CFR Resources

David P. Fidler, “America’s Place in Cyberspace: The Biden Administration’s Cyber Strategy Takes Shape.”
A blog post about the Biden administration’s cyber strategy and how it relates to U.S. foreign policy and national security. (900 words)

Steven J. Markovich, “U.S. Broadband Policy and Competitiveness.”
An accessible backgrounder on U.S. broadband policy (2000 words)

James McBride, “Modernizing the U.S. Energy Grid.”
An accessible backgrounder on the U.S. electricity grid that includes a section on the potential for cyberattacks (2,300 words)

Articles

An in-depth look at how national legislation may be pushing us toward a splinternet (1,100 words)

A pessimistic look at the current state of online privacy (2,800 words)

Crucial questions on U.S. cyber strategy, posed by an industry expert and a former government official, after the 2016 election (3,000 words)

A look at how questions about security and freedom of speech on social media are being asked in the U.S. Supreme Court. (1,600 words)

Brian X. Chen, “I Downloaded the Information That Facebook Has on Me.”
An examination of how much data internet companies collect about their users (1,800 words)

GPT-3, OpenAI’s new language generator, writes an article responding “to convince us robots come in peace.” (1,700 words)

An excerpt from the author’s forthcoming book, Sandworm, on a Russian cyberattack that devastated facilities around the world (6,400 words)

An analysis of President Donald J. Trump’s National Cyber Strategy that argues the administration’s new openness to offensive measures is problematic (800 words)

Seymour Hersh, “The Online Threat,” New Yorker, November 1, 2010.
A long look at the risk of cyberwar, with view from both government figures and outside observers (6,500 words)

A thoughtful examination of the idea that we should think of Facebook (and other free online products) as being in the business of selling user data to advertisers, rather than in the business of providing a service to users (3,500 words)

An examination of ransomware, software used by criminals that encrypts targets’ data and then extorts them in return for a promise to decrypt the data (1,500 words)

Nicholas Schmidle, “The Digital Vigilantes Who Hack Back,” New Yorker,
May 7, 2018.
A detailed look at cybercrime today, and one approach to combating it. (5,900 words)

An arugment on the benenfits of cyberspecurity in the public sphere. (1,200 words)

An interview with Ben Buchanan, the author of a book that argues that the line between offensive and defensive cyberweapons is hazy at best; an interesting companion to Elias Groll’s article (2,500 words)

Multimedia
A summary of how various actors have tried to use Facebook to influence American democracy and how Facebook has responded. (29 minutes)

A podcast about the history of internet cookies, their original goals, and how they have shaped online commerce and privacy. (26 minutes)

Hyrax Films, Terms and Conditions May Apply.
A look at how internet companies collect and use private data. (80 minutes)

Telegeography, “Submarine Cable Map.”
A detailed map of all submarine cables.

Books
This book tells the history of cyberwar in a gripping, narrative-
Classroom Reading List:

Cyberspace and driven style. (353 pages)

This book analyzes the history of the internet, looking at how it is used by both governments and revolutionaries. (449 pages)

Written by a Council on Foreign Relations fellow, this book looks at a number of examples of cyberwar and analyzes the strategic implications. (313 pages)

Written in a question-and-answer style and employing stories and anecdotes, this introduction is highly readable, but those who come with some knowledge of the internet already may find it simplistic. (320 pages)

Written by a journalist, this book both tells the story of Stuxnet and examines the overall state of cyberwarfare today. (448 pages)

Research

Center for Strategic and International Studies, *Significant Cyber Incidents*.
Data on significant cyber incidents since 2006.

Council on Foreign Relations, “*Cyber Operations Tracker*”
An interactive database of all publicly known state-sponsored cybersecurity incidents since 2005.

UNICEF, “*How many children and young people have internet access at home?*”
A report on data about internet usage among children and young people around the world during the COVID-19 pandemic.
Primary Sources

   An archived webpage that summarizes Barack Obama administration’s cyberspace policy. (500 words)

   Transcript of a speech on Chinese cyberspace policy given by Chinese President Xi Jinping. (2,400 words)

   A Biden administration fact sheet outlining policy regarding offsetting the negative environmental impacts of crypto-assets and crypto mining. (1,600 words)

   The Donald J. Trump administration’s cyberspace policy document. (29 pages)