RUSSIAN AGGRESSION AND DISINFORMATION IN UKRAINE

EVENTS



2022

FEBRUARY

RUSSIA LAUNCHES AN ALL-OUT ATTACK AND INVADES UKRAINE

—

RUSSIA RECOGNIZES THE INDEPENDENCE OF NON-GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED AREAS IN DONETSK AND LUHANSK AND MOVES "PEACEKEEPING" INTO THESE AREAS

—

RUSSIA HAS GATHERED MORE THAN 150 000 TROOPS AND HEAVY MILITARY EQUIPMENT NEAR THE BORDERS OF UKRAINE

JANUARY

RUSSIA MOVES TROOPS TO BELARUS FOR "JOINT EXERCISES"

—

ALLEGED RUSSIAN CYBERATTACKS AGAINST UKRAINE



2021

NOVEMBER - DECEMBER

RUSSIA MOVES MORE TROOPS AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT TO THE BORDER AND CRIMEA WHILE ISSUING A LIST OF DEMANDS TO DEFUSE UKRAINE TENSIONS

SEPTEMBER

RUSSIA CONDUCTS A LARGE SCALE EXERCISE ZAPAD 21, INCLUDING DEPLOYING SIGNIFICANT ELEMENTS OF 58TH COMBINED ARMS ARMY AND AIRBORNE SUBUNITS NEAR UKRAINE BORDER AND IN ILLEGALLY ANNEXED CRIMEA

JULY

PUTIN ARTICLE "ON THE HISTORICAL UNITY OF RUSSIANS AND UKRAINIANS" PUBLISHED

MARCH - APRIL

28 RUSSIAN BATTALION TACTICAL GROUPS AMASSED ON UKRIANE BORDER AND IN CRIMEA

—

NAVAL CONFRONTATION IN THE AZOV SEA





DISINFO

DISINFORMATION NARRATIVES

RUSSIA IS CONDUCTING A **LIMITED MILITARY OPERATION, IN SELF-DEFENCE, TO "DE-NAZIFY" UKRAINE**. IT IS NOT AN OCCUPATION OF UKRAINE. RUSSIA IS READY TO NEGOTIATE. UKRAINE MUST HOLD ELECTIONS FOR A NEW GOVERNMENT.

UKRAINE IS A **COLONY WITH A PUPPET REGIME.** IT HAS NO SUSTAINABLE STATEHOOD.

RUSSIA IS NOT INVOLVED IN THE CONFLICT IN EASTERN UKRAINE. **THE US WILL START A WAR IN UKRAINE** WHEN NATO IS READY AND USE UKRAINE TO LAUNCH AN ATTACK AGAINST RUSSIA. ANGLO-SAXONS TOGETHER WITH CENTRAL EUROPE SEEK CONFLICT WITH RUSSIA AT ALL COSTS, AND WANT TO TURN UKRAINIANS AGAINST RUSSIA.

THE US PLANS A FALSE FLAG CHEMICAL ATTACK ON DONBAS AND BLAME RUSSIA FOR IT. THE AMERICAN INVASION OF UKRAINE IS PUBLICLY PORTRAYED AS A RUSSIAN INVASION.

UKRAINE ORGANIZED THE CYBER-ATTACK ITSELF AND USED IT TO BLAME RUSSIA. THE WEST IS USING UKRAINE AS A PLATFORM TO ATTACK RUSSIA.

DISINFO

NATO EXPANSION THREATENS AND PROVOKES RUSSIA. **THERE ARE ALREADY 10,000 NATO TROOPS STATIONED IN UKRAINE.** NATO IS CRIMINAL AND TERRORIST ORGANISATION.

KIEV USES HYSTERIA ABOUT THE RUSSIAN INVASION AS A COVER FOR AN ATTACK ON DONBAS. **RUSSIAN SPEAKERS THERE ARE ALREADY VICTIMS OF GENOCIDE.** UKRAINE IS PART OF THE RUSSIAN WORLD. THE WEST IS PROVOKING A WAR WITH RUSSIA AND THE EU HELPS MILITARIZING UKRAINE.



POLAND EXAGGERATES CONCERNS ABOUT "RUSSIAN THREAT". IT IS **"RUSSOPHOBIA"**. THE US AND NATO WANT TO TURN THE BALTIC SEA REGION AGAINST RUSSIA. BELARUS ALREADY FACES A HYBRID WAR.

HALF OF UKRAINIANS CONSIDER THEMSELVES RUSSIAN. THERE HAS NEVER BEEN A HISTORICAL UKRAINE. UKRAINIANS AND RUSSIANS ARE ONE PEOPLE. DESPITE NATO ANTI-RUSSIAN PROJECT, UKRAINE AND RUSSIA WILL REUNITE. THE WEST DOES NOT NEED UKRAINE AND WANTS ITS PEOPLE TO DISAPPEAR.

THE US IS PUSHING UKRAINE TO REGAIN CONTROL OF CRIMEA BY FORCE. UKRAINE IS TRYING TO ORGANISE A GENOCIDE IN CRIMEA. **UKRAINE REPEATEDLY BREAKS THE MINSK AGREEMENTS AND ARRANGES PROVOCATIONS**. RUSSIA HAS NO INTEREST IN A CONFLICT WITH UKRAINE, BUT THE WEST FORCIBLY DRAGS RUSSIA INTO WAR WITH UKRAINE.

DISINFO

2020

RUSSIA CONTINUES TO MILITARIZE THE ILLEGALLY ANNEXED CRIMEAN PENINSULA. DURING MILITARY **DRILLS KAVKAZ 2020**, RUSSIA AMASSES SIGNIFICANT FORCES AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT INTO THE PENINSULA, EXERCISES OFFENSIVE SCENARIOS.

2019

RUSSIA EXPANDS A CAMPAIGN TO **DELEGITIMIZE THE UKRAINE ORTHODOX CHURCH**, AFTER IT OBTAINS INDEPENDENCE FROM THE MOSCOW PATRIARCHATE. THE CAMPAIGNS CULMINATES WITH RUSSIAN-CONTROLLED COURT IN ILLEGALLY ANNEXED CRIMEA ORDERING DEMOLITION OF A UKRAINIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH.

2017

PRO-RUSSIAN SEPARATISTS VIOLATE THE CEASEFIRE AND ESCALATE **THE FIGHTING AROUND THE TOWN OF AVDIIVKA** IN DONETSK. SEPARATIST ARTILLERY FIRE DESTROYS CRITICAL INDUSTRIAL INFRASTRUCTURE. MORE THAN 17 000 CIVILIANS ARE LEFT WATER, HEAT OR ELECTRICITY.

2018

RUSSIAN FEDERAL SECURITY SERVICE **(FSB) FORCES CAPTURE THREE UKRAINIAN NAVY VESSELS IN THE KERCH STRAIT,** AND DETAIN 24 UKRAINIAN SAILORS FOR NEARLY A YEAR. BLOCKING ACCESS TO THE SEA OF AZOV CAN BE CONSIDERED IN VIOLATION OF UN CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA.



2016

RUSSIA INCREASES TENSIONS IN THE ILLEGALLY ANNEXED CRIMEAN PENINSULA BY CONDUCTING A SERIES OF **MILITARY EXERCISES NEAR UKRAINE'S OFFICIAL CROSSINGS INTO CRIMEA** AND FORTIFIES ITS MILITARY INSTALLATION ALONG THE DE FACTO BORDER WITH UKRAINE IN CRIMEA.

2015

RUSSIAN-BACKED SEPARATIST FORCES IN DONETSK SUSTAIN AN OVERPOWERING **ATTACK ON THE DONETSK AIRPORT**, FORCING THE WITHDRAWAL OF UKRAINIAN FORCES.

2014

RUSSIA COMMENCES THE AGGRESSION AGAINST UKRAINE WITH AN **ILLEGAL ANNEXATION OF THE CRIMEAN PENINSULA,** FOLLOWED BY SIMILAR RUSSIAN-BACKED OPERATIONS IN THE DONETSK AND LUHANSK REGIONS OF UKRAINE. RIGGED REFERENDUMS ARE HELD TO FALSELY JUSTIFY THE AGGRESSION AS THE EXPRESSION OF POPULAR WILL.

Disclaimer

This infographic shows selected examples of Russia's aggressive actions against Ukraine in 2021-2022 and the corresponding disinformation narratives propagated by Russian state-controlled media outlets. These examples are neither exhaustive nor comprehensive, but illustrate Russia's overarching disinformation tactic against Ukraine to deny, deflect and dismay. Similar disinformation narratives accompanied Russia's aggressive acts against Ukraine from 2014 to 2020.

Source: EUvsDisinfo database: https://euvsdisinfo.eu/disinformation-cases/

EU vs DISINFO