



Pekka Kallioniemi @P_Kallioniemi

Jan 1 · 13 tweets · [P_Kallioniemi/status/1609560497384308736](https://twitter.com/P_Kallioniemi/status/1609560497384308736)

In today's [#vatnik](#) soup I'll introduce one of the biggest disinformation and propaganda blogs on the web: The Grayzone ([@TheGrayzoneNews](#)). It's best known for misleading reporting, disinformation and love of authoritarian regimes and dictators.

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Basically, if somewhere around the world there is an authoritarian leadership, Grayzone boys and girls will be quickly licking their boots. Same goes for genocide: if one is happening somewhere around the world, these "journalists" will deny it.

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Grayzone was established by Max Blumenthal ([@maxblumenthal](#)) after his visit to RT's 10th anniversary party in Moscow. Allegedly the trip was paid for by the Kremlin. The main contributors of the site at the moment are Blumenthal, Aaron Maté ([@aaronjmate](#)), ...

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... Kit Klarenberg ([@KitKlarenberg](#)), Max's partner Anya Parampil ([@anyaparampil](#)) and Alex Rubinstein ([@RealAlexRubi](#)).

Most prolific Grayzone bloggers have either visited RT/Sputnik shows as a guest or worked for them in the past.

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Incidentally, their narratives are often in line with Russia's disinformation campaigns. Regarding the war in Ukraine, they have falsely reported that Ukraine uses civilians as human shields & that Mariupol theater massacre was staged by the Azov Battalion to provoke NATO.

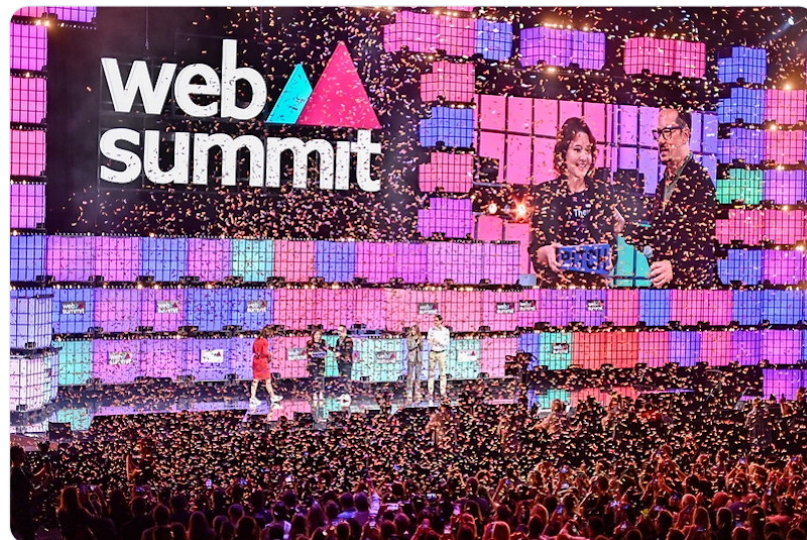
5/13



Grayzone bloggers have been a target of harsh criticism in the past. For example, Nerma Jelacic (@NermaJelacic) described them as "a Kremlin-connected online outlet that pushes pro-Russian conspiracy theories and genocide denial."

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Academic writer Gilbert Achcar described Grayzone beautifully by saying that it's "pro-Putin, pro-Assad 'left-wing' propaganda combined with gutter journalism". Grayzone's invitation to Web Summit 2022 held in Lisbon, Portugal, was cancelled which made the bloggers pretty mad.7/13



The blog & especially Max has also taken a stance on Chinese abuse against the Uyghur Muslim minority:



Between Dec 2019 & Feb 2021, CCP-controlled media cited Max's blog at least 313 times. Blumenthal has also appeared on China's TV news channel CGTN.

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China detaining millions of Uyghurs? Serious problems with claims by US-backed NGO and far-right researcher 'led by God' against Beijing

■ AJIT SINGH AND MAX BLUMENTHAL · DECEMBER 21, 2019

Claims that China has detained millions of Uyghur Muslims are based largely on two studies. A closer look at these papers reveals US government backing, absurdly shoddy methodologies, and a rapture-ready evangelical researcher named Adrian Zenz.

By Ajit Singh and Max Blumenthal

The US House of Representatives passed the [Uyghur Human Rights Policy Act](#) on December 3, legislation which calls for the Donald Trump administration to impose sanctions against China over allegations that Beijing has detained millions of Muslim-majority Uyghurs in the western region of Xinjiang.

To drum up support for the sanctions bill, Western governments and media outlets have portrayed the People's Republic as a human rights violator on par with Nazi Germany. Republican Rep. Chris Smith, for instance, [denounced the Chinese government](#) for what he called the "mass internment of millions on a scale not seen since the Holocaust," in "modern-day concentration camps."

'Forced labor' stories on China brought to you by US gov, NATO, arms industry to drive Cold War PR blitz

■ AJIT SINGH · MARCH 26, 2020

A new wave of media reports on Chinese forced labor relies almost entirely on a series of dubious studies by purportedly "independent" think tanks backed by the West's military-intelligence apparatus.

A recent surge in stories in the Western press accuse China of implementing an oppressive program of "forced labor" against the country's Uyghur Muslim ethnic minority. The titanic crime China is accused of has been called "Xinjiang's new slavery." This alleged coercive system is said to encompass more than 80,000 laborers and implicate the supply chains of 83 global brands, including Apple, Amazon, Nike, BMW, Gap, Samsung, Sony, and Volkswagen.

They've also attacked NAFO, Georgian Legion and their crowdfunding efforts, suggesting that the rapid growth of NAFO was not organic. People actually tend to side with the defending country whose civilians are being murdered, [@RealAlexRubi](#)! Alex also doxxed a NAFO key figure.9/13

THE GRAYZONE GRAYZONE UK ESPAÑOL VIDEO SUBSCRIBE SUPPORT



The image shows a man in a green military uniform standing in a room. Behind him are posters for NAFO and OFAN. In the foreground, several cartoon dog characters are holding stacks of money. One dog is wearing a chef's hat and holding a pizza. Another dog is wearing a black shirt with a dollar sign. The floor is covered with stacks of money.

How the pro-Ukraine NAFO troll operation crowd-funds war criminals

ALEXANDER RUBINSTEIN · OCTOBER 20, 2022

Maté likes to talk write about the Minsk agreement and "CIA-funded Ukrainian neo-nazis"

For example political scientist Neil Abrams ([@neil_abrams](#)) has debunked many of Aaron Maté's claims on Twitter, you can see a comprehensive list of them here:



Neil Abrams  [@neil_abrams](#) · [Follow](#)

Dumb or dishonest?

For Putin apologists trying to deflect onto other parties Russia's obvious culpability for the war, these are the only two options the evidentiary record permits.

Aaron Maté isn't dumb. That leaves us with dishonest.

How [@aaronjmate](#) is full of shit: [A 📄](#)

1:58 PM · Nov 18, 2022

[Read the full conversation on Twitter](#)

749  Reply  Copy link

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10/13



Aaron Maté  [@aaronjmate](#)

The Wall Street Journals reports that Ukraine's neo-Nazi Azov Battalion is "hoping to benefit from Western aid." I'm sure that won't happen, right [@RoKhanna](#)? [wsj.com/articles/ukrai...](https://www.wsj.com/articles/ukrai...)

WORLD

ine's Azov Battalion Looks group and Clean Up Image

its fighters are prisoners of war after a brutal battle with R
t the regiment is training new members and hoping to ber
Western aid

10:48 PM · Jun 6, 2022



Aaron Maté  [@aaron...](#) · 04 Nov

Replying to [@History_Speaks](#) and [@neil_abrams](#)

I've **never** claimed expertise on Russia, Ukraine, or Syria.

15  13  40 

The thing about all of these bloggers is that when you ask them about atrocities done by Russia, Nicaraguan government, al-Assad regime, China or other authoritarian regime, they fall silent.

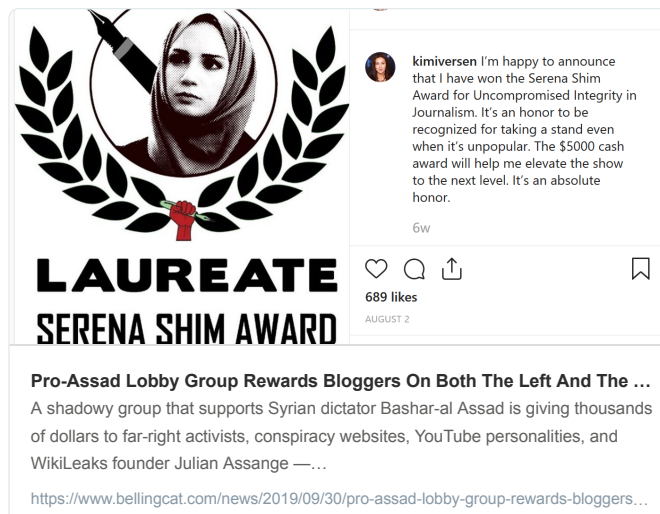
11/13



They will not discuss these topics at all, and that's how you know that they're not journalists that study matters objectively, but rather propagandist bloggers who side with dictators and murderers.

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An organization funding Al-Assad apologists rewarded some Grayzone bloggers back in 2019:



By the way Max, who funds your little blog?

Related soups:

Max Blumenthal:



Pekka Kallioniemi
@P_Kallioniemi · Follow

In today's #vatnik soup (thanks Mike Edward, @OpsATX for the name!) I'll be introducing the Editor of the @TheGrayzoneNews, Max Blumenthal (@MaxBlumenthal). In his previous life, he reported on prestigious publications such as NYT, LA Times and Al Jazeera English... 1/10



MAX BLUMENTHAL
EDITOR, THE GRAYZONE NEWS WEBSITE
RT WASHINGTON DC
LONDON 19:20

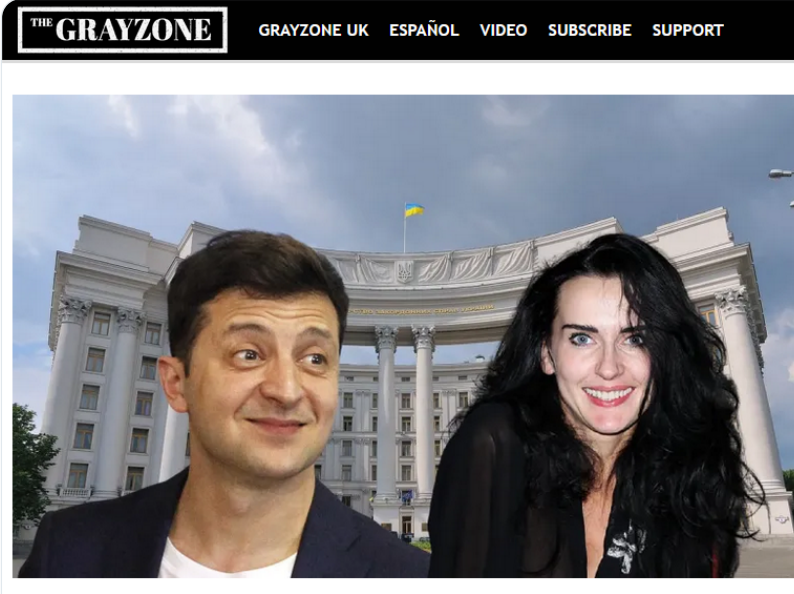
9:32 AM · Nov 1, 2022

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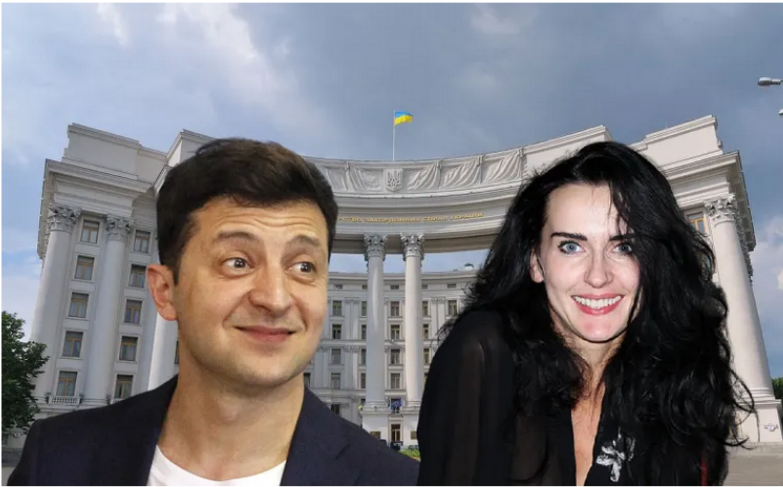
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Zelensky appoints sexologist pyramid schemer as ambassador to Bulgaria

 ALEXANDER RUBINSTEIN · DECEMBER 28, 2022

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