



ABOUT US

We are a couple of open source aficionados who have a specific interest in China related Open Source Intelligence (OSINT). We aim to provide inspiration and resources to those looking to deepen their understanding about some of the key themes related to China by the use of OSINT techniques. If you want to get in touch please contact us on our X profile @allsourcechina.



NEW YEAR NEW OSINT

Already this year OSINTers have been doing some amazing things in the open source community. We have included the ones we have found the most useful for our China focused investigations. The All Source China team are always so inspired by the OSINT community and are very grateful to be part of it.

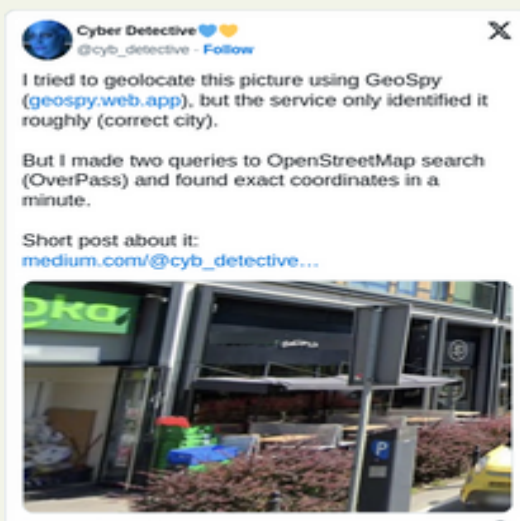
GEOLOCATION SUPER TOOL

OpenStreetMap was created by Bellingcat and is a tool that allows proximity queries, enabling users to search OpenStreetMap data based on distances and angles. It's primarily used for finding geolocation leads and aids in identifying locations depicted in images.

Geolocation Spy (GeoSpy) focuses on OSINT analysis, providing users with tools to collect intelligence from publicly available sources. The tool supports real-time tracking, allowing users to monitor and track targets during social engineering attacks. GeoSpy also includes geospatial intelligence features, aiding in the identification of the geographical location of a target.

The article linked, provides a comprehensive exploration of the integration between GeoSpy and OpenStreetMap, presenting a powerful toolkit for advanced geospatial searches. It aims to show users to enhance their search capabilities by leveraging the unique features of both GeoSpy and OpenStreetMap.

Having tested this tool on Chinese imagery, we found that the coverage is not as good as other countries. We are hopeful that with advancing technology it will eventually bridge the gap with limited access around China.



UNDERSTANDING THE TAIWAN ELECTIONS



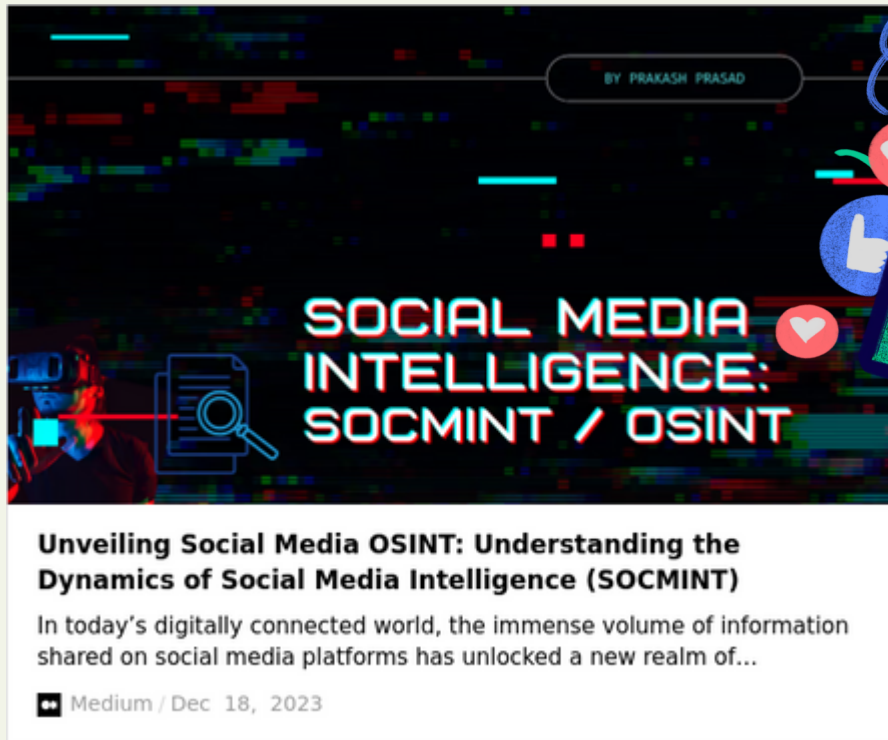
With the elections that happened this month it is important to understand the ins and outs of Taiwan's history. The linked book titled: Taiwan: A Contested Democracy Under Threat is a great start to understanding why Taiwan has had escalating global interest. The book underscores the necessity for a grasp of its history, politics, society, political economy, foreign relations, and intricate ties with China. Sullivan and Nachman offer a remarkably informative piece, delving into these aspects with exceptional analysis. Going beyond conventional discussions of security threats and technology, the book outlines Taiwan's journey to democracy. It sheds light on the challenges it faces as a high-income society, providing a distinctive perspective on Taiwan's recent history.

SCMP MILITARY LEGISLATION ARTICLE

Chinese leader Xi Jinping has signed a historic order, marking a significant revision to military legislation. The article explores the details and impact of this decision and explores the broader implications for China's military with international relations. SCMP also speculates on the potential future developments arising from this order, outlining possible scenarios. Working on China as a topic; it is important to get an understanding of the key decisions being made by leadership. When it comes to China OSINT the more context you have the better. Being able to see policy behind actions can give OSINT'ers more clarity on why those actions may have been taken.



THE BASICS OF SOCMINT



The linked article, written by Fazla Rabbi, goes into the importance of SOCMINT (Social Media Intelligence) and how it can be used in open source investigations. The article is from December but we came across it in January. When thinking about this from a China perspective, the interpretation of data from platforms such as Weibo, WeChat, and Douyin is at the heart of Chinese SOCMINT. As those who work in a China focused way will know; getting access to Chinese social media is always a challenge. What Rabbi has written about still applies to Chinese social media and lessons from the article are extremely helpful if just starting your investigative journey.