

THE HYBRID WAR

Tatiana Kastouéva-Jean, Research Fellow and Director of the Russia/NIS Center of Ifri

I will jump in with a question about hybrid war. Can you detail a little bit more and speak especially about information war? Do you still have media in Russian?

Lasha Darsalia, First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Georgia

There are places where we do not have Russian media outlets. We have several, but they are not the major ones. They do not broadcast nationwide. They are mostly only Internet based. At the same time, I want to say that a lot of Russian opposition outlets operate from Georgia.

Tatiana Kastouéva-Jean

Thank you very much. Can I ask the same question to Kazakhstan and to Moldova about hybrid threats and about information war? I think Moldova closed the Russian talk shows, but has not all kinds of distraction broadcasting?

Olga Rosca, Chief of staff of the Deputy Prime-Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Moldova

It is true. Some Russian channels are still available in Moldova, but not the news bulletins. However, what poses a bigger challenge is the so called home grown disinformation when Russian proxies in Moldova own TV channels to propagate their narrative about the war. Currently, the statistics show that around 30% of the population sees Russia's war against Ukraine through the prism of Russian propaganda, which we spare no effort to counter, including looking at the media ownership and putting stricter controls in place.

Tatiana Kastouéva-Jean

Thank you, Olga. What about you, Mr. Vassilenko, and your country?

Roman Vassilenko, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan

In Kazakhstan we do have Russian channels available, but so is Euronews and so is the BBC and so is CNN. However, I will tell you that in Kazakhstan the media itself works in Kazakh and also in Russian, in addition to 10 other languages of some other ethnic groups, such as Germans who live in Kazakhstan. The challenge for us, therefore, is to strengthen the informational independence, if you will, and to strengthen the resilience and the professionalism and the appeal of the Kazakh media.



Tatiana Kastouéva-Jean

Thank you very much.