VOX-Pol Third Biennial Conference, Amsterdam

Jihadist media in the age of clampdowns, disinformation and divisions





Key Themes

- Losing control of the message
- Key challenges facing jihadists
 - Clampdowns
 - Divisions
 - Fake news

- Why is ISIS still resilient online?
- Conclusions



The move to social media: Losing control of the message



ONLINE CHALLENGES

- CLAMPDOWNS
- DIVISIONS
- DISINFORMATION



Essential Media Insight

ONLINE CLAMPDOWN



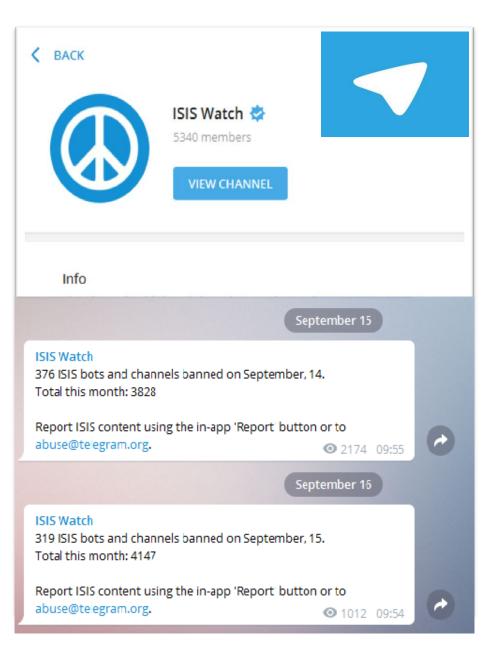
Essential Media Insight

#TECHNOLOGY NEWS MARCH 21, 2017 / 3:39 PM / 6 MONTHS AGO

Twitter software helps find, ban users advocating violence

David Ingram 4 MIN READ







FEWER HASHTAG CAMPAIGNS





How have jihadists responded to the online clampdown against their accounts?

والتي عددها أكثر من 600 🔎

Χ

Messages



- 11/12/17 وكالة ناشر نيوز 14 .عددها أكثر من 600 بين قناة و
- 11/12/17 وكالة ناشر نيوز 16 .عددها أكثر من 600 بين قناة و
- وَكَالَةُ نَاشِرْ نِيُوْز 11/12/17 .عددها أكثر من 600 بين قناة و
- 11/12/17 وكالة ناشر نيوز 18 .عددها أكثر من 600 بين قناة و
- 11/12/17 وكالة ناشر نيوز 17 .عددها أكثر من 600 بين قناة و
- 11/12/17 وكالة ناشر نيوز 2 عددها أكثره بـ 600 سي قناته





rar 5.8 MB.... سبة_في_منطقة_نري Download

Sunday, November 12, 2017



وكالة ناشر نيوز 2

11:20:19 PM



DELETED Nov 12, 2017 11:09:47 PM

للحصول على روابط #وكالة_ناشر نيوز

المختصة بنشر كل ما يصدر رَسْميّاً عن #الدولة_الإسلامية

والتي عددها أكثر من 600 بين قناة ومجموعة اخبارية

مراسلة الحساب الرسمي للوكالة على التبليغرام

https://t.me/NASHIRNEWSAGENCY1



وكالة ناشر نيوز 2

12:06:46 PM



Nov 13, 2017 12:06:16 PM وكالة ناشر نيوز



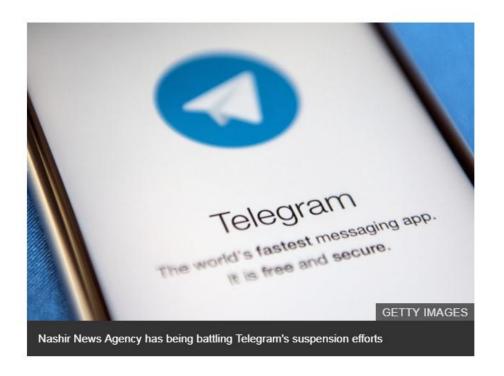
IS SUPPORTERS PUSHED BACK

Report

BBC MONITORING | ARABIC REPORTED 10 AUG 2017 15:25

Key IS-linked propaganda outlet exploits Telegram 'group' function

BY BBC MONITORING







Concerted efforts to return to social media





IS-affiliated Telegram outlet 'Nashir News Agency' urges supporters to return to popular social media platforms



Pro-IS "Bank Al-Ansar" provides SM accounts to supporters



Pro-IS "[online] Attacks
Brigade" offers supporters prewritten tweets



Getting around AI, algorithms





IS supporters tweak the words and language of their posts to evade Al detection. It allows them to relay IS claims blow by blow.

#حبر_رسمي مقتل عنصر من #تنظيم_طالبان وأسر 7 آخرين والسيطرة على "وادي مزار" بعد هجوم لمقاتلي #جيش_الدولة أمس بمديرية نوركل في #كنر

وكالــة أعمــاق: مقاتلــو الدولــة الإســلامية يهاجمون مواقعا لقوات النظام والميليشــيات المواليـــة لـــه في مدينـــة



وكالــة أعمــاق: ســقوط نحــو 100 قتيــل وعشــرات الجرحـــى مـــن قـــوات النظـــام والميليشــيات المواليــة لــه حتـــى الآن بهجوم مدينة السويداء



#عاجل

رسميا - و الشام - السويداء

- مقاتلو الدولة يهاجمون مواقعا لقوات النظام والميليشيات الموالية له في مدينة #السويداء
- سقوط نحو 100 قتيل وعشرات الجرحي من قوات النظام والميليشيات الموالية له حتى الآن بهجوم مدينة #السويداء
- تدمير آلية تحمل مدفعا رشاشا لقوات النظام بقذيفة صاروخية شرقي #السويداء
- ارتفاع حصيلة هجوم #السويداء إلى أكثر من 170 قتيلا و 200 جريحا من قوات النظام والميليشيات الموالية له
- مقتل نحو 40 من قوات النظام والميليشيات الموالية له بينهم ضابط بهجوم لمقاتلي الدولة في قرية "رامي" شرقي #السويداء

13 comments 5 shares

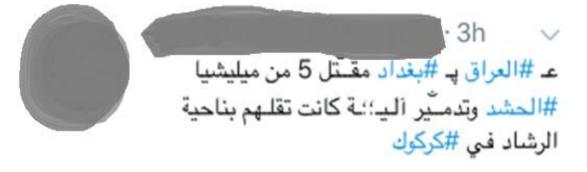


Like



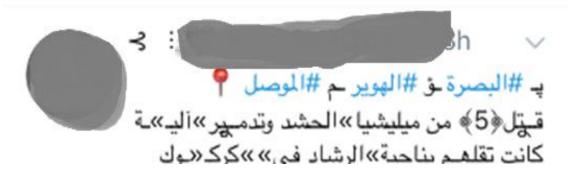






وكالـــة أعمـــاق: مقتـــل 5 مــن ميلــ الحشــد وتدميــر آليـــة كانـــت تة بتفجيــر عبـــوة ناســفة أمــس في "البقعان" بناحية الرشاد في كركوك

They also insert characters and symbols to break up the words to avoid machine detection.





CLAMPDOWNS

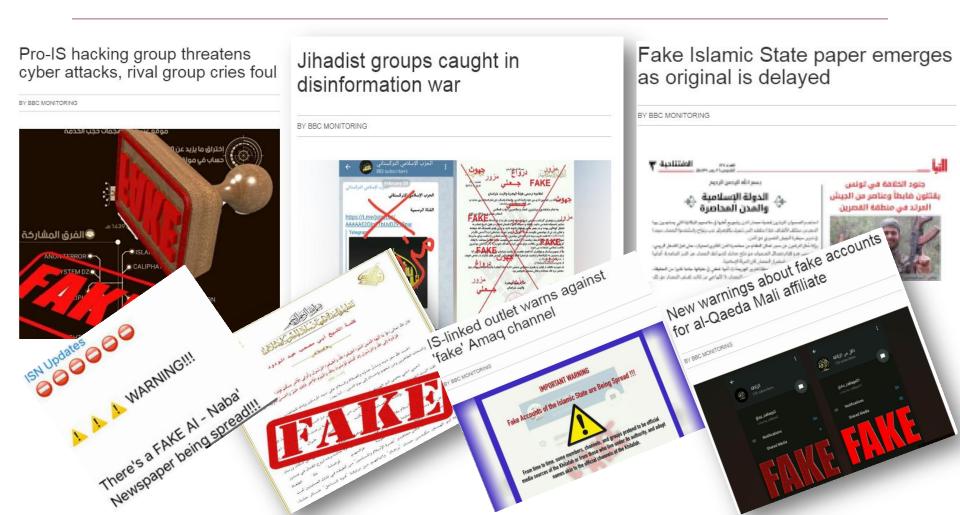
- Limits jihadists' ability to reach out to audiences and launch effective online campaigns
- Pushes them into private settings that limit their visibility
- Diverts their efforts from supporting jihadist groups to grappling to stay online
- Creates more room for disinformation

DISINFORMATION B B C MONITORING

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FAKE NEWS





IS issues rare media notice warning about disinformation and suspect sources



With Regards to Attributing Written, Audio, or Video Content to the Islamic State

1 Dhul-Qa'dah 1439

We emphasize that no content whatsoever - whether written, audio, or video - can be attributed to the Islamic State (may Allah honor it) as long as it has not been released through the Central Media Diwan's official platforms for dissemination, and that any content released through any other platforms does not represent the Islamic State, its wilayat, and its leadership. As such, we advise not to work with or disseminate such content, and it is Allah who grants success and who guides to the straight path.





Divisions within the IS camp

Long-standing pro-IS media group Al-Wafa disowned

BY BBC MONITORING





Al-Wafa promotes the work of "dissident" IS clerics



Al-Wafa hits back at rival pro-IS camp, calling them 'the Jews of [IS] supporters"



IS supporters divided

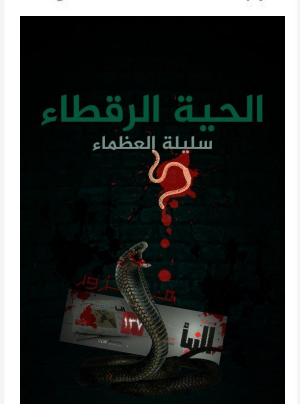


IS ideological rift linked to alleged infiltration by al-Qaeda operatives



Identity of Syria suicide bomber divides IS supporters

IS supporters threaten alleged Saudi female spy





Al-Qaeda's identity crisis

Al-Zawahiri formally rejects Syria branch split from al-Qaeda

3Y BBC MONITORING



Senior HTS official rejects al-Qaeda leader's criticism

3Y BBC MONITORING



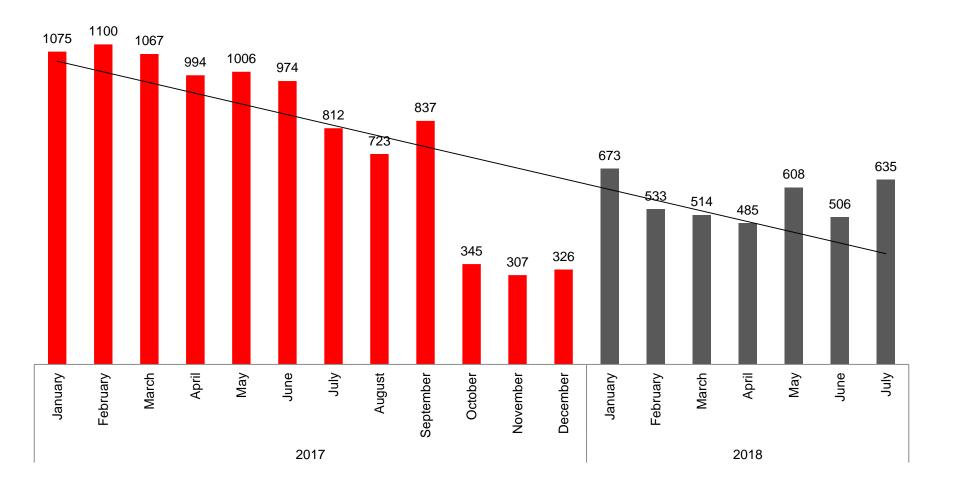
ISIS RESILIENCE ONLINE

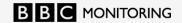
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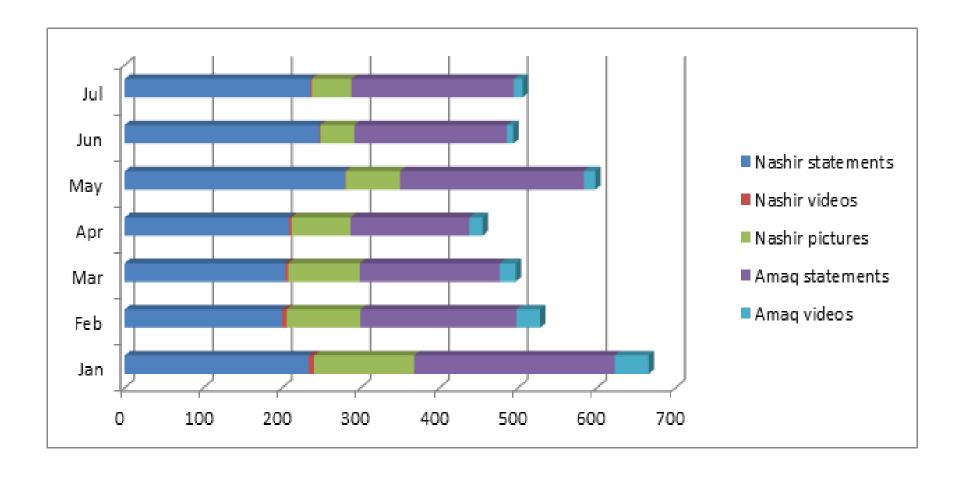


Total IS media output 2017-2018





Types of IS media output in 2018



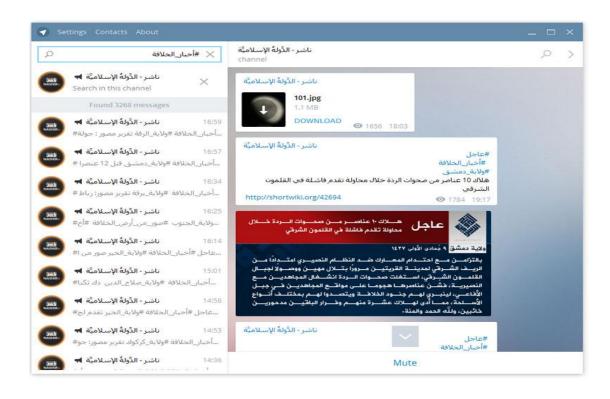


THREE-TIER MEDIA **OPERATION**



TIER I: Official IS Media

IS NASHIR CHANNELS ON TELEGRAM











"NEWS AGENCY"









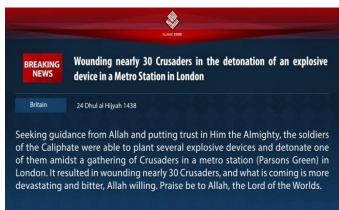


AL-BAYAN RADIO

NASHID PRODUCER AJNAD



WEEKLY PAPER AL-NABA



REGIONAL MEDIA OFFICES

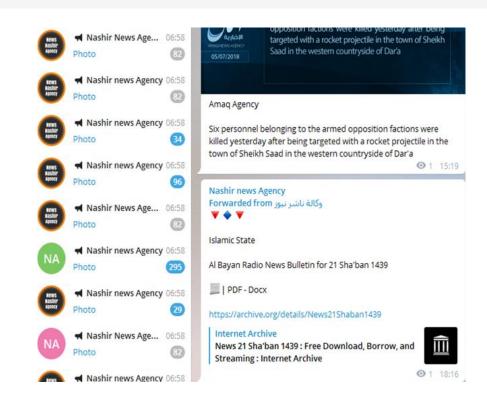














29 JUILLET **2018**

Source Agence A'maq: Un véhicule militaire qui transportait des membres de l'unité de mobilisation a été détruit, à l'aide d'un EEI, dans la ville de Baïji, à Salâhuddîn, avant-hier.



TIER II: Pro-IS Media Groups





TIER II: Pro-IS Media Groups





Bank al-Ansar



Al-Yaqin



Mau'tah





Al-Abd al-Faqir



Al-Wafaa



Knights of Upload



Ashhad





TIER III: Online Supporters











IS RECONGISES ROLE OF SUPPORTERS







IS poster hailing the role of media operatives

مكتبة الهمّة / الطبعة الثانية رمـضـــان ١٤٣٦هـ

CONCLUSIONS

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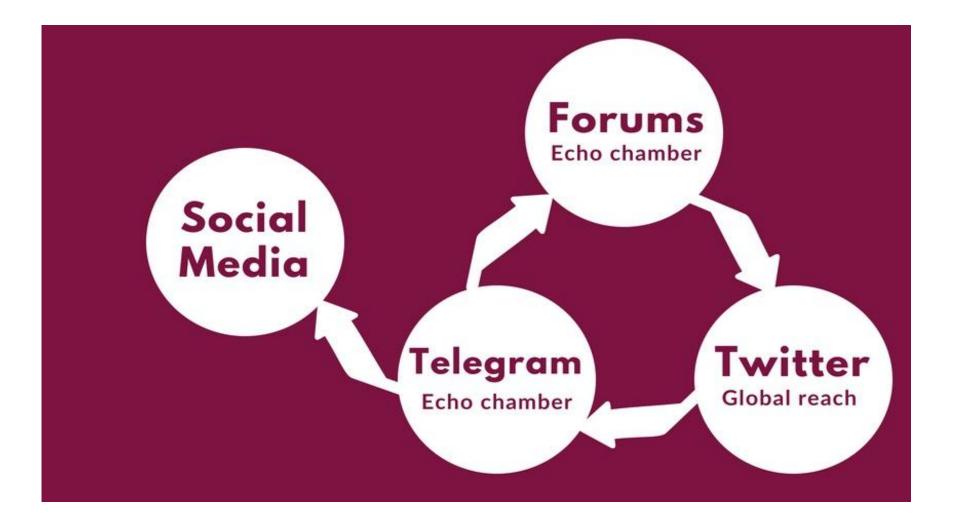


Common impact of challenges

- Clampdown: direct impact on visibility & reach; diverts efforts
- Divisions: undermines the brand and recruitment; diverts efforts
- Disinformation: creates confusion and mistrust; diverts efforts



Back to the echo chamber





Conclusions

Does this mean jihadism is on the decline?

THANK YOU

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Mina al-Lami Head, Jihadist Media Monitoring team BBC Monitoring