United States Department of State

Washington, D.C. 20520

May 24, 2024

Case No. FL-2023-00059

Ms. Jennifer Jones
Knight First Amendment
475 Riverside Drive, Suite 302
New York, NY 10115

Dear Ms. Jones:

As noted in our letter dated March 1, 2024, the Department of State ("the Department") is processing your request for records under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552. The Department has re-reviewed the remaining 215 pages of potentially responsive material, which concludes the re-review process. The Department has determined 12 pages are responsive and may be released in full and 106 pages are non-responsive. In addition, we determined 97 additional pages were found to be responsive and require internal and external consultation before a release determination can be made with respect to the records. All released material is enclosed.

We will keep you informed as your case progresses. If you have any questions, your attorney may contact Assistant United States Attorney Dominika Tarczynska at (212) 637-2748 or Dominika.Tarczynska@doj.gov. Please refer to the case number, F-2023-02663/FL-2023-00059, and the civil action number, 23-cv-02513, in all correspondence about this case.

Sincerely,

Diamonece Hickson
Chief, Litigation and Appeals Branch
Office of Information Programs and Services

Enclosures: As stated.

(U) Countering Russian Disinformation:
Global Engagements with Online Media Companies

R/GEC Updates on U.S. Interagency, Foreign Government, and Media Company Responses to Russia's War on Ukraine

July 18, 2022

(U) Executive Highlights

- (SBU) GEC leadership met with Meta officials on July 15 and discussed areas of further collaboration. Meta shared that they have not seen the previously expected increase in Russian disinformation capabilities on their platforms, and offered several theories for this lack of a Kremlin buildup. Meta also relayed they recently built a repository of removed inorganic/inauthentic behavior cases (CIB) for researchers who have special access to use to study behavior and tactics.
- (U) The Ukraine Ministry of Digital Transformation has called on social media platforms to do more to fight Russian propaganda, calling out TikTok in particular. (WaPo)
- (U) Russian state censor Roskomnadzor ordered Twitch to be labeled a Russian law breaker in search results on Yandex after it refused to remove "illegal information" about Russia's war in Ukraine. In a similar case, Roskomnadzor previously ordered Yandex to label Google a Russian law breaker (including its subsidiary YouTube) and Yandex complied. (Cybernews)
- (U) TV Rain (Dozhd) announced that it will resume broadcasting on YouTube from outside Russia after being forced off the air in March. (TV Rain via Twitter)

(U) Summary of What Platforms Have Done So Far (updates in blue)

(U) **Alphabet (Google & YouTube)**: Google allowed a sanctioned Russian ad company to collect unique mobile phone IDs, IP addresses, location information and other online activity data. (Propublica) Russian Government actions: YouTube has reportedly emailed users asking to delete videos due to requests from the Russian government. (Bloomberg) Russia-installed authorities in Kherson have blocked access to YouTube and Instagram. (Moscow Times) The Ukrainian Ministry of Digital Transformation claimed to have identified a recent spike of Russian activity on YouTube. (WaPo)

(U) **Apple:** Russia's state sensor Roskomnadzor confirmed it will proceed with an administrative case against Apple, announced in late May, for failing to localize Russian user data. (Reuters) Russian Government actions: Apple was fined 2 million rubles (about $34,000) for refusing to store personal data of Russian users on servers located inside Russia. (AP)

(SBU) **Meta (Facebook and Instagram)**: Russia's continued pressure on Meta "highlights the difficult position tech companies are in when authoritarian governments use their local staff as leverage in disputes." (Securing Democracy) Russian Government actions: Meta told GEC/TET they have seen an increase in reporting on accounts supportive of the Russian government in its war against Ukraine. Meta's next quarterly report will come out in early August. The Ukrainian

Ministry of Digital Transformation claimed to have identified a wave of Ukrainian volunteers and media outlets being newly blocked on Facebook. (WaPo)
(U) **Microsoft:** Microsoft decided to "significantly scale down" its Russian operations, impacting more than 400 employees. (Bloomberg) Microsoft plans to eliminate face analysis tools in its push for 'Responsible A.I.' (NYT)
(U) **Tiktok:** Former White House official Cameron Hardesty contacted TikTok (and Meta) on behalf of Ukraine's Digital Transformation Ministry regarding Russian-aligned content. (Axios) Ukraine Ministry of Digital Transformation has called on social media platforms to do more to fight Russian propaganda on TikTok calling it "the weakest and least efficient platform in terms of countering Russian disinformation." (WaPo)
(U) **Twitch:** Russia ordered Twitch to be labeled a Russian law breaker in search results on Yandex after it refused to remove "illegal information" about Russia's war in Ukraine. (Cybernews)
(U) **Twitter:** Twitter was initially banned in Russia with access only granted via VPN. Twitter continued to refine internal policies to combat disinformation to be immediately applied to misinformation surrounding the war in Ukraine. (Protocol) The Ukrainian Ministry of Digital Transformation claimed to have identified a recent spike of Russian activity on Twitter. (WaPo)
(U) **Wikipedia:** Wikipedia remains one of the last platforms to operate in Russia without agreeing to government censorship, appealing the latest rounds of fines. (The Fix Media)

(U) USG - Company Engagements

(SBU) GEC leadership met with Meta officials on July 15 and discussed areas of further collaboration. Meta shared that they have not seen the previously expected increase in Russian disinformation capabilities on their platforms, and offered several theories for this lack of a Kremlin buildup. Meta also relayed they recently built a repository of removed inorganic/inauthentic behavior cases (CIB) for researchers who have special access to use to study behavior and tactics.

(U) Foreign Government Actions

(U) The Kremlin enacted more than 100 new laws last week, including new authorities to designate anyone they consider under "foreign influence" as a "foreign agent" without requiring evidence of foreign funding. Additionally, Russia's Attorney General can now ban any foreign news media in response to "hostile" actions taken against Russian media outlets abroad. (Meduza)
(U) The Ukraine Ministry of Digital Transformation has called on social media platforms to do more to fight Russian propaganda, calling out TikTok in particular. "There [are] a lot of Russian propaganda narratives in TikTok, they said, addikng "It's "the weakest and least efficient platform in terms of countering Russian disinformation." (WaPo)
(U) Russian state censor Roskomnadzor ordered Twitch to be labeled a Russain law breaker in search results on Yandex after it refused to remove "illegal information" about Russia's war in Ukraine. In a similar case, Roskomnadzor previously ordered Yandex to label Google a Russian law breaker (including its subsidiary YouTube) and Yandex complied. (Cybernews)

(U) Related Developments of Interest

(U) TV Rain (Dozhd) announced it will resume broadcasting (on YouTube) from outside Russia after being forced off the air on March 3rd. TV Rain has opened a new company in Latvia and received a European media license to resume traditional TV broadcasting. Their studios will be located in Riga, Amsterdam, Tbilisi, and Paris. In Latvia and Georgia, TV Rain will partner with local stations for broadcasting. (TV Rain via Twitter)
(U) More details have emerged on the Chinese woman who falsified hundreds of entries on the Chinese-language Russian Wikipedia. She "single-handedly invented a new way to undermine Wikipedia." "The content she wrote is of high quality and the entries were interconnected, creating a system that can exist on its own." "They were so rich in details that they put English and Russian Wikipedia to shame." (Vice)

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(SBU) Countering Russian Disinformation:
Global Engagements with Online Media Companies

R/GEC Updates on U.S. Interagency, Foreign Government, and Media Company Responses to Russia's War on Ukraine

June 22, 2022

(SBU) Executive Highlights

- (SBU) Meta has permanently removed Slovakian MP Ľuboš Blaha from Facebook, citing repeated violations of their policies related to hate speech, incitement of violence, disinformation about COVID-19, and propagation of Russian disinformation regarding the war in Ukraine. This step by Meta to enforce their terms of use policy in response to state-backed disinformation was the result of a strategic whole-of-government approach by U.S. Embassy Bratislava and GEC to address the pervasive spread of disinformation in Slovakia on social media.
- (U) Google's Russian office files for bankruptcy. YouTube and Google search will remain free for users in Russia. (Politico)
- (U) Facebook, Twitter, TikTok, Google and others agreed to new EU rules to fight disinformation. In a press release, the EU Commission stated: "This new anti-disinformation code comes at a time when Russia is weaponising disinformation as part of its military aggression against Ukraine, but also when we see attacks on democracy more broadly." (The Verge)
- (U) New data from Mediascope shows Meta's ban on certain Russian content has reduced Instagram's daily user base in Russia from 39 million to 11.7 million. Facebook has dropped from 6.7 million to 1.9 million. Meanwhile, Telegram has doubled to 40 million users since Feb 24. (Aroged)
- (U) A Moscow court threatened to fine the Internet Archive 4 million rubles (approximately $70k) for refusing to delete content deemed prohibited in Russia. (Kommersant via Twitter)

(U) Summary of What Platforms Have Done So Far (updates in blue)

(U) **Alphabet (Google & YouTube)**: Google has now moved most of its employees out of Russia (WSJ). YouTube removed over 70,000 videos and 9,000 channels related to the Ukraine war (The Guardian) YouTube has deleted the channel of Pro-Kremlin duo "Vovan and Lexus" (Rian.ru via Telegram) Russian Government actions: Russia seized $123 million from Google accounts in Russia based on accrued fines (RFE/RL). Russia's state censor Roskomnadzor demanded Tor Browser be removed from the Google Play app store. (Meduza) Google (alongside Facebook, Twitter, TikTok, and others) agree to new EU rules to fight disinformation. (The Verge) Google's Russian office files for bankruptcy. YouTube and Google search will remain free for Russian users. (Politico)

(U) **Apple:** Apple reinstated an app created by opposition leader Alexey Navalny on the Russian App store, while 7,000 other apps were removed from the Russian app store in Russia. Russian

Government actions: A Russian law firm is suing Apple for reducing the iPhone's functionality and value in Russia (Digital TV).
(U) **Meta (Facebook and Instagram)**: Russia's continued pressure on Meta "highlights the difficult position tech companies are in when authoritarian governments use their local staff as leverage in disputes." (Securing Democracy) Alexey Navalny condemned AdTech giants Meta and Google for shutting off advertising inside Russia, making it harder for the opposition to get out anti-war messaging. (TechCrunch) Russian Government actions: Russia fined Meta for failing to delete posts with alleged "LGBT propaganda." (Gizmodo). Mark Zuckerberg made the list of more than 900 Americans banned from entering the country (USA Today)
(U) **Netflix:** Cancelled their service within Russia early in the war. Russian Government Actions: A Russian law firm is suing Netflix for "moral damages." (Digital TV). Netflix told AFP "[today marks] the fulfilment of the withdrawal from the Russian market," an action previously announced in March. (Economic Times) CEO Reed Hastings has been banned from entry into Russia. (Mid.ru)
(U) **Twitter**: Announced a new policy prohibiting state media from sharing content about prisoners of war, and prohibiting any accounts from sharing POW content with "abusive intent." Twitter also announced new action against misinformation in crisis situations. The new policy will be immediately applied to misinformation surrounding the war in Ukraine. (Protocol) Russian Government actions: Russia's MFA Twitter account complained that Twitter had labeled an MFA Tweet about the "hoax" in Bucha as "abusive behavior," and demanded that Twitter "immediately restore access to this post."
(U) W**ikipedia:** Refused to remove content which the Kremlin has asked them to remove. Russian Government Actions: Russia's media censor Roskomdadzor demanded that English language Wikipedia delete the entries for the "2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine" and "Rashism." (ru_wikipedia via Twitter). Wikipedia filed an appeal against a Moscow court decision demanding that it remove information related to the Russian invasion of Ukraine, arguing that people have a right to know the facts of the war. (Reuters)
(U) **Tiktok:** Former White House official Cameron Hardesty contacted TikTok (and Meta) on behalf of Ukraine's Digital Transformation Ministry regarding Russian-aligned content. (Axios)
(U) M**icrosoft:** Microsoft decided to "significantly scale down" its Russian operations, impacting more than 400 employees. (Bloomberg) Microsoft plans to eliminate face analysis tools in its push for 'Responsible A.I.' (NYT)

(SBU) USG - Company Engagements

(SBU) Meta has permanently removed Slovakian MP and leading source of disinformation Ľuboš Blaha from Facebook, citing repeated violations of their policies related to hate speech, incitement of violence, disinformation about COVID-19, and propagation of Russian disinformation regarding the war in Ukraine. This step by Meta to enforce their terms of use policy in response to state-backed disinformation was the result of a strategic whole-of-government approach by U.S. Embassy Bratislava and the GEC to address the pervasive spread of disinformation in Slovakia on social media.

(U) Foreign Government Actions

(U) Facebook, Twitter, TikTok, Google and others agreed to new EU rules to fight disinformation. Other companies, like Apple and Telegram, are notably absent. In a press release, the EU Commission stated: “This new anti-disinformation code comes at a time when Russia is weaponising disinformation as part of its military aggression against Ukraine, but also when we see attacks on democracy more broadly.” (The Verge)
(U) A Moscow court has announced that Threema, a secure messaging service, is not complying with an order to share data as required when they were added to the "info carrier registry" 2017. (Kommersant)
(U) In areas of eastern Ukraine occupied by Russian troops, Russian state-aligned telecom companies have replaced existing Ukrainian mobile services. Locals have reported bad service and heavy Russian Internet censorship. (Moscow Times)
(U) The head of Russia’s space agency Dmitry Rogozin was banned from Twitter after he advocated for the destruction of the Ukrainian state. (Babel.ua)
(U) Alexey Navalny has been transferred to a maximum-security "prison within a prison" in Russia's Vladimir region. Previous prisoners of the colony have reported torture. Navalny has been a fierce critic of the war in Ukraine, and criticized AdTech giants Meta and Google for shutting off advertising inside Russia, making it harder for the opposition to get out anti-war messaging. (Meduza)

(U) Related Developments of Interest

(U) Igor Denisov, former captain of Russian national soccer team, condemns war against Ukraine. "Maybe I'll be imprisoned or killed for my words, but I'm telling it as it is." (Meduza)
(U) IKEA said it would sell factories, close offices and reduce its 15,000-strong workforce in Russia in response to Moscow's invasion of Ukraine. (Reuters)
(U) Igor Denisov, former captain of Russian national soccer team, condemns war against Ukraine. "Maybe I'll be imprisoned or killed for my words, but I'm telling it as it is." (Meduza)
(U) 19 of the top 20 Russian Telegram channels, by growth of subscribers, between April 25 and May 25, were pro-war. (The Bell via Twitter)
(U) Mr. Xi during a call with Putin stated: “China is willing to continue mutual support with Russia on issues related to core interests and major concerns such as sovereignty and security.” (WSJ)
(U) Microsoft plans to eliminate face analysis tools in push for ‘Responsible A.I.’ Software developers who want to use Microsoft’s facial recognition tool will need to apply for access and explain how they plan to deploy it. (NYT)

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(SBU) Countering Russian Disinformation:
Global Engagements with Online Media Companies

R/GEC Updates on U.S. Interagency, Foreign Government, and Media Company Responses to Russia's War on Ukraine

May 23, 2022

(SBU) Executive Highlights

- (SBU) In GEC/TET's latest meeting with Meta representatives, they noted that their next "Coordinated Inauthentic Behavior Report" will be released in July.
- (U) Twitter announced new actions to protect against misinformation in crisis situations. The new policy will be immediately applied to misinformation surrounding the war in Ukraine. (Protocol)
- YouTube has removed more than 9,000 channels relating to Ukraine war in an "unprecedented action' to address content guideline violations since the invasion. (The Guardian)
- (U) British analytics firm CASM Technology released a report detailing the success of the hashtags #IStandWithPutin and #IStandWithRussia outside of Western audiences (specifically on Asian and African online networks). (Economist)
- (U) Russia's federal censor Roskomnadzor said that Wikipedia (alongside other foreign media companies such as Twitter and Spotify) must establish a local office in Russia to continue operating in Russia. Physical offices of foreign companies have been the target of harassment by Russian police in recent months. (Gov.ru)
- (U) Russian federal censor Roskomnadzor blocked AOL after a prosecutor ordered multiple takedowns, which also impacted Zoho Mail domains, anti-war web sites, and news media. (RuBlackList.net)

(U) Summary of What Platforms Have Done So Far (updates in blue)

(U) **Alphabet (Google & YouTube)**: Google's Russian subsidiary is set to file for bankruptcy after their bank account was seized, however, free services like YouTube and Google search will remain operable (Reuters). Google has also moved most of its employees out of Russia (WSJ). YouTube removed over 70,000 videos and 9,000 channels related to the Ukraine war for violating their content guidelines—including policies that characterize the war as a "liberation mission." (The Guardian) Russian Government actions: Russia's minister over digital communications says the government has no plans to block YouTube (RFE/RL).

(U) **Apple:** Apple reinstated an app created by opposition leader Alexey Navalny on the Russian App store, while 7,000 other apps were removed from the Russian app store in Russia. Russian Government actions: A Russian law firm is suing Apple for reducing the iPhone's functionality and value in Russia (Digital TV).

(U) **Meta (Facebook and Instagram)**: Facebook users were being warned against a new profile pic app, which was sending their data to a company registered in Moscow. (Scotsman) Meta withdrew a request to its Oversight Board seeking recommendations on how the company should handle content moderation policies related to Russia's war in Ukraine, citing concerns that the

Russian government would retaliate against its employees in the country. Russia's pressure on Meta "highlights the difficult position tech companies are in when authoritarian governments use their local staff as leverage in disputes." (Securing Democracy) Russian Government and corporate actions: Russia fined Meta for failing to delete posts with alleged "LGBT propaganda." (Gizmodo). Mark Zuckerberg made the list of more than 900 Americans banned from entering the country (USA Today)

(U) **Netflix:** Cancelled their service within Russia early in the war. Russian Government and corporate actions: A Russian law firm is suing Netflix for "moral damages." (Digital TV).

(U) **Twitter**: Announced a new policy prohibiting state media from sharing content about prisoners of war and prohibiting any accounts from sharing POW content with "abusive intent." Twitter announced new action against misinformation in crisis situations. The new policy will be immediately applied to misinformation surrounding the war in Ukraine. (Protocol) Russian Government actions: Russia's MFA Twitter account complained that Twitter had labeled an MFA Tweet about the "hoax" in Bucha as "abusive behavior," and demanded that Twitter "immediately restore access to this post."

(U) **Wikipedia:** Refused to remove content which the Kremlin asked them to remove. Russian Government Actions: Russia's media censor Roskomdadzor demanded that English language Wikipedia delete the entries for the "2022 Russian invasion of Ukraine" and "Rashism." (ru_wikipedia via Twitter)

(SBU) USG - Company Engagements

(SBU) GEC/TET met with Meta representatives, they noted the next "Coordinated Inauthentic Behavior Report" will be released in July. Meta also updated GEC representatives on its recent involvement in the Philippines elections and the inauthentic behavior it identified – mainly domestic spam/scam and PR firms masquerading as legitimate entities to inflate false popularity of articles/information.

(U) Foreign Government Actions

(U) Russian Attorney General's Office said the independent TV media outlet TVRain ("Dozhd") had to be blocked because the network threatened both "the stability of Russia's constitutional structure" and "national security." (Ria.ru via Twitter)

(U) Russia's federal censor Roskomnadzor charged *The New Times* with "distributing fake news" in relation to the war in Ukraine. The content in question was posted more than three months ago. (Zona Media)

(U) Russian state media propagandist Vladimir Soloviev advocated on social media the Kremlin idea that Russia is waging a war to occupy Ukraine and eliminate Ukrainian statehood: "liberating it from German, Anglo-Saxon and Jewish colonizers." (Riddle Russia via Twitter)

(U) Russia's federal censor Roskomnadzor said Wikipedia (alongside other foreign media companies such as Twitter and Spotify) must establish a local office in Russia to continue operating in Russia. Physical offices of foreign companies have been the target of harassment by Russian police in recent months. (Gov.ru)

(U) Russian federal censor Roskomnadzor blocked AOL after a prosecutor ordered multiple takedowns which also impacted Zoho Mail domains, anti-war web sites, and news media. (RuBlackList.net)

(U) The Kremlin appears to create and leverage anonymous hyperlocal Telegram networks to fuel disinformation customized to particular towns across occupied Ukraine. A Ukrainian think-tank reported on the accounts, but notes that the efforts are largely ineffective. (Cyberscoop)

(U) Related Developments of Interest

(U) Starbucks will exit Russia after 15 years, closing 130 licensed cafes. (CNBC)
(U) British analytics firm CASM Technology released a report detailing the success of the hashtags #IStandWithPutin and #IStandWithRussia outside of the west (specifically Asian and African online networks). (Economist)
(U) A Russian diplomat in Geneva quit over the Ukraine invasion, attacking Putin's inner circle as corrupt and obsessed with luxury. (Yahoo)
(U) Levi's is exploring a sale of its business operations in Russia. (Kommersant)
(U) Russian rights lawyer Pavel Chikov reported today that the number of cases launched against Russians for "discrediting the armed forces" has grown to 2,029. Those convicted face fines of 30,000-50,000 Rubles (over a month's wages in many parts of the country). (Telegram via BBC on Twitter)
(U) GlobalVoices.org began publishing the small acts of Russian defiance against the war in Ukraine by re-sharing photos of graffiti and other small protests still happening in Russia (Global voices).

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(U) Countering Russian Disinformation:
Global Engagements with Online Media Companies

R/*GEC Updates on U.S. Interagency, Foreign Government, and Media Company Responses to Russia's War on Ukraine*

May 9, 2022

(U) Executive Highlights

- (U) On the day of Putin's May 9th Victory Day parade, hackers took over the Russian TV channel program schedule to broadcast an anti-war message. Viewers searching the program menu saw the same message on every program listing: "On your hands is the blood of thousands of Ukrainians and their hundreds of murdered children. TV and the authorities are lying. No to war." (The Daily Beast)
- (U) Google blocked the personal account and YouTube channel of Russian State Duma deputy Nina Ostanina in accordance with new USG sanctions. (Novaya Gazeta)
- (U) The Russian Consulate General in Edinburgh spoke out on Instagram against the war in Ukraine. (Newsweek)

(U) Summary of What Platforms Have Done So Far (updates in blue)

(U) **Alphabet (Google & YouTube)**: Google warned publishers that any content that minimizes the severity of the war or blames war victims for their suffering will be demonetized. YouTube has blocked the Russian Parliament's YouTube channel. Google blocked the personal account and YouTube channel of Russian State Duma deputy Nina Ostanina, in accordance with new USG sanctions (Novaya Gazeta). YouTube deleted all videos posted by Roscosmos Media featuring the space agency's sanctioned head, Dmitry Rogozin, after he made recent threats to Western nations and Elon Musk and predicted the end of international cooperation in space (Tass) Google is now also blocking downloading or updating *paid* applications from the Google Play Store (bleepingcomputer.com). Russian Government actions: Roskomnadzor imposed a ban on Google, disallowing it from advertising its own services within Russia, due to the company's purported violations of Russian law. A Russian court ordered the seizure of $7 million worth of Google's property and funds in Russia (Reuters).

(U) **Apple:** Apple has reinstated an app created by opposition leader Alexey Navalny on the Russian App store, while 7,000 other apps have been removed from the Russian app store in Russia. Russian Government actions: Russia legalized importing knockoffs of Apple and other products, as well as importing other "gray zone" substitutes. Apple users in Russia launched a joint legal claim in Russia seeking payment for alleged damage by the company (skynews).

(U) **Meta (Facebook and Instagram)**: Meta has removed and disrupted numerous Russian and Belarussian hacking efforts and coordinated inauthentic behavior operations targeting Ukraine. Russian Government actions: Russia imposed sanctions on Mark Zuckerberg and blocked him from entering Russia (ABCnews). Russia fined Meta for failing to delete posts with alleged "LGBT propaganda." (Gizmodo).

(U) **Telegram:** Russian Government actions: The Kremlin launched an official Telegram channel.
(U) **TikTok**: New research from the European nonprofit Tracking Exposed indicates thar TikTok users within Russia cannot see any new domestic content created after February 24. However, thousands of pro-Putin posts dated from March 6 to March 26 continue to circulate without being contested. The researcher concluded that "TikTok is not being transparent about its actions in Russia." TikTok denied that its policies "are set or even influenced by" its China-based parent company ByteDance. Government actions: Russia fined TikTok for examples of "LGBT propaganda," as it has fined Meta (Gizmodo).
(U) **Twitter**: announced a new policy prohibiting state media from sharing content about prisoners of war and prohibiting any accounts from sharing POW content with "abusive intent." Russian Government actions: Russia's MFA Twitter account complained that Twitter had labeled an MFA Tweet about the "hoax" in Bucha as "abusive behavior," and demanded that Twitter "immediately restore access to this post."
(U) **Wikipedia**: the Wikipedia foundation has refused Kremlin requests to censor content. Russian Government actions: Putin warned Russians to not trust Wikipedia anymore in a recent interview on state media (Forbes).

(SBU) USG - Company Engagements

(SBU) NSTR

(U) Other Foreign Government Actions

(U) Russian authorities charged 46 people with the felony offense of spreading "disinformation" about Russia's armed forces, mostly for posts on social media. They face up to 10 years behind bars. 14 of these people were already in prison. (SOTA via Twitter)
(U) Roskomnadzor plans to create a national system to protect Russian resources from DDoS attacks coming from abroad. (Forbes via Aroged)

(U) Related Developments of Interest

(U) Two journalists at the popular once-independent news website Lenta.ru filled the homepage with anti-Putin, antiwar content. The articles on Lenta.ru called Putin a "pitiful paranoid dictator" and accused him of waging "the bloodiest war of the 21st century". The two journalists responsible signed off with the message: "We're now looking for work, lawyers, and probably political asylum!" (The Guardian)
(U) Google's Threat Analysis Group (TAG) detected that government-backed actors from China, Iran, North Korea and Russia have used various Ukraine war-related themes in an effort to get targets to open malicious emails or click on malicious links. Financially motivated and criminal actors are also using current events in Ukraine as a means for targeting users. (Google)

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