

Conference

Exposing Russian Disinformation in the 21st. Century

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung, Schumannstr. 8, Berlin-Mitte

Programme

8:30 – 9:00 Registration

9:00 – 9:45 **Welcoming remarks by:**

Ralf Fücks, *Heinrich Böll Foundation*

John Herbst, *Atlantic Council*

Opening remarks by:

John Emerson, US Ambassador to Germany

9:45 – 11:00 **Russia's disinformation campaign in Europe**

The Russian government has invested immense resources into media networks in Europe. The Russian state-media complex has established news and media outlets in the local languages of many European countries through which the Kremlin attempts to influence European discourse and public opinion on the Ukraine crisis. How does the Russian state-media complex use social media, political partnerships, and financial incentives to influence European media outlets? How successful is the media campaign launched by the Russian government? Where are the next targets of the Russian disinformation campaign? How could and should the EU respond?

Panel discussion with European media and journalists:

James Kirchick, *Foreign Policy Initiative*, Correspondent, *Daily Beast*

Lucian Kim, Journalist and Blogger, Berlin

Boris Reitschuster, Journalist and Author, Berlin

Gemma Pörzgen, Journalist, *Reporters Without Borders*

Moderation: Gustav Gressel, *European Council on Foreign relations*

11:00 - 11:30 **Coffee Break**

11:30 – 12:45 Russia’s disinformation campaign at home

Russian state policy under Putin has stifled independent voices. This informational censorship widens the rift between Russian and Western societies. How is the Russian government shaping public opinion at home and among Russian speaking diaspora? What is the Russian public opinion today on Western Europe, the United States, and neighboring states? How can we reach the Russian public in an increasingly censored environment?

Panel discussion with Russian media and journalists (TBC):

Andrey Lipsky, Deputy Editor in Chief, *Novaya Gazeta*

Maria Stepanova, Editor in Chief, *colta.ru*

Galina Timchenko, Editor in Chief, *Meduza* (formerly Lenta.ru)

Moderator: Jens Siegert, *Director of HBF Moscow office*

12:45 – 14:00 Lunch**14:00 – 16:30 Hiding in Plain Sight: Putin’s War in Ukraine and Boris Nemtsov’s Putin.War.****14:00 – 14:20 Opening remarks**

Carl Bildt, Former Prime Minister of Sweden

14:20 – 14:40 Presentation of Boris Nemtsov’s *Russia. War.*

Ilya Yashin, Russian opposition leader and report author

14:40 - 15:00 Presentation of Hiding in Plain Sight Report

Eliot Higgins, Founder of *Bellingcat* and report author

Alina Polyakova, Associate Director, *Atlantic Council*, and report author

15:00 – 16:30 Panel discussion on what the US and European policy makers and Russian opposition leaders should do to counter Russian disinformation

Ilya Yashin, Russian opposition leader

Ilya Ponomarev, Russian opposition politician, *Member of Duma*

Marieluise Beck, MP, *Bundestag*

Francisco de Borja Lasheras, *ECFR Madrid*

Moderated by: The Hon. John Herbst

END