OxfordResearchGroup
building bridges for global security

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ORG Newsletter December 2016

Paul Rogers' Monthly Briefing

The Border Security Paradox

With Donald Trump preparing to be inaugurated next month, his election raises the issue of border security to a new height. Much discussion of the issue focuses on Trump's proposal to erect a strong protective fence right across the border with Mexico. This, though, is just one example of a world-wide trend of intense border protection. While this trend has considerable implications for international relations, there are also doubts that it is a plausible response to the sense of insecurity that has become so significant in otherwise secure communities.
Read more >>

ORG News & Publications

Towards a Sustainable Security Index

One of the priorities for Oxford Research Group in 2017 will be the development and piloting of a Sustainable Security Index. Thanks to a generous new three-year grant from our long-time supporters at the Polden-Puckham Charitable Foundation, we are now well on our way to launching this important tool for popularising the concept of Sustainable Security and mapping the practical policy action required of states to build and sustain real human security. **Read more >**

Job Opportunity: Senior Programme Officer, Sustainable Security

ORG is seeking a Senior Programme Officer for its Sustainable Security Programme (SSP) to lead its work on UK defence, security and conflict prevention policy. The role will include networking, researching, commissioning, editing and writing articles, briefings and reports, and advocacy.

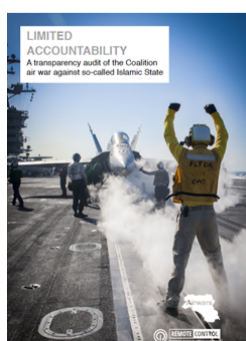Apply by **12 noon on Monday 30th January 2017**. **Read more >>**

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 counterinsurgency against Al-Shabaab
- Security sector reform in Lebanon
- Conflict and environmental damage in 2016
- The rise of Jobbik in Hungary
- Climate change, security, and indigenous peoples
- The Trump presidency and Iran's nuclear deal
- Russia's military revival
- Surveillance of US Muslim and Middle Eastern communities since 9/11

In addition, the blog will soon launch a new microproject examining the rise of populist politics in the US and Europe, and the implications of this development for sustainable security.

Remote Control Project News & Publications

Report: Limited Accountability: A transparency audit of the anti-ISIL Coalition

This Airwars study for the Remote Control Project explores transparency and accountability issues within the US-led Coalition. It is based partly on in-depth briefings from senior officials from four sample belligerents (the US, Canada, the UK and Denmark) – and in part on two years of extensive Airwars modelling of the war against ISIL. The report aims not only to provide a detailed understanding of how such ad hoc coalitions work – but also to identify transparency and accountability good practice for belligerents, and to offer policy recommendations for future airpower-based conflicts.
Read more >>

Briefing: We need to talk about Yemen

This briefing examines the extent of the UK's involvement in the current crisis in Yemen. The story of UK involvement in the current crisis in Yemen is hard to unravel, a task that is not helped by contradictory government statements, the lack of transparency surrounding government policies, and confusing distinctions between different types of UK assistance to members of the Saudi-led coalition on the front lines of the war. Greater transparency over the UK's role in the conflict would benefit the government for many domestic reasons, particularly given the levels of public and parliamentary scepticism about arms sales and secret wars. **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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