# OxfordResearchGroup building bridges for global security

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## ORG Newsletter November 2016

## **Paul Rogers' Monthly Briefing**



#### So Much Hot Air: Climate Change After the US Election

Whether or not he believes his own campaign rhetoric, the election of Donald Trump to the US presidency is bad news for efforts to enforce climate governance and restrain carbon emissions. Yet the global mood is one of determination in the face of US obstinacy, buoyed by technological advances in green energy generation and storage and by the increasingly apparent commercial opportunities presented by a transition away from fossil fuels. Ignoring such potential will likely damage not only the US' global reputation, but also its economy. Read more >>

## **ORG News & Publications**



#### Briefing - President Trump: Successor to the Nuclear Throne

This briefing by Tim Street focuses on the question of what a Trump presidency might mean for international relations with a focus on nuclear arms, including doctrine and disarmament. Looking beyond issues of personality and temperament, it reviews policies relevant to the US's nuclear arsenal and pressing international challenges such as nonproliferation, including in East Asia and the Middle East, as well as the US's relationship with Russia and its role in NATO. Read more >>



#### **ORG Welcomes New Advisors in 2016**

Over the course of 2016 ORG has added four more Advisors to its panel of over 30 international experts and practitioners from the fields of diplomacy, development, military, intelligence, academia and journalism. We welcome Nita Yawanaraja, Bernard Harborne, Mary Dejevsky and Patrick Cordingley to working with ORG. Read more >>



#### **ORG Submission to Lib Dems Policy Consultation on Nuclear** Weapons

Oxford Research Group's Sustainable Security Programme (SSP) recently submitted evidence to the Liberal Democrat's Policy Consultation on Nuclear Weapons, which is designed to help the party develop a new policy on nuclear weapons. ORG's submission focused on the need for the UK to move towards a more responsible approach. Read more >>



### **Upcoming Event - Casualty Recording Post-Chilcot**

Every Casualty will launch the first-ever set of international standards for recording casualties on 8th December. These were developed over a three-year period with the intensive involvement of casualty recording organisations around the world. This work was begun and nurtured while Every Casualty was a programme of ORG. Iraq Inquiry committee member Professor Sir Lawrence Freedman will join the launch panel to discuss the report's relevance to Chilcot's findings.

Thursday 8 December 2016 1730-1900

Weston Room, Maughan Library, Kings College London, Chancery Lane, London, WC2A 1LR

Register here >>



#### **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:

• Pre-colonial institutions and peacebuilding

- <u>Global governance and the Anthopocene</u>
- <u>Turkey's village guard system</u>
- <u>Unarmed civilian peacekeeping</u>
- Language, religion and civil wars
- The responsibility to rebuild and Libya
- The effectiveness, transparency and legitimacy of drone strikes
- Security sector reform in Liberia
- Golden Dawn in Greece

#### The blog has also conducted interviews with leading global politics experts including:

- Dr. Michael Nest discusses the politics of coltan
- Dr. Yaniv Voller discusses the Kurdish question
- Dr. Sascha Dov Bachmann discusses hybrid warfare
- Dr. Lisa Stampnitzky discusses the 'War on Terror'.

## **Remote Control Project News & Publications**



### **Report: Yemen: A Battle for the Future**

Written by Ginny Hill and Baraa Shiban, the paper sets Yemen's multiple conflicts in the context of the 'remote control' approach to warfare – focusing on the use of special forces, mercenaries and armed drones. It highlights the moral and political risks for Western governments training and arming regional protagonists, such as Saudi Arabia and the UAE. <u>Read more >></u>



#### **Event Podcast – Yemen: A Battle for the Future**

On Wednesday 9 November 2016, at the LSE's Middle East Centre, Ginny Hill and Baraa Shiban presented their new paper for the Remote Control Project, "Yemen, a Battle for the Future". The report examines the use of special forces, mercenaries and armed drones in Yemen's war. A podcast of the event is available <u>here >></u>



#### **Open Briefing Report | The Remote Warfare Digest**

Commissioned by the Remote Control project, this paper discusses how the level of transparency and oversight of special forces missions is becoming out of step with their growing use, the shift of counterterrorism efforts of US special operations forces beyond advise and assist missions, the rise and fall (and rise again) of private military and security companies in Iraq and Afghanistan, the future of drones in RAF operations, US Cyber Command and counterterrorism operations, and the potential impact of Brexit on UK and European intelligence sharing. <u>Read more >></u>



#### Article: The UK's not-so-secret war in Syria

This article by Abigail Watson discusses the SAS' large, sustained role against ISIS in Syria, and the UK government's refusal to comment on this issue. <u>Read more >></u>

**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 Oxford Research Group Development House 56-64 Leonard Street London EC2A 4LT

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