



ORG Newsletter June 2016

Paul Rogers' Monthly Briefing



Endless War? Fallujah Revisited

As the Chilcot Inquiry prepares to publish its long-awaited report on the lessons learned from the UK's intervention in Iraq, and as Western-backed Iraqi forces recapture Fallujah, this briefing reviews ORG's fifteen-year critique of the War on Terror and its disastrous consequences. Hubris has characterised past declarations of victory in this conflict while the US, UK and allies have failed to learn the lesson that the Middle East can only be stabilised by addressing the root causes of its many revolts. [Read more >>](#)

ORG News & Publications



ORG Online Auction

We are delighted to announce that bidding is now open on ORG's online summer Charity Auction.

Lots include: beautiful artworks, tickets to sports events, a stay in a wonderful house in the South of France and even a session with renowned therapist Susie Orbach.

Please bid enthusiastically for these incredible items to support our vital work!

[Visit our auction page >>](#)

The auction will close on **Monday 18th July at 12pm GMT+1**.



Special Event: Europe, Russia and Preventive Diplomacy

Oxford Research Group brought together some of the top names in foreign policy and journalism in a special fundraising event on June 26th at the Tricycle Theatre, London. Discussing the question 'Should we be scared of Putin?' as well as the implications of the Brexit vote were former British Foreign and Defence Secretary Sir Malcolm Rifkind and leading journalist Mary Dejevsky. ORG's Gabrielle Rifkind also discussed the scope and potential of preventive diplomacy work with veteran diplomat Richard Barrett.

The event also showcased the importance and impact of ORG's work through a [compelling new film](#). [Read more >>](#)



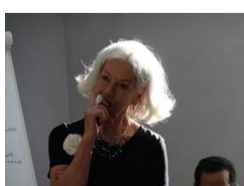
ORG Annual Impact Report 2015-2016

Oxford Research Group has published its annual impact report for 2015-2016. This explores the vital roles our programmes played in influencing Middle Eastern peace processes, UK and global security discourse during another year of enormous global turbulence, and explains our commitment and priorities for 2016 and beyond. [Read the report >>](#)



ORG, Russia and NATO

As Britain votes to leave the European Union and NATO heads of state and government prepare to meet for their biennial summit in Warsaw, this article looks at ORG's recent and ongoing work on the crisis in relations between Russia and NATO, both in Europe and the Middle East. [Read more >>](#)



New Project: Dialogue with the British Arms Industry

Oxford Research Group has rejoined forces with its founder Dr Scilla Elworthy in a new research project to open dialogue with key actors in UK defence and security policy-making, especially those engaged in armaments production and export. The project discusses the implications of future security issues for scenario planning and strategy, including the need to plan for industrial diversification. [Read more >>](#)

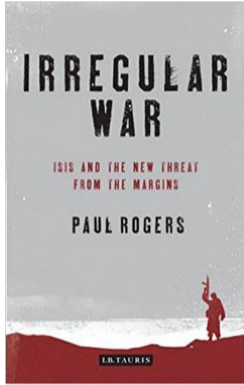


New Sustainable Security Articles

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

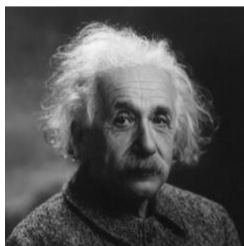
- [Separation and segregation in peacekeeping](#)
- [Former combatants and counter-terrorism](#)
- [Militarising conservation](#)
- [Human rights as conflict resolution in Northern Ireland](#)
- [The European Union as a peace mediator](#)
- [Nomadism, land disputes and security](#)
- [Brazil and the “Responsibility While Protecting” initiative](#)
- [Gender and private security](#)
- [Gender and peacebuilding in Uganda](#)

During the next few months, the blog will be publishing a series of articles and interviews on the use of remote warfare in Libya and on polarisation and marginalisation in the European Union.



New Book - Irregular War: ISIS and the New Threat from the Margins

Oxford Research Group's Global Security Consultant Prof Paul Rogers' latest book [Irregular War: ISIS and the New Threats from the Margins](#) will be published by I.B. Tauris on 14 July. Drawing on 15 years of research and analysis with ORG, Rogers argues that the rise of ISIS should be seen not just as a threat in its own right but as a marker of a much more dangerous world riddled with irregular war.



Event: Fighting The Menace Of War: What Would Einstein Say Today?

The issue of political violence (and ISIS in particular) is on the national agenda and at the forefront of everyone's mind. Einstein's question to Freud, 'Is there any way of delivering mankind from the menace of war?', raises crucial issues. This panel discussion will explore the menace of war and terrorism, from scientific and military deterrents to what role the media and the internet play, and how policy making at the top unravels on the ground. Followed by Q&A.

Time: **8pm, July 4th**

Location: **JW3, 341-351 Finchley Road, London, NW3 6ET**

Remote Control Project News & Publications



Remote-Control Warfare Briefing #16

The sixteenth in the monthly remote-control briefing series from Open Briefing was published. 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 >>](#)



Upcoming Briefing: Britain's Culture of No Comment

This upcoming briefing by Emily Knowles, Remote Control Project Manager, examines how the UK is lagging behind its allies on transparency over its use of Special Operations Forces. The briefing will be published on **July 4th**.



Upcoming Report: Assessing SOF Transparency and Accountability

Remote Control will soon release a report by Dr. Jon Moran, Reader in Security at the University of Leicester, entitled "Assessing SOF transparency and accountability". The report explores today's 'Golden Age of Special Forces'. It discusses the growth in use of Special Operations Forces by the UK, US, Australia, and Canada throughout the War on Terror, and contrasts the different country's mechanisms for transparency and accountability. The report will be published on **July 4th**.



Remote Control on BBC Radio 4

Remote Control's Emily Knowles recently appeared on new BBC Radio 4 series 'The Briefing Room' to discuss UK special forces. Hosted by journalist David Aaronovitch, the episode will air in July.

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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