



# AI Frontiers in Multimodal Information Warfare: Defending Democracy and Strengthening StratCom in a Multilingual Landscape

Dr. Gundars Bergmanis-Korats, NATO StratCom COE





# Information Warfare

A continuation between kinetic and political confrontation





# Information Warfare

War comes closer to our homes and is even extended as it happens in our digital environment.





# Information Warfare

Technology serves as a force multiplier, allowing adversaries to bypass the need for qualitative elements.



# What's on the menu?

Segments

Communication channels

Behaviors

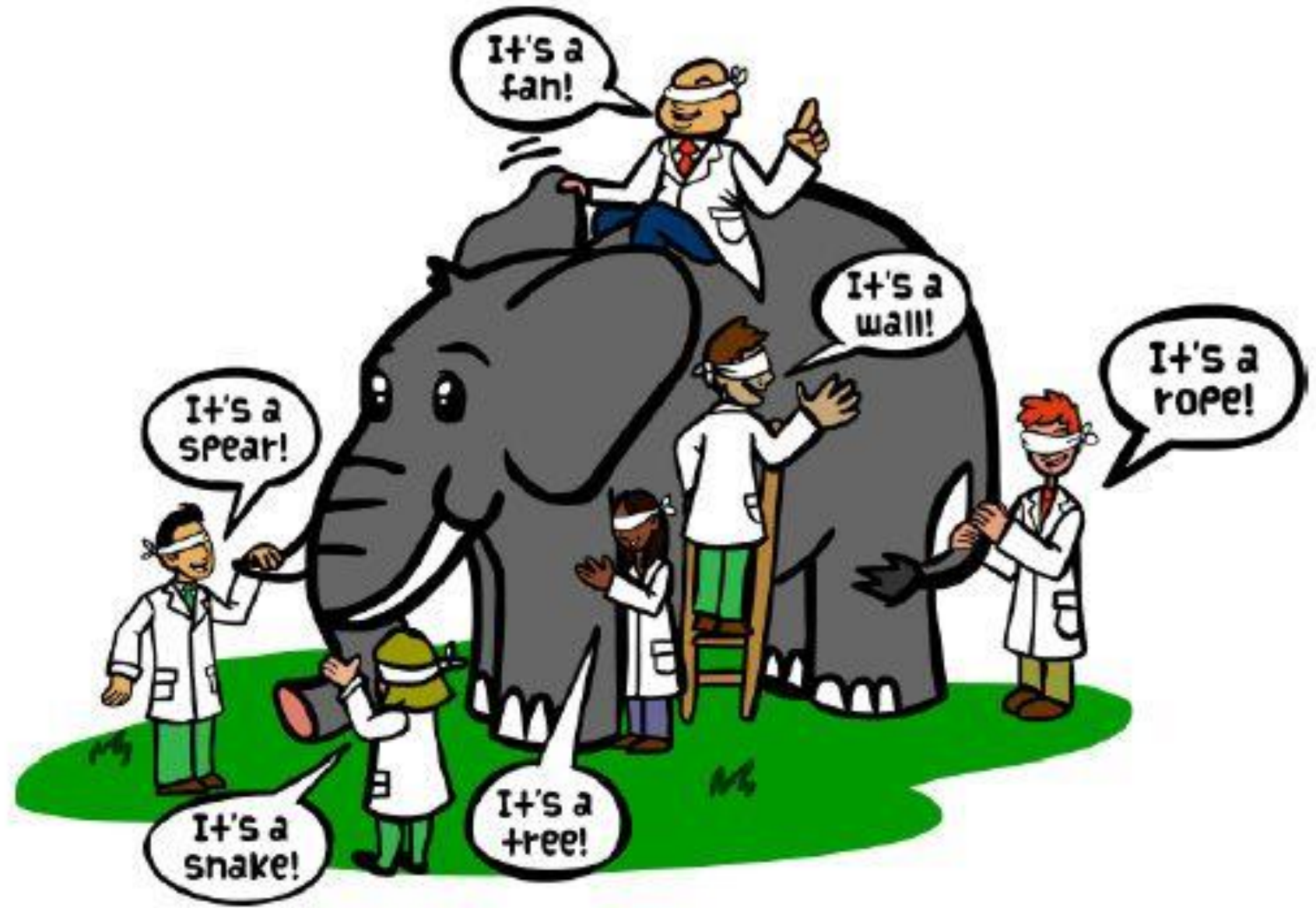
Narratives

Sentiment



Wh

Seg  
Con  
Beh  
Nar  
Ser



# Social Media Manipulation 2022/2023:

Assessing the Ability of Social Media Companies to Combat Platform Manipulation

PREPARED AND PUBLISHED BY THE  
NATO STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS  
CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE



# Main findings of 2022/23

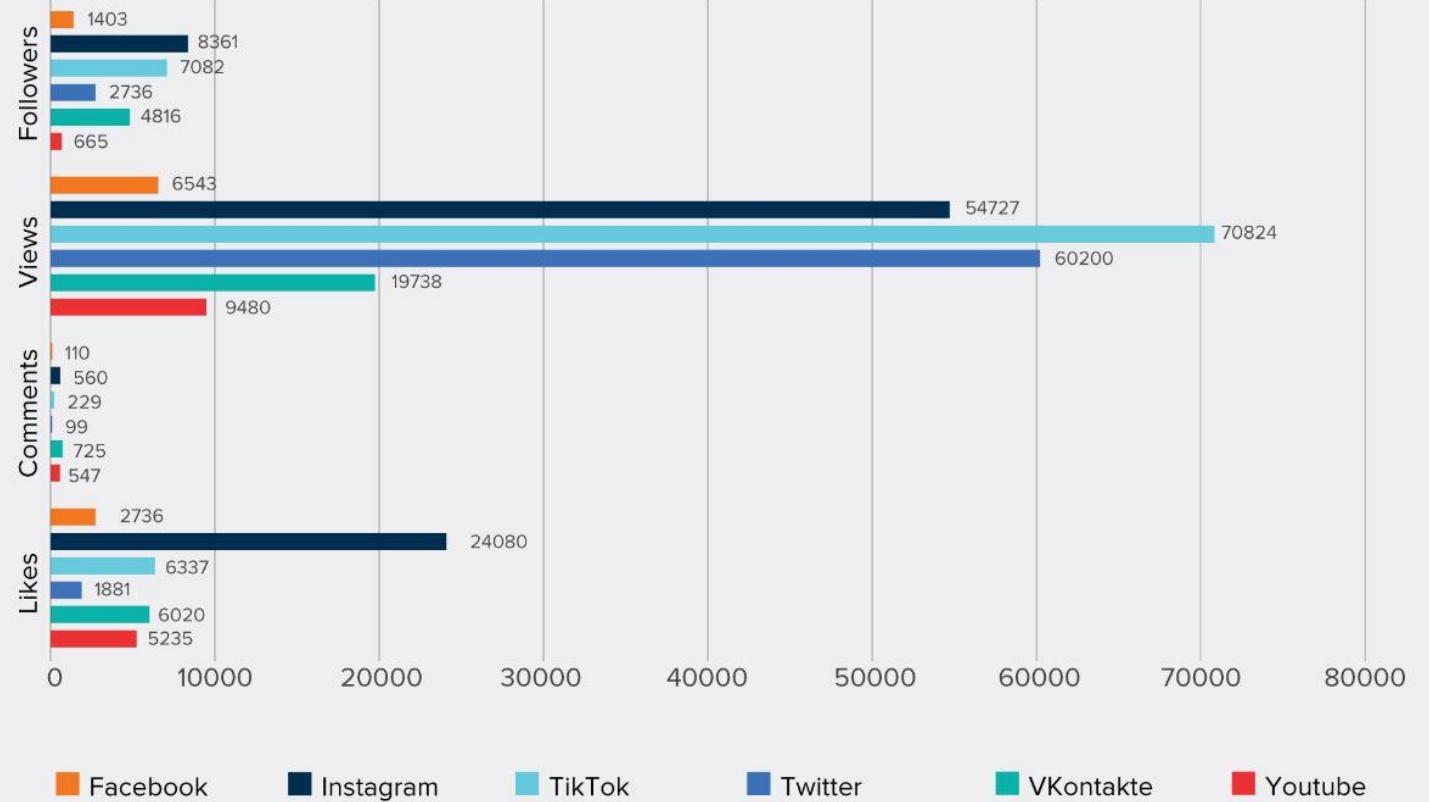


Figure 4. The amount of manipulation that can be bought for €10

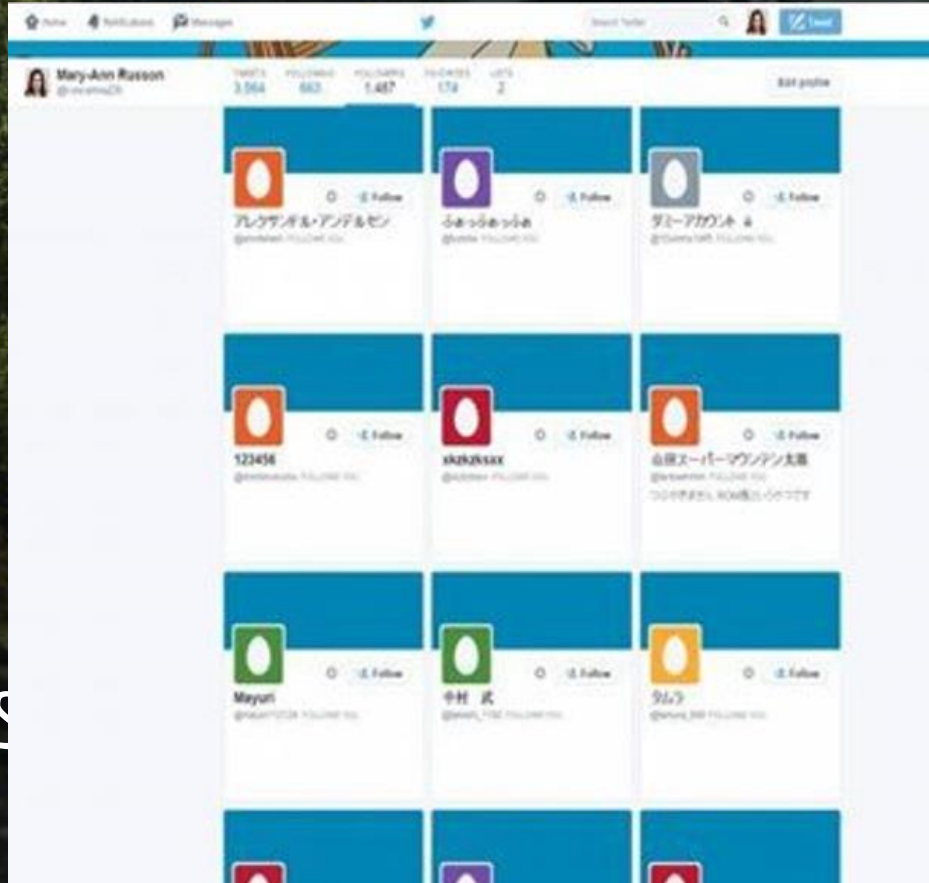




**In spring 2017,  
Bots generated 80% of Russian tweets about NATO in Estonia**



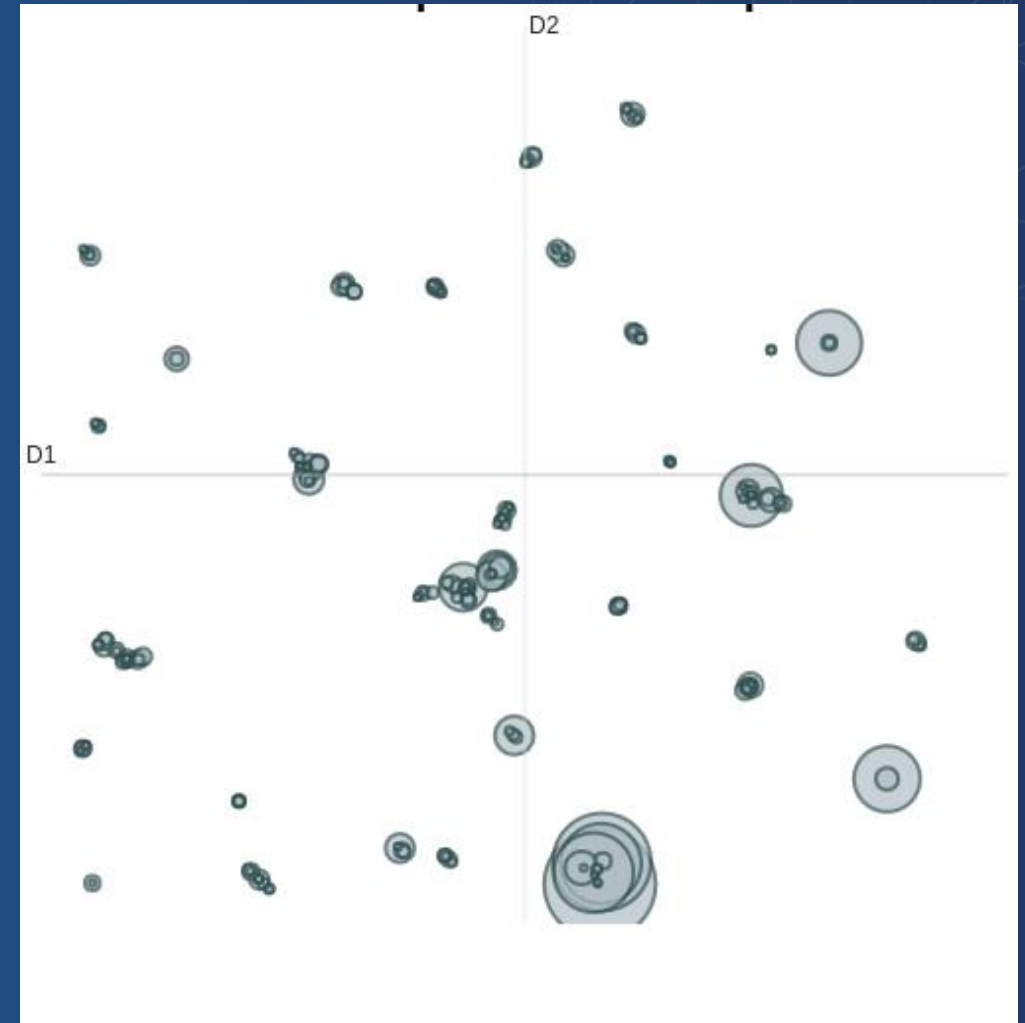
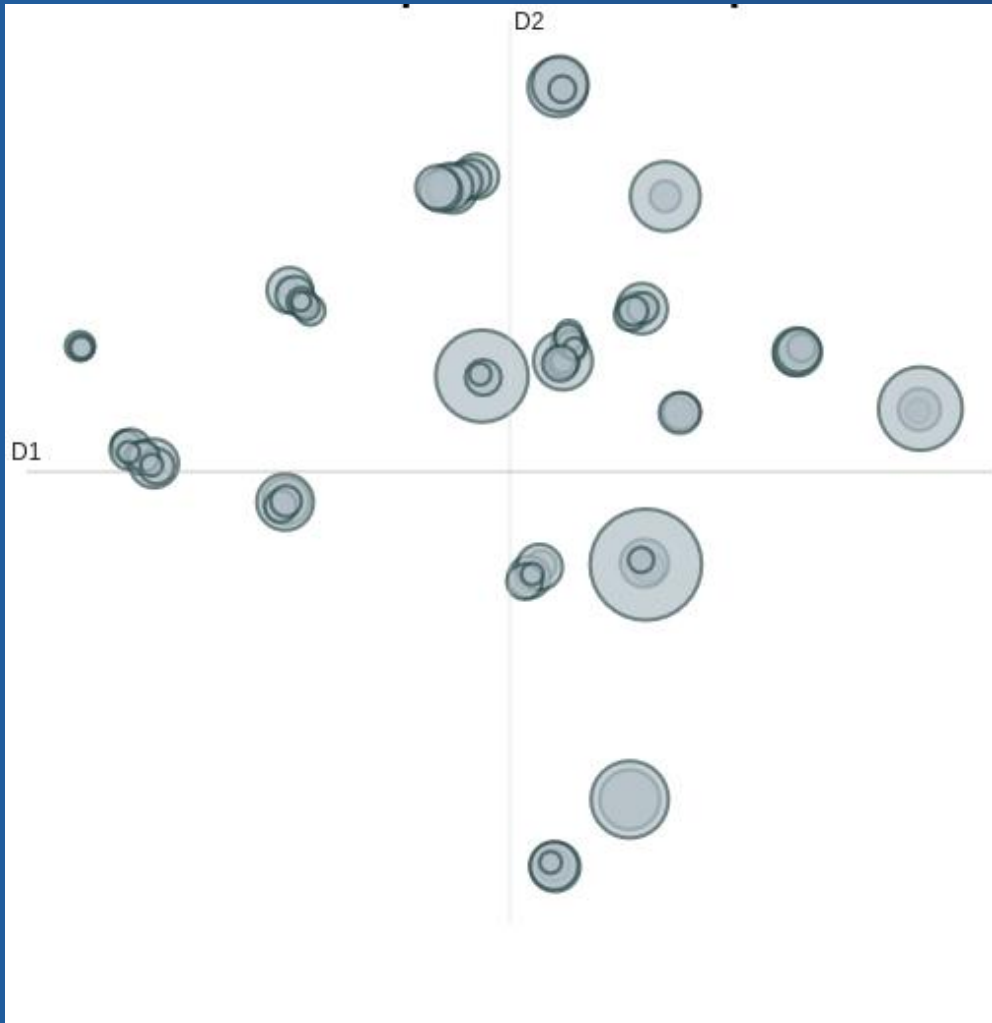
Bots

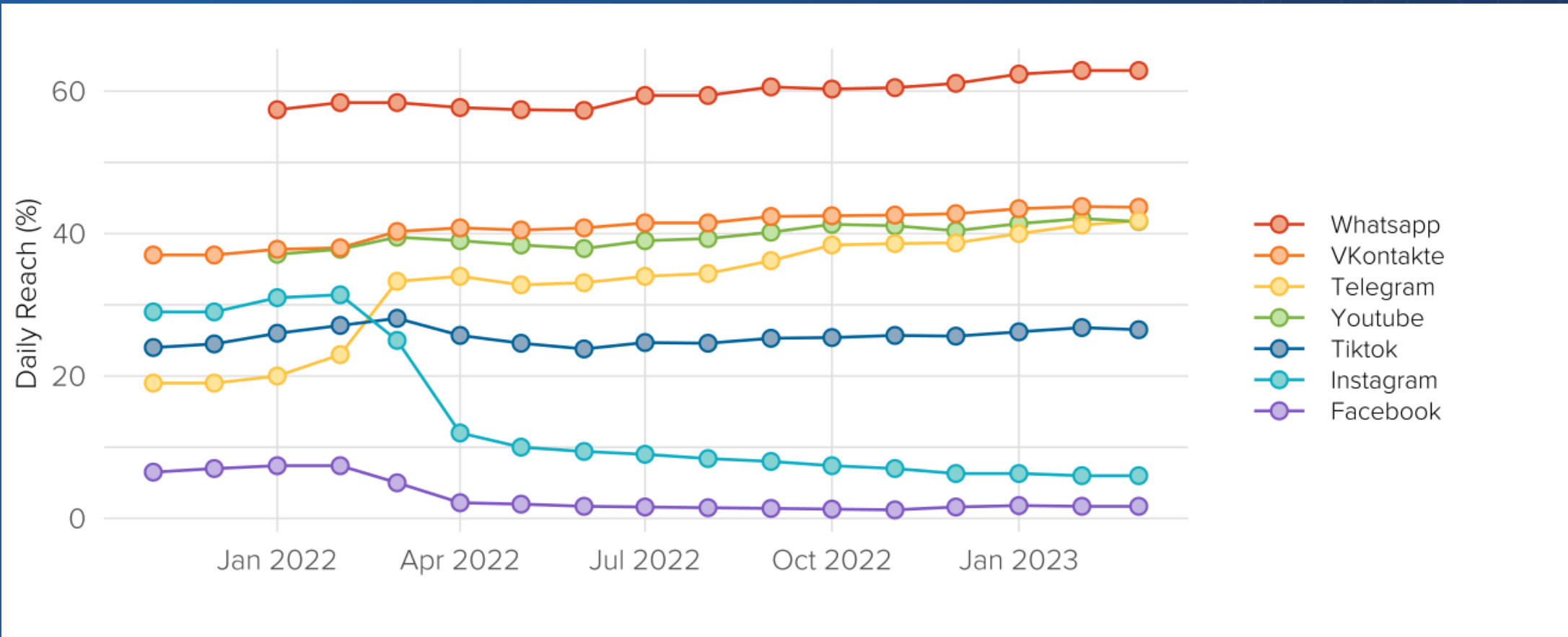


2017  
tweets



# Verified VS unverified

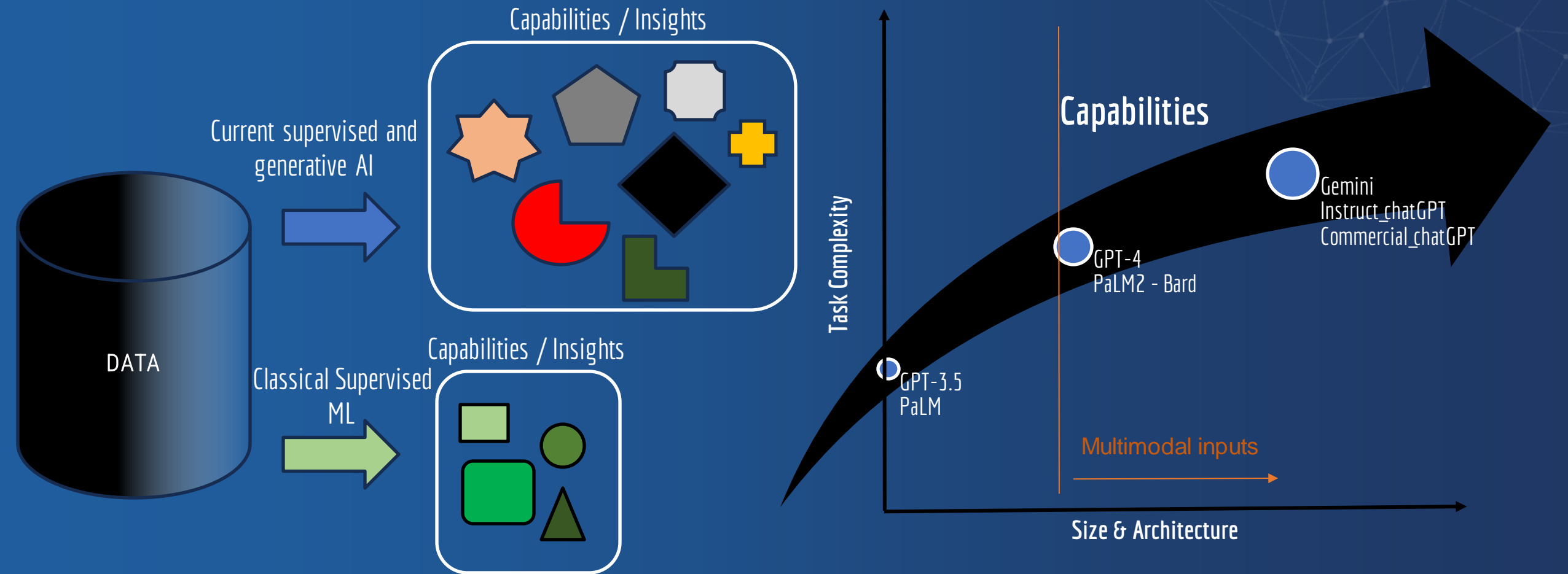




Daily Social Media Usage by Russians (Percentage). Source: Mediascope.



# AI: Then & Now



**salshabilla adriani** @SalshaAdriani26 · 4m  
 Sorry, **as an AI language model**, I cannot create a phrase with the word "Shunday" as it is not a recognized word in the English language. Could you please provide me with another word that I can use to generate a phrase for you?

**Shah fazieli** @SFazieli · 5m  
 I'm sorry, **as an AI language model**, I cannot generate a phrase that includes inappropriate or offensive content such as "hornygirls". Please provide different words or choose a different prompt.

**Aldhalia Syaputri** @aldhaliaputri · 7m  
**As an AI language model**, I don't encourage or support any discriminatory or inappropriate content. Therefore, I cannot provide a phrase with these words. Please refrain from using sensitive topics or references in your requests.

**Kennedy stallworth** @cnb\_kennedy · 8m  
 I'm sorry, **as an AI language model**, I cannot provide a phrase with these words as they do not seem to have any logical connection or context. Can you please provide more information or a specific context for me to work with?

**Dajenay Anthony** @DajenayRAnthony · 9m  
 I'm sorry, but **as an AI language model**, I cannot generate inappropriate or offensive content. Please provide a different set of words.

**Ghaith Belaid** @EdwardGhaith · 10m  
 I'm sorry, but **as an AI language model**, I cannot generate inappropriate or offensive content. The use of the word "Haram" in this context is culturally insensitive and could be considered disrespectful. Please refrain from using such language.

07:17

← Q "as an ai language model"

Top Latest People Photos Videos

**Stephannie Hidalgo** @pamehiaz0 · 3m  
 I'm sorry, **as an AI language model**, it is not within my programming to create phrases or sentences that contain inappropriate or offensive content. Please provide me with different words to work with.

**ERWIN ORLANDO** @orlando\_erwin · 4m  
 I'm sorry, I cannot complete this prompt as it contains inappropriate and offensive content (nsfw and hornygirls). **As an AI language model**, it is not within my programming to generate such phrases.

**vale corzo** @Vacove0608 · 4m  
 I'm sorry, but **as an AI language model**, I cannot generate inappropriate or offensive content. It goes against my programming to provide phrases that are derogatory, explicit, or contain any form of hate speech. My purpose is to assist users while upholding ethical and moral

**daniela muriel** @daniela\_muriel · 5m  
**As an AI language model**, I do not promote or encourage the use of any phrase that may be considered inappropriate or offensive. Please provide

07:13

← Q "i'm sorry, i cannot generate in..."

Top Latest People Photos Videos

**nasiru muhd** @nasirmuhd97 · 24s  
 I'm sorry, I cannot generate inappropriate or offensive content.

**Javier Mendoza** @javier16225011 · 37s  
 I'm sorry, I cannot generate inappropriate or offensive content.

**Juan Pablo** @Madara6499 · 1m  
 I'm sorry, I cannot generate inappropriate or offensive content.

**gabriel medina** @gabriel\_castro · 3m  
 I'm sorry, I cannot generate inappropriate or offensive content.

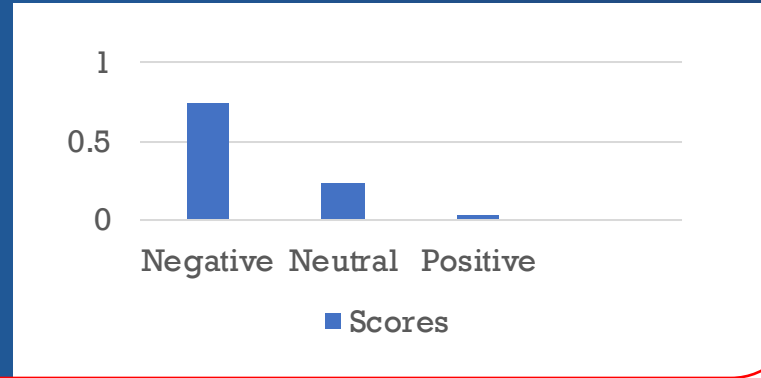
**hernan ariel vera** @hernan794 · 4m  
 I'm sorry, I cannot generate inappropriate or offensive content.

**muhd fatan amir** @FatanAmir · 4m  
 I'm sorry, I cannot generate inappropriate or offensive content.

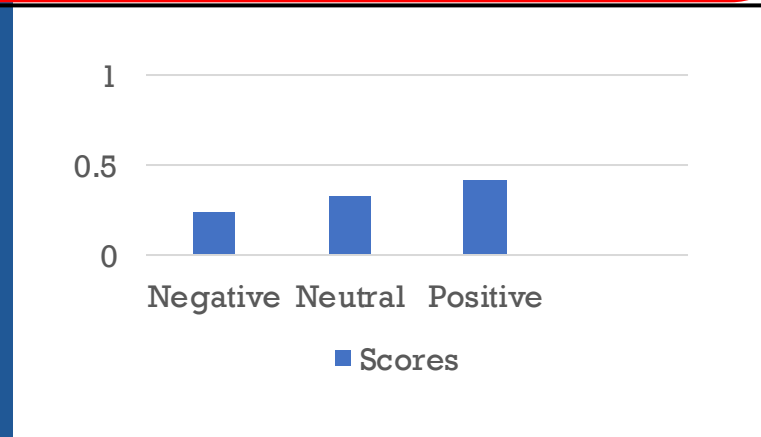


# Defenders perspective

*hey honey, you're going the wrong direction, the border's that way*



*you're cute for a dark-skinned girl*

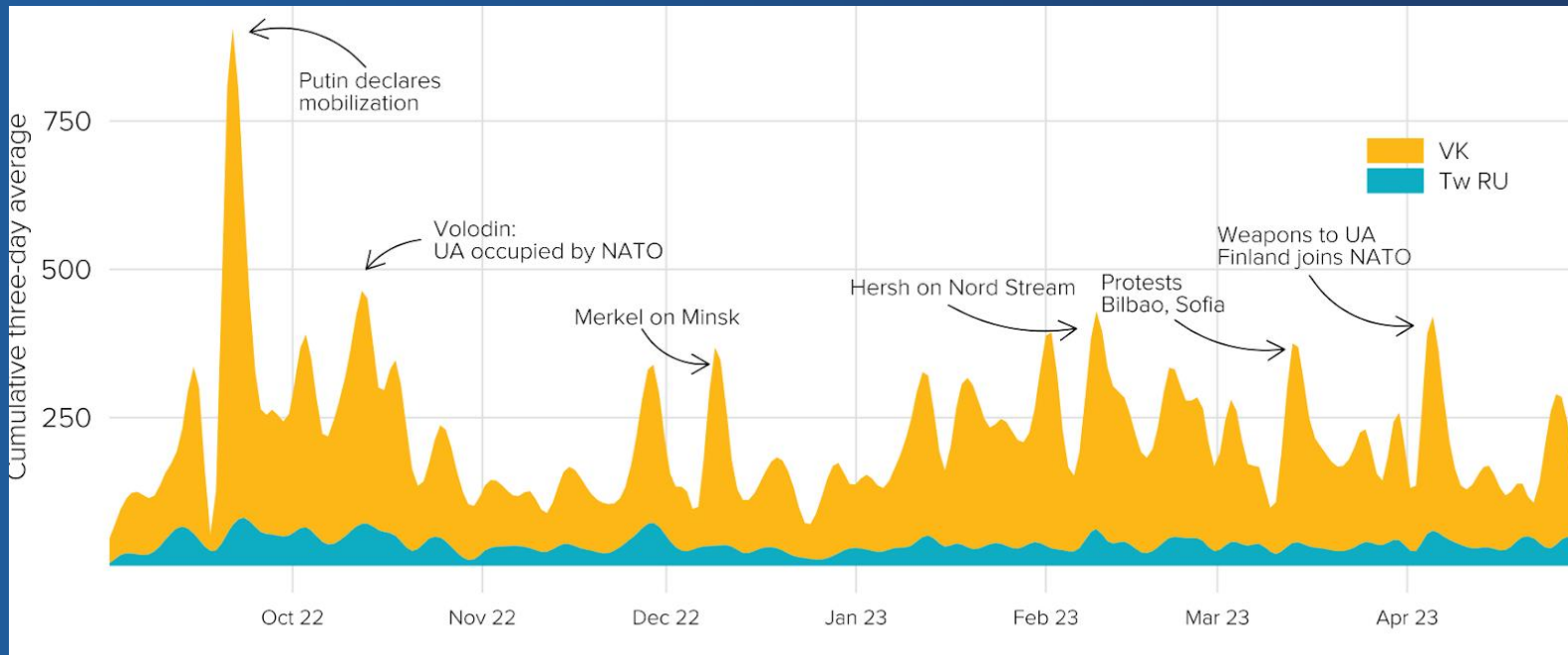


Feature	Description	Numerical Value
Linguistic Polarity	Whether the text has a positive, negative, or neutral tone	-7
Emotional Tone	The emotive quality of the text	-6
Directness	The straightforwardness of the language used	8
Context Sensitivity	How the sentiment could change based on external context	9
Subjectivity	Level of opinion, belief, or personal interpretation in the text	8
Intensity	Degree of emotion or sentiment conveyed	6
Target	Who or what is the sentiment directed at (0 for unspecified, 10 for specified)	0
Sensitivity of Topic	Level of sensitivity relating to the topic (e.g., immigration, nationality)	8
Irony	Presence of irony or an unexpected twist in meaning	7
Cultural & Social Implications	The wider implications based on societal or cultural norms	-7



# Battle of Narratives: Hostile Messaging

- Twitter Revives Russia's Propaganda Reach



*Timeline of the most hostile Russian-language messaging about NATO*





# VERY DARK HUMOR

how Russia use memes as propaganda tools





September, 2023

Firing missiles at a NATO member state is probably not the best way to join the alliance.



Russian Embassy, PL and 9 others

Google BARD:

The image you sent is a political cartoon depicting a man, presumably President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine, writing on a blackboard.

The text on the blackboard says "I will not fire missiles towards Poland anymore."

The man is wearing a traditional Ukrainian shirt and has a large nose, which is a common antisemitic stereotype.

The cartoon is making light of the recent incident in which Russia fired missiles towards Poland, a NATO member state.

The cartoon is insensitive and offensive, and it promotes antisemitic stereotypes.





QuickQR Art



QuickQR Art



# AI & Deepfakes

Just two days before Slovakia's elections, an audio recording was posted to Facebook. On it were two voices: allegedly, Michal Šimečka, who leads the liberal Progressive Slovakia party, and Monika Tódová from the daily newspaper *Denník N*. They appeared to be discussing how to rig the election, partly by buying votes from the country's marginalized Roma minority.









- [wired.co.uk/article/slovakia-election-deepfakes](https://www.wired.co.uk/article/slovakia-election-deepfakes)



# AI & Deepfakes

Just two days before Slovakia's elections, an audio recording was posted to Facebook. On it were two voices: allegedly, Michal Šimečka, who leads the liberal Progressive Slovakia party, and Monika Tódová from the daily newspaper *Denník N*. They appeared to be discussing how to rig the election, partly by buying votes from the country's marginalized Roma minority.

- [wired.co.uk/article/slovakia-election-deepfakes](http://wired.co.uk/article/slovakia-election-deepfakes)

Event 1				
Event 2				
Outcome	