

# 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/c0m12wl0jwpo>) 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.

The video falsely claimed that Angelina Jolie, Sean Penn, Jean Claude Van Damme, Orlando Bloom, and Ben Stiller were paid by USAID. 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 Ben Stiller denied the claims and stated he self-funded his trip. E! News' parent company, NBCUniversal, dismissed the claim.

## Elaboration

The evidence indicates that the claim is false. Several news outlets, including the BBC and The Hollywood Reporter, debunked a video that made this allegation. The video was identified as part of a Russian disinformation campaign.

The evidence specifically mentions that E! News' parent company, NBCUniversal, dismissed the claim. This suggests that E! News did not report the claim.

## Final Judgement

The claim that E! News reported USAID paying celebrities to visit Ukraine is false. Multiple sources, including the BBC and The Hollywood Reporter, debunked the underlying video as disinformation. Furthermore, E! News' parent company, NBCUniversal, dismissed the claim.

false

**Verdict: FALSE**

### Justification

The claim is false. Multiple sources, including the BBC (<https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c0m12wl0jwpo>) and The Hollywood Reporter (<https://www.hollywoodreporter.com/news/politics-news/fake-online-usaid-paid-hollywood-stars-debunked-1236129713/>), debunked the

underlying video as disinformation. Additionally, E! News' parent company, NBCUniversal, dismissed the claim.