



## ORG Newsletter February 2017

### Paul Rogers' Monthly Briefing



#### The UK and the Terror Threat

The recent statement from the UK's new Independent Reviewer of Terrorism Legislation that the terrorist threat to the country is at its highest level since the 1970s raises at least three crucial questions that this briefing seeks to answer. Why is the threat apparent so high, and apparently rising, after 15 years of high-intensity 'war' against international terrorist groups? Why is the specific threat from Islamic State (IS) so substantial at present? Finally, and most overlooked, why is there such a disconnect between the intense war in Iraq and Syria and the perception of threat in the UK? [Read more >>](#)

### ORG News & Publications



#### The UK, Russia and NATO Revisited

Turbulence in trans-Atlantic relations look set to be the defining security issue of 2017. Since the onset of conflict in Ukraine in 2014, ORG has worked to understand what drives the greatest tensions in European security for a generation, not least Russia's own perception of its place and interests in Europe and the wider world. On 2 March the UK House of Commons Foreign Affairs Committee finally published its report on its 2016 inquiry *The United Kingdom's relations with Russia*, citing at length written evidence from ORG. [Read more >>](#)



#### Forthcoming Briefings on Security in the Sahel-Sahara

ORG's British Sahel-Saharan Forum will publish two new briefings this spring. The first will explore the dramatic evolution of Libya's proxy war in the context of 'illiberal geopolitics': the rise of Russia as a Mediterranean security actor, the Trump administration's counter-IS campaign, Arab states' suppression of democratic Islamism, and the EU's imperative to suppress illicit migration. The second will analyse the dynamics of Boko Haram's presence in northern Cameroon and the multinational campaign against it.



#### Forthcoming Event: Special Screening and Q&A

On 14 March, in association with Oxford Research Group (ORG), the Prince Charles Cinema will host another special screening of the documentary film **Shadow World: Inside the Global Arms Trade**, followed by a conversation between Gabrielle Rifkind, Director of the Oxford Process, and Andrew Feinstein, author of the globally acclaimed book which served as the basis for the film. [Read more >>](#)



#### Job Opportunity: Development Officer (part-time)

ORG is seeking a dynamic fundraiser to join its team in London. Working closely with ORG's Programme Directors, the Development Officer will lead in developing and implementing ORG's fundraising strategy and campaigns with a primary focus on raising and sustaining funds from trusts, foundations and individual donors, including through solicited proposals, special events, campaigns and personal outreach.

Apply by **5pm on Monday 20th March 2017**. [Read more and apply >>](#)



#### Job Opportunity: Senior Programme Officer, Sustainable Security

ORG is seeking a Senior Programme Officer to lead its work on UK defence, security and conflict prevention policy including our flagship Rethinking UK Defence and Security Policies project. The role is funded at 3 or 4 days/week, with potential to expand to full-time. The role will include networking, researching, commissioning, editing and writing articles, briefings and reports, and advocacy.

**We will recruit for this readvertised position until a suitable candidate is found. Please apply as early as possible.** [Read more and apply >>](#)



## New Sustainable Security Articles

The Sustainable Security [blog](#) has published a wide range of articles exploring various global security issues in the past month including:

- [The geographical clustering of civil wars](#)
- [The Eritrean refugee crisis and the international community](#)
- [Food security in South Sudan](#)
- [NATO's mediation of the Cod Wars](#)
- [The reintegration of former combatants in Colombia](#)
- [Trump and May's "special relationship"](#)
- [Negotiating with Boko Haram](#)

## Remote Control Project News & Publications



### Forthcoming report: All quiet on the ISIS front? British secret warfare in an information age

Remote Control are working on a report about the challenges and implications of British secret warfare in today's information age. It will explore whether the UK's growing but secretive military presence overseas makes strategic sense, and what it means for the health of British democracy. The report will be launched at the end of March.



### The US Continues to "Trump" the UK on Special Forces Transparency

This article by Abigail Watson for Small Wars Journal discusses the special operations counter-terrorism raid in Yemen on the 29th of January in Yemen. There were a number of serious problems with the raid, but at least we know it happened. [Read more >>](#)

## ORG Programmes: Sustainable Security | Middle East

### Support Us

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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