

# Claim

Claim: "E! News reported that the United States Agency Aid and Development (USAID) paid millions for celebrities to visit Ukraine."

# Actions

```
web_search("E! News USAID Ukraine celebrities")
```

# Evidence

## Evidence from web\_search

Several news outlets, including the BBC (<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0m12w10jwpo>) and The Hollywood Reporter (<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/politics-news/fake-online-usaid-paid-hollywood-stars-debunked-1236129713/>), debunked a video alleging that USAID paid Hollywood celebrities to visit Ukraine. The BBC identified the video as part of a Russian disinformation campaign.

Vanity Fair ([https://www.vanityfair.com/hollywood/story/ben-stiller-denies-elon-musks-retweet-claiming-usaid-funded-the-stars-trip-to-ukraine?srltid=AfmBOooGw1dpqnug2OYCP6ztL\\_oyb-nbLtgTwlK9XIbCoPDkIdmO6uAz](https://www.vanityfair.com/hollywood/story/ben-stiller-denies-elon-musks-retweet-claiming-usaid-funded-the-stars-trip-to-ukraine?srltid=AfmBOooGw1dpqnug2OYCP6ztL_oyb-nbLtgTwlK9XIbCoPDkIdmO6uAz)) reported that the video claimed payments to Angelina Jolie, Sean Penn, Jean-Claude Van Damme, Orlando Bloom, and Ben Stiller, with Stiller denying the claims and stating he self-funded his trip. E! News' parent company, NBCUniversal, also dismissed the claim.

# Elaboration

The evidence indicates that the claim is false. Multiple sources, including the BBC and The Hollywood Reporter, debunked the video alleging USAID paid celebrities to visit Ukraine. Furthermore, Vanity Fair reported that the video made specific claims about payments to celebrities like Angelina Jolie and Ben Stiller, with Stiller denying the claims. E! News' parent company, NBCUniversal, also dismissed the claim.

# Final Judgement

The fact-check reveals that the claim is false. Multiple news outlets, including the BBC and The Hollywood Reporter, debunked a video alleging that USAID paid celebrities to visit Ukraine. The video was identified as part of a Russian disinformation campaign.

The evidence from multiple reliable sources directly contradicts the claim. Therefore, the most appropriate decision option is `false`.

**Verdict: FALSE**

## Justification

The claim that E! News reported USAID paid celebrities to visit Ukraine is false. Multiple sources, including the BBC (<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0m12w10jwpo>) and The

Hollywood Reporter (<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/politics-news/fake-online-usaid-paid-hollywood-stars-debunked-1236129713/>), debunked the video making this allegation, identifying it as part of a Russian disinformation campaign.