price/>

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india/india-france-ink-rafale-fighter-plane-accord-but-haggle-over-price/story-h7F4np7j2cRGDbOOSVq5yl.html>

Two More Of IS-Linked Group Detained, To Be Handed Over To NIA



<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india/two-more-of-isis-linked-terror-group-detained/story-laL8zX2AuHADsc6aL615wK.html>

RUSSIA-UKRAINE

Russia's Navy Has a Funding Problem



<https://www.stratfor.com/image/russias-navy-has-funding-problem>

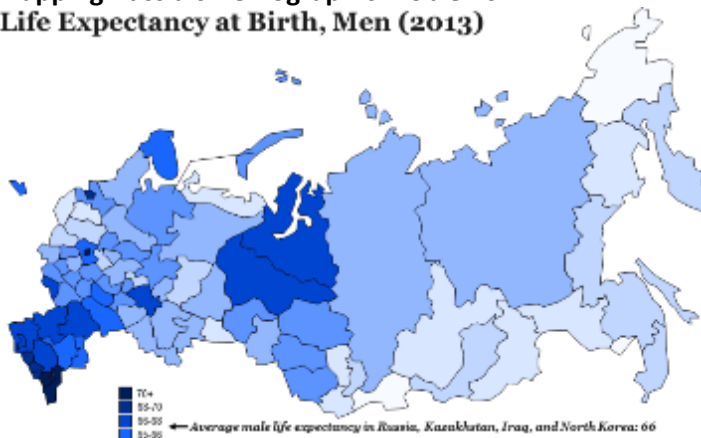
Is Russia's Military Really Punching Above Its Weight?



<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/russias-military-really-punching-above-its-weight-15025>

Mapping Russia's Demographic Problems

Life Expectancy at Birth, Men (2013)



<http://www.geocurrents.info/place/russia-ukraine-and-caucasus/mapping-russias-demographic-problems>

Putin's Russia Is More Stable Than It Seems

<https://www.stratfor.com/weekly/putins-russia-more-stable-it-seems>

Ukrainian Blackout Caused By Hackers That Attacked Media Company, Researchers Say

<http://www.theguardian.com/technology/2016/jan/07/ukrainian-blackout-hackers-attacked-media-company>

US Agencies Take A Closer Look At Malware Implicated In Ukraine Blackout

<http://www.fiercegovernmentit.com/story/us-agencies-take-closer-look-malware-implicated-ukraine-blackout/2016-01-14>

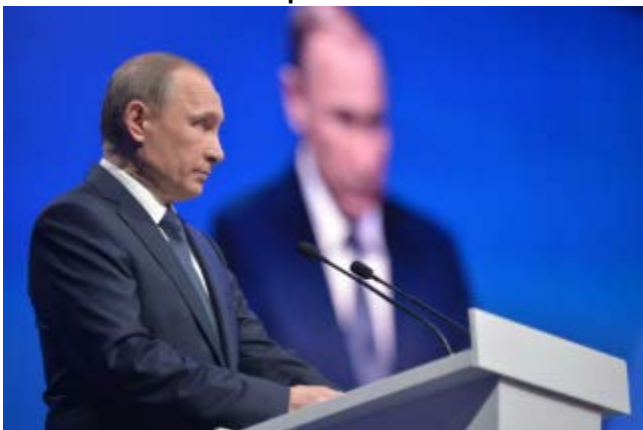
A Perfect Storm In Central Asia: Russia's Economic Crisis Is Shaking The Foundation Of Five Ex-Soviet Republics



In 2016, Central Asia's economies will finally hit bottom, robbing its authoritarian governments of any remaining credibility.

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/01/22/a-perfect-storm-in-central-asia/>

Putin Accuses Lenin Of Placing A 'Time Bomb' Under Russia, Says Stalin Got It Right: Blames Lenin's Federalism For Break-Up Of Soviet Union



<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/25/vladimir-putin-accuses-lenin-of-placing-a-time-bomb-under-russia>

<http://www.voanews.com/content/putin-denounces-lenin-says-stalin-got-it-right/3162079.html>

EUROPE

Mega-Deals Await As Iranian President Starts European Trip In Rome



<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-europe-rouhani-idUSKCN0V31DJ>

Hassan Rouhani In First Europe Visit By Iranian President In 16 Years

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/25/hassan-rouhani-in-first-europe-visit-by-iranian-president-in-16-years>

Boosting Middle East Economy Is Way To Beat Extremism: Iranian President



<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-europe-rouhani-economy-idUSKCN0V411Q>

Pope Francis And Iranian President Meet At Vatican To Boost Nuke Deal, Mideast Peace



The Vatican visit was a key stop on a four-day visit to Italy and France by Rouhani that had been postponed after the November terror attack in Paris. The tour is seen as part of the effort by Rouhani and Iranian moderates to revive relations with the West and open Iran to business opportunities.

https://www.washingtonpost.com/national/religion/pope-francis-meets-irans-president-to-boost-nuke-deal-mideast-peace/2016/01/26/a6e4559a-c456-11e5-b933-31c93021392a_story.html
http://www.nytimes.com/2016/01/27/world/middleeast/pope-francis-hassan-rouhani-meeting.html?_r=0

Covering Up Nude Statues In Italy Deemed Too Racy For Iran's President

<http://www.bbc.com/news/blogs-trending-35423028>
<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/01/27/464563258/massive-cover-up-nudes-statues-in-italy-deemed-too-racy-for-irans-president>

'Black Tuesday' As France Grapples With Taxi, Aviation Strikes: Taxi Drivers Block Capital's Ring Road



<http://gulfnnews.com/news/europe/france/black-tuesday-as-france-grapples-with-taxi-aviation-strikes-1.1660387>

French Protests and Strikes Disrupt Airports, Roads, Schools



<http://www.voanews.com/content/french-protests-strikes-airports-schools-roads-uber/3163358.html>

ISIS Targeting Europe For Paris-Style Attacks, Says EU Police Chief

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/25/french-police-foiled-paris-terror-attack-bernard-cazeneuve>

European Authorities Hand Out Cartoon Strips Telling Migrants Why They Shouldn't Assault Women and They Should Accept Homosexual Kissing in Public



<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3413956/Attacks-women-bad-kissing-public-good-European-authorities-hand-cartoon-strips-telling-migrants-shouldn-t-assault-women.html>

Under New UK Law, Men (Mostly Muslim) With More Than One Wife Will Get Extra Benefits

Polygamous marriages, largely confined to Muslim families, are only recognised in Britain if they took place in countries where they are legal, such as Middle Eastern states, Pakistan and Zambia.

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3414264/Want-higher-benefits-marry-one-wife-New-welfare-rules-hand-extra-taxpayer-cash-polygamists.html>

UK Should Be Punished If It Leaves EU To Deter Other Exits, Say Former Ministers

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/25/uk-should-be-punished-if-it-leaves-european-union-to-deter-other-exits>

15-Year-Old Asylum Seeker Stabs Swedish Woman To Death, Police Say



<http://www.cnn.com/2016/01/25/europe/sweden-asylum-seeker-stabs-woman/index.html>

Sweden To Expel Up To 80,000 Failed Asylum-Seekers: Sweden had the highest per capita number of asylum applications of any European country in 2015

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35425735>

Port Of Calais, France Closed As Migrants Storm British Ship

<http://www.maritimeprofessional.com/news/port-calais-closed-migrants-storm-283871>

<http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/migrants-storm-ferry-at-calais>

Denmark Passes Controversial Bill To Seize Assets And Valuables From Refugees To Help Pay For Refugees' Expenses

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2016/01/26/denmark-passes-controversial-bill-to-seize-assets-and-valuables-from-refugees/>

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Europe/2016/0126/Denmark-to-confiscate-valuables-from-refugees-to-pay-for-asylum>

Denmark Named Least Corrupt Country; Somalia, North Korea The Most: Report

<http://www.ctvnews.ca/world/denmark-named-least-corrupt-country-somalia-north-korea-the-most-report-1.2753576>

Poland Will Veto Forced Relocation of Migrants



<http://www.voanews.com/content/poland-migrant-quota/3163198.html>

The Problem With Poland's New Nationalism

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/01/27/the-problem-with-polands-new-nationalism/>

Austria Closes its Borders to Refugees



Europe is firmly in the grip of winter, and the Balkans are covered in snow with temperatures below freezing. Nonetheless, one government after another is closing its borders and sending hundreds of thousands of desperate refugees back to war zones that they have risked their lives to flee.

<http://www.globalresearch.ca/austria-closes-its-borders-to-refugees/5503754>

Italy Dreads Looming Invasion of 400,000 New Immigrants 'in Coming Weeks'

<http://www.breitbart.com/national-security/2016/01/26/italy-dreads-looming-invasion-of-400000-new-immigrants-in-coming-weeks/>

EU Looks To Reintroduce Border Checks

<http://gulfnews.com/news/mena/syria/eu-looks-to-reintroduce-border-checks-1.1660327>

Refugee Deaths in Aegean Reach Record High



<http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/refugee-deaths-in-aegean-reach-record-high>

Refugee Crisis: Europe's Donald Trump Waiting In Wings For EU To Fail



<http://www.theguardian.com/politics/blog/2016/jan/25/refugee-crisis-european-union-donald-trumps-waiting-wings-fail>



<http://gulfnews.com/in-focus/topics/refugee-crisis?page=refugee+crisis>

MIDDLE EAST

U.N. Seeks Syrian Peace Talks This Week, Opposition Threatens Boycott

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mideast-crisis-syria-diplomacy-idUSKCN0V318D>

Syrian Opposition Casts Doubt Over Talks Attendance

<http://gulfnews.com/news/mena/syria/syrian-opposition-casts-doubt-over-talks-attendance-1.1660684>

Russia Hardens Position Ahead of Syria Peace Talks

<http://www.voanews.com/content/sergei-lavrov-no-russian-request-for-syrias-assad-to-step-down/3162822.html>

The Real Reason Why Iran Backs Syria



<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/the-real-reason-why-iran-backs-syria-14999>

China's New Era of Diplomacy: Engaging in Syria

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/chinas-new-era-of-diplomacy-engaging-in-syria/>

Pro-Assad Troops Retake Territory Near Latakia Stronghold

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/25/syria-assad-troops-retake-latakia-stronghold-peace-talks-turkey>

Chilling Screams Of Yazidi Women Dragged Away By ISIS

Chilling screams of Yazidi women dragged away by ISIS



<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/video/news/video-1238085/Chilling-screams-Yazidi-women-dragged-away-ISIS.html>

Mass Grave Of Islamic State Shot, Beheaded Victims Found In Iraq's Ramadi



<http://gulfnews.com/news/mena/iraq/mass-grave-of-daesh-victims-found-in-iraq-s-ramadi-1.1660403>

The Long Road to Fallujah and Mosul



<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/the-long-road-fallujah-mosul-15018>

Iraq: Final Victory Will Not Be Easy Or Quick

<http://www.strategypage.com/qnd/iraq/articles/20160125.aspx>

80% of Refugees Believe the West and Israel Created the Islamic State in order to Destroy Their Countries and Islam

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htmurph/articles/20160123.aspx>

New ISIS Video Parades Paris Attackers



A video published on Sunday by the media center of Islamic State purported to show images and last statements of nine of the people who took part in the Paris attacks that killed 130 people on Nov. 13. Reuters could not independently verify the authenticity of the footage, which showed the men delivering anti-Western diatribes and concluded with an apparent threat to attack Britain.

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/24/isis-video-paris-attackers-iraq-syria-david-cameron>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/france-attacks-islamicstate-idUSKCN0V308N>

<http://www.reuters.com/news/picture/faces-of-islamic-state?articleId=USRTX23XXM>

Before Paris Attack, Islamic State Terrorists Committed Grisly Executions



<http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2016/01/before-paris-attack-islamic-state-terrorists-committed-grisly-executions.php>

New ISIS Video Coincides With Opening Of Europol Counterterrorism Center

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Global-News/2016/0125/New-ISIS-video-coincides-with-opening-of-Europol-counterterrorism-center>

Pro-ISIS Messages Create Dilemma For Social Media Companies

<http://www.npr.org/sections/alltechconsidered/2015/01/29/382435536/pro-isis-messages-create-dilemma-for-social-media-companies>

Fighting ISIS On Social Media: Why Swing Back When We Can Swing First?

http://www.lowyinterpreter.org/post/2016/01/27/Fighting-ISIS-on-social-media-Why-swing-back-when-we-can-swing-first.aspx?utm_source=Lowy+Interpreter&utm_campaign=6f918894f8-RSS_EMAIL_CAMPAIGN&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_eed7d14b56-6f918894f8-59369797

What Is ISIS And What Are Its Aims? (video)



<http://www.theguardian.com/world/video/2014/jun/17/isis-what-is-sunni-islamic-state-mission-video>

What Do The Words On ISIS' Flag Mean And What Are Its Origins?

<http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/middle-east/isis-flag-what-do-the-words-mean-and-what-are-its-origins-10369601.html>

What Makes ISIS Tick?

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/welcome-islamic-state-101-what-makes-isis-tick-14453>

What If ISIS Wins? Overarching Goal Is To Establish Ultra-Orthodox Islamic Theocracy Caliphate To One Day Encompass All Of Arabia (and Beyond)

Which is why it will be a big blow to America's prestige when the region is finally lost to Western influence. That's the vector the Middle East has been on for some time now, and if you look beyond the confusion of daily headlines, it isn't hard to see the shape of what lies ahead. One by one, each of the Arab states in the Middle East is failing. From Iraq to Lebanon to Syria to Yemen, governments are losing control of the countryside and descending into the kind of chaos once thought unique to Somalia. As this decay progresses, the borders laid out by Western powers a century ago are beginning to dissolve.

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/lorenthompson/2015/01/21/what-if-isis-wins/>

Islamic State Publishes Guidelines For Lone Wolf Fighters



'Always look like any random tourist or normal traveller'
Isil advice for jihadists



<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/islamic-state/12096095/isil-security-jihadist-advice.html>

ISIS' Reach: It Depends Who's Drawing the Map



<http://iswresearch.blogspot.com/2015/01/isis-sanctuary-map-january-15-2015.html>

<http://www.geocurrents.info/geopolitics/self-declared-states-geopolitics/islamic-states-aspirational-map>

ISIS and the Reversible Stages of Revolt

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/paul-pillar/isis-the-reversible-stages-revolt-14971>

Afghan President Vows To 'Bury' Islamic State Franchise After Washington Granted The US Military Legal Authority To Strike The Jihadists In The Country

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/afghan-president-vows-to/2456222.html>

Taliban Blow Line Transmitting Uzbek Electricity to Kabul



<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/taliban-blow-line-transmitting-uzbek-electricity-to-kabul/>

Afghan Army Beheads ISIS Members in Revenge Killings

<http://sofrep.com/46513/afghan-army-beheads-isis-members-in-revenge-killings/>

Insider Attack Kills 10 Afghan Policemen

Officials in Afghanistan say a policeman suspected to have links to the Taliban killed 10 fellow officers Tuesday in the central province of Uruzgan.

<http://www.voanews.com/content/insider-attack-kills-10-afghan-policemen/3162866.html>

When Will U.S. Forces Leave Afghanistan?



<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Global-News/2016/0126/When-will-US-forces-leave-Afghanistan>

Afghanistan: That 'Wasteful' Task Force? You're Not Getting the Full Story

<http://smallwarsjournal.com/blog/afghanistan-that-wasteful-task-force-youre-not-getting-the-full-story>

Taliban Demands Prisoners releases, Sanctions Removed Before Joining Peace Negotiations



<http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2016/01/taliban-demands-prisoners-released-sanctions-removed-before-joining-peace-negotiations.php>

Pakistan's Powerful Army Chief Plans To Step Aside Later This Year



<http://gulfnews.com/news/asia/pakistan/pakistan-s-powerful-army-chief-plans-to-step-aside-later-this-year-1.1659949>

Speculation Begins About Next Pakistan Army Chief

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/world/speculation-begins-about-next-pakistan-army-chief/story-Rc1yZJM4dCPXduApc2RPxJ.html>

Pakistan University Attack: Before the Recital, After the Bullets

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/pakistan-university-attack-before-the-recital-after-the-bullets/>

Pakistan Closes Schools in Province Amid Taliban Threats



<http://www.voanews.com/content/pakistan-closes-schools-in-province-amid-taliban-threats/3162981.html>

Pakistani Students Protest Insecurity As Campus Reopens After Taliban Attack

<http://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/asiapacific/pakistani-students-protes/2456046.html>

Repelling Terrorist Attacks On Youth: Why Are They The Target Of Terrorist Attacks?



<http://www.csmonitor.com/Commentary/the-monitors-view/2016/0120/Repelling-terrorist-attacks-on-youth>

Jordan Under Pressure Over Stranded Syrian Refugees



Some 17,000 Syrians are now stranded in a de facto no-man's land at the only crossing where Jordan still receives refugees, in sparsely populated desert where the borders of Syria, Jordan and Iraq meet some 330 km northeast of Amman.

<http://gulfnews.com/news/mena/syria/jordan-under-pressure-over-stranded-syrian-refugees-1.1658743>

Facing Threats And Opportunity, Israel Forges Mediterranean Alliance



<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Middle-East/2016/0125/Facing-threats-and-opportunity-Israel-forges-Mediterranean-alliance>

What New Sanctions on Iran Would Cost—And What They Would Achieve

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-skeptics/what-new-sanctions-iran-would-cost%E2%80%94what-they-would-achieve-14982>

Nuclear Deal Hangs On Iran's Unfinished Revolution

<http://www.csmonitor.com/Commentary/the-monitors-view/2016/0119/Nuclear-deal-hangs-on-iran-s-unfinished-revolution>

Iran Leader Continues to Insult America Despite Concessions



[HTTP://SOFREP.COM/46448/IRAN-NOW-REFERS-TO-US-AS-GREAT-FALSE-IDOL-INSTEAD-OF-GREAT-SATAN/](http://SOFREP.COM/46448/IRAN-NOW-REFERS-TO-US-AS-GREAT-FALSE-IDOL-INSTEAD-OF-GREAT-SATAN/)

U.S. Officials ‘Strongly Suspect’ Iranian-Backed Militia Of Kidnapping 3 Americans In Baghdad

<http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2016/01/us-offiicals-strongly-suspect-iranian-backed-militia-of-kidnapping-3-americans-in-baghdad.php>

Saudi Arabian Source Cites Obama Nuclear Lifeline For Iran



<http://sofrep.com/46454/saudi-arabian-source-cites-obama-nuclear-lifeline-for-iran/>

China’s Relations With Iran: A Threat to the West?



<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/chinas-relations-with-iran-a-threat-to-the-west/>

Is China Using Business Deals to Expand Middle East Influence?



<http://www.voanews.com/content/is-china-using-business-deals-to-expand-middle-east-influence/3162882.html>

China's Balancing Act In Iran: Deepen Ties With Tehran, While Not Alienating Saudi Arabia

<http://thediplomat.com/2016/01/chinas-balancing-act-in-iran/>

Dozens Of Minors Face Execution In Iran, Report Says



<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/2016/0125/Dozens-of-minors-face-execution-in-Iran-report-says>

A Moderate Iranian Purge: The Regime Disqualifies Thousands Of Candidates, Including The Grandson Of Its Founder

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/a-moderate-iranian-purge-1453855466>

Rouhani Rules Out Apology Over Saudi Mission Attacks



<http://gulfnews.com/news/mena/iran/rouhani-rules-out-apology-over-saudi-mission-attacks-1.1660943>

Global Insurers Plot Cautious Course to Iran

Global insurance firms are circling Iran for business opportunities following the lifting of sanctions - and the first test of their appetite could come in March when some Iranian companies seek new cover. Insurers, the reinsurers that share their risk and the brokers that forge deals are exploring ways to tap a market worth \$7.4 billion in premiums after a nuclear accord between world powers and Tehran led to the removal of restrictions on financial dealings with Iran this month.

<http://www.maritimeprofessional.com/news/global-insurers-plot-cautious-course-283866>

America Should Stop Reassuring Saudi Arabia

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-skeptics/america-should-stop-reassuring-saudi-arabia-15013>

Married Gay Couples Arrested In Saudi Raid

Homosexuality and cross-dressing are socially taboo and legal offences in Saudi Arabia and other Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. Reactions from social media users to the raids mostly touched on the need to mete out tough punishment to those found to be involved so that it would act as a strong deterrent. Some users even suggested that those who took part in the party be secluded for five years in remote areas.

<http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/saudi-arabia/married-gay-couples-arrested-in-saudi-raid-1.1660618>

Yemen Army Mobilizing Forces For Dhamar Operation

<http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/yemen/yemen-army-mobilising-forces-for-dhamar-operation-1.1661232>

The War For Islam: Playing Sectarianism Politics In A Zero-Sum Proxy War Of Religious Fervor



<http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/01/22/the-war-for-islam-sunni-shiite-iraq-syria/>

Arabs Urged To Transcend Differences, Join Ranks

<http://gulfnews.com/news/gulf/bahrain/arabs-urged-to-transcend-differences-join-ranks-1.1659568>

What Has and Has Not Changed Since the Arab Spring: Five Years Later



<https://www.stratfor.com/geopolitical-diary/what-has-and-has-not-changed-arab-spring>

President Obama's Arab Spring Blunders Matter

<https://www.commentarymagazine.com/foreign-policy/middle-east/obama-arab-spring-blunders-matter/>

Fall of the Arab Spring: From Revolution to Destruction



<http://www.globalresearch.ca/fall-of-the-arab-spring-from-revolution-to-destruction/5497764>

Iran To Stage Naval Drill Near Strategic Strait Of Hormuz

<http://gulfnnews.com/news/mena/iran/iran-to-stage-naval-drill-near-strategic-strait-of-hormuz-1.1660615>

AFRICA

Libya's Recognized Parliament Rejects U.N.-Backed Unity Government



<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-libya-security-politics-idUSKCN0V31Q0>

Fires Started By ISIS Finally Out at Libyan Oil Terminal



<http://www.maritime-executive.com/article/fires-out-at-libyan-oil-terminal>

Tunisia PM Defends Policies In Face Of Unrest

<http://gulfnews.com/news/mena/tunisia/tunisia-pm-defends-policies-in-face-of-unrest-1.1661442>

Shabaab Showcases Attacks In Kenya In New Video



<http://www.longwarjournal.org/archives/2016/01/shabaab-showcases-attacks-in-kenya-in-new-video.php>

About 25 Dead In Cameroon Suicide Bomb Attack



Four suicide bombers have killed about 25 people in a village in Cameroon's Far North region, the most deadly in a string of recent attacks in an area beset by violence connected to Boko Haram.

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/25/around-25-dead-in-cameroon-suicide-bomb-attack>

South Sudan Needs Arms Embargo; Leaders Killing Civilians - U.N. Experts

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-southsudan-un-idUSKCN0V32CL>

Sudan Opens Border With South For First Time Since 2011 Secession: Report

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/sudan-opens-border-with-south-for-first-time-since-2011-secession-report/article28422937/>

South Sudan's President Undermines Peace Deal

http://www.strategypage.com/on_point/2016012623325.aspx

Can This Man End Corruption in Nigeria?

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/can-man-end-corruption-nigeria-15022>

Is Nigeria's Corruption Crusade Aimed At Clean-Up Or Political Opponents?

<http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Africa/2016/0126/Is-Nigeria-s-corruption-crusade-aimed-at-clean-up-or-political-opponents>

CENTRAL AND SOUTH AMERICA

Zika Virus Likely To Spread Throughout The Americas, Says WHO

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jan/25/zika-virus-likely-spread-throughout-americas-says-who>

Zika Virus: What You Need To Know



<http://www.theguardian.com/world/video/2016/jan/22/zika-virus-what-you-need-to-know-video>

Zika Virus: Understanding The Impact And Threat

<http://www.cnn.com/videos/world/2016/01/26/zika-intv-amanpour-darlington-heyman-ahmed.cnn/video/playlists/amanpour/>

Brazil Deploying 220,000 Soldiers In Awareness Fight Against Zika Virus

http://www.upi.com/Top_News/World-News/2016/01/26/Brazil-deploying-220000-soldiers-in-awareness-fight-against-Zika-virus/9571453826892/?spt=sec&or=tn

CUBA

Defense Sends White House Plan to Close Guantanamo, Move Detainees to the United States



<http://www.govexec.com/defense/2016/01/defense-sends-white-house-plan-close-guantanamo-move-detainees-united-states/125165/>

CANADA

Canada Government To Send 'Tough Message' To Israel As A 'Good Friend'



Canada's new Liberal government said on Monday it was delivering a "tough message" to Israel as a good friend after expressing concern about Israeli-Palestinian violence, Israeli settlements and unilateral Palestinian moves.

<http://www.thestar.com.my/news/world/2016/01/26/canada-government-to-send-tough-message-to-israel-as-a-good-friend/>

Dion To Travel To Ukraine As Tories Renew Attacks On Russia Policy

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/dion-to-travel-to-ukraine-as-tories-renew-attacks-on-russia-policy/article28419581/>

Canada Ranked Ninth Least Corrupt Country In The World

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/world/canada-ranked-ninth-least-corrupt-country-in-the-world/article28411405/>

Canadian Plans Hockey Tournament In North Korea

<http://www.torontosun.com/2016/01/27/canadian-plans-hockey-tournament-in-north-korea>

MEXICO

State Department Issues New Travel Warning for Mexico

The U.S. Department of State warns U.S. citizens about the risk of traveling to certain places in Mexico due to threats to safety and security posed by organized criminal groups in the country.

<http://travel.state.gov/content/passports/en/alertswarnings/mexico-travel-warning.html>

Will El Chapo's Capture Really Disrupt the Flow of Drugs?

<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-skeptics/will-el-chapos-capture-really-disrupt-the-flow-drugs-14983>

Drug Lord 'El Chapo' Plotting Third Prison Escape



[HTTP://SOFREP.COM/46305/46305/](http://SOFREP.COM/46305/46305/)

DoD/U.S.

Chief Of U.S. Special Operations Warns Loose Lips Could Risk American Lives

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/01/27/exclusive-chief-of-u-s-commandos-warns-pentagon-against-loose-lips/>
<http://news.yahoo.com/exclusive-chief-u-commandos-warns-192517463.html>

A Brief Thought



<http://smallwarsjournal.com/blog/a-brief-thought>

U.S. Military Changes How It Discloses Civilian Casualties In Iraq And Syria

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/checkpoint/wp/2016/01/26/u-s-military-changes-how-it-discloses-civilian-casualties-in-iraq-and-syria/>

White House Nominates New Commander For Afghanistan

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/01/27/464617734/white-house-nominates-new-commander-in-afghanistan>

The Greatest Takeaway from President Obama's State of the Union Address



“And the international system we built after World War II is now struggling to keep pace with this new reality. In today’s world, we’re threatened less by evil empires and more by failing states. The Middle East is going through a transformation that will play out for a generation, rooted in conflicts that date back millennia. Economic headwinds are blowing in from a Chinese economy that is in significant transition. Even as their economy severely contracts, Russia is pouring resources in to prop up Ukraine and Syria, client states that they saw slipping away from their orbit. And the international system we built after World War II is now struggling to keep pace with this new reality.”

The president’s statement recognizes that things are not going as well as they used to. The rules of the game have changed, as have the players. In effect, the retained element of order created in the aftermath of World War II—the once powerful traditions and unity of old alliances—is faltering. That failure can in part be attributed to the limited endurance of the post-World War II international system, a system now cursed with unresolved efforts to institute cohesion in the bureaucratic systems that drive it.

<http://sofrep.com/46026/what-you-need-to-know-about-obamas-2016-state-of-the-union-address/>

U.S. to Convene 27-Nation Meeting on ISIS: One Objective Is To Get More Arab Countries Involved

<http://www.govexec.com/defense/2016/01/paris-carter-rolls-his-sleeves-isis-conference/125247/>

What America's ISIS Strategy Is Missing: Tactical Shifts Alone Will Fall Short Without A Change Of Strategy

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/what-americas-isis-strategy-missing-15017>

Ideological Roots of President Obama’s Foreign Policy

<http://mosaicmagazine.com/response/2015/02/what-the-president-thinks-hes-doing/>

President Obama Thinks His Syria Strategy is Right -- And Folks Just Don’t Get It

<http://smallwarsjournal.com/blog/obama-thinks-his-syria-strategy-is-right-and-folks-just-don%E2%80%99t-get-it>

What Can 200 U.S. Commandos Actually Accomplish In Iraq? Much Less Than The White House Wants

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/01/22/what-can-200-u-s-commandos-actually-accomplish-in-iraq/>

The President Prefers Special Ops To Combat Forces In The War On Terrorism: It's Not Working

<http://smallwarsjournal.com/blog/obama-prefers-special-ops-to-combat-forces-in-the-war-on-terrorism-its-not-working>

The Only Thing Worse than Misusing SOF is Policy Makers Misusing SOF Operational Methods as a Strategy

<http://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/the-only-thing-worse-than-misusing-sof-is-policy-makers-misusing-sof-operational-methods-as>

The Lessons Of Vietnam Forgotten

<http://www.strategypage.com/htmw/htlead/articles/20160127.aspx>

Easter Offensive of 1972: Failure to Use Intelligence

<http://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/the-easter-offensive-of-1972-a-failure-to-use-intelligence>

Ignoring War Authorization Widens the Civil-Military Divide

<http://nationalinterest.org/feature/ignoring-war-authorization-widens-the-civil-military-divide-15003>

10,000 Won't Do It: The Mathematics of an American Deployment to Fight ISIL



<http://warontherocks.com/2016/01/10000-wont-do-it-the-mathematics-of-an-american-deployment-to-fight-isil/>

Blackwater Founder: My Military Contractors Could Have Crushed, Stopped ISIS, His Group Can Do the Job with 5,000 Operators

Prince has said a private contractor could be the best force to deal with the Islamic State. Though some are saying it would require a ground force with tens of thousands of troops to defeat the Islamic State, Prince said a private contractor with “a good organic air package” could get the job done with 5,000 men. (mid-article and radio clip)

<http://www.theblaze.com/stories/2014/10/29/what-blackwater-founder-erik-prince-says-the-u-s-was-really-doing-in-benghazi-on-911/>

<http://www.newsmax.com/US/Erik-Prince-ISIS-Islamic-State-Syria/2014/09/24/id/596671/>

<http://time.com/3490414/isis-isil-blackwater/#3490414/isis-isil-blackwater/>

Preparing for the Next Big War



<http://warontherocks.com/2016/01/preparing-for-the-next-big-war/>

What Led American Ships Into Iranian Waters?



<http://www.govexec.com/defense/2016/01/what-led-american-ships-iranian-waters/125227/>
<http://defensetech.org/2016/01/13/video-shows-moment-iranian-forces-captured-us-sailors/>

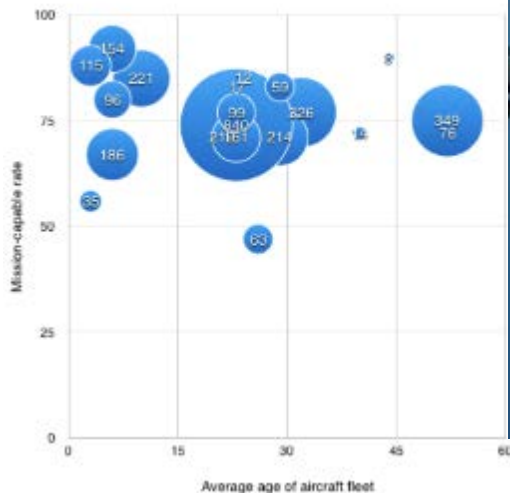
Lessons on American Strength from Iran and the Sailors



<http://warontherocks.com/2016/01/lessons-on-american-strength-from-iran-and-the-sailors/>

The Truth About an 'Older' U.S. Air Force Fleet

USAF Aircraft Numbers, Ages, and Readiness



<http://nationalinterest.org/blog/the-buzz/the-truth-about-%E2%80%98older%E2%80%99-us-air-force-fleet-15011>

Former SecDef Gates: "Sequestration Has Been A Disaster For DoD, You're Cutting The Most Important Things You Do At The Same Rate You're Cutting The Dumbest Things You Do, No Manager Or Leader Can Operate Under Those Circumstances"

<http://www.businessinsider.com/secretary-gates-reveals-militarys-biggest-weakness-2016-1>

American Muslims Tackle Terrorism With Teens' Best Tool: The Internet

<http://www.npr.org/2016/01/27/464593565/american-muslims-tackle-terrorism-with-teens-best-tool-the-internet>

Restricting Muslim Travelers To The U.S. Does Little To Keep Americans Safe



Instead of embracing inclusivity to counter ISIL's political narrative and bolstering collaboration with our Visa Waiver partner countries, our politicians have enacted laws that stand at odds with our values. This new legislation has the prized and rare distinction of bipartisan support, such as that of Republican senator Jeff Flake of Arizona and Democratic senator Dick Durbin of Illinois who are known for their vigilance in the face of terrorism and extremism. These reforms would affirm American principles and also put us on a path to stronger security. Other members of Congress should stand up for what is right, and also what is safe—and join them.

<http://qz.com/602085/restricting-muslim-travelers-to-the-us-does-little-to-keep-americans-safe/>

Islamic State Publishes Guidelines For Lone Wolf Fighters



'Always look like any random tourist or normal traveller'

Isil advice for jihadists



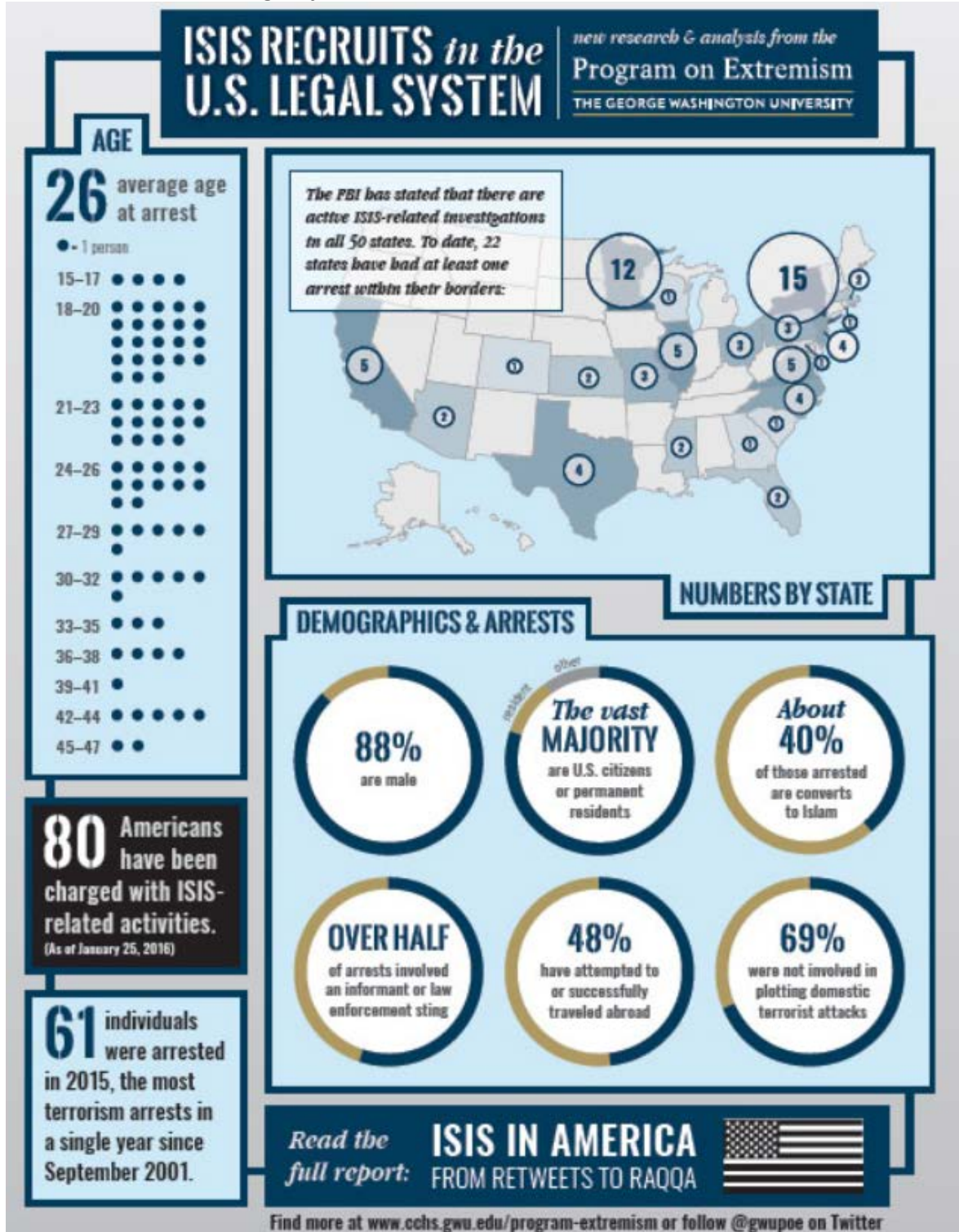
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/islamic-state/12096095/isil-security-jihadist-advice.html>

ISIS Has Whole Fake Passport 'Industry,' Official Says



<http://abcnews.go.com/International/isis-fake-passport-industry-official/story?id=36505984>

ISIS Recruits in the U.S. Legal System



<http://smallwarsjournal.com/blog/isis-recruits-in-the-us-legal-system>

U.S. Coast Guard Faces Waves Of Violent Cuban Migrants: Once People Expect Something, It Is Very Difficult To Take It Away



<http://sofrep.com/46423/u-s-coast-guard-faces-waves-of-violent-cuban-migrants/>

America's Immigration Lab

<http://www.csmonitor.com/Commentary/upfront-blog/2016/0117/America-s-immigration-lab>

Vetting, Assimilation and Terrorism

“Not all Muslims are terrorists, but almost all terrorists are Muslims.”

---Geert Wilders

“An army of sheep lead by a lion would defeat an army of lions led by a sheep.”

---Arab proverb

<http://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/vetting-assimilation-and-terrorism>

South Africa's Tough Lessons On Migrant Policy: A Cautionary Example for the World Of How Well-Intended, Generous Asylum Policies Can Go Seriously Wrong

<http://foreignpolicy.com/2015/10/13/south-africas-tough-lessons-on-migrant-policy/>

Marine Corps Boot Camp, Job Titles To Be Gender Neutral By April



<http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/story/military/2016/01/06/marine-corps-boot-camp-job-titles-gender-neutral-april/78351756/>

MCPON Wants Sailor Suggestions For Job Title Review

The leader who will head the Navy's unpopular gender-neutral review sees it as more than a chance to remove "man" from some job titles, but as a means to review and rename some titles to make them more relevant.

<http://www.navytimes.com/story/military/2016/01/18/mcpon-wants-sailor-suggestions-job-title-review/78813768/>

Our Say: Navy Should Leave 'Midshipman' Rank Alone



http://www.capitalgazette.com/opinion/our_say/ph-ac-ce-our-say-0124-20160124-story.html

Air Force Won't Consider Dropping 'Man' From Job Titles

<http://www.airforcetimes.com/story/military/2016/01/14/air-force-women-still-airmen-despite-gender-neutral-moves/78686252/>

1988, President Ronald Reagan Issued Executive Order 12633 Amending DoD's Code Of Conduct To Use Gender-Neutral Language



By virtue of the authority vested in me as President by the Constitution and laws of the United States of America, and as Commander in Chief of the Armed Forces of the United States, in order to remove gender specific terms, Executive Order No. 10631, of August 17, 1955, as amended, is further amended as follows:...

<http://www.presidency.ucsb.edu/ws/?pid=35609>

<http://archive.defense.gov/news/newsarticle.aspx?id=42786>

http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/honor/filmmore/ps_code.html

13 Hours Author Refutes CIA Stand-down Controversy Claim



<http://sofrep.com/46262/13-hours-director-refutes-cia-claim-about-stand-down-order-controversy/>

Benghazi CIA Chief Reportedly Refused Initial Help Request, Later Given Award

http://sofrep.com/46290/benghazi-cia-chief-of-base-reportedly-refused-initial-help-request-later-given-award/?doing_wp_cron=1453770225.9700579643249511718750

'Serial' Season 2: What First 5 Episodes Reveal About Ex-Taliban Captive Bowe Bergdahl

<http://abcnews.go.com/US/serial-season-episodes-reveal-taliban-captive-bowe-bergdahl/story?id=36149685>

TECHNOLOGY

Is the U.S. Military's Plan to Keep its Edge Fatally Flawed?

<http://warontherocks.com/2016/01/is-the-u-s-militarys-plan-to-keep-its-edge-fatally-flawed/>

Aligning Government Mission and Technology

<http://www.govexec.com/insights/reports/aligning-mission-and-technology/124272/?oref=ng-promotions>

Untethered Drone Flies, Floats, and Swims



<http://www.popularmechanics.com/flight/drones/a19126/loon-copter-flies-floats-and-swims/>

Air Mule Hovercraft Ambulance Flies Autonomously



<http://www.popsci.com/air-mule-robot-ambulance-flies-autonomously>

Russia's War Robots: They Exist, But They're Not Fighting Battles Just Yet



<http://www.popsci.com/russias-war-robots-are-less-than-they-appear>

SECURITY-SAFETY

Most Suicide Victims Send Warning Signals

http://english.chosun.com/site/data/html_dir/2016/01/27/2016012701978.html

President Obama Overhauls Security Clearance Process, Creates New Federal Entity For Investigations: Mandates Everyone With A Security Clearance Be Reinvestigated Every Five Years

<http://www.govexec.com/management/2016/01/obama-overhauls-security-clearance-process-creates-new-federal-entity-investigations/125342/>

How to Overcome a Tactically Proficient Active Shooter

<http://sofrep.com/44617/how-to-overcome-a-tactically-proficient-active-shooter/>

Confiscation of Legal Guns in America? Closer Than You Think

<http://sofrep.com/46522/confiscation-of-legal-guns-in-america-closer-than-you-think/>

Mass Shootings in America: A Historical Review



<http://www.globalresearch.ca/mass-shootings-in-america-a-historical-review/5355990>

The Giant, Gaping Reporting Hole In Mass Murder Shootings: Psychiatric Medications

<http://www.wnd.com/2013/01/the-giant-gaping-hole-in-sandy-hook-reporting/>

'American Sniper' Widow Expands on Gun Rights Message to President Obama



<http://sofrep.com/46440/american-sniper-widow-expands-on-message-to-obama/>

Software Tool Automatically Identifies Guns In Photos

<http://www.popsci.com/researcher-makes-tool-to-find-guns-in-pictures>

Are You Being Watched Right Now? There's A Creepy Search Engine For Unsecured Webcams

Shodan claims to be the world's first search engine for internet-connected devices. It allows users to see which of their devices are connected to the Internet, see where it's located, and who is using it. Since its creation in 2009, the site quickly exposed the how vulnerable a number of so-called Internet of Things devices were to hacking.

<http://qz.com/602218/are-you-being-watched-right-now-theres-a-creepy-search-engine-for-unsecured-webcams/>

12 Important Facts About Insider Cyber-Security Threats

Detection Is Key

49% of 191 incidents studied were detected by nontechnical means (such as a co-worker or client complaint), followed by an audit (41%) system failure (4%), information system (4%) and software (3%).



<http://www.channelinsider.com/security/slideshows/12-important-facts-about-insider-security-threats.html>

Ideas For Strengthening Cybersecurity Boil Down To 5 Main Categories

<http://www.fiercegovernmentit.com/story/ideas-strengthening-cybersecurity-boil-down-5-main-categories/2016-01-21>

The Art of Cyber War

<http://www.newsweek.com/art-cyber-war-407990>

DHS Wants Better Social Media Screening: Better Analytics Capabilities

<http://www.nextgov.com/cio-briefing/2016/01/dhs-looking-open-source-social-media-analysis-criminal-investigation-travel-screening/125434/?oref=ng-channelriver>

How To Prevent Mooring Rope Failure



<http://www.maritimeprofessional.com/groups/details/ship-broking--management-367#message75>

WORLD

Transplanting Of Western-Democracy Onto Arab States Consumed By Terrorism And Sectarian Violence Proves To Be False Illusion Equating Personal Freedom

<http://gulfnnews.com/opinion/thinkers/democracy-no-panacea-for-the-good-life-1.1659923>



<http://foreignpolicy.com/2016/01/26/refugees-dont-need-your-pity-migrants-dispossessed-senegal/>

Global Citizens: Cosmopolitanism's Failed Idealism

Given humanity's varied ideals, habits, and levels of development, becoming a species being requires more than just having a shared human form. It requires inventing an ideal to unify the species. Within the framework of today's cosmopolitanism, that unifying ideal has become the capacity to suffer and feel pain. The ever-expanding list of human rights, for example, is derived from this common capacity to suffer. Under this ideal, we are not dissimilar from animals: they, like us, have bodies and therefore feel pain. As such, animals now have a share in rights. The alleviation of suffering becomes the standard by which to judge all policies.

<http://www.heritage.org/research/commentary/2016/1/immigration-citizenship-and-cosmopolitanism>

The Nation-State Is Needed Now More Than Ever: Postmodern Europeans May Not Like To Hear It, But Nation-States Are Still Essential To Preserving The Continent’s Culture And Safety.



<http://mosaicmagazine.com/response/2016/01/the-nation-state-is-needed-now-more-than-ever/>

Flawed Standard Model of Geopolitics



The standard ‘nation-state’ model of global politics, as I think that it conceals as much as it reveals about current-day geopolitical realities. This model, evident on any world political map, rests on the idea that that the terrestrial world is divided into a set number of theoretically equivalent sovereign states. Each state is supposed to hold ultimate power over the full extent of its territory, possessing a monopoly over the legitimate use of force and coercion. Such states, it turn, are supposed to recognize each other’s existence, and in so doing buttress a global order in which political legitimacy derives in part from such mutual recognition.

<http://www.geocurrents.info/geopolitics/the-flawed-standard-model-of-geopolitics>

What Were The Least (And Most) Corrupt Countries In 2015?



<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/01/27/464586586/what-were-the-least-and-most-corrupt-countries-in-2015>

ASIA NEWS

State Department - Asia <http://www.state.gov/p/eap/index.htm>

State Dept Travel Warnings http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html

Defense Department <http://www.defense.gov>

Pacific Stars and Stripes <http://www.stripes.com/news/pacific>

CNN <http://edition.cnn.com/ASIA/index.html>

Reuters <http://www.reuters.com/news/world>

Yahoo <http://news.yahoo.com/asia>

Maritime News <http://www.maritime-executive.com/news>

PACIFIC DISASTER CENTER

<http://www.pdc.org>

WEATHER

Joint Typhoon Warning Center <http://www.usno.navy.mil/JTWC/>

Japan's Meteorological Agency <http://www.jma.go.jp/en/typh/>

Japan Weather Warnings <http://www.jma.go.jp/en/warn/index.html>

Korea Meteorological Administration <http://web.kma.go.kr/eng/>

NASA Storm Tracking http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/hurricanes/main/index.html

Typhoon Definitions <http://www.aoml.noaa.gov/hrd/tcfaq>, <http://agora.ex.nii.ac.jp>

EARTHQUAKES

USGS <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/map/>

Earthquakes Today <http://earthquakestoday.info/>

TSUNAMI

Pacific Tsunami Warning Center <http://ptwc.weather.gov>

GLOBAL HEALTH MAP

<http://healthmap.org/en/>

<http://healthmap.org/predict/>