



## ORG Newsletter March 2016

### Paul Rogers' Monthly Briefing



#### UK Special Forces: Accountability in Shadow War

British Special Forces have witnessed a major expansion in their size and activity in the last decade and are a priority for investment over the next few years. With reports of their growing activity in Iraq, Syria and Libya, Paul Rogers' briefing looks at the current size and role of the various units of United Kingdom Special Forces. It asks crucial questions of their deployment, accountability and effectiveness as the most important component of a growing trend towards covert or 'shadow' warfare. [Read more.](#)

### ORG News & Publications



#### The UK's Nuclear Future: Options between Rearmament and Disarmament

In this ORG briefing, Tim Street discusses whether the UK's future as a nuclear weapons state is under threat in three parts. The first considers the current status of plans to replace the UK's nuclear weapons system, the second reviews the Labour party's troubles in formulating a policy on this subject, while the third investigates the spectrum of options, from full replacement to full disarmament, currently available to the UK. [Read more.](#)



#### New Sustainable Security Articles

The [Sustainable Security](#) blog has published a series of new articles focusing on a variety of topics during the past month, including:

- [Sexual violence in conflict](#)
- [Arctic security](#)
- [The environmental legacy of the Gulf War](#)
- [Interreligious peacebuilding](#)
- [The R2P and refugees](#)
- [The threat of hostile drones in the UK](#)



#### Recruitment of New Board Members

Oxford Research Group expects to appoint an additional two or three Trustees at its next Annual General Meeting in September 2016. Expressions of interest are sought from prospective Trustees by 01 May. [Read more.](#)



#### Follow us on Social Media

ORG has both Facebook and Twitter pages, from which we regularly post briefings, reports, and other items of interest such as job opportunities, and is the best way to keep up with our content in real time. Find our Facebook page [here](#) and our Twitter [here](#).

### Remote Control Project News & Publications

#### Remote-Control Warfare Briefing #13

The thirteenth in the Remote Control project's monthly briefing series from Open Briefing was published this month. The briefings cover developments in five key areas of remote warfare: special forces, private military and security companies, unmanned vehicles and



autonomous weapon systems, cyber warfare and intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance. [Read more.](#)



### **New Tactics, Old Strategy: Remote Warfare and the War on Drugs**

This briefing looks at the impact of the increasing reliance on private military and security companies and advanced technologies, including drones, on theatres across Latin America where the War on Drugs is playing out. The weakening of the rule of law and legitimacy of the state in areas where these methods have been used shows how these new tactics are merely perpetuating long-standing strategic shortfalls of a militarised drugs policy. [Read more.](#)

## **ORG Programmes: Sustainable Security | Middle East**

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Your support is vital to ORG's work to build lasting peace and security in the world. ORG is one of the UK's leading advocates for the non-military resolution of global insecurity. By supporting us, you can contribute towards improving the lives of many millions of people affected by violent conflict throughout the world and help ensure that more don't join them.

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