

# 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")
```

## Evidence

### Evidence from `web_search`

A video falsely claimed that USAID paid Hollywood celebrities to visit Ukraine, including Angelina Jolie, Sean Penn, Jean-Claude Van Damme, Orlando Bloom, and Ben Stiller. Ben Stiller denied the claims, stating he self-funded his trip. The video was fabricated to appear as though it came from E!. 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 video, identifying it 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?srsId=AfmBOooGw1dpqnug2OYCP6ztL\\_oyb-nbLtgTwlK9XIbCoPDkIdmO6uAz](https://www.vanityfair.com/hollywood/story/ben-stiller-denies-elon-musks-retweet-claiming-usaid-funded-the-stars-trip-to-ukraine?srsId=AfmBOooGw1dpqnug2OYCP6ztL_oyb-nbLtgTwlK9XIbCoPDkIdmO6uAz)) also reported on the claims.

## Elaboration

The evidence indicates that the claim is false. A video falsely attributed to E! News alleged that USAID paid celebrities to visit Ukraine. However, the BBC and The Hollywood Reporter debunked the video, identifying it as a Russian disinformation campaign. Ben Stiller denied the claims, stating he self-funded his trip.

## Final Judgement

The claim that E! News reported USAID paid celebrities to visit Ukraine is false. Multiple sources, including the BBC and The Hollywood Reporter, debunked the video that made this claim, identifying it as disinformation. Ben Stiller also denied the claims. `false`

**Verdict: FALSE**

## Justification

The claim is false. A fabricated video falsely attributed to E! News alleged that USAID paid celebrities to visit Ukraine. However, the video was debunked by 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/>) as part of a Russian disinformation campaign.