



**Pekka Kallioniemi** @P\_Kallioniemi

Apr 4 · 25 tweets · [P\\_Kallioniemi/status/164332088779762176](#)

In today's [#vatniksoup](#), I'll introduce an American entrepreneur and investor, David Sacks ([@DavidSacks](#)). He's best-known for his investment in various tech firms, for his ghost town podcast service, Callin, and for his "peace plan" on the Russo-Ukrainian War.

1/24



David is much better as a businessman than as a political commentator - he's been involved in many successful companies such as PayPal, Yammer, and [Geni.com](http://Geni.com), and as an angel investor in Airbnb, Facebook and Uber.

2/24



In 1995, While in college, Sacks and his pal Peter Thiel published a book called *The Diversity Myth: Multiculturalism and the Politics of Intolerance at Stanford*. The book was critical of culture of political correctness in universities, arguing that campuses should...

3/24



...have more intellectual diversity. Later in 2016, David apologized for sections of the book where he called date rape "belated regret", questioning "Why is all blame placed on the man?" Three years prior they'd published an article titled "The Rape Issue", defending a...


4/24

## Zenefits CEO David Sacks apologizes for parts of a 1996 book he co-wrote with Peter Thiel that called date rape 'belated regret'

It also took sharp aim at multiculturalism at Stanford University.

By Kara Swisher | @karaswisher | Oct 24, 2016, 8:15pm EDT

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David Sacks, Zenefits CEO, is sorry for his past words. | Zenefits

David Sacks, the CEO of Zenefits, has just spent the last year **cleaning up messy regulatory controversies** at his company, culminating in the successful launch of a new version of the human resources app platform last week.

But today, the longtime entrepreneur is apologizing for another uglier controversy from 20 years ago, related to a book he co-authored with high-profile investor Peter Thiel called "The Diversity Myth: Multiculturalism and Political Intolerance on Campus." It was related to their time as students at Stanford University.

In it, the pair — who both later went on to found PayPal and have each been involved in many successful startups — wrote that date rape was actually more akin to "seductions that were

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...student who had earlier pleaded "no contest" (meaning that the defendant does not accept or deny responsibility for the charges but agrees to accept punishment) on statutory rape case. Sacks allegedly included a graphic description of said encounter, suggesting...

5/24

...that the 17-year-old victim "still had the physical coordination to perform oral sex", and therefore could've uttered the word "no".

6/24

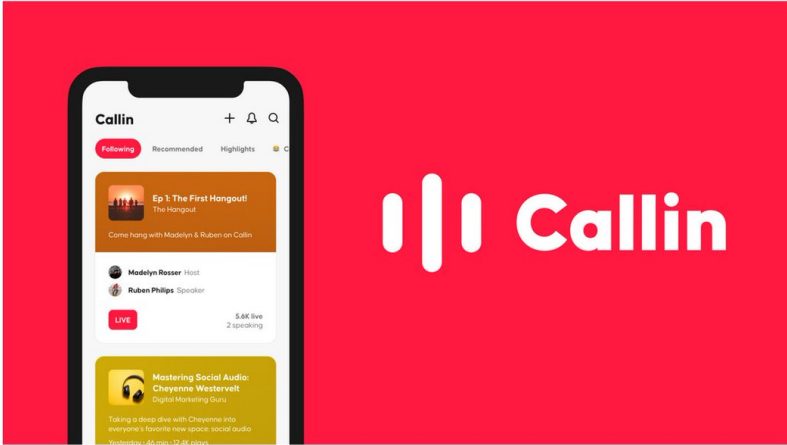
Sacks launched a "social podcasting site" Callin in 2021. It's current "Top Shows" are hosted by [@briebriejoy](#), [@aaronjmate](#), Katie "My password is 1234" Halper ([@kthalps](#)), and [@mtracey](#).

7/24

Media & Entertainment

## Callin, David Sacks' 'social podcasting' app, launches and announces a \$12M Series A round

Amanda Silberling @asilbwrites / 3:00 PM GMT+3 • September 2, 2021 [Comment](#)



[Image Credits](#): Callin

As live audio becomes more and more popular, co-founders David Sacks (former COO of PayPal and CEO of Yammer) and Axel Ericsson sought to combine social audio and podcasting into one seamless app. The resulting app — **Callin** — launches today on iOS with an announcement of \$12 million in Series A funding co-led by Sequoia, Goldcrest and Craft Ventures, where Sacks is a founder and partner.











On live audio platforms like Clubhouse or Twitter Spaces, once a room ends, the audio is gone. While Callin has similar live audio functionality, it sets itself apart by allowing users to save their live recording and edit it into an episode of a podcast.

"I'd been meaning to do a podcast for years, and I just had never gotten around to it, because it's too complicated, and the barriers are too high," said Sacks, who started his "All In" podcast in lockdown. "We have a guy in the studio who spends six hours doing post-production on every episode of the pod, and we all had to get microphones, hardware... It's complicated to

The site itself seems to be a ghost town, with biggest shows attracting only 3-7k subscribers. I'm sure that David has had many "enlightening" discussions with these people who all for some reason seem to support a genocidal maniac, some even several.

8/24

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The problem with Sacks' commentary on the war in Ukraine is that he's completely clueless about its history, and especially on the history of Russian imperialism and meddling with its

...

9/24



...neighboring countries ("B-but what about the US/CIA meddling in Iraq/Central America/etc..." - that's a different conversation). It also includes some conspiratorial ideas of "deep state" affecting everything and anything related to US foreign policy.

10/24



His "international investor friend" told that the corruption in Ukraine is "beyond belief". Again he has problems in understanding that the systematic corruption is mostly a result of the previous Soviet system & of the Russian meddling since Ukraine's independence in 1991.  
11/24

Thread

 **David Sacks**     
@DavidSacks

I was talking to an international investor who says the corruption in Ukraine is beyond belief. Theft and bribery are endemic — much worse than in Latin America. The oligarchs must be feasting on our hundred billion.

0:34 · 27 Feb 23 · 2.8M Views

5,372 Retweets 368 Quotes 25K Likes



 **David Sacks**   @David... · 27 Feb ·   
It should go without saying, but I'll say it anyway, that I feel bad for the people of Ukraine. As Bill Gates pointed out, they are the biggest victims in all of this. I hope they will be able to make a better life.

[youtu.be/VHdYYCQQovU](https://youtu.be/VHdYYCQQovU)

211 282 2,080 242K



 **@amuse**  @amuse · 27 Feb ·   
Replying to @DavidSacks

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
The Pentagon's argument against an IG to track US money sent to Ukraine was simple - for each dollar sent to Zelensky only .20 cents is spent on the war - 80% corruption tax. For weapons 90% make it to the battlefield- only a 10% corruption tax. If Americans knew they'd cut off...

54 164 712 133.7K

 **David Sacks**  @DavidSacks · Feb 27 ·   
Replying to @amuse

Did they really say this? Do you have a source for that?



61 8 279 108.3K

 **@amuse**  @amuse · Feb 27 ·   
Replying to @DavidSacks

Several weeks ago we met with a GOP member of Congress who shared that tidbit with us. FWIW he is in favor of supporting Ukraine and just got back from a photo op with Zelensky in Kyiv.

The US has provided Ukraine about \$77 billion in aid:  
• Humanitarian \$3.9 billion (90%...

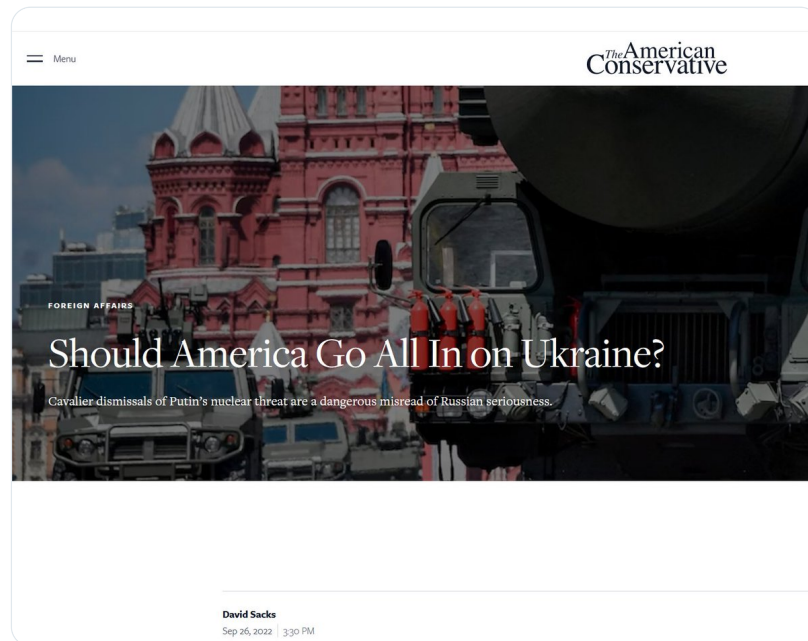
44 117 351 45.2K

 **David Sacks**  @DavidSacks · Feb 27 ·   
Replying to @amuse

\$20B definitely sounds like a feast! And that may just be the first course.

In his article "Should America Go All In on Ukraine?" for the American Conservative, Sacks warned about Russia's nuclear threat and compared foreign politics to a game of poker, stating that pro-Ukraine commentators ...

12/24



..."have not conducted a cost-benefit analysis or even played a hand of high-stakes poker". David's reasoning in the article is as follows: the more the Ukraine and the West weaken Russia, the higher the risk that Putin will resort to "unconventional arms", basically ...

13/24



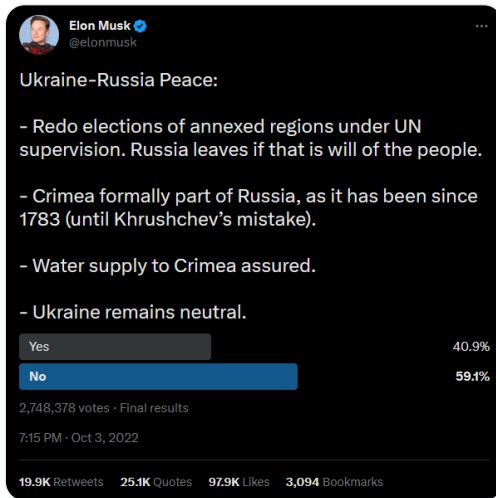
...saying that we shouldn't do anything to a genocidal maniac because they "might just nuke us". I'm sure the people of Chechnya, Moldova, Georgia, Syria and Ukraine agree with his statement.

Sacks also suggests that the US could offer a peace deal where Ukraine...

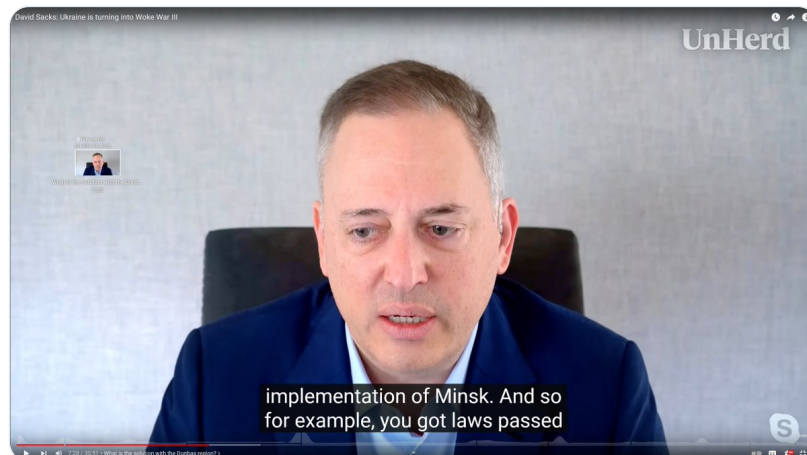
14/24



..becomes neutral & there would be a referendum in Donbas and Crimea to determine their fate. A week later, Elon parroted this Sacks' "call for peace" on Twitter. The only problem is that when becoming independent in 1991, both of these areas already voted to be part of Ukraine. 15/24



Sacks is still fighting the battle against "Woke Mind Virus", the same battle he started already in 1992 with his good friend Peter Thiel. In a recent interview with UnHerd, he said that "woke cancellation tactics" are used to silence any "peace negotiations" and that the.. 16/24



..whole thing "is turning into Woke War III". But Putin himself has said that the four annexed regions are part of Russian Federation and that they're not willing to negotiate about this. The way we can have real peace negotiations is after Russia - pardon my French -

...

17/24

## Putin announces Russian annexation of four Ukrainian regions

*The move has been condemned by Ukraine and Western countries and represents a major escalation in the seven-month war.*



People gather in front of a large screen, to celebrate the incorporation of regions of Ukraine to join Russia in Sevastopol, Crimea [AP Photo]

30 Sep 2022 | Updated: 1 Oct 2022 06:38 AM (GMT)



Russian President Vladimir Putin has proclaimed the [annexation](#) of four partially occupied Ukrainian regions at a signing ceremony in the Kremlin.

Ukraine, Western countries and the United Nations secretary-general have denounced the move, which represents a major escalation in the [war](#) that began with Russia's invasion on February 24.



...fucks off from all regions of Ukraine, including Crimea.

Sacks has brought up the conspiratorial idea that Victoria Nuland ousting Ukraine's democratically elected government, and that she was instigating the 2014 Revolution of Dignity, again having no knowledge...

18/24



Feb 25


 **kanekoa.substack.com**   
@KanekoaTheGreat

#1 @DavidSacks talks about Donald Trump's criticism of Victoria Nuland's involvement in the ousting of Ukraine's democratically elected government in 2014:

"Nuland is the Fauci of this situation. In the same way that Fauci was supposed to be protecting us from viruses, and then he funded gain of function research, Victoria Nuland was supposed to be our chief diplomat with respect to Russia and Eastern Europe. And what did she do instead?

She ginned up this conflict by backing an insurrection in Ukraine in 2014... They brought in these Ukrainian far-right nationalists as the muscle. She was the State Department official who was responsible for backing this insurrection of a democratically elected leader in 2014...

Ever since then, the relationship with the Russians over Ukraine has been heading south. If you are wondering why Putin seized Crimea, it was in direct retaliation for the coup that we backed in 2014. This is the origin of the conflict, and the fact that Trump is willing to talk about it is pretty incredible."



6 57 153 8,743

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...of the history of either Russia or Ukraine. He's also claimed that Donbas has been "the location of civil war" for eight years, completely disregarding the overwhelming evidence that Russia fabricated and coordinated most of it, also sending in military forces.

19/24

August 19, 2019 03:36  
GMT  
By RFE/RL's Ukrainian  
Service

## British Investigators: More Evidence Found Of Russian Role In Donbas

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Ukrainian servicemen in Ilovaysk, eastern Ukraine, in August 2014.

A London-based digital forensics agency says it has gathered an enormous body of evidence that Russia's military was deployed in the August-September 2014 fighting around Ilovaysk, in eastern Ukraine, in which Ukrainian forces were defeated by combined Russian and separatist troops.

Forensic Architecture used "machine learning and computer vision" to amass "the most comprehensive collection of evidence for the presence of Russian military personnel and hardware throughout the battlefield," its [project website](#) states.

Russia has denied involvement in the Donbas conflict that erupted in April 2014 and has killed more than 13,000 people. After annexing Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula earlier in 2014, Moscow has rejected allegations of leading, fighting beside, training, and supplying separatists in eastern Ukraine.

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 'Underground Clinic' In Russia Reportedly Treating Ukrainian Rebels

 Bellingcat Tracks Russian Fighters In Ukraine

 Anxious Ukraine Risks Escalation In 'Creeping Offensive'

### Editors' Picks

We know all this because of the Glazyev Tapes, the Surkov leaks and the intercepted calls of Konstantin Malofeyev. It was also directly stated by former FSB officer Igor Girkin who shot down MH17.



**Glazyev tapes debunk Russia's lies about its annexation of Crimea an...**

Although the international community has remained united in refusing to recognize Russia's annexation of Ukrainian Crimea five years ago, it has been disturbingly willing to accept Russia's narrative...

<https://khpg.org/en/1551054011>

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### The Glazyev Tapes: Getting to the root of the conflict in Ukraine

The so-called "Surkov Leaks" have reinvigorated the discussion of Moscow's involvement in the war in Ukraine and the emergence of "people's republics" in the east of the country.

Andreas Umland

Commentary · 1 November 2016 · 5 minute read

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Russia watchers have been intrigued by the recent email leak of Vladislav Surkov – Russia's adviser responsible for policies towards Ukraine and Russia's satellite states in northern Georgia. The so-called "Surkov Leaks" have reinvigorated the discussion of Moscow's involvement in the war in Ukraine and the emergence of "people's republics" in the east of the country. The leaks confirm the Kremlin's involvement in the armed conflict in the Donbas, and make clear that fueling the conflict in east Ukraine is just one part of Moscow's broader policy for undermining the Ukrainian state.

But these leaks do not alter our understanding of the conflict. Rather, they confirm – with more empirical proof – what was already known and proven. However, two months earlier there was another leak. And this one *did* provide new evidence that challenges earlier interpretations concerning the roots of the so-called "Ukrainian conflict" in 2014.

In August 2016, Ukraine's General Procurator published a [video tape of audio recordings](#) of a number of telephone conversations between Sergey Glazyev – a Russian presidential advisor – and several Russian as well as Ukrainian pro-Kremlin activists in southern and eastern Ukraine in late February and early March 2014. The recordings vividly illustrate Moscow's covert support for the still unarmed anti-government protests in Ukraine several weeks before the actual war started. Specifically, the tapes reveal the Russian state's involvement in the coordination and financing of separatist meetings, demonstrations, pickets and similar actions in Crimea as well as in various regional capitals in Ukraine's eastern and southern parts immediately after the

The Moscow Times 10 YEARS INDEPENDENT NEWS FROM RUSSIA

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### Russia's Igor Strelkov: I Am Responsible for War in Eastern Ukraine

By Anna Deliperi Nov 21, 2014

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Igor Strelkov, a former separatist commander in eastern Ukraine.

Russian national Igor Strelkov, a former commander of pro-Moscow separatists in eastern Ukraine, has claimed personal responsibility for unleashing the conflict in which 4,300 people have been killed since April.

"I was the one who pulled the trigger of this war," Strelkov said in an interview published Thursday with Russia's Zvezda newspaper, which espouses imperialist views.

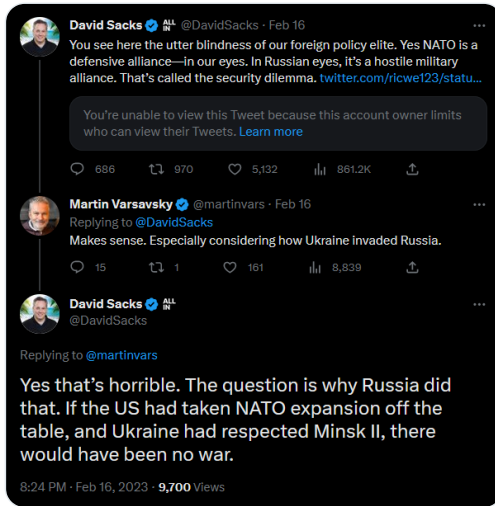
"If our unit hadn't crossed the border, everything would have fizzled out — like in [the Ukrainian city of] Kharkiv, like in Odessa," Strelkov, who uses that nom-de-guerre meaning "Shooter" to replace his last name Girkin, was quoted as saying.

"There would have been several dozen killed, burned, detained. And that would have been the end of it. But the flywheel of the war, which is continuing to this day, was spun by our unit. We mized up all the cads on the table," he said.

Following Russia's annexation of Crimea this spring, clashes between pro-Ukrainian and pro-Moscow activists broke out in the cities of Kharkiv and Odessa, with more than 40 people killed in a fire in Odessa in early May.

He's also suggested that it was Ukraine that broke the Minsk 2 agreement, which to some degree is correct, but so did Russia. Russia also broke the 1994 Budapest Memorandum, where they promised to "Respect the signatory's independence and sovereignty in the existing borders" ..

21/24



*The 'Steinmeier Formula'*

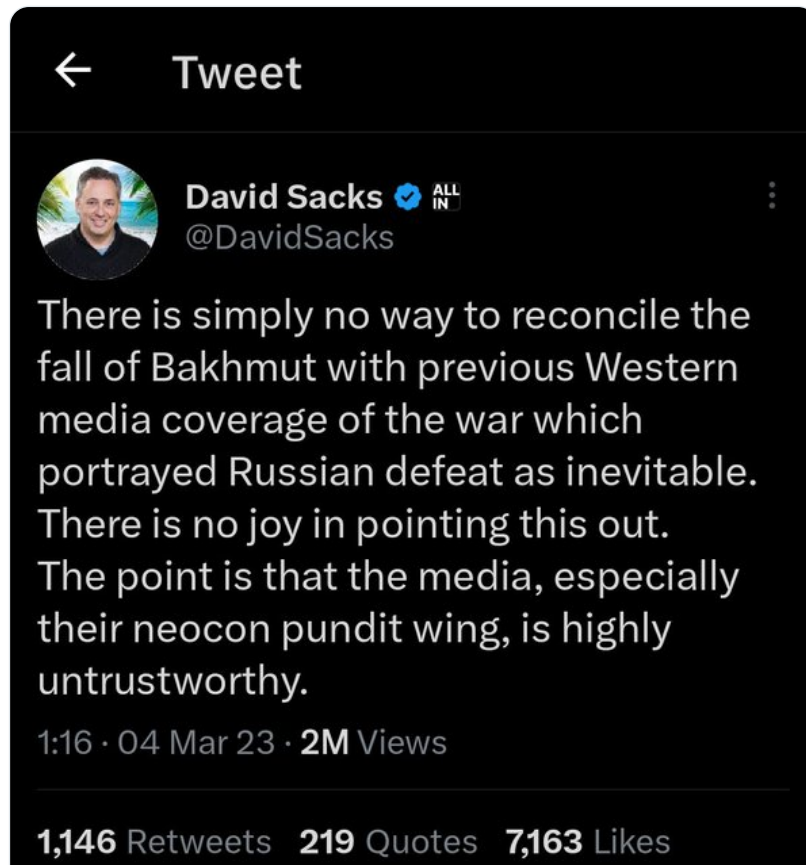
*Table 1. Overview of the implementation of the Minsk II*

Overview of the implementation of the Minsk II (European Parliament, 2018)	Agreement Status
1. Immediate, full bilateral ceasefire	Not implemented
2. Withdrawal of all heavy weapons by both sides, establishment of a security zone	Partially implemented
3. Monitoring of ceasefire by the OSCE	Partially implemented
4. Modalities for local elections under Ukrainian law on special status of the Donbas	Partially implemented
5. Pardon and amnesty of figures involved in the conflict	Not implemented
6. Release and exchange of all hostages and other illegally detained people	Partially implemented
7. Safe delivery of humanitarian aid to those in need, based on an international mechanism	Not implemented
8. Restoration of full social and economic links with affected areas	Partially implemented
9. Full Ukrainian control over its border with Russia throughout the conflict zone	Not implemented
10. Withdrawal of foreign armed groups, weapons and mercenaries from Ukrainian territory	Not implemented
11. Constitutional reform including decentralisation, special status for the separatist regions	Partially implemented
12. Local elections in Donetsk and Luhansk regions according to OSCE standards	Not implemented
13. Trilateral working groups between the Ukrainian government, the separatists and Russia	Yes, but limited results

and "Refrain from the threat or the use of force against the signatory".

A month ago David was prematurely touting about "fall of Bakhmut" and blamed media for portraying Russian defeat as "inevitable". The war of course is far from over, but Russia has been trying to...

22/24





**Paisano**  @Paisano · 04 Mar



Replying to [@DavidSacks](#)

The only exception one can take with your commentary Mr. Sacks —with all due respect—is the use of the antiquated term NeoCon which used to describe warmongering conservatives but as we are Seeing today, the war machine uniparty involves war hawks from the Democrat party as well...

28

10

299

1.65K

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...take a small and strategy-wise pointless town since the beginning of Aug 2022 - I would hardly call that success.

To conclude: for some reason, perhaps due to his success in business, Sacks thinks that he has the answer to this complex and horrible conflict.

23/24



He has no knowledge on the history of these two countries, he doesn't know the background of the conflict, he doesn't account either side's agency, nor does he think about any long-term implications.

BTW David, have you ever heard of the 2nd Chechen War?

24/24



Ukraine has smeared peace advocates, outlawed peace talks, urged preemptive strikes by the West, and insists on retaking Crimea at risk of nuclear war. It does not deserve unqualified, unconditional, and unlimited US support.

23:50 · 15 Oct 22

4,394 Retweets 496 Quotes 22.9K Likes



**Christian Lanng** @c... · 15 Oct 22

Replying to [@DavidSacks](#)

How is it peace advocates if they are just repeating Moscow talking points? Putin is the warmonger, liar, criminal, you really need to get your priorities straight...

72 21 1,059



**David Sacks** @Da... · 15 Oct 22

QED

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The Grayzone:

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In today's [#vatnik](#) soup I'll introduce one of the biggest disinformation and propaganda blogs on the web: The Grayzone ([@TheGrayzoneNews](#)). It's best known for misleading reporting, disinformation and love of authoritarian regimes and dictators.

1/13



2:41 PM · Jan 1, 2023

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The Revolution of Dignity:

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In today's [#vatniksoup](#) and another edition of "You pronounced this nonsense, not me", I'll talk about an event called the Revolution of Dignity AKA Maidan Revolution. It was a wave of demonstrations in Ukraine that took place in 2013 and 2014.

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9:29 AM · Mar 13, 2023



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### "Genocide in Donbas:



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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



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### NATO expansion:



**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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