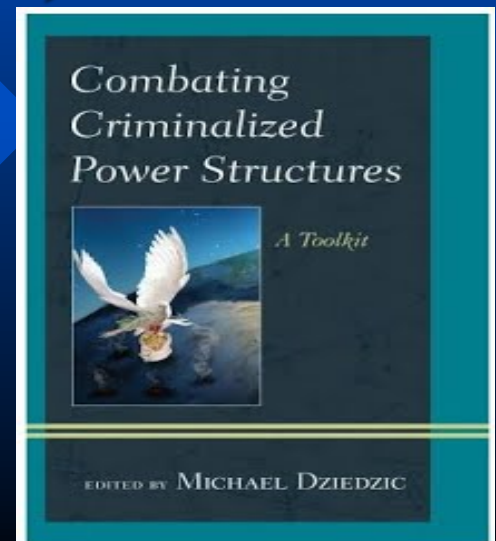
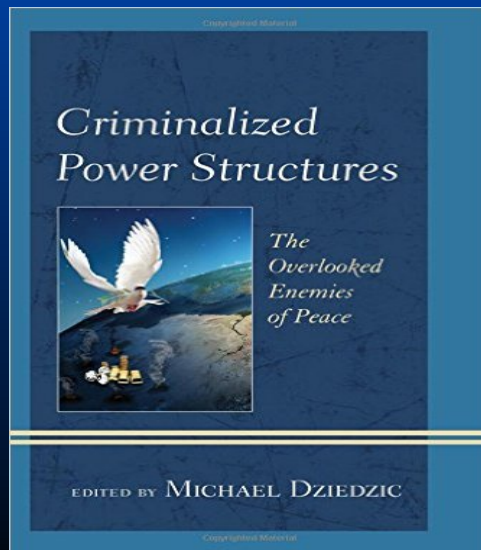


Criminalized Power Structures: The Leading Spoiler Threat to Peace and Stability Operations

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Overview

- Criminalized Power Structures (CPS) are the leading spoilers of peace and stability operations
- We chronically overlook this problem, squandering the “golden hour”
- There are actionable steps to address this recurrent threat that require no new revenue sources -- and should save billions



What is a Criminalized Power Structure?

- They exploit revenue from criminal activities to obtain and maintain power
- Illicit revenue may be a motive or a means for seeking power (i.e., both Greed and Grievance)
- CPS may capture the state or be an armed opposition to it (Sometimes these apparent rivals actually collude to profit from the conflict)
- CPS are not listed on any organizational chart



CPS are Leading Spoilers: Prominent Examples

Afghanistan, Angola, Bosnia, Cambodia,
Central African Republic, Colombia,
Darfur, Democratic Republic of the Congo,
Guatemala, Haiti, Iraq, Kosovo, Liberia,
Libya, Mali, Rwanda, Sierra Leone and
Southern Sudan

(Cases underlined are in *Criminalized Power
Structures: The Overlooked Enemies of Peace*)



Recommendations for the International Community

- Sharpen assessments to identify whether CPS are a threat
- If CPS, then provide empowering mandates, especially use of hybrid justice institutions for crimes against the mandate
- Sever the flow of illicit revenue to CPS
- Make accountability a priority equal to capacity building
- Accentuate criminal intelligence-led policing
- Create a surge capacity for specialized capabilities required for criminal intelligence-led policing to seize the “golden hour”