



EARLY-WARNING: DESTRUCTION OF A DAM IN NOVA KAKHOVKA

The dam at Nova Kakhovka, on the Dnipro river, north of Kherson, was destroyed the night of June 6. The responsibilities are yet to be determined by independent sources. Ukraine's government blames Russia, while Russia blames Ukraine. Online different speculations are already circulating, claiming that Russia will benefit from this because it will damage Ukrainian territories controlled by Ukraine and slow down the upcoming counter-offensive. Or, on the contrary, claiming that Ukraine will benefit from this because it will damage Ukrainian territories controlled by Russia - in particular Crimea, whose water supply depends on the dam, and the nuclear plant in Zaporizhia, which needs water for cooling. **Or, again, claiming that the dam broke for obsolescence or other natural causes.**

In the next hours and days, false images and videos of the event and its consequences are likely to circulate on social media, as well as alleged evidence of the responsibilities of one or the other country.

Opinions and speculations are obviously legitimate, and it cannot be ignored that **one side is most likely telling the truth** and will be legitimately outraged by the equivalency between the truth and the lies of the other side. But while waiting for clear evidence to emerge, it's important to stress that demonstrably false content - like videos, images and news - about the event is likely to circulate.