



War-related topics on YouTube: indirect narratives in videos, radicalization in comments

This report is part of the project supported by Sweden “Media Literacy Advancement and Support to Moldovan Media” and implemented by Internews, which aims to contribute towards the growth of a diverse, independent and financially viable media landscape in Moldova, and to empower Moldovan youth to navigate their complex information environment.

In recent years, YouTube has become an increasingly relevant platform in the online information architecture of the Republic of Moldova, strengthening its role not only as a source of entertainment, but also as a space for shaping public opinion on major socio-political events.

According to the latest research conducted by the Independent Journalism Centre (IJC), the network ranks second in terms of recognition among the most popular social networks in the country. [*The Media Audience Study in the Republic of Moldova*](#), published by the IJC in June 2025, shows that YouTube is one of the main sources of information for the majority of the population: 85% of respondents say they use the platform constantly, with more than half (52%) accessing it daily. The YouTube audience is predominantly young (18–24 years old), professionally active, with a medium or higher level of education and income above the national average, concentrated in urban areas, especially in the southern and northern regions and Chisinau municipality.

Moreover, [monitoring](#) of 15 YouTube channels during the parliamentary election campaign of September 2025 (29 August – 28 September) showed that the platform is a source of dissemination of disinformation, particularly relevant in the electoral context by amplifying manipulative messages.

Consequently, continued monitoring of the platform outside electoral exercises becomes necessary to observe the extent to which YouTube functions as a space for the accumulation and normalization of manipulative narratives in the long term and whether it is able to shape perceptions and attitudes of the general public before those messages are amplified in periods of crisis or during the exercise of the voting right. In this context, the comment section is particularly relevant, since observations documented in the previous monitoring show that the messages shared by users on various video platforms are not just simple and spontaneous reactions, but rather active spaces for the production, reiteration and coordination of messages.

METHODOLOGY

As part of the monitoring conducted throughout the month of February, we analyzed the dynamics of the most visible narratives with potential for disinformation related to the topic of war — both the large-scale armed conflict initiated by the Russian Federation in Ukraine, and war-related topics concerning the Republic of Moldova and the Transnistrian region. We also examined how these narratives are propagated and amplified in the comment sections of the YouTube platform. For this purpose, we used an AI-assisted technological solution, which 'scanned' channels with publicly available content and mapped the narratives, analyzing both their volume and frequency, as well as their amplification in the comments. The platform also identified the content that explicitly violates YouTube's regulations and community standards. The cases identified using AI were reviewed by the authors of the report.

The **object of the monitoring** is content published in Romanian and Russian disseminated in videos and published by users in the comment section of the YouTube platform. The analysis targets only the public content, insofar as it reflects political and social topics relevant to the information space. As regards war-related topics, four narratives with clear disinformation potential and several sub-narratives were predefined, as follows:

1. **Russia's actions in Ukraine are legitimate or justified:** Ukraine provoked Russia to war; Ukraine invoked the conflict in Donbas; Ukraine escalates this conflict in order not to end the war; the reason for the Russia's war lies in historical unity; Ukraine is not interested in ending the war; Vladimir Putin's actions concerning Ukraine/the war in Ukraine are justified/objective;
2. **Russia will win the war in Ukraine:** Russia will achieve victory in the war in any case; Russia is obviously winning on the battlefield; sanctions do not affect Russia's ability to win the war;
3. **An armed conflict in the Transnistrian region is being prepared:** Romania wants to destroy the Transnistrian region; Moldova wants to destroy the Transnistrian region; Ukraine wants to destroy the Transnistrian region; Romania is preparing a war in the Transnistrian region; liquidation of the Transnistrian region by military means; the abolition of the Transnistrian region by military means;
4. **The Western powers draw the Republic of Moldova into war:** NATO draws Moldova into war; the West draws Moldova into war; the EU draws Moldova into war; the West draws Moldova into war.

The **disinformation narrative** means a coherent, repetitive and recognizable discursive construction intended to systematically distort reality in order to manipulate the perceptions, attitudes or behaviours of the target audience. According to EUvsDisinfo of the European External Action Service, a disinformation narrative is 'a coherent set of statements and talking points that are repeated over time and support a manipulative interpretive framework, often in opposition to democratic values, international institutions or social cohesion'. Such narratives may be deliberately spread by states, non-state actors or informal networks.

Monitoring subject. The YouTube channels were selected based on a set of cumulative criteria. The list includes popular channels, which are active on socio-political topics, selected based on publicly available, albeit incomplete, data provided by digital analytics platforms such as SocialBlade and VidIQ, which were used as a guide to estimate the visibility and activity of the channels. Only channels that publish regularly updated content and maintain a constant presence on the platform were taken into account. The initial list was completed by inclusion of official channels of the most popular television stations and news websites, according to the [Media Audience Study](#) published in 2025 by the IJC, as well as channels known for allegedly

publishing a problematic content and channels popular in the information spaces of Gagauzia and the Transnistrian region.

Channel	Source	No. of followers
TCB Tiraspol	https://www.youtube.com/@tsvtiraspol	727000
TV8	https://www.youtube.com/@TV8Moldova	174000
Первый Приднестровский	https://www.youtube.com/@PervyPridnestrovsky	165000
ProTV Chişinău	https://www.youtube.com/@protvchisinau5284	158000
Jurnal TV	https://www.youtube.com/@jurnaltv	145000
Europa Liberă Moldova	https://www.youtube.com/@europa-libera-moldova	134000
Ziarul de Gardă	https://www.youtube.com/@Ziarul de Garda	90300
TRM	https://www.youtube.com/@TRMMDChannel	76700
Morari Live	https://www.youtube.com/@morarilive	76000
TV6	https://www.youtube.com/@tv6md	75500
NewTVmd	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOvSvdpakTdLTsT5E2si-Nw	73700
Canal 5	https://www.youtube.com/@Canal5md	72300
Nicolae Chicu	https://www.youtube.com/@nicolaechicu	71500
Newsmaker	https://www.youtube.com/@NewsMakerOriginal	50800
Nokta	https://www.youtube.com/@noktamd	44500
Primul în Moldova	https://www.youtube.com/@PrimulInMoldovaTvTranslation	44300
AVA TV	https://www.youtube.com/@AndreiAndrievski	43300
Internetu' Grăieşte	https://www.youtube.com/c/InternetuGr%C4%83ie%C8%99te	36300
Puterea a 4a	https://www.youtube.com/@puterea_a_patra	35800
TVR Moldova	https://www.youtube.com/@tvrmoldova4729	33400
TVC21	https://www.youtube.com/@tvc21channel/featured	29400

Nordnews	https://www.youtube.com/@Nord-News	26700
GRT	https://www.youtube.com/@grt_md	24500
Newsmaker Știri	https://www.youtube.com/@NewsMakerStiri	23300
Gabriel Calin	https://www.youtube.com/@calinlive	22000
Gonța media	https://www.youtube.com/@GheorgheGonta001	21500
Realitatea Moldova	https://www.youtube.com/@RealitateaMoldova	20100
Moldova.org	https://www.youtube.com/@moldovaorg	18500
Exclusiv TV	https://www.youtube.com/@Exclusiv_tv	15800
Vocea Basarabiei	https://www.youtube.com/@vocea.basarabiei	15300
Agora Moldova	https://www.youtube.com/@AgoraMoldova	15400
One TV	https://www.youtube.com/@OneTV_md	14900
RISE Moldova	https://www.youtube.com/@risemoldova9279	13600
TV Bălți	https://www.youtube.com/@TVBalti	13600
Moldova Online	https://www.youtube.com/@moldovaonline1991	13300
Tv Nord	https://www.youtube.com/@TVNordMoldova	13100
IPN	https://www.youtube.com/@agentiadepresaipn	11800
Бендерское Телевидение	https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCQu1jJ1cnt9bS2WMs5HUSdw	10700
Radar Politic	https://www.youtube.com/@RadarPolitic/featured	10200
Cinema 1	https://www.youtube.com/@CINEMA-el2zb	10100
TEMA	https://www.youtube.com/@esti_tema	9330
N4	https://www.youtube.com/@n4moldova	7140
СП Новости	https://www.youtube.com/@GazetaSP	6700
Unimedia	https://www.youtube.com/@UnimediaVIDEO	5540
Late Buimistru	https://www.youtube.com/@LATE_BUIMISTRU	4890

Союз Россия-Молдова	https://www.youtube.com/@soyuzmdru/featured	4540
GagauzMedia	https://www.youtube.com/@Gagauz_Media	4220
Star TV	https://www.youtube.com/@STARTVMOLDOVA	3170
1TV Moldova	https://www.youtube.com/@1tvmoldova	2570
Costa Tatiana	https://www.youtube.com/@COSTA_moldovanca	2210
24Moldova	https://www.youtube.com/@24moldova	2090
Global 24	https://www.youtube.com/@Global24MD	1980
Главное. Молдова	https://www.youtube.com/@glavmoldova	1800
Moldova Pulse	https://www.youtube.com/@MoldovaPulse	1690
Premiera TV Moldova	https://www.youtube.com/@PREMIERATVMOLDOVA	708
Telegraph Moldova	https://www.youtube.com/@telegraphmd/videos	646
Kristian Grăiește	https://www.youtube.com/@Kristiangr%C4%83ie%C8%99te.official/featured	502

The analysis is **exploratory and descriptive in nature** and is aimed at identifying recurring narrative patterns rather than assessing the intentionality of the actors analyzed. This exercise is based exclusively on publicly available data and does not allow for the assessment of the actual intentions of the content creators or the way the audience internalizes the messages. The findings should therefore be interpreted as indications of informational risks, rather than as definitive attributions of responsibility or intent. The identification of narratives with potential for disinformation within this analysis should not be interpreted as a finding of the commission of disinformation within the meaning of the Code of Audiovisual Media Services, a duty that falls exclusively to the Audiovisual Council.

Monitoring objectives:

- Identification and assessment of the main narratives with potential for disinformation disseminated on YouTube related to war;
- Assessment of the role of comments in reinforcing, diversifying and amplifying narratives with potential for disinformation;
- Identification of the volume of messages that explicitly violate YouTube Community

Guidelines and Standards.

Monitoring period: 1 – 28 February 2026

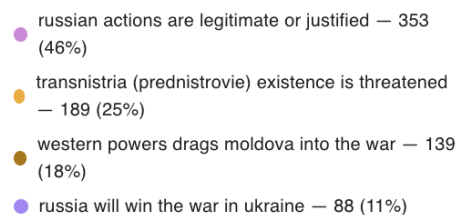
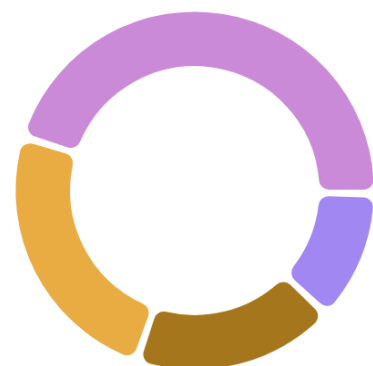
Monitoring object: video content in the comment section of 57 YouTube channels

Monitoring subject: narratives with potential for disinformation on the war in Ukraine and its impact on the Republic of Moldova

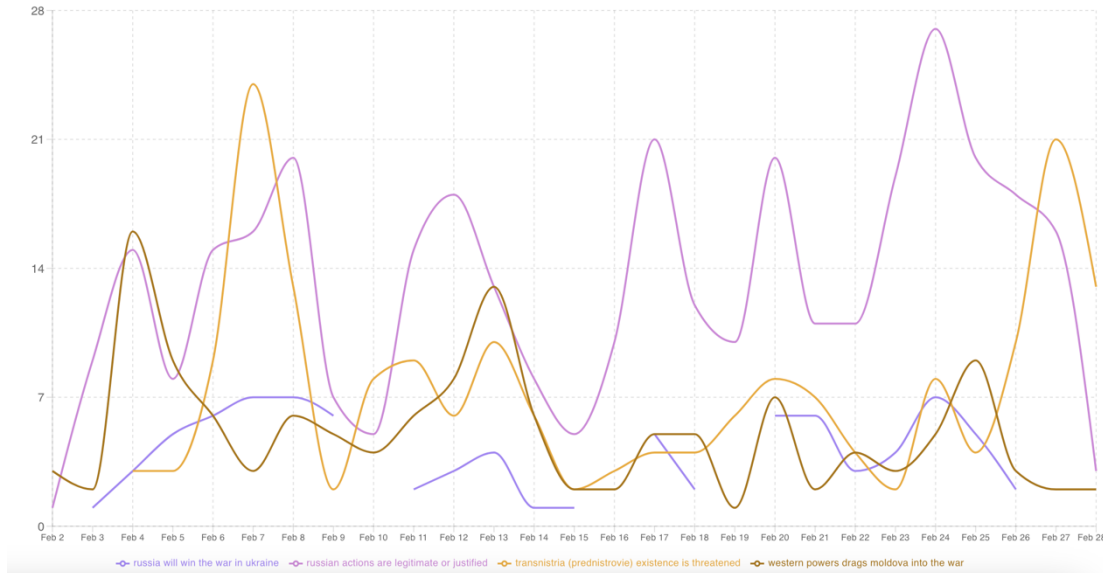
GENERAL DATA

During February, **4,674 videos** were broadcast and **14,815 comments** were published on the 57 channels targeted by this monitoring, finding a total of **769 cases**, mainly in user comments, in which messages with potential for disinformation on the topic of this report were promoted. According to the data, the messages were distributed as follows:

- *Russia's actions in Ukraine are legitimate or justified (46%);*
- *an armed conflict in the Transnistrian region is being prepared (25%);*
- *the Western powers draw the Republic of Moldova into war (18%);*
- *Russia will win the war in Ukraine (11%).*



The dynamics of the spread of messages during the four weeks of the monitoring were uneven. It can be observed that the volume of content about the region on the left bank of the Nistru river peaked around 7 February, in connection with several events regarding the energy crisis in the region, and messages regarding the justification of the war in the neighbouring country recorded a maximum number on 27 February, when the fourth anniversary of the invasion was marked.



SHIFTING RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE WAR

The videos distributed on the channels during February did not include clear statements about the fact that *the actions of the Russian Federation or Vladimir Putin towards Ukraine/the war in Ukraine are justified/objective*. However, several opinions were shared, mainly by guests of talk shows, which shift the responsibility for the continuation of the war from the Russian Federation to Ukraine, European leaders and NATO. It is precisely this shift of responsibility, i.e. depicting the actions of the neighbouring state and Western countries and the actions of the Kremlin in a negative light, that works as an indirect tool for legitimizing Russian aggression and strengthening the narrative according to which peace is being prevented by Kiev and the West, rather than by Moscow.

For example, in an edition of the MLive channel, H.D. Hartmann, introduced by [Natalia Morari as an analyst from Romania, explicitly formulates the idea of Ukrainian and European leaders sabotaging peace: *'Here I still have to find out who is sabotaging Trump's peace plan in Ukraine. Is it Zelensky, is it Macron, is it Merz, is it von der Leyen, is it Starmer or is it all together?'* The rhetorical question is reinforced by violent and discrediting assessments of the Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky: *'A worthless clown, an illegal president, you defend nothing but your family and your own wealth.'* The guest further states that Great Britain, France and Germany *'sabotage peace and have an interest'*, and Zelensky *'sacrifices his economy, people, country in the name of Great Britain'*. The phrase *'Zelensky – a wretched clown – in cahoots with Macron, Merz and Starmer, they want the war to continue'* summarizes the essence of the message: the war is attributed to the political will of Kiev and European capitals, not to Russian aggression.

On the same channel and in the same vein, the analyst Sergei Banari argued that *'for Zelensky and for most of the European political class a peace agreement in Ukraine is a political obituary, an obituary of their political existence'*. He also states that *'the main propagandists of the war'* are in Brussels that *'legalize any crimes'* and *'support Zelensky's group'*.

'There are people in Brussels who support continuation of the conflict with Russia, people who oppose the peace process initiated by Trump,' the message of Valeriu Demidetchi on the TVC 21 channel was. The guest also recalls one of the central theses of Russian propaganda regarding NATO expansion: *'The Russians have repeatedly demanded and said that NATO should not be expanded to their borders. Once, twice, three times. And then happened what happened.'* The phrase *'then happened what happened'* can be perceived as an implicit justification for the Russian military response, presented as an almost inevitable consequence of ignoring Moscow's *'warnings.'* And the phrase *'the West had more tools than the Russians to prevent this war'* once again shifts the responsibility for preventing the war from Russia to the West.

And the intervention of former socialist MP Vasile Bolea, in another show also on TVC 21, reinforces the narrative: *'One of the reasons is the expansion of NATO's military infrastructure, which is not at all a friendly alliance towards Russia.'* He also evokes *'Russia's requests to the US and NATO regarding security guarantees in 2021, which were simply spat on in the eye,'* adding that *'Russia warned that it would pursue its interests anyway, and in this case it was a security interest.'* In this case, the war fits within the paradigm of Russia's *'legitimate security interests,'* and the military aggression is justified as if it were a reaction to ignoring reasonable requests.

SCENARIOS AND INSUNISONS REGARDING CHISINAU AND TIRASPOL

In the monitored video materials, guests of some informative-analytical and debate programs shared, on the one hand, the thesis regarding the alleged transformation of the Republic of Moldova into a military tool of the West, the EU or NATO, and on the other hand, insinuated that the authorities in Chisinau, together with external actors, would prepare a forceful solution for the Transnistrian region.

In a short intervention distributed by the Moldova channel, where the MD24 logo can be seen, former socialist MP Oleg Savva stated, referring to the upcoming elections on the left bank of the Nistru river, that *'the West will provoke Transnistria'* and that *'not only Moldovan special services, but also the special services of other states'* will try to influence the situation, having *'prepared certain provocations'*. In the same intervention, he introduced the hypothesis of a *'forceful solution to the Transnistrian issue'*, alluding to a possible military scenario in which Chisinau and Western actors would seek to take advantage of the military potential in the region, including the ammunition in Cobasna. On the same channel, Denis Veatkin (presented as a civic

activist, but, in fact, the presenter of the ‘Important’ show on TVC 21), referred to recent arms acquisitions and participation in NATO exercises, and linking them to the assumption that *‘everything is moving toward a certain escalation’*. *‘It is possible that Chisinau may also act from the position of force today. Thus, it could demonstrate to the left bank that, if necessary, we can reintegrate our country by force’*, he said.

The statements of Vitalii Ignatiev, the so-called foreign minister of the Transnistrian region, broadcast by Pervii Pridnestroskii, fall into the same category. According to him, the Republic of Moldova *‘is militarizing’*, and the United States, the European Peace Facility and NATO states are allegedly sponsoring the arming of Chisinau, including military equipment and attack drones. Even though the message does not contain a clear call for the idea of an imminent attack on the region on the left bank of the Nistru river, it portrays the Republic of Moldova as a militarized actor, armed from the outside and, therefore, potentially aggressive.

A similar narrative was echoed on the TCB channel by Vadim Cravciuc, the so-called MP of the Transnistrian region, who compared the Republic of Moldova with the Ukrainian scenario and claimed that the regime in Chisinau would act *‘according to the methodology once written for Ukraine’*. He also insists that *‘NATO troops are already moving on the territory of the Republic of Moldova’*, suggesting that rapprochement with the West inevitably precedes militarization, loss of sovereignty and war.

Boris Sapovalov, presented on the Moldova channel and on TV6 as a political scientist and historian, claims on both sources that neither the EU, nor NATO *‘needs Moldova’* as a real partner, but only as a *‘military training ground’* or as a *‘buffer state’* used in the confrontation with Russia. On TV6, he stated that the country is needed only *‘as a kind of military training ground, nothing more’*, and on the Moldova channel he reiterated the idea in similar terms, saying that Moldova is useful to the European Union only as a state that can be used *‘following the example of Ukraine, (...) to counter the Russian Federation’*. The statements of Alexei Lungu, the leader of the Sansa (en: Chance) party, follow the same idea: the Republic of Moldova is useful to Romania and the European Union as a buffer space, *‘to be as far away as possible from certain military actions and conflicts’*, and the EU would be *‘very happy’* that there are separate states, such as Moldova and Ukraine, where *‘military actions’* and even *‘military, chemical, biological experiments’* can take place.

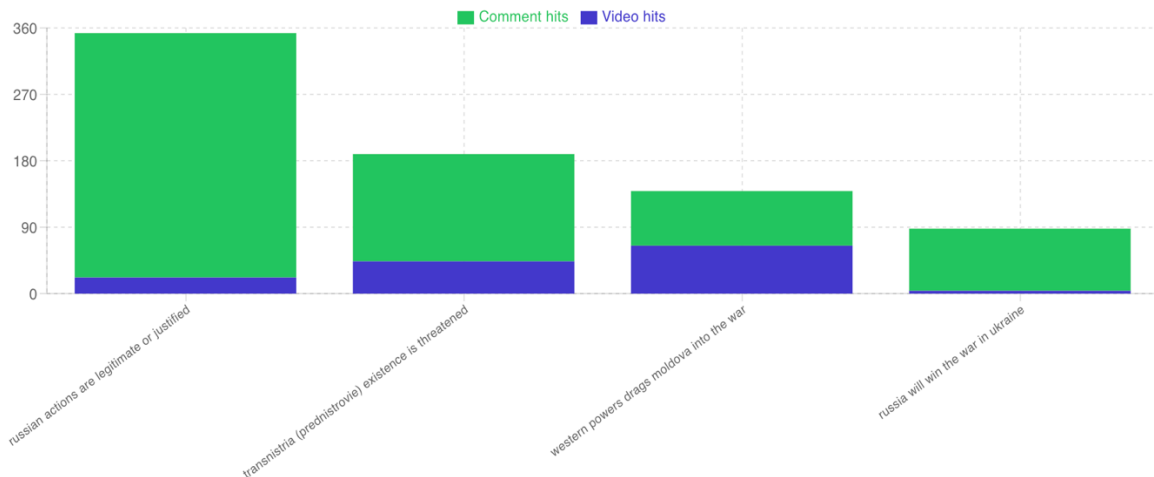
Also on the Moldova channel, the idea was shared that the authorities in Chisinau are deliberately abandoning social and economic priorities in order to integrate the country into a Western military project. Specifically, the presenter of a program stated, in the context of the Munich Security Conference, that President Maia Sandu is ready, in the name of the new European security architecture, to give up both the sovereignty and neutrality of the state, and

public resources would be redirected from the economy to defence. The conclusion is: *'Instead of butter, there will be cannons.'*

Two other subjects widely covered in the press in February are relevant to the monitored topics: the alleged clandestine construction of a weapons factory in the Republic of Moldova and the development plan for the Chisinau International Airport for the next 30 years and the possible development of the Marculesti airport. In the first case, among the accusations made by Vasile Costiuc against the ruling party, the leader of the Democratia Acasa (en: Democracy Home) party stated that, in this way, the Republic of Moldova and its citizens would have been transformed into a *'legitimate target'* for the Russian Federation and that the army would be fully brought up to NATO standards. As regards the Marculesti airport, the TV6/Canal 5 reporter stated that *'a number of experts'*, without naming specific sources, would claim that the reconstruction of the airports would make sense exclusively for military purposes, within the infrastructure created by the EU for a possible conflict with Russia by 2030. *'Eyewitnesses have repeatedly observed NATO military aircraft in the sky near Marculesti town,'* the source concluded.

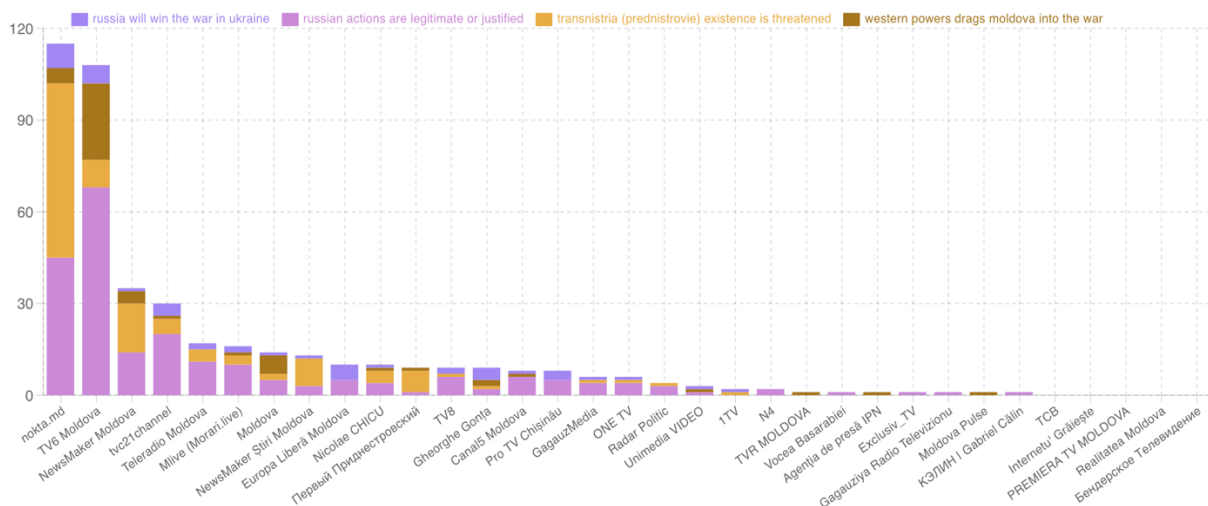
DOMINANT NARRATIVES IN THE COMMENTS

954 of the comments shared during the monitoring period distributed **at least one of the predefined narratives** within this monitoring, equivalent to 6% of the total number of comments placed during the month. Analysis of the ratio of cases identified in videos versus those in comments shows a continuation of the trend observed in [previous monitoring](#): comments play a significant role in the expansion and consolidation of disinformation on YouTube.



Video-comment ratio in the dissemination of narratives

The most problematic messages were identified in the comments left by users on the materials on the **Nokta.md** channel (115 cases), followed closely by **TV6 Moldova** (108 cases). In significantly smaller proportions, messages from the same register were also distributed under the videos of other channels.



Distribution of narratives identified in the comment sections of the analyzed channels

626 comments out of those analyzed included content that violates the platform's policies and is reportable according to YouTube standards, and will be reported/ moderated.

These include:

- hate speech;
- harassment and intimidation;
- offensive or abusive content;
- messages that incite violent, harmful or dangerous actions.

The main narratives promoted in these comments are pro-Russian, anti-Ukrainian, anti-EU and anti-NATO. The messages present Russia as a *'liberator'*, and the war against Ukraine is justified by references to alleged threats from the West and the idea of a criminal and illegal *'Nazi regime'* in Kiev. At the same time, explicit calls for violence against Ukrainians are transmitted, to which collective guilt as a society is attributed. As regards the Republic of Moldova, several comments convey the idea that our country is being pushed by the EU, the West and Maia Sandu towards war with Russia, and that the population of Moldova is to be transformed into *'cannon fodder'*. The leadership in Chisinau is labelled as a traitor, a Western puppet and responsible for an alleged *'sale'* of the country. At the same time, the European Union is described as an aggressive, corrupt and fascist project, being associated even with the Reich.

According to its [community rules](#), YouTube prohibits promotion of pornography, incitement to violence, harassment or hate speech, etc. on its platform. Comments that violate these provisions are to be reported through a combination of automated detection and manual reporting. At the same time, the [Code of Ethics of Journalists of Moldova](#) stipulates that ‘media institutions, in administering websites, as well as pages/accounts on social networks, do not allow and do not accept from the public, in reactions (comments), derogations from legal and ethical norms. To this end, media institutions properly moderate reactions/comments to media products’.

Dumnezeu care e mai bun si mai de nadejde nu va ajuta criminalii fascisti ai lui zelenschi...ei for fi spulberati de glorioasa armata rusa .

Россия освобождает Украину от криминального руководства которые затеяли уничтожение народа по сценарию Европы

Aroganța ukrainei depășește limitele normale de asta trebuie trimiși toți ukrainenii acasă și închise toate granițele in plus de nu mai permis armamentului să tranziteze ...așa trebuie de procedat cu imbecilii și cu aroganții...bine face Putin și Rusia.. Bravo lui Putin

Молдавию, Украину уже всю продали. Население должно пойти на убой в войне с Россией. Планы Гитлера никто не отменял. Евросоюзу (четвертному рейху) нужны земли на востоке и безземельные рабы

Молдова подписала с украиной договор о военно технической помощи , скоро молдован погонят умирать за зеленского

Да но не забудь што в Украине фашисты с жигали люди заживо в Одессе 2014 году а донбас забыл штоли Украину давно надо было стереть с лица земли там одни фашисты там за интерес запада погибают мирные люди

И впрямь , зачем Молдове АПК , плодородные земли , сады , виноградники , ухоженные поля !?? Лучше на них построить военные базы , полегоны , военные заводы , военные аэродромы , заодно переделаем все национальные трассы , МЖД , Джурджулешты у нас уже отобрали ! Все это по приказу ЕС и ближайших соседей ! Они готовятся к большой войне с Россией ! И им очень будут нужны патроны для гражданского огнестрельного оружия ! И все они это планируют сделать с мирной , нейтральной , маленькой Молдовой ! Сколько народ еще собирается терпеть и молчать , пока его тоже не сделают пушечным мясом !??? JOS , Sandu ! JOS , PAS ! ANTICIPATE !

Bravo! Acum asteptam urmatorul episod- despre M Sandu și echipa ei. ALTA TRĂDARE - de data asta pentru așa numiții prieteni din UE- FACTUALII RATAȚI (dacă i luăm la rând pe fiecare - toți, adică absolut toți au fost niște ratați în pozițiile precedente). Majoritatea au dosare deschise - corupție. Pe scurt- incompetenți, aroganți, hoți și mai bine-se îndreaptă cu mândrie spre al 4lea Reich prin atitudinea față de oamenii de rând. Dictatura în devenire. Deci aici vrea să ne aducă Sandu- o altă marionetă care de fapt deja a vândut țara și mai are puțin să ne bage și în război cu rușii de dragul stăpânilor de la Brussel, Paris și bineînțeles Londra. Da...vai de noi și de țărișoara noastră ... Așteptăm deci următorul episod

РОССИЯ не агрессор! РОССИЯ начала и ведёт сво с одной ЕДИНСТВЕННОЙ ЦЕЛЮ - ЗАЩИТИТЬ СВОИ ГРАНИЦЫ ОТ БЕССОВЕСТНО - НАГЛЕЮЩЕГО НАТО ! СОЗДАВАТЬ ВСЕ БОЛЬШЕЕ КОЛИЧЕСТВО СТРАН , ВХОДЯЩИХ В НАТО , РАЗМЕЩАЯ СВОИ ВОЕННЫЕ БАЗЫ ПО ВСЕМУ ПЕРИМЕТРУ РОССИИ! РОССИЯ ПРЕСЛЕДУЕТ В НАСТОЯЩЕЕ ВРЕМЯ ОДНУ ЦЕЛЬ - СОЗДАНИЕ ДОЛГОСРОЧНОГО МИРА В ДАННЫЙ МОМЕНТ - С УКРАИНОЙ . А ЭТО ВОЗМОЖНО ТОЛЬКО ПРИ СВЕРЖЕНИИ СЕГОДНЯШНЕГО КИЕВСКОГО НАЦИСТСКО - НЕОФАШИСТСКОГО БАНДЕРОВСКОГО РЕЖИМА !

что плохого в том, чтобы идти на фронт и убивать украинцев? если украинцы ведут себя вот таким образом: устраивают перевороты, финансируемые из заграницы, проводят государственную дискриминационную политику, читать книги на русском вон запретили, ведут гражданскую войну и убивают своих же граждан из за того, что они не того этнического происхождения и политических взглядов - почему бы не пойти на фронт и не убивать таких украинцев?! моет потому что конкретно этот молдованин и такие же как он молдоване хотели бы делать тоже самое в молдове?

Какие-то неумные обвиняют Россию, вроде - напала на Украину, а Россия борется против баз НАТО на Украине! Забыли, как по приказу Запада незаконные украинские приспешники бомбили мирный Донбасс?! Забыли про преступный политический майдан?! Забыли про сожженных в Доме профсоюзов в Одессе?! ПРИХОЖАНЕ! СПАСИБО за вашу борьбу и стойкость!

Selection of comments in their original form

CONCLUSIONS

The monitoring of the content distributed during February on 57 YouTube channels and in the comment sections shows of the platform that, **on the topic of war, it is less a space for direct expression of disinformation narratives and more a space for their indirect legitimation.** In the analyzed video materials, explicit formulations corresponding to the predefined narratives for this exercise were not identified, as a rule, but messages were repeatedly voiced that, in the case of the war in Ukraine, shift responsibility for the continuation of the war from the Russian Federation to Ukraine, European leaders and NATO. In the case of the Republic of Moldova and the Transnistrian region, these messages exploit speculative scenarios about militarization, loss of neutrality or transformation of the area into a ‘testing ground’. At the same time, problematic discourses are not limited to the conflict in Ukraine, but are adapted to the local context and to concerns related to the security of the Republic of Moldova.

The comments section remains the main space for the expansion and radicalization of narratives. Problematic messages were identified mainly in user comments, and a significant part of them represent content that can be reported to YouTube: hate speech, harassment, verbal abuse and incitement to violence. In the absence of effective moderation by both the platform and channel administrators, comment sections risk remaining a vulnerable space, with a direct impact on the quality of public debate.

This monitoring was made possible using the [disint.ai](#) platform developed by Society 22, which accessed YouTube’s public data: channels, videos, and comments. The processing, analysis, and interpretation of this data were carried out entirely by [disint.ai](#) and the Center for Independent Journalism and do not reflect YouTube’s position.