



Open Source Intelligence Training

The SAILWAY

>3.500
North America

>2.000
Europe

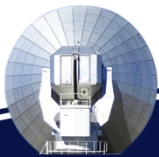
>250
China

Christoph Prinz - Extremism and Foreign Influence

LTI Summit 2019, Brussels

“Foreign politicians talk about Russia’s interference in elections and referendums around the world. In fact, the matter is even more serious: Russia interferes in your brains, we change your conscience, and there is nothing you can do about it.”

– Vladislav Surkov, Adviser to Russian president Vladimir Putin¹



The Gerasimov Doctrine

It's Russia's new chaos theory of political warfare. And it's probably being used on you.

By MOLLY K. MCKEW | September/October 2017

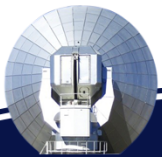


(AP Photo by RIA Novosti, Alexei Nikolsky, of the Russian Presidential Press Service)
Russian President Vladimir Putin and General of the Army Valery Gerasimov, chief of the General Staff of the Russian Federation Armed Forces, observe military exercises 17 July 2013 near Baikal Lake in Russia. The military maneuvers were the largest since Soviet times, involving about 160,000 troops and 5,000 tanks across Siberia and the far eastern region of Russia.

The very “rules of war” have changed. The role of nonmilitary means of achieving political and strategic goals has grown, and, in many cases, they have exceeded the power of force of weapons in their effectiveness.

In February 2013, General Valery Gerasimov—Russia’s chief of the General Staff published a 2,000-word article, “The Value of Science Is in the Foresight,” in the weekly Russian trade paper Military-Industrial Kurier.

The article is considered by many to be the **most useful articulation of Russia’s modern strategy**, a vision of total warfare that places politics and war within the same spectrum of activities—philosophically, but also logistically. **The approach is guerrilla, and waged on all fronts with a range of actors and tools—for example, hackers, media, businessmen, leaks and, yes, fake news, as well as conventional and asymmetric military means.** Thanks to the internet and social media, the kinds of operations Soviet psy-ops teams once could only fantasize about—upending the domestic affairs of nations with information alone—are now plausible. The Gerasimov Doctrine builds a framework for these new tools, and declares that **non-military tactics are not auxiliary to the use of force but the preferred way to win. That they are, in fact, the actual war.** Chaos is the strategy the Kremlin pursues: Gerasimov specifies that the objective is to achieve an environment of permanent unrest and conflict within an enemy state.



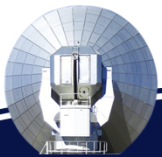
The US presidential election

Aims

- Creating an information environment and a narrative
- Spread division
- Activate—or suppress—target groups (more than 50% of the posts about race)
- Consistent exposure over a period of time impacting a person's cognitive environment
- “Mainstreaming” an idea—moving it from the fringe to the mainstream
- Ultimately helping to elect a candidate that serves Russia's interest



nymag.com



The US presidential election

Scope

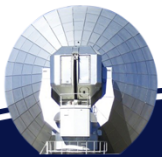
- Establishing deep, authenticated, long-term identities for individuals and groups within specific communities
- Servers and VPNs based in the US to mask the location of the individuals involved
- US-based email accounts linked to fake or stolen US identity documents
- Launder payments through PayPal and cryptocurrency accounts
- Video, visual, memetic, and text elements designed to push narrative themes, conspiracies, and character attacks



The US presidential election

Means

- Hacking and leaking of illegally obtained information (DCLeaks and Wikileaks)
- Fraudulent Social Media Accounts
 - South United
 - Heart of Texas
 - Tennessee GOP
- Organization of Political Rallies
 - March for Trump
 - Stop the Islamization of Texas vs United Muslims of America
- Buying of Facebook Ads (100,000 USD disclosed by Facebook)



The US presidential election

Topics

- 2nd Amendment vs Gun Control
- White Supremacism vs Black Lives Matter vs Muslim Activists
- Police Brutality
- Patriotism vs Antifa
- Religious Themes (Literally God vs Satan)
- False flag and conspiracy theories

 **Army of Jesus**
Sponsored ·  Like Page

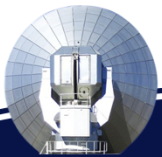
Today Americans are able to elect a president with godly moral principles. Hillary is a Satan, and her crimes and lies had proved just how evil she is. And even though Donald Trump isn't a saint by any means, he's at least an honest man and he cares deeply for this country. My vote goes for him!



**SATAN: IF I WIN CLINTON WINS!
JESUS: NOT IF I CAN HELP IT!**

PRESS 'LIKE' TO HELP JESUS WIN!

usatoday.com



Examples of fraudulent posts


Woke Blacks Sponsored · Like Page

End the whining and crying, end the riots with these same white people(democrats), who will not march with you when your son, daughter or loved one gets shot for being Black.

I opted out of the elections and i had many Black people all up in my case, telling me how i was wrong and how i needed to make my vote count for Mrs. Clinton, all just to make sure Trump doesn't become president.

We'll now all i want to say is get over Trump and Clinton, they are rich white people, the ... See More

LET ME KNOW WHEN Y'ALL DONE CRYING OVER TWO WHITE PREZ. CANDIDATES.



SO WE CAN GET BACK TO MAKING OUR COMMUNITY BETTER!

@woke_black

197 Reactions 11 Comments 81 Shares

Like Comment Share

nymag.com

United Muslims of America shared their event. Sponsored · Like

The time has come to understand one simple thing: we the American muslims are as American



JUL 9 **Support Hillary. Save American Muslims!**
Sat 1 PM EDT · The Obama White House · Wash...
150 people interested · 47 people going

★ Interested

174 Reactions 36 Comments

Like Comment

washingtonpost.com

Melvin Redick · BREAKING NEWS - WORLD
June 8, 2016 · Like

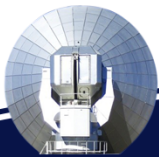
These guys show hidden truth about Hillary Clinton, George Soros and other leaders of the US. Visit #DCLeaks website. It's really interesting!
<http://dcleaks.com/>



Like Share

1

nytimes.com



Examples of fraudulent posts

 **BM**
Sponsored ·  

Cops shot and killed a bipolar Black woman, Michelle Lee Shirley, following a police chase in Torrance, California.



BI-POLAR BLACK WOMAN DIES
AT THE HANDS OF POLICE
BM
BLACK MATTERS

Bipolar Black Woman Killed By Cops After Car Chase | BM

Cops shot and killed a bipolar Black woman, Michelle Lee Shirley, following a police chase in Torrance, California.

BLACKMATTERSUS.COM

194 Reactions 38 Comments 137 Shares

VS

 **Being Patriotic**
Sponsored ·  

Boston police shot and killed a man wearing body armor and wielding an assault rifle who critically injured two officers responding to a domestic disturbance call late Wednesday, according to Police Commissioner William Evans.

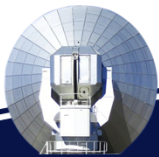
A gun battle raged at an East Boston home as a suspect, Kirk Figueroa, 33, of East Boston, critically injured two Boston police officers late on October 12. He was then shot and killed by other officers who ran into the home to drag out their wounded col... [See More](#)



ANOTHER GRUESOME ATTACK ON POLICE
BY A BLM MOVEMENT ACTIVIST

nymag.com

bloomberg.com



Examples of fraudulent accounts

- 1 Neither Central High School nor Indiana University of Pennsylvania has any record of Mr. Redick attending.
- 2 According to his profile, Mr. Redick was born and raised in Pennsylvania, but one image shows him seated in a restaurant in Brazil, and another shows a Brazilian-style electrical outlet in his daughter's bedroom.
- 3 Mr. Redick's posts were never of a personal nature. He shared only news articles reflecting a pro-Russian worldview.

DO YOU KNOW MELVIN?

To see what he shares with friends, send him a friend request. [Add Friend](#)

1 **Intro**

- Studied at Indiana University of Pennsylvania
- Went to Central High School (Philadelphia)
- Lives in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania
- From Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- Followed by 10 people

2 **Photos**

3 **Melvin Redick**
April 12 at 8:24am · 🌐

New terrible US-led coalition chemical (chlorine) attack against civilians in Syria (Kafzita, Hama). It is horrible war crime! #Syria #Kafzita #Hama #Assad #warcrime #chemicalattack #chlorine #US #video

WAR CRIME: US-led coalition chemical attack against civilians in Syria
New terrible US-led coalition chemical (chlorine) attack against civilians in Syria (Kafzita, Hama).. It is horrible...
YOUTUBE.COM

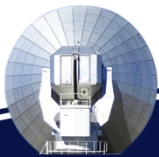
Like Share

24 shares

Melvin Redick
April 10 at 8:52am · 🌐

Just two and a half months into his presidency, Donald Trump has already distinguished himself as a war criminal. His administration is killing unprovoked

nytimes.com



Marina Butina and the NRA

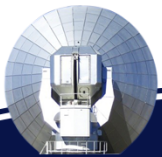
- Mentioned in a 2015 memo as an “organization that “had influence over” the Republican Party”
- “Could be used as the groundwork for an unofficial channel of communication to the next presidential administration.”
- Butina is believed to have worked for Alexander Torshi (Deputy Governor Russian Central Bank)
- Butina was romantically involved with Trump campaign aid
- Facilitation of a meetings between NRA executives and donors with Lavrov in Moscow.
- Accused of „penetrating the US national decision-making apparatus to advance the agenda of the Russian Federation”



lgbtqnation.com



wikipedia.org

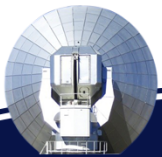


Brexit

- Direct interest to destabilize a strategic rival
- 156,252 Russian accounts tweeting about #Brexit and posting over 45,000 Brexit messages in the last 48 hours of the campaign #ReasonsToLeaveEU
- RT and Sputnik more reach on Twitter for anti-EU content than either Vote Leave or Leave.EU
- Similar to the US operation, but not nearly as sophisticated
- More conventional methods used
- Jumping on the band-wagon rather than shaping the narrative
- Possible illegal donations rather than cyber warfare

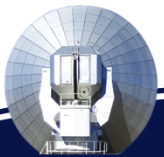


thetimes.co.uk



The Arron Banks Dossier

- Student Research Group
- Claims of illicit funds used
Under British law (PPERA 2000) donations to political parties must be declared and are allowed ONLY from UK individuals on the UK electoral register OR UK businesses registered in Companies House and doing business in the UK
- OSINT investigation into Arron Banks, his ties to Russia and his campaign donation
- Company house, Offshore Leaks, Panama Papers, Bahamas Leaks
- Report submitted to various government bodies in March 2017
- National Crime Agency launches investigation into Arron Banks November 2018





Josep Borrell, Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation



Boris Johnson, Member of Parliament of the United Kingdom

Bogus Brexit murder plot and other lies planted online by Russian accounts: study

Jack Stubbs

5 MIN READ



LONDON (Reuters) - In August 2018, Spanish authorities uncovered a plot by anti-Brexit campaigners to assassinate leading Brexiteer and now favorite to be Britain's next prime minister, Boris Johnson. Or did they?

The alleged plot to kill Boris Johnson began on August 8 last year when a fake account on Facebook posted a letter purportedly sent by Spanish Foreign Minister Josep Borrell to a fellow lawmaker.

The letter, written in informal Spanish and with Borrell's own name spelled wrong, says the minister has been informed of a "possible attack on Boris Johnson by radical Brexit opponents who want to stop him being nominated prime minister" and would alert British authorities.

Asked about the authenticity of the letter, a spokesman for Borrell said the document was "FAKE, FAKE." Boris Johnson, who is expected to be confirmed as British prime minister next month, did not respond to requests for comment.

DFR Lab said the operation's focus on narratives supporting the Kremlin and linguistic errors typical of native Russian-speakers supported Facebook's assessment that the accounts were operated from Russia.

"The scale of the operation, its tradecraft, and its obsession with secrecy, indicate that it was run by a persistent, sophisticated, and well-resourced organization, possibly an intelligence agency," DFR Lab said in its report.

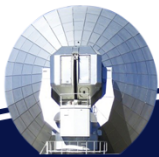
That story and others like it were created by a network of social media accounts operating from Russia which have attempted to seed false narratives across 30 different online platforms, a study by the Atlantic Council's Digital Forensic Research Lab has found.

The effort employed scores of accounts posting in at least six languages on platforms including Facebook and Twitter, as well as multiple other blogging sites and forums.

The aim was to "divide, discredit, and distract" Western countries by planting false information about topics ranging from alleged British meddling in the 2018 U.S. midterm elections to Irish paramilitary involvement in the poisoning of a former Russian spy in England last year.

The network was traced by following connections to a group of 16 accounts suspended in May by Facebook, which said they were "part of a small network emanating from Russia."

Western officials have warned that countries such as Russia, as well as domestic political groups, are increasingly spreading false or misleading information online in order to disrupt politics and public opinion.



Pro- Russian political parties in Western Europe

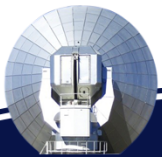
- Financing political parties
- Cooperation agreements
- Capitalise on migration
- International media presence and local media ownership

In order to

- Shape national policies and decisions
- Assert control over energy and economic markets

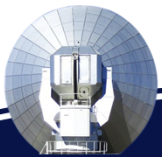


Source: Atlantic Council



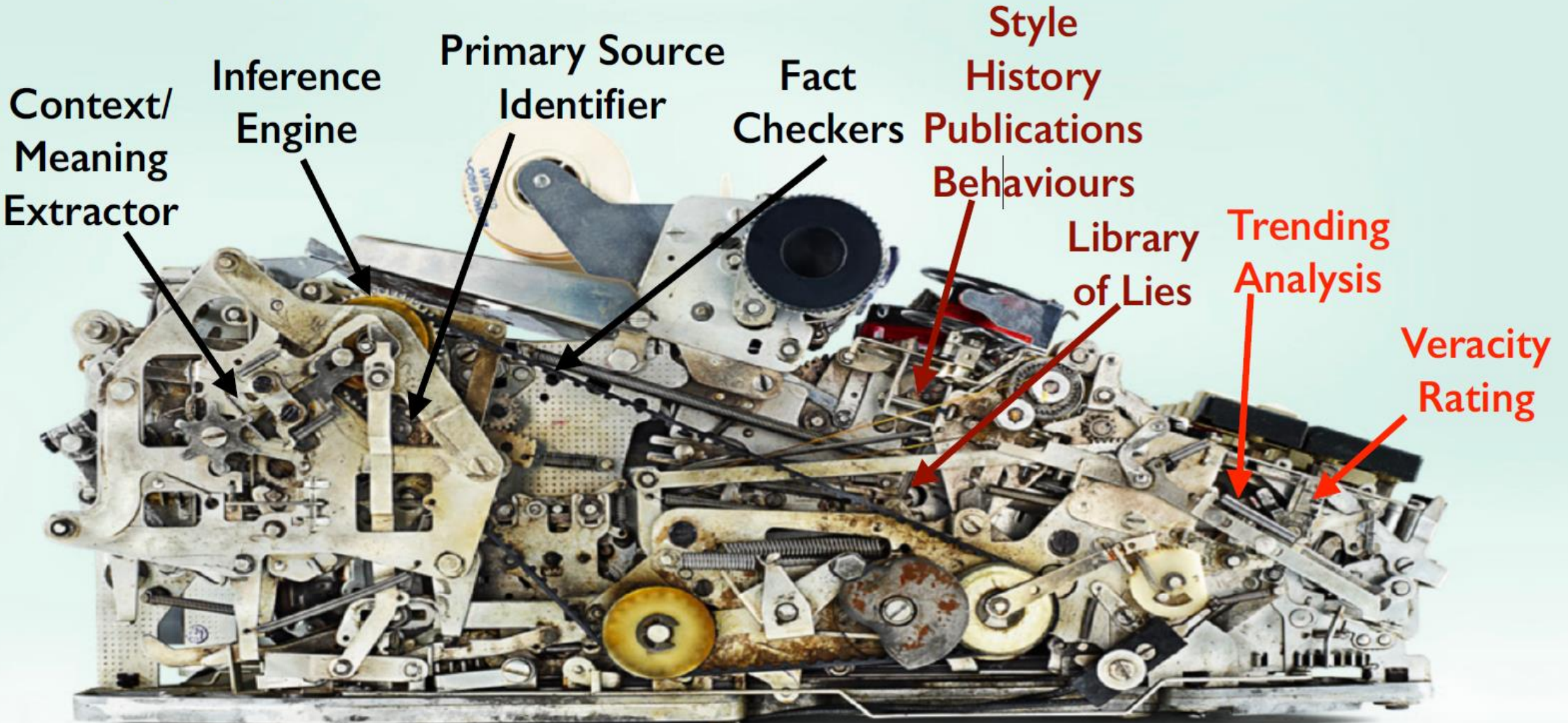
Lessons learned

- Hard to make sense of it, because almost impossible to measure impact
- Ever-growing threat to our Western democracies
- Likely to affect almost every future election or referendum
- Constant need to monitor and analyze (social) media landscape
- Important to pro-actively develop a counter-narrative
- AI and machine learning will help
- Social Media Giants need to be held accountable



SO WHERE ARE WE ?

Many components exist or we can see how we might build them !



Thank you – Merci – Gracias – Terima kasih – Dziękuję – Спасибо – شكراً – Takk – Tack – Grazie – Gràcies – 感謝 – Ευχαριστώ – תודה

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