

Media Analysis MSC 2020



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Michael Kuhlmann

The MSC 2020 in Figures

Overview

33 Heads of State and Government

58 Ministers of Foreign Affairs

31 Ministers of Defence

45 Heads of International Organizations

75 Leading CEOs

2,500 Official Bilateral Meetings

>100 Side Events

About this Media Analysis

PRINT MEDIA

The PRINT MEDIA section is based on the PGM 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 2020 to February 2020.

TV/RADIO

The TV/RADIO section is based on the eMedia Monitor (TV/Radio database) which includes 747 radio and 489 TV channels from 74 countries. Due to technical and copyright restrictions, the database does not include all the channels and programmes from all relevant countries.

The data collection covered the period from January 2020 to February 2020.

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS

Sources for the DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS 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 January 29 to February 28, 2020, if not otherwise stated.

Executive Summary

Overview

>1,100 accredited journalists from **61** countries

5,200 print articles

5,100 newswire reports

16,500 TV/radio reports

>470,000 total visits of the MSC website

>10.1 million impressions of posts and videos across all social media platforms

>16,000 new fans and followers

Accredited Journalists at the MSC

Overview

>1,100 accredited journalists

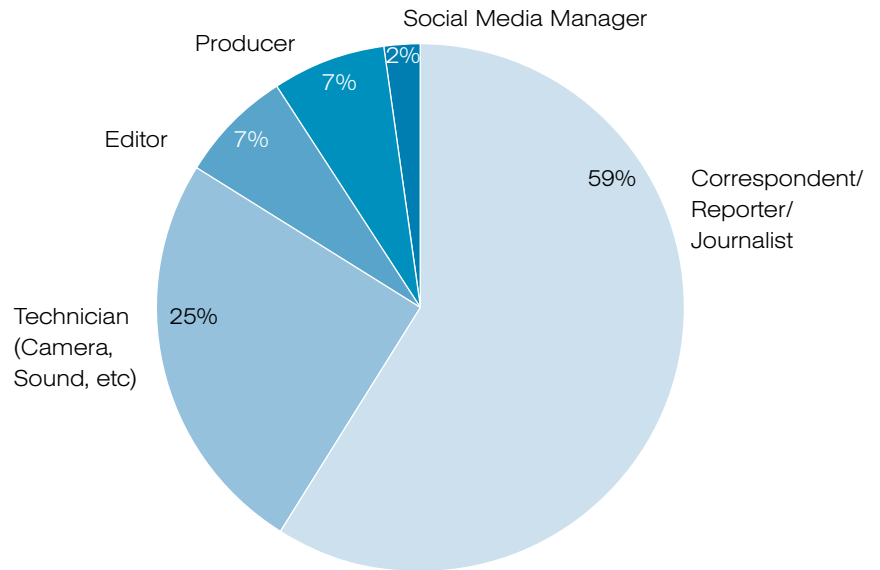
61 countries represented

360 different media outlets

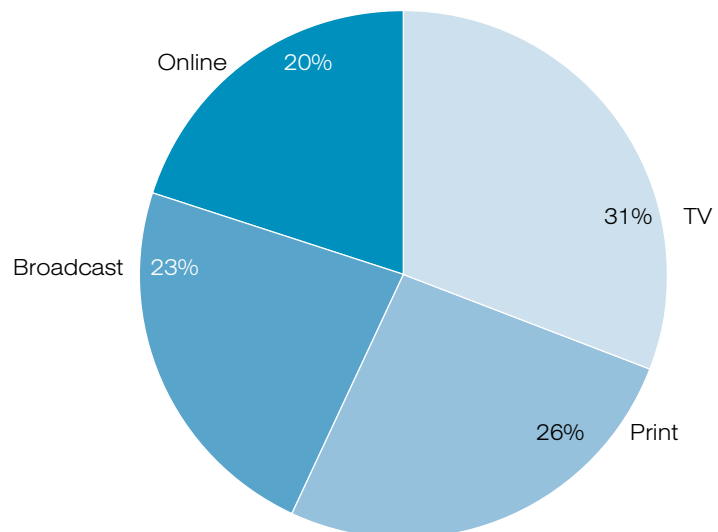
Top Countries

- 1 Germany
- 2 USA
- 3 Russia
- 4 Japan
- 5 Ukraine
- 6 Canada, UK
- 7 France
- 8 Austria
- 9 Georgia
- 10 Kazakhstan

FUNCTION



CATEGORY



Print Media

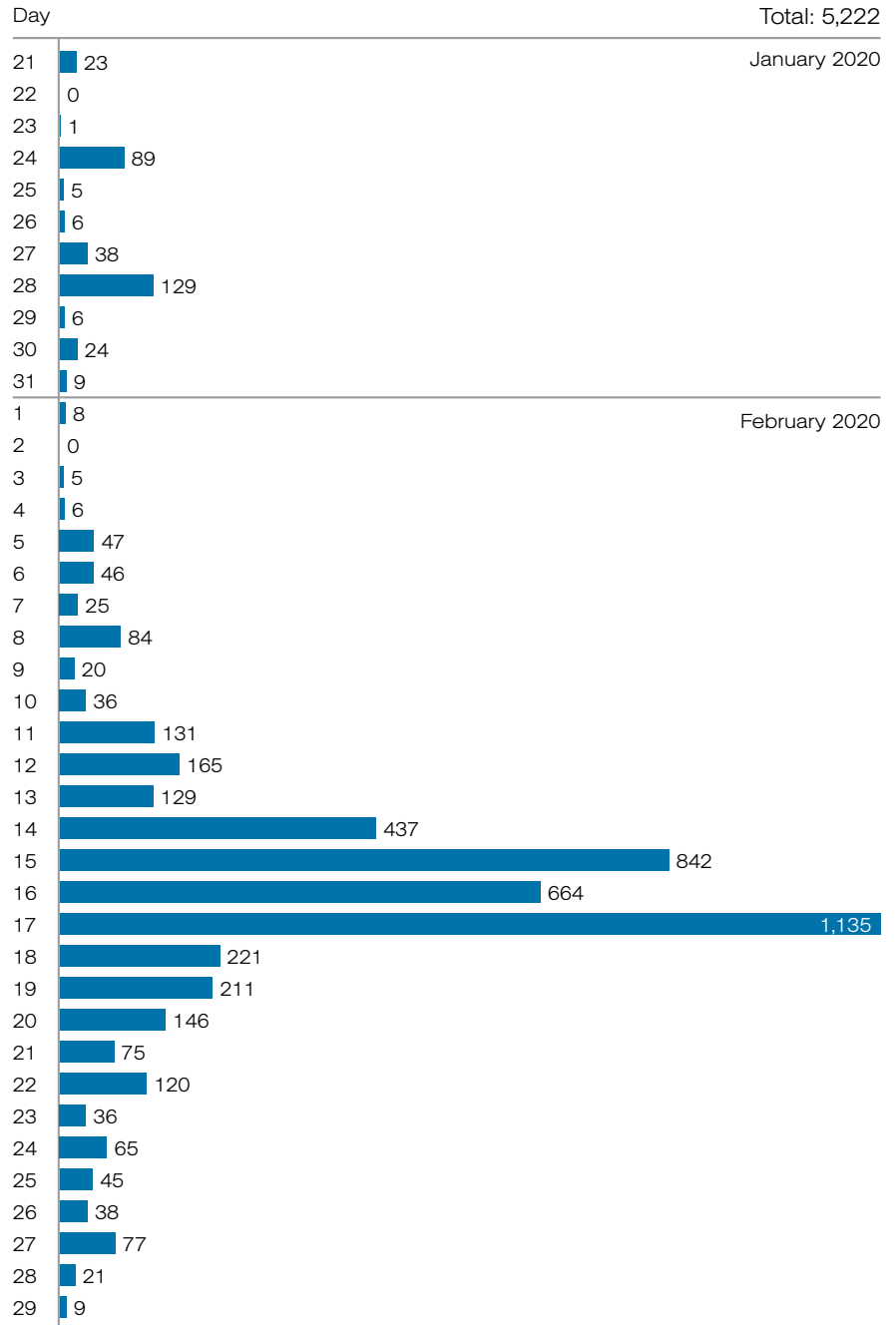
Overview

>5,200 newspaper articles

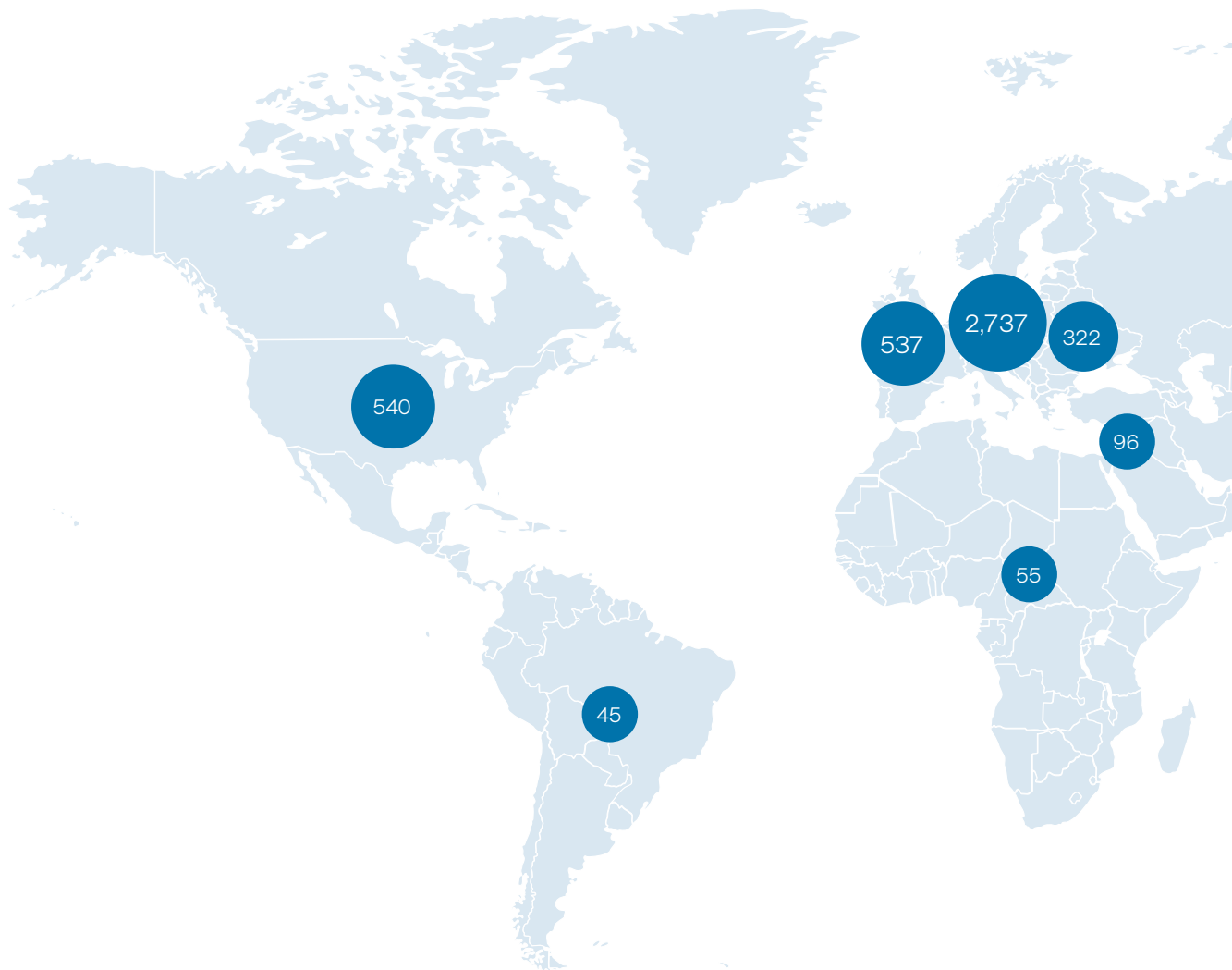
>70 million circulation of top 50 global and top 20 German newspapers reporting on MSC 2020

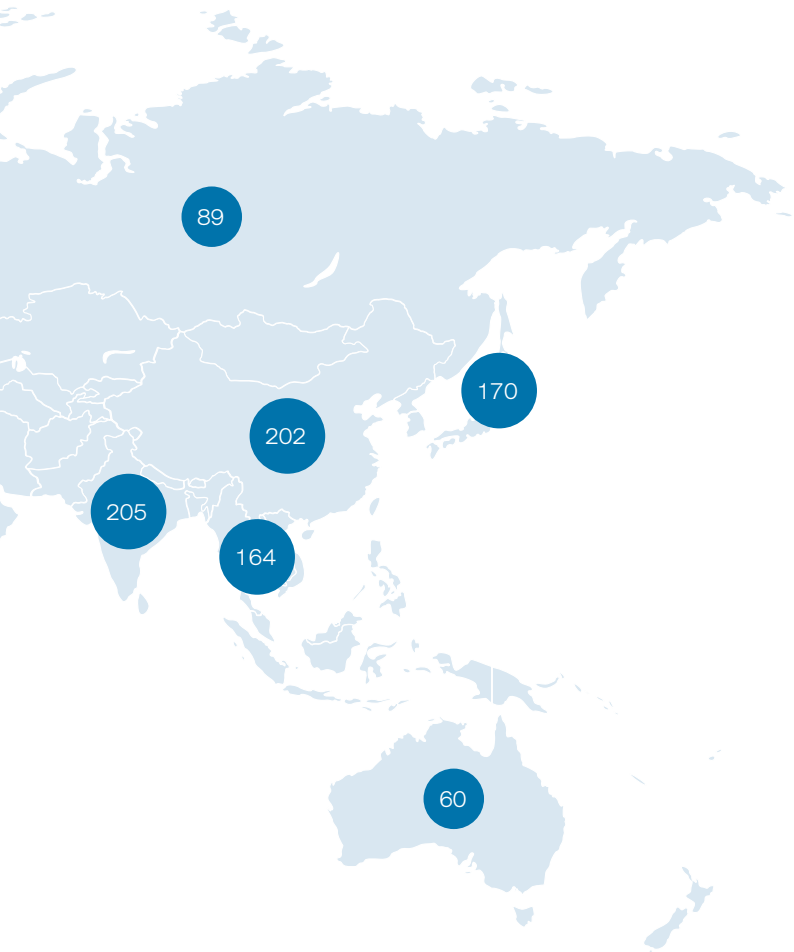
DAILY DISTRIBUTION OF PRINT MEDIA COVERAGE

(number of articles)



GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF PRINT MEDIA ARTICLES





Sample Coverage

TRUMP CAMP FINDS
NO APPEASEMENT AT
MUNICH

POLITICO

"For decades, the Munich Security Conference served as a powerful symbol of the strength of the Western alliance. The 2020 installment offered a testament to its accelerating decline. If the three-day event, which drew to a close on Sunday, illustrated anything, it was that the divergence between the U.S. and the dominant European powers — Germany and France (the U.K. was MIA) — is greater than ever. Those who thought last year's tense gathering represented a low point in the relationship left Munich this year chastened."

Matthew Karnitschnig, Politico, February 16

POMPEO SAYS 'WEST
IS WINNING.' ALLIES
BEG TO DIFFER

The New York Times

"Secretary of State Mike Pompeo appeared at an annual gathering of Western diplomats and business leaders to declare on Saturday that "the West is winning," something that would be obvious to Trump administration critics, he said, if they were only willing to accept "reality." [...] This year's conference reflected the division and unease that have plagued the NATO alliance in the era of Donald Trump and Brexit. The stated theme was "Westlessness," a sense that close allies were unmoored and uncompetitive in a world both more diverse and more autocratic."

David E. Sanger and Steven Erlanger, The New York Times, February 16

MARK ZUCKERBERG:
FACEBOOK MUST
ACCEPT SOME STATE
REGULATION

The Guardian

"Facebook must accept some form of state regulation, acknowledging its status as a content provider somewhere between a newspaper and a telephone company, its co-founder Mark Zuckerberg has said. [...] Speaking at the Munich Security Conference, an annual high-level gathering of politicians, diplomats and security specialists, Zuckerberg sought to dispel the notion that his company had undermined democracy, weakened the social fabric or contributed to the weakening of the west through spreading distrust. He said he supported state regulations in four fields covering elections, political discourse, privacy and data portability. He said: 'We don't want private companies making so many decision-balancing social equities without democratic processes.'"

Patrick Wintour, The Guardian, February 16

FACE À LA CHINE, LE MONDE OCCIDENTAL SE DISLOQUE



“Il suffit parfois d’une formule choc pour libérer un virus qu’on refusait de voir. Les propos d’Emmanuel Macron sur la «mort cérébrale» de l’Otan avaient eu ce rôle de révélateur en novembre 2019. De la même manière, l’intitulé de la Conférence sur la sécurité de Munich, la «désoccidentalisation» du monde («Westlessness»), a lui aussi été un divulgateur de l’humeur géopolitique actuelle.”

Le Figaro, February 22

EUROPEANS TRY TO HAVE IT BOTH WAYS



“How solid is the West? At last weekend’s Munich Security Conference, the world’s largest gathering of security policy makers and officials, the theme was “Westlessness,” referring to the sense of disorientation that many Europeans feel in this age of America First. [...] There’s little doubt that Trump administration policies, ranging from trade wars to toughness on Iran, have tested trans-Atlantic relations to the breaking point. But to understand the growing weakness of the Western alliance, Europeans need to spend less time deploring Donald Trump and more time looking in the mirror.”

Walter Russell Mead, The Wall Street Journal, February 18

MY TAKE-AWAYS FROM 2020 MUNICH SECURITY CONFERENCE



“Originating amid the Cold War more than five decades ago, the MSC’s founding mission was to coordinate Western stances. After the Cold War, it broadened its horizons and began to pay attention to broader hot spot issues in international security, and its participants have hence expanded from just trans-Atlantic countries to the Middle East and Asia. In recent years, sensitive to the changing international power structure, the MSC has begun to consider how the West should adjust itself and cope with the new landscape. “Westlessness” as this year’s theme has taken the retrospection in the European strategic circles to a new height.”

Fu Ying, China Daily, February 24

[illegible]

SEE ADDITIONAL CONTENT ONLINE
FOCUS

Zwei Weltbürger
Bundespräsident Frank-Walter Steinmeier freut sich über das Wiedersehen mit Ex-UN-Generalsekretär Ban Ki-Moon



US-Gäste Demokratin Nancy Pelosi, Speaker des Repräsentantenhauses, mit Cindy McCain. Wie zuvor Senator John McCain

Denken und trinken

Mitte Februar jedes Jahres versuchen die Münchner, das Zentrum der bayerischen Hauptstadt zu meiden: Dann wimmelt es dort von Polizisten, Bodyguards und anderen Sicherheitskräften. Die Straßen rund um das Traditionshotel „Bayerischer Hof“ sind gesperrt; es ist kein Durchkommen. Zu diesem Zeitpunkt treffen sich dort rund 450 Staats- und Regierungschefs aus der ganzen Welt, Minister, Thinktanks, Industrielle und Journalisten zur Sicherheitskonferenz. Das Forum ist mittlerweile zum wichtigsten globalen Debatteforum für Sicherheits- und Außenpolitik geworden. In diesem Jahr fand es zum 56. Mal statt. Mittags und abends beginnt das Networking außerhalb des Hotels. Zum Beispiel wie in diesem Jahr „Bild“-Dinner im „Espey Restaurant“ oder beim traditionellen, von 1966 gegründeten „Fuss in die Freizeut“-Käfer-Schäufelei.

Auf ein Glas Unternehmenserfolg: Georg Schaeffler und Linder Aufsichtsratschef Wolfgang Reitzle.

A close-up view of a formal dinner table. The table is set with white linens, glassware, and plates. A person's arm and hand are visible on the left side of the frame, reaching towards the table. The background is slightly blurred, showing other people seated at the table.



Fotosession Ein Selfie mit Kanadas Premier Justin Trudeau? Die Gelegenheit war günstig

Special Issues

THE SECURITY TIMES

The Security Times has been a media partner to the MSC for over ten years, acting as a sought-after international medium in the debate on strategic security issues. This year's issue, bearing the title "Hardball," is devoted to the challenges and threats facing the liberal world order and how it can position itself vis-à-vis China and Russia, among others. Further topics include the peace process in Libya, future security policy routes for the EU and NATO, and the ongoing crisis in the Middle East.

Among the variety of authors drawn from the international security policy community, German Foreign Minister [Heiko Maas](#) argued that Germany and the EU provided an important impetus for peace at the recent Libya Conference in Berlin. Berlin-based political scientist [Herfried Münkler](#) explored what will happen if the United States fails as a global leader. [Ian Bremmer](#), president of the US-based Eurasia Group think tank, analyzed how Russia has succeeded in gaining influence on the international stage. German journalist and Middle East expert [Yassin Musharbash](#) cautioned us against thinking that the fight against the Islamic State is over. And terrorism researcher [Peter Neumann](#) discussed how the West should deal with returning IS fighters.

The Security Times is published by Berlin-based Times Media with Theo Sommer as executive editor. The newspaper is not only available in the form of a special MSC conference edition, but is present at a number of other international MSC events throughout the year. As a controlled-circulation newspaper alongside its sister publication, The German Times, it is also sent directly to high-ranking figures in the world of foreign and security policy as well as to key institutions and companies in Germany, the US, Europe and Asia.

THE SECURITY TIMES,
FEBRUARY 2020

The Security Times

SPECIAL EDITION OF THE GERMAN TIMES FOR THE 56TH MUNICH SECURITY CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY 2020

PUBLISHER: DETLEF PRINZ / EXECUTIVE EDITOR: THEO SOMMER

MUNICH, GERMANY



A global order in flux Western abdication

We must re-address arms control

Europe and the US have failed in Syria

LETTER FROM THE PUBLISHER

As longtime publisher of The Security Times, I'm honored to welcome you back to Munich for the MSC. This year's issue is perhaps our most vital yet.

Wolfgang Ischinger, CEO of the MSC, and Germany's Foreign Minister **Heiko Maas** kick off our commentary on pages 2 and 3 with their analyses of the upcoming foreign policy season.

On pages 4 and 5, Harvard scholar **Graham Allison** and **Joseph Nye** square off on the West's game plan vis-à-vis China. Shore up the defensive line or focus more on soft power?

Is Russia a formidable foe or should the US and Europe give-and-take with Moscow and tackle the world's toughest problems as one team? The international line-up of **Ian Bremmer**, **Dimitri Trelin** and **Sylvie Kauttmann** takes the floor on pages 12 and 13.

Is peace possible? The Security Times special teams examine the state of play in Ukraine, the Middle East, Libya, Yemen and Afghanistan on pages 17 to 21.

And finally, some crunch-time heroics by **Ivan Krastev** on the big league prospects of Europe (p. 29) and **Jessica T. Matthews** on the US defense budget (p. 35).

I hope you enjoy our paper, and may reading it enrich your debates on the pressing issues of our time.

Sincerely,

Detlef Prinz
Publisher

BY THEO SOMMER

When the history of these times is written, it may well be that the headlines of the day – Iraq and the controversies it has aroused – will pale in comparison to other international upheavals of our period. The center of gravity of world affairs is moving to the Pacific, and almost all major actors on the international stage are defining new roles for themselves.

You may not believe it. This is not a current assessment, but a quote from a Washington Post article Henry Kissinger wrote back in 2004. If you add Iraq to Iraq's 1990s, it has been written yesterday, Kissinger mentioned all the problems that bedevil us nowadays: the structural entanglement of America from Europe, European doubts about the reliability of the United States as a strategic partner, Russia's post-imperial trauma, China's emergence as a great power, and the break-up of the international system. The title of Kissinger's top-of-the-piece was "A World in Flux" and its central argument: "The global scene is more fluid than it has been for centuries."

In fact, we are witnessing the third dramatic geopolitical, geostrategic and geo-economic upheaval in the past few hundred years. The first was the rise of Europe around the year 1500, the second, beginning around 1900, turned the United States into the global superpower of the 20th century, the third is the shift of power and wealth to Asia, with China pushing aggressively even aggressively forward, and striving to put its stamp on a world undergoing profound change.

The relentless ascent of China has great political, economic and military ramifications. Equally disquieting, however, is the ideological aspect. Beijing offers all authoritarianism in the world an alternative model to the democratic capitalism of the West – autocratic capitalism. The American-led multilateral system that exhibited global relations since 1945 is gradually being replaced by "one world, two systems" – one set of rules and norms for the liberal West, another for authoritarian China and its global devotees.

It is a sad story that US President Donald Trump has been actively undercutting the "one world, two systems" order: the US called Iran being off the end of World War II. He is a sharp-edged realist and an unabashed protectionist. His foreign policy – and it is, in the end, a policy of collective defense and control – is not on the parade of broader interests but rather on "America First" – it is erratic, to say the least. Trade deficits and narrow focus on

protection of balance of power, fostering alliances and creating networks, America's surge from one triumph to another, from potential intervention to retreat began before Trump, but his autocratic baggage has turned an overall adaptation into an instrument of disruption.

In the end of a breeding decade, the role of the West must be rethought not only with a fidele US president but also with a rising China, a resurgent Russia, ongoing cross-border terrorism, instability and chaos in the Middle East. Despite Trump's skepticism, the unswerving support of America's military establishment has empowered NATO to continue functioning smoothly, yet without a political strategy, let alone vision. French President Emmanuel Macron's declaration that the alliance was suffering "brain death" has caused NATO Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg to begin a thorough review process. It is supposed to devise a snap-to-date grand strategy for NATO to confront the new realities of the 21st century.

One central question is whether the danger of armed conflict is again on the rise. The realist's answer is: It will remain a threat, but an unlikely one. All powers will wish to avoid all-out war. They don't want to fight. Instead, they will pursue disruptive strategies: hacking, meddling in each other's internal affairs and orchestrating disinformation campaigns. The danger, though, is that miscalculation and the logic of escalation will turn minor clashes into regional configurations.

And transnational issues, especially climate change, mass migration and nuclear proliferation, may create quite novel security problems.

Looking at the international landscape, one cannot fail to notice a number of constancies. **Constatium number one:** Trump has boosted US defense expenditures to unprecedented heights – \$780 billion in 2020. He increased the number of troops in Europe as well as in the Middle East. But, basically, he does not want to fight wars any more; he wants to bring the GIs home. His way of fighting is with economic leverage. He has weaponized the two dominant phenomena of our times – globalization and digitalization. He has exploited economic interdependence in his rivalry with China and in the confrontation with Iran. He has weaponized the relationship with European and Asian allies. Simultaneously, he has pressed about with the securitization of microchips, semiconductors and software. The campaign against Huawei, also focusing on the Chinese, is an alliance, is the most egregious case in point.

continued on page 10

BY KRISTIN HELBERG

After almost nine years of civil war, the crisis in and around Syria has not been resolved. Nonetheless, it is clear who the winners and losers in the conflict are. Among the winners are the Syrian regime, Russia, Iran and even Turkey, to a certain extent. These countries have always known what they wanted, have proven ready to do anything to get what they want, and have been able to adapt their strategies to the dynamics of the war. Among the losers are the United States and Europe, who championed the defense of Syrian citizens for a life of freedom and dignity but did so in a half-hearted manner and without any tangible plan.

As this gap between its words and deeds grew, the West gambled away its credibility. With its system of international agreements, moral principles and democratically legitimized institutions, the West proved capable neither of helping the Syrian nor of ending the war. The reality we must now face in the case of the Syrian conflict is that: **liberal democracy has failed, and autocracy has triumphed.** This outcome is destined to have far-reaching consequences for Syria, the Middle East, Europe and the world.

Syrian president Bashar al-Assad remains in power and is set to regain control of the entire country in the coming months. In fact, he will be the force of arms, and in the northeast, he will do so by means of a gradual takeover of Kurdish self-defense groups. In other words, the current state of affairs in Syria is as it always was, only worse.

Assad's reign hinges on loyalty to the regime, which he secures through a system of clientelism and co-optation by means of fear. This results in his two strongest pillars of support coming from wealthy businessmen and a far-reaching intelligence apparatus. Simply put, those who support the regime are rewarded, and those who report it are punished.

The country's security forces are more powerful than ever. Local militias are involved in a variety of illicit activities, which include bribery, blackmail, theft and threatening or kidnapping citizens. In the years before the war, Syria was subject to the deposition of the state, alone today, they are the mercy of neo-state and foreign actors as well.

Syria's pseudo-socialist, neo-capitalist economic system has engendered a system of entrepreneurs and regime representatives. More specifically, the liberalization driven by Assad paired with the war economy of the past few years has created a merger of wealth and political power structures. Crony capitalists legal

to the regime benefit from the privatization of public property, from smuggling and from monopolies in the service sector. In other words, power and money are bound to each other in modern Syria. This fact should be borne in mind when it comes to handing out humanitarian aid and supporting reconstruction efforts there.

While entire regions of Syria remain in ruins, the Syrian pound continues to lose value and UN figures show more than 80 percent of Syrians living in poverty, the Assad regime continues to focus exclusively on its followers and supporters in an effort to further secure its power. In the case of Aleppo, UN funds are not directed toward the most devastated residential areas in the east of the city, which used to be inhabited by opposition forces. Instead, the money is flowing to areas populated by those loyal to the regime.

In the south of Damascus, in an area marked by the ruins of bombed-out middle-class and working-class neighborhoods, the city administration is building luxury resorts rather than social housing. Former residents are being expelled and/or compensated at ridiculously low costs by the government.

This kind of activity amounts to undue influence because the behavior itself guarantees the survival of Syria's rulers, the dozens of bribes under the regime's thumb, the city administration and the private sector form a close-knit network of interdependencies. Any concessions – such as depriving the secret services of power and ushering in freedom of expression, freedom of the press and an independent judiciary – would result in a system fall that would threaten the survival of the rulers in Damascus. By its very nature, the Syrian regime itself is incapable of initiating effective reforms.

This is an important insight for foreign actors seeking an effective approach to negotiations with Damascus. Since 2012, the US and Europe have tried to achieve a "credible political transition" in Syria that includes a transfer of power to a civilian government, a new constitution and democratic elections as the mercy of neo-state and foreign actors as well.

continued on page 8

SÜDDEUTSCHE ZEITUNG

Süddeutsche Zeitung traditionally publishes a special insert on security issues ahead of the Munich Security Conference. The six-page journal included in the SZ was made available at the MSC. The edition provided in-depth background research and commentary on the primary themes around this year's conference.

In the special issue, Chief of the Foreign Desk [Stefan Kornelius](#) discusses why strong-man rhetoric and an authoritarian political style are thriving while traditional diplomacy of the West rings increasingly hollow. Parliamentary correspondent [Daniel Brössler](#) comments on the stagnation of the German promise for more involvement in the security arena since the "Munich Consensus" in 2014. In an interview, Foreign Minister [Heiko Maas](#) responds to the scepticism by putting forth Germany's aims in Syria and Libya. Further articles discuss the military, digital and economical tendencies that define the near future of defence.

Süddeutsche Zeitung is one of Germany's leading daily newspapers with 394,000 readers per print issue, 74,000 digital subscriptions and an overall coverage of 1.2 million.

INTER- NATIONALE POLITIK

Internationale Politik is Germany's leading foreign policy journal. The IP is published bimonthly by the German Council on Foreign Relations (DGAP) with a print run of around 6,000 copies. It is aimed at those who are deeply interested in foreign and security policy as well as in its repercussions on politics, business, science and the media. The issue's main part, titled "Frenemies" ("Ziemlich beste Feinde") was created in collaboration with the Munich Security Conference team.

The cover stories were answering the central question of this issue: How to describe the tense state we live in? The magazine included DGAP'S [Daniela Schwarzer](#) with an analysis about geoeconomics, [Wolfgang Ischinger](#) contributing "Three questions, three answers" and a rare interview with US senator [Tom Cotton](#). IP was happy to have excellent inputs from [Jana Puglierin](#) (ECFR), [Jörg Lau](#) (Die Zeit), [Kenneth Roth](#) (Human Rights Watch), [Guido Steinberg](#) (SWP), [Christoph Reuter](#) (Der Spiegel), [Tyson Barker](#) (Aspen Institute Germany) and many more.

As of 2018, Internationale Politik has been a media partner of the Munich Security Conference and reported directly from the MSC via its website and DGAP's social media accounts together with its English-language sister magazine, the Berlin Policy Journal.

INTERNATIONALE
POLITIK,
JANUARY/FEBRUARY



News Agencies

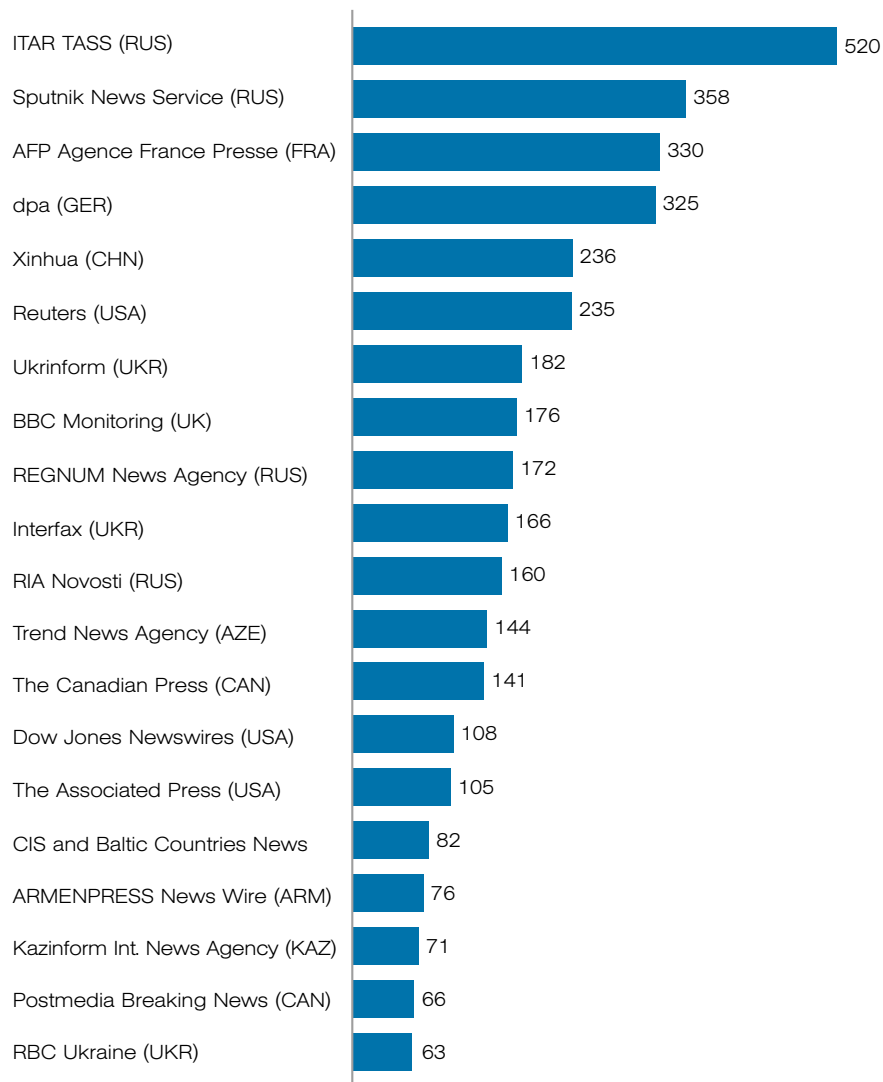
Overview

5,100 reports

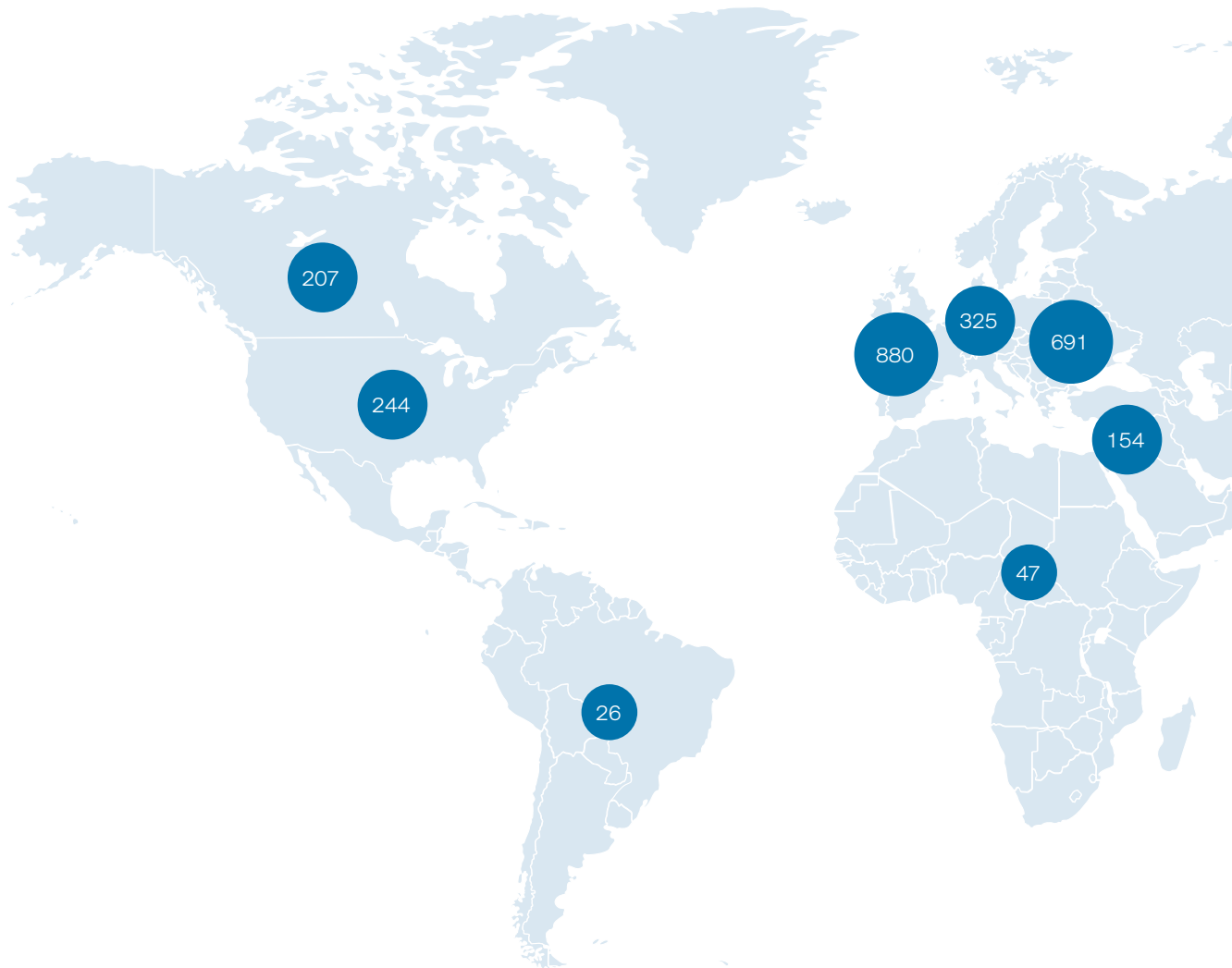
75 news agencies reporting

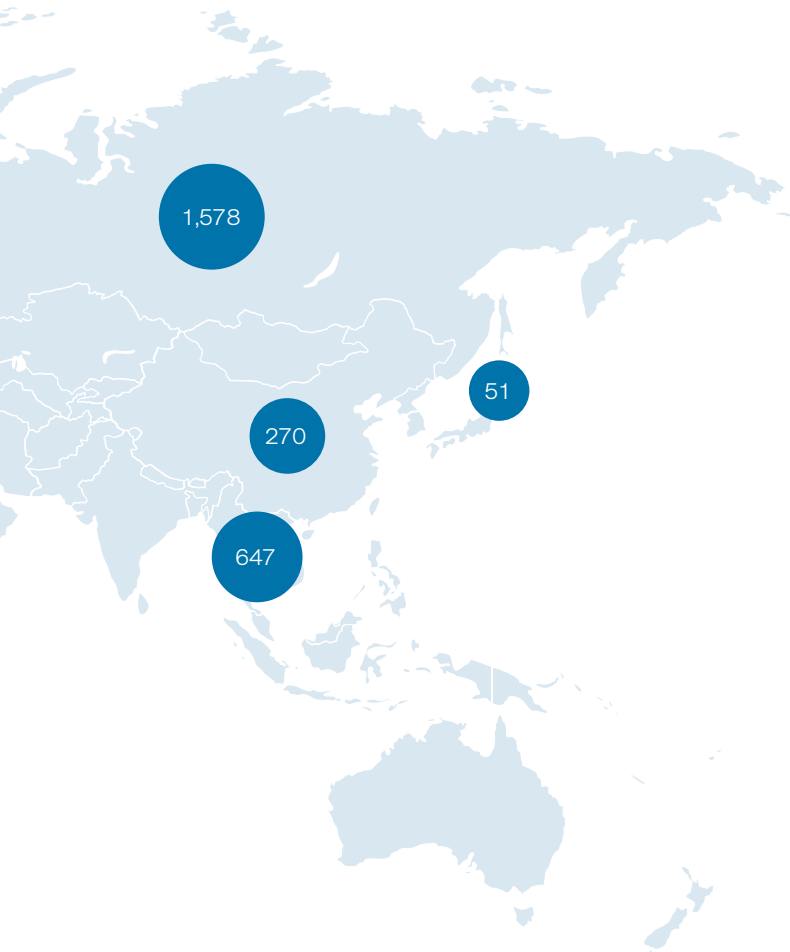
MOST ACTIVE AGENCIES

(number of articles)



GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF ARTICLES BY NEWS AGENCIES





TV

Overview

>4,600 reports

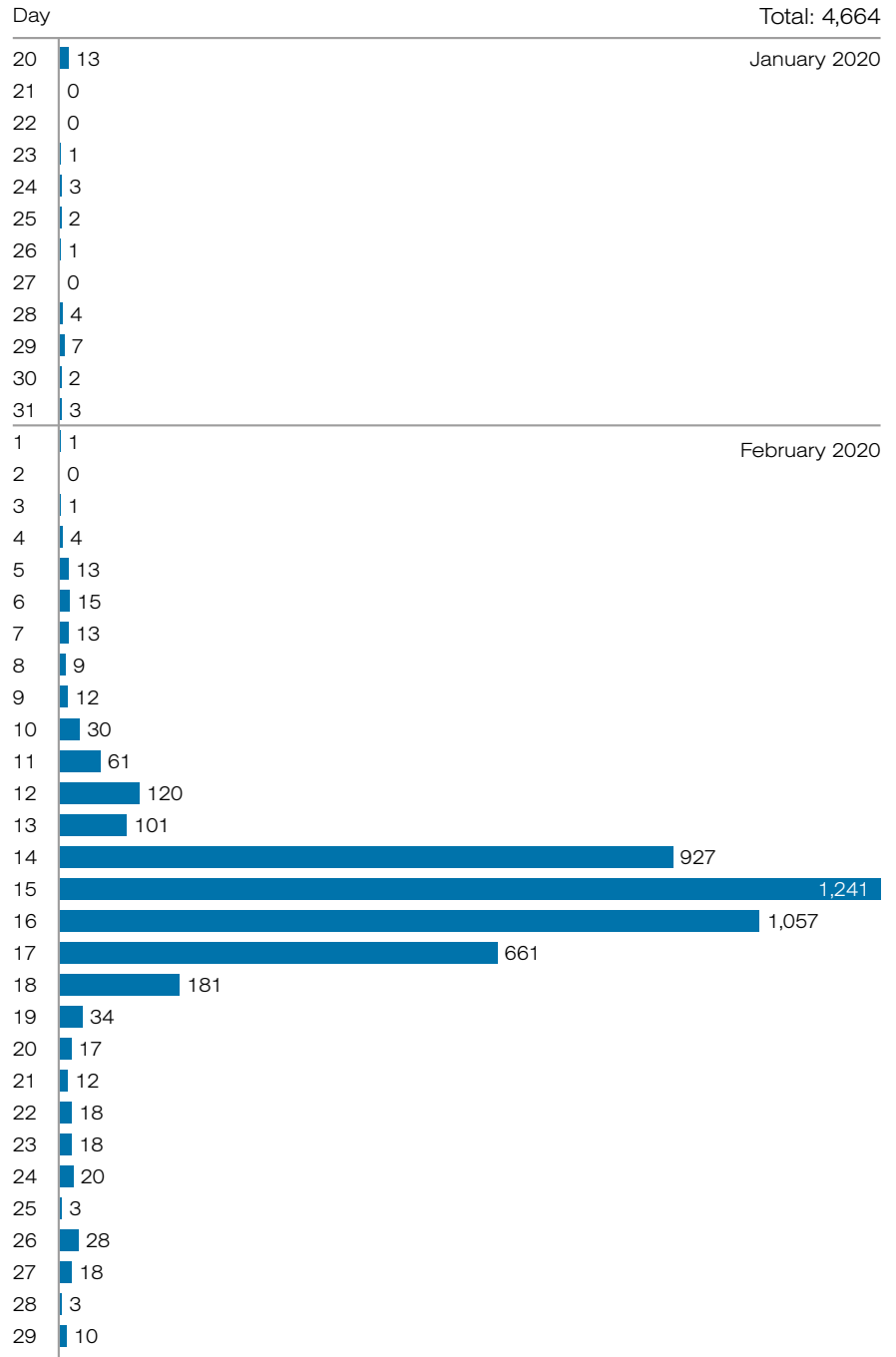
143 channels

SELECTED TV COVERAGE



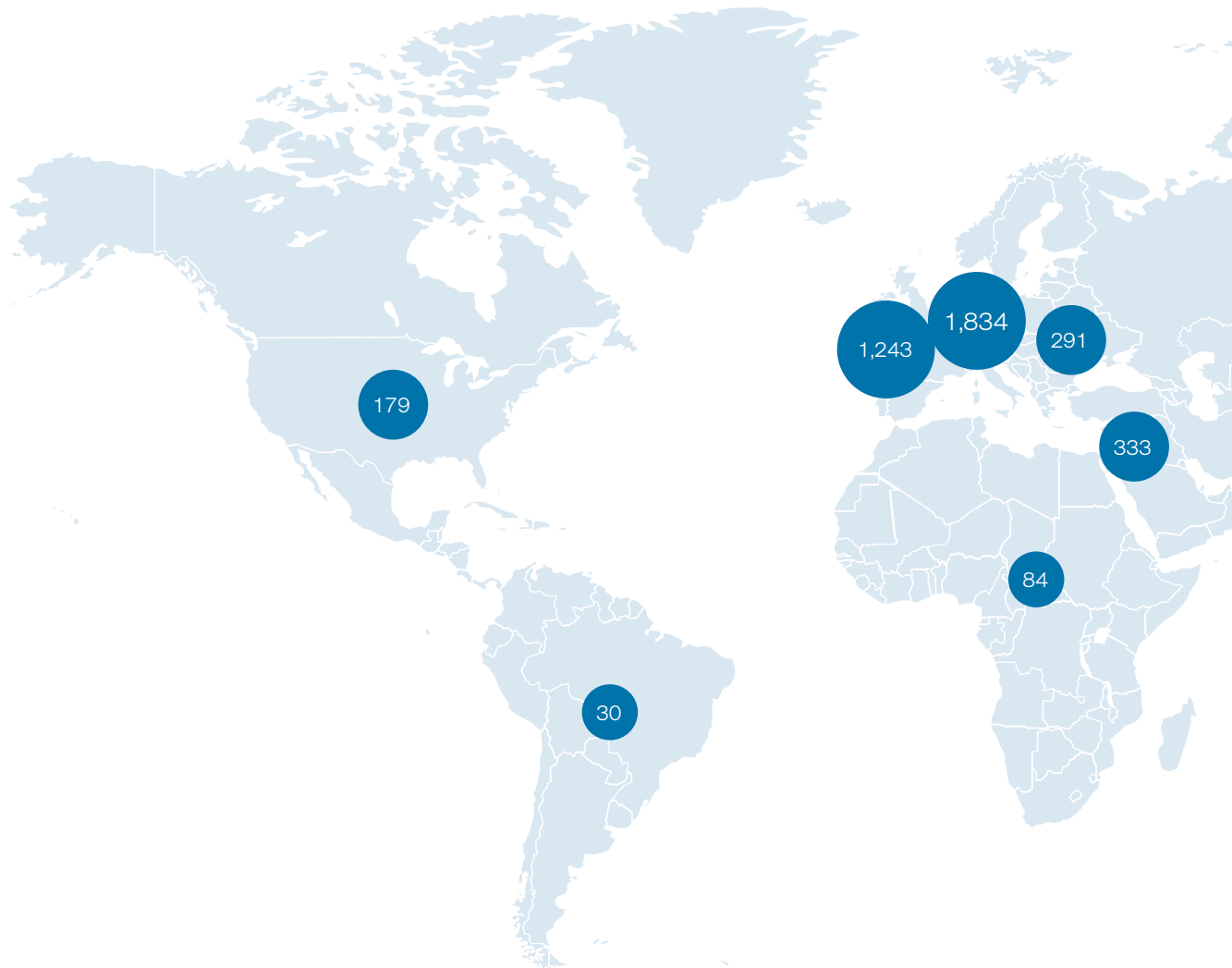
DAILY DISTRIBUTION OF TV BROADCASTS

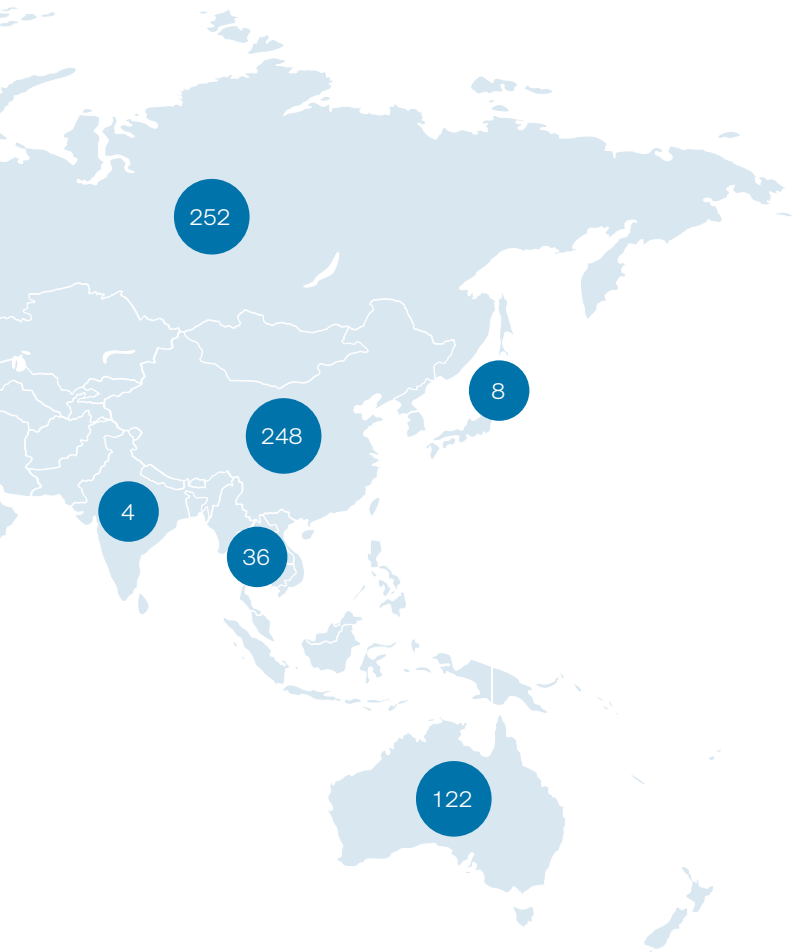
(number of broadcasts)



GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF TV BROADCASTS

(total: 4,664)





MSC Media Partnership with Deutsche Welle



Overview

15 language programs for worldwide audiences

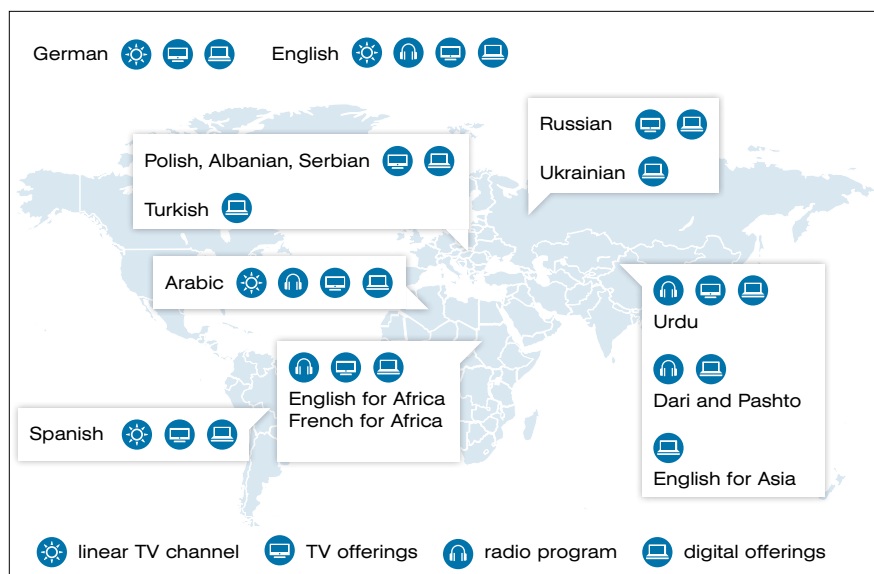
7 hours of coverage across **50** English TV news bulletins for global viewers

35 live broadcasts of DW Premium News in 9 countries*

10 DW Premium News partner stations in Uganda, Tanzania, Ghana, Mexico, Colombia, Chile, Australia, Vietnam and Yemen

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

DW BROADCASTS DURING THE MSC 2020



DW LIVE BROADCAST DURING THE MSC 2020



DW Premium News Correspondent Thomas Sparrow reports from the MSC 2020 to partner station Joy News in Ghana.



The interview with the Sudanese Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok was published on ten different DW platforms. It generated over 240,000 views on social media alone.

Radio

Overview

>11,900 reports

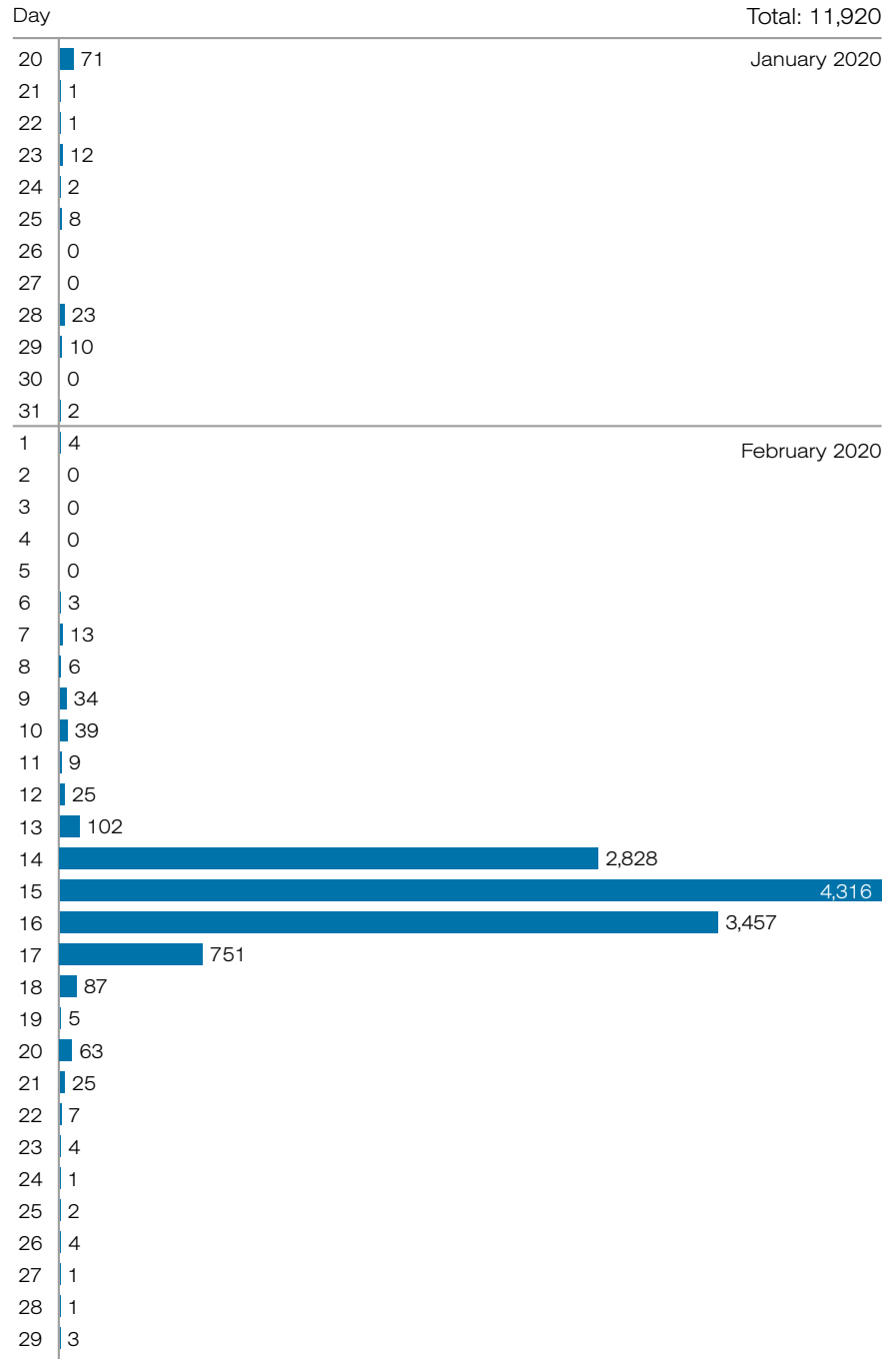
268 channels



(Credit: Kuhlmann / MSC)

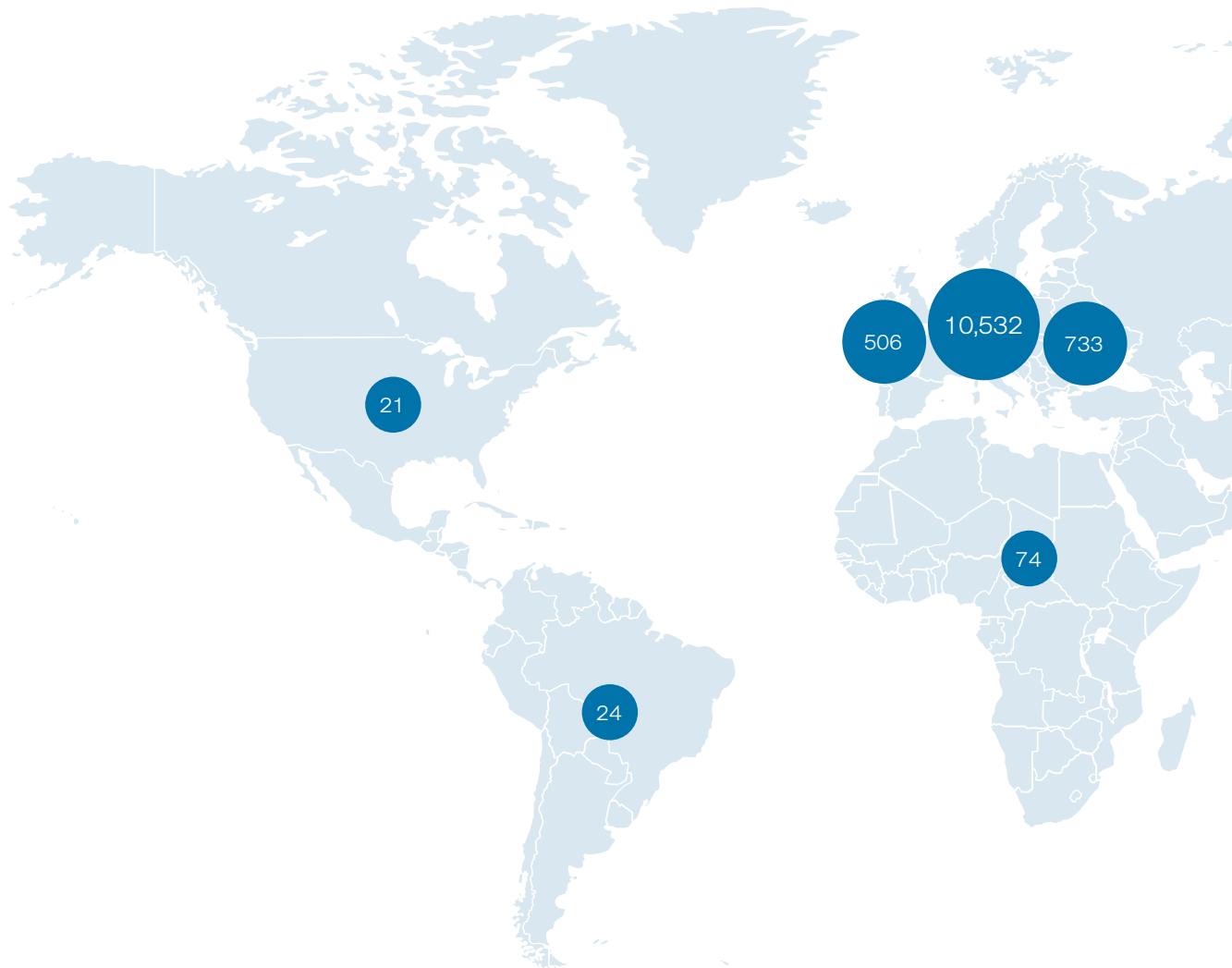
DAILY DISTRIBUTION OF RADIO BROADCASTS

(number of broadcasts)



GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION OF RADIO BROADCASTS

(total: 11,920)





Munich Security Report 2020

Overview

5,000 copies circulated

82 mentions in publications, web posts, blogs

> 15,000 downloads within two weeks of publication

The Munich Security Report is published every year as a conversation starter and background reading for the annual Munich Security Conference. It compiles data, analyses, and maps that illustrate major developments in and critical challenges to international security. The report is also made available to security professionals and decision-makers, media outlets, academia, and the general public around the globe. The 2020 edition was downloaded more than 15,000 times within two weeks of publication, with selected data and analysis highlights featured widely in German and international media, including in Die Welt, Süddeutsche Zeitung, Der Tagesspiegel, Handelsblatt, Deutsche Welle, Politico, Defense News, New Statesman, and others.

Titled “Westlessness,” the Munich Security Report 2020 discusses what some describe as the decay of the Western project, which is contested both from within and from without. The report highlights the role of selected key actors – the United States, China, Russia, and Europe – and explores their role against the backdrop of a rapidly deteriorating global security environment marked by protracted conflicts, emerging security threats, and rising tensions on the international stage. Moreover, the publication assembles analyses of key regional trends, ranging from the Mediterranean to the Middle East and South Asia, as well as insights on overarching security issues such as the impact of climate change, right-wing extremism, technology, and space security.

In preparing the report, the Munich Security Conference's policy team traditionally works with some of the world's most renowned research institutions, including The International Institute for Strategic Studies, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute, Mercator Institute for China Studies, Pew Research Center, Brookings Institution, and Chicago Council on Global Affairs.



The Munich Security Report was presented to members of the press at the Federal Press Conference in Berlin on February 10.
(Credit: Kuhlmann / MSC)



Presentation of the Munich Security Report 2020 by Dr. Tobias Bunde during the MSC kick-off event at the Bavarian State Representation in Berlin on February 10.
(Credit: Kuhlmann / MSC)

MUNICH SECURITY
REPORT: ACTORS

Munich Security Report 2020

China: Meddle Kingdom

"There is no force that can shake the status of the great nation. No force can stop the Chinese people and the Chinese nation forging 'greatness' in advance."
1 OCTOBER 2019

With the 70th anniversary of the People's Republic, 2019 was a both momentous and challenging year for China's leadership. The anniversary festivities on 1 October gave President Xi opportunity to fault China's continuing rise towards normative, economic, and military power on par with the West. The cabinet released a white paper in July 2019 denouncing "growing hegemonism, power politics, unilateralism" and provocations in China's neighborhood by the United States – with the clear message China is prepared to push back. In the same spirit, Beijing is continuously developing capabilities to project its power in the Asia-Pacific. It has upgraded outposts in the South China Sea, is constructing a third aircraft carrier, and has developed a "forward" sea-based nuclear deterrent and ballistic missiles that could target the US base on Guam.³⁰ These moves are also the backdrop for military posturing and hardening rhetoric toward Taiwan, with vows to take "all necessary means" to quell "separatist forces."³¹

Beyond military hardware, the leaps China is making in other technological spheres are also being felt around the world. In 2019, it completed prestigious spacefaring projects and cemented itself as a pioneering space power.³² Looming Chinese superiority in foundational emerging technologies like artificial intelligence, quantum computing, and connectivity technology has caused consternation in the West – and particularly in the case of 5G, an intense debate over how to balance above economic ties with China against growing security concerns.³³ Meanwhile, Beijing is steadily exporting surveillance technology and "know-how" in the field of internet regulation.³⁴ The growing concern is that the future holds a technological segregation of the world into those countries operating on Western techniques and norms and those running on Chinese ones.³⁵

"Far too many American multinational corporations have kowtowed to the lure of China's money and markets by muzzling not only criticism of the Chinese Communist Party, but even affirmative expressions of American values."
WAF FENCE
24 OCTOBER 2019

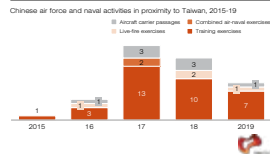
Internally too, China's leadership – and Xi in particular – is tightening its grip. To date, Xi's anti-corruption purge has targeted 27 million party officials.³⁶ The party is also increasingly renewing faith in Xi's economic, for instance by strengthening party committees within enterprises.³⁷ But these moves do not come without cost. Resistance to Xi's centralization of power is reportedly growing.³⁸ China's economic growth hit a 30-year low in 2019, struggling to stay afloat of rising debt levels and demographic change.³⁹ If growth suffers under the new political rigidity, this destabilization may be compounded. In Hong Kong, the backlash⁴⁰ against a Beijing power grab is already boiling over. The Chinese reaction to the protected and incendiary protests has come under scrutiny from abroad, but foreign governments have been largely noncommittal. A growing list of interventions – from manufacturing international praise for the mass statement of Chinese legislators to entirely jailing Canadians in retribution for Canada arresting a Huawei executive, or censuring the US National Basketball Association⁴¹ – has shown countries how far China will go to stifle criticism not only at home but also abroad. Beijing faces a steep challenge if it wants to square domestic repression, shows of military force, and heightening nationalism with its narrative of China's "peaceful rise" for international audiences.

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Munich Security Report 2020

CHINA'S CAPABILITIES
FOR ANTI-ACCESS/
AREA DENIAL (A2AD) IN
THE EAST AND SOUTH
CHINA SEAS

Source: Munich Security Conference, based on The Economist and Center for Strategic and Budgetary Assessments (CSBA).⁴²

CHINESE MILITARY
POSTURING IN THE
WATERS AROUND
TAIWAN

Source: Munkia Institute for China Studies (MICS).⁴³

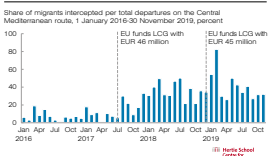
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MUNICH SECURITY
REPORT: REGIONS

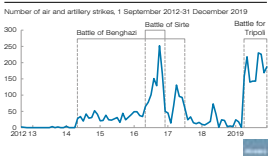
Munich Security Report 2020

MIGRATION ACROSS
THE MEDITERRANEAN
SEA SINCE 2015

Source: International Organization for Migration (IOM), Missing Migrants Project.⁴⁴

MIGRANT
INTERCEPTIONS BY
THE LIBYAN COAST
GUARD (LCG)

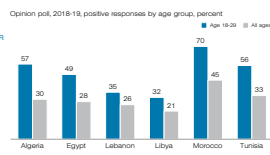
Source: Centre for International Security, Heri School.⁴⁵

AIR AND ARTILLERY
STRIKES IN LIBYA BY
ALL PARTIES

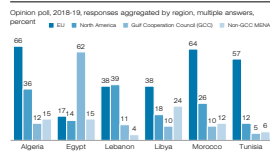
Source: Al Jazeera.⁴⁶

44

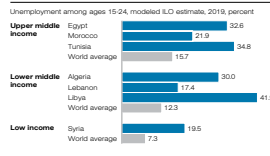
Munich Security Report 2020

WHAT CITIZENS IN
SELECTED NORTH
AFRICAN COUNTRIES
THINK: HAVE YOU EVER
THOUGHT ABOUT
EMIGRATING?

Source: Arab Barometer.⁴⁷

WHAT CITIZENS IN
SELECTED NORTH
AFRICAN COUNTRIES
THINK: WHICH
COUNTRY WERE YOU
THINKING OF
EMIGRATING TO?

Source: Arab Barometer.⁴⁸

YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT
IN SELECTED
ARAB SPRING
COUNTRIES

Source: The World Bank, International Labour Organisation (ILO).⁴⁹

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POLITICO (USA), FEBRUARY 6

News

February 6, 2020 Page 12

Alibaba

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

In addition, plans are underway to transform the area around Liège airport into a bigger logistics and warehouse hub. But first, the airport needs to demolish government subsidized roads and water, drainage and electricity infrastructure to make way for Alibaba's warehouses.

But the Alibaba deal was many years in the making. In an effort to attract Chinese investment, the Belgian government pulled out all the stops, sending no fewer than 600 delegates to China last November for a visit to Alibaba's Shanghai offices.

Princess Astrid, the Belgian king's sister, and then Foreign Minister Didier Reynders were among the attendees. Even King Philippe, who visited China in 2018, was last year photographed shaking hands with Alibaba's former CEO Jack Ma at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

Both sides are touting the Liège deal as an example of the benefits of China-EU ties.

When the expansion is completed in 2021, it's expected to create potentially thousands of jobs thanks to increased economic activity, in addition to the 900 jobs at the airport.

That's a major boon for a region that has been struggling to recover from the collapse of heavy industry starting in the 1960s, and where the unemployment rate – which hit 24.4 percent in 2016, according to the forum job center – is higher than in other parts of French-speaking Belgium.

Michel Kempenaers of Aves, the Walloon export and foreign invest-



Jack Ma poses for a photo with King Philippe of Belgium.

ment agency, estimates that the deal with Alibaba will bring in around €300 million in the long term.

BIGGER THAN FRANKFURT?

But the Watching Alibaba contingent still isn't satisfied. On one hand, protesters are concerned about the quality of jobs that Alibaba is bringing in, wary of reports about tough working conditions at Amazon fulfillment centers.

On the other, they warn in particular about the environmental impact of Alibaba's arrival in Liège – echoing calls across Europe and among EU lawmakers to give much greater scrutiny to the environmental impact of home-delivery services.

"We don't want Alibaba, Amazon or any other e-commerce here. They are incompatible with the fight against global warming," added Schreier said.

There is no doubt that Alibaba is about to have a powerful transformative effect on Liège.

In 2020, the city's airport transported 902,480 tons of goods. This figure will grow exponentially after Alibaba's logistics hub is up and running, partly thanks to the fact that Liège is one of the few airports in Europe that operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. It is only a matter of time until it will surpass Europe's largest cargo airports: in 2018, Frankfurt airport processed over 2 million tons of cargo, and Paris' Charles de Gaulle 1.6 million tons.

To deal with the increased activity, the airport is going on a hiring spree. Customs have already hired 50 more staff to deal with the influx of packages in Liège, and they plan to hire 50 more for a total of 200 staff. But even with more manpower, the sheer volume of packages is over-

whelming for customs to deal with. In 2018, Belgian customs processed 9 million packages. After the country signed the deal with Alibaba, that number rose to 360 million packages. Customs are looking at how technology, such as artificial intelligence, could help recognize dangerous items such as poisonous toys or counterfeit medicines, according to Kristiaan Vandewaren, the administrator general of Belgian customs.

But the locals say the problem lies at the core of a business model that relies on carbon-belching trucks and planes to deliver cheap goods in record time to fickle consumers. Currently, they point out that most of the planes and trains coming in from China return empty, while most of the packages being dispatched are low value.

Under the terms of the deal agreed in 2018 with Alibaba, Belgium hopes to fill those planes with local goods. The idea is that high-quality Belgian foods, pharmaceuticals and baby products that have gone through European quality controls will be snapped up by a growing Chinese middle class.

Yet that vision of reciprocal trade has yet to materialize. And Europeans are increasingly concerned about the risk of counterfeit and dangerous items coming in from China, with a 2018 study showing that more than half of unsafe products in Europe came from the Middle Kingdom.

In response to such criticism, an executive in Alibaba's logistics arm said the firm is committed to sustainability and following EU environmental rules.

"We will continue to drive environmental sustainability by innovating and improving our technologies and processes," said Alibaba's Derek Sun.

Munich Security Conference
Münchener Sicherheitskonferenz

Munich Security Report 2020

Coming February 10, 2020

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CGTN (CHINA),
FEBRUARY 11

CGTN


Home China World Europe Politics Business Opinions Tech & Sci Culture Sports Travel Nature Picture Video Live

Europe 17:43, 11-Feb-2020

The 'Davos of global geopolitical security' ponders 'Westlessness'

By Natalie Carney in Munich

Share



U.S. Vice President Mike Pence speaks at the 2020 Munich Security Conference. (Credit: AP Photo/Nathaniel Schmalzer)

The "Davos of global geopolitical security" marks this week, and the theme is "Westlessness."

As hundreds of global leaders and decision-makers gather for the 58th Munich Security Conference this weekend, its long-standing annual report has defined Westlessness as a certain uneasiness and restlessness about the purpose and identity of the West.

As Western values and economies are contested and the global power balance shifts, many argue that important security challenges arise from the erosion of the Western project.

"There is a double phenomenon right now," said Munich Security Conference chairman Wolfgang Ischinger at the report's launch. "The first is the West is less Western, and the second is the world as a whole is less Western. What does it mean to German, European and global relations - especially to our security policies?"

This year's conference comes as more Western sanctions have been imposed on Iran and DPRK for the breakdown of sensitive nuclear deals. For the first time, Pyongyang will send a delegation to Munich, while senior officials from ROK are also expected to be present.

TOP NEWS

Vigilance against COVID-19 cannot be lowered, Xi Jinping stresses

China 01:01, 09 Feb 2020


Latest

3,015 deaths, over 80,000 cases confirmed in China

01:02, 21 Feb 2020

UN envoy urges 'immediate diplomatic solution' in Syria's Idlib

Middle East 01:06, 20 Feb 2020



Conference chairman Wolfgang Ischinger will lead the debate. (Credit: AP Photo/Nathaniel Schmalzer)

Another Asian focus this weekend will be China. The threat to global security from the novel coronavirus is also expected to be discussed.

Common understanding

"We appear to have lost a common understanding of what it even means to be part of the West," continued Ischinger. "Although perhaps the most important strategic challenge for the transatlantic partners, it appears uncertain whether the West can come up with a joint strategy for a new era of great power competition."

Ongoing topics on the agenda include climate security, the strength of NATO, ongoing protest across the Middle East and relations with Israel.

Annually, the gathering sees speakers of 500 high-level international decision-makers, including dozens of state heads and other influential government ministers from foreign, domestic and defense ministries.

This year, French President Emmanuel Macron, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky will make their first appearance at the security conference, as will Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg. This will be the third Munich Security Conference for China's foreign minister Wang Yi.

Business, academic and civil societies will also be present to add to the discussions at Munich's Bayerischer Hof hotel.

Remember to sign up to Global Business Daily here to get our top headlines direct to your inbox every weekday

Digital Communications

Overview

485 posts by MSC across all platforms

232 tweets by MSC

>16,000 new fans and followers /
increase compared to 2019: **+7%**

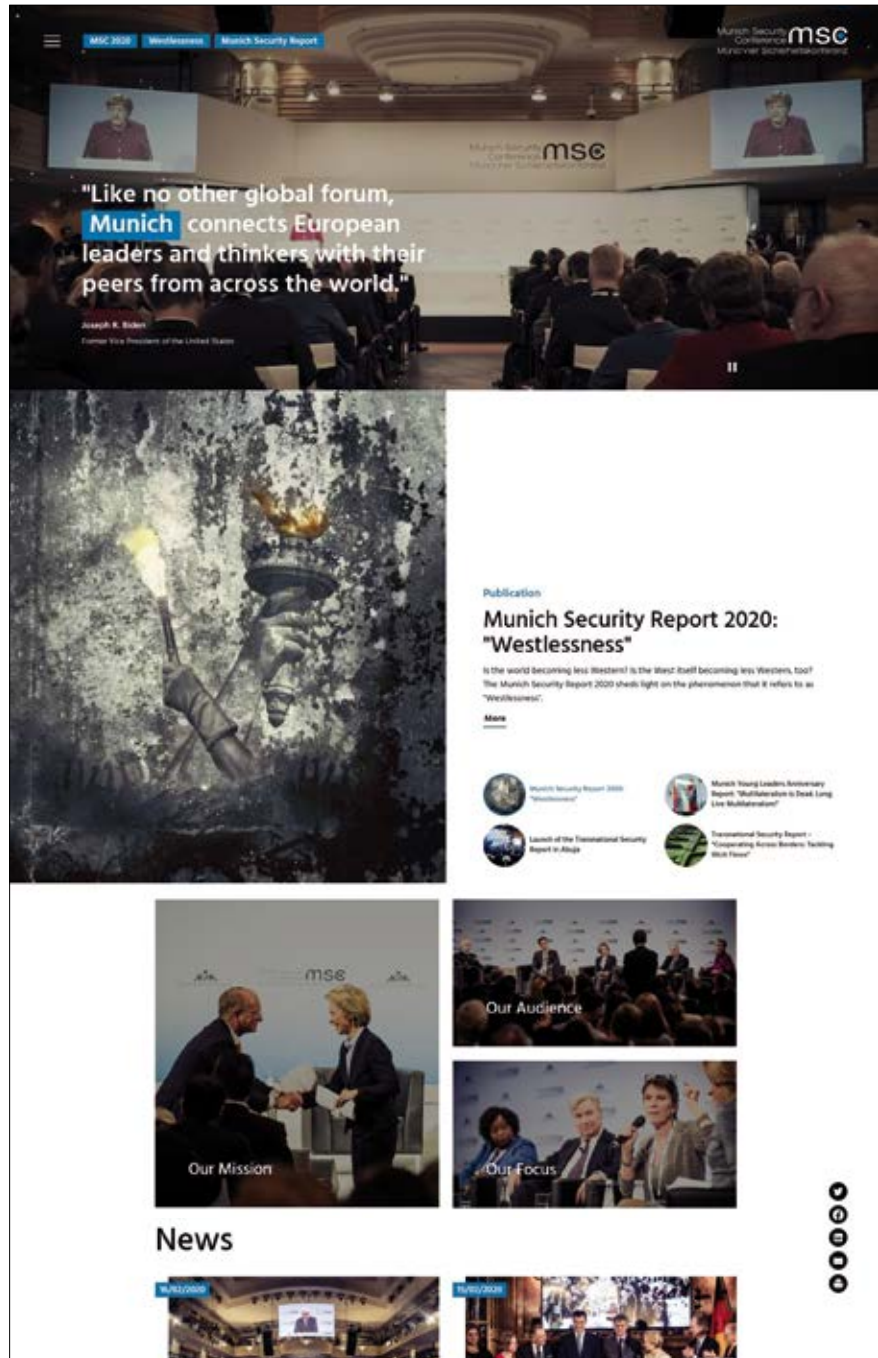
>475,000 total user interactions /
increase compared to 2019: **+64%**

>6.4 million total impressions

>470,000 total visits of the MSC website

>3.7 million total views of videos and live streams

HOMEPAGE



MEDIA LIBRARY

MSC 2020

Wellnessness

Munich Security Report

Munich Security Conference
Münchner Sicherheitskonferenz


Media > Media Library

Media Library

Photos and videos from our activities

All events

Search for ...




14 - 16 Feb 2020

Munich Security Conference 2020


The 58th Munich Security Conference took place at Hotel Bayerischer Hof in Munich from February 14 to 16. For three days, Munich was once again at the center of international diplomacy and welcomed world leaders from politics, academia, and civil society.

More


Events by Category




Munich Security Conference



Core Group Meetings




Summits & Roundtables




Munich Strategy Forum


Recent Events




Munich
Munich Security Conference 2020




Berlin
MSC Kick-off 2020




London
European Defense Roundtable



London
NATO Engages Innovating the Alliance



Berlin
Munich Strategy Forum 2020



Berlin
Cyber Security Summit

< 1/18 >

App

Overview

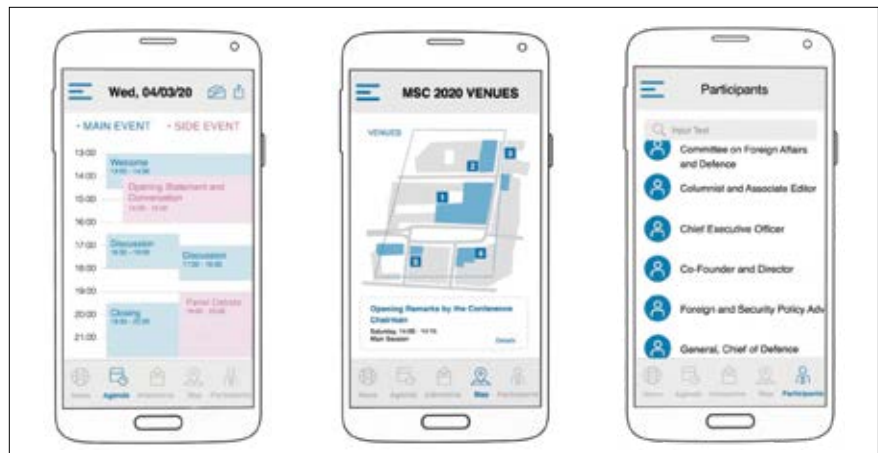
> 1,600 new downloads at MSC 2020

> 8,000 impressions in the App Store and Google Play Store

> 15 sessions per device during MSC 2020

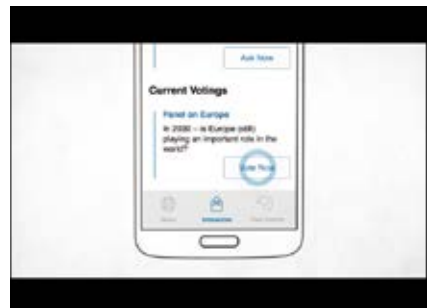
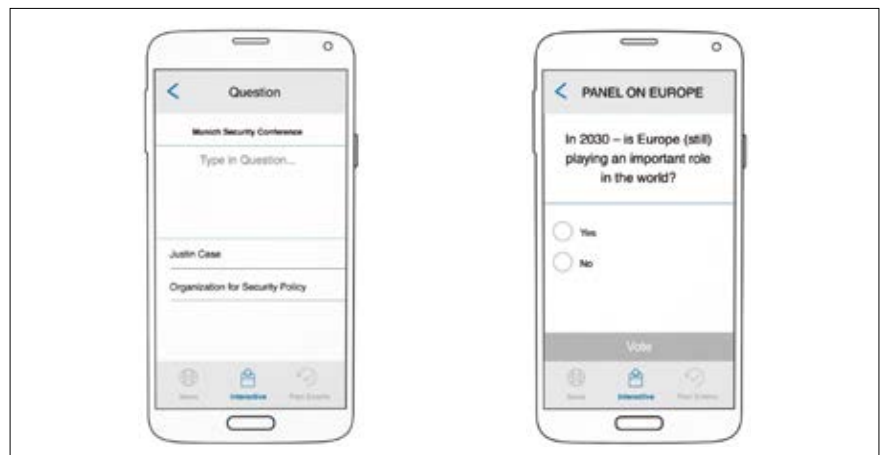
The MSC App provides a wide range of information about the conference, including the latest agenda, a venue overview, as well as an up-to-date list of participants. The app also features logistical information and an overview of side event invitations, thereby serving as the perfect companion for every MSC participant.

Additionally, the app offers the opportunity to receive the latest news about the MSC and its various activities.



The MSC App has also been used as a tool for interactive participation throughout the conference weekend. The interactive menu allows participants as well as users from around the world to ask questions to the speakers and to participate in votings.

In order to explain the various features of the app and to encourage the audience to participate, the MSC produced an explanatory video that was screened before the sessions.



Excerpts from the explanatory video for the MSC App

Twitter

Overview

232 tweets by MSC

>4.3 million total impressions /
increase compared to 2019: **+30%**

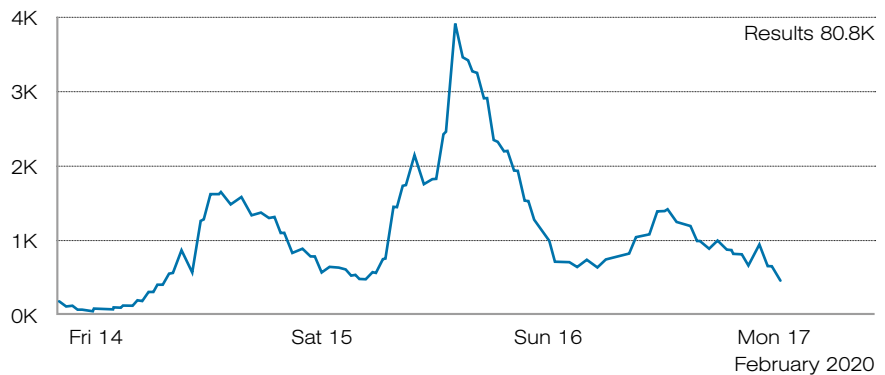
>125,000 total interactions

7,100 total retweets / increase compared to 2019: **+45%**

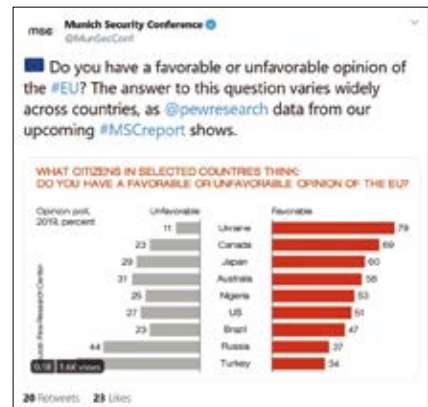
>80,000 uses of #MSC2020

>50,000 followers / increase in followers: **+15%**

TWEETS USING #MSC2020



SAMPLE
TWEETS

SAMPLE
TWEETS

SAMPLE TWEETS BY PARTICIPANTS



Facebook

Overview

67 Facebook posts by MSC

> 1 million total impressions

> 325,000 total interactions

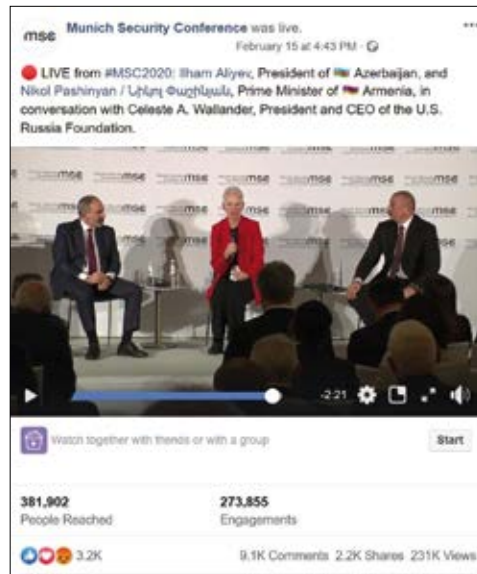
> 400,000 total media views for live streams and videos

> 51,000 followers / increase in followers: **+11%**

SAMPLE POSTS



SAMPLE POSTS



YouTube Lounge yourMSC

Overview

3 YouTubers with a combined reach of
8 million subscribers

29 videos on the yourMSC channel

>3.1 million views of the videos on all channels combined

>11,000 subscribers of the yourMSC channel

The format yourMSC was successfully launched, in cooperation with YouTube, at the MSC 2019 and aims to reach out to a young, global audience. Building up on the success of last year's edition three well-known YouTube creators interviewed high-level MSC participants on the sidelines of this year's conference with questions and topics emerging from their respective communities.

In the studio, Ana Kasparian, Enrique Fonseca and Leeroy Matata did one-on-one interviews with 14 MSC participants including MSC Chairman Wolfgang Ischinger and discussed a wide range of issues. Complementing the studio interviews, all three creators took the viewers on a tour behind the scenes of the MSC and provided insights into the logistics of the world's most important forum for international security policy by showing what it is like to work as a liaison officer, a police officer, an interpreter or a VIP-driver at the MSC. In addition, the creators recapped their day at the MSC 2020 in a joint discussion round.

All videos – produced and edited by the production company Leonine – were published on the yourMSC YouTube channel. This year, some videos were also featured on the respective creators' channels increasing the reach of yourMSC.

YOUTUBE CREATORS



Enrique Fonseca, Leeroy Matata and Ana Kasparian with Wolfgang Ischinger
(Credit: Kuhlmann / MSC)



Ana Kasparian discussing international security policy with Joseph Stiglitz
(Credit: Warmuth / MSC)

[Ana Kasparian \(TheYoungTurks\), United States](#), is a journalist, host and producer for the online news show "The Young Turks", a channel with more than 4.5 million subscribers on YouTube. She is also a journalism lecturer and public speaker.

[Leeroy Matata \(Leeroy will's wissen\), Germany](#), is famous for his interesting and unbiased interviews, which he uploads to his channel ("Leeroy wants to know"). He covers topics ranging from social to personal and political matters. He unites a viewership of over 1.1 million people.

[Enrique Fonseca \(VisualPolitik\), Spain](#), is a marketing consultant by training and now the head of the biggest political videoblog in the Spanish-speaking world. His channel VisualPolitik reaches 1.5 million viewers and 900.000 viewers with its English counterpart.



INTERVIEWEES

Ian Bremmer, Beatrice Fihn, Francis Fukuyama, Jane Harman, Wolfgang Ischinger, David Miliband, Jennifer Morgan, Peter Neumann, Omid Nouripour, Cem Özdemir, Sir Stuart Peach, Javier Solana, Joseph Stiglitz, Jens Stoltenberg

Follow me.report by Funk

At the MSC 2020, project manager Paulina Zehle, who is responsible for coordinating the program in the main conference hall, was accompanied by Robin Blase ("RobBubble") and his team for "follow me.reports", a YouTube format by the German public service broadcasting platform "Funk".

The video offers insights into what it's like to work at the world's most important forum for international security policy and provides an extraordinary view behind the scenes of the conference.



MSC YouTube Channel

The YouTube channel “Munich Security Conference” features highlight videos providing an overview of the debates and events during this year's main conference.

DAILY WRAP-UP



CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS



TRAILER



CONVERSATIONS



Instagram

Overview

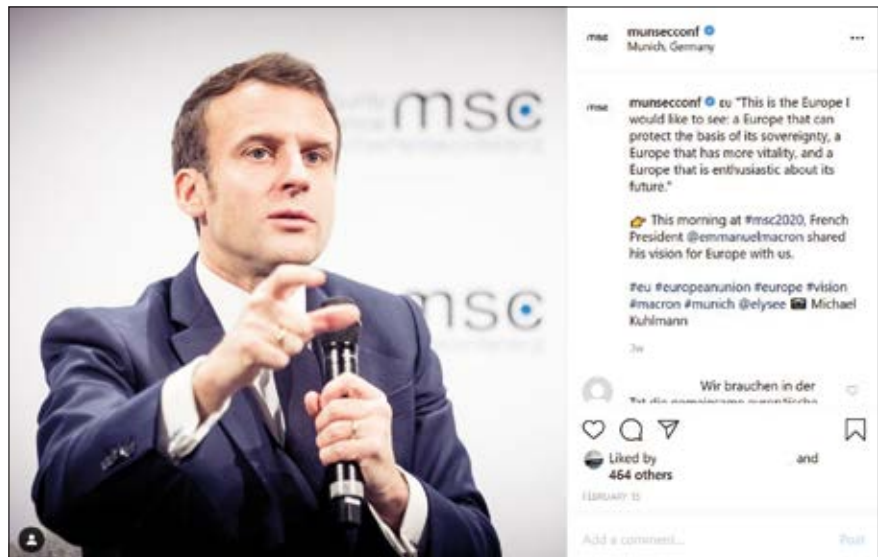
114 total Instagram posts (feed and story)

>890,000 total impressions

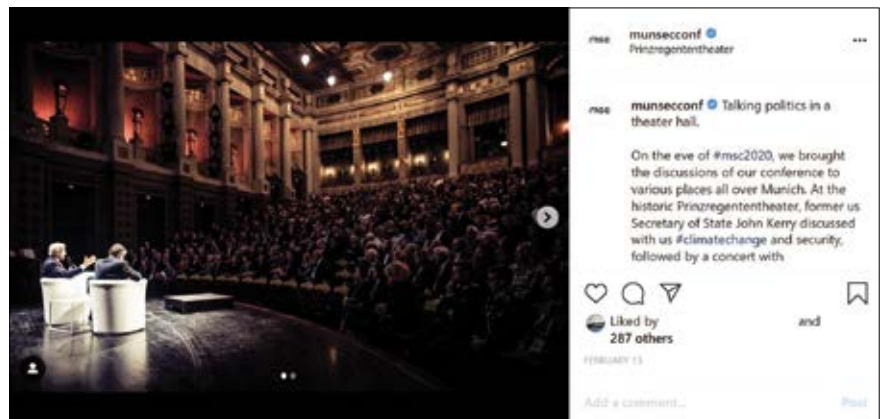
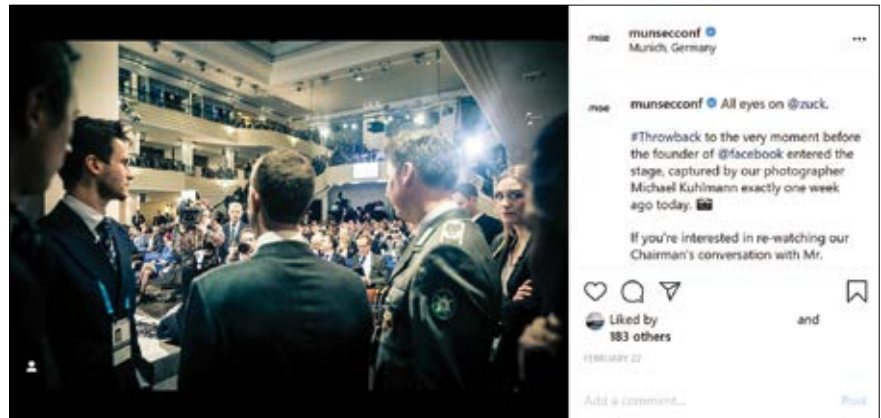
>13,000 total interactions

>3,100 followers / increase in followers: **+242%**

SAMPLE POSTS



SAMPLE POSTS



INSTAGRAM STORY TAKEOVER

For the first time, leading figures from politics, civil society, and the media “took over” the MSC’s Instagram story, sharing their personal impressions, interviews, and other exclusive insights from Munich with a young global audience.

TAKEOVER PROTAGONISTS

[Hadley Gamble](#)

News Correspondent, CNBC (34K followers)

[Grace Natalie](#)

Munich Young Leader 2020

Founder and Chairwoman, Indonesian Solidarity Party (363K followers)

[Roberto Velasco Álvarez](#)

Munich Young Leader 2020

Spokesman, Mexican Secretariat of Foreign Affairs (2K followers)

[Karma Ekmekji](#)

Munich Young Leader 2020

International Affairs and Relations Adviser, Office of the Lebanese Prime Minister (17K followers)

[Kristina Lunz](#)

Co-Founder and Germany Director, Centre for Feminist Foreign Policy (4K followers)

SAMPLE POSTS



Hadley Gamble, Comment by Edith Kimani, Hadley Gamble interviewing Kristalina Georgieva

SAMPLE POSTS



Grace Natalie with Emmanuel Macron, Annegret Kramp-Karrenbauer speaking in the Main Hall, Karma Ekmekji with Grace Natalie and Roberto Velasco Álvarez



Kristina Lunz with Fatou Bensouda, Kristina Lunz, Comment by Kristina Lunz

LinkedIn

Overview

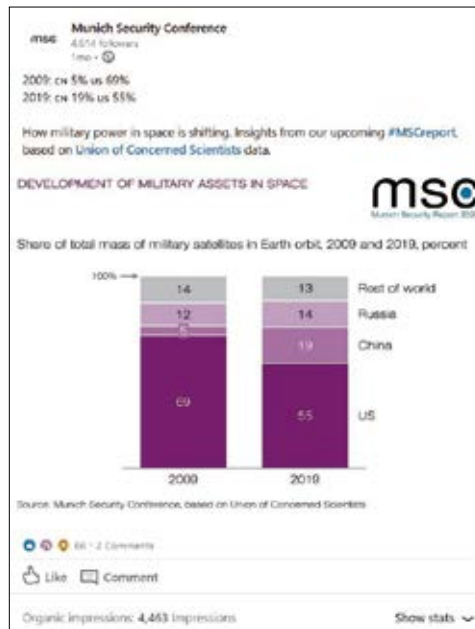
38 total LinkedIn posts

> 130,000 total impressions

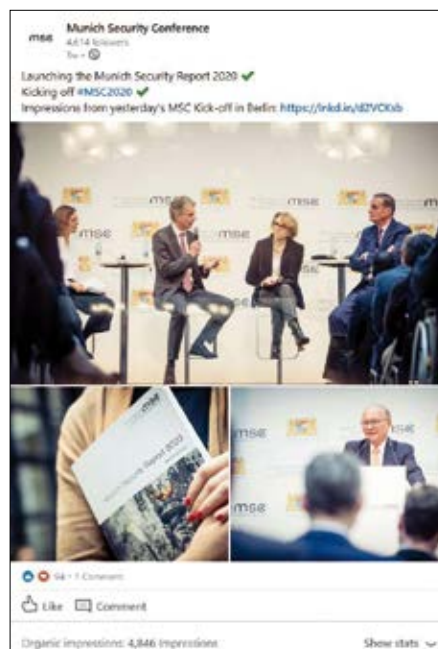
> 7,000 total interactions

> 4,300 followers / increase in followers: **+41%**

SAMPLE POSTS



SAMPLE POSTS



Newsletter

Overview

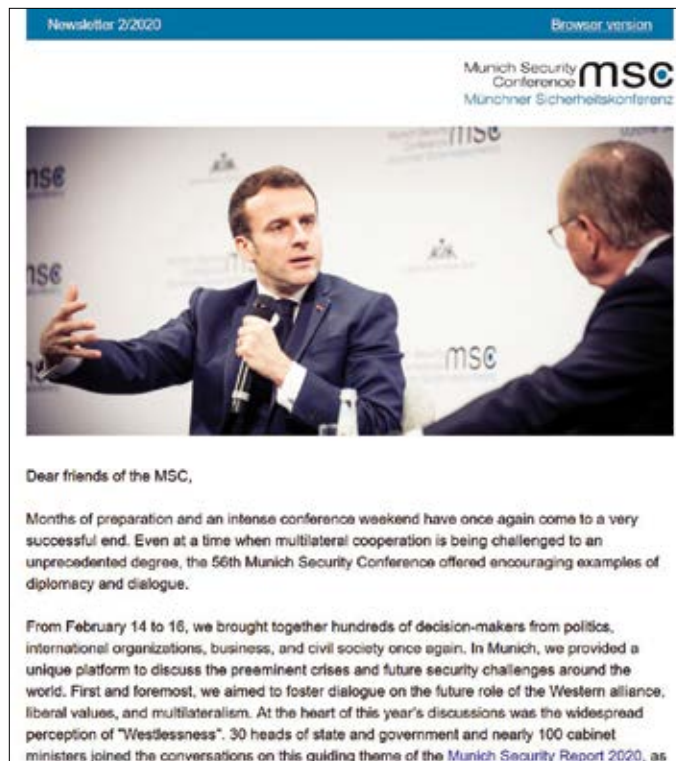
>4,000 subscribers

+600 new subscribers since February 2019: +18%

>6 newsletters per year

40% average opening rate

SAMPLE NEWSLETTER



SAMPLE NEWSLETTER

MUNICH SECURITY CONFERENCE 2020



February 14-16, Munich

"Westlessness" – This was the Munich Security Conference 2020

Hundreds of senior leaders and thinkers from politics, international organizations, business and civil society gathered in Munich to discuss preeminent crises and future security challenges. Among the focal points were the role of the Western alliance, liberal values and multilateralism.

[Read more »](#)



Impressions from the MSC 2020

You are interested in re-watching the speeches and discussions at this year's MSC? Our media library contains a comprehensive compilation of photos and video recordings from the Munich Security Conference 2020.

[Watch here »](#)

MSC PORTRAITS



Follow our program coordinator through Hotel Bayerischer Hof

As a project manager, Paulina Zehle is responsible for coordinating the MSC's program in the main conference hall. At #MSC2020, she gave exclusive insights into her work at the event. Learn more in our portrait series on Instagram.

[Read more »](#)

IN THE NEWS

February 26, Al Jazeera English

What is the "Westless" global order?

At "The Bottom Line" on Al Jazeera English, Munich Security Conference Chairman Wolfgang Ischinger discussed the current state and the future of the Western alliance with Steve Clemons, Danielle Pletka, and Ian Bremmer.

[Watch here »](#)

February 17, The Washington Post

msc

SAVE THE DATE

FEBRUARY 19–21
#MSC2021

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