GTU-UK

EXPOSING RUSSIAN PROPAGANDISTS

MIKHAIL TASHKINOV



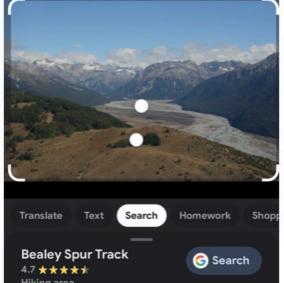


ikhail created his RT account on the 6th April 2022. During this time, he has written over 350 comments and amassed over 2,000 upvotes. His comments consist of both reply's and general comments; usually defending the Kremlin, insulting people who disagree and spreading propaganda.

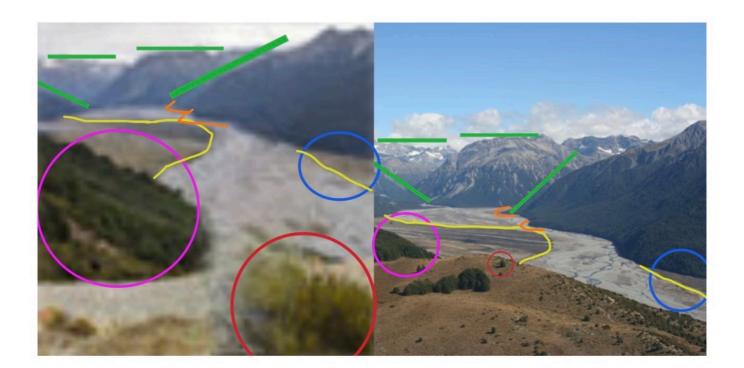
Carelessly, he used his real name as his username and a photo of himself as his profile picture. Throughout this report, I will show you how I have found out what he looks like, where he lives and other semi-personal information.

During a conversation we had, Mikhail eventually told me that his profile picture was taken in New Zealand. I was able to confirm this by taking the picture and removing him from it using editing software. I then conducted a reverse Google search and found the site to be a hiking track in New Zealand called Bealey Spur. This then confirmed to me that he was willing to tell me very limited information about himself.



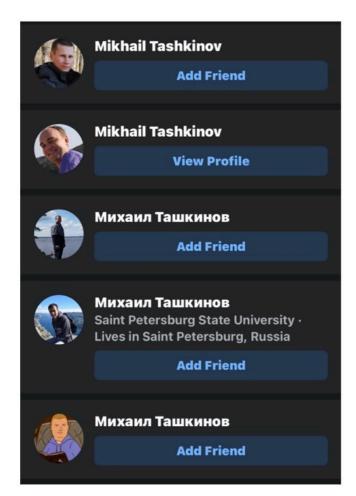






Doing a Facebook search of his name, I found multiple possible candidates. When viewing each account however, I could see that they were all born in Perm, Russia. This meant that the name was obviously very popular in that city.

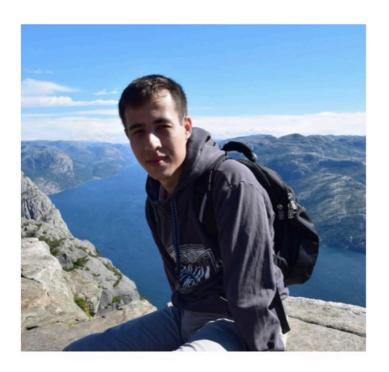
I also asked him if he has ever been to a nordic country (Norway, Sweden or Finland) to which he said yes, and also told me that he'd been to 30 different counties and multiple regions in Russia.







On one of the Facebook accounts, the profile looked very similar to how his RT profile picture looked.





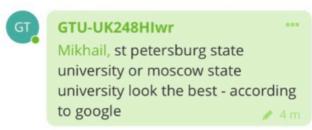
In both pictures, he is wearing the same type of clothing and looks the same. Short black hair, bag, hoodie, jeans/appropriate hiking trousers.

Using the same technique, I was able to confirm that the profile picture was taken in Norway, and with him also admitting he'd been to Norway, I was almost able to confirm that this was him.

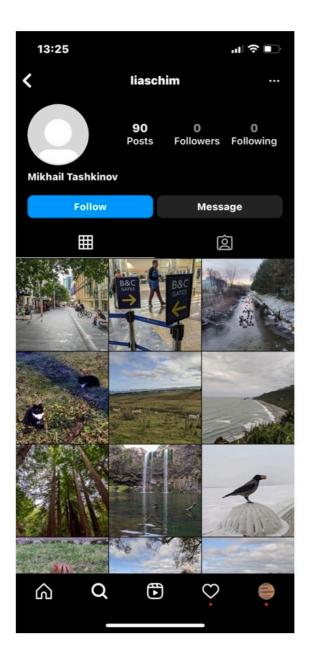


He also hinted to me that he'd been to St Petersburg State University which linked up with his Facebook account as it displayed where he went to school.

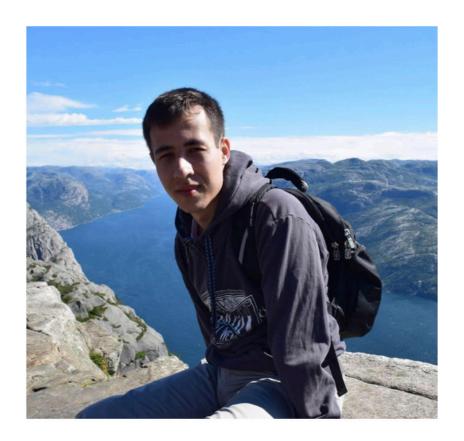




Looking on an Instagram account with the same name, I cannot verify that this is his account, however it had multiple pictures of countries in South America, New Zealand, United Arab Emirates and Russia. With his claim of being in 30 countries, there is a possibility that this is him.



From all of this information, I can almost confirm that this is Mikhail Tashkinov



Born in Perm, Russia

Lives in St Petersburg, Russia

Has gone to St Petersburg State University.