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## LIFE

Institution

All actors • Russia

## **Official position/function regarding the conflict**

The pro-Kremlin Internet tabloid the Life.ru media channel (until 2014 – LifeNews) was created in 2008 and belongs to the News Media holding of <u>Aram Gabrelyanov</u>. In 2013-2017, the <u>LIFE</u> TV channel was in operation, too. The channel became famous for its "innovative" approach to receiving news in the form of a payment system for receiving instant exclusive information, photos, or videos from the scene.

LIFE is one of the most active participants in the hatred campaign against Ukraine since the beginning of Euromaidan. It established itself as the main source for disseminating fakes, onesided and unverified information. Since the beginning of the conflict, LIFE journalists have supported the separatists, worked in Donbas on the part of Russian and separatist armed formations. The LIFE studio operates in ORDLO, and the WarGonzo group, one of its propagandist projects, is also stationed there.

## Actions regarding the conflict

Life.ru and the LifeNews TV channel have been repeatedly accused of calling for aggression against Ukraine, <u>supporting and glorifying separatists</u>, persecuting the opposition, manipulating facts, and using fakes. <u>On 17 July 2014</u>, LifeNews was the first to report on "a new victory of Donetsk militias" – the downing of MH17, which they initially mistook for the An-26 aircraft of the Ukrainian Air Force. Other examples of fakes are: "Voters in the Netherlands are hiding their faces, fearing revenge from Ukrainian radicals," "The former head of the internal troops said that there were foreign snipers on the Maidan," "The security forces allowed tourists in Ukraine to shoot at civilians," etc.