

## Disinformation Review Issue No 41 - 27 September 2016

Date	Language / Targeted Audience	Summary of the Disinformation	Link to the Disinformation	Disinforming outlet(s)	Disproof	Reported by
06.09.2016	ENG	Hillary Clinton was behind the orchestrated toppling of Victor Yanukovich's rule in Ukraine and the interim government was set up by the US and used to start a conflict with Russia.	<a href="http://huff.to/2c27cHR">http://huff.to/2c27cHR</a>	Huffington Post	Repeating already debunked disinformation. The spontaneous onset of the Euromaidan protests was a reaction of large parts of the Ukrainian population to the Yanukovich government's sudden departure from the Association Agreement with the European Union in November 2013.	Kremlin Watch (European Values think-tank), <a href="http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/">http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/</a>
09.09.2016	CZE	Hillary Clinton was behind the orchestrated toppling of Victor Yanukovich's rule in Ukraine and the interim government was set up by the US and used to start a conflict with Russia.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2daLwxI">http://bit.ly/2daLwxI</a>	Prvni zpravy	Czech translation of the Huffington Post disinformation article mentioned above.	Kremlin Watch (European Values think-tank), <a href="http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/">http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/</a>
13.09.2016	ENG	Zbigniew Brzezinski, one of the most senior members of the US intelligence establishment and a former Obama Presidential adviser, writes in a tweet and/or a blog that the US is behind the attempted coup in Turkey.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2d4j0xc">http://bit.ly/2d4j0xc</a>	New Eastern Outlook	The tweet/blog does not exist. The author of the original article is F. William Engdahl, who often appears on RT and describes the Arab spring as an American conspiracy.	Kremlin Watch (European Values think-tank), <a href="http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/">http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/</a>
13.09.2016	CZE	Zbigniew Brzezinski, one of the most senior members of the US intelligence establishment and a former Obama Presidential adviser, writes in a tweet and/or a blog that the US is behind the attempted coup in Turkey.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2cZuKQ4">http://bit.ly/2cZuKQ4</a>	Svobodne noviny	Czech translation of the New Eastern Outlook disinformation mentioned above.	Kremlin Watch (European Values think-tank), <a href="http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/">http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/</a>
13.09.2016	GEO	The electronic system of voting in the US allows any person to go to the supermarket, buy plastic cards and use them for voting.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2dgXemn">http://bit.ly/2dgXemn</a>	Political Night	There is no state where a plastic card from a supermarket is enough to be able to vote in the US <a href="http://bit.ly/2aJpEEy">http://bit.ly/2aJpEEy</a>	Myth Detector
14.09.2016	CZE	Hillary Clinton has one or two years to live, doctors warn. She suffers from Alzheimers and dementia.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2cm5T4R">http://bit.ly/2cm5T4R</a>	Parlamentni Listy	According to her personal physician, Hillary is healthy and fully able to function as a president. CNN has covered the conspiracy theories regarding Hillary Clinton's health <a href="http://cnn.it/2cHVTZA">http://cnn.it/2cHVTZA</a>	Kremlin Watch (European Values think-tank), <a href="http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/">http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/</a>
15.09.2016	RUS	Oliver Stone's film "Snowden" about the American whistleblower has been banned in the USA and in the West.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2ccNXcX">http://bit.ly/2ccNXcX</a>	<a href="http://vm.ru">vm.ru</a>	The film is scheduled to play in cinemas across the US and Europe (in the countries where it has been released). <a href="http://bit.ly/2cwhWRX">http://bit.ly/2cwhWRX</a>	Alexei Kovalev, <a href="http://noodleremover.news">noodleremover.news</a>

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18.09.2016	RUS	There might be an agreement between the US and Daesh. The US fulfilled their part of the agreement by bombing the positions of the Syrian Forces near Deir ez-Zol. However, Daesh did not fulfill its part and organized explosions in New York and New Jersey.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2cRepuI">http://bit.ly/2cRepuI</a>	<a href="http://ria.ru">Riafan.ru</a>	Conspiracy theory. The US leads the coalition fighting against the so called Islamic State jihadists in Syria and Iraq. <a href="http://bit.ly/1ziAxiq">http://bit.ly/1ziAxiq</a>	East StratCom Network
18.09.2016	RUS	The current authorities in Ukraine seized power through a bloody coup.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2d1oXYq">http://bit.ly/2d1oXYq</a>	Vesti Nedeli (time 6:43)	The spontaneous onset of the Euromaidan protests was a reaction of large parts of the Ukrainian population to the Yanukovich government's sudden departure from the Association Agreement with the European Union in November 2013. Both the parliamentary and the presidential elections in 2014 were open and democratic.	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
18.09.2016	RUS	Moscow has not annexed Crimea, the peninsula has joined Russia on the basis of the will of its citizens and in line with international law and the UN Charter, as stated by Russian president Vladimir Putin.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2d1oXYq">http://bit.ly/2d1oXYq</a>	Vesti Nedeli (time 15:56)	Any decision relating to Ukraine's sovereignty or sovereign choices can only be taken without undue external pressure. This so-called referendum was organised in a matter of weeks by a self-proclaimed Crimean leadership installed by armed Russian military personnel following the seizure of public buildings. Any so-called referenda organised by self-proclaimed authorities, who lack democratic legitimacy, are obviously illegal and illegitimate. The EU will not recognise them nor their alleged outcomes. // In March 27, 2014, the UN General Assembly Resolution 68/262 was adopted in response to the Russian annexation of Crimea: being entitled "Territorial integrity of Ukraine", it did not approve the annexation: <a href="http://bit.ly/1RZGnjo">http://bit.ly/1RZGnjo</a>	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
19.09.2016	RUS	The OSCE Secretary General Ambassador Lamberto Zannier officially denied the presence of Russian troops in the Donetsk and Luhansk areas occupied by militant separatists.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2dgrfxN">http://bit.ly/2dgrfxN</a>	RIA Novosti	Lamberto Zannier did not deny that Russian military were present in the East of Ukraine, but said that there are fighters from outside the region who admit not being locals but who deny official connection to Russian structures. Detailed debunking here <a href="http://bit.ly/2djht5K">http://bit.ly/2djht5K</a>	<a href="http://stopfake.org">Stopfake.org</a>

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19.09.2016	RUS	Ukrainian armed forces opened fire on OSCE monitors while they were conducting routine inspections on 11 September.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2cZnBPZ">http://bit.ly/2cZnBPZ</a>	TASS	The OSCE Special Monitoring Mission makes no mention of being fired upon on September 11. Detailed debunking here <a href="http://bit.ly/2cKccFI">http://bit.ly/2cKccFI</a>	<a href="http://stopfake.org">Stopfake.org</a>
19.09.2016	GEO	George Soros employs spies in Georgia who actively fight against traditional values, national values and the Orthodox Church.	Printed newspaper	Asaval Dasavali	No evidence for the accusations given. George Soros established the Open Society Foundations to help countries make the transition from communism. <a href="https://osf.to/203Rs8X">https://osf.to/203Rs8X</a> //	EEAS Tbilisi
19.09.2016	RUS	Ambassadors of the EU and the USA met with priests of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. The clergy told the diplomats and law enforcers about attempts of seizure of churches and about actions of resentment against a recent Cross Procession for peace in Ukraine. The clergy are also concerned about planned legislation that could legalise raids on churches and temples.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2dbgeVv">http://bit.ly/2dbgeVv</a>	<a href="http://podrobnosti.ua">podrobnosti.ua</a>	The EU delegation in Kyiv as well as the US Embassy confirmed that the meeting never took place.	EEAS Kyiv
19.09.2016	CZE	Europe is a continent covered with US weapons and the Czech Republic is a suppressed nation.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2drEE11">http://bit.ly/2drEE11</a>	Parlamentni Listy	EU Member States make sovereign decisions for their own security. NATO/US military presence and support in EU Member States is possible only on the basis of the clear request/consent of the hosting nation.	Kremlin Watch (European Values think-tank), <a href="http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/">http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/</a>
20.09.2016	ENG	Sending an OSCE military policing mission to eastern Ukraine is unrealistic considering the civilian nature of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2d8oOSq">http://bit.ly/2d8oOSq</a>	Sputnik	No one has discussed the option of a military policing mission. The Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna has proposed a special police mission, which is not the same as militarised police. <a href="http://bit.ly/2d1D9B7">http://bit.ly/2d1D9B7</a>	East StratCom Network
20.09.2016	RUS	The West has prevented Russia and China from enjoying true sovereignty.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2daiTew">http://bit.ly/2daiTew</a>	Večer s Vladimirom Solovyovym @ Rossia 1 (time: 1:16:27)	No evidence given. The West respects the sovereignty of all countries, including Russia and China.	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
20.09.2016	RUS	The US is drowning in Russophobia. The sole content of its internal policy is to look for the "Hand of the Kremlin" behind everything.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2daiTew">http://bit.ly/2daiTew</a>	Večer s Vladimirom Solovyovym @ Rossia 1 (time: 1:19:39)	No evidence given. The US tried for a "reset" in US-Russia relations under current President Barack Obama. Up to this day, the US administration tries to find diplomatic solutions to current global challenges (e.g. Ukraine, Syria) with its Russian counterparts.	Pavel Spirin, former journalist

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20.09.2016	RUS	The White House defends Daesh - the conclusion to be drawn from the US-led coalition strikes on Syrian military positions on 17 September 2016.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2dtWRb8">http://bit.ly/2dtWRb8</a>	Vremya pokazhet (time: 1:36)	As a result of the struggle of the antiterrorist coalition led by the US, more than 20,000 Daesh militants have been killed and the territory that is under control of this terrorist organization has been decreased almost by half. // The US has acknowledged its mistake for the strikes and apologised to the Syrian government. <a href="http://bit.ly/2cTBsbl">http://bit.ly/2cTBsbl</a>	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
20.09.2016	RUS	The US has created the Taliban, Daesh, and Al-Qaeda.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2dtWRb8">http://bit.ly/2dtWRb8</a>	Vremya pokazhet (time: 19:44 and 34:15)	No evidence given. The Taliban emerged in 1994 as one of the anti-American factions in the Afghan Civil War, and consisted of students trained in religious schools in Pakistan. The Daesh terrorist group has had various names since it was founded in 1999 by Jordanian anti-American radical Abu Musab al-Zarqawi and first began referring to itself as the Islamic State or Daesh in 2014, when it proclaimed itself a worldwide caliphate. Al-Qaeda emerged in 1988 as a network made up of Islamic extremist, Salafist jihadists and has been immediately designated as a terrorist group by the UN, the EU, the US, Russia and other countries.	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
20.09.2016	RUS	Only one country in the world is providing humanitarian aid to Syria: Russia. The Americans are nowhere to be seen.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2dtWRb8">http://bit.ly/2dtWRb8</a>	Vremya pokazhet (time: 37:16)	The US humanitarian assistance has reached nearly 5.6 billion USD since the start of the crisis: <a href="http://bit.ly/2d38gfb">http://bit.ly/2d38gfb</a> // Similar amount was donated by the EU and its Member States: <a href="http://bit.ly/2dly4Xz">http://bit.ly/2dly4Xz</a>	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
20.09.2016	RUS	The EU is tired of Ukraine and Ukraine's behaviour. There is an order from Washington to wait a little longer, to let them sort things out by themselves. But they will not manage to sort things out, despite the hard genocide and Nazi policies they are conducting.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2dhVlcE">http://bit.ly/2dhVlcE</a>	Mesto vstrechi @ NTV (time: 14:53)	Both the EU and the US continue to significantly support Ukraine. // No evidence about alleged "genocide" or "nazi policies" in Ukraine. Ukraine is governed by democratically elected politicians. The far-right Right Sector (often depicted as "fascists" by pro-Kremlin outlets) gained only 1,8% of the votes, far short of the threshold needed to enter the parliament.	Pavel Spirin, former journalist

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20.09.2016	RUS	Neither Pentagon nor NATO were able to confirm the presence of Russian troops and Russian military equipment in Ukraine.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2dhVlcE">http://bit.ly/2dhVlcE</a>	Mesto vstrechi @ NTV (time: 37:42)	The presence of Russian troops and Russian military equipment in Ukraine has been confirmed many times, e.g. by Russian President Putin: <a href="http://bit.ly/2d1sjMI">http://bit.ly/2d1sjMI</a>	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
21.09.2016	RUS	Finnish social workers are persecuting Russian-speaking families.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2d2DPHS">http://bit.ly/2d2DPHS</a>	TV Zvezda	The statement comes from well-known Pro-Kremlin propagandist Johan Bäckman. In Finland there is rule of law, which means that everyone is equal before the law regardless of nationality. The duty of a social worker is to protect children who are in danger, regardless of their ethnic origin. <a href="http://bit.ly/2ddFf4d">http://bit.ly/2ddFf4d</a>	Official from EU member state
21.09.2016	ENG	Hillary Clinton's brain is impaired - she is chronically ill.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2cswxOx">http://bit.ly/2cswxOx</a>	Russia Insider	According to her personal physician, Hillary Clinton is healthy. CNN has covered the conspiracy theories regarding Hillary Clinton's health <a href="http://cnn.it/2cHVTZA">http://cnn.it/2cHVTZA</a>	Promote Ukraine
19.09.2016	RUS	Ukraine will have to cancel pensions and privatise land to comply with the IMF requirements for a reserve tranche.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2cwiVlk">http://bit.ly/2cwiVlk</a>	<a href="http://ukraina.ru">ukraina.ru</a>	The information in the article is exaggerated and incorrect. In reality, Ukraine will have to implement pension reforms and adopt legislation on agricultural land. <a href="http://bit.ly/2dhCxKt">http://bit.ly/2dhCxKt</a> <a href="http://bit.ly/2dhCCxS">http://bit.ly/2dhCCxS</a>	<a href="http://StopFake.org">StopFake.org</a>
21.09.2016	RUS	The Latvian military association "National Guard" is conducting joint exercises with the far-right group "Guardians of the Motherland", an organisation fighting "immigrants and invaders" that figures on the radical organisations list of Latvian law enforcement authorities.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2dbitYY">http://bit.ly/2dbitYY</a>	<a href="http://rubaltic.ru">rubaltic.ru</a>	The Latvian Ministry of Defence has distanced itself from the statement, explaining that its official opinions are to be found on the Facebook page of the Latvian army. The profile of the National Guard, where the invitation to join the exercise with Guardians of the Motherland was published is not associated with the MoD. <a href="http://bit.ly/2cul8bT">http://bit.ly/2cul8bT</a>	Biedriba NOVOSTI
21.09.2016	RUS	The attack on Syrian military positions by the US-led coalition in Syria shows that the West is an enemy of Russia, and that the war in Syria is a proxy war between Russia and the USA, between the East and the West.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2drCmiU">http://bit.ly/2drCmiU</a>	Večer s Vladimirom Solovyovym @ Rossia 1 (time: 45:29)	The US has acknowledged its mistake (the strikes were an accident) and apologised to the Syrian government ( <a href="http://bit.ly/2cTBsbl">http://bit.ly/2cTBsbl</a> ). Furthermore, on 2 June 2016, Jens Stoltenberg, NATO's Secretary General, announced that the intergovernmental military alliance "does not want confrontation with Russia, on the contrary, we strive for a more constructive relationship with Russia" ( <a href="http://bit.ly/2d9hoj1">http://bit.ly/2d9hoj1</a> ).	Pavel Spirin, former journalist

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21.09.2016	CZE	The Czech government is ignoring the will of the people in Crimea through its refusal to acknowledge the results of the Russian State Duma election in Crimea.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2cwwZeA">http://bit.ly/2cwwZeA</a>	<a href="http://cz.sputniknews.com">cz.sputniknews.com</a>	Any decision relating to Ukraine's sovereignty or sovereign choices can only be taken without undue external pressure. This so-called referendum was organised in a matter of weeks by a self-proclaimed Crimean leadership installed by armed Russian military personnel following the seizure of public buildings. Any so-called referenda organised by self-proclaimed authorities, who lack democratic legitimacy, are obviously illegal and illegitimate. The EU will not recognise them nor their alleged outcomes. // In March 27, 2014, the UN General Assembly Resolution 68/262 was adopted in response to the Russian annexation of Crimea: being entitled "Territorial integrity of Ukraine", it did not approve the annexation: <a href="http://bit.ly/1RZGnjo">http://bit.ly/1RZGnjo</a>	Kremlin Watch (European Values think-tank), <a href="http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/">http://www.europeanvalues.net/kremlinwatch/</a>
22.09.2016	ENG	The US, Israel, Daesh and Al-Qaeda work together in Syria. Al-Qaeda is helping Israel to create a buffer zone in Syria. This is backed by the US who cooperates with the terrorists whom they call "moderate rebels"	<a href="http://bit.ly/2d4ZYFJ">http://bit.ly/2d4ZYFJ</a>	The Duran	Conspiracy theory. The US leads the coalition against Daesh in Syria and Iraq <a href="http://ind.pn/1Miv7NN">http://ind.pn/1Miv7NN</a> . The US defines Daesh as a threat to international peace and security <a href="http://bit.ly/1ziAxlq">http://bit.ly/1ziAxlq</a>	Promote Ukraine
22.09.2016	ENG	The attack on the Syrian Red Crescent Aid Convoy was aimed at distracting attention from an earlier attack on Syrian army positions by the US-led coalition.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2d55M1T">http://bit.ly/2d55M1T</a>	Sputnik	No evidence given. One of several conspiracy theories proposed by pro-Kremlin disinformation outlets regarding the attack <a href="http://cbsn.ws/2cmpkdM">http://cbsn.ws/2cmpkdM</a> . Bellingcat's investigation of the Syrian Red Crescent Aid Convoy Attack identifies the munition debris recovered as coming from the tail section of a OFAB 250-270 high explosive fragmentation bomb, used by both the Syrian and Russian air forces extensively in their bombing campaigns in Syria. <a href="http://bit.ly/2denvG1">http://bit.ly/2denvG1</a>	East Stratcom Network
22.09.2016	ENG	Western media (Reuters, BBC) just repeated whatever the US and the Jihadis told them as if it was true about the attack on the Syrian Red Crescent Aid Convoy.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2d59atL">http://bit.ly/2d59atL</a>	The Duran	No evidence given. Both BBC and Reuters have reported about the conflicting versions of the story: <a href="http://reut.rs/2d0L5T3">http://reut.rs/2d0L5T3</a> , <a href="http://bbc.in/2dbZE9T">http://bbc.in/2dbZE9T</a>	Promote Ukraine

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22.09.2016	RUS	Banning the Russian paralympians from Rio 2016 targets the World Football Cup in Russia (2018), the Russian presidential elections (2018) and the recently increasing Russian authority.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2cwuU26">http://bit.ly/2cwuU26</a>	Vremya pokazhet (time: 10:08)	Russia was banned from the Paralympics in Rio 2016 because of massive state-organised doping.	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
22.09.2016	RUS	The West has waged a new Cold War with Russia, forcing Russia to respond with severe anti-Western sanctions.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2cwuU26">http://bit.ly/2cwuU26</a>	Vremya pokazhet (time: 26:51)	No state in the West intends to wage a new Cold War. As stated e.g. by NATO heads of state and government at the Warsaw Summit in July 2016, "The Alliance does not seek confrontation and poses no threat to Russia. But we cannot and will not compromise on the principles on which our Alliance and security in Europe and North America rest." ( <a href="http://bit.ly/29Clz6e">http://bit.ly/29Clz6e</a> ).	Pavel Spirin, former journalist
24.09.2016	ENG	The USA might be secretly funding the resurrection of the Ukrainian combat dolphin programme.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2cZtPyI">http://bit.ly/2cZtPyI</a>	<a href="http://sputniknews.com">sputniknews.com</a>	While past reports about the programme exist, there is no current evidence that the USA is funding its resurrection. <a href="http://bit.ly/2cXCjsK">http://bit.ly/2cXCjsK</a>	East Stratcom Network
25.09.2016	RUS	The US ambassador to Estonia, James Melville, criticised the Estonian presidential election system, saying that it does not reflect the views of the population.	<a href="http://bit.ly/2d1kG7r">http://bit.ly/2d1kG7r</a>	<a href="http://baltnews.ee">baltnews.ee</a>	The article is misleading. The US ambassador is quoted as saying "such is democracy in action – although I am disappointed that the voters have not been able to elect the president of Estonia". <a href="http://bit.ly/2dhK4sY">http://bit.ly/2dhK4sY</a>	Biedriba NOVOSTI

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.