

Pekka Kallioniemi @P_Kallioniemi Mar 8, 2025 - 14 tweets - P_Kallioniemi/status/1898328967947456665

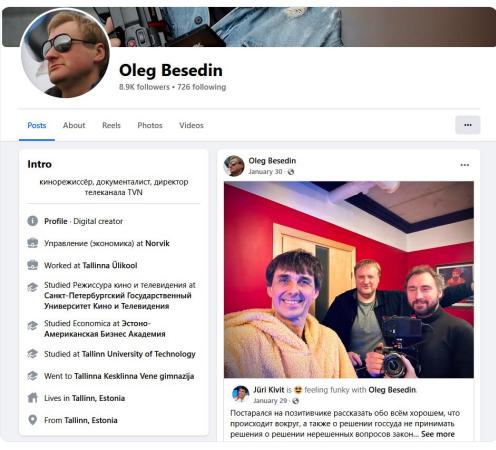
In today's Vatnik Soup, I'll introduce Oleg Bessedin, a videoblogger and Russia's favorite mouthpiece in Estonia. Through social media, online groups, and media networks, Bessedin has played an active role in pushing pro-Kremlin narratives to divide Estonian society.

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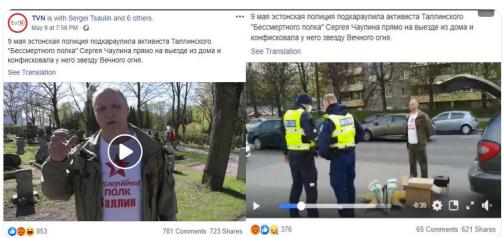
Oleg is a content creator and businessman with strong ties to pro-Kremlin networks. He runs multiple Facebook groups and media platforms that regularly share Russian state propaganda. Estonia's Internal Security Service (KAPO) has flagged his platforms as disinfo hubs.

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Bessedin presents himself as an independent journalist, but his content is heavily biased in favor of Russian narratives. He portrays Estonia and the West as corrupt, aggressive, and anti-Russian while defending Russia's actions on the world stage.





His career dates back to the 90s, involving ties with Russian oil companies and Kremlinbacked Estonian parties. Oleg later rebranded as an "independent" journalist to covertly push Russian propaganda in Estonia. KAPO saw through this and mentioned him in their yearbook.





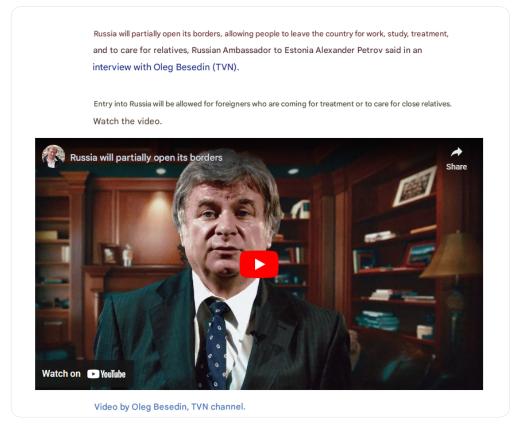
Whenever the pro-Kremlin Estonian bloc arranges their provocative protests - usually with 10-20 paid attendees and no real media coverage - Oleg is a regular "reporter," spinning the narrative of "Russophobia in the Baltics."





Oleg has a strong social media presence (no doubt inflated by bots). His Facebook group "Tallinners," written in Russian, spreads classic anti-Baltic narratives under the guise of "oppressed Russians in Estonia." Then there's his YouTube channel: pure Kremlin propaganda.

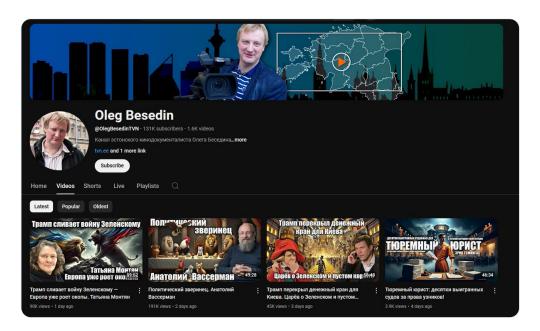
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His YouTube videos are filled with fearmongering & disinformation, perfectly aligning with the Kremlin's viewpoint. Some of his loudest headlines include: "Oreshnik in action," "For

the Baltics, occupation will be a gift of fate," & "How the Baltics are becoming Ukraine."

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Oleg is one of Russia's main collaborators in Estonia, which is also why he uses their main strategies, deception and lies, in his work. According to KAPO, he's falsely claimed to represent Estonian National Television (ETV) to gain people's trust when asking for interviews.



sources used in the so-called news stories about Estonia.

In addition to activists, there are also other people in Estonia who assist Russian television channels in their propaganda efforts. One of their main collaborators is Tallinn entrepreneur Oleg Bessedin, who claims to represent the TV channels ORT, RTR, Zvezda, REN Tv and Peterburg 5 in Estonia. His main focus is producing the channel TVN, which belongs to his parents and is available as a part of many Estonian cable TV packages.

Bessedin is in close contact with many Russian journalists who have produced extremely biased reports on Estonia. He provides them logistical support, help in finding contacts and even acts as cameraman when necessary. In Sinimäed Hills, he helped out the television channel Zvezda, financed by the Russian Ministry of Defence, by filling in for their cameraman. He was also the cameraman for a news story produced by Zvezda at the beginning of November, which reported on the trial of Väino Pehk, accused on participating in the March deportations of 1949.

In order to acquire information on Estonia and coax unsuspecting people into giving interviews, Bessedin has presented himself as an Estonian national television (ETV) employee working in the Russian-language broadcasts department. He has told other lies in order to gain the trust of a variety of institutions and key figures.

The Security Police advises state institutions as well as entrepreneurs and representatives of non-governmental organisations to be wary of Russian

Bessedin has also fulfilled contracts through his mother's company with Russian state TV, providing them content whenever there was need for some fresh propaganda from Estonia. The evidence for his involvement and work came through leaked emails.

From: Oleg Bessedin [mailto:bessedin51988589@gmail.com]
Sent: Thursday, October 18, 2018 6:33 PM
To: International Information Collection Department
Subject: Re: Estonia Embassy

THE RUSSIAN EMBASSY

https://dropmefiles.com/RCsan

Sincerely

Oleg Besedin

Thu, 18 Oct. 2018 at 18:25, International Information Collection Department < intercoord@vgtrk.com >:

Oleg, good evening! Thank you again for your help!

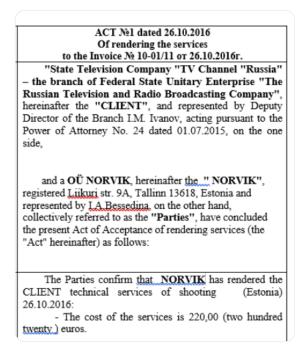
Sincerely,

International department "Vesti" TV channel "Russia"

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-----Original Message-----
From: ab@abmedia.ee [mailto:ab@abmedia.ee]
Sent: Monday, September 12, 2016 2:34 PM
To: Vaganova Svetlana Shakandarovna
Subject: Tallinn
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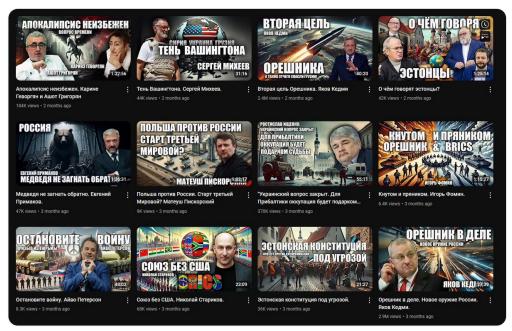
Hello, Vaganova.

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On September 10, we filmed the peace march in Tallinn for you. The
invoice and document are in the attachment. We are waiting for pay
ment of previously issued invoices.
-- Sincerely,
Irina Besedina mailto:ab@abmedia.ee
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Some of Bessedin's content was even produced using Russian state funds. His YouTube channel features a historical documentary series, "Never-Overgrowing Russian Paths in Estonia," funded by the Russkiy Mir Foundation – founded by Putin in 2007 to push Russian influence.

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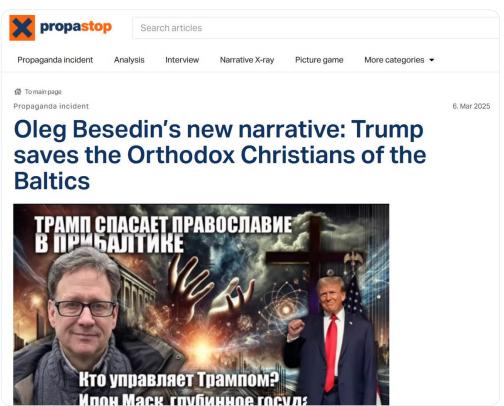
Oleg's social media platforms were key in the electoral success of the pro-Kremlin Estonian party KOOS. He served as their PR manager and actively agitates for them, using his propaganda network to manipulate public opinion among the Estonian Russian-speaking population.

Welcome to the website of the Peace Movement KOOS/TOGETHER !



DECLARATION N 1 OF THE NATIONAL MOVEMENT KOOS/TOGETHER

Lately, Bessedin has been sharing Russian lies about the "persecution of Orthodox Christians" in Estonia. Today, this narratives is parroted also by the Trump administration, that relies heavily on the Christian nationalist ideology (just like Putin).



To conclude: Oleg Bessedin is a major player in Russia's disinformation network in Estonia. By running pro-Kremlin social media groups, spreading false narratives, and undermining trust, he serves the Kremlin's goal of weakening Estonia's democracy from within.



The 2nd edition of "Vatnik Soup — The Ultimate Guide to Russian Disinformation" is officially out!

You can order your copy here:

