



Pekka Kallioniemi @P_Kallioniemi

Mar 10 · 22 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/1634168118992949251](https://twitter.com/P_Kallioniemi/status/1634168118992949251)

In today's [#vatniksoup](#) and another edition of "You pronounced this nonsense, not me", I'll go through some of the most common pro-Russian claims and tropes. I have discussed these in previous soups, but I feel like this type of general collection would be a helpful resource.

1/23



As many of you know, the Kremlin and other pro-Russian propagandists like to repeat the same old lies over and over again. This is part of the "Firehose of Falsehood" system that they have been using at least since 2013, probably even longer:

 **Pekka Kallioniemi**
@P_Kallioniemi · [Follow](#)

In today's #vatnik soup, I'll start an introduction about the Russian information operations (an activity that tries to affect the public opinion and behavior of a society), disinformation and propaganda.

This topic is a broad issue and I'll do it over several threads.

1/10



7:20 AM · Dec 8, 2022

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 591  Reply  Copy link

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2/23

The Firehose of Falsehood: the Russian style of propaganda for an age of information abundance.

- High volume and multi-channel approach
- Shameless in its willingness to broadcast lies
- No commitment to, or requirement for consistency
- Rapid, continuous and repetitive messaging
- Point is not to persuade but to confuse and overwhelm
- Assumes a low trust environment *and lowers it further*
- Number of arguments matters more than their quality
- Drown out competing messages through sheer volume

Let's go through some of these stories:

1) "Ukrainians shelled Donbas for 8 years, killing 14 000 Russian civilians" - This lie was promoted even by Putin himself. It is naturally not true, as Russians provoked the whole conflict in Donbas and the UN data tells us...

3/23

TASS RUSSIAN NEWS AGENCY

UKRAINE CRISIS 24 FEB 2022, 12:57

Ukrainian army keeps shelling Donbass cities, civilians killed — Russia's top brass

The DPR and LPR forces have switched to a counter-offensive with the support of the Russian armed forces, Russian Defense Ministry Spokesman Major-General Igor Konashenkov informed


MOSCOW, February 24. /TASS/. The Ukrainian armed forces continue bombarding Donbass peaceful cities, Russian Defense Ministry Spokesman Major-General Igor Konashenkov said on Thursday.

"Units of the Ukrainian armed forces keep shelling Donbass peaceful cities. There are casualties among the civilian population of the Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics," the spokesman said.

The Russian troops are providing fire support for the armed forces of the Donetsk and Lugansk People's Republics (DPR and LPR), he added. "Now they [the DPR and LPR forces] have switched to a counter-offensive with the support of the Russian armed forces," the spokesman said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin said in a televised address on Thursday morning that in response to a request by the heads of the Donbass republics he had made a decision to carry out a special military operation in order to protect people "who have been suffering from abuse and genocide by the Kiev regime for eight years." The Russian leader stressed that Moscow had no plans of occupying Ukrainian territories.

TASS RUSSIAN NEWS AGENCY



MOSCOW, March 5. /TASS/. Up to 14,000 civilians in the Donetsk and Lugansk republics have been killed since 2014, Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Saturday.

"What I am going to say may sound harsh. Yet the situation forces me to say aloud what has just occurred to me. As you may have heard, stray dogs these days begin to attack people in various regions. Some get injured. There have even been lethal cases," Putin said.

...that almost 11 000 deaths were actually Russian and Ukrainian soldiers, and around 3500 casualties were civilians, of which 9% came from the shooting down of MH17. Read more here:

Pekka Kallioniemi
@P_Kallioniemi · Follow

In today's #vatnik soup and another edition of "You pronounced this nonsense, not me". Today we're going to talk about the "genocide in Donbas" disinformation and propaganda trope, that's been debunked many times but just refuses to die in the social media sphere.

1/12

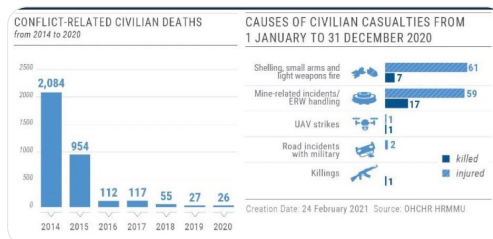
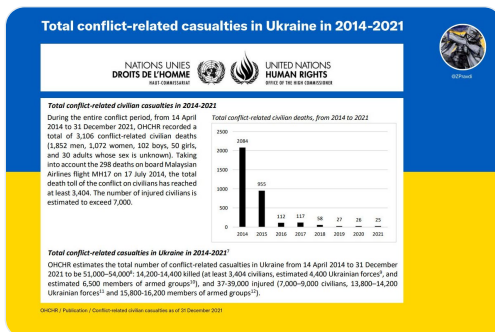
6:56 AM · Jan 8, 2023

Read the full conversation on Twitter

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4/23



2) "Ukraine is ran by Nazis" - The far-right party, "Svoboda" got around 2% of the total vote, and didn't get any representatives to Verkhovna Rada. Most "evidence" for Ukrainian Nazis are anecdotal, and the far-right Azov Battalion has been disbanded:



Much Azov about nothing: The 'Ukrainian neo-Nazis' canard – Monash...

Our media's obsession with the Azov Regiment, a single unit of the Ukrainian National Guard, is based largely on superficial or out-of-date research. Multiple expert assessments made in 2022 conclude...

<https://lens.monash.edu/@politics-society/2022/08/19/1384992/much-azov-about-nothi...>

5/23

Much Azov about nothing: How the 'Ukrainian neo-Nazis' canard fooled the world

6 MINUTE READ

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FEATURING



Alasdair McCallum
PhD Candidate, School of Social Sciences

REPUBLISH ARTICLE



Azov soldiers taking positions near a tank from the National Guard of Ukraine in 2014. Photo: Carl Ridderstål/Wikimedia Commons CC BY

There probably are some soldiers who have far-right views in the Ukrainian Army, but so does every other army, too. Russians, on the other hand, have a huge problem with far-right groups:

 **Pekka Kallioniemi**
@P_Kallioniemi · [Follow](#)

In today's #vatnik soup I'll discuss nazis. I'll introduce some famous 🇷🇺 neo-nazi movements and figures and also discuss why the "de-nazification" project of Ukraine is simply absurd.

First, let's discuss the similarities between Russian regime and Hitler's nazi Germany. 1/12



8:58 AM · Nov 28, 2022

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6/23



It's worth noting that this narrative is not even targeted so much at Western people. The rhetoric of "The Great Patriotic War" (meaning WW2 where the Soviets fought against the Nazis) is mainly targeted at Russians, as they see it as a great victory.

7/23



This war has been sold to them as a natural continuation of it, which is why they need the Nazi-angle: it allows them to make up a story of "we beat them once and now we have to beat them again".

8/23



3) "US started the war by supporting coup d'etat in 2014 on Maidan" - Not true. Maidan was an organic event, but it's still a very complex issue. The US supported Ukrainian democratic processes through an association called National Endowment for Democracy (NED), which...

9/23



...pro-Russian propagandists call it a "CIA-funded entity". They base this on individual quote, naturally taken out of context, by Allen Weinstein: "Much of NED's work involves doing what the CIA used to do". Weinstein refers to the change in US strategy of from covert...

10/23




...action (CIA-funded covert coup d'etats) to overt actions (support of democratic processes through overt and transparent organizations), stating that the latter strategy is much more efficient.

I will write more about Maidan, NED, etc. in the near future.

13/23








4) "Ukraine broke the Minsk agreement" - Ukraine and Russia both did, and the whole thing wasn't really going to work anyway. Neil Abrams (@neil_abrams) have written extensively about this topic, check his thread here:

 **Neil Abrams**
@neil_abrams · Follow

Replying to @neil_abrams and @aaronjmate

Since Russia's February invasion, Maté's animating purpose has been to shift the blame for the war onto others. Among the devices he draws upon in this pursuit are the Minsk accords. "If only Ukraine had abided by Minsk," he claims, "this whole situation could have been avoided."



2:01 PM · Nov 18, 2022

327 ❤️ Reply Copy link

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14/21



5) "Russian-speaking Ukrainians are being oppressed in Ukraine" - First of all, it was the Soviets and Stalin who tried to destroy Ukrainian culture by transporting huge numbers of people to other parts of the USSR. This is how he tried to get rid of the Crimean Tatars.

15/23

Deportation of the Crimean Tatar people. History of genocide

Матвійчук Микола · 10:30, 18 May



Image source: Суспільне Крим

The deportation of Crimean Tatars on May 18-20, 1944, was one of the worst examples of crimes committed by the Soviet government during World War II.

Suspilne Crimea tells how it happened.

He also tried to fill the Donbas Oblast with Russian miners and other workers, and denied local Ukrainians of their culture and language.

Second, no Russians are being oppressed, it's just a story developed by the Kremlin and by Vladislav Surkov:

 **Pekka Kallioniemi**
@P_Kallioniemi · [Follow](#) 

In today's #vatnik soup, I'll introduce a man who has worked mostly behind the scenes - Vladislav Surkov. Some of you might not even recognize the name, but he's the main architect of both the polarizing disinformation program and the annexation system of 🇷🇺. 1/9



7:01 AM · Nov 17, 2022 

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6) "NATO provokes the war with its expansion" - Another issue that I have written about previously. No such promises were ever made beyond East Germany, and if James Baker had said it, nothing was ever put on paper.

17/23

UP FRONT

Did NATO Promise Not to Enlarge? Gorbachev Says "No"

Steven Pifer Thursday, November 6, 2014



It is abundantly evident that Russian President Vladimir Putin is no fan of NATO. Indeed, he displays a pronounced—almost obsessive—antipathy toward the Alliance. He claims that NATO took advantage of Russian weakness after the collapse of the Soviet Union to enlarge to its east, in violation of promises allegedly made to Moscow by Western leaders. But no such promises were made—a point now confirmed by someone who was definitely in a position to know: Mikhail Gorbachev, then president of the Soviet Union.

PRESIDENT PUTIN'S NATO NARRATIVE

The West's supposed violation of a pledge not to enlarge NATO has long figured as a key element in Putin's narrative about (and against) the Alliance. In his bombastic [February 2007 speech to the Munich Security Conference](#), he said:

Even if he did mean it and we follow this logic, Putin should retreat from Crimea because in 2008 he said that it is part of Ukraine - just watch this interview. More about NATO expansion here:

 **Pekka Kallioniemi**
@P_Kallioniemi · [Follow](#)

In today's #vatnik soup and the newest edition of "You pronounced this nonsense, not me", I'll talk about the NATO expansion and how - according to Russia - NATO and the West are actually at fault for the war in Ukraine.

1/13



9:11 AM · Jan 19, 2023

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18/23

Интервью телеканалу АРД 29.03.2008



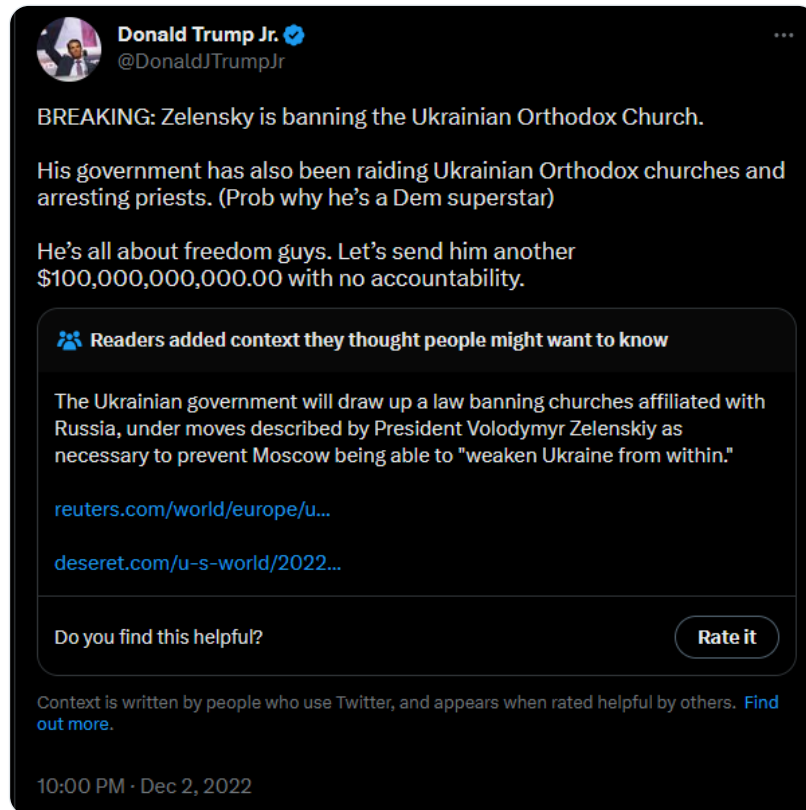
Путин: РФ готова к партнёрству со всеми странами на основе международного права


0:00

Roth: Well, that is an assumption. Mr Prime Minister, the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Bernard Kouchner, has expressed grave concerns that the next center of conflict will be in Ukraine.

7) "Ukraine has banned the Orthodox Church in Ukraine" - This bullshit was spread by Donald Trump Jr., saying that Zelenskyy is "banning Ukrainian Orthodox Church", apparently trying to appeal to the American Christian population.

19/23




Donald Trump Jr. 
@DonaldJTrumpJr

BREAKING: Zelensky is banning the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

His government has also been raiding Ukrainian Orthodox churches and arresting priests. (Prob why he's a Dem superstar)

He's all about freedom guys. Let's send him another \$100,000,000,000.00 with no accountability.

 **Readers added context they thought people might want to know**

The Ukrainian government will draw up a law banning churches affiliated with Russia, under moves described by President Volodymyr Zelenskiy as necessary to prevent Moscow being able to "weaken Ukraine from within."

reuters.com/world/europe/u...

deseret.com/u-s-world/2022...

Do you find this helpful? Rate it

Context is written by people who use Twitter, and appears when rated helpful by others. [Find out more.](#)

10:00 PM · Dec 2, 2022

Of course he hasn't, as he only banned Kremlin-connected religious groups. This was done because there is solid evidence that these groups were spying on behalf of Russia.

20/23

NATIONAL

Ukrainian authorities seek to ban Moscow-backed church amid Russian invasion

by The Kyiv Independent news desk · December 2, 2022 1:12 am

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Metropolitan Onufriy and clergy are seen during a celebration at the Sviatohirsk Lavra of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church (Moscow Patriarchate) on Oct. 10, 2021. Metropolitan Onufriy (Orest Berezovsky) is the head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. (Photo by Andriy Andriyenko via Getty Images)

8) "Zelenskyy is a drug addict money launderer who dances in drag" - Various bad actors have tried to make Zelenskyy a greedy drug-addict but the only prove for this are the deep fake videos and photoshopped images making rounds on social media.

21/23


WGB News


The Kremlin Keeps Trying to Call Volodymyr Zelenskyy a Drug Addict

"If Russians believe lies on Russian TV, why not believe this?"

By David Gilbert

April 27, 2022, 5:26pm [Share](#) [Tweet](#) [Snap](#)

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UKRAINE PRESIDENT VOLODYMYR ZELENSKY TAKES QUESTIONS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE ON APRIL 23, 2022 IN KYIV, UKRAINE. (JOHN MOORE/GETTY IMAGES)

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ALAN WONG
02.24.23

World News
Ukraine Vows to Identify Killers of Unarmed Soldier After Graphic Video
David Gilbert


Some even argue that because Zelenskyy was dancing in high heels and drag on music video, he's not fit to run the country. This is of course another version of the "Decadent West" trope, pushing for "traditional values" instead of things like LGBTQ+ rights.

22/23

OPINION
PAUL KRUGMAN

Putin and the Myths of Western Decadence

March 28, 2022



But tell me: which country's leader is happily married with children, and which has illegitimate children, history of divorce, and at least one secret mistress? Read more about Zelenskyy disinfo here:

 **Pekka Kallioniemi**
@P_Kallioniemi · [Follow](#)

In today's #vatnik soup and in the 2nd edition of "You pronounced this nonsense, not me", I'll introduce some of the outlandish lies and disinformation regarding Ukraine's president Volodymyr Zelenskyy and how he has managed to counter these smear campaigns.

1/13



9:25 AM · Dec 2, 2022

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23/23

 INDEPENDENT

NEWS SPORT VOICES CULTURE LIFESTYLE TRAVEL PREMIUM MORE

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Putin 'funnels millions by buying largest apartment in Russia for gymnast lover'

Russian president Vladimir Putin, 70, is alleged to have funnelled millions in illicit funds into properties for his 39-year-old girlfriend, Alina Kabaeva


Martha McHardy · Wednesday 01 ·  Comments









PIXELS

What's true and what's false in Russian President Vladimir Putin's state of the nation speech


Who is Putin's 'secret love child'? Everything you need to know about Luiza Rozova

 Comment

 **Kirsten Robertson**
Thursday 10 Mar 2022 8:03 am

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Luiza Rozova deleted her Instagram account this week after a wave of abuse (Picture: Facebook)

The 'secret daughter' of Vladimir Putin has been at the centre of headlines this week.

Elizaveta Krivonogikh, more commonly known as Luiza Rozova, was 'outed' as the war leader's illegitimate daughter by a Russian press outlet last year.

Support my work (and get some AI art!):



A blue support card for Pekka Kallioniemi. The top half has a blue background with white icons for Twitter, YouTube, and music notes. The name "Pekka Kallioniemi" is written in large white text. To the right is a circular profile picture of a man. Below the name is a coffee cup icon and the URL "buymeacoffee.com/PKallioniemi". The bottom half of the card has a white background with the name "Pekka Kallioniemi" in bold, followed by a paragraph of text and the URL "https://buymeacoffee.com/PKallioniemi".

Pekka Kallioniemi

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<https://buymeacoffee.com/PKallioniemi>

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