



European Digital Media Observatory

EDMO Taskforce on
2024 European Elections

WEEKLY INSIGHTS AND EARLY WARNINGS

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DISINFORMATION NARRATIVES YOU MAY COME ACROSS

CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate change is not real or unrelated to human activities: False news and statements that global warming is not actually happening, and the proof is the ice extension in the North and South Poles, might be used to erode the support for policies and actions to reduce climate change's impact.

Measures to counter the climate crisis are useless and/or anti-democratic: The false story that Germany is banning the use of cars during the weekends to reduce CO₂ emissions (see here) is a classic example of the exaggerations that are spread by disinformers, with the likely aim to raise opposition against policies and actions to reduce climate change's impact.

ESCALATION OF THE WAR IN UKRAINE

Ukraine cannot win the war and Russia will surely prevail: False stories exaggerating the country's struggles, suggesting that the outcome of the war is already decided, might be exploited to spread fearmongering and undermine support for Ukraine ahead of the EU elections.



EARLY WARNINGS: WHAT TO EXPECT?

① The 2024 [National Conservatism Conference](#) in Brussels, scheduled for April 16-17, faced uncertainty after the initial [venue withdrew from hosting](#). Police shut down the event on the first day of the conference at the mayor's request, but it resumed after a Brussels court overturned the closure, citing a lack of evidence for public order threats. This incident may fuel disinformation narratives portraying the EU as a dictatorship suppressing freedom of speech.

→ Read for example *Politico* reporting on the news [here](#).

② Disinformation is circulating [following the attack](#) of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Israel on 13 April 2024, in response to the unclaimed destruction of the Iranian consulate in Damascus (Syria). Just like following the events of October 2023 in Gaza, the European Union might become a secondary target of disinformation related to this event in the coming weeks, with narratives coming from both sides.

→ Read, for example, [FactReview](#), [Maldita](#) & [AFP](#) reporting on the news.

METHODOLOGY

The information contained in this brief is based on the [EDMO EU Elections Disinfo Bulletin](#), the [EDMO monthly fact-checking briefs](#) and [investigations](#), and the EFCSN fact-checking database focused on the 2024 European Elections, [Elections24Check](#).

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