



European Digital Media Observatory

Periodic insight n°16

DISINFORMATION NARRATIVES ABOUT THE WAR IN UKRAINE

12/12/2022 to 1/02/2023

edmo.eu

Twitter: [@EDMO_EUI](https://twitter.com/EDMO_EUI)

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False information circulating on the war: 4 Categories and their narratives

Category #1

Compromising Ukrainians' image

Ukrainians are violent nationalists and anti-Polish (e.g., [here](#))

Ukrainians are Nazis (e.g., [here](#))

Ukrainians are corrupted and embezzling int. aid funds (e.g., [here](#))

Ukrainians part of a world conspiracy (e.g., [here](#))

Ukrainians refugees are parasite (e.g., [here](#))

→ 42% of analysis

Category #2

Damaging Zelensky's public figure

Zelensky is a liar (e.g., [here](#))

Zelensky is a warmonger (e.g., [here](#))

→ 20% of analysis

Category #3

Attacking NATO and Ukraine's foreign supporters

NATO is militarily involved in the war (e.g., [here](#))

EU sanctions to Russia and inflation are backfiring on EU populations (e.g., [here](#))

Ukraine supporters are divided e.g., [here](#))

→ 16% of analysis

Category #4

Leopard tanks

Leopard tanks are made in China (e.g., [here](#))

Leopard tanks are useless (e.g., [here](#))

Tanks were delivered to Ukraine before the official announcement (e.g., [here](#))

→ 6% of analysis

→ 16% of analyses did not fall in any of the above trends, as they cover various random topics (e.g., [here](#) & [here](#)).

⚠️ EARLY-WARNING: WHAT TO EXPECT

Disinformation on the travel of representatives of EU institutions to Kyiv (February 2023)



Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission, was in Kyiv on 2 February 2023 with 15 other Commissioners. The [meeting](#) was an occasion to discuss relief support, reconstruction, reforms and targeted cooperation with Ukraine.

On 3 February, Ursula von der Leyen and Charles Michel (President of the European Council) are meeting Volodymyr Zelensky for the [24th EU/Ukraine summit](#). This edition is the first one taking place since the beginning of the Russian invasion.

Discussions are ongoing about a 10th package of sanctions against Russia, which should be issued by 24 February 2023 to mark the first anniversary of the Russian aggression on Ukrainian territory.

The disinformation linked to those events will likely grow in the coming days.

DATA PROVIDED BY EDMO'S FACT-CHECKING NETWORK

Share of categories in the fact-checking analysis published by the EDMO network between 12.12.2022 and 1.02.2023



In total, 1962 analyses have been provided by EDMO's fact-checking network partners since 24 February 2022, out of which 64 were covered by this report (12.12.2022 to 1.02.2023).

Organisations contributing to EDMO's repository of fact-checking analyses

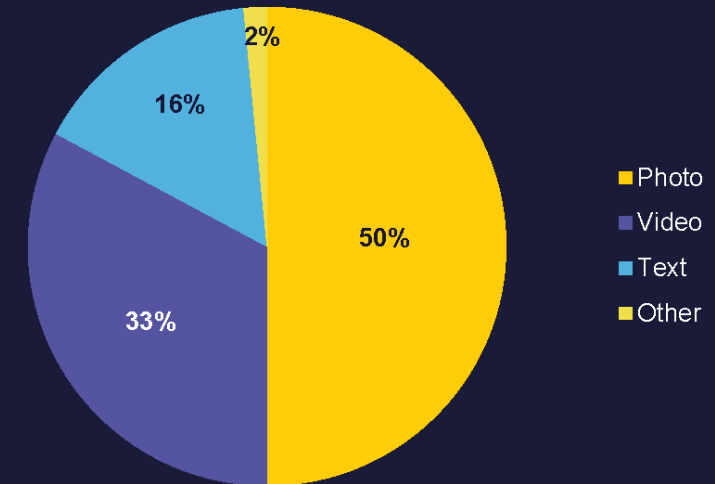
- [DPA Austria](#)
- [Mimikama](#)
- [AFP Factuel](#)
- [DPA Belgium](#)
- [Factcheck Vlaanderen](#)
- [Knack](#)
- [AFP Proveri](#)
- [AFP Na pravou míru](#)
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- [AFP Faktencheck Germany/Austria](#)
- [AFP Factcheck Greek](#)
- [EllinikaHoaxes](#)
- [AFP Tenykerdes](#)
- [The Journal – FactCheck](#)
- [FactaNews](#)
- [Pagella Politica](#)
- [Re:Baltica](#)
- [Delfi](#)
- [DPA Luxembourg](#)
- [AFP Faktencheck Netherlands](#)
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- [Faktisk.noProvera činjenica](#)
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- [MALDITA.ES](#)
- [Newtral](#)
- [Verificat](#)
- [15 min](#)
- [Källkritikbyrå](#)
- [DPA Switzerland](#)

DATA PROVIDED BY EDMO'S FACT-CHECKING NETWORK

Number of disinformation items per platforms
(Facebook, Twitter, News Agency, Other)



Outlets used to convey disinformation
(Video, Photo, Text)



➡ This data has been extracted from the fact-checking analyses published by EDMO's fact-checking network

METHODOLOGY

The information contained in this brief is based on [EDMO's repository](#) of fact-checking analyses on the war in Ukraine. The repository's items are provided by the fact-checking organisations that are part of the EDMO fact-checking network.

Reference period: 12 December 2022 – 1 February 2023. Number of analyses studied: 64.

Responsible EDMO organisations: European University Institute/School of Transnational Governance; Pagella Politica/Facta.news.

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