Telegram Infrastructure and How We Can Research It
be mindful of graphic content on Telegram before you research.

Mental health and other resources: dartcenter.org

DART CENTER FOR JOURNALISM & TRAUMA
A PROJECT OF COLUMBIA JOURNALISM SCHOOL
Get the correct version of Telegram: Telegram.org

Telegram for PC / Linux

Telegram for macOS
Telegram infrastructure basics

Types of entities on Telegram:

- Chat (one-on-one messages)
- Group chat (including public and semi-public group chats)
- Channel (one-way to audience, similar to Twitter. This can include private channels.)
- Bots

Channel is the most popular feature for US influencers, news outlets, officials.

Some channels may include features like reactions, comments, live streams. We will be looking at Channels primarily.
Telegram Bots

- Automated programs that run within Telegram
- Can be set up by anyone
- Frequently used to solicit comments or channel submissions
- Sometimes used as marketplaces, including illegal ones
- Sometimes used by bad actors
Public and semi-public chats

- Administered through direct invites or public links
- Sometimes invites can be generated by Telegram bots
- Check other social media – group chats used for coordination are sometimes promoted on Facebook, Twitter, Insta, Github, Reddit, etc.
- Can hold up to 200,000 members
- Come with an expectation of privacy, treat them like a semi-private space.
Public channels: Telegram’s newsfeed

Zelenskyy / Official
1,401,104 subscribers

Ukraine does not have time to wait. Freedom does not have time to wait. When tyranny launches aggression against everything that keeps peace in Europe, action must be taken immediately. It is necessary to act in a principled fashion. And the oil embargo should be the first step. At the level of all democracies, the whole civilized world. Then Russia will feel it. Then it will be an argument for them to seek peace, to stop pointless violence.

Мария Захарова
350,460 subscribers

Pinned message
Глава МИД Украины Кулеба призвал учёных всего мира расследовать... 4.2M 8:57 PM

Вопрос: неужели этого не понимают власти и спецслужбы стран, развязывающих и даже способствующих отъезду добровольцев, как та же Латвия. Пусть и не все, но кто-то обязательно вернётся. Неужели и тогда будут во всём винить не себя, а Москву?

Мария Захарова
356,623 subscribers

Pinned message #44
2Z hour has began  Hohols hide  4.2M 8:57 PM

МИД Франции объявил персонами нон грата ещё шестерых российских дипломатов.

А сразу всех не объявляют в надежде, что мы поймём что ли изменения? Не изменения. А МИДу Франции я скажу: если вы хоть раз за 8 лет уважили бы исполнение Киевом Минских соглашений даже с риском введения санкций, то добились бы мира и стабильности в Европе.

April 12

Мария Захарова
Немецкое минэкономики подготвляет законопроект, который предусматривает возможность в чрезвычайной ситуации национализировать энергоCOMPании, пишут местные издания

Думаю, это может стать темой обсуждения очередного «саммита демократий»: «Национализация энергоCOMPаний как важный признак либеральной экономики»

Intel Slava Z

Russian military of Chechen origin showed the base abandoned by the Ukrainian military, as well as trophies.

The whole world will be interested to know what exactly the American biolaboratories in Ukraine were doing - Peskov

Intel Slava Z
137.7K 12:06 PM
Uptake for new news outlets

The Washington Post
21,305 subscribers
Pinne d message
Welcome to The Washington Post's Telegram channel. We'll share live ne...

The New York Times
59,066 subscribers
Pinne d message
Welcome to the new Telegram channel from The New York Times. ...

The New York Times
Channel created
March 9
March 12

The New York Times
Welcome to the new Telegram channel from The New York Times. This
cchannel is devoted to our news coverage of the Russia-Ukraine

Nytimes
Live Coverage of Ukraine
Follow Live Coverage of Ukraine

Read the full story here.

Notifications
137 photos
23 videos
176 shared links
Leave channel
Report

Defense official: No evidence Russia destroyed S-300 air defense system

Russian forces carried out an airstrike on the international airport on the outskirts of the Ukrainian city of Dnipro, but there is "no evidence" suggesting that it destroyed an S-300 air defense system, a senior U.S. defense official said Monday.

The strike Sunday destroyed infrastructure at the airport, the official said, speaking on the condition of anonymity under ground rules set by the Pentagon.

Russian officials said they used Kalibr cruise missiles to carry out the strike on a hangar on the outskirts of Dnipro.

Russian officials have said they plan to invigorate their campaign to take out Ukrainian air defenses, which have partly survived despite weeks of Russian airstrikes and shelling.

The Pentagon is aware that Russia has stated that as a goal, but U.S. defense officials said they have not seen it follow through.

In other major developments:
Finding channels, users, groups, bots: Global search

Telegram (312940)
Not Rt News
2,048 subscribers

Telegram (312969)
RT News

Global search results
- rts_cze_vip_bot
  @rt_news_bot
- Ritschevo Serdobsk BOT
  @ritschevo_serdobsk_dream_rt
- RT News
  @rtnews_bot
- RT arabic
  @RT_ARABIC_bot
- RT noticias
  @RTnoticias_bot
- RT Tricks Bot
  @Koll_Celebration_Bot
- Roger Bot
  @botRT
- مصطفى كورد
  @RT_bot
- زاندنان طهريش
  @RTT_bot

Ukrainian troops to train in UK

Presidential candidate weighs in on anti-Russian sanctions
Channel discovery using advanced Google search

site:tel/* (donbass OR Kiev OR Ukraine OR 🇺🇦)

About 310,000 results (0.31 seconds)

https://t.me › MFARussia  
**Russian MFA 🇺🇦 — Telegram**

Apr 1, 2022 — During the time that the town has been under the control of the Russian armed forces, not a single local resident has suffered from any violent ...

https://t.me › OSINTUkraine  
**OSINT UKRAINE**

 фламеры з України запускаючи незначні, але успішні counter-attacks in several directions. Kharkiv, Donbass fronts ...

https://t.me › CyberpolUA  
**Contact @CyberpolUA - Telegram**

Офіційний Телеграм-канал Департаменту кберполіції 🇺🇦  Мі у фейсбуці

https://t.me › mvs_ukraine  
**MBC України**

Рекомендації розроблено МВС🇺🇦 у співпраці з UNICEF Ukraine. Зберігайте поради та обов’язково покажіть дітям! 59.9K views 12:29.
Channel discovery using advanced Twitter search

NAVstéva Z – a special military operation @Navsteva · Apr 10
Scott Ritter has been suspended again, and Gleb Bazov has been suspended for seven days. Here are their Telegrams -> t.me/realscottritter

Euromaidan Press @EuromaidanPress · 32m
In occupied Zaporizhia Obl., invaders search for men of conscription age & forcibly send them to military enlistment offices, form “people’s militia” units by intimidating police & their families - RegAdminstr
t.me/zoda_gov_ua/63...

GeB. 🇷🇺ôtel 🇺🇦@GerardBondeau · 1h
Y a de l’EAU des le GAZ (Russe ) c/o les #Européens
#Zelensky a refusé d’accueillir à #Kiev le président sous prétexte qu’il aurait des liens étroits avec la — Bild*
t.me/innederusla/1...
@Verhaeghe @CStrategies @edouardhusson @arpetta71 @GaveEmmanuelle @DIVIZIO1

Russians With Attitude @RWApodcast · Apr 4
There’s also an extended version of the same video where a wounded soldier is executed. You can find it on the Telegram channel “Voenacher” if you feel so inclined, although I recommend against it.

Anna de Russie
#Zelensky a refusé d’accueillir à Kiev le président allemand sous prétexte qu’il aurait des ...

t.me/...
Channel discovery using Facebook groups

UKRAINE

Ukrainians in North America

Search results

11 Mar - Hello, we are from Ukraine from the epicenter of events, we live in Kyiv now, together with a guy we created a group in a telegram and help our defenders who are now...

Filters

1 Mar - How to help relatives in Ukraine. Today there are several ways to transfer money to Ukraine: - from card to card by number; - SWIFT; - WesternUnion; - MoneyGram; - RIA; - PrivatMoney; - InteExpress; - Welsend; - Meest; - Sigue. PayPal is open for registration, but Ukrainians can only pay...

12 Mar - Humanitarian, financial, and informational help to Ukraine!!! Telegram: [https://t.me/helpukrainegroupe] FB:...
Finding channels: tgstat.com (use it last)
TG Stat is a great tool outside of search

Intel Slava Z

Intel slava is a Russian News aggregator who covers Conflicts/Geopolitics and urgent news from around the world.

Telegram Analytics

- 356 641 members
- ~131.6k avg post reach

TGStat Bot

- ~8.1m daily reach
- ~92 posts per day

TGAlertsBot

- 36.9% ERR %
- 367.03 citation index
Quick trick: Creating a newsfeed
Once you’ve built out the ecosystems you want, you can use the app as a mass search and archiving tool.
Zelensky says Ukraine takes 'as seriously as possible' an apparent threat of Russian chemical weapon use.

President Volodymyr Zelensky of Ukraine in his latest address seized on an apparent Russian threat to use chemical weapons against the remaining defenders of Mariupol, as they prepare for what he called a “new stage of terror against Ukraine.”

Mr. Zelensky’s comments came after Eduard Basurin, a spokesman for the Kremlin-backed separatist Donetsk People’s Republic, said on Russian television that Russia should bring in “chemical forces” to use in Mariupol, the besieged southern city.
Yes, Telegram keeps metadata. Infamously.

Head of the LNR posted a video about evacuation on the state news outlet, but the metadata shows that the file was created two days ago (Telegram retains metadata). Testing some other videos on the channel to see other creation dates, will post below.
The New York Times

Zelensky says Ukraine takes ‘as seriously as possible’ an apparent threat of Russian chemical weapon use.

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Referring to those remarks, Mr. Zelensky said in his latest video address, “We take this as seriously as possible.”

A Ukrainian unit in Mariupol claimed on social media that Russian invaders had used chemical weapons there and Lesia Vasilenko, a member of Ukraine’s Parliament, made a similar charge. Those reports could not be independently confirmed. Read more
Next: Telegram’s ecosystems and bulk data analysis.