

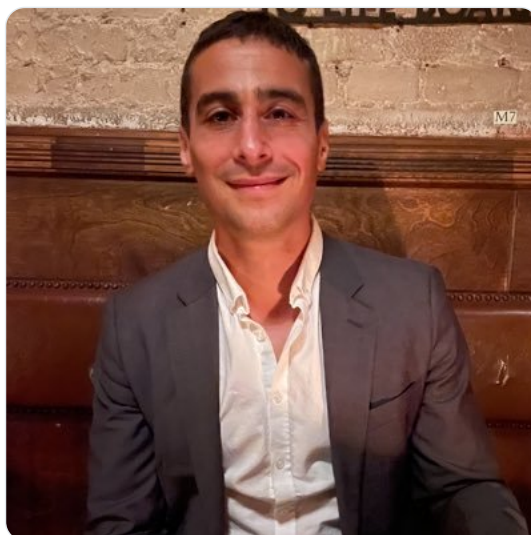


Pekka Kallioniemi @P_Kallioniemi

Apr 24, 2024 · 25 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/1783066769453727794](https://twitter.com/P_Kallioniemi/status/1783066769453727794)

In today's #vatniksoup REBREW, I'll introduce a Canadian propagandist & social media personality, Aaron Maté (@aaronjmate). He's best-known for whitewashing al-Assad's & Russia's war crimes in Syria & for denying Russian interference in the 2016 US presidential elections.

1/24



Maté's biography reads an awful lot like his collaborator @MaxBlumenthal's. Another failson of a well-to-do and famous father, in this case, of bestselling Canadian pop psychologist Gabor Maté, Aaron similarly fought a losing struggle to make a career in liberal journalism.

2/24



Maté's personal life is also a bit weird. Records show he was married to a former NPR reporter named @StarleeKine, yet neither he nor Kine have ever publicly acknowledged their marriage on social media, even at the time it took place. Perhaps this is because it also...

3/24

KINE, STARLEE married AARON JOSEPH MATE on 22 May 2012 on a license issued in Brooklyn, New York City, New York, U.S.A. Check the [Source file](#) [free] and [Archives.com](#) for STARLEE KINE. [\$]

...coincided with Maté's move from Canada to NYC & his acquisition, thanks to Kine, of US citizenship. Was it true love or a Green Card arrangement?

Around 2010, Aaron landed a job for Democracy Now!, a far-left cable news site, which occasionally hosts experts on Syria...

4/24

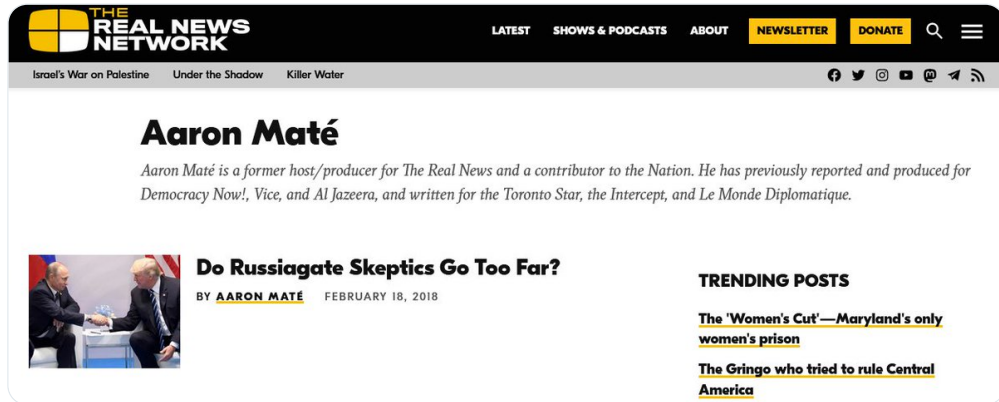
The screenshot shows the Democracy Now! website homepage. At the top left is the logo "DEMOCRACY NOW!" with a stylized figure. To its right is the text "Independent Global News". Further right are navigation links: "About", "Daily Digest", "Events", "Stations", "Español", and a "DONATE" button. Below this is a secondary navigation bar with "Daily Shows", "Top Stories", "Web Exclusives", "Topics", and "Columns", along with a search bar. A "HOT TOPICS" section lists various subjects like Gaza, Haiti, Climate Crisis, etc. The main content area features a profile for "Aaron Maté", identified as a "Democracy Now! producer". Below his name are four article thumbnails with titles and dates: "You Can Replace Property, You Can't Replace a Life": Voices of the Unheard in the Baltimore Streets" (APR 29, 2015), "Inside Occupy Wall Street Raid: Eyewitnesses Describe Arrests, Beatings as Police Dismantle Camp" (NOV 15, 2011), "U.S. Ship in Freedom Flotilla Attempts to Leave Greece for Gaza, Despite Threats and Risk of Sabotage" (JUL 01, 2011), and "Exclusive Tour of Gaza-Bound U.S. Ship, Audacity of Hope; Saboteurs Damage Other Ships in Flotilla" (JUN 30, 2011). A fifth article is partially visible: "Debunking the Israeli-U.S. Effort to Thwart Gaza Freedom Flotilla: 'We Are Committed to Nonviolence'" (JUN 30, 2011). On the right side, there is a "DAILY NEWS DIGEST" sign-up form and a "Recent News" section with several small article thumbnails. At the bottom right, a box says "HEADLINES FOR APRIL 23".

...who tell the actual truth about that conflict - earning Maté's enmity that his former employer has sold out to the CIA and regime change industrial establishment.

After this, he worked for a time at a website called The Real News, but was fired some time around 2019.

5/24

The screenshot shows a YouTube video player interface. At the top, the channel name "THE GRAYZONE" is displayed in large letters, with "LIVE" in a red box below it. To the right of the channel name is a banner that reads "Support The Grayzone's independent journalism at Patreon.com/Grayzone or via PayPal at PayPal.Me/grayzonenews". The video content is a live stream featuring three participants in separate video windows. The top-left window shows a man with a beard and a dark shirt, identified as "@MaxBlumenthal". The top-right window shows a man in a light-colored shirt and tie, identified as "Randy credico". The bottom window shows a man in a dark shirt, identified as "Aaron Maté". The video title at the bottom of the player is "Why Democracy Now sucks". Below the title, the channel name "GZ The Grayzone" is shown with "361K subscribers" and a "Subscribe" button. On the right side of the player, there are engagement icons for likes (8.6K), comments, share, thanks, save, and a menu icon.



Little birds told me that Aaron angered a board member of The Real News by doctoring a debate between Mary Ellsberg, the daughter of famed Pentagon Papers whistleblower Daniel Ellsberg, and one Max Blumenthal. The debate was on Nicaragua and Maté sneakily tried...

6/24



...to make Blumenthal come across as less ignorant and unhinged than he was on tape. It was a match made in vatnik heaven, and from then on, the two praised authoritarian regimes around the globe together through their fake news outlet @TheGrayzoneNews.

7/24

Grayzone, Grifters and the Cult of Tank

The sordid origin story of Max Blumenthal's huckster cadre



Joshua Collins · Follow

Published in Muros Invisibles · 11 min read · Feb 10, 2020

16



A photo of US freelance journalist Carl Goette-Luciak with a Nicaraguan Sandinista that Max Blumenthal misrepresented on his blog Grayzone to grave consequences (Photo: Twitter)

Enter Grayzone, a supposedly leftist crew of “journalists” with opaque financing and Russian support.

This all-caps charge against responsible journalism is led by son of a wealthy Clinton advisor, Max Blumenthal and his zany “never met a Human Rights violation we didn’t like” cohorts at Grayzone ². They receive helping hands from a number of shady media organizations and fringe voices that include Russian disinformation network RT, TeleSur in South America, reknown racists Richard Spencer, Tucker Carlson, a nazi school shooter and even ex-KKK wizard David Duke.

Though they claim to write from the left, their digital fog-machine defies political boundaries, incorporating anti-semetic smears about Soros that have white-supremacist origins, genocide denial tricks pioneered by European fascist parties and the “always discredit or insult rather than respond to fact” tactics of sociopaths like Alex Jones.

Despite having no background in chemical weapons or even any real experiencing in reporting on the Middle East, Maté has become one of the most visible proponents of a conspiracy theory about Bashar al-Assad’s use of chemical weapons against Syrian rebels and civilians.



Matthew Dimitri

@themattdimitri

At ruins of Regime-bombed Yarmouk, Aaron Maté says the residents can't return due to sanctions. In reality, Palestinians were besieged by the government and can't enter Yarmouk without a specific regime permit.



1:57

10:58 PM · May 27, 2021



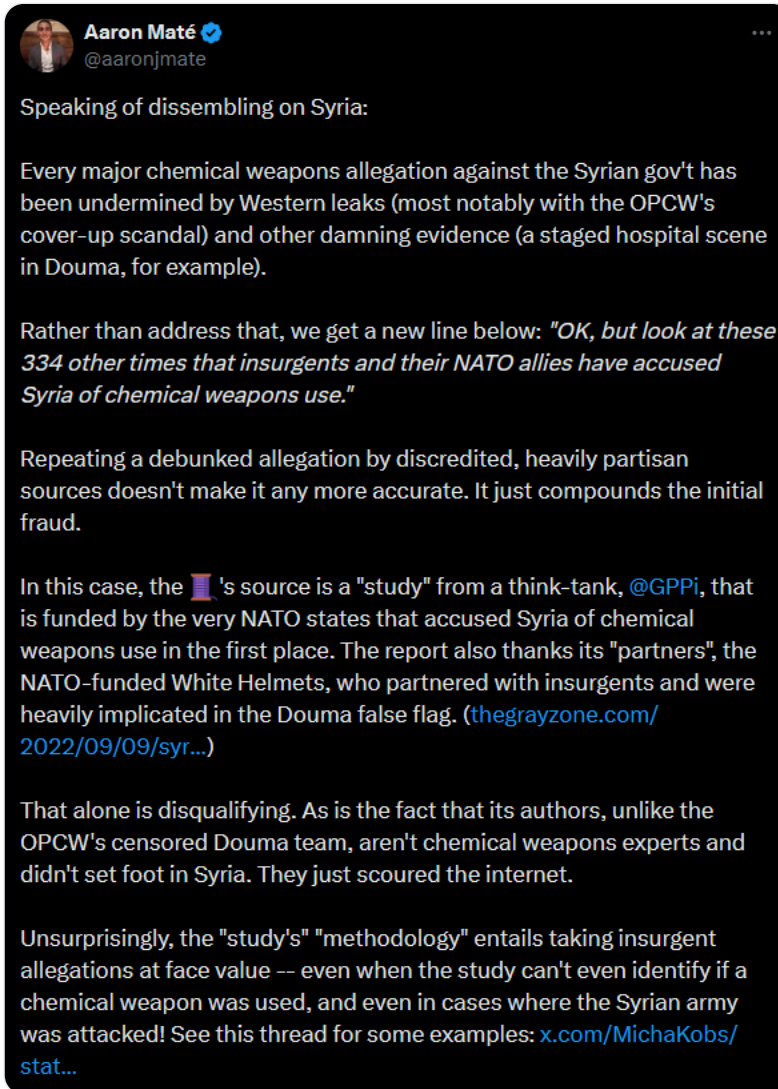
Matthew Dimitri
@themattdimitri

Aaron Maté lies that ISIS triggered the Regime bombing in Yarmouk. The Regime crackdown began in 2011, nearly 4 years before ISIS occupied the camp. The bombing began In 2012, nearly 3 years before the ISIS occupation of the camp.



17:30 · 07 Jun 21

Namely, Maté doesn't think Assad used them – he has claimed that "Every major chemical weapons allegation against the Syrian gov't has been undermined by Western leaks" and/or "other damning evidence". This fake narrative, which exonerates the Assad regime from some of...



...its most notorious crimes, is also one prized by the Kremlin. Maté has even admitted that he was working with RT to doxx Syrian eyewitnesses to one horrific chemical weapon attack in Douma, Damascus, in 2018. He even traveled to Syria, at the invitation of the Assad...



Tweet



Jett Goldsmith @JettGoldsmith · 20 avr. 2021



This you? No, I'm really asking. Mangan, the guy who sent this email where he described a plot to "collaborate and leak" items from his database of personal info on Syrian activists and eyewitness survivors to Douma, but refused to comment on the "Aaron" in this email. [twitter.com/aaronjmate/sta...](https://twitter.com/aaronjmate/status/1351111111)

----- Original Message -----
On Saturday, 12 December 2020 10:14, Stephen <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Paul and Piers - nice to connect.

I've attached a small screengrab of the database I've collated over the years. It might give you an idea of the depth of our work. As our investigation gathers pace from January, I do anticipate making our open

//mail.protonmail.com/inbox/id7H4KYD1vVeUJALT-uzO5H1oocPAE8VIVhLI7QAKHqShV8DriduBA-9viADep7nZZReRiIDJ0mUO2UV8-U9Z...

source work transparent to you and Aaron in the hope that we can collaborate and leak particular elements of interest.

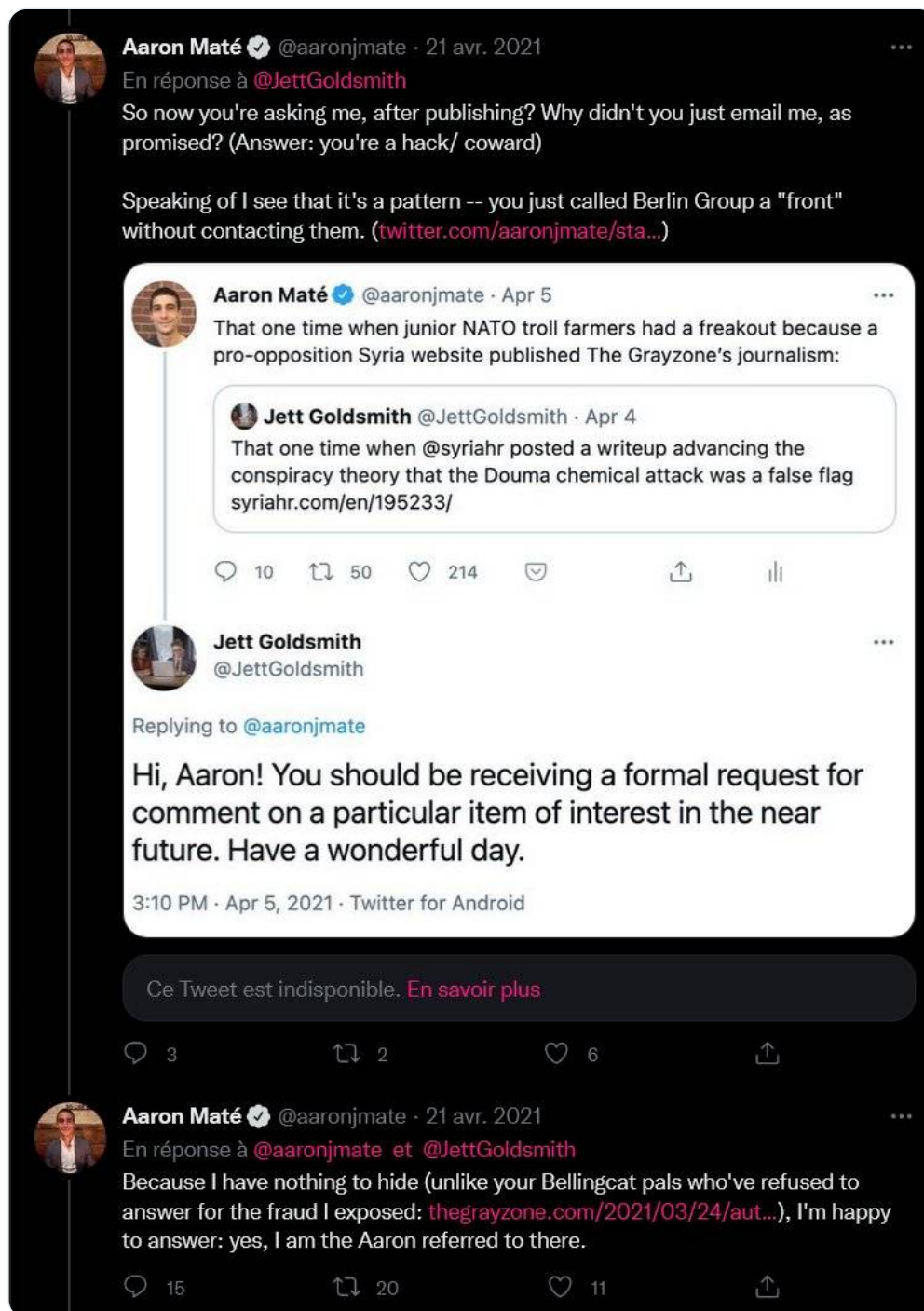
Ce Tweet est indisponible. [En savoir plus](#)

2

38

107





...regime and under the supervision of the Syrian intelligence services, to further peddle his claim that the Douma attack was a hoax. However, in 2023, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, found that it was all-too-real. This report even engaged...



Aaron Maté 
@aaronjmate

Follow

Replying to [@SilvermanJacob](#) and [@joshua__frank](#)

That does seem reasonable to ask. That's not what was asked. Joshua started from the premise that the Syrian government paid for my trip, and then asked me to deny it. I paid for my trip. Yes, I have travelled w/ Syrian gov't minders to certain areas, that's how it's done here.

12:02 · 27 May 21

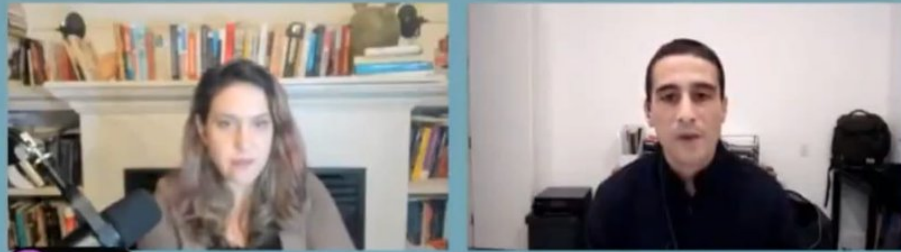


Matthew Dimitri

@themattdimitri

As a result of Maté traveling in Syria with Regime minders, he wasn't able to get the access he wanted.

Hundreds of journalists reported inside Syria for years without a government minder, knowing full well their access would be restricted if they went with government minders.



N Shea

0:10

The idea that the US government is concerned about democracy in Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan...etc is laughable



10:14 · 13 Jun 21



OPCW Releases Third Report by Investigation and Identification Team

Reasonable grounds to identify Syrian Arab Air Forces as perpetrators of 2018 Douma chemical attack

27 JANUARY 2023




The Hague, Netherlands—27 January 2023—The OPCW Investigation and Identification Team (IIT)'s [third report](#) concludes that there are reasonable grounds to believe that the Syrian Arab Air Forces were the perpetrators of the chemical weapons attack on 7 April 2018 in Douma, Syrian Arab Republic.

Based on the holistic assessment of the large volume and wide range of evidence gathered and analysed, and on the convergence of the outcomes of such corroborated multiple analyses, the IIT concluded that, on the evening of 7 April 2018, at least one helicopter of the Syrian "Tiger Forces" Elite Unit dropped two yellow cylinders containing toxic chlorine gas on two apartment buildings in a civilian-inhabited area in Douma, killing 43 named individuals and affecting dozens more.

...with the various alternative explanations advanced by Maté and others, debunking their validity with forensic precision. Maté has received funding for his propaganda from an organization that funds apologists for the Assad regime:

12/24



**LAUREATE
SERENA SHIM AWARD**

kimiversen I'm happy to announce that I have won the Serena Shim Award for Uncompromised Integrity in Journalism. It's an honor to be recognized for taking a stand even when it's unpopular. The \$5000 cash award will help me elevate the show to the next level. It's an absolute honor.

6w

689 likes

AUGUST 2

Pro-Assad Lobby Group Rewards Bloggers On Both The Left And The...
A shadowy group that supports Syrian dictator Bashar-al Assad is giving thousands of dollars to far-right activists, conspiracy websites, YouTube personalities, and WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange —...

<https://www.bellingcat.com/news/2019/09/30/pro-assad-lobby-group-rewards-blogge...>



Matthew Dimitri

@themattdimitri

Aaron Maté appears uncomfortable as Katie Halper points out he traveled in Syria with a Regime minder and plays the clip of Ana Kasparian reporting on Assadists getting paid by a Pro-Assad lobby group, some of who work at The Grayzone.



Microsoft Word Technical Support

They mean compared to free and fair transition government in Bolivia



18:11 · 07 Jun 21

Another big obsession of Maté's is that Russia's election interference in 2016 – which he derisively labels "Russiagate" – never happened. He has claimed, for instance, that there is "no evidence" the GRU hacked the Democratic National Committee, when in fact there is...

POLITICS / MARCH 26, 2019

RIP, Russiagate

The implosion of the collusion theory is a humiliation for everyone who promoted it.

AARON MATÉ

SHARE ▾



FBI Director Robert Mueller is sworn in on Capitol Hill.
(AP Photo / J. Scott Applewhite)

...plenty, starting with Mueller's indictment of a dozen GRU hackers for doing just that. Actually, the GRU's hack-and-leak operation against the Democrats was a central finding of the Mueller Report, which also noted that Russia's goal was to help the Trump candidacy.

III. RUSSIAN HACKING AND DUMPING OPERATIONS

Beginning in March 2016, units of the Russian Federation's Main Intelligence Directorate of the General Staff (GRU) hacked the computers and email accounts of organizations, employees, and volunteers supporting the Clinton Campaign, including the email account of campaign chairman John Podesta. Starting in April 2016, the GRU hacked into the computer networks of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) and the Democratic National Committee (DNC). The GRU targeted hundreds of email accounts used by Clinton Campaign employees, advisors, and volunteers. In total, the GRU stole hundreds of thousands of documents from the compromised email accounts and networks.¹⁰⁹ The GRU later released stolen Clinton Campaign and DNC documents through online personas, "DCLeaks" and "Guccifer 2.0," and later through the organization WikiLeaks. The release of the documents was designed and timed to interfere with the 2016 U.S. presidential election and undermine the Clinton Campaign.

The Trump Campaign showed interest in the WikiLeaks releases and, in the summer and fall of 2016, **Harm to Ongoing Matter**. After **HOM** **HOM** WikiLeaks's first Clinton-related release **HOM**, the Trump Campaign stayed in contact **HOM** about WikiLeaks's activities. The investigation was unable to resolve **Harm to Ongoing Matter** WikiLeaks's release of the stolen Podesta emails on October 7, 2016, the same day a video from years earlier was published of Trump using graphic language about women.

PRESS RELEASE

Grand Jury Indicts 12 Russian Intelligence Officers for Hacking Offenses Related to the 2016 Election

Friday, July 13, 2018

Share >

For Immediate Release

Office of Public Affairs

The Department of Justice today announced that a grand jury in the District of Columbia returned an indictment presented by the Special Counsel's Office. The indictment charges twelve Russian nationals for committing federal crimes that were intended to interfere with the 2016 U.S. presidential election. All twelve defendants are members of the GRU, a Russian Federation intelligence agency within the Main Intelligence Directorate of the Russian military. These GRU officers, in their official capacities, engaged in a sustained effort to hack into the computer networks of the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee, the Democratic National Committee, and the presidential campaign of Hillary Clinton, and released that information on the internet under the names "DCLeaks" and "Guccifer 2.0" and through another entity.

Even with the overwhelming evidence of Russian interference, Maté claims that the Mueller report found no "collusion" between the Trump campaign and Russia in 2016. But as the term has no legal

basis in the US, "collusion" was dismissed by the very same...

15/24

1. Potential Coordination: Conspiracy and Collusion

As an initial matter, this Office evaluated potentially criminal conduct that involved the collective action of multiple individuals not under the rubric of "collusion," but through the lens of conspiracy law. In so doing, the Office recognized that the word "collud[e]" appears in the Acting Attorney General's August 2, 2017 memorandum; it has frequently been invoked in public reporting; and it is sometimes referenced in antitrust law, *see, e.g., Brooke Group v. Brown & Williamson Tobacco Corp.*, 509 U.S. 209, 227 (1993). But collusion is not a specific offense or theory of liability found in the U.S. Code; nor is it a term of art in federal criminal law. To the contrary, even as defined in legal dictionaries, collusion is largely synonymous with conspiracy as that crime is set forth in the general federal conspiracy statute, 18 U.S.C. § 371. *See Black's Law Dictionary* 321 (10th ed. 2014) (collusion is "[a]n agreement to defraud another or to do or obtain something forbidden by law"); 1 Alexander Burrill, *A Law Dictionary and Glossary* 311 (1871) ("An agreement between two or more persons to defraud another by the forms of law, or to employ such forms as means of accomplishing some unlawful object."); 1 *Bouvier's Law Dictionary* 352

180

U.S. Department of Justice

~~Attorney Work Product // May Contain Material Protected Under Fed. R. Crim. P. 6(e)~~

(1897) ("An agreement between two or more persons to defraud a person of his rights by the forms of law, or to obtain an object forbidden by law.").

...Mueller report as a premise for federal investigation.

For Aaron, the US intelligence community is both a cynical and pathological liar and the definitive word on any subject, depending on how what it says confirms or disconfirms Maté's worldview.

16/24



Aaron Maté ✓
@aaronjmate

...

An NYT account of Ukraine's partnership with the CIA ten years since the 2014 Maidan coup underscores that Ukraine played a vital role in generating CIA allegations of "Russian interference" in the 2016 elections.

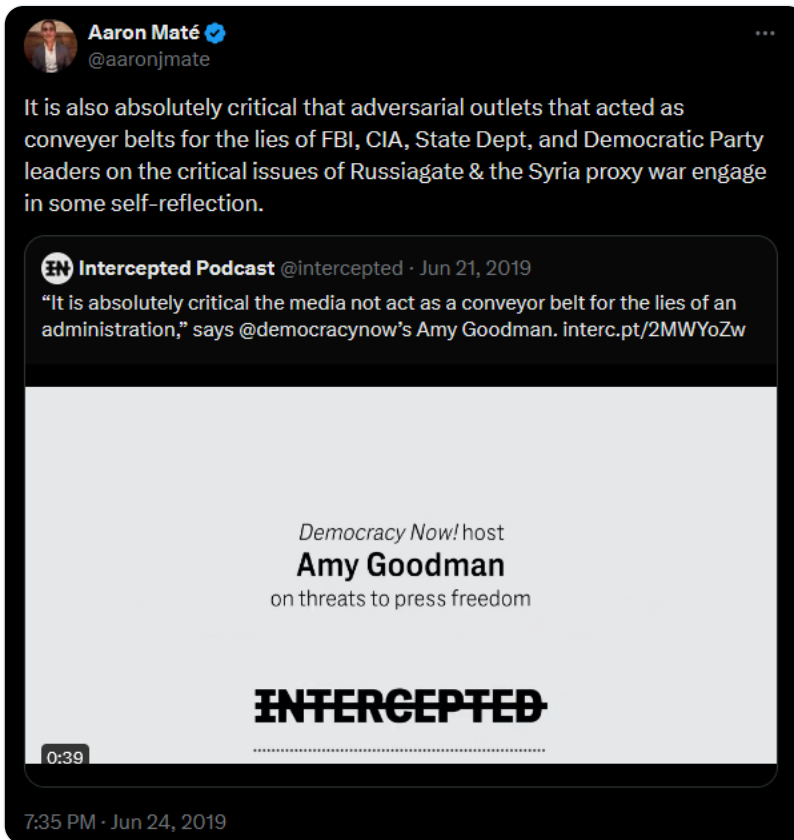
According to NYT: "The Ukrainians also helped the Americans go after the Russian operatives who meddled in the 2016 U.S. presidential election."

After Ukrainian intel conducted a deadly operation in Crimea in August 2016, Obama officials wanted to shut down the CIA program in Ukraine. But then-CIA chief John Brennan "persuaded them that doing so would be self-defeating, given the relationship was starting to produce intelligence on the Russians as the C.I.A. was investigating Russian election meddling."

After Trump took office, the CIA used the "Russian interference" allegations to expand its operations in Ukraine. This is because "whatever Mr. Trump said and did, his administration often went in the other direction." Indeed, Trump "had put Russia hawks in key positions, including Mike Pompeo as C.I.A. director and John Bolton as national security adviser."

As a result: "Preventing Russia from interfering in future U.S. elections was a top C.I.A. priority during this period, and Ukrainian and American intelligence officers joined forces to probe the computer systems of Russia's intelligence agencies to identify operatives trying to manipulate voters."

The NYT omits that Ukrainians collaborated with the DNC to interfere in the 2016 election against Trump, including by leaking allegations about Paul Manafort. ([ft.com/content/c98078...](https://www.ft.com/content/c98078...)) ([politico.com/story/2017/01/...](https://www.politico.com/story/2017/01/...))



For example, the Republican-led subcommittee identified Konstantin Kilimnik, a former associate of convicted Trump campaign manager Paul Manafort, as a "Russian intelligence agent."

Maté's response was to call Kilimnik on the phone and ask him if he was a Russian spy.

17/24

Manafort told the Office that he did not believe Kilimnik was working as a Russian "spy."⁸⁵⁹ The FBI, however, assesses that Kilimnik has ties to Russian intelligence.⁸⁶⁰ Several pieces of the Office's evidence—including witness interviews and emails obtained through court-authorized search warrants—support that assessment:


- Kilimnik was born on April 27, 1970, in Dnipropetrovsk Oblast, then of the Soviet Union, and attended the Military Institute of the Ministry of Defense from 1987 until 1992.⁸⁶¹ Sam Patten, a business partner to Kilimnik,⁸⁶² stated that Kilimnik told him that he was a translator in the Russian army for seven years and that he later worked in the Russian armament industry selling arms and military equipment.⁸⁶³
- U.S. government visa records reveal that Kilimnik obtained a visa to travel to the United States with a Russian diplomatic passport in 1997.⁸⁶⁴
- Kilimnik worked for the International Republican Institute's (IRI) Moscow office, where he did translation work and general office management from 1998 to 2005.⁸⁶⁵ While another official recalled the incident differently,⁸⁶⁶ one former associate of Kilimnik's at IRI told the FBI that Kilimnik was fired from his post because his links to Russian intelligence were too strong. The same individual stated that it was well known at IRI that Kilimnik had links to the Russian government.⁸⁶⁷
- Jonathan Hawker, a British national who was a public relations consultant at FTI Consulting, worked with DMI on a public relations campaign for Yanukovych. After Hawker's work for DMI ended, Kilimnik contacted Hawker about working for a Russian

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NOW READING: ACCUSED RUSSIAGATE 'SPY' KILIMNIK SPEAKS -- AND EVIDENCE BACKS HIS NO COLLUSION ACCOUNT

UP NEXT: IMPEACHMENT 'WHISTLEBLOWER' WAS IN THE LOOP OF BIDEN-UKRAINE AFFAIRS THAT TRUMP WANTED PROBED



Accused Russiagate 'Spy' Kilimnik Speaks -- and Evidence Backs His 'No Collusion' Account

By Aaron Maté, RealClearInvestigations
May 19, 2021

Konstantin Kilimnik says his standard red passport, above, disproves the Mueller report's claim he used a diplomatic passport, a tipoff to being a Russian agent. See "Kilimnik Passport" section below.

By Aaron Maté, RealClearInvestigations
May 19, 2021

Kilimnik told Aaron he wasn't, and why would he lie? Case closed for Aaron Maté, whose standard of proof for other, real journalists is usually much higher than that. For example, he's called the respected investigative journalism group @bellinccat a "NATO state psyop".



Aaron Maté @aaronjmate · 2h



Bellingcat is a NATO state psy-op, as their own state partners admit. A leaked report for the UK gov't states: "Bellingcat was somewhat discredited, both by spreading disinformation itself, and by being willing to produce reports for anyone willing to pay."

ANNEX B: RISK MANAGEMENT

1.5.1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY OF GROUP D:

- These organisations are generally regarded as well established, independent and free from Russian influence.
- ZDG, which operates in the 'dual-threat' environment of Moldova, has been involved in numerous lawsuits but has yet to lose one. Its fellow Moldovan organisation, Newsmaker, is potentially vulnerable to Kremlin influence, given its general director's connection to pro-Putin oligarch Alisher Usmanov, though despite this it has to date remained consistently critical of both the Moldovan and Russian governments.
- There are some financial transparency concerns relating to Newsmaker, ZDG, and IfPA, who do not disclose their funding. There are also concerns that CEPA is a vehicle for US interests and is being used to influence Polish politics in a pro-US direction.
- Other concerns were that the CPDA and ISD had analytical shortcomings, and **that Bellingcat was somewhat discredited, both by spreading disinformation itself, and by being willing to produce reports for anyone willing to pay.**



Jake Tapper, long-suffering Phil... · 5h

.@bellingcat is a great journalistic organization. Conversely, Musk once linked to a deranged article about Paul Pelosi in the Santa Monica Observer, a n...

104 953 3,348 843K



Elon Musk @elonmusk · 2h



No kidding ...

452 420 3,761 349K

Maté, like Blumenthal, caters to an ill-informed audience who think that everything the US government says is false and therefore everything its enemies say must be true.

Uyghur Muslims interned in concentration camps in China and deemed victims of genocide?

Nury Turkel, a Uyghur lawyer and the Commissioner of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom, said that The Grayzone goes one step further than simply repeating Beijing's line. "It's almost like these guys are providing talking points to the Chinese propaganda machine," he said.

Since 2018, The Grayzone has published at least four articles undermining reports of the repression in Xinjiang. "Information about camps containing 1 million prisoners has originated almost exclusively from media outlets and organizations funded and weaponized by the U.S. government to turn up the heat on Beijing," wrote Singh and assistant editor Ben Norton in one August 2018 piece.

They're doing just fine, according to the Grayzone boys, who even come up with new lines of attack against Uyghur defenders, propaganda which the Chinese Communist Party later uses. As is tradition, propaganda boys defame the messenger and disregard the actual message.



Aaron Maté ✓ @aaronjmate · 21h
Harrowing footage of the "Uyghur genocide":



Carl Zha @CarlZha · 1d

An #Uyghur Wedding in #Xinjiang

[Show this thread](#)



343 783 2,549



Aaron Maté ✓ @aaronjmate · 21h
Replying to [@aaronjmate](#)



Western leaders & media stenographers have propagandized millions into believing that there's an actual *genocide* of Uyghurs in Xinjiang. Is there a comparably insane allegation today that Chinese leaders have duped their citizens into believing about the West?



NY Times' pseudo-expert accusing China of genocide worked for far-right cult Falun Gong's publicity arm

👤 BEN NORTON · JANUARY 28, 2021



The New York Times recycled flimsy claims by a right-wing apocalyptic extremist to accuse China of "genocide," in an op-ed by an American with 1/8th Uighur heritage who worked for Epoch Times, a far-right, pro-Trump outlet backed by cult Falun Gong.

The New York Times published a factually challenged op-ed accusing China of committing "genocide" against its Uighur minority. The article sourced its spurious accusations to a right-wing operative who insists his research is part of a divine "mission" against Beijing that is "led by God."

The author of the New York Times op-ed, Amelia Pang, happens to be a former employee of the Epoch Times, a far-right propaganda arm of a **fanatical anti-China cult called Falun Gong**. The extremist group preaches that race-mixing, homosexuality, feminism, and science are Satanic plots, and reveres Donald Trump as a **God-like figure** who was sent down from heaven to destroy the Communist Party of China.

In a statement to The Grayzone, Pang said, "The Epoch Times and the Falun Gong group do not represent my views in any way."

When it comes to Ukraine, Maté can't stop talking about "Ukrainian neo-Nazis". His favorite topic seems to be the Odesa clashes, which were heavily influenced by pro-Kremlin agitators. More on the incident here:

21/24

https://twitter.com/P_Kallioniemi/status/1704058527864569958

To be fair, Maté has "never claimed expertise on Russia, Ukraine, or Syria" & it shows. For example, he's falsely claimed that Russia was not a signatory to the two Minsk agreements. His dishonest takes on Ukraine have been dissected thoroughly here:

https://twitter.com/neil_abrams/status/1593604628603715587



Aaron Maté 
@aaronjmate



I've never claimed expertise on
Russia, Ukraine, or Syria.

8:55 AM · 11/4/22 · [Twitter Web App](#)



Aaron Maté 
@aaronjmate



This from [@neil_abrams](#) comes as part of an endless
thread arguing that Ukraine is not at fault for failure of
the Minsk accords.

Here he highlights 3 failed provisions that he blames on
Russia. [But Russia wasn't a signatory](#). And, as I'll show,
more failures are Ukraine's fault:



Aaron Maté ✓

@aaronjmate

Correction to earlier: Russia wasn't a signatory to Minsk I; it was a signatory to Minsk II. The actual Minsk II provisions don't mention Russia; underscoring my point that onus was on Ukraine to implement.

[chathamhouse.org/2020/05/minsk-...](https://www.chathamhouse.org/2020/05/minsk-...)

The Minsk-2 agreement

As fighting raged at Debaltseve, emergency negotiations, brokered by Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany and President François Hollande of France, took place in Minsk. These produced a 'package of measures for the implementation of the Minsk agreements' ('Minsk-2'). This document, signed on 12 February 2015 by representatives from the OSCE, Russia, Ukraine, the DNR and LNR, has been the framework for subsequent attempts to end the war.⁵¹

Minsk-2 is not an easy document to grasp. The product of hasty drafting, it tries valiantly to paper over yawning differences between the Ukrainian and Russian positions. As a result, it contains contradictory provisions and sets out a convoluted sequence of actions. It also has a gaping hole: although signed by Russia's ambassador to Ukraine, Mikhail Zurabov, the agreement does not mention Russia – an omission that Russia has used to shirk responsibility for implementation and maintain the fiction that it is a disinterested arbiter.

8:35 AM · Nov 4, 2022 · Twitter Web App

Dmitry Polyanskiy, the Russian SVR officer residing in NYC, loves Maté even more than he does Blumenthal. Dima refers to Maté as "dear Aaron", and he's even invited Aaron to speak at the UNSC.

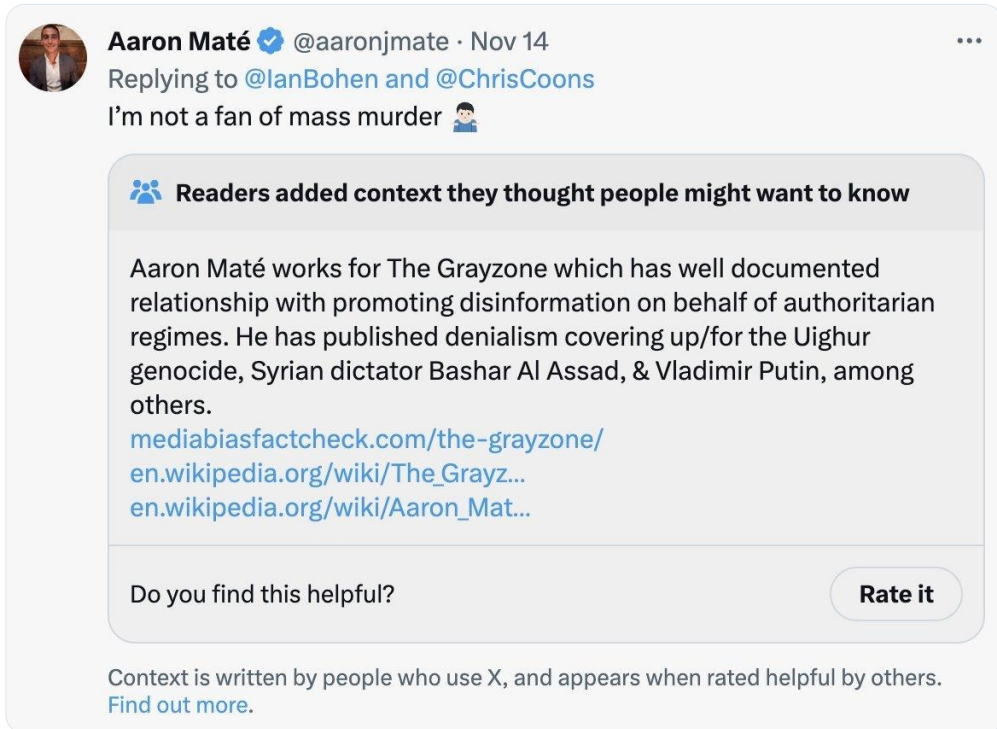
For some reason Maté crops his SVR handler out of all the content they're in.






To conclude, Maté is a propagandist whose work is strongly supported by authoritarian regimes like the ones in Syria and Russia.

As @neil_abrams put it, "Aaron Maté isn't dumb," only "dishonest", which makes him a valuable asset in spreading pro-Kremlin and pro-Assad BS.

There is also a group of British academics accused of spreading pro-Syrian regime disinformation and conspiracy theories promoted by Russia. **Since 2020, journalist Aaron Maté at the Grayzone is said by the report to have overtaken Beeley as the most prolific spreader of disinformation among the 28 conspiracy theorists identified.** [Maté rejects the claim - see 10 July 2022 footnote.]



Aaron Maté  @aaronjmate · Nov 14
Replying to @IanBohen and @ChrisCoons
I'm not a fan of mass murder 

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

Aaron Maté works for The Grayzone which has well documented relationship with promoting disinformation on behalf of authoritarian regimes. He has published denialism covering up/for the Uighur genocide, Syrian dictator Bashar Al Assad, & Vladimir Putin, among others.

mediabiasfactcheck.com/the-grayzone/
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Grayz...
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aaron_Mat...

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