



European Digital Media Observatory

**Periodic insight n°15**

# DISINFORMATION NARRATIVES ABOUT THE WAR IN UKRAINE

22/11/2022 to 12/12/2022

[edmo.eu](https://edmo.eu)

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Published on 16 December 2022

# False information circulating on the war: 5 Categories and their narratives

## Category #1

### Compromising Ukrainians' image

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

Ukrainians are staging the war (e.g., [here](#))

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

Ukrainians are planning to use dirty bombs to escalate the conflict(e.g., [here](#))

□ 44% of analysis

## Category #2

### 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 Western Governments (e.g., [here](#))

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

□ 15% of analysis

## Category #3

### Damaging Zelensky's public figure

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

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

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

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

□ 12% of analysis

## Category #4

### Discrediting Western media

Unethical and sensational publications on the war (e.g., [here](#))

□ 12% of analysis

## Category #5

### Demonizing Ukrainian refugees

Ukrainian refugees are parasites (e.g., [here](#))

Ukrainian refugees are flooding Europe (e.g., [here](#))

□ 7% of analysis

□ \* Old narrative about Ukrainians being pro-Nazi rekindled in the context of newsworthy events such as the Qatar World Cup

□ 10% of analyses did not fall in any of the above trends

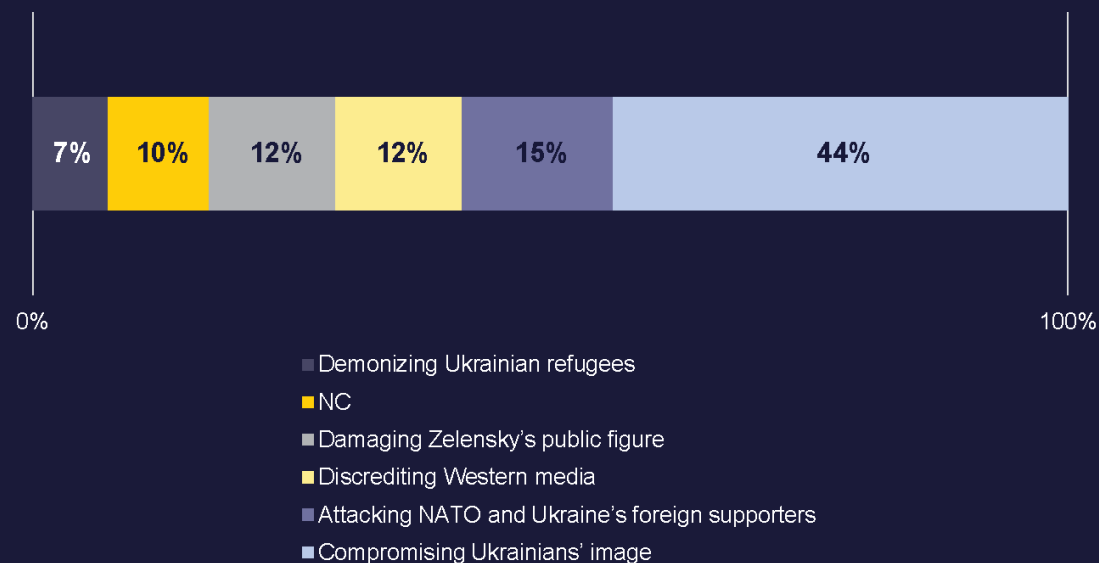
# EARLY-WARNINGS: WHAT TO EXPECT

## **Disinformation on impact of winter season in Ukraine**

While temperatures are significantly low in Ukraine and repeated Russian strikes are causing damages to the energy infrastructures, disinformation exaggerating the consequences of the winter season on Ukraine's population and military is likely to grow.

# DATA PROVIDED BY EDMO'S FACT-CHECKING NETWORK

Share of categories in the fact-checking analysis published by the EDMO network between 22.11.2022 and 12.12.2022



In total, 1898 analyses have been provided by EDMO's fact-checking network partners since 24 February 2022, out of which 41 were covered by this report (22.11.2022 to 12.12.2022).

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

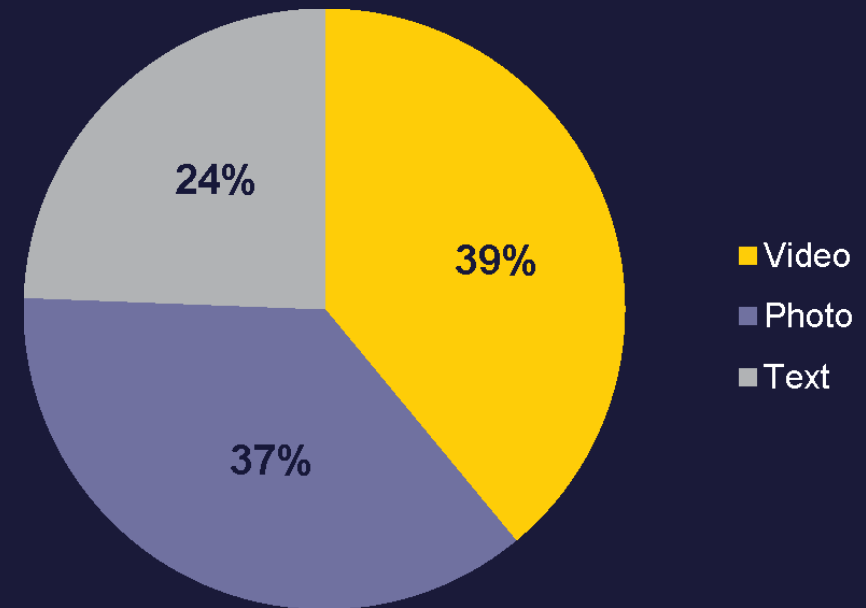
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- [\*Newtral\*](#)
- [\*Verificat\*](#)
- [\*15 min\*](#)
- [\*Källkritikbyrån\*](#)
- [\*DPA Switzerland\*](#)

# 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: 22 November 2022 – 12 December 2022. Number of analyses studied: 41.

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

Main editors of this report: Elena Maggi, EDMO/School of Transnational Governance; Louise Carnapete, EDMO/School of Transnational Governance; Geisa Conceicao Cipriani, EDMO/School of Transnational Governance.

For further information: [edmo@eui.eu](mailto:edmo@eui.eu)



EDMO has received funding  
from the European Union  
under Contract number: "LC-01464044"