

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")
web_search("USAID celebrity Ukraine visit cost")
```

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 USAID paid Hollywood celebrities to visit Ukraine. The BBC identified the video as a Russian disinformation campaign. The video named Angelina Jolie, Sean Penn, Jean Claude Van Damme, Orlando Bloom, and Ben Stiller as recipients of the alleged payments.

Ben Stiller denied the claims, stating he self-funded his trip, which was confirmed by the UNHCR. 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) also reported on the video, which was fabricated. The Hollywood Reporter noted the video falsely cited "eonline.com" as a source, which was dismissed by E! News-parent NBCUniversal.

Evidence from `web_search`

From [Source](#): Content: CNN published an article on February 17, 2025, discussing the impact of the USAID suspension of funds to Ukraine. The article mentions that Ukraine has been the biggest recipient of USAID funds in the past three years. It also mentions that USAID provided Ukraine with \$37.6 billion in humanitarian aid, development assistance, and direct budget support since the full-scale war began.



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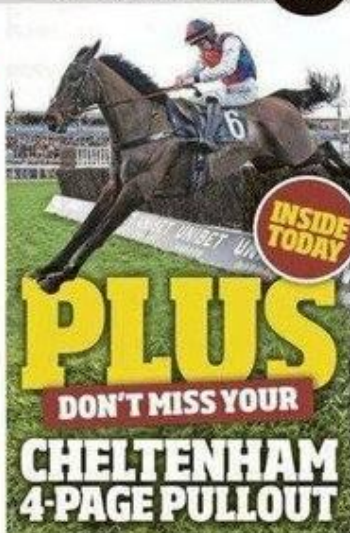
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APOCALYPSE



Elaboration

The evidence indicates that the claim is false. Several 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 a video alleging that USAID paid celebrities to visit Ukraine. The video was identified as a Russian disinformation campaign.

Furthermore, The Hollywood Reporter noted that the video falsely cited "eonline.com" as a source, which was dismissed by E! News-parent NBCUniversal. Ben Stiller denied the claims, stating he self-funded his trip.

Final Judgement

The claim that E! News reported USAID paid millions for celebrities to visit Ukraine is demonstrably false. Multiple sources, including the BBC and The Hollywood Reporter, have debunked the claim, identifying it as a disinformation campaign. The video falsely cited "eonline.com" as a source, which was dismissed by E! News' parent company.

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 allegation, identifying it as a disinformation campaign. The video falsely cited "eonline.com" as a source, which was dismissed by E! News' parent company.