



COMMUNICATIONS ON PROGRESS WITH THE UN GLOBAL COMPACT



UNISHKA successfully completed its Communication on Progress (COP) to sustain its Active Role

in the United Nations' Global Compact. The object of the COP is to maintain focus and improve implementation so that UNISHKA might attain Advanced status for the next COP in 2020. Consequently, for the remainder of 2019 UNISHKA will focus on implementing the Ten Principles of the Global Compact; developing policies and processes on Corporate Sustainability, Governance and Leadership as well as other applicable UN goals and objectives. See [UNISHKA on the UN Global Compact website at: https://www.unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/participants/132284-UNISHKA-Research-Service-Inc-](https://www.unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/participants/132284-UNISHKA-Research-Service-Inc-)

WELCOMING HANNAH SCHOOLER TO THE UNISHKA FAMILY



UNISHKA is pleased to welcome our newest staff member, Hannah Schooler. Hannah operates as UNISHKA's primary Administrative Assistant, providing support to all departments as necessary.

Hannah, full of an exuberant energy, brings joy and laughter to the work environment on a regular basis; boosting morale and productivity simultaneously. Hannah has lived in both Alaska and Hawaii but currently resides in Bellingham, Washington with her three dogs: Bosco, Nolan, and Walter. UNISHKA is thankful to have such a dedicated employee who continues to bring life and light into the work we do..

UNISHKA GETTING SPORTY NEW LOGO!

With significant assistance from SolariCreative (www.solaricreative.com), UNISHKA has finally adopted a logo that captures our Alaska heritage, our dedication to the environment and a new, brighter palate. The logo will be rolled-out over the next several months and will be incorporated into our new website which is scheduled to debut next quarter.



WORKING ABROAD CAN IMPACT YOUR MENTAL HEALTH

Research shows expatriates are more likely to struggle with stress, anxiety, depression and alcohol/substance abuse than their counterparts back home — yet in an Aetna International survey, only 6 percent of respondents expressed concern about this possibility.

Learn the top five pressure points impacting expat workers and family members, and find out what you can do to prevent them.

<https://www.aetnainternational.com/en/about-us/explore/health-care/lifestyle-better-health/expatriate-stress.html>

May is Mental Health Awareness Month





SECURITY & COMMUNICATIONS

Corruption often occurs among people wielding power. Whether it is the president of a corrupt regime or a powerful minister, many of those engaging in corruption have the tools and ability to electronically impede or monitor investigations. Consequently, security in communications is paramount.

Mobile Phones: Virtually every call made on a mobile phone can be intercepted. The basic problem with mobile phones is the antiquated Signaling System protocols referred to as SS7. These protocols are so accessible that they are now being exploited by cyber thieves to drain people's bank accounts. So, if you are speaking on a mobile phone, no matter what service you use, (AT&T, Vodafone, WhatsApp, Signal, Skype, etc.) the call can be easily intercepted even if you are using an encrypted service. The problems associated with SS7 are discussed in the links below.

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-3202504/Hackers-access-call-message-send-track-location-moment-computer-expert-shows-just-easy-eavesdropping-is.html>

<https://www.techdirt.com/articles/20190131/10492341502/ss7-cellular-network-flaw-nobody-wants-to-fix-now-being-exploited-to-drain-bank-accounts.shtml>

Internet Calling (VOIP): Computer-based communications, such as VOIP, are significantly stronger and require a much higher level of sophistication to intercept than mobile phones, but even the best encryption systems have a critical weakness in the Session Initiation Protocol (SIP). If you haven't mitigated your SIP weakness,

your calls are at risk no matter your VOIP provider. In its December 2018 issue, PC Magazine offered some good advice for handling VOIP security issues such as SIP. Notwithstanding potential SIP intercepts, VOIP providers based on WebRTC, like Jitsi, have other potential problems, such as leaking IP addresses. Zoom, which is not based on WebRTC, also has a critical flaw that allows hijackers to intercept or even hijack a conference call although a patch was released last November to correct this weakness. The most ubiquitous VOIP, Microsoft's Skype, has a major security flaw that can only be corrected by downloading version 8. Simply because a VOIP provider has had a security flaw doesn't make it bad, so long as it has been patched. According to the March 2019 issue of PC Magazine, of the top 10 VOIP providers for business, RingCentral was ranked #1 with Skype for Business rounding out the top 10. For a complete look at VOIP weakness and mitigations strategies, as well as the top 10 VOIP providers, see the links below.

<https://www.pcmag.com/article/365251/voips-big-security-problem-its-sip>
<https://www.pcmag.com/roundup/334253/the-best-voip-providers-and-phone-services>
<https://strongvpn.blog/webRTC-security-flaw/>
<https://threatpost.com/critical-zoom-flaw-lets-hackers-hijack-conference-meetings/139489/>
<https://support.zoom.us/hc/en-us/articles/360020436071-Security-CVE-2018-15715>
https://www.theregister.co.uk/2018/02/15/microsoft_skype_fixed/
<https://www.pcmag.com/roundup/334253/the-best-voip-providers-and-phone-services>





THE PSYCHOLOGY OF CORRUPTION

From at least one perspective, the world of corruption is binary: there are Agents of Corruption and there are Victims of Corruption. It is similar to “action at a distance” in physics. You may be on the other side of the globe; however, when a public official (or anyone) engages in activity as an Agent of Corruption, everyone else immediately becomes a Victim of Corruption since the victims pay both the pecuniary as well as the social costs of that corruption (including secondary order of effects). As might be expected, academics have focused on the motivational factors of Agents of Corruption (as opposed to the psychological consequences of having engaged in corruption) and they have explored the psychological consequences of Victims of Corruption, both individually and socially (from living in corrupt societies). The research is by no means comprehensive, but does, so far, support generally accepted stereotypes.

Victims of Corruption: In her paper “And Justice for All: Examining corruption as a contextual source of mental illness,” ([Social Science & Medicine](#), Elsevier, vol. 173(C), pages 26-34), Ioana van Deurzen of Tilburg University concluded that corruption has a detrimental effect on mental health generally, and specifically on the economically disadvantaged and people with strong religious principles. The detrimental effects were mostly evidenced in depressive symptoms. Unfortunately, that is not the only psychological consequence of corruption. In a study by Simon Gächter and Jonathan Schulz from the University of Nottingham, they concluded that living in a corrupt society and around corruption (perceived or real) results in a greater likelihood that individual psychology will be adversely impacted. “They show that being exposed to corrupt environments corrupts the individual,” says [Shaul Shalvi](#) from the University of Amsterdam. ‘These results fit with the still-controversial *broken windows theory*, which suggests that signs of petty crimes, like graffiti,

litter, and the eponymous broken windows can foster more serious crimes. A 2008 study from the Netherlands supported this idea, showing that disorder can breed more disorder.

Gächter and Schulz found something similar, albeit at a much larger scale.’ In short, corruption results in more corruption.

(See: <https://www.theatlantic.com/science/archive/2016/03/corruption-honesty/472779/> and <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0277953616306529?via%3DIhub>)

Agents of Corruption: According to U4’s review of the available literature on the cognitive psychology of corruption, they reached five basic conclusions when examining Agents of Corruption:

- ⇒ Individuals holding power are more likely to act corruptly.
 - ⇒ Individuals are more likely to act corruptly when they stand to gain personally, have lower self-control, perceive that corruption will only cause indirect harm, and when they work in organisations where unethical behaviour is not punished.
 - ⇒ Individuals are likely to be more risk-acceptant to offset losses, and risk-averse to preserve gains. Uncertainty is likely to increase the likelihood of acting corruptly.
 - ⇒ Rationalisation narratives seem to make corruption more acceptable.
 - ⇒ Emotions such as guilt may make it less likely for individuals to act corruptly.
- (See <https://www.u4.no/publications/the-cognitive-psychology-of-corruption>)

May is Mental Health Awareness Month





SOCIAL MEDIA



<https://www.facebook.com/Unishka-Research-Service-760921074017776/>



<https://twitter.com/UNISHKAResearch>



<https://www.linkedin.com/company/unishka-research-service-inc/>

UPCOMING HOLIDAYS AND OTHER ACKNOWLEDGMENT DAYS

April 2019: National Volunteer Month

- Tuesday April 02: World Autism Awareness Day
- Thursday April 04: International Day for Mine Awareness
- Sunday April 07: World Health Day
- Thursday April 25: World Malaria Day
- Sunday April 28: World Day for Safety and Health at Work
-

May 2019: Mental Health Awareness Month

- Friday May 03: World Press Freedom Day
- Wednesday May 15: International Day of Families
- Monday May 20: World Bee Day
- Wednesday May 22: International Day for Biological Diversity

June 2019: LGBT Pride Month

- Wednesday June 05: World Environment Day
- Friday June 07: World Food Safety Day
- Saturday June 08: World Oceans Day
- Wednesday June 12: World Day Against Child Labour
- Friday June 17: World Day to Combat Desertification & Drought
- Sunday June 23: United Nations Public Service Day
- Wednesday June 26: International Day in Support of Victims of Torture



UNISHKA Research Service, Inc.

admin@unishka.com

PO Box 111967

Anchorage, AK 99511-1967

(907) 419-1230

