Generally recommended sites for international relations classes and for tracking democratization issues

(Below is an abridged list – for more resources, go to my class blog at https://karlrahderir.blogspot.com and see the sidebars on the right side of the main page.)

Useful indexes for tracking human rights, corruption, failing vs strong states, etc:

- Corruption Perceptions Index http://www.transparency.org/cpi2015
- Fragile State Index (formerly Failed State Index) http://fsi.fundforpeace.org/rankings-2016
- Human Rights Watch: https://www.hrw.org
- Mapping Media Freedom https://mappingmediafreedom.org/#/

Regional resources (South Caucasus, Ukraine, Afghanistan, etc):

South Caucasus region

- Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (probably the best news source covering the former Soviet space as well as Afghanistan, Pakistan, and elsewhere): http://www.rferl.org
- Eurasianet (news from Central Asia the Caucasus, and Afghanistan): http://www.eurasianet.org
- Here is a data set from Georgia regarding attitudes toward democracy: http://caucasusbarometer.org/en/cb2015ge/ATTDEM/
- Here is a large survey regarding attitudes in Armenia: http://caucasusbarometer.org/en/cb2015am/codebook/
- Interactive 2016 election map from Georgia: http://agenda.ge/maps/election2016/
- Meydan TV, Azerbaijan opposition news source operating from Germany: https://www.meydan.tv/en
- Opposition news agency from Azerbaijan: http://contact.az/index_en.html
- Anti-government Azerbaijan news and commentary from the US: http://azerireport.com
- Pro-government news and commentary from Azerbaijan: http://azeridaily.com
• Azertac, official government news from Azerbaijan: http://azerireport.com
• Daily news from Georgia: http://agenda.ge
• Rustavi2 TV news from Georgia: http://rustavi2.com/en
• Georgia Times: http://www.georgiatimes.info/en/
• A1+ News from Armenia: http://en.a1plus.am
• PanArmenian.net: http://www.panarmenian.net
• Lragir news from Armenia: http://www.lragir.am/index/eng/0/home/view
• News.Am, Armenian news source: https://news.am/eng/

Ukraine

• Daily spot reports on the Ukraine war from the OSCE’s Special Monitoring Mission: http://www.osce.org/ukraine-smm/reports
• Livemap, continually updated interactive map of conflicts in Ukraine, Syria, and elsewhere: http://liveuamap.com
• Bellingcat’s analysis of Russian troop presence in Ukraine: https://www.bellingcat.com/news/uk-and-europe/2015/05/26/mamai-geolocation/
• Bellingcat geolocates Russian anti-aircraft weapons system in Ukraine: https://www.bellingcat.com/resources/case-studies/2015/05/28/russias-pantsir-s1s-geolocated-in-ukraine/
• Pro-Russian news from Eastern Ukraine: https://dninews.com
• “English Lugansk” – Twitter account by Ukrainian dude with constant updates from Ukrainian war zone: https://twitter.com/loogunda
• The Kiev Post, news in English from Ukraine: https://www.kyivpost.com
• Euromaidan Press, very thorough guide to Ukraine’s 2014 “Maidan” revolution, regional politics, and more – with teaching resources: http://euromaidanpress.com/euromaidan/

Afghanistan

• Radio Free Europe’s Kabul bureau: http://www.rferl.org/p/5542.html
• Afghan Analysts – everything you wanted to know about Afghanistan today: https://afghanistan-analyst.org
• Tolo News, from Afghanistan: http://www.tolonews.com
Other useful sites:

-Probably the world’s leading open source forensics site – Bellingcat: [https://www.bellingcat.com](https://www.bellingcat.com)
-Institute for War and Peace Reporting: [https://iwpr.net](https://iwpr.net)
-Voice of America: [http://www.voanews.com](http://www.voanews.com)
-Committee to Protect Journalists: [https://www.cpj.org](https://www.cpj.org)
-The Carter Center: [https://www.cartercenter.org](https://www.cartercenter.org)
-National Democratic Institute: [https://www.ndi.org](https://www.ndi.org)
-International Republican Institute: [http://www.iri.org](http://www.iri.org)
-Pew Research Center – maybe the world’s most relevant polling organization for international opinions: [http://www.pewresearch.org](http://www.pewresearch.org)
-Wikileaks: [https://wikileaks.org](https://wikileaks.org)
-University of Maryland’s Global Terrorism Database: [http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/](http://www.start.umd.edu/gtd/)
-The Long War Journal, from the Foundation for Defense of Democracies: [http://www.longwarjournal.org/about](http://www.longwarjournal.org/about)
-University of Texas map collection: [http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/](http://www.lib.utexas.edu/maps/)
-CIA World Leaders: [https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/world-leaders-1/](https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/world-leaders-1/)