

How Vietnamese ‘Putinistas’ are spreading disinformation about Ukrainians | The Conversation

By Quoc Tan Trung Nguyen

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In March 2022, a Vietnamese Facebook post accused Ukrainians of slandering late president Ho Chi Minh, the founding father of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam.

Tifosi, a pro-state blogger and one of the most influential “netizens” in Vietnam with a massive following, alleged that Ukraine’s 24TV and the Pravda news outlet had called Ho Chi Minh a dictator who killed millions for his “Bolshevik ambition.”

Tifosi’s Facebook post also claimed these news outlets represented the official view of the Ukrainian government and suggested that the Ukrainian people’s fight against the Russian invasion was therefore not worthy of support.

The post led to a flood of angry comments attacking Ukrainians and the Ukrainian government on the official Facebook page of the Ukrainian embassy in Vietnam, prompting the embassy to publish an explanatory video a few days later.

[...]

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