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Nov 1, 2022 · 10 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/1587377072200208384](#)

In today's [#vatnik](#) soup (thanks Mike Edward, [@OpsATX](#) for the name!) I'll be introducing the Editor of the [@TheGrayzoneNews](#), Max Blumenthal ([@MaxBlumenthal](#)). In his previous life, he reported on prestigious publications such as NYT, LA Times and Al Jazeera English... 1/10



...often writing about the [🇪🇺-🇮🇷](#) conflict and doing hot takes on [🇺🇸](#) politics. In his political views, Max's worldview appears to be on the far-left spectrum (the [🇺🇸](#) far-left, not the European kind) and for example in the early 00's he wrote a lot about immigration issues in [🇺🇸](#).2/10

Later in his career he has been appearing on 🇷🇺 state-owned Sputnik and RT, but also actively spreading disinformation on his "news" website The Grayzone. He has defended RT in an interview with Tucker Carlson, stating that the media company does not spread Kremlin propaganda. 3/10



In 2015 Blumenthal made a trip to Moscow RT's 10 Years on Air anniversary party. The trip was allegedly paid for by the Kremlin and the party was attended by people like Vladimir Putin, Michael Flynn and Ken Livingstone. 4/10

His 2009 best-selling book Republican Gomorrah was inspired by Erich Fromm's work on people willing to give up their freedom via an identification with authoritarian and charismatic leaders - I'm sure you can spot the irony here. 5/10



Max has made bold claims on his website, e.g. that the Syria Civil Defence aka The White Helmets were connected to Al-Qaeda and that they were backed by Western governments and PR groups. [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_Helmets_\(Syrian_civil_war\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/White_Helmets_(Syrian_civil_war))

6/10

He has also published an article about Khan Shaykhun chemical attack, casting doubt on the Syrian government's responsibility. UN investigation disagreed with Mr Blumenthal's view on the issue and stated that the Syrian government was indeed responsible for the attack.

7/10



He has also claimed already on 26th of February, 2022, that the Ukraine's regular military has been "vanquished", and that "Washington seeks to fund a CIA-backed insurgency to ratchet up civil war and destabilize Russia's frontiers".

 **Max Blumenthal** ✓
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With Ukraine's regular military vanquished, Washington seeks to fund a CIA-backed insurgency to ratchet up civil war and destabilize Russia's frontiers - just as it did in Syria. I assume a White Helmets-style propaganda effort is in the works too.



latimes.com
Op-Ed: The CIA has backed Ukrainian insurgents before. Let's learn from...
It may sound like a neat way to avoid 'boots on the ground' for Americans, but the bloodshed would be immense.

4:52 PM · Feb 26, 2022 

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In addition, Max has suggested that the Mariupol theater airstrike that killed women and children was a "false flag attack" by Ukrainian AZOV batallion to trigger NATO intervention.



Was bombing of Mariupol theater staged by Ukrainian Azov extremists...

Testimony by evacuated Mariupol residents and warnings of a false flag attack undermine the Ukrainian government's claims about a Russian bombing of a local theater sheltering civilians. Western medi...

<https://thegrayzone.com/2022/03/18/bombing-mariupol-theater-ukrainian-azov-nato-int...>

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Satellite image of Mariupol theatre, 14 March



Source: Maxar



Ukrainian fact-checking organization StopFake lists Blumenthal as a pro-Russia journalist who promotes Russian propaganda.

...in Syria and call for the punishment by the international community
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Russia's UN Mission tags friends on Twitter to spread message
By Sarah Hurst (@XSovietNews), for StopFakeSome of the individuals tagged in tweets recently by Russian Mission UN (@RussiaUN), which has 31.1K followers, provide insight into who the Kremlin re

<https://www.stopfake.org/en/russia-s-un-mission-tags-friends-on-twitter-to-spread-mes...>