

China's promotion of Russian disinformation indicates where its loyalties lie | CNN

By Simone McCarthy and CNN's Beijing Bureau

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Beijing (CNN) – In public statements and at international summits, Chinese officials have attempted to stake out a seemingly neutral position on the [war in Ukraine](#), neither condemning Russian actions nor ruling out the possibility Beijing could [act as a mediator](#) in a push for peace.

But while its [international messaging](#) has kept many guessing as to Beijing's true intentions, much of its domestic media coverage of Russia's invasion tells a wholly different story.

There, an alternate reality is playing out for China's 1.4 billion people, one in which the invasion is nothing more than a "special military operation," according to its national broadcaster CCTV; the United States may be funding a biological weapons program in Ukraine, and Russian President Vladimir Putin is a victim standing up for a beleaguered Russia.

[...]

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