Twitter Thread by Abhijit Iyer-Mitra

Abhijit Iyer-Mitra
@Iyervval

THREAD

1 @DisinfoEU (EUD) brought out a report on a "web of disinformation" set up by Indian intelligence. This kangaroo court drivel followed no consistent logic & by EUD's own standards show EUD collusion with Pakistani intelligence & left wing journos in India. Let's examine

2 first up we need to understand what this latest report is. It adds on a report released by the same group in 2019 claiming to expose the organisation of Madi Sharma. The target this time though is to link @ANI to the Madi Sharma network

3 it claims this is a 15 year operation, IE started by the UPA government under Dr Manmohan Singh. Curiously though in these 15 years it can find only 12 instances of where @ANI this news website called EU chronicle. IE less than once a year.

ANI reports using EU Chronicle content are, for example, systematically reproduced on Yahoo News India (in.news.yahoo.com), a website attracting a sizable audience[185].

Some Indian media outlets, which re-use content from ANI News Agency, become a *de facto* regular amplifier from the fake European media outlet EU Chronicle. For example, BW Business World, which was a magazine previously owned by the ABP Group (owner of the Telegraph India), reproduced at least 8 articles from ANI that were based on some EU Chronicle articles[186]. Likewise, the Indian on-demand video service ZEE5, which has 2.1M followers on Facebook, published 9 news reports from ANI on its main website which originated primarily from EU Chronicle[187].

[183] Archive of the EU Chronicle article: https://perma.cc/4WBL-BW2T

[185] Archive of the Google query showing that Query showing that 12 articles from ANI based on EU Chronicle content were reproduced on Yahoo News India (We verified manually all articles and one result was not relevant): https://perma.cc/N5EA-RNCQ

[186] Archive of the Google query showing that 8 articles from ANI based on EU Chronicle content were reproduced on businessworld.in (We verified manually all articles and two results were not relevant available here): https://perma.cc/H3SA-N2N5

[187] Archive of the Google query showing that 9 articles from ANI based on EU Chronicle content were reproduced on zee5.com: https://perma.cc/U6G4-8MK3

4 this is key, because we need to understand that their sample set for this “vast disinformation network” is exactly 12 articles - a serious sampling error by any stretch. But the innuendoes and stretches here are mind boggling. Let’s start with this image: it claims EU chronicle





5 and ANI are linked as they covered the same protests using SIMILAR angles, admitting they weren’t able to find the exact footage. However by the end of the report the innuendo becomes fact. Curiously guess who else also covers Anti Pakistan protests? @AFP used by @BBCWorld to

bbc.com/news/world-asia-india-55232432

rights to ultimately serve geopolitical interests and gave a platform to far-right politicians when convergent objectives could be reached."



Protesters demonstrate against Pakistan outside the UNHRC in Geneva last year

Mr Alaphilippe said the news agency ANI was being used to give legitimacy to the entire "influence operation", which relied "more on ANI than on any other

6 report the EUD story. So now I guess AFP is part of the disinformation too? Question - did @AFP verify the validity of the protest? If the protestors were paid? No. But apparently this is condemnable according to @DisinfoEU only if ANI does it. Clearly they don't understand the

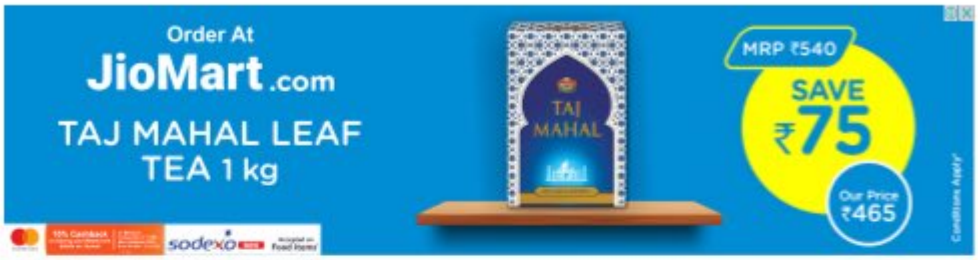
7 difference between investigative journalism and a news agency. Next - they seem to have an issue that that several EU MEPs have written for the EU chronicle (EUC). This in itself is treated as part of some conspiracy. As is the fact that ANI picked up EUC stories by these MPs

8 by this logic we can claim that EU disinfo is part of a vast left wing pakistani disinformation network given that the Pakistani NSA & Foreign Minister picked up on the report. And the coverage of the report by the @BBCWorld & @politico was driven by 2 Pakistanis. Moreover it

DAWN

TODAY'S PAPER | DECEMBER 15, 2020

HOME LATEST CORONAVIRUS PAKISTAN BUSINESS OPINION CULTURE SPORT MAGAZINES WORLD TECH PRISM POPULAR MULTIMEDIA ARCHIVE SEARCH



FM Qureshi urges UN, EU to investigate report on Indian propaganda network

Dawn.com | 11 Dec 2020



FM Shah Mahmood Qureshi and SAPM National Security Moeed Yusuf address a press conference on Friday. — DawnNewsTV

Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi on Friday called upon the United Nations and the European Union to take notice of and initiate a probe into a massive disinformation and propaganda campaign being "run by India" to promote anti-Pakistan sentiment on an international level.



9 turns out that the Indians involved in the reporting are from known left wing propaganda rags @ndtv @newslaundry & @thecaravanindia all known for amplifying Pakistani messaging in India. Unsurprisingly the @BBCWorld coauthor with the Pakistani worked in two of these lefty rags



10 Unsurprisingly the foreign magazines carrying @EUvsDisinfo's report are also the leftist Le Monde & Le Jours. To note the former Le Monde correspondent Julien Bissou (modi hater karuna nundy's ex) is a pathological hater of modi & the hindu right. A sample of his twitter. The



julien bouissou
@jubouissou

Nine European MPs urge EU to cancel agreements with India till arrested activists are released scroll.in/latest/894428/... via @scroll_in



Nine European MPs urge EU to cancel agreements with India till arrested activists ar...
scroll.in

11:11 a.m. · 15 Sep 18

11 current correspondent Sophie

Landrin is as bad - note her on the environment blaming modi & avoiding the fact that Punjabi farmers are the main cause of winter pollution in Delhi, while passing of localised protests of the same Punjabi farmers as a pan india “peasant revolt”

Sophie Landrin Retweeted

Le Monde
@lemondefr

L'Inde est désormais le pays le plus pollué au monde en termes de particules très fines. C'est un suicide écologique et le premier ministre Narendra Modi, sourd aux alertes des scientifiques, brille par son inertie | par @sophielandrin

Translated from French by Google

India is now the most polluted country in the world in terms of very fine particles. It is ecological suicide and Prime Minister Narendra Modi, deaf to the alerts of scientists, shines with his inertia | through @sophielandrin



12 let's take EUD's logic further. They see conspiracy in the fact that ANI labelled certain people "Pashtun activists" without running their full affiliations. Well here's @guardian quoting me without naming my full affiliation as well - so is guardian part of some conspiracy?

ANI's video report[202] dubs Mr Aurang Zeb Khan as a "Pashtun Activist" and clarifies that this is in reality Nadeem Nusrat from Voice of Karachi who talked for the second NGO. No mention was made of the NGOs they were supposed to represent.



ii- 26th Meeting, 37th Regular Session of the Human Rights Council (March 2018)

During the 37th regular session of the Human Rights Council in Geneva (March 2018), Mr Dusan Vejinovic was supposed to talk on behalf of the *United Schools International* according to the UN website[203].

13 it then found it particularly strange that EUC only reports on Anti Pakistan protests. Given that EUD has only reported on Indian "disinformation campaigns" And not Pakistani ones we can equally say EUD is a Pakistani tool. Added to the fact the usual suspects ran its story

More interestingly, we found that EU Chronicle Twitter account only posted two types of videos, reinforcing our inner conviction that this information operation is connected to India:

- Videos of MEPs congratulating Narendra Modi for the Independence Day of India (MEP
- A campaign of videos about alleged abuses against minorities and terrorism in Pakistan[168].

i- Videos of MEPs congratulating Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi

14 EUD also has a huge problem with EUC reports being passed off with additional editorialisation by other outfits. However no problems with their partners at Le Jours similarly imposing their anti-modi editorialising on EUD's reports. Note the goebbelsian use of modi images

On October 21st, DNA India (2.2M followers on Twitter) republished a report from ANI. This article is a modified version of an original article from EU Chronicle about a book published by the Council of Europe titled "A mission to inform: journalists at risk speak out". The change from the EU Chronicle article were made to attack Pakistan more directly.


DNA

HOME IPL 2020 PHOTOS INDIA ENTERTAINMENT SPORTS WORLD BUSINESS TECHNOLOGY LIFESTYLE

Intolerance against media increased in Pakistan since Imran Khan became PM: Report

Journalists and the media are a priority target of Pakistan's military and inter-intelligence services to subjugate freedom of speech, EU Chronicle reported, adding that such actions of intolerance towards independent journalism has increased dramatically since July 2018 when Imran Khan became prime minister.

Imran Khan

SHARE

SOURCE

ANI

Journalists and the media are a priority target of Pakistan's military and inter-intelligence services to subjugate freedom of speech, EU Chronicle reported, adding that such actions of intolerance towards independent journalism has increased dramatically since July 2018 when Imran Khan became prime minister.

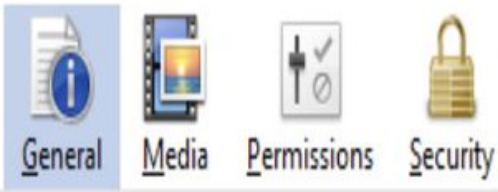
In a report, EU Chronicle said the murder of a Pakistani journalist Sajid Hussain had all the hallmarks of a Pakistani extra-judicial killing. Sajid Hussain is just one example of the horrendous treatment of journalists inside and outside of Pakistan, it added.

Sajid (39), the editor-in-chief of the Balochistan Times was found dead in a

Screenshot: DNA India article syndicating an ANI report, which is based on article from EU Chronicle [192].

15 why do I say partners? Why do I claim coordination between these outlets? Because the metadata shows that Le Jours and Le Monde published op-Eds based on EUD's report minutes before EUD published the source report

Page Info — https://lesjours.fr/obsessions/inde-desinformation-influence/ep1-r...



Title:	Delhi, nid d'espions
Address:	https://lesjours.fr/obsessions/inde-desinformation-influence/ep1-reseau/
Type:	text/html
Render Mode:	Standards compliance mode
Text Encoding:	UTF-8
Size:	10.3 KB (10,547 bytes)
Referring URL:	https://t.co/aocYeNLxgf?amp=1
Modified:	Thursday, December 10, 2020, 6:05:21 PM

Meta (48 tags)

Name	Content
viewport	width=device-width,height=device-height,initial-scale=1
publisher	Les Jours
copyright	Les Jours
article:published_time	2020-12-09T11:57:00.000Z
	Indian Chronicles
og:type	article
og:title	Delhi, nid d'espions
og:url	https://lesjours.fr/obsessions/inde-desinformation-influence/ep1-reseau

Help

16 and politico published its commentary (by a Pakistani) on the EUD report 12 minutes thereafter. Now while EUD’s report has been a litany of connected innuendo - this metadata proves actual collusion between leftists Pakistanis and EUD - no if - no but



Title: New pro-India EU website enrolling MEPs campaigns against Pakistan – POLITICO

Address: https://www.politico.eu/article/india-pakistan-website-european-parliament-campaign-eu

Type: text/html

Render Mode: Standards compliance mode

Text Encoding: UTF-8

Size: 40.23 KB (41,197 bytes)

Referring URL: https://www.google.com/

Modified: Thursday, December 10, 2020, 7:01:32 PM

Meta (23 tags)

Name	Content
og:title	New pro-India EU website enrolling MEPs campaigns against Pakistan
og:url	https://www.politico.eu/article/india-pakistan-website-european-parlia.
og:description	Researchers say the EU Chronicle website is the newest iteration of an Inc
article:published_time	2020-12-09T12:12:36+00:00
article:modified_time	2020-12-09T12:18:21+00:00
og:site_name	POLITICO
og:image	https://www.politico.eu/wp-content/uploads/2020/12/09/GettyImages-
og:image:width	1200

Help

17 amazingly in all of this, at no point has the content of what was produced determined to be fake. Begging the question what exactly was the “disinformation” being peddled? In short @EUvsDisinfo has run a calibrated campaign with clear signs of coordination with some Pakistanis