

Disinformation Review Issue No 55 - 26 January 2017

Date	Language / Targeted Audience	Summary of the Disinformation	Link to the Disinformation	Disinforming outlet (s)	Disproof	Reported by
08.01.2017	RUS	Military instructors that have trained Daesh in Syria have arrived to Ukraine to train the Ukrainian Armed Forces.	http://bit.ly/2j4sshX	Miastok	An often repeated disinformation, no evidence given.	Oleksandr Nykonorov, journalist for Depo.ua, blogger, researcher
09.01.2017	RUS	Moscow State University is ranked third in the world, says Victor Sadovnichy, Rector of Moscow State University.	http://bit.ly/2k8upLZ	Kremlin	The chief of Russia's oldest university told Russian President Vladimir Putin that his school ranked third in the world in terms of education quality. However, the third-place ranking only pertains to a narrow metric of post-graduation alumni accomplishments. http://bit.ly/2jQvIS1 . Currently, Stanford university ranks as third in the world after Oxford University and California Institute of Technology whereas Moscow State university is on 188th place http://bit.ly/2fU2RaT .	Polygraph.info
12.01.2017	RUS	Because of the cold, Ukraine will be left without gas, and Europe will turn into a glacier. Ukraine doubled its consumption of Russia's transit gas into Europe, which can lead to a repeated "gas crisis" like the one in 2009. Ukraine's gas supplies will be used up in 70 days.	http://bit.ly/2iVGjM4	REN TV	The article refers to an article published in Die Tageszeitung. However, the German article contains no mention of Ukraine being left without gas or Europe turning into a glacier. It also does not say that Ukraine's gas supplies will be used up in 70 days, but that Ukraine may start to be affected by lack of gas in 70 days. REN TV's translation is misleading. http://bit.ly/2jhXkU2	StopFake.org
14.01.2017	RUS	More than 30 Ukrainian soldiers have deserted in the last week.	http://bit.ly/2k7Kb9Z	Miastok	No evidence given. The information comes from the Head of LNR Militia Colonel Oleg Anaschenko in the well known pro-Kremlin outlet "Miastok".	Oleksandr Nykonorov, journalist for Depo.ua, blogger, researcher

Disinformation Review Issue No 55 - 26 January 2017

Date	Language / Targeted Audience	Summary of the Disinformation	Link to the Disinformation	Disinforming outlet (s)	Disproof	Reported by
14.01.2017	RUS	The government of Ukraine illegally seized power of the country.	http://bit.ly/2jgM7hF	Miastok	The OSCE characterised the Ukrainian elections in 2014 as showing the "clear resolve of the authorities to hold what was a genuine election largely in line with international commitments and with a respect for fundamental freedoms." According to the OSCE, the only areas where serious restrictions were reported were those controlled by separatists, who undertook "increasing attempts to derail the process." http://bit.ly/2g9K0Mp	Oleksandr Nykonorov, journalist for Depo.ua, blogger, researcher
15.01.2017	GEO	Putin has never waged war on Chechnya and Chechens. Putin was fighting Western-funded international terrorists and was freeing Chechen people from their destructive influence and violence.	Printed newspaper	Asaval-Dasavali	The second Chechen war is considered to have started in 1999, when Putin was Prime Minister. According to the 2001 report of Amnesty International http://bit.ly/2iJiS8K , during the year 2000, Russia committed war crimes such as killing innocent civilians, shelling villages, destroying medical facilities, torturing war prisoners, looting, sexual violence etc. According to Russian human rights organisation Memorial, the number of Chechen civilians killed and disappeared in the Second Chechen War exceeds 25,000. Hundreds of lawsuits have been submitted by Chechens against Russia to the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR). In 2005, the court defined for the first time the violation of the right to life, torture and inhumane treatment of Chechens by Russia. Further debunking at Eurocommunicator http://bit.ly/2j1M63 . There is no evidence presented that the Russians were fighting Western-funded international terrorists.	Myth Detector
15.01.2017	RUS	The UK and its secret service are destroying American democracy, moral codes and reputation of the US all over the world.	http://bit.ly/2kQhem	Vesti nedeli (Rossia 1)	No evidence given for these accusations.	Pavel Spirin, former journalist

Disinformation Review Issue No 55 - 26 January 2017

Date	Language / Targeted Audience	Summary of the Disinformation	Link to the Disinformation	Disinforming outlet (s)	Disproof	Reported by
15.01.2017	RUS	Obama materialized hatred of Russia in the West by sending American tanks to Poland.	http://bit.ly/24zHGP	Vesti nedeli (Rossia 1)	No evidence of "hatred" // The Poles welcomed the US troops: http://bit.ly/2k7KT76 // The enhanced military presence is a reaction to Russia's aggressive actions: http://bit.ly/29wEikw	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
15.01.2017	RUS	The Europeans have dragged Russia into the Parliamentary Assembly of Europe in order to abuse Russia there for 20 years.	http://bit.ly/2joFkjG	Voskresnyi vecher s Vladimirom Solovyovym (Rossia 1), time 01:15:31	Russia joined PACE voluntarily. No evidence of "abuse". The PACE have suspended certain rights for the Russian delegation due to Russias illegal annexation of Crimea and military aggression in Ukraine.	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
15.01.2017	RUS	There was a coup d'etat in Ukraine, and Russia merely expressed its point of view.	http://bit.ly/2joFkjG	Voskresnyi vecher s Vladimirom Solovyovym (Rossia 1), time 01:18:42	Democratic, competitive and generally well-organised presidential and parliamentary elections were held in 2014 and local elections in 2015. The EU welcomed this progress. The OSCE, which observed all these elections on the ground, characterised the Presidential elections as showing the "clear resolve of the authorities to hold what was a genuine election largely in line with international commitments and with a respect for fundamental freedoms." // Illegal annexation, violation of borders and military aggression is not "expressing a point of view".	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
15.01.2017	RUS	The hunt for "domestic" separatists has begun in Ukraine. The property of "enemies of the people" will be handed over to informers, and "domestic" separatists will be sent to prison.	http://bit.ly/2kjECnW http://bit.ly/2k8pPwX	Antifashist.com, Narodnyi korrespondent	The article - reprinted by several media outlets - is not based on any verifiable facts. http://bit.ly/2iVCw1z	StopFake.org
16.01.2017	RUS	The anti-Russian propaganda in Europe is worse than during the Cold war.	http://bit.ly/2k8f2D1	Vremya Pokazhet (Pervyi kanal), time 23:52	The EU does not engage in propaganda but expose and debunk pro-Kremlin disinformation http://bit.ly/2jmP9RT	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
16.01.2017	RUS	NATO is a terrorist organisation, NATO and CIA were selling weapons to Daesh, thanks to NATO there are 5000 Daesh fighters in Europe.	http://bit.ly/2k8f2D1	Vremya Pokazhet (Pervyi kanal), time 28:54	No evidence for this accusation.	Pavel Spirin, former journalist

Disinformation Review Issue No 55 - 26 January 2017

Date	Language / Targeted Audience	Summary of the Disinformation	Link to the Disinformation	Disinforming outlet (s)	Disproof	Reported by
16.01.2017	RUS	Europe has found a universal method of resolving problems. If anything goes wrong, if they have bad luck - it is Russia's fault.	http://bit.ly/2k8t2D1	Vremya Pokazhet (Pervyi kanal), time 31:15	No evidence for this accusation.	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
16.01.2017	ENG	There were numerous violations of human rights committed on the peninsula by the Kiev regime before Crimea seceded from Ukraine and voted to join the Russian Federation.	http://bit.ly/2jIMZdx	The New Cold War	Actually, the UN have accused Russia of human rights abuses in Crimea since the illegal annexation of the peninsula to Russia http://indpn/2fxfnIH . Human Rights Watch have also concluded that the rights situation in Crimea has rapidly deteriorated since Russia annexed Crimea http://bit.ly/1RoIEeE .	Promote Ukraine
17.01.2017	CZE	The damaging of Vaclav Havel's memorial in Kyiv was a protest against the government's pro-European foreign policy that is not supported by common people.	http://bit.ly/2k8hHvK	Sputnik	No evidence to support the claims.	Collected by the Prague Security Studies Institute (PSSI) within the framework of the Centre for International Relations' project co-financed by the Visegrad Fund
17.01.2017	RUS	In 2014, the UN gave Russia the right to seize Ukraine.	http://bit.ly/2k7zLHh	PolitOnline.ru	The story is based on the fact that Viktor Yanukovich sent a letter to the UN asking Russia to send its troops to Ukraine. That is not a UN approval for an invasion: http://bit.ly/2joabwW	StopFake.org
17.01.2017	RUS	There was a coup d'etat in Ukraine. The current Ukrainian government is illegitimate.	http://bit.ly/2jIOTuG	Mesto vstrechi (NTV), time 04:35	Democratic, competitive and generally well-organised presidential and parliamentary elections were held in 2014 and local elections in 2015. The EU welcomed this progress. The OSCE, which observed all these elections on the ground, characterised the Presidential elections as showing the "clear resolve of the authorities to hold what was a genuine election largely in line with international commitments and with a respect for fundamental freedoms."	Pavel Spirin, former journalist

Disinformation Review Issue No 55 - 26 January 2017

Date	Language / Targeted Audience	Summary of the Disinformation	Link to the Disinformation	Disinforming outlet (s)	Disproof	Reported by
17.01.2017	RUS	Volyn and Vinnitsa may secede from Ukraine, according to commander of a battalion of the Ukrainian Armed Forces, Anatoly Vinogradsky.	http://bit.ly/2kirQpC http://bit.ly/2j5cyUx	TV Zvezda, Lenta.ru	In fact, Mr. Vinogradsky did not mention secession at all. At a press conference on 16 January 2017, he questioned the necessity of granting special status to Donbas, pointing out the discontent of other regions with the fact that their taxes go towards paying the tariffs on Donbas, and who should, by this logic, also demand special status. The entire video from the press conference is available here: http://bit.ly/2k8shUg .	StopFake.org
18.01.2017	RUS	The America for Bulgaria Foundation, George Soros and other NGOs are organizing a Maidan against the president elect Radev in Bulgaria. Bulgarians under 40 years are recruited and paid 30 euros each to participate in the uprising.	http://bit.ly/2kafcgS	RIA Novosti	No evidence given, the article refers to "unofficial sources" and rumors on blogs to support its claims (using a common tactic when spreading disinformation-referring back to the fact that information has been reported before, without mentioning what kind of source has reported it). The claim that America for Bulgaria will be more active in supporting democracy is presented as a suspicious thing, whereas it is perfectly normal to support democracy.	East Stratcom Network
18.01.2017	RUS	The Luhansk Peoples republic is an independent state.	http://bit.ly/2kizznR	Miastok	Eastern Ukraine is part of Ukraine. The international community does not recognise the so-called "presidential and parliamentary elections" held in Donetsk and Luhansk 'People's Republics' on 2 November 2014. These were held contrary to the letter and the spirit of the Minsk Protocol, signed within the framework of the Trilateral Contact Group, and obstructing efforts to find a sustainable political solution to the crisis.	Oleksandr Nykonorov, journalist for Depo.ua, blogger, researcher
18.01.2017	RUS	Ukraine has filed action against Russia in the International Court of Justice only in order to harm Russia as much as possible.	http://bit.ly/2jh7rUp	Vremya Pokazhet (Pervyi kanal), time 03:00	Ukraine has filed a case in the International Court of Justice to hold the Russian Federation accountable for acts of terrorism and discrimination in the course of its unlawful aggression against Ukraine: http://bit.ly/2jpuR11	Pavel Spirin, former journalist

Disinformation Review Issue No 55 - 26 January 2017

Date	Language / Targeted Audience	Summary of the Disinformation	Link to the Disinformation	Disinforming outlet (s)	Disproof	Reported by
18.01.2017	RUS	The Minister of Interior of Ukraine calls to resume the war in Donbas and transfer the war to Crimea.	http://bit.ly/2jh7rUp	Vremya Pokazhet (Pervyi kanal), time 26:26	Minister Avakov called for restoring the border control over internationally recognised borders of Ukraine: http://bit.ly/2iVbsPE	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
19.01.2017	BUL	The America for Bulgaria Foundation, George Soros and other NGOs are organizing a Maidan against the president elect Radev in Bulgaria. Bulgarians under 40 years are recruited and paid 30 euros each to participate in the uprising.	http://bit.ly/2k7XYwb	Blitz	Translation of the RIA Novosti disinformation above to Bulgarian.	East Stratcom Network
19.01.2017	ENG	The newly appointed Canadian foreign minister Chrystia Freeland (who is of Ukrainian heritage) is the daughter of a nazi collaborator.	http://bit.ly/2jLWu6	Russia insider	There is no concrete evidence to substantiate this theory given in the publications. Freeland is a prominent critic of Russia http://bit.ly/2jaCX4U . A common narrative in pro-Krmlin disinformation is to call Ukrainians "nazi collaborators". The minister herself has in her biography written that her family left Europe due to persecution from the Russian authorities.	Promote Ukraine
19.01.2017	RUS	The Ukrainians have been seduced by the West, they were ordered to spit on their brothers [meaning "the Russians"], and they agreed to it.	http://bit.ly/2jiZRk2	Vremya Pokazhet (Pervyi kanal), time 20:35	No evidence for the accusations. // It is Russia who invaded Ukraine and started killing its citizens, not vice versa.	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
19.01.2017	RUS	Ukraine has two official languages (Ukrainian and Russian).	http://bit.ly/2jiZRk2	Vremya Pokazhet (Pervyi kanal), time 27:47	Ukraine has only one official language - Ukrainian. // But, according to Ukraine's Constitution and the Law on languages, every person is guaranteed the right to choose the language he or she wishes to speak and no restrictions have ever been enacted limiting that choice (see Article 10: http://bit.ly/2ep35dP ; Ukrainian original here: http://bit.ly/2ecPIAT).	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
19.01.2017	RUS	Russia is the world leader in radio-electronics. The US, Japan, and China are decades behind.	http://bit.ly/2kjuFuL	Sergei Zheleznyak @ TV Dozhd	No evidence for this statement.	Pavel Spirin, former journalist

Disinformation Review Issue No 55 - 26 January 2017

Date	Language / Targeted Audience	Summary of the Disinformation	Link to the Disinformation	Disinforming outlet (s)	Disproof	Reported by
19.01.2017	RUS	The German ambassador in Ukraine, Ernst Reichel, wrote a letter to Ukrainian Prime Minister Petro Poroshenko, pressuring him to hand over Donbas to Russia.	http://bit.ly/2jQ82gu	Korrespondent	The news, as well as the published letter, is fake. http://bit.ly/2kjdHr	StopFake.org
20.01.2017	RUS	A number of European cities were established by the ancient Russians; for example Berlin, Leipzig, Dresden. Also, Russian was the basis of which Sanskrit was formed.	http://bit.ly/2kjcMgj	Ren TV on youtube	History revisionism. No new historical evidence presented for these attempts to rewrite history.	Oleksandr Nykonorov, journalist for Depo.ua, blogger, researcher
20.01.2017	GER	The newly appointed Canadian foreign minister Chrystia Freeland (who is of Ukrainian heritage) is the daughter of a nazi collaborator.	http://bit.ly/2jhsXBj	balkanblog.org	Translation of the Russia insider article to German.	Promote Ukraine
21.01.2017	RUS	Ukrainians are russophobic.	http://bit.ly/2jokxNr	Ren TV on youtube	In the last Ukrainian census, carried out in 2001, 8.3 million people (17.3% of the population) identified as ethnic Russians http://bit.ly/1gKrlph . The actions of Russia such as the illegal annexation of Crimea and the backing of the separatists and their self-proclaimed authorities in eastern Ukraine are perceived as unfriendly steps/aggression by the majority of Ukrainian society.	Oleksandr Nykonorov, journalist for Depo.ua, blogger, researche
23.01.2017	ENG	Angela Merkel's party (SDU) and its sister party (CSU) continues to fall from favour with German voters and anti-mass migration Alternative for Germany (AfD) and the Social Democratic Party (SPD) remain unchanged from the previous week at 21 per cent and 12 per cent, respectively.	http://bit.ly/2j5PXXI	Breitbart	No, CDU/CSU-EPP is on 37% (the same as three weeks ago) and AfD currently has 13% in the polls. SPD is currently on 20%, all according to Europe Elect http://bit.ly/2jpnX24	East Stratcom Network

Disinformation Review Issue No 55 - 26 January 2017

Date	Language / Targeted Audience	Summary of the Disinformation	Link to the Disinformation	Disinforming outlet (s)	Disproof	Reported by
23.01.2017	GER	The US military has coordinated its airstrikes in Syria today with Russia.	http://bit.ly/2jX4Gsz	Sputnik	The Pentagon denied the claims, and states that the Defense Department had a channel of communication with the Russian military that was solely focused on avoiding collisions in the airspace over Syria. "The Department of Defense is not coordinating air strikes with the Russian military in Syria," Eric Pahon, a Pentagon spokesman, said. http://reut.rs/2iZ64va	East Stratcom Network

DISCLAIMER: The Disinformation Review is a compilation of reports received from members of the EEAS East Stratcom mythbusting network, which comprises of over 400 experts, journalists, officials, NGOs and Think Tanks in over 30 countries. Please note that opinions and judgements expressed here do not represent official EU positions.