In addition to ISW’s written products, our analysts are subject matter experts for the media on a constant basis. This new periodic publication collects these media appearances and use of our maps in one place. You can also follow ISW on Twitter @TheStudyofWar.

Jessica Lewis McFate
Director of Tradecraft and Innovation, ISW

"If military operations to clear ISIS are successful and towns are retaken, what happens next? These are population centers, in the case of Sinjar, that were largely depopulated as ISIS was coming in, and in order to come back they need a number of things. I think, chiefly, security that is durable. But they also need running water and structures and other things that are probably no longer there. So reconstruction is a very serious issue also"

NPR Interview with Kelly McEvers
11/15/15

Interactive Timeline tracking Russo-Turkish tensions

Kimberly Kagan
President, ISW

Business Insider
11/25/15
Christopher Harmer  
Senior Naval Analyst  

"Ten years ago, the People’s Liberation Army Navy would never have publicly challenged the U.S. Navy, either with aggressive rhetoric, as Admiral Wu Shengli has done, or with aggressive tactical actions, as he is threatening to do."

11/02/2015  
Voice of America  

"What has most likely happened is that as soon as the Russians had enough forces in theater to start military operations, they did... The increase to 4,000 is simply the logistical tail to support the combat tooth."

11/04/2015  
Reuters  

"We either need to stay committed to that original premise that we’re going to fix the nation-state system and rebuild those nation-states into friendly democracies or we have to come up with a new strategy that reflects the reality that the nation-state system in Syria is broken"

12/25/15  
Voice of America  

"We either need to stay committed to that original premise that we’re going to fix the nation-state system and rebuild those nation-states into friendly democracies or we have to come up with a new strategy that reflects the reality that the nation-state system in Syria is broken"

11/04/2015  
Reuters  

"You have to be deliberately ignorant of the nature of ISIS ... [and] of the limits of air power to advocate carpet bombing... But so-called carpet bombing really doesn’t do anything except hit a bunch of civilians and maybe a few ISIS fighters... Carpet bombing only applies when you’re trying to level entire cities or destroy civilian populations."

12/20/15  
Business Insider  

"The ISF aren’t doing house clearing. I don’t think they have the depth, experience, or numbers to be able to consistently conduct clearance operations in contested, urban areas... It takes a long time and there are severe limitations with that kind of warfare."

12/30/15  
The Daily Beast
Harleen Gambhirm

Counter-terrorism Analyst

“[ISIS] has exported its brutality and military methods
to groups in Libya, Egypt, Afghanistan and elsewhere.
Now it is using tactical skills acquired on Middle
Eastern battlefields to provoke an anti-Muslim backlash
that will generate even more recruits within Western
societies. The United States and its allies must respond
quickly to this threat.”

"The Islamic State's Trap for Europe"
The Washington Post Op-Ed
11/16/2015

“The Washington Post

“ISIS has written about its strategy
to polarize the West through terror
attacks. It wants to make European
states and societies suspicious of their
Muslim communities.”

MSNBC Live with Kate Snow
11/16/2015

"[ISIS] is fostering affiliates in Muslim-majority
areas and directing and inspiring terror attacks in
the wider world. And for the U.S., this means that
defeating ISIL will require not just combatting the
group in Iraq and Syria, and countering its
messaging and recruitment of foreign fighters. It
also will require serious attention to ISIL’s
growing affiliates in other nations.”

Politico Op-Ed
12/14/15

"U.N. member nations can likely make some
progress by devoting resources to the finances
issue,...But at the end of the day you can't fully
solve it without destroying all underground
criminal networks, which is nearly impossible"

CNN Money
12/17/15
Jennifer Cafarella
Syria Analyst, Evans Hanson Fellow

"The Myth of Partnering with Assad, Russia, and Iran Against ISIS"

"The U.S. and its allies must resist drifting into a flawed partnership with Russia and Iran in Syria in order to defeat ISIS....An alignment with Russia risks subordinating U.S. policy to global Russian objectives while simultaneously failing to defeat ISIS. U.S. policy makers must avoid falling into the trap Russia is setting."

The Hill Op-Ed
12/07/15

"A Political Settlement in Syria?"

"America and its allies must set conditions to maximize the likelihood of success in negotiations, paramount among which is containing and degrading Jabhat al-Nusra’s influence in rebel-held Syria, as well as the military power of ISIS. The diplomatic track must be a partner and beneficiary of a sound military effort. It cannot be a substitute."

The Cipher Brief
11/13/15

“Syrian rebels have been through this charade before and are unlikely to come to the negotiating table in significant numbers...To be honest with you, I think we’d have to scrap the entire current framework.”

NPR Here and Now
12/08/15
Patrick Martin
Iraq Analyst

"The Sinjar operation strengthens Barzani vis-a-vis his political opponents. He can take credit for launching the operation."
Agence French Presse
11/14/15

"The Iraqi state faces a grave challenge. The budget crisis makes the status quo intractable"
The Telegraph
11/11/15

"ISIS remains capable of launching attacks across Iraq without Ramadi, which is more significant for the Iraqi security forces and the Iraqi government than it ever was for ISIS."
NDTV
12/29/15

"We know they [ISIS] are pursuing chemical weapons, but we haven't seen anything beyond mustard and chlorine. They don't deploy it on wide scales. Their delivery systems aren't that sophisticated...Mosul [seized by ISIS in June 2014] has a university and that theoretically has the lab facilities to deal with this. The difficulty they may face is in obtaining the raw materials."
NBC News
11/19/15
ISW Maps in the News

In addition to our analysts' expertise, ISW's maps continue to be utilized by major news sources as a crucial visual complement to breaking news stories and cutting edge analysis.
ISW in the News

November and December 2015

Air strikes in Syria
Declared targets of Russia and the U.S.-led coalition's bombing campaigns in Syria.

REPORTED AIR STRIKES
Russian - Nov 25-29
U.S.-led coalition - Nov 29 - Dec 1
- Nov 24-25

CONTROL AREAS
Syrian army
Islamic State
Isis
Syrian rebels
IS/Jeish and rebels
Kurdish forces

Russian jet crash site on Nov, 24

Omar oil fields
British bombers flying from Cyprus attacked six IS-controlled targets on Dec, 8

12/27/15

BUSINESS INSIDER

11/30/15

ISW Russian Ministry of Defense Reported Airstrikes against “ISIS” in Syria:
September 30 - November 19, 2015

12/04/15

BBC

WWW.UNDERSTANDINGWAR.ORG
Animated map using ISW ISIS Sanctuary Maps

Business Insider 11/24/2015

More of ISW in the News

International Business Times
11/16/2015
International Business Times
11/02/2015
Al-Ahram Weekly
11/28/15
BBC
12/04/2015

International Business Times
12/08/2015
Al-Jazeera
12/14/2015
The Washington Post
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