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Countering Disinformation

Disinformation is one of the most discussed topics; with influence, it can throw people into depression, alter the economic scene of a country, or even cause its breakdown. In this context, it includes conspiracy theories, disinformation campaigns through media, and ones specifically sponsored by states.

There are a number of objectives countries approach this issue from. For instance, Western-allied countries tend to be keen on closely monitoring the alleged sources of disinformation, while maintaining as much freedom of speech as possible. In Eastern countries we can see the exact opposite of this perspective, where they are willing to sacrifice the right to free speech to protect their citizens the most. These countries tend to have stricter media regulations too, in order to be able to protect their citizens from improper content². African countries also have unique viewpoints, as some of the poorest countries on Earth, because international disinformation campaigns often target them³.

The goal of disinformation is often to cause social unrest and benefit only the ones spreading it. This action is not beneficial for any of our countries, as during times of unrest, they become less stable, and thus significantly easier to attack and wound. Thus, almost all countries can agree, however, that our most important goal must be to preserve the ability of our citizens to be able to make the right decisions, while making sure they are aware of the alternatives.⁴

Studies show that people feel that they are frequently misinformed in all of the developed Western countries, and the numbers are only growing. However unreasonable it sounds, too much freedom in the media leads to more disinformation and distrust than an appropriate amount of regulations. There is a saying; "you have to be intolerant towards intolerance to be able to be fully tolerant". Paradoxical as is, there is truth behind it. Countries, that cannot acknowledge the need for strict regulations about hate speech and disinformation are doomed to end up with chaos.

So now, let us present a new alternative by reflecting on the past actions of the Russian Federation, and introducing our plans for the future. On a national level, Russia has implemented multiple regulations often referred to as "fake news laws", which allow us to deliver our citizens only the highest quality of information, and filter out all attempts of (in our case, mostly foreign-influenced) disinformation⁵. We know it best, that every citizen is

¹ EU Human Rights Guidelines on Freedom of Expression Online and Offline. (2014). https://www.eeas.europa.eu/sites/default/files/eu_human_rights_guidelines_on_freedom_of_expression_online_and_offline_en.pdf

² Radcliffe, D. (2019, July 29). Censorship and Freedom of Expression in the Middle East. Damian Radcliffe.

 $[\]frac{https://medium.com/damian-radcliffe/censorship-and-freedom-of-expression-in-the-middle-e}{ast-eda09f372aee}$

³ Africa Center for Strategic Studies. (2024, March 13). *Mapping a Surge of Disinformation in Africa*. Africa Center for Strategic Studies.

https://africacenter.org/spotlight/mapping-a-surge-of-disinformation-in-africa/

⁴Bogdan, A., Tyson, A., & Tudose, C. (2025, November 14). The State of Democracy 2025: Fake news, lack of accountability, extremism and corruption seen as top threats to democracy across Europe and the US. Ipsos. https://www.ipsos.com/en/the-state-of-democracy-2025

⁵ Putin signs law on confiscation of property for disseminating fake news about Russian army. (2024, February 14). TASS, https://tass.com/politics/1746007

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vulnerable to these conspiracy theories, and so we have implemented this system to make sure that all of the information they access is monitored by experts and thus only contains the pure truth. This has had its benefits too, our citizens are proven to be more satisfied with the quality of the news they receive. This obviously does not mean they aren't encouraged to speak as freely as they want by the state, our role is simply to ensure that they know all of their alternatives before reaching a decision. This also allows us to teach how to not fall for the attempts of deception from inside, or out of the country⁶.

Internationally, our main goal is to keep our sovereignty intact, because we cannot function properly if the agenda so often spread by the West controls all of our actions. One of the most important principles is to keep in mind that every country is different both culturally and economically, and that if we try to fit a very rigid system on all of them, we are doomed to fail. This is the exact reason that we have not signed any binding agreement on the topic yet, because we see no reason why it would be beneficial for the country, if the main sponsors are the same people who accuse ordinary Russians when any inconvenience comes up in their lives? However, we do want to help other countries, and our position internationally, and this is why we announced the launch of our Global Fact-Checking Network sponsored by TASS, the main news-source of our country. This way, we can show an alternative to Western-biased systems and fight disinformation on our own terms.

Although this is one of our most important proposals for the future, we recognise the need for a more comprehensive solution, and this is where our plans for this conference come into question. As a baseline, we ought to recognise the importance of cultural differences of the different regions, while also reinforcing the need for sovereignty. One other important thing to discuss is to redefine (or to properly define) disinformation, as currently there is no comprehensive definition of it accepted by an absolute majority of countries. As emphasised in our position paper, we wish for everyone to be able to get to know all of the viewpoints regarding decisions they have to make, so we want to integrate special educational opportunities into the everyday lives of our citizens for this purpose.



⁶ Konstantin Pakhalyuk. (2025, November 24). *Russia's Nuremberg Revival Is About the Future, Not the Past.* The Moscow Times.

 $\underline{https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2025/11/24/russias-nuremberg-revival-is-about-the-future-not-the-past-a91224}$

⁷ TASS. (2025, November 11). *Lavrov accuses London, British media of smear campaign against Russia*. TASS. https://tass.com/politics/2042223

⁸ TASS. (2025, August 28). *Global Fact-Checking Network publishes over 100 free training resources*. TASS. https://tass.com/society/2008473

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The Implications of Plastic Pollution on Human Rights

Plastic pollution affects the everyday lives of billions of people all around the world, however we see very little substantial action taken. In this conference, our main goal is to address the true reasons for plastic pollution in the environment, and dispel all of the propaganda and mystique regarding this issue. Although our region is not directly impacted, we aim to aid-and make life more pleasant for the countries that are.

The approach to the problem is largely influenced by the economic state of the countries and how dependent they are on plastic (e.g.: plastic producers, using plastic extensively for religious reasons, or waste manager countries). These are only some of the different viewpoints one needs to take into account before making a resolution to make sure it serves as a lasting aid to the problem for the whole world.

However, there are a few issues all can agree on that need a solution. The most important out of these is the risks unregulated plastic pollution causes to the Right to Life. Directly, it can lead to major outbreaks of viruses, or accidents taking the lives of thousands every year. Indirectly, it can create and boost fatal floods and the effects of toxic chemical pollution⁹. However, plastic pollution affects the Right to Health the most. A human on average consumes 250 grams of plastic every single year, just because the waste management isn't properly sourced and handled¹⁰. This can cause cancer, respiratory diseases and a series of other illnesses in the body, mostly due to the reaction of the immune system to toxic chemicals.

There are a number of treaties and resolutions that have tried to solve the issue for long, however one recurring problem is, that they do not take the economies of all of the previously mentioned countries into account (this is why we didn't sign most of these binding documents), and thus cannot be comprehensive enough to solve the problem. One treaty we would love to bring into the discussion is the "Global Plastics Treaty", yet to be signed and implemented, because we believe that with some Russian modifications, we could make it one to last.

Our stance is rather simple. We wish to focus on the real issue, making up more than 90% of plastics pollution; improper waste management¹¹. We aim to have better recycling techniques and waste disposal systems so the whole world, but especially the countries directly impacted by this can stay safe from the dangers introduced before. Some countries emphasise caps on plastic production, however they fail to take the economic interest of more than half of the

⁹ Plastic pollution and disasters. (2024, January 19). Undrr.org. https://www.undrr.org/implementing-sendai-framework/sendai-framework-action/plastic-pollution-and-disasters

¹⁰ Revealed: plastic ingestion by people could be equating to a credit card a week - WWF-Australia | Revealed: plastic ingestion by people could be equating to a credit card a week | WWF Australia. (2019, June 12). Wwf.org.au. https://wwf.org.au/news/2019/revealed-plastic-ingestion-by-people-could-be-equating-to-a-credit-card-a-week/

¹¹ Raphela, T., Manqele, N., & Erasmus, M. (2024). The impact of improper waste disposal on human health and the environment: a case of Umgungundlovu District in KwaZulu Natal Province, South Africa. *Frontiers in Sustainability*, 5.

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world into account¹². Next to this, most of these treaties from before have failed, because they didn't account for every country being culturally and economically different, and thus they disable the usage of "one-size-fits-all" solutions. This is why our propositions would mainly cover the problems that everyone can agree on, and leave the remaining areas to the discretion of every country. It is impossible to change anything for the better without proper planning, which one simply cannot do on a detailed level over the course of a couple of days.

This is also the only possible solution, because anything else would break the economies of all countries even slightly dependent on plastic production (every developed and developing country). So, as an alternative, we must be smart enough to figure out a way to develop new recycling methods with the help of technology. Such an advancement would be for example advanced recycling technologies or better resource management with the help of specified training material (which we would love to help to develop), or targeted AI usage¹³. As we are certain we are not the only ones thinking this way, we are looking forward to making it all happen.

To summarise, our main goals for the conference is putting more focus on national, and possibly voluntarily organised taskforces and initiatives, as they are the most able to cooperate with the governments, and focus on cultural preservation and sovereignty instead of wiping out our cultures in hope of achieving negligible amounts of results. As for specific actions, we will concentrate on waste management and advanced recycling techniques to aid the poorest countries currently in charge of importing our waste, and thus helping our economies and planet at the same time.



¹² THE NEW PLASTICS ECONOMY • • • 1 THE NEW PLASTICS ECONOMY RETHINKING THE FUTURE OF PLASTICS THE NEW PLASTICS ECONOMY RETHINKING THE FUTURE OF PLASTICS. (n.d.).

 $\frac{https://content.ellenmacarthurfoundation.org/m/1775fbba280fa21/original/The-New-Plastics-Economy-Rethinking-the-future-of-plastics.pdf}{}$

¹³ Pallardy, C. (2024). *AI and the War Against Plastic Waste*. Informationweek.com. https://www.informationweek.com/machine-learning-ai/ai-and-the-war-against-plastic-waste