

## DISINFORMATION ABOUT THE RUSSIAN-UKRAINIAN WAR: DEBUNKING MYTHS

7.03.2022

### FAKE

Evidence of secret biological experiments in Pentagon laboratories is being destroyed in Ukraine. The list of what was allegedly destroyed by "order of the Ministry of Health" includes anthrax, as well as diphtheria, candidiasis and common urinary tract infections.

The Ukrainian military ignored the green corridor and took civilians hostage in Irpin.

### REAL

The Ministry of Health has denied reports of alleged "emergency clean-up of the US Department of Defense-funded military-biological program" and "destruction of particularly dangerous pathogens" at the Poltava and Kharkiv Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

The fake of the existence of "US biological laboratories in Ukraine" was created in Russia during Yanukovich's time, and was actively spread in all countries of the former Soviet Union that joined The Nunn-Lugar Cooperative Threat Reduction program, under which the the United States Department of Defense - Pentagon allocated funds to modernize laboratories working with various pathogens. Now the Russian Defense Ministry is spreading this fake again.

Propagandists are spreading information on the Internet that the Ukrainian military has thwarted an evacuation in Irpin and taken several of its own citizens hostage. In this way, Russian propaganda seeks to denigrate and discredit the Armed Forces. In fact, the Russian military began attacking Irpin in the Kyiv region in the early days of Russia's invasion of Ukraine. According to StopFake, during the green corridor, the aggressor deliberately blew up the railway on the way to the city - as a result, two cars of the evacuation train derailed.

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Territorial defense exceeds authority.

Propagandists claim that the West, not the Russian Federation, is trying to kill Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

Recruits and cadets from Russia are not fighting in Ukraine.

### REAL

Russian propagandists cite examples where the territorial defense allegedly detains, searches and inhumanely treats civilians for no reason. They do not give any evidence, but keep repeating that the defense is "criminals" provisioned with weapons.

Here they again draw on the narrative of "external governance" to remind us that Ukraine is a pawn of the collective West. They use a variety of metaphors and comparisons. In particular, they talk about the events in Ukraine as a TV series with screenwriters from Hollywood. The main character - Volodymyr Zelenskyy - can easily become an antihero or die mysteriously at the end of the series.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and other Russian officials have repeatedly stated that only professional soldiers, officers and contractors, are involved in the war in Ukraine. However, this is false information. According to StopFake, there is some evidence that Russia is using recruits in the war with Ukraine. In particular, this was confirmed by a member of the Russian Federation Council Lyudmila Narusova. "On Friday, 4 March, she announced during a meeting of the chamber about significant losses among conscripts," the fact-checkers wrote.

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### FAKE

To stay in touch you need to send an SMS to 5010 and connect to the communication campaign for free.

Former Ambassador of Ukraine to the United States Valery Chaly spoke about Ukraine's declaration of neutrality.

The Russian Defense Ministry reports that "Ukrainian nationalists" mined the reactor at an experimental nuclear facility located at the Kharkiv Institute of Physics and Technology.

### REAL

The Security Service of Ukraine office in Vinnytsia region has warned about a new fake, which is sent to mobile phones with the following instructions: "Everyone who has run out of money on a mobile phone and is not able to top up the phone number, send an SMS to number 5010 with any text, the communication campaign is automatically connected for free. Please disseminate this information". The SBU of the region urged to use only official sources of information.

Such a fake is spread online by Russian propagandists. However, this is a lie that has already been dismissed by the fact-checkers from StopFake.

"Ambassador of Ukraine to the United States (2015-2019) Valery Chaly did not make any statements about the need to declare Ukraine a neutral status. On the contrary, Chaly stressed that the Constitution of Ukraine clearly spells out the country's integration aspirations," the statement reads.

In fact, on 6 March, the research facility of the Neutron Source, which is located on the site of the Kharkiv Institute of Physics and Technology, suffered from shelling by the Russian military. This was reported by the State Inspectorate for Nuclear Regulation.