

Where Russia's disinformation campaigns are working—and where they aren't | Slate

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Every day we wake up to new Russian atrocities—and new Russian lies about those atrocities—in Ukraine. The latest example is in Bucha, a Kyiv suburb where retreating Russian forces “left behind dead civilians lining the streets—some with their hands bound, some with gunshot wounds to the head.” The Kremlin quickly issued denials and claimed the evidence was fabricated.

After weeks of war, much has been written about the success and failures of Russia's disinformation and propaganda. These tactics, of course, are not new. Russia has been running propaganda campaigns since the Cold War. What does feel new is the preponderance of *true* information available—and perhaps equally importantly, the speed at which it spreads. Social media, satellite imagery, and 24/7 reporting are directly refuting Russian disinformation in real time.

That news is only reaching some people, however. It's worth stepping back to consider the various audiences for Russia's disinformation campaigns and examine where they're working and where they're not.

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