

### STRATEGIC GLOBAL COMMISSIONING WISDOM & INNOCENCE

# Countries of the World

#### **Risk Assessment Resources**

Running Information Cutoff



www.strategicglobalcommissioning.org contact@strategicglobalcommissioning.org



Dear Servant,

For 20 years, I worked tirelessly to protect and defend the defenseless as an active duty U.S. military member, but for the past seven years I have been driven by a calling to serve missionaries. Like others before me this drive created a perfect intersection of my knowledge, skills, and abilities with my faith and a dedicated team.

It is now our sincerest hope and prayer this free information product and our other information solutions & programs will help keep those who serve as safe as possible and much more informed.

Our SGC team are purpose-driven and we exist to support missionaries and sending organizations.

With Wisdom & Innocence... Blessings,

Shane M. Moon President, SGC

## **Open Source Locational Risk Resources**

Based upon our collective professional and personal experience we have compiled the below list of websites to provide the traveler a centrally located and comprehensive listing of resources from government and nongovernment organizations.

## Additionally, on an as needed/requested basis, we offer <u>free</u> access to further purchased country intelligence assessments.

https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/international-travel/International-Travel-Country-Information-Pages.html

- https://www.cia.gov/the-world-factbook/
- https://www.osac.gov/Country
- https://ewgsx.com/
- https://concilium.us/
- http://www.thetravelingteam.org/agencies
- https://aidworkersecurity.org/
- https://crisis24.garda.com/insights-intelligence/intelligence/country-reports
- https://www.state.gov/international-religious-freedom-reports/
- https://www.fortsherman.org/resources.html
- https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice
- https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2020
- https://freedomhouse.org/countries/freedom-world/scores
- https://worldjusticeproject.org/our-work/research-and-data/wjp-rule-law-index-2020
- https://www.uscirf.gov/sites/default/files/2021-04/2021%20Annual%20Report\_0.pdf
- https://www.dni.gov/nctc/index.html
- http://data.un.org/
- https://www.ijm.org/
- https://www.janes.com/
- https://www.google.com/earth/versions/#earth-pro

## **Risk Mitigation Strategies**

The following are mitigation strategies, mindsets, and/or actions you or your organization can implement to counter threats discussed in the various links and resources posted above.<sup>1</sup> These are tried and true considerations to be applied before, during, and after your travel. Remember, though the below represents an ideal approach to achieving and maintaining safety and security, you should also be mindful security versus efficiency is a constant balance while ensuring yours and your organization's service can be accomplished.

#### Personal

Trust your instincts.

Vary your times and routes to and from work or service area.

Alternate days and times for shopping, errands and personal needs.

Maintain a low personal profile by not doing anything that draws attention to yourself.

Use well-lit walkways and whenever possible walk with someone.

Be aware of diversions and certain roadblocks.

Be alert to what is going on around you.

Your colleagues and family should be aware of your daily plans and know how to reach you.

Have alternate forms of communication should the cell network be unavailable.

Do not leave keys, purses, backpacks etc. unattended.

Do not meet strangers alone.

Stay away from dark, lonely, or other areas where other people cannot be seen.

Always tell someone where you are going.

Mark personal belongings such as books, clothing, etc.

#### Medical

Know where hospitals are... always.

Train in basics of first and self-aid.

Pack extra needed medications and legal over the counter common items.

Travel with personal first aid kits.

Wash your hands as often as possible.

Stay hydrated. Always.

Only consume food and water from trusted and/or reputable sources.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> In addition to SGC's officers' experience, portions of the following mitigations strategies were sourced from <u>https://checklist.com/personal-security-checklist/</u>



#### Home/Hotel

Do not put your name on the outside of your residence or mailbox.

Have good outside lighting.

Control the vegetation to eliminate hiding places.

Entrances and exits should have: Solid door with deadbolt locks, One-way peep holes in doors, and Bars and locks on skylights

Restrict possession of house keys. Change locks if keys are lost or stolen and when moving into a previously occupied residence.

Lock all entrances at night, including the garage. Keep house locked, even when at home.

Do not get undressed with the curtains open, even in the day.

Develop friendly relationships with neighbors.

Arrange for an unlisted telephone number.

Don't leave notes on doors.

Use a timer to turn lights on and off at varying times and locations when gone.

Leave radio on with a timer when gone.

Notify police or a trusted neighbor with your absence.

Do not admit any unexpected delivery or repair personnel. Always check identification.

Contact your local police to see if they offer free home security audits.

#### Business

Install deadbolt locks on office doors leading to hallways and other public areas.

Consider installing a buzzer entry door system.

Managers should issue and control keys, conduct semi-annual inventories, and have locks changed when keys are missing.

Have offices cleaned during the day.

Instruct all employees on the operation of the security system.

Make sure cleaning personnel do not have access to security alarms or authorization to turn them off.

Do not allow visitors access to secure areas.

Do not allow persons visiting one office to have access to other offices or areas.

Immediately report persons who appear unannounced in your work area or who say they opened the wrong door or were looking for another office.

Do not admit unexpected repair or delivery personnel.

Check with a reputable security company for information on available equipment and services.

Contact local law enforcement to see if they offer free business security surveys.



#### Vehicles

Do not use vanity plates that identify you by name or business affiliation.

Do not have your name or title displayed at your office parking space.

Keep vehicle in good repair.

Park in well-lit areas.

Always lock your car, even when you are in it.

Don't leave it on the street overnight, if possible.

Never get out without checking for suspicious persons. If in doubt, drive away.

Leave only the ignition key with the parking attendant.

Keep your cell phone with you.

Don't allow entry into the trunk unless you are there to watch.

Use a remote garage door opener. Enter and exit your vehicle in the security of your garage.

Before leaving buildings to get into your vehicle, check the surrounding area to determine if there is anything suspicious.

Before entering vehicles, check for suspicious objects on the seats or floors.

Vary routes, times of travel and modes of travel so that you do not establish a pattern.

Avoid isolated roads and dark alleys.

Know locations of safe havens along routes of routine travel.

Ride with seatbelts buckled, doors locked and windows closed.

Do not allow your vehicle to be boxed in- maintain a minimum 8-foot interval between you and the vehicle in front of you. Avoid inner lanes.

Be alert while driving or riding.

Know how to react if you suspect you are being followed.

Circle the block for confirmation that you are being followed.

Do not stop or take other actions that could lead to confrontation.

Do not drive home if you think you are being followed.

Get a description of the car and its occupants.

Go to the nearest safe haven and call the police.

#### **Public Transportation**

Vary your mode of commercial transportation.

Select busy stops.

Don't always use the same taxi company.

Don't let someone you don't know direct you to a specific cab.

Ensure that the face of the driver and the picture on the license is the same.

Travel with a companion whenever possible.

Specify the route you want the cab to take.

#### Cybersecurity<sup>2</sup>

Keep your software, operating system, and browser fully up to date.

Run a reputable, American anti-virus product on your home PC or laptop.

Don't click on links or open attachments in unsolicited emails or text messages.

Don't reuse the same username and password across multiple websites and applications.

Only give applications the permissions they really need.

Limit how much information you share on social media, and lock down the privacy settings on your social media accounts.

Use Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) to log in to any website or application that you use.

Avoid using public Wi-Fi hotspots—like the ones at coffee shops, airports, hotels, etc.

If you do use a public Wi-Fi hotspot, be sure to use a Virtual Private Network (VPN).

As an alternative, stick to the mobile network and create a personal Wi-Fi hotspot with your phone.

Don't use publicly available charging cords to charge your phone.

Publicly available outlets and USB ports are generally fine, but avoid using publicly available cords.

Finally, if needed, never hesitate to contact the nearest friendly embassy. Typically, they can help you find appropriate medical care, assist you in reporting a crime to the police, contact relatives or friends with your written consent, explain the local criminal justice process in general terms, provide a list of local attorneys, provide our information on resources for victims of crime, provide an emergency loan for repatriation to your country of origin and/or limited medical support in cases of destitution, and help you find accommodation and arrange flights.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Cybersecurity mitigation strategies were sourced from <u>https://advisor.morganstanley.com/the-doolan-eldredge-group/From%20Our%20Team/documents/field/d/do/doolan-eldredge-saccani-group/Personal Cyber Security Checklist.pdf</u>