Tommaso Canetta
Coordinator of EDMO’s fact-checking activities
EDMO’s fact-checking network:

Established at the Spring of 2021
Operative by the Summer of 2021

Now:

36 ORGANIZATIONS
27 EU COUNTRIES + NORWAY
Detected disinformation about Ukraine is on the rise in October, while disinformation related to COVID-19 and climate change is going down.
The 9 main narratives detected in disinformation circulating in the EU in March are:

- Russian invasion of Ukraine is actually justified (e.g. there was a genocide of the Russian-speaking population in Donbass; NATO broke a deal signed with the USSR in 1991; US bio-labs in Ukraine needed to be destroyed, etc.)

- Calumnying Volodymyr Zelensky (he is a Nazi, a satanist, a drug addict, a coward, etc.)

- Ukrainians and Ukrainian forces are largely Nazi

- Pro-Ukraine war propaganda (e.g. ‘Ghost of Kiev’ mythology)

- Western traditional media spread false news/false images about the war (e.g. about the Bucha massacre or the Mariupol hospital bombing)

- Ukrainian refugees are violent, fascists, thieves etc.

- Humanitarian aid to Ukraine is useless (e.g., medicines and food are thrown away, and the human assistance trucks are instead filled with weapons)

- Exaggerated russophobic sentiment in European countries

- Exaggerated negative economical consequences of the war and of the sanctions in Europe
Systematic contrast to Ukraine-related disinformation

DATABASE (1.900 articles)

NARRATIVE ANALYSIS

EARLY WARNINGS
30 Mar: How Covid-19 conspiracy theorists pivoted to pro-Russian hoaxes

05 Apr: Ukrainian refugees and disinformation: situation in Poland, Hungary, Slovakia and Romania
THANK YOU
Tommaso Canetta