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Newsletter December 2018

Featured Publication



Iraq After Islamic State: Divided We Stand?

A year after Islamic State was declared defeated, various factors are fragmenting the country. Drawing upon field research in Iraq, this briefing by Emily Knowles examines how choices made throughout the anti-IS campaign have contributed to several of the factors that are currently destabilising the Iraqi security sector.

[Read More](#)

Paul Rogers' Monthly Briefing



2018: Passing the Buck

2018 has been a quieter year than many expected from the high tensions at the end of 2017. Yet the underlying drivers of global conflict have continued to increase, including colossal wealth disparities, greenhouse gas emissions and the demise of arms control regimes. Inaction has characterised policy responses; a shift to belated action may have mixed consequences in 2019-2020.

[Read the Briefing](#)

ORG News and Publications



ORG Explains #8: UK Food Security and Climate Change

This primer by Dr. Oliver Scanlan, ORG's Climate Security Fellow, explains the current situation concerning the United Kingdom's food supply and how this is likely to change in the medium and long term as a result of climate change. It discusses likely threats to UK food security and the current policy debate on how to address them effectively. [Read more >>](#)



The Government's Defence Review: An Incomplete Picture

In this article, Liam Walpole, the Remote Warfare Programme's (RWP) Senior Advocacy Officer, comments on the long-awaited Modernising Defence Programme, released this week. The report appears to reinforce the government's shifting strategic focus towards countering state-based threats, despite the fact that remote warfare is likely to dominate British military engagement in the foreseeable future. [Read more >>](#)



Linking spending to strategic priorities: why the MDP should be published in full

On the website 1828, Liam Walpole examines release of the Modernising Defence Programme and the reasons why the realisation of a full, publicly accessible report is preferable to a written ministerial statement. [Read more >>](#)



The Perils of Remote Warfare: Finding a Political Settlement with Counter-Terrorism in the Driving Seat

In a piece for The Strategy Bridge, Abigail Watson, RWP's Senior Research Officer, discusses how the current use of remote warfare has been predominantly military-focused and counter-terrorism oriented, often to the detriment of broader political efforts. [Read more >>](#)



Westminster Round-Up | November 2018

The Remote Warfare Programme provides its monthly update of defence and security developments in Westminster. As the Brexit negotiations continued at full speed, other significant issues, such as defence, seemed

to take a backseat in parliament this November.

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Abigail Watson attends NATO workshop

Abigail Watson recently attended NATO's Centre of Excellence for Security Force Assistance workshop and joined the discussion, speaking her research in this area.

[Read more >>](#)



Emily Knowles presents at Peace Research Institute Oslo Event

RWP Director, Emily Knowles, delivered a presentation at the Litteraturhuset in Oslo aimed at improving Norwegian approaches to security force assistance. Drawing on the lessons learned from [reports](#) released by RWP this year, she highlighted the need for remote warfare to be integrated into a broader political strategy which provides a lasting contribution to stability. [Read more >>](#)



Iraq Unravelling? An Interview with Emma Sky

Emma Sky, former advisor to the US military in Iraq, discusses with ORG her experience in Iraq and the challenges currently facing the country. [Read more>>](#)



Call for Papers: Conceptualising Remote Warfare: The Past, Present and Future

The Remote Warfare Programme invites proposals for papers for an event on the key themes of remote warfare to be held at the University of Kent in March 2019. Deadline for proposals: **15 January 2019**.

[Read more >>](#)



ORG Blog

This month on the blog, a two-part article series on the "alt-right" movement.

- [Read Part 1](#)
- [Read Part 2](#)

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