



**Pekka Kallioniemi** @P\_Kallioniemi

Mar 5, 2024 · 21 tweets · [P\\_Kallioniemi/status/1764980347253445101](#)

In today's #vatniksoup, I'll introduce an Irish social media personality and propagandist, Chay Bowes (@BowesChay). He's best-known for his collaboration with a Russian SVR operative @Dpol\_un, and for spreading pro-Kremlin propaganda while working as a correspondent for RT.

1/20



For years, Bowes was looking for his place in this world, trying his wings as a gunshop owner and health insurance middle manager. At some point, he did some online studies so that he can put up "MA in strategic studies" in his bio to gain some credibility.

2/20



Hot Water Brigade

Chay Bowes misses the target

Date: March 22, 2018 - The Hot Water Brigade



Chay Bowes

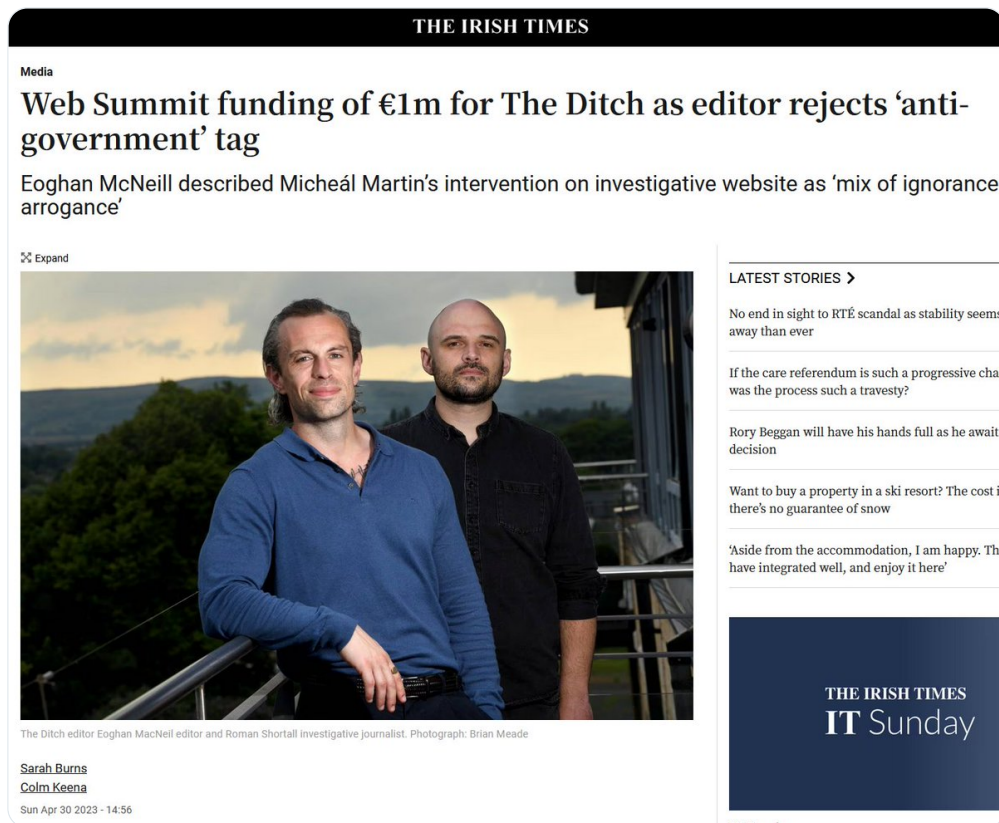
HARD to luck to Dublin businessman Chay Bowes whose outdoor gear outlet and gun shop suddenly closed its doors earlier this year. Creditors of Range River Mountain Ltd (RRML), the company behind the Outdoor Depot at the South City Business Park in Tallaght, called in liquidator Diarmuid Lynam in late February after the outfit ran... [Read more »](#)

In the controversy surrounding [the leaking of a confidential](#) document by then Taoiseach Leo Varadkar last year, a key point has been missed regarding [whistleblower](#) Chay Bowes’s motivations. As an insider and former head of the VHI Homecare division Bowes gained significant insights into the operation of the Irish health system, especially the HSE. This interview probes into the obstacles he faced in attempting to deliver an effective model of community care away from overcrowded hospitals. He argues the HSE perpetuates dysfunction to the benefit of the private system.



For some years, Chay has claimed to be an "investigative journalist". In 2021, Chay, businessman Paddy Cosgrave and few others launched an Irish political news website called The Ditch. It was funded by Cosgrave, and Chay was one of the three main shareholders.

3/20




**THE IRISH TIMES**

Media

### Web Summit funding of €1m for The Ditch as editor rejects 'anti-government' tag

Eoghan McNeill described Micheál Martin's intervention on investigative website as 'mix of ignorance arrogance'

Expand



The Ditch editor Eoghan MacNeil and Roman Shortall investigative journalist. Photograph: Brian Meade

[Sarah Burns](#)  
[Colm Keena](#)

Sun Apr 30 2023 - 14:56

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- 'Aside from the accommodation, I am happy. The have integrated well, and enjoy it here'

**THE IRISH TIMES**  
**IT Sunday**

Bowes' buddy Cosgrave is also the founder of the annual technology conference called Web Summit. Paddy platformed Chay at the conference, and strongly defended him on Twitter in Jan 2022, stating

that Chay being pro-Kremlin is nothing but a "conspiracy theory".

4/20



**Paddy Cosgrave**  
@paddycosgrave

.@BowesChay spoke on stage at @WebSummit about @LeoVaradkar after which a long line of Irish people queued up to shake his hand

Somehow not one of the countless Irish journalists who attended/covered #WebSummit reported on it

It tells you all you need to know about Irish media



10:32 AM · Nov 7, 2021



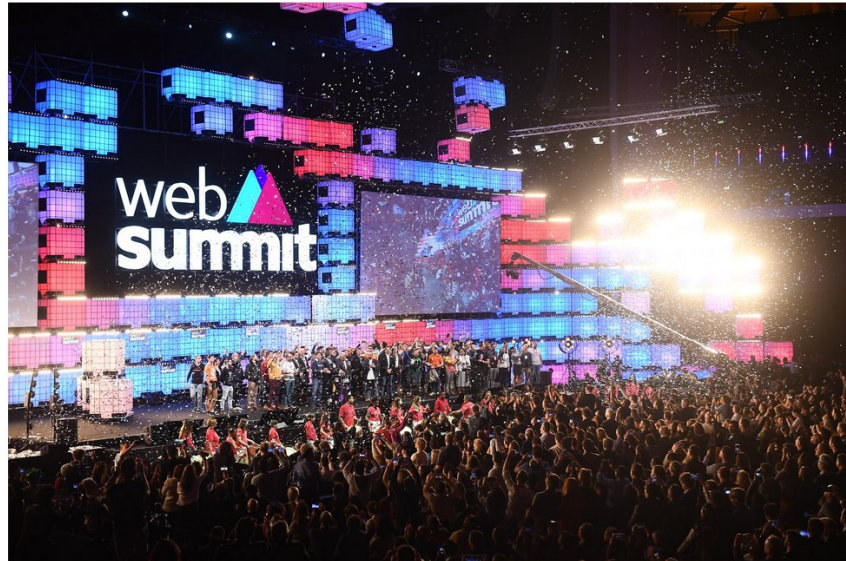
Cosgrave also invited The Grayzone boys over to Web Summit after the full-scale war broke out in 2022, but eventually cancelled their attendance after strong protests. Eventually, Bowes faded away from The Ditch and moved to Moscow to work as a...

TECH, HOT TOPIC

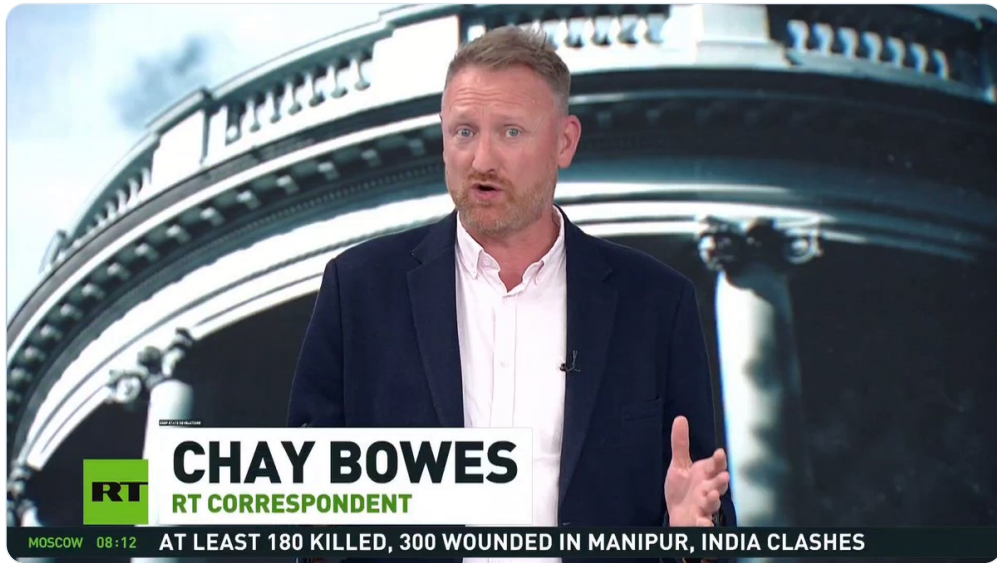
## Europe's largest tech conference withdraws invitation to pro-Kremlin speakers after backlash

Share [Twitter](#) [Facebook](#) [LinkedIn](#) [Email](#)

by Daryna Antoniuk · October 30, 2022 1:48 PM · 4 min read



..correspondent (read: propagandist) for RT. In Oct 2023, after commenting on the Israel-Hamas war, Cosgrave was forced to resign as CEO of Web Summit. After this, Web Summit's remaining board members cut all funding to The Ditch & Chay became fully dependent on the Kremlin.



[Home](#) / [Business](#) / [Irish Business](#)

## Leo Varadkar leak campaigner Chay Bowes exits The Ditch shareholding



Chay Bowes co-founded The Ditch in 2021. Photo: Tony Gavin

**Donal O'Donovan**

Tue 11 Apr 2023 at 04:30

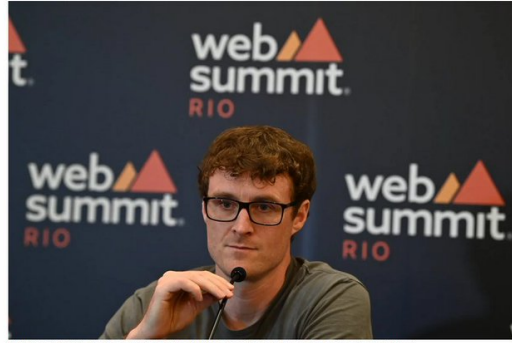




LEADERSHIP · ISRAEL

# Web Summit chief who indirectly accused Israel of 'war crimes' says he's resigning because of 'distraction' over his personal comments

BY **AMY THOMSON AND BLOOMBERG**  
October 21, 2023 at 7:46 PM GMT-3



Web Summit CEO Paddy Cosgrave has resigned after major withdrawals over his comments about Israel.  
EDIN NOONAN/SPORTSFILE FOR WEB SUMMIT RIO VIA GETTY IMAGES

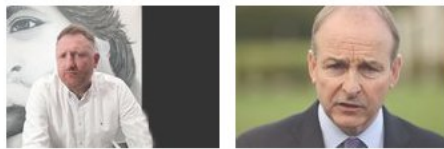
Home / Irish News / Politics

## Chay Bowes blasts Martin's 'utterly baseless conspiracy theories' of Russian involvement in The Ditch website

- Tánaiste accuses PBP TD Paul Murphy of 'weaponising' Sipo with complaint to ethics watchdog over junior minister Niall Collins land deal
- NUJ hits out at Tánaiste's use of Dáil privilege to 'attack' the Ditch website that published allegations



Chay Bowes



Philip Ryan, Eoghan Moloney and Gabija Gataveckaite

Fri 28 Apr 2023 at 21:40



As Cosgrave was defending his old buddy, Bowes was living a double-life: he had an alternative Twitter account called "Truth Defender", that already in 2014 was spewing out the extremely pro-Kremlin, and most racist, homophobic, conspiratorial content one can imagine.



A social media account operated by Chay Bowes, the man behind the “Leo the Leak” scandal, repeatedly shared openly homophobic content, extreme pro-Russian, anti-Israeli, and conspiratorial propaganda, as well as support for Sinn Fein, Gript can reveal.



From gript.ie

2:37 PM · Nov 7, 2020



**lenny abrahamson** @lennyabrahamson · Sep 26, 2014

@ChayBowes Chay Bowes, you legend. How are you. It's been easily 10 years.



**Truth Defender** @Questionitall71 · Sep 27, 2014

@lennyabrahamson all is good Lenny. Let's meet up for coffee, I still want to make my movie.



**lenny abrahamson** @lennyabrahamson · Sep 27, 2014

@ChayBowes of course. I'm in Canada but back in new year. Coffee would be great.



**Truth Defender**  
@Questionitall71

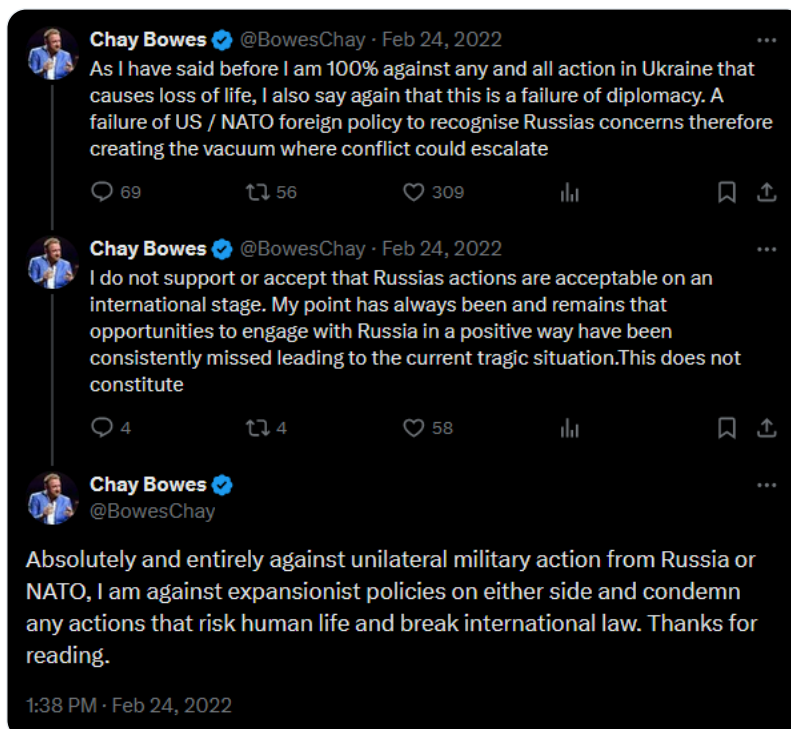
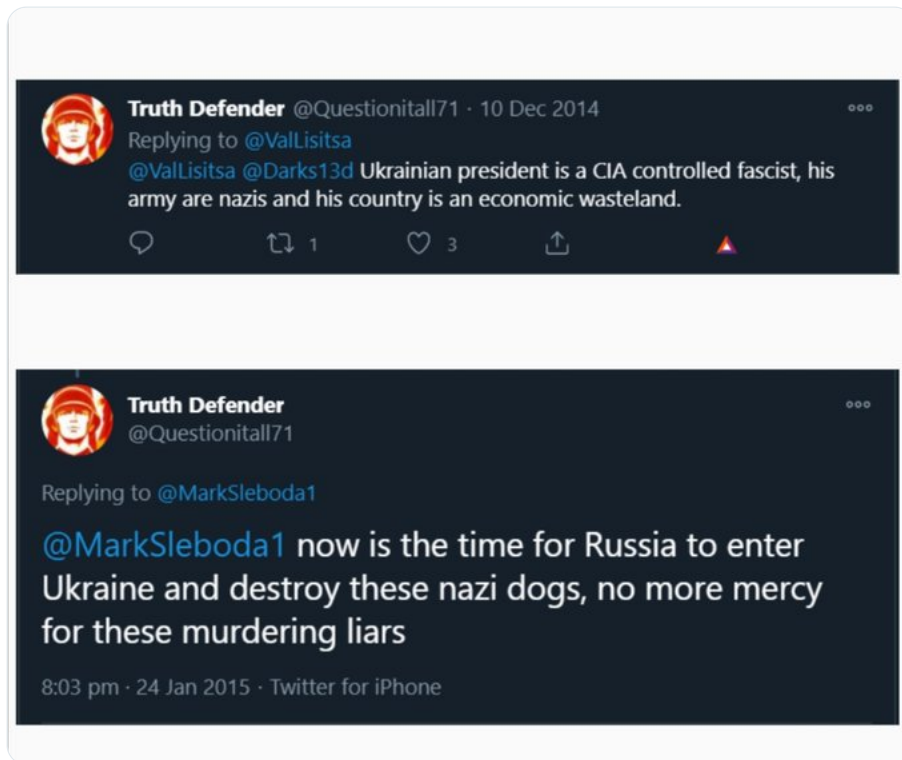
Replying to @lennyabrahamson

@lennyabrahamson great Lenny. Lovely to talk. Cheers. Chay.

8:15 PM · Sep 27, 2014 · Twitter for iPhone

Even though already in 2015 "Truth Defender" was calling for Russia "to enter Ukraine and destroy these nazi dogs" and "murdering liars", on the day that Russia launched their full-scale invasion, Chay posted a series of tweets on his main profile, condemning all violence.

8/20



Now Chay, if you're so anti-war, why don't you organize anti-war protests in Moscow? Putting enough domestic pressure on Putin would surely end the war. Because it's not the "profit-fueled neo-liberal hegemony", as you refer to the West, that attacked Ukraine. It's Russia.

9/20

Of course, having any opinion other than the prescribed Western view is portrayed as dangerous and subversive. Any view, other than the stock mainstream narrative, which alleges that a maniacal imperialist Russia, wishing to regain tracts of previously conquered territory, is cast as Russian propaganda. This authoritarian and dangerous. corporate position has led to people such as your author being labeled as pro-Putin advocates, and paid propagandists for an authoritarian, genocidal and hateful state.

Of course, the opposite is quite true. Your author and many others like me are essentially anti-war advocates, who earnestly seek to challenge the profit-fueled neo-liberal hegemony that has led Europe, blindly, to the brink of a third world war.

Anyway, like so many failed journalists who can't manage to land a job in Europe, Chay moved to Moscow where he was quickly employed by the Kremlin's biggest propaganda factory. His main job at RT is to bash the West and at the same time seem relatively professional.

10/20



Listening to Bowes spout about Ukraine is very similar to listening to any other pro-Kremlin mouthpiece. For example, he claims that the 2014 Revolution of Dignity was a coup orchestrated by the Nuland gang, which led to a "far-right regime" taking over Ukrainian politics.

11/20

**Chay Bowes**   
@BowesChay

The architects of the illegal, Neo Nazi supported 2014 Coup, which led to the catastrophic war in Ukraine, are now abandoning Ukraine.

The same people that accused Russia of a fantasy "Genocide" in Ukraine now deny actual Genocide in Gaza.

Consistency, US State Dept Style



2:52 AM · Dec 6, 2023 · 25.8K Views

Like his propagandist fellow @aaronjmate, Chay likes to share a made-up version of the Odesa fire of 2014, leaving out the fact that the fire department failed to act accordingly and the fire chief later fled to Crimea where he got a well-paying job:

12/20



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



In today's #vatniksoup, I'll discuss about one of the less-known events of the Russo-Ukrainian War: the 2014 Odessa clashes.

It's often used by pro-Kremlin propagandists to prove that the "neo-Nazis" in Ukraine were "persecuting" the Russian-speaking population in Ukraine.

1/22



9:03 AM · Sep 19, 2023



♥ 6.5K    💬 Reply    🔗 Copy link

Read 188 replies



**Chay Bowes** ✓  
@BowesChay



The conflict in #Ukraine is a Civil War, its roots in the #Maidan Coup, sponsored and directed by the #CIA working alongside pro #EU far right militias

The #Odessa massacre in 2014 resulted in deaths of 48 innocent people, 46 of whom were Peaceful anti-Maidan activists.



3:58 PM · Oct 3, 2022

He spread conspiracy theorist Laura Loomer's crazy theory about a US neo-Nazi Kent McLellan fighting in Ukraine. The story was quickly debunked by @bellingcat and others, and most people saw through

Loomer's crude photoshop edits of McLellan's photos.

13/20



**Chay Bowes** @BowesChay

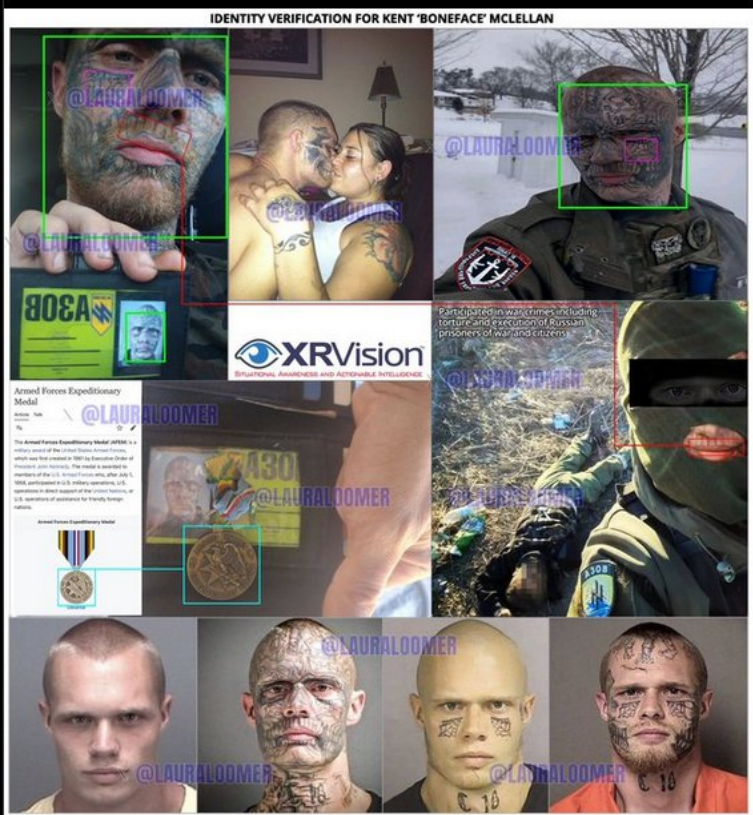
This is a very important piece of work. I suggest you all read in detail.

**Laura Loomer** @LauraLoomer · Sep 6, 2023

EXCLUSIVE LAURA LOOMER INVESTIGATION

I have conducted an investigation and I believe that for the sake of National Security, public interest and now my own personal safety I need to immediately release and publish what I have uncovered about the United ...

[Show more](#)



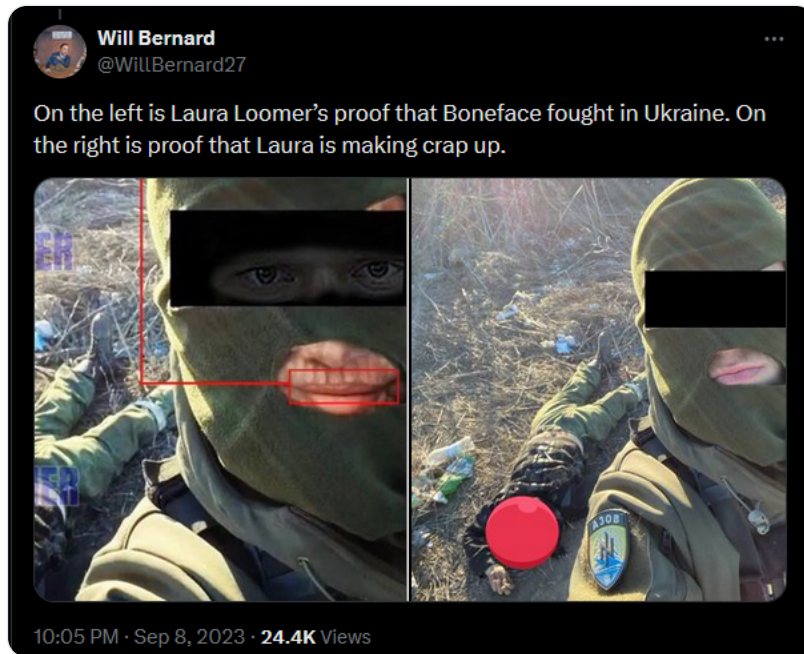
**Readers added context**

The only picture unequivocally placing the subject in Ukraine, is a doctored picture. Besides all the artifacts contained in the region of the picture, it does not align with the inclination of the head and eyes. Here is the original image: [twitter.com/TheRalphRetort...](https://twitter.com/TheRalphRetort...)


Do you find this helpful?

**Rate it**


7:45 PM · Sep 6, 2023 · 4,482 Views



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**Michael Colborne**  
Michael Colborne is a journalist and researcher at Bellingcat; he leads Bellingcat Monitoring, our project to research and monitor the far-right in central and eastern Europe. He tweets at @ColborneMichael.



**Tristan Lee**  
Tristan Lee is a data scientist at Bellingcat whose work focuses on far-right and conspiracy theory networks online.

## US neo-Nazi says He Fought in Ukraine, Records Place Him in Florida

September 13, 2023 Far-Right Geolocation

**A** US neo-Nazi who claims he made multiple trips to Ukraine to fight alongside military units can't seem to keep a straight story.

Online court filings place Kent McLellan, who goes by the alias Boneface, in Florida at the same time he claims he was fighting in last year's bloody siege of Mariupol.

Additional records show McLellan was legally mandated to remain in Florida in 2014 and 2015, the two other times he says he visited Ukraine to fight alongside Right Sector and the Azov Regiment. The Florida Department of Corrections confirmed to Bellingcat that he was monitored during this time and never granted permission to travel abroad.

While McLellan could have violated the terms of his parole to leave the US, this appears unlikely as digital evidence of McLellan's life, from social media posts to neo-Nazi forum messages to prison records, shows consistent residence in Florida from 2014 to the present day.

McLellan—who came to wider media [attention](#) earlier this month when he participated in a neo-Nazi [demonstration](#) outside of Disney World in Orlando—has in recent years bragged of his supposed exploits in Ukraine.

Throughout 2022 his story was widely covered by Russian state media, which accepted it at face value and also claimed he had received Ukrainian citizenship.

In one of his most disgusting takes (and there are many!), Bowes claimed on RT that the Christchurch mass shooter Brenton Tarrant was "trained by Ukrainian neo-Nazis", a claim without a shred of real evidence. Who comes up with this vile garbage? It's @M\_Simonyan, isn't it?

14/20



He also sees Nazis absolutely everywhere BUT in Russia. Chay, any thoughts on openly neo-Nazi Russian figures like Alexey Milchakov, Dmitry Rogozin, Pavel Gubarev & Yan Petrovsky? As an "unbiased journalist", you should probably have some sort of neutral take on these people.

15/20

**Chay Bowes**   
@BowesChay



Rather than put Nazi apologists and killers on trial, Vladimir Zelenskys Government have put them on stamps.

The reality of a deeply corrupt State, disproportionately influenced by the ideology of mass killers and Fascism is now undeniable, even to the client Western Media





Due to his online course in strategic studies, he provided a thorough analysis on how Russia in 2022 retreated from both Kherson & Kharkiv in "good order" & how Ukrainians allegedly lost 20 000 men while recapturing the former. He's also called Russian leadership "pragmatic".

 **Chay Bowes**   
@BowesChay

Of course the Media in the UK and Ireland don't like to discuss the massive losses being inflicted on Ukrainian troops and Materiel during their assault on [#Kherson](#). It may lead to difficult questions like "why aren't we seeking Peace" the most dangerous question of all.

4:24 PM · Oct 24, 2022

 **Chay Bowes**   
@BowesChay

Yet when Russian troops withdrew from Kherson, in good order, with all of their heavy equipment to redeploy to more advantageous and defensible positions Ukraine awarded itself a huge "Victory"

6:42 PM · Feb 5, 2023 · **6,502** Views

 5    8    125      

 Post your reply **Reply**

 **Chay Bowes**  @BowesChay · Feb 5, 2023

You have to wonder, if [#Azov](#) had been withdrawn from [#Mariupol](#) rather than eradicated in the cellars of Azovstal? You need pragmatic leadership. Ukraine look like they are shaping up for another serious loss of static forces in [#Bakhmut](#) too.

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Then there's of course the Kremlin propaganda "classics" like bringing up alleged corruption, "genocide in Donbas", jailing of "journalists", banning the "opposition", and refusing to hold elections during war time (which is forbidden by the constitution).

 **Chay Bowes**   
@BowesChay

He Banned the opposition  
He Oppressed the Church  
He Imprisoned his critics  
He Monopolised the Media  
He Oppressed a language.  
He Jailed journalists

Now he's refusing to hold Elections.

This is the "Freedom" NATO is bankrupting Europe for, This is Zelenskys  
[#Ukraine](#)



1:47 AM · Jul 1, 2023 · **645.2K** Views



 **Chay Bowes** ✓  
@BowesChay

So while 40 million [#American](#) people battle Poverty, the kids of [#Ukrainian](#) elites party the night away in [#Odessa](#) as hundreds of thousands of their countrymen die on the battlefield.

The [#US](#) is pumping Billions of Dollars in to keep the party going.

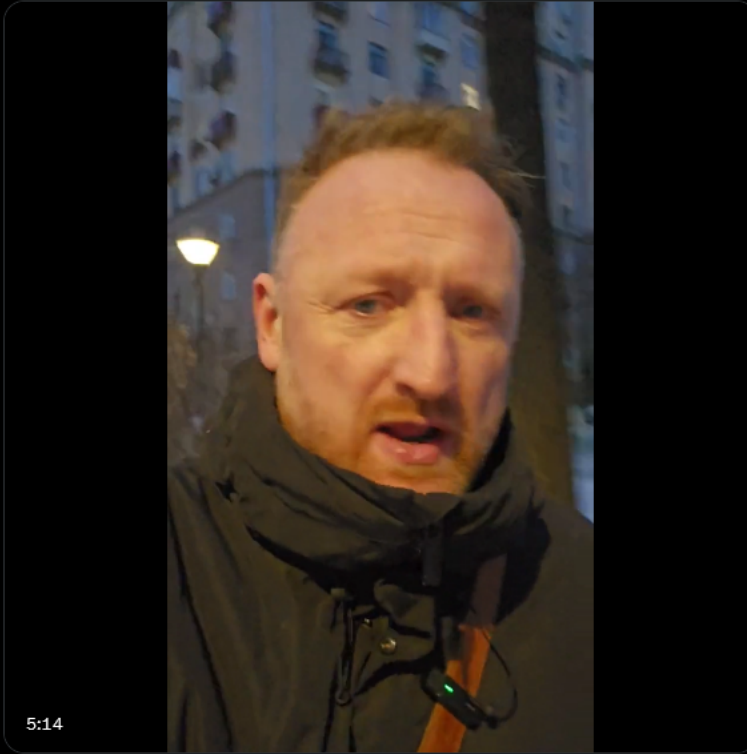


4:49 PM · Jun 18, 2023 · **40.6K** Views



**Chay Bowes**   
@BowesChay

It's been 10 years since the 2014 "Maidan" began in Ukraine. It was stimulated and exploited by the CIA not because they care about the Ukrainian people but because they fear and resent Russia, this is now clear as the endgame for Zelensky, the master of promises is inevitable.



4:17 PM · Nov 20, 2023 · **24.6K** Views



Bowes is a well-known guest on many vatnik podcasts. Right after the full-scale war begun, he was guest on @georgegalloway's Kremlin-sponsored Sputnik show. He also appeared on the Donbas Devushka podcast, hosted by a US-citizen who claimed to be a "poor girl from Lugansk".

# DONBASS DEVUSHKA

PODCAST



CHAY BOWES

**RT** **Now Online**

**SPUTNIK**  
ORBITING THE WORLD WITH  
GEORGE GALLOWAY

Ep 425 | @RT\_Sputnik

**SPUTNIK**  
ORBITING THE WORLD

**Chay Bowes**

**“Yes Yes UCS!”**

Like the Kremlin stooges @aaronjmate and @maxblumenthal, Chay was also invited to speak at the UNSC on behalf of Russia by the SVR operative, @Dpol\_un, where he was introduced as a "scholar specialising in small arms and munitions" and as a "famous journalist".



Mr Bowes, described as a "scholar specialising in small arms and munitions", spoke by video link yesterday.

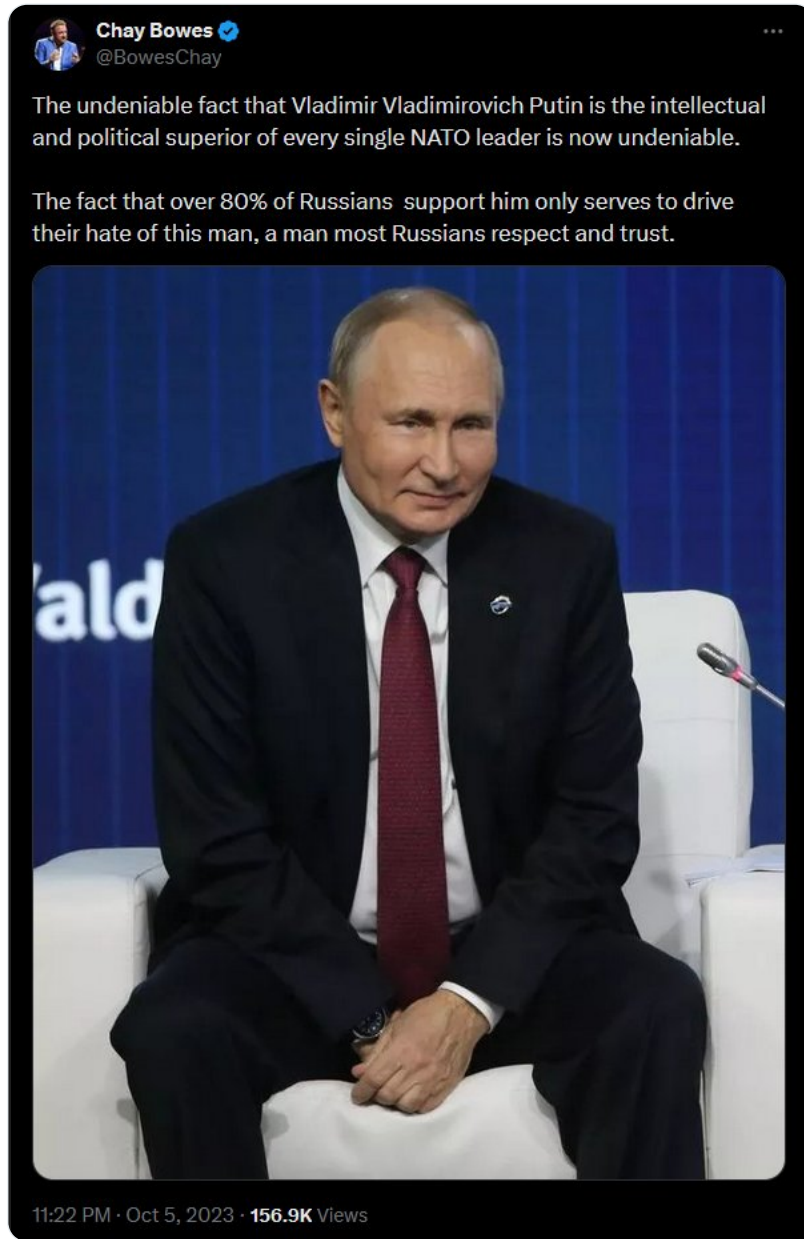
Speaking about the Ukraine conflict, he told the Security Council that NATO was supporting a military proxy conflict in a country which, he said, was described as "endemically corrupt" by the US State Department in 2019.

He described a "frenzied, incalculable, loosely regulated" flood of weapons into Ukraine, and said that NATO planners and their political funders in an "ever-hawkish Anglosphere" were driving the "seemingly perpetual escalation of military aid to Ukraine".

He said Ukrainians dying in their thousands on the battlefield were the victims of a military escalation in Ukraine's "suicidal, full-frontal attacks".

And Chay, I understand - you sold your soul to an authoritarian regime and now you simply have to produce them propaganda so you have some food on the table.

Because Russia is pretty much the only place (or maybe China later!) where you're not ridiculed and despised.



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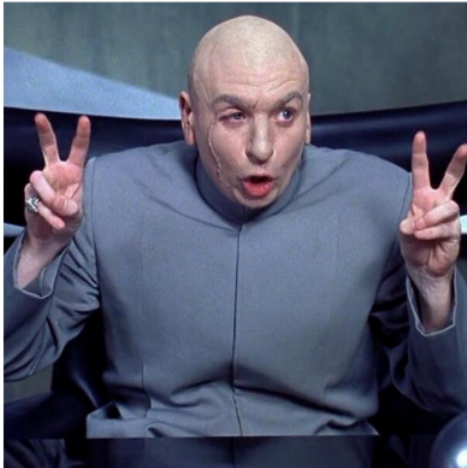


**The Soup Central**

The Soup Central gives you in-depth knowledge on disinformation, bad actors and information operations.

<https://www.youtube.com/@TheSoupCentral/videos>

**Remember him?**



**This is him now**



**Feel old yet?**

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