



**Pekka Kallioniemi** @P\_Kallioniemi

Apr 26 · 18 tweets · [P\\_Kallioniemi/status/1651208606262390784](https://twitter.com/P_Kallioniemi/status/1651208606262390784)

In today's [#vatniksoup](#), I'll discuss Russian online information operations, and how they are perceived around the world. In the West, we often perceive this propaganda only targeted at us, which is far from the truth.

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The Economist

Menu Weekly edition The world in brief Search

International | Peddling Putin's piffle

## How Russia is trying to win over the global south

Its propaganda is deceptive, multilingual and well-funded. But does it work?

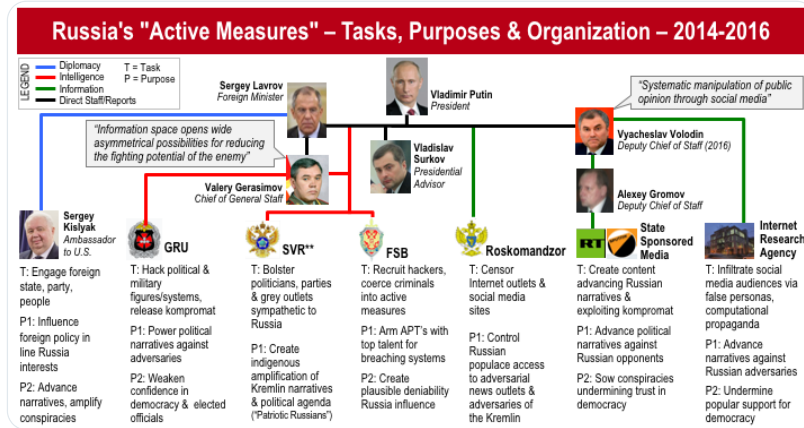
Ben Jones

Sep 22nd 2022 | BUENOS AIRES, HANOI, JOHANNESBURG AND TOKYO

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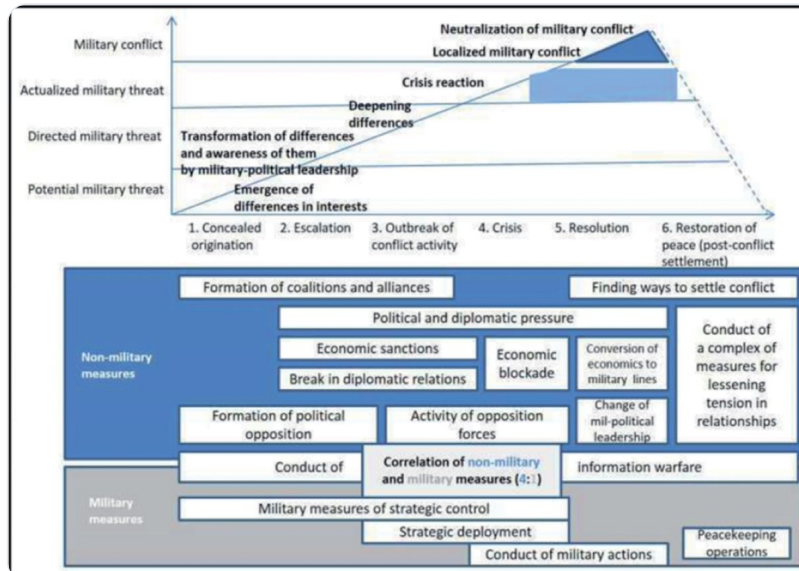
As I've written previously, the idea of Russian information operations date back to days of KGB, and it is part of the, aktivnyye meropriyatiya, or active measures. Active measures includes activities like espionage, propaganda, sabotage and assassination, and it is ...

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...and was part of Russia's foreign policy. Another related term related to info ops is hybrid warfare, which is a theory of military strategy that blends conventional warfare with irregular warfare, cyberwarfare and warfare in the information space.

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It is worth noting that information operations are most often long-term operations, with goals far ahead in the future. KGB defector Yuri Bezmenov stated that most operations have a time span of around 25 years.

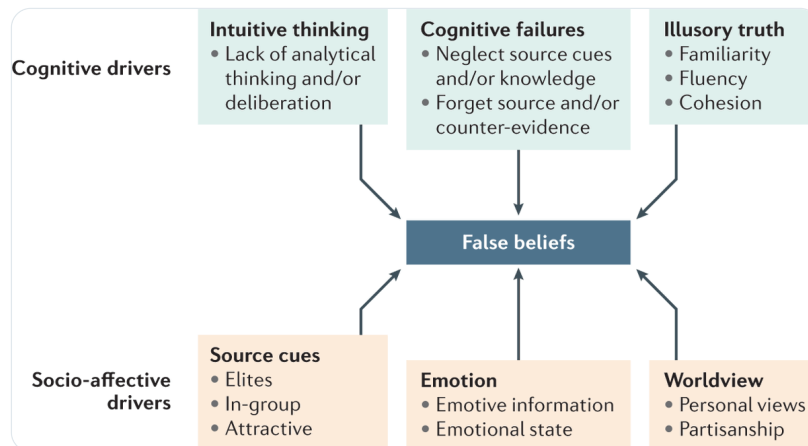


<https://www.youtube.com/embed/yErKTVdETpw>

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The general, simplified model for info ops is as follows: first, you sow fears ("Ukrainians are killing Russians"). Then you fuel mistrust ("You can't trust the mainstream media, they're CIA/MI6/deep state/etc controlled"), ...

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...and finally you offer salvation ("here's an interesting blog/group that tells you the TRUTH").

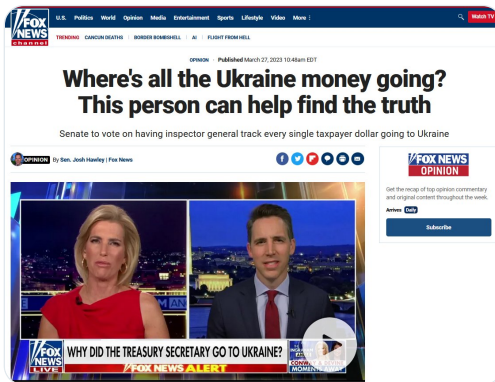
The war waged in information space is just as important as the conventional war in the battlefield - when combined with other measures, effective online info ops can heavily..

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...affect people's opinions. For example, pro-Russian propagandists often refer to the Russo-Ukrainian War as a "waste of money". They can also refer to the high levels of corruption in Ukraine, which is mostly a legacy and tradition from the Soviet times, or refer to...

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...its leadership ("the Kyiv regime") as being greedy and corrupt group of warmongers.

One of the best-known propagandists of the modern era, Joseph Goebbels, laid out various principles on successful propaganda, and these principles are still utilized today.

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- Avoid abstract ideas - appeal to the emotions.
- Constantly repeat just a few ideas. Use stereotyped phrases.
- Give only one side of the argument.
- Continuously criticize your opponents.
- Pick out one special "enemy" for special vilification.

#### Goebbels' Principles of Propaganda

One of his principles was "Pick out one special 'enemy' for special vilification." In the case of Ukraine, this enemy is the "Kyiv regime" and their armed forces that is "infiltrated by neo-Nazis" that are a threat to both Ukrainians and the Russians.

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#### 30 Articles of War for the German People

by Joseph Goebbels

These are the articles of war for the German people, who are now engaged in the most fateful battle of their history. Countless of Germany's best have sacrificed their lives in their spirit both at the front and at home for the life and freedom of their nation. Millions of brave German soldiers fight for them on every front, and millions of industrious men and woman work untiringly for them at home, in the factories, workshops, offices, laboratories, and in agriculture.

These war articles are a reminder to our people of those who have fallen. They are a testimony to the willingness of those who fight and work to sacrifice, and a harsh rebuke to the lazy and undecided.

##### Article 1

Everything is possible in this war, save that we capitulate and bow to the power of the enemy. Anyone who speaks or even thinks in such a way is a cowardly traitor, and must be expelled in disgrace and shame from the fighting and working German community.

##### Article 2

We are fighting for our lives. If we win, we will be able to repair the damage and the pain this war has caused in a relatively short time by applying our full strength. If we lose, it will mean the end of our nation and our history.

##### Article 3

This war is a defensive war. It was forced upon us by our enemies, who wish to destroy the possibility of life and growth for our nation. If they succeed, our present generation will have lost everything that countless German generations have won over millennia of struggle by hard work and sacrifice. Our nation's history will end in shame and disgrace.

##### Article 4

This war brings countless dangers and risks, as does any war. Each must remember that every danger and risk can be overcome if a great nation like Germany with a capable and determined leadership uses all its strength and every resource to deal with it.

##### Article 5

We will certainly win this war if all Germans think of the community and act as do the best sons of our people. But if all ignored the community, as do the lazy, the cowardly, and the hesitant, we would have long since lost it. The war will be won or lost according to the strength of our community.

##### Article 6

Each German proves his community sense by conscientiously fulfilling his duties to the nation, just as he makes a claim on the community. Even in times of peace, each is dependent on the help and support of the community, and must therefore also be willing to share its burdens and duties. How much more is that true during war!

Another one of Goebbels' principles was "Avoid abstract ideas - appeal to the emotions" - bioweapons labs, "neo-Nazis", NATO proxy war, genocide of Russian population in Ukraine... all these are tangible, simple ideas that can easily be reinforced with propaganda.

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Global Times

OPINION / VIEWPOINT

### NATO's proxy war highlights urgent need for a multipolar future

By Carlos Martinez  
Published: 09:12:03 03/16 PM



Threatening peace. Illustration: Liu Ping/Global Times

A year ago, Chinese President Xi Jinping and Russian President Vladimir Putin met in Beijing at start of the Winter Olympics, issuing a joint statement that called on the West to abandon the idealized approaches of the Cold War. The statement expressed their shared opposition to the further expansion of NATO and emphasized the need for long-term legally binding security guarantees in Europe.

TASS RUSSIAN NEWS AGENCY

UKRAINE CRISIS 16 MAR 2022, 17:33

### Donbass residents have been exposed to eight years of genocide — Putin

The Russian President recalled that the authorities in Kiev ignored and sabotaged the implementation of the Minsk package of measures for a peace settlement of the crisis for all these years

MOSCOW, March 16. /TASS/. Russian President Vladimir Putin has stressed that the people of Donbass have experienced eight years of genocide.

"We are holding this meeting today at a dramatic moment when our army is conducting a special military operation in Ukraine and Donbass. Let me remind you that at the very beginning of it, in the morning of February 24, I openly and publicly declared the reasons for and the main purpose of Russia's actions - assistance to our people in Donbass, who for nearly eight years been exposed to barbaric attacks, including blockades, large-scale punitive operations, terrorist attacks and artillery bombardments, in fact, real genocide," Putin said in his opening remarks at a meeting on socio-economic support for Russia's regions.

"Why? In retaliation for their attempts to press for basic human rights to live in accordance with the laws and traditions of their ancestors, to use their mother tongue and to rear the children the way they wish," Putin said.

He stressed that Kiev had for eight years dodged compliance with the Minsk-2 package of agreements.



This reinforcing is done in line with another of Goebbels' principles, "constantly repeat just a few ideas". When we look at the Russian propaganda model in regards to Ukraine, we can see that Goebbels' last two principles are applied, too: the first one is "give only ...

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**TASS** RUSSIAN NEWS AGENCY

27 APR 2022, 14:25

## US used labs in Ukraine to work on new bioweapons — Russian Security Council's secretary

The active phase of creating Pentagon-controlled biological laboratories in Ukraine started in 2014, Nikolay Patrushev pointed out

ASTRAKHAN, April 27. /TASS/. The United States has created a chain of bio-laboratories around the world, including Ukraine, where research into new biological weapons was carried out, the Russian Security Council's secretary, Nikolay Patrushev, told a conference on security issues in southern Russia. He said evidence to that effect had been obtained in the process of Russia's special operation in Ukraine.

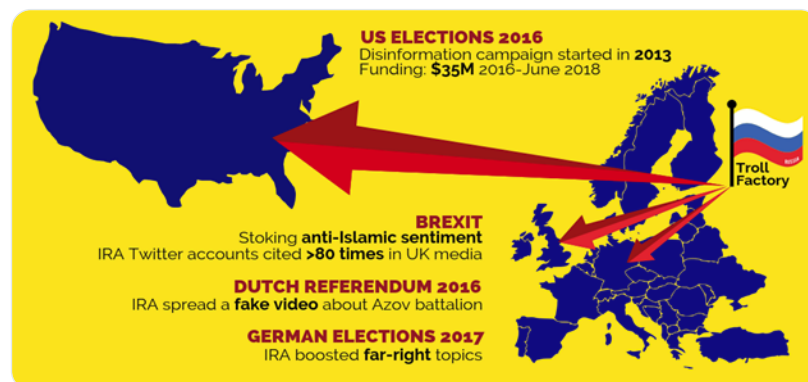
In accordance with President Vladimir Putin's instructions, he suggested discussing measures to ensure biological security in Russia's Southern Federal District. Patrushev stressed that this issue was particularly relevant in a situation where the United States had created its biological laboratories around the world, including some near Russia's borders. Some of such laboratories were in Ukraine, he said.

"In the course of the special military operation evidence was obtained to the effect US specialists had been using these laboratories to create viruses, bacteria and toxins - in fact, new biological weapons," Patrushev said. "The active phase of creating Pentagon-controlled biological laboratories in Ukraine started in 2014, immediately after the government coup the United States and its Western allies had provoked with the aim of creating a state hostile to our

...one side of the argument", and "continuously criticize your opponents".

The most successful case of hybrid warfare were the Russian interference of 2016 US presidential election and the Brexit referendum. These operations was started almost a decade before the ...

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...actual events, and they contained operations such as hack-and-leak, mass spreading of online disinformation and propaganda, funding of (opposing) NGO's, and undermining of the authorities, journalists and official institutions.

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## WANTED BY THE FBI

CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT AN OFFENSE AGAINST THE UNITED STATES; FALSE REGISTRATION OF A DOMAIN NAME; AGGRAVATED IDENTITY THEFT; CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT MONEY LAUNDERING

### RUSSIAN INTERFERENCE IN 2016 U.S. ELECTIONS

  
Boris Alekseyevich Antonov

  
Dmitry Sergeevich Badin

  
Anatoliy Sergeevich Kovalev

  
Nikolay Yuryevich Kozachek

  
Aleksy Viktorovich Lukashov

  
Artem Andreyevich Malyshev

  
Sergey Aleksandrovich Morgachev

  
Aleksandr Vladimirovich Osadchuk

  
Aleksy Aleksandrovich Poternin

  
Ivan Sergeevich Yermakov

  
Pavel Vyacheslavovich Yershov

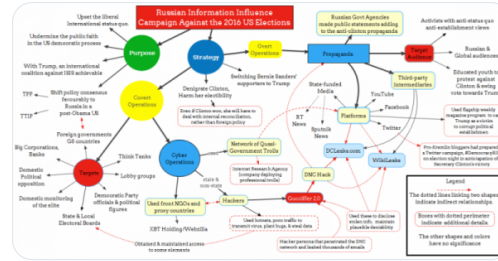
DETAILS

On July 13, 2018, a federal grand jury sitting in the District of Columbia returned an indictment against 12 Russian military intelligence officers for their alleged roles in interfering with the 2016 United States (U.S.) elections. The indictment charges 11 defendants, Boris Alekseyevich Antonov, Dmitry Sergeevich Badin, Nikolay Yuryevich Kozachek, Aleksy Viktorovich Lukashov, Artem Andreyevich Malyshev, Sergey Aleksandrovich Morgachev, Aleksandr Vladimirovich Osadchuk, Aleksy Aleksandrovich Poternin, Ivan Sergeevich Yermakov, Pavel Vyacheslavovich Yershov, and Viktor Borisovich Netyksho, with a computer hacking conspiracy involving gaining unauthorized access into the computers of U.S. persons and entities involved in the 2016 U.S. presidential election, stealing documents from those computers, and staging releases of the stolen documents to interfere with the 2016 U.S. presidential election. The indictment also charges these defendants with aggravated identity theft, false registration of a domain name, and conspiracy to commit money laundering. Two defendants, Aleksandr Vladimirovich Osadchuk and Anatoliy Sergeevich Kovalev, are charged with a separate conspiracy to commit computer crimes, relating to hacking into the computers of U.S. persons and entities responsible for the administration of 2016 U.S. elections, such as state boards of elections, secretaries of state, and U.S. companies that supplied software and other technology related to the administration of U.S. elections. The United States District Court for the District of Columbia in Washington, D.C. issued a federal arrest warrant for each of these defendants upon the grand jury's return of the indictment.

THESE INDIVIDUALS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS, AN INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT RISK, AND AN ESCAPE RISK

If you have any information concerning this case, please contact your local FBI office, or the nearest American Embassy or Consulate.

www.fbi.gov





All online operations were naturally supported with heavy use of troll farms and social media manipulation through organizations like Yevgeny Prigozhin's Internet Research Agency.

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# WANTED BY THE FBI

## YEVGENIY VIKTOROVICH PRIGOZHIN

Conspiracy to Defraud the United States



### DESCRIPTION

<b>Alias:</b> "Yevgeny"	
<b>Date(s) of Birth Used:</b> June 1, 1961	<b>Place of Birth:</b> Russia
<b>Hair:</b> Bald	<b>Eyes:</b> Brown
<b>Sex:</b> Male	<b>Race:</b> White
<b>Nationality:</b> Russian	<b>NCIC:</b> W713167242

### REWARD

The FBI is offering a reward of up to \$250,000 for information leading to the arrest of Yevgeniy Viktorovich Prigozhin.

### REMARKS

Prigozhin speaks Russian and has ties to Russia, Indonesia, and Qatar.

### CAUTION

Yevgeniy Viktorovich Prigozhin is wanted by the FBI for his alleged involvement in a conspiracy to defraud the United States by impairing, obstructing, and defeating the lawful functions of the Federal Election Commission, the United States Department of Justice, and the United States Department of State. This occurred in Washington, D.C., from early 2014 to February 16, 2018. Prigozhin was the primary funder of the St. Petersburg-based Internet Research Agency (IRA). He allegedly oversaw and approved their political and electoral interference operations in the United States which included the purchase of American computer server space, the creation of hundreds of fictitious online personas, and the use of stolen identities of persons from the United States. These actions were allegedly taken to reach significant numbers of Americans for the purposes of interfering with the United States political system, including the 2016 Presidential Election.

On February 16, 2018, a federal arrest warrant was issued for Yevgeniy Viktorovich Prigozhin in the United States District Court for the District of Columbia after he was charged with conspiracy to defraud the United States.

### SHOULD BE CONSIDERED AN INTERNATIONAL FLIGHT RISK

If you have any information concerning this individual and you are outside the United States, please contact the nearest American Embassy or Consulate. If inside the United States, please contact your local FBI office or the FBI's toll free tip line at 1-800-CALL-FBI (1-800-225-5324). You may also submit a tip online at [tips.fbi.gov](https://tips.fbi.gov).

**Field Office:** Washington D.C.

[www.fbi.gov](https://www.fbi.gov)

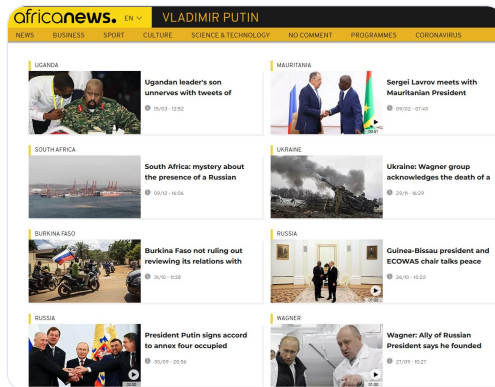
But now that we know all this, we can counter it, right? Yes and no. The Kremlin propagandists have realized long time ago that the West has become more resilient against their BS, and so they've focused on new areas such as the Global South.

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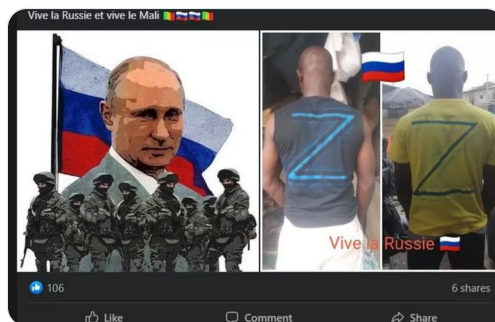
For example, RT is one of the most popular sources for the Russo-Ukrainian War in Latin America. RT recently made partnership with Cameroonian TV channel, Afrique Média. An animation where Wagner soldier defeats "French zombie invaders" goes viral on African social media.

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In Mali you can listen to news on Sputnik Afrique every night. The leaked US intelligence documents revealed that Russia is planning a propaganda campaign to "realign" public opinion in Africa towards Russia & so far almost nobody in the West has paid any attention to this.

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Russian narratives:

**Pekka Kallioniemi**  
@P\_Kallioniemi · Follow

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.  
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12:23 PM · Mar 10, 2023

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Social media manipulation:

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In today's #vatnik soup I'll continue talking about troll

tarms and social media manipulation, extending the topic to other social media platforms, too.

Our social media space is constantly manipulated by paid actors whose goal is to control the online narratives.

1/10



7:44 AM · Dec 20, 2022



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Troll farms:



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In today's [#vatnik](#) soup, I'll continue discussing about info ops, disinfo & propaganda. Today's focus will be on troll farms and "useful idiots".

As usual, I'll focus on Russia and its activities because of its topicality and the previous research available.

1/13



7:22 AM · Dec 9, 2022



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