

Aborted Russia Hoax 2024

Democrats have prepared an “October surprise” for this election – a new iteration of the Russia hoax – but abandoned this plan for certain reasons. Nevertheless, the DOJ, Treasury, and fake news media have started playing their roles.

This analysis is published as another example of how some elements of the Democrat machine manufacture and plant false evidence of “Russian interference”; other elements amplify them, and the public believes.

Before 2024, there was some malicious activity on the web and social media outside of the US, possibly sponsored by the Russian government. Researchers named it Doppelganger.¹ The Russia Hoax 2024 attempted to capitalize on it by performing similar operations in the US and conflating them with European activities.

The starting point for this research is the bombastic [DOJ press release of 2024/09/04](#): “**Justice Department Disrupts Covert Russian Government-Sponsored Foreign Malign Influence Operation Targeting Audiences in the United States and Elsewhere**”. A [Treasury press release amplified it](#). The DOJ press release linked to this [Affidavit](#) in support of a warrant to seize a few Internet domains. The Affidavit consists of 277 pages: 69 pages of text, 38 pages of attachments, and 169 pages of **Exhibits**. An FBI agent, the affiant, signed it.

There is ample evidence that this is a hoax:

1. Irregularities in and around the Affidavit:

- It fails to name the source of the documents in Exhibits 2-13,² but claims they are internal documents leaked from Russian entities involved in the alleged operation.
- Most of the Affidavit is the development of a story about Putin and “*Russian companies Social Design Agency (‘SDA’), Structura National Technology (‘STRUCTURA’), ANO Dialog*” allegedly conducting “malign influence”.
- According to the Affidavit, the prosecution demanded to seize Doppelganger's recent domain **rrn[.]media**, but not its main domain **rrn[.]world**. The rationale was that this domain had been taken over by good guys who “*publish information regarding Doppelganger’s methods and activities, much of which I [the FBI] know*”

¹ Based on multiple sources, including [Facebook report for 2022 Q3](#): “**Russia (originally reported on September 27, 2022):** We took down 1,633 accounts, 703 Pages, one Group and 29 accounts on Instagram for violating our policy against CIB. This network originated in Russia and targeted primarily Germany, and also France, Italy, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.”

² Exhibits 2-13 start at page 108 of Exhibits. For each exhibit, the English translation comes first (A), and the Russian “original” follows (B). For example, Ex. 2A is followed by Ex. 2B.

to be accurate". The affiant knows neither the "good guys" identities nor their motives. Of course, the only reasonable assumption was that the domain remained under the control of the same group ("Doppelganger-US") and to seize it, too. The failure to do that is evidence of collusion between the prosecution or FBI and the Doppelganger-US, which suggests that Doppelganger-US was a false flag operation.

It is very hard to take over a registered domain by conventional methods. I can only imagine that the DOJ went to the registrar and "convinced" it to turn the domain over. This domain has published materials consistent with the discussed hoax since July 2024.

- The prosecution/FBI have also failed to demand the seizure of domains **electionwatch[.]io**, **liesofwallstreet[.]io**, and **spicyconspiracy[.]io**, although it mentioned them as registered by the same alongside other domains. The hypothesis of collusion explains that.

The hoax makers had left a lot of traces ("bread crumbs"), intended to link electionwatch[.]io to Russia:

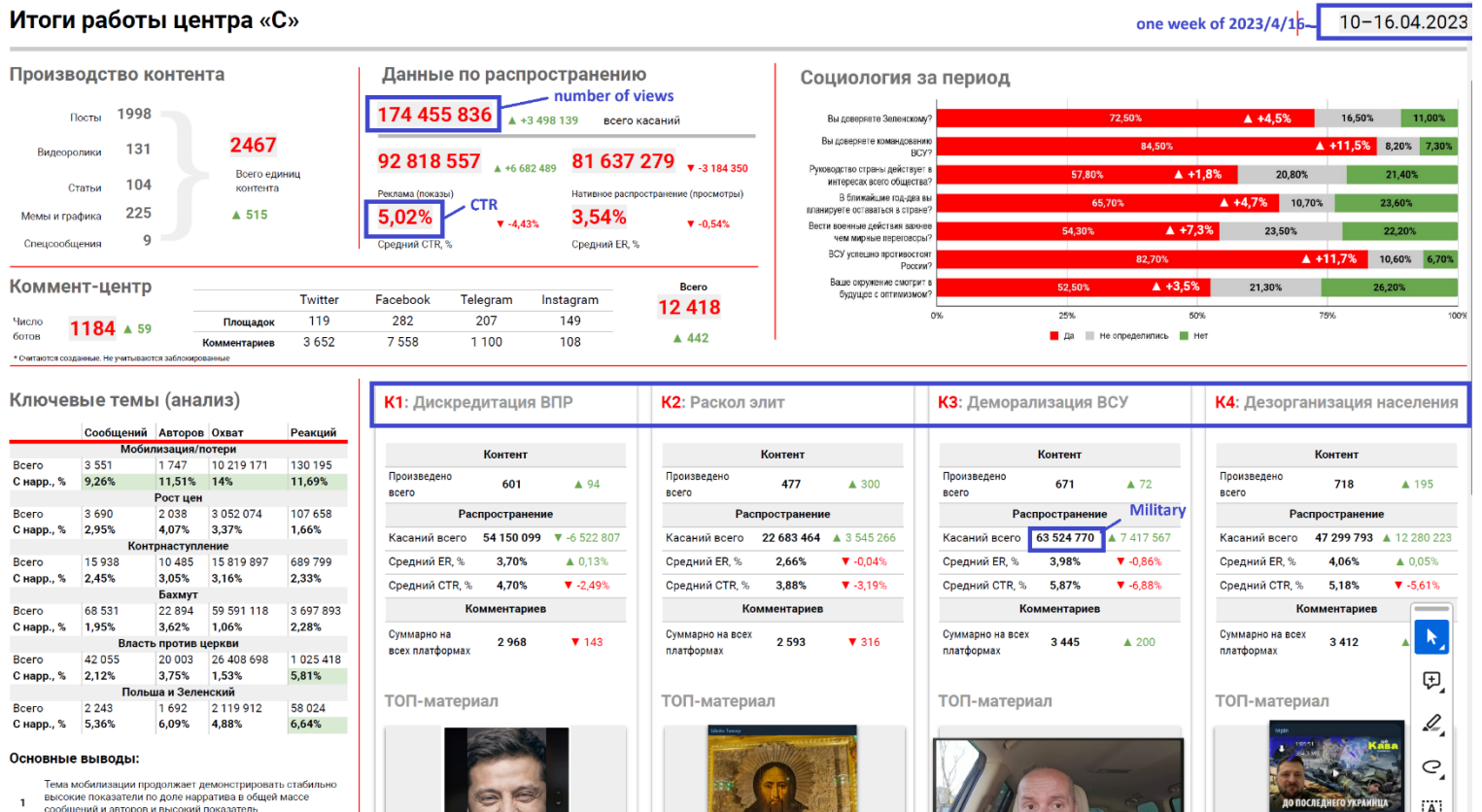
"When it was registered, the Demon Account selected Russian as its language, listed a Russian recovery email ending in .ru with the same naming convention, namely "Demon" followed by a string of numbers, and provided a Russian phone number." (The Affidavit, para 120)

- In multiple places, the FBI acknowledged machine translation from Russian. Machine translation without a qualified human translator's certification is inadmissible, per *FRE 604*. The quality of machine translation from Russian is generally poor. The FBI Russian speakers were available, as the FBI agent acknowledged in the Affidavit. The only possible reason to use machine translation was that the prosecution and/or FBI officials did not want to involve outsiders because of the fear of being caught.
 - The Affidavit reveals the identities of the candidates and parties by writing them in the redactions. It is evident from context that Candidate A and Party A are Trump and GOP.
 - From all the federal districts, the DOJ selected East Pennsylvania, where the district attorney is Jacqueline C. Romero, one of the most [extremist](#) Biden appointees.
2. According to the Affidavit, the Exhibits contain leaked internal documents. Steele dossier promoters, including [David Corn](#), Marcy Wheeler (aka [emptywheel](#)), and [WaPo](#),³ repeat this claim. I assess that these documents had been fabricated, possibly at different times and in various countries. The evidence:
- Some of the "documents" in the Exhibits or used by the media to promote this hoax are obvious fakes. For example, WaPo published an article and referred to dashboards ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)) showing impact in Ukraine. A

³ These links are archived at <https://archive.is/FSriu>, <https://archive.is/LYRbDm>, <https://archive.is/zi7uu>

[typical dashboard](#) shows incredible figures for weekly reach, such as 170 million views per week. That includes 63 million views in the category “Demoralizing the Ukrainian Military”, translating to ~ 5-10 views by each soldier and officer of Ukraine! This is as if consuming enemy propaganda was part of a daily routine in Ukraine's Armed Forces. Even 1/1000th of these numbers is impossible because Ukraine would demand Facebook et al. to remove Doppelganger accounts, and those would have been removed.

Fig. 1. This is the “dashboard” from WaPo for the week ending 2023/04/16. Added highlights are in blue.



Ukraine could block Doppelganger domains without external help. These dashboards are linked from the mentioned WaPo article but are not attached to the Affidavit. Many Exhibits in the Affidavit are also ridiculous, both in English and Russian.

- Ex. 8A, translation of the allegedly leaked internal document “The Good Old USA Project”, is attached to the Affidavit and [referenced explicitly](#) in the DOJ press release. Among other nonsense, it states:

“2.2 Objectives (by the November 2024 election) ...

To bring **Candidate B** [Biden] confidence rating down to the minimal level of 29% (as of 11/19/2023 this rating was 39%, based on CNN’s ‘poll of polls’).”

Only a clinical idiot can believe this is a genuine document. *First*, why bring down Biden’s approval rating from 39%? It was already very low. *Second*, manipulating political opinion in the US is difficult and expensive. Look at the 2020 elections: Democrats and left-coast oligarchs spent billions, manipulated social media platforms from the inside as no third party can do, and still had to resort to boxes and suitcases of fake ballots to install their candidate. *Third*, the real Doppelganger operated mainly by creating fake websites, mimicking real ones, and spamming social media with links to them. Such a promotional campaign is more likely to hurt the promoted idea or candidate. *Fourth*, all significant social media platforms monitor their platforms for spam and inauthentic behavior and remove accounts involved in such activities. Only rookies might not know that.

The white-on-black *Candidate B* is how it appears in the Affidavit. The context leaves no doubt that Candidate B is Biden. This was written before Kamala Harris substituted Joe Biden.

“2.3 Target Audiences ...

Community of American gamers, users of Reddit and image boards, such as 4chan (the ‘backbone’ of the right wing trends in the US segment of the Internet.” – the emphasis is added.

4chan is linked to the right wing only in the sick imagination of fake news media writers. The website *4chan*[.]org was created around 2003. It allowed its users to post pictures and texts anonymously. Very soon, it became a porn site with some non-porn forums. The controversy called Gamergate happened in 2014–2015. Because some persons in this controversy were on *4chan*, the left has labeled *4chan* as the right wing.

4chan has drastically changed after Gamergate. In 2022 – 2024, when this “document” was written, *4chan* (*4chan.org*) was an unremarkable website. Everybody in the world can see that by opening it in a web browser. The person who wrote this nonsense is a Western leftist, deeply immersed in his or her echo chamber and thinking of its myths as obvious facts.

- All the amounts of money alleged in the Affidavit sum up to less than \$10,000. Even if we assume that the FBI reported only 5% of the alleged project’s expenses, its budget is still under \$200,000. No sane person would think that s/he can change the outcome of US elections so cheaply.
- The Affidavit alleges that Kiriyenko, Putin’s Deputy Chief of Staff and a former Prime Minister of Russia, personally manages the project and that the leader and members of the project team have personally met

Putin. If this sounds familiar, it is because Steele dossier made similar claims about information from “Putin’s close circle”.

- In the current case, the leaks supposedly happened in wartime, and the leaker was not afraid to spend the next 10 years in prison. Of course, the leak claim is not valid.

3. [The teenage kids](#) of Ilya GAMBASHIDZE, the alleged leader of this large project, and [his ex-wife live in the US!](#)⁴

The Russian government would never select him for intelligence or other foreign operations work.

4. Many Exhibits in the Affidavit are written unnaturally. Examples:

- **Ex. 7A, p. 202 of the Affidavit; also mentioned in para 67 (p. 29)**

“The objective of the “International Conflict Incitement” project is to escalate internal tensions in the countries allied with the United States in order to promote the interests of the Russian Federation on the international arena.”

First, nobody in **Russia** uses the phrase “Russian Federation”, except in some very formal public settings. In Russia, Russia is called *Russia*. Second, nobody writes phrases like “in order to promote the interests of ... on the international arena” in work documents, in any country and any business. This phrase parrots the unconstitutional Biden’s [E.O. 14024](#) “for the benefit of ... the Russian Federation”, a little help to the future prosecutors.

- **Ex. 6A, p. 171 of the Affidavit**

“The target audience of each material is selected individually and depends on which of the population groups this material can cause the greatest psychological damage.”

Hollywood villains are much more persuasive than this imitation! Everybody thinks that they are good guys. Nobody boasts about causing *the greatest psychological damage* to entire *population groups*, especially in writing.

5. There is nothing covert about *ANO Dialog* and *Social Design Agency (SDA)*. ANO Dialog admits that it was created by the Moscow city administration ([anodialog.ru/about](#)). SDA proudly shows that the Russian government is its client. It also lists various government agencies using its services ([sp-agency.ru/clients/](#)).⁵ *Structura National Technology* (Gambashidze) looks shady but for different reasons that are incompatible with the allegations.⁶

⁴ Also archived at <https://archive.is/pL4PD>

⁵ Might show an “invalid certificate” alert.

⁶ Among traces of Structura on the Internet: an archived page <https://archive.is/OPupt>, a banned account on Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/STRUCTURA.NT>, a video channel with two clips on YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/@structura9444>

6. Doppelganger was exposed by [September 2022](#) and has been closely monitored by governments and private companies since then. Who would use it, or any part of the infrastructure linked to it, for covert operations in 2024?

The websites [electionwatch\[.\]io](#), [liesofwallstreet\[.\]io](#), and [spicyconspiracy\[.\]io](#) were registered on the same day, July 13, 2024.⁷ The first article on [rrn\[.\]world](#)⁸ under new management, supposedly [exposing the previous one](#),⁹ appeared on the same day. Thomas Crooks attempted to assassinate Donald Trump on the same day! Apparently, Democrat activists became desperate after attempts to eliminate Trump by lawfare and running a strawman candidate failed. Both operations required preparation. It looks like someone ordered both operations in early July.

Some other potentially related developments:

Microsoft appointed [conspiracy theorist Clint Watts](#), apparently John Brennan's buddy, to the position of General Manager of Microsoft Threat Analysis Center. This is an ideal position for Clint Watts to support any computer-related claims of the Russia Hoax 2024.

The DOJ has also indicted unknown "Russians", allegedly funding Tenet Media. It is a different matter. That indictment is filed in SDNY. It is also based on a hoax (see [here](#) or [here](#)), which is out of the scope.

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⁷ See <https://who.is/whois/electionwatch.io>, <https://who.is/whois/liesofwallstreet.io>, <https://who.is/whois/spicyconspiracy.io>

⁸ Some of the period between [May 6](#) and July 13 can be described as [limbo](#), during which the takeover [happened](#).

⁹ Also archived at <https://archive.is/QjeUc>