PSM is pleased to provide a new update on the Private Security Monitor.

First, we have posted the second commentary in our two-part series on the challenges of overseeing private security in the maritime setting. Matt Walje is a project coordinator at Oceans Beyond Piracy and also Sié fellow at the Korbel School.

There are a variety of new updates – including the press release describing the agreement on the Charter for the ICoC’s Oversight Mechanism – just reached in Montreux last week. As all who were there acknowledged, this is a significant step forward in the governance of the private security industry. We also have a variety of new data on the portal, including an index of contractors and troops in Iraq and Afghanistan based on US government figures.

We are working now with DCAF on the Montreux Plus Five project. Once that is complete the Private Security Monitor team will begin a large data collection project to map where PMSCs have operated, doing what, for whom, and with what impact on human rights. Separately and of note, American University’s Center for Human Rights & Humanitarian Law’s Initiative for Human Rights in Business will host a conference (and webcast) on the impact of the Montreux Document on March 6 that may be of interest, and St Antony’s International Review (STAIR), an interdisciplinary, peer-reviewed journal based at St Antony’s College, University of Oxford is issuing a call for abstracts for a special edition of the journal to be published in February 2014 on “A Re-Examination of Private Military and Security Companies.”

As always, your feedback on the website is welcome.

All the best,

Deborah Avant

Sié Chéou-Kang Chair for International Security and Diplomacy and Director, Sié Chéou-Kang Center for International Security and Diplomacy
COMMENTARY

Private Maritime Security Companies and the Use of Force
Author: Matt Walje

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ARTICLES & REPORTS

State or Private Protection Against Maritime Piracy: A Dutch Perspective
Author: Bibi van Ginkel et al, Netherlands Institute of International Relations
Date: 10 February 2013

A Mutiny in Kabul: Guards Allege Security Problems Have Put Embassy at Risk
Author: Project on Government Oversight
Date: 17 January 2013

The Private Security Industry and Neoliberal Imperialism: Mapping the Terrain
Author: Richard Godfrey et al
Date: 03 January 2013

The Private Militarized and Security Contractor as Geocorporeal Actor
Author: Paul Higate
Date: 06 December 2012

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GOVERNMENT REPORTS

Afghanistan: Key Oversight Issues
Author: GAO
Date: 11 February 2013

DOD Needs Additional Steps to Fully Integrate Operational Contract Support into Contingency Planning
Author: GAO
Date: 08 February 2013

Senate Armed Services Hearing on Benghazi Attack
Date: 07 February 2013

SIGAR Quarterly Report to Congress
Author: Special Inspector General for Afghanistan Reconstruction
Date: 30 January 2013

Afghanistan: Post-Taliban Governance, Security, and U.S. Policy
Author: CRS
Date: 04 January 2013
Author: U.S. House of Representatives
Date: 03 January 2013

Statement on the adoption of ASIS standard PSC-1
Author: UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office
Date: 17 December 2012

Semiannual Report to Congress
Author: U.S. Department of State Inspector General
Date: 17 December 2012

Department of State Special Investigation on Benghazi Attacks of 9/11/12
Author: U.S. Department of State
Date: 14 December 2012

Semiannual Report to Congress
Author: U.S. Department of Defense Inspector General
Date: 10 December 2012

Trafficking in Persons: U.S. Policy and Issues for Congress
Author: Congressional Research Service
Date: 07 December 2012

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DATA AND STATISTICS

US CENTCOM: Contractor Support of Operations in Iraq, Afghanistan
Author: Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense, Program Support
Date: 31 January 2013

Data on U.S. Military and Contractor Levels, Iraq and Afghanistan
Author: Private Security Monitor
Source: Department of Labor Defense Base Act reports, CENTCOM Quarterly reports
See the charts | Download the raw data

Data available by: Employer | Carrier | Nation
Author: Department of Labor
Date: 09 January 2013

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INTERNATIONAL CODE OF CONDUCT

ICOC Stakeholders Reach Consensus on Charter for the Oversight Mechanism
Date: 22 February 2013
ICAR Comment on the Articles of Association
Author: ICAR
Date: 18 February 2013

Civil Society Comment on the Articles of Association
Date: 15 February 2013

39 Companies Sign the ICOC in February 2013, bringing total to 592
Author: ICOC
Date: 01 February 2013

ICOC Second Draft of the Charter for the Oversight Mechanism (the Articles of Association)
Author: ICOC
Date: 31 January 2013

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UNITED NATIONS

New Responses to the IMO Questionnaire on Private Armed Guards Aboard Ships
Madagascar | Somalia
Date: February 2013

UN Security Policy Manual - Armed Private Security Companies
Date: 08 November 2012

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