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Michael Kuhlmann
Foreword

Dear friends & partners,

this media analysis is meant to present an overview over our communication activities, reach and visibility around the 55th Munich Security Conference (MSC).

Not for the first time, this year’s Munich Security Conference may well be remembered as a turning point for global geopolitics. World leaders, ministers, diplomats, military officers and policy experts gathered for the MSC 2019 in order to share their views on this year’s theme — “The Great Puzzle: Who will pick up the pieces?” — with an attentive audience. 28 Heads of State and Government, 47 Ministers of Foreign Affairs and 32 Ministers of Defence were present and more than 2,500 bilateral meetings and 180 official side-events offered countless opportunities for debates and exchanges of views.

Given the relevance of the topics and the prominence of the participants, it is no surprise that interest in and public awareness of our conference has never been higher. With more than 1,100 journalists from all over the world convening in Munich to cover the proceedings, the MSC featured prominently in virtually every global news outlet. In addition, a public outreach program has helped to further drive up numbers, reach new key audiences and build momentum for future activities. We are very much looking forward to building on this momentum in the years to come. It would be wonderful to know you at our side!

Should you have any questions, suggestions or ideas concerning our communication activities or the MSC in general, please do not hesitate to share them with us. We look forward to being in touch!

Benedikt Franke
Chief Operating Officer

Johannes Schmid
Press Officer
The MSC 2019 in Figures

Overview

28 Heads of State and Government

47 Ministers of Foreign Affairs

32 Ministers of Defence

40 Heads of International Organizations

67 Leading CEOs

2,500 Official Bilateral Meetings

180 Side Events
About this Media Analysis

PRINT MEDIA

The PRINT MEDIA section is based on the PMG Pressemonitor®, Dow Jones Factiva® and Press Reader® databases. Coverage of German print media is close to 100%. Coverage of foreign print media is good for important countries (e.g. USA, UK, France), but incomplete for others. The reach of print media coverage of the MSC was therefore certainly higher than the documented numbers provided in this report. A full list of countries and sources covered is available on request.

The data collection covered the period from January 2019 to February 2019.

TV/RADIO

The TV/RADIO section is based on the eMedia Monitor (TV/Radio database) which includes 552 radio and 450 TV channels from 71 countries. Due to technical and copyright restrictions, the database does not include all channels and programmes from all relevant countries.

The data for TV/Radio channels is the technical reach, i.e. the number of people who could potentially view or listen to reports about the MSC. The number of people who have done so is certainly lower.

The data collection covered the period from January 2019 to February 2019.

SOCIAL MEDIA

Sources for the SOCIAL MEDIA section are statistics derived from the MSC’s own social media accounts. The numbers for general Twitter usage have been analyzed with the Talkwalker® software.

The data collection covered the period from February 11 to February 17, 2019, if not otherwise stated.
Executive Summary

Overview

>1,100 accredited journalists

>5,400 print articles

>3,700 newswire reports

>17,200 TV/radio reports

>500,000 total visits of the MSC website

>11.5 million impressions of MSC tweets, Facebook posts and Youtube videos
Accredited Journalists at the MSC

Overview

>1,100 accredited journalists

45 countries represented

300 different media outlets

Top 10 Countries

1. Germany
2. USA
3. Japan
4. Russia
5. UK
6. China, France
7. Ukraine, Belgium
8. Turkey
9. Qatar
10. Croatia
Print Media

Overview

>5,400 newspaper articles

>70 million circulation of top 50 global and top 20 German newspapers reporting on MSC 2019
# DAILY DISTRIBUTION OF PRINT MEDIA COVERAGE

(number of articles)

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**Total:** 5,478
GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRINT MEDIA ARTICLES
Sample Coverage

**TRANSATLANTIC DIFFERENCES LAID BARE AT ANNUAL DEFENSE POWWOW**

“The Munich Security Conference — a forum conceived during the Cold War to discuss security threats and challenges — has never been an event for the faint of heart. Even so, the mood at this year’s gathering, the 55th, would best be described as funereal. It’s no secret Europeans and Americans (i.e. the Trump administration) have been at odds over a laundry list of issues including the Iranian nuclear deal, climate policy, trade and commitment to NATO. Yet the interaction between the two sides in Munich — which bordered on the caustic, both in public and behind the scenes — left some participants warning that the estrangement threatens to hobble the transatlantic security alliance at a time of growing instability.”

Matthew Karnitschnig and David M. Herszenhorn, Politico, February 16

**MERKEL DELIVERED A SPIRITED DEFENSE OF MULTILATERAL INSTITUTIONS**

“Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany delivered a strong rejoinder on Saturday to American demands that European allies pull out of the Iran nuclear deal and gave a spirited defense of multilateral institutions in a world increasingly marked by great-power rivalry. In an uncharacteristically passionate speech, Ms. Merkel said the nuclear deal was the best way of influencing Iranian behavior on a range of non-nuclear issues, from missile development to terrorism. […] Ms. Merkel defended multilateralism and stressed that collective solutions were the only way to tackle global challenges — from a rising China to climate change to mutually beneficial trade.”

Katrin Bennhold and Steven Erlanger, The New York Times, February 16

**EUROPE NEEDS TO SORT ITSELF OUT**

“For all the tutting at the White House, there was pessimism about Europe’s appetite or ability to fill a security void left by the US. Talks on the margins laid bare the obstacles of resource and political challenges to greater co-operation, not least the lack of common EU arms export rules. Sauli Niinistö, Finnish president, lamented the lack of ‘hard strength’ to bolster its influence in world security. Norbert Röttgen, head of the Bundestag’s foreign affairs committee, said Europe was ‘going round in circles’ and was ‘even more divided than a year ago’.”

Michael Peel, David Bond and Guy Chazan, Financial Times, February 18
“Amid the gloom of a security conference focused on the breakdown in transatlantic relations under President Trump, Joe Biden offered beleaguered Europeans a ray of hope this weekend. ‘This too shall pass’, the former vice president promised. ‘We will be back.’ […] The comment earned Biden, a possible candidate for president in 2020, a sustained applause from a crowd that clearly wanted to believe the United States will return to a more familiar role as trusted friend after two years of Trump turning on allies and cozying up to adversaries. But Europeans are not convinced that Biden, or anyone, can deliver. Even if Democrats beat Trump when he vies for reelection next year, U.S. allies say the damage will be difficult to reverse.”

Griff Witte and Michael Birnbaum, Washington Post, February 18

“The Munich Security Conference used to focus primarily on European and transatlantic issues. However, China has become a focus at the conference in recent years as it is playing an increasingly important role in global security issues. In his keynote speech, Yang, head of the Chinese delegation, said unilateralism and protectionism have been on the rise, and the multilateral international order and global governance system are being challenged. ‘China advocates a steadfast commitment to advance international cooperation, uphold and develop multilateralism, and make the international order more just and equitable’, Yang said.”

Shanghai Daily, February 18
Conference fears world is returning to era of great power confrontation

If the Munich Security Conference acts as a barometer to gauge world politics, this year has shown a variety of contradictory trends — confrontation and cooperation, and unilateralism and multilateralism.

In a world full of uncertainties and contradictions, China showed itself to be a staunch supporter of global cooperation and multilateralism, and its efforts to maintain the world order have been endorsed at the security conference.

Who will pick up pieces?

“The Great Puzzle: Who Will Pick Up the Pieces?” asked the Munich Security Report published ahead of the conference. Last year, the report said the world faced the highest risk of conflict in two decades.

This year, it seems the report went further, and asserted that the world is returning to an era of great power competition.

At the opening session of the conference, British Prime Minister Theresa May accused China of making the world a less safe place, and German Defense Minister Ursula von der Leyen said Russia was dividing Europe.

Meanwhile, China said it hopes that the United States and Russia will return to the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty.

Yang Jiechi, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, said: “Instability is increasing ... each other at all so that things do not work, and people do not trust one another. Right now it’s more about cooperation, and unilateralism and multilateralism are getting worse rather than better. We are getting worse rather than better. This is a new era of uncertainty.”

China advocates a steadfast commitment to advance international cooperation, uphold and develop multilateralism, and make the international order more just and equitable.

Yang Jiechi, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, told the 55th Munich Security Conference that unilateralism and protectionism are on the rise, and the multilateral international order and global governance system are being challenged. — AFP

National Institute for South China Sea Studies, who took part in the conference, said: “If everyoccasion participants are talking about China, which shows that China has become stronger globally.”

China is assuming more global responsibility during its development, such as its efforts to safeguard global peace and security through UN peacekeeping missions, including anti-piracy.
DIE SEITE DREI

Hotel zur schlechten Aussicht

Angela Merkel und Mike Penceスキと

Die Kanzlerin und der US-Vizepräsident München

MUNICH SECURITY CONFERENCE 2019 – MEDIA ANALYSIS
Special Issues

For more than ten years, The Security Times published by Berlin-based Times Media has been a media partner of the MSC and become a leading international platform for debating strategic security issues. The current issue focused on fears of a new nuclear arms race and the decay of global governance, the effects on security of new technologies, the future of transatlantic ties and relations with Russia.

Alongside an array of opinion makers on international security policy, in an article for The Security Times German Foreign Minister Heiko Maas announced an international conference planned for mid-March on the threats posed by technologies including 5G, AI, hypersonic missiles and biotech and their manageability.

The European Commissioner for the Security Union Sir Julian King called on Europe to prioritize its digital resilience, which is essential for shielding government information and industrial research, as well as elections, democratic institutions and our personal data.

Richard Burt lamented the new US-Russian arms race. The chief US negotiator at the START disarmament talks with the Soviet Union hoped the two sides return to the negotiating table before the event of a catastrophic mistake. The renowned Berlin historian Herfried Münkler explained why so many wars of today’s wars have no end. In further contributions, Russian historian Alexey Gromyko and German SPD lawmakers Rolf Mützenich and Achim Post called for an end to sanctions against Russia and new formats for Russian-European talks.

The Security Times is published for a readership of global opinion makers. It is a presence at the MSC itself in Munich and during the year at various MSC events. As a controlled circulation publication and alongside its sister paper The German Times, it is addressed directly to leading individuals as well as important institutions and corporations in Germany, the US, Europe and Asia.

The newspaper is available online at www.the-security-times.com and also present on Twitter with the handle @Sec_Times; https://twitter.com/Sec_Times.
Süddeutsche Zeitung traditionally publishes a special insert on security issues prior to the MSC. This year’s six-page journal is included in the SZ (print run 321,000, digital edition 70,000, coverage approx. 1.2 million). The edition was made available at the MSC. SZ-Security 2019 was picking up the MSC theme of puzzle pieces no longer fitting together and a world drifting apart.

A joint political piece was written by the German and the French Foreign Ministers. In an interview, the Dutch Prime Minister spelled out his vision for Europe. And major analytical pieces dealt with a world order structured by the by laws of digitalization, the narcotic threat and it’s underlaying political and societal currents, China’s military rise and the disruptions in the Middle East and Afghanistan.

A subtle analysis on the growing number of TV dramas mirroring real life political events or even preempting them was shedding light on a major media phenomena.
Dies ist der Weckruf

INTERNATIONALE POLITIK is Germany’s leading foreign policy journal. Published by the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP), it is published every two months with a print run of around 6,000 copies and is aimed at those who are interested in foreign policy and security policy in politics, business, science and the media. It is published by the German Council on Foreign Relations (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Auswärtige Politik, DGAP). The issue, titled “Nervous Times” (January/February 2019) was created in collaboration with the Munich Security Conference team.

The cover story included interviews with Ben Rhodes, Wolfgang Ischinger, Fu Ying and Igor Iwanow. Furthermore, there were contributions by Kadri Liik (ECFR), Hakan Tanriverdi (Süddeutsche Zeitung), Florence Gaub (EUISS), Adnan Tabatabai, Ian Anthony (SIPRI), Sung-han Kim (Seoul), Bill Hyton (Chatham House); Rebecca Bertram (Böll Foundation), Wolf Grabendorff (Quito), Thomas Eder (MERICS) and Marc Becker (Hertie School of Governance). As of 2018 the IP has been a media partner of the Munich Security Conference and reported directly from the MSC via its website and social media accounts together with its English-language sister magazine the BERLIN POLICY JOURNAL.
Nervöse Zeiten

MSC 2019
Russland, Nahost, Nordkorea, Cyber, China – die wichtigsten Krisenherde und wie man ihnen begegnet

Altlasten
Die Finanzkrise von 2008 scheint bewältigt. Doch jetzt holen uns die Versäumnisse des vergangenen Jahrzehnts ein

Neuland
Im digitalen Zeitalter bink Deutschland den Anforderungen der Sicherheitspolitik noch weit hinterher
News Agencies

Overview

3,754 reports

100 news agencies reporting
MOST ACTIVE AGENCIES
(number of articles)

1 Russia
2 German Language
3 Russian Language
GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ARTICLES BY NEWS AGENCIES
TV

Overview

173 channels

>4,500 reports

SELECTED TV COVERAGE
### Daily Distribution of TV Broadcasts

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Total: 4,523
GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF TV BROADCASTS

(total: 4,530)
Radio

Overview

255 channels

>12,700 reports

Photo Credit: MSC / Kuhlmann
## Daily Distribution of Radio Broadcasts

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Total: 12,718
GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF RADIO BROADCASTS

(total: 12,719)
Online

Overview

>500,000 total visits of the MSC website

48 Facebook posts by MSC

223 tweets by MSC

>290,000 total user interactions

15,000 total new fans and followers

>3.7 million total video views
Facebook

Overview

48 total Facebook posts by MSC

>5.3 million people reached

249,200 total interactions

45,500 page likes/increase in page likes: +29%

SAMPLE FB POSTS

Munich Security Conference
February 17 at 5:20 PM

The Munich Security Conference 2019 has come to an end. Thanks for following the events and discussions here! Stay tuned in the coming days as we look back at the highlights and lessons from MSC2019.
SAMPLE FB POSTS

MSC 2019 - Impressions from Day 1
02:50

337,326 People Reached 10,178 Engagements

868 40 Comments 154 Shares 138K Views

Munich Security Conference
February 17 at 11:53 AM

"Climate change is not just a threat to the long term survival of human beings, but a very severe security risk right now.”

Tackling the global issue of climate change was higher on the agenda at this year’s Munich Security Conference than ever before. Watch the discussion with one of the most diverse panels at MSC2019 here:

https://www.securityconference.de/.../panel-discussion-clima.../
Following last year’s success, the Munich Security Conference 2019 again featured a Live Studio in cooperation with Facebook. The interviews with high-ranking participants of the conference, in conjunction with opportunities of interaction with a live audience online, offered a dynamic and modern platform with which we could reach a young and politically interested target audience.

During the course of the weekend, we all in all supported 6 Facebook live videos produced by Handelsblatt, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Facebook Security, The Elders and the Munich Young Leaders with various guests like Ben Rhodes – former National Security Advisor to President Barack Obama, Nicholas Burns – Harvard Professor and former US Ambassador to NATO and Ian Bremmer – Head of the Eurasia Group.

### Overview

6 live sessions

17,385 total video views
IMPRESSIONS
The Munich Security Conference 2019, in cooperation with YouTube, featured an innovative new format: five YouTube creators from across the globe interviewed MSC participants and provided insights into the making and the meaning of the MSC for a young, global audience.

In the studio, Ana Kasparian, Haifa Beseisso, Mirko Drotschmann and Mihai-Alexandru Hash spoke to 18 MSC participants and MSC Chairman Wolfgang Ischinger in one-on-one interviews on a diverse range of issues. Complementing the studio interviews, Robin Blase provided field reports to showcase what goes on behind the scenes of the MSC, including a tour of the Hotel Bayerischer Hof with MSC Chief Operating Officer Benedikt Franke. On the final day, the creators wrapped up their impressions from the MSC in a joint discussion round.

All videos – produced and edited by the digital studio and multiplatform network Studio71 – were published on the dedicated channel www.youtube.com/yourmsc and were also featured on the respective creators’ channels. The hashtag #yourMSC was widely shared across social media, with users from around the world joining the discussion and submitting questions to prominent conference participants.

### Overview

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<th>5</th>
<th>YouTubers with a combined reach of</th>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;7.4 million</td>
<td>subscribers</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>videos on the #yourMSC channel</td>
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<td>&gt;2.7 million</td>
<td>views of the #yourMSC trailer</td>
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<tr>
<td>&gt;55,000</td>
<td>views of the first field report</td>
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<tr>
<td>4,164</td>
<td>#yourMSC YouTube channel subscribers</td>
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**YOUTUBE CREATORS**

MSC Chairman Wolfgang Ischinger with the team of YouTube creators
Photo credit: Janosch Orlovsy

Ana Kasparian, United States: presenter and executive producer of online news show „The Young Turks“, a channel with more than 4 million subscribers on YouTube, she also hosts the weekly show „NoFilter“.

Haifa Beseisso, United Arab Emirates: with her channel „FlyWithHaifa“, which has more than 660,000 subscribers, she uses travel videos to campaign for tolerance between cultures.

Mirko Drotschmann, Germany: as “MrWissen2Go” with more than 850,000 subscribers, he provides weekly videos in which he explains current and historical topics and issues.

Mihai-Alexandru Hash, Romania: the most successful YouTube creator in Romania, with 1.4 million subscribers on his channel „Viral Studios“, he covers social and political issues as well as entertainment and technology.

Robin Blase, Germany: known as RobBubble on YouTube with more than 200,000 subscribers, he manages his own production company and also works with the German FUNK network.

**INTERVIEWEES**

IMPRESSIONS
IMPRESSIONS

Photo credit: Janosch Orlowski
## Twitter

### Overview

- **223** total Tweets by MSC
- **>3.3 million** total impressions
- **>21,000** total interactions
- **4,900** total retweets
- **120,692** uses of #MSC2019 hashtag by all Twitter users
- **38,200** followers / increase in followers: **+14%**
NUMBER OF TWEETS USING THE #MSC2019 HASHTAG

SAMPLE TWEETS

In just a few minutes, U.S. @VP Mike Pence will address the audience in Munich. Follow his remarks and discussion with @MunSecConf Chairman @ischinger #MSC2019 live here: securityconference.de /msc-2019/live

live today at 11.30 a.m.: Statement & Discussion Mike Pence

11:25 AM - 16 Feb 2019
285 Retweets 1,514 Likes
SAMPLE TWEETS

Chancellor #Merkel's call to action at #MSC2019: "We have to fight for Europe, we have to fight for #multilateralism – against all of those who think that they can do it alone." @RegSprecher

Merkel rips isolationism. How can BMWs built in South Carolina be a threat to US national security? How does unilateral US withdrawal from Syria not help Iran? It’s up to us to work together not stand alone. #MSC2019
SAMPLE TWEETS

#Trump, #Putin, #XiJinping, #Merkel, #Macron... Who do citizens around the world trust to do the right thing in world affairs? – Survey data by @pewresearch in our brand-new #MSCreport #MSC2019: securityconference.de/en/publication ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Opinion poll, 2018, percent</th>
<th>US President Donald Trump</th>
<th>Russian President Vladimir Putin</th>
<th>Chinese President Xi Jinping</th>
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<td>US</td>
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<td>France</td>
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</table>

Excellent discussion with @IvankaTrump and @LindseyGrahamSC on the importance of empowering women. More than 160 countries still have legal barriers that prevent women from participating fully in the economy. Cultural change must accompany economic, legal reforms. @MunSecConf

"Having partners is a good thing. Distance doesn’t make you safe. ‘Over there’ becomes ‘over here’ pretty quickly." – @LindseyGrahamSC during the session on defence cooperation at #MSC2019
Newsletter

Overview

3,400 subscribers

+400 new subscribers since February 2018: +13%

6 newsletters per year

40% average opening rate

MSC 2019 AT A GLANCE:

MSC 2019 Photos and Videos
Visit our media library for photo impressions from the conference weekend as well as video recordings of the discussions (in both German and English).

MSC 2018 Key Quotes
Review some of the most important messages from the leaders assembled in Munich in our collection of key quotes.

Continue »
Dear Friends of the MSC,

Tomorrow, on Friday, February 15, the 58th edition of the Munich Security Conference will begin at Hotel Bayerischer Hof in Munich. I am excited that I will be able to welcome more than 30 heads of state and government as well as over 60 foreign and defense ministers. They will join an impressive number of other senior decision-makers and experts for intense discussions on global and regional crises and risks, on cyber security, arms races and arms control agreements, on the future of NATO and the transatlantic relationship, and last but not least, on how the EU will develop into a more capable and more credible actor in security and defense – to name just a few of the topics on this year's agenda. Find out more on participants and the agenda below.

Earlier this week, just a few days before this year's security conference, we hosted our traditional Berlin Kick-off event and presented the fifth edition of our annual Munich Security Report – titled “The Great Puzzle: Who Will Pick Up the Pieces?” The 2019 report is meant as an impulse and conversation starter for the MSC, featuring important trends and issues in international security. Featuring insightful research, analysis and data, the report offers insights into today's complex security environment. As you get ready for the 2019 Munich Security Conference, a great way to prepare is to read the report.

Sincerely,

Wolfgang Ischinger
Chairman of the MSC
This year, the Munich Security Conference marked not one, but two milestones. Ahead of the 55th edition of the Munich Security Conference, we were delighted to launch the fifth edition of the Munich Security Report. First published in 2015, this report compiles key insights and analyses, illuminating major developments in and critical challenges to international security. As such, it serves as a conversation starter for both our main conference and for security professionals and the interested public around the globe.

When looking at the current state of international affairs, it is difficult to escape the feeling that the world is not just witnessing a series of smaller and bigger crises, but that there is a more fundamental problem. Indeed, we seem to be experiencing a reshuffling of core pieces of the international order. A new era of great power competition is unfolding between the United States, China, and Russia, accompanied by a certain leadership vacuum in what has become known as the liberal international order. While no one can tell what the future order will look like, it is becoming obvious that new management tools are needed to prevent a situation in which not much may be left to pick up.
In the midst of this global strategic puzzle, the Munich Security Report aims to help make sense of today’s security environment by presenting condensed information on key regions and issues on the international security agenda. We do not pretend to cover all crucial topics in this report (and certainly do not claim that those not discussed here are not important). Instead, we try to focus on a few actors, regions, and issues of significance and, each year, bring in a new perspective. This year’s report sheds light on the actors of the “second row”: the middle powers called on to do more to preserve the liberal international order. However, while several of these countries’ leaders have advocated stronger cooperation, they also continue to face multiple domestic and international challenges that limit their room for maneuver. In addition, the report covers developments in key regions from the Western Balkans to the Sahel and overarching security issues from arms control to transnational organized crime.
The Sahel: Traffick Jam

The Sahel region, or "Saharan area of instability," faces an international set of security challenges, which emanate from the effects of land degradation and climate change. The region is characterized by a high level of inter-regional flows of goods, people, and ideas, driven by a combination of climate change, rapid population growth, and short-term economic conditions.

The security situation in the Sahel is not only a result of the regional dynamics, but also of very diverse local and national dynamics that are often reinforcing, but sometimes conflicting. The conflict dynamics are more acute in Sahelian states located in the western part of the Sahel. In the central part of the Sahel, state failures are more prominent, while in the eastern part, the conflict dynamics are less pronounced.

Violent extremism also has potential spill-over effects outside the region itself, with the government of Niger's efforts to combat terrorism and organized crime in their shared cross-border regions. The force, together with the EU, is also working on the broader issue of transnational criminal groups that attack travelers and other civilians in the area.

In terms of practical implementation, France and Germany continue to work together to achieve their respective objectives in the region. However, even though public opinion in both countries remains enthusiastic about their respective neighbor and its leaders, Franco-German consensus is often hard to come by in practice. With its own reinvigorated proposals for a European army, yet different ideas persist across the Rhine, Paris appears increasingly frustrated about what this – and "more Europe" in general – would mean in practice. With its most recent initiatives, the rest of Europe will follow. In light of Brexit and the prospect of a new German government, an agreement, while still necessary, is no longer sufficient.

Conventional wisdom on European integration suggests that France and Germany are able to realize their aspirations in a way that bears a reflection on the dangers of isolation and on the interdependence of the United States and the European Union.

The need for a European approach to security and defense cooperation is particularly acute in the context of transnational threats, such as terrorism and organized crime. A number of initiatives are aimed at improving security cooperation in the region, including the EU's European Peace Operations Initiative.

Following Germany’s foreign minister, it has been clear that France is pursuing a more independent approach to the transatlantic partnership. In 2019, German Defense Minister Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer announced that Germany would no longer support French-led military interventions in the Sahel region, which had been ongoing since 2017 and had faced criticism from some quarters.

The deflection of German support came as a surprise to many, given the strong Franco-German partnership in Europe’s defense and security policy. France and Germany have been key players in the European Union’s efforts to improve security cooperation in the region, including through the EU’s European Peace Operations Initiative.

The two countries have a long history of cooperation in the field of security and defense, with a number of joint military exercises and training programs. However, their relationship has been strained in recent years by a number of factors, including differences in approach to security and defense, and divergent strategic cultures.

In addition to the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Initiative (MISI) and the EU’s European Peace Operations Initiative, France and Germany have also been working on the broader issue of transnational criminal groups that operate in the Sahel region. These groups have been linked to a range of criminal activities, including human trafficking, smuggling of weapons, counterfeiting, and drugs.

Deficits in governance, demographic change, climate change, and rapid population growth, and urbanization add more layers of vulnerability to an already fragile region. Overall, security continues to deteriorate across much of the Sahel.

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US poses bigger threat than Putin or Xi, say voters

The US under President Trump is perceived as a greater threat to Europe’s security than China or Russia, according to an international opinion poll.

Mr Trump’s standing has fallen so low among America’s allies that people in France and Germany are now significantly more likely to say they trust President Putin or President Xi to “do the right thing” on the global stage.

The US under President Trump is perceived as a greater threat to Europe’s security than China or Russia, according to an international opinion poll.
MSC Media Partnership with Deutsche Welle

Overview

13 language programs for worldwide audiences

7 hours of coverage across 50 English TV news bulletins for global viewers

36 live broadcasts of DW Premium in 10 countries*

11 DW Premium partner stations in Africa, Asia, Latin America, Near and Middle East

* DW Premium offers live crosses with DW correspondents for TV stations worldwide.

DW BROADCASTS DURING THE MSC 2019

Germany's international broadcaster DW offers independent news and information with multimedia content in 30 languages. From the MSC 2019, DW journalists reported in 13 languages for audiences worldwide. Copyright: DW
DW Premium correspondent Thomas Sparrow reports from the MSC 2019 to partner station NBS News in Uganda.

DW Premium correspondent Juliana Gonzalez reports from the MSC 2019 to partner station NTN24 in Colombia.
STAY IN TOUCH

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