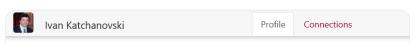


In today's <u>#vatniksoup</u>, I'll introduce a Ukrainian-Canadian political scientist, Ivan Katchanovski (<u>@l_Katchanovski</u>). He's best-known for exaggerating the role of far-right and neo-Nazi involvement in the Ukrainian politics and in the Russo-Ukrainian War.



Katchanovski received his PhD from the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University. Even though his his h-index is measly 21, his academic record is pretty remarkable; among other feats, he's worked as a visiting researcher at the Davis Center for...

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Biography

Ivan Katchanovski teaches at the School of Political Studies and the Graduate School of Public and International Affairs at the University of Ottawa. He was Visiting Scholar at the Davis Center for Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard University, Visiting Assistant Professor at the Department of Politics at the State University of New York at Potsdam, Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Department of Political Science at the University of Toronto, and Kluge Post-Doctoral Fellow at the Kluge Center at the Library of Congress. His academic publications include four books, 12 book chapters, and 18 articles in refereed journals. He received his Ph.D. from the Schar School of Policy and Government at George Mason University under the direction of Seymour Martin Lipset.

His publications, interviews, and comments appeared in over 1,500 media outlets in more than 70 countries. They include Associated Press, BBC Ukrainian, Canadian Press, CBC, CBC News, CBC Radio, CTV, CTV News, Financial Post, Fox 9 News, France 24, France Télévisions, Daily Beast, Global TV, Globe and Mail, Guardian, La Presse, Métro, Omni Television, National Post, Radio Canada International, Reuters, Times Higher Education, Vice, Voice of America, Washington Post, Washington Times, Yahoo News Canada, ABC Radio, Al-Jazeera, Annahar, ARD radio, Canadian Dimension, Channel One, China Newsweek, CNN Brazil, Consortium News, Deník N, Der Standard, East & West, Expresso, Euronews, Frettabladid, Jyllands-Posten, La Razón, Mail & Guardian, Metro World News, Moscow Times, Nacional, NIUS diario, OpenDemocracy, OstWest, Prague Post, Pravda (Slovakia), R24, Radio National, Real News, RT, Rubikon, Sky News Australia, Telepolis, Transitions Online (Central Europe Review), TRT World, Truthout, Veja, Weltwoche, WION TV, 112 Ukraine TV, 24 Channel, Apostrophe, Avers TV, First National Channel, ICTV, Holos Ukrainy, Kommentarii, Kyiv Post, NewsOne, Radio Liberty, Priamyi Kanal, Radio Svoboda, RBC Ukraine, Strana, STB, Volyn, Volyn TV, and Ukrainska pravda.

...Russian and Eurasian Studies at Harvard University.

Ivan is all about them "far-right elements" in Ukraine. His main narrative is that there is a small but powerful bloc of far-right actors who are integrated into the Ukrainian Army and are tolerated by President...







...Zelensky, and that they also played a crucial role in the so-called Maidan massacre. Per Ivan, "the Maidan massacre [...] was a successful false flag operation, which was organized and conducted with involvement of oligarchic and far right elements of the Maidan...

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Сопстиэтоп

This paper shows that the Maidan massacre of the protestors and the police on February 20, 2014 involved the far right and oligarchic parties, and it was a key element of the violent overthrow of the corrupt and oligarchic but democratically elected government in Ukraine. The study is based on a theoretical framework of rational choice and Weberian theory of instrumentally-rational action and analysis of a large volume of different sources of publicly available evidence.

The various kinds of evidence analyzed from such a theoretical perspective indicate that armed groups and the leadership of the far right organizations, such as the Right Sector and Svoboda, and oligarchic parties, such as Fatherland, were directly or indirectly involved in various capacities in this massacre of the protesters and the police. This mass killing was a successful false flag operation, which was organized and conducted by elements of the Maidan leadership and concealed armed groups in order to win the asymmetric conflict during the "Euromaidan" and seize power in Ukraine. This study also provides a rational explanation for the failure of the government investigation to find and prosecute those directly involved in this mass killing and for falsification of the investigation. However, specific nature and degree of the involvement of each of these political organizations and specific leaders and armed protesters remains unclear. Such a false flag massacre by its nature could have been organized and successfully carried out only by a small number of Maidan leaders and protesters. The absolute majority of the Maidan protesters, activists, members, and supporters of the "Euromaidan" mass protests and parties that led these protests, including the victims among the protestors, were not aware about the actual organizers and perpetrators of this politically motivated murder and not involved in any other way in this mass killing.

The study shows that concealed armed Maidan groups, which were based in particular in Music Conservatory and the Trade Union buildings, started the massacre in the early morning on February 20 by targeting Berkut and Internal Troops units on the Maidan itself with live ammunition fire, inflicting their mass casualties, and forcing them to retreat. Then the armed Maidan groups, in particular the same ones, massacred the unsuspecting Maidan protestors from concealed positions. The analysis of circumstances, timing, and locations of specific killings of 49 protestors presents evidence that almost all of them were killed from the Maidan-controlled buildings and locations, in particular the Hotel Ukraine and Zhovtnevyi Palace. This study presents direct evidence, such as videos, photos, and witness testimonies, concerning groups of the Maidan "snipers" in these buildings and their shooting from these positions in the directions of the protesters at the same time when the protesters were killed and wounded from these directions from the same caliber and types of weapons.

...opposition and snipers in order to overthrow the government and seize power in Ukraine."

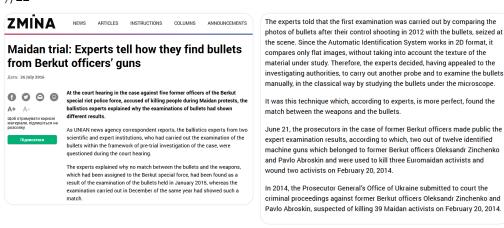
After Oct 2014, he started presenting his theory on the events of the Maidan massacre. His 2015 paper argues that it was actually the snipers from the Maidan-controlled areas that... 5/22

...caused most of the fatalities. In his 2016 book chapter on nominally peer-reviewed Journal of Labor and Society, he again argued that "the Right Sector and Svoboda had crucial roles in [...] in the Maidan massacre of the protesters and the police."





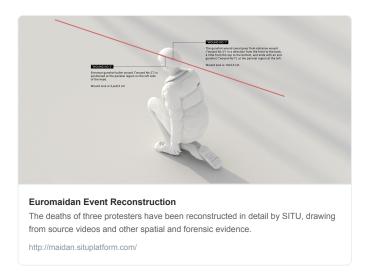
Official investigation matched the used bullets to the weapons used by Berkut, the Ukrainian special police force working under Yanukovych. Researchers at Carnegie-Mellon University have refuted Ivan's claims by using a detailed reconstruction of the events from various..







...video sources:



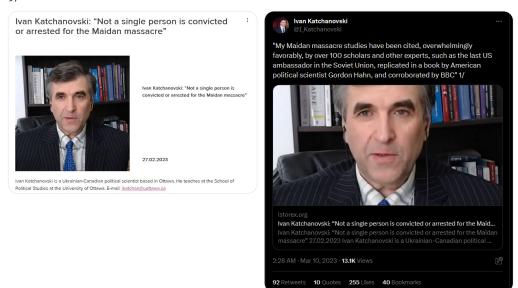
Also, New York Times made an extensive research based on 3-D models on the events in 2018:

 $\underline{https://www.nytimes.com/2018/05/30/magazine/ukraine-protest-video.html}$



In Feb 2023, Ivan gave an interview to an obscure journal called "Historical Expertise". The journal seems to focus on Russian history and culture, but it also contains a lot of pro-Kremlin propaganda in the form of interviews and articles. Anyway, the interview is titled...

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"Not a single person is convicted or arrested for the Maidan massacre", and in it Katchanovski makes a rather bold statement that it was actually the involvement of Ukrainian far-right actors that led to the annexation of Crimea, "civil war" in Ukraine, and to the...

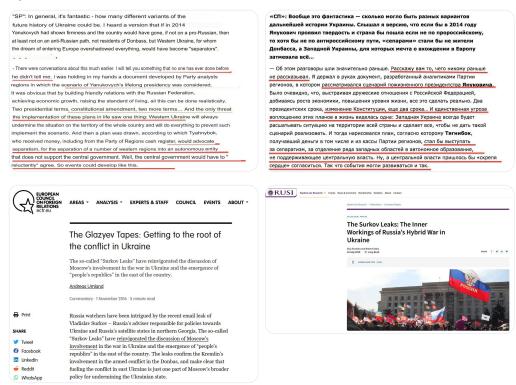
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Dear Prof. Katchanovski, the pretext of our interview is an upsetting case when two reviewers and an editor approved your article regarding the Maidan massacre, but the editorial board of an academic journal (you hide its name) rejected the publication by political reasons. Before to discuss that scandalous event I suggest to put it in a broader context: what a honest researcher should do in the current situation of Russian invasion into Ukraine, is it possible to criticize wrongdoings of Ukrainian politicians if the Russian propaganda will use them against Ukraine?

My research of the Maidan massacre is purely academic. Honest researchers cannot censor or falsify results of scholarly studies for any political reasons in order to cover up or whitewash mass murderers. The Maidan massacre is a major human rights violation and a case of political mass murder. Those oligarchic and far-right Maidan politicians, who were involved in the Maidan massacre of the protesters and the police, bear not only responsibility for this grave political crime but also significant responsibility for its extremely damaging consequences to Ukraine. It led to the overthrow of the Ukrainian government and ultimately led or contributed to the Russian annexation of Crimea, a civil war in Donbas, Russian military interventions in Crimea and Donbas, and international conflicts between Ukraine and Russia and the West and Russia. Russia drastically escalated these conflicts by invading Ukraine on February 24, 2022. Russian propaganda concerning the Maidan and this war is not based on research by scholars. Moreover, research by scholars, including my own academic studies, show that that claims of the Russian government and the media concerning the fascist coup in 2014, the neo-Nazi regime, and genocide in Ukraine are propaganda. I do not give interviews to the media in Russia. I refused before the Russian invasion to testify as an expert at the special meeting of the UN Security Council concerning the Maidan massacre in Ukraine.

...Russian military intervention in Donbas. Apparently the Kremlin's military interference, their meddling with Yanukovych, their plans to make Ukraine into a Belarus-like totalitarian state, their funding of pro-Kremlin politicians had nothing to do with all this.

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Academics need to be extremely careful in what they say, especially so when discussing over geopolitics. Ivan claims to be "neutral" and boasts that he usually doesn't give interviews to Russian media.

We know this from his before-mentioned interview on Russian media.

Recently, he has been criticizing the use of phrase "Slava Ukraini". He shared an article where Croatian President and fervent opponent of military aid to Ukraine, Zoran Milanović, compared the slogan to "Sieg Heil" used by the real Nazis.

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The phrase first appeared at the beginning of the 20th century, and was later used by Ukrainians during the Ukrainian War of Independence between 1917 and 1921. Katchanovski has called this version of history "Wikipedia fakes propagated by whitewashers of OUN & far-right."

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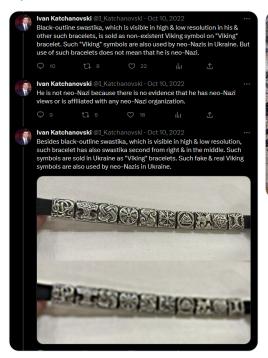
Remember when pro-Kremlin propagandists discovered that the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, Valerii Zaluzhnyi, wore a bracelet that had a symbol that resembled a swastika. This was of course just the evidence he needed to prove his "Ukrainian Nazis" theory.



In reality, the symbol was the Solomon's knot, an age-old symbol found already in ancient Roman mosaics. According to Ivan, these bracelets are "also used by neo-Nazis in Ukraine."

Man, it must be stressful to grasp at straws this hard to support your own theories.

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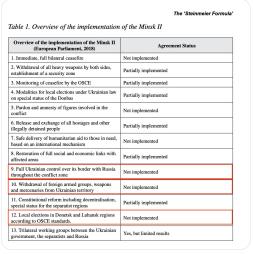




On various occasions, Katchanovski has claimed that if Ukraine had only complied with the Minsk Agreement, the war could have been avoided. While it's true that Ukraine didn't comply with the agreement, but neither did Russia.

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Incidentally, Ivan forgets to mention the Budapest Memorandum of 1994, which obligated Russia to respect Ukraine's sovereignty and its borders.

I think we can safely say at this point, that you can't trust Russia on any international agreement.

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Welcoming the accession of Ukraine to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons as a non-nuclear-weapon state,

Taking into account the commitment of Ukraine to eliminate all nuclear weapons from its territory within a specified period of time,

Noting the changes in the world-wide security situation, including the end of the Cold War, which have brought about conditions for deep reductions in nuclear forces,

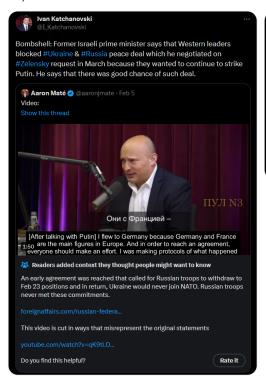
Confirm the following:

- The Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America reaffirm their commitment to Ukraine, in accordance with the principles of the CSCE Final Act, to respect the independence and sovereignty and the existing borders of Ukraine.
- 2. The Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America reaffirm their obligation to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of Ukraine, and that none of their weapons will ever be used against Ukraine except in self-defence or otherwise in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.
- 3. The Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America reaffirm their commitment to Ukraine, in accordance with the principles of the CSCE Final Act, to refrain from economic coercion designed to subordinate to their own interest the exercise by Ukraine of the rights inherent in its sovereignty and thus to secure advantages of any kind.
- 4. The Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America reaffirm their commitment to seek immediate United Nations Security Council action to provide assistance to Ukraine, as a non-nuclear-weapon state party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, if Ukraine should become a victim of an act of aggression or an object of a threat of aggression in which nuclear weapons are used.
- 5. The Russian Federation, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America reaffirm, in the case of Ukraine, their commitment not to use nuclear weapons against any non-nuclear-weapon State Party to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, except in the case of an attack

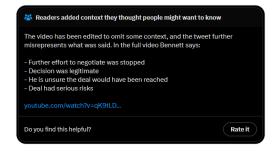
Lately Katchanovski has been involved with another pro-Kremlin megaphone, Jeffrey Sachs. As you may know, Sachs is blaming the NATO expansion on the war in Ukraine, undermined Finland's NATO membership, and appeared on Vladimir Solovyov's propaganda show.



He's also testified on the Nord Stream sabotage in front of the UN Security Council on behalf of Russia. In May 2023, Ivan & Jeffrey sat down for a talk, in which Katchanovski falsely claimed that the West sabotaged the peace negotiations between Ukraine & Russia in Mar 2022.



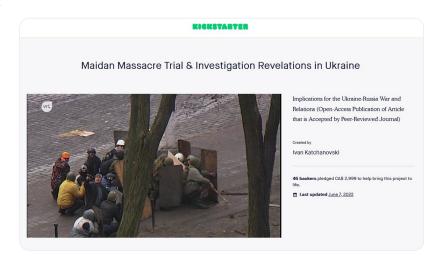






As it can be difficult to find funding for projects that don't support official investigations, Ivan has decided to crowdfund his research. He managed to raise 3000 CA\$ for his latest article, which will be published in near future in a journal called "Russian Politics".

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To me it seems like Ivan REALLY wants to be relevant. He likes to quote himself, boast about his media appearances & his academic achievements, and generally tries to be noticed.

As of now, he's mostly noticed and used by the pro-Kremlin media to support their propaganda.



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Past soups: vatniksoup.com

Here's Ivan's episode titled "Ukrainian scholar calls out US media's lies about war" on Useful Idiots with <u>@aaronjmate</u> and <u>@KatieHalperShow</u>:



Ukrainian scholar calls out US media's lies about war

Listen now (55 min) | Click here for the full interview with Ukrainian Professor Ivan Katchanovski, Ivan Katchanovski, Ukrainian-Canadian political scientist who teaches at the University of Ottawa, \dots

https://usefulidiots.substack.com/p/ukrainian-scholar-calls-out-us-medias#details

Thank you @JMacclein84780!

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