

FEDERAL COUNSEL

August 20, 2019

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Honorable Ellen L. Weintraub
Federal Election Commission
1050 First Street, N.E.
Washington, D.C. 20463

RE: MUR 7271

Dear Ms. Weintraub,

I'm writing to respond to the complaint filed against me with the Federal Election Commission (FEC), which alleges violations of certain sections of the Federal Elections Campaign Act of 1971, findings which the FEC said were "exclusively based" on a *Politico* article that has since been debunked and was built on a narrative that top U.S. intelligence officials confirmed originated with the Russian Federation as part of a disinformation campaign.

I am submitting information to illustrate that the false accusations in the article are part of an ongoing character-assassination campaign that originated with a spokesperson of the Russian Federation's Foreign Ministry on November 30, 2016, which made its way to the White House with Paul Manafort's direct involvement, then to Matthew Whitaker as Director of the dark-money organization, Foundation for Accountability & Civic Trust (FACT), who filed this complaint against me and my company Chalupa & Associates at the direction of the White House, as was publicly reported.¹ This targeted harassment continues to be fueled today directly by Russian state-sponsored news outlets and Kremlin proxies.

As you will see below, I have been a direct target of Russia's ongoing active measures and a witness to the Kremlin's attack on U.S. democracy, which continues to impact me and my family.

Specifically, the complaint filed by FACT against me claiming violations of 52 U.S.C. Section 30121(a)(2) and 11 C.F.R. Section 110.20(g) are based on *false allegations* that: 1) "a top Ukrainian Embassy official, Oksana Shulyar, instructed embassy staff to help Chalupa research connections between Trump, Manafort, and Russia"; 2) "Ukrainian Embassy officials "were coordinating" an investigation on Manafort with Chalupa and "the Hillary team" and "worked very closely" with Chalupa"; 3) "Chalupa communicated with DNC officials about her work on Manafort and sought to share information about him with them." As will be explained below, this information is inaccurate and based on a source, Andrii Telizhenko, who was a disgruntled former mid-level employee, fired from the Embassy of Ukraine before the 2016 U.S.

¹ Waas, M. (n.d.). Matthew Whitaker: The Ethical Mire of Trump's Top Law Officer. Retrieved from <https://www.nybooks.com/daily/2019/01/15/matthew-whitaker-the-ethical-mire-of-trumps-top-law-officer/>

election, who then coordinated with members of the Trump Transition team to concoct this false narrative, and then coordinated with agents of the Russian Federation to promote it, in an effort to hurt his former employer and to help Paul Manafort and Donald Trump undermine and obstruct the Russia investigation, while targeting an American citizen who correctly warned early-on the Russian Federation was interfering in the 2016 U.S election. Information I shared with the DNC about Manafort was not obtained from any foreign government, but from my human rights and national security work with President Obama's Administration related to the Ukraine crisis well before Manafort joined the Trump campaign.

Here I address some key points and provide additional background for FEC Commissioners to consider when making a final ruling:

1. **Paul Manafort**

As the daughter and granddaughter of Ukrainian immigrants who was born and raised in northern California, I was introduced at an early age to the dangers of authoritarianism. My maternal grandparents were from eastern Ukraine and survived Stalin's man-made famine that killed millions of Ukrainians. My grandfather was a target of Stalin's purges, during which he was imprisoned and tortured for two years after being unjustly accused of being an enemy of the Soviet Union. Both sets of my grandparents fled Ukraine during World War II and were captured by German forces who took them to Nazi occupied Germany and forced them into slave labor, along with millions of others who fled eastern Europe. When my grandparents immigrated to the U.S. after the war, my maternal grandfather was a source for the FBI, sharing intelligence about the Soviet Union, including tactics used by the KGB and NKVD (the Soviet secret police prior to the KGB), and he contributed Congressional testimony as part of an investigation into Stalin's famine that killed millions.² The stories my grandparents shared with me taught me never to take democracy for granted and to always protect the freedoms we enjoy as Americans.

My extensive knowledge of Russian political warfare and Paul Manafort's long history of propping up Kremlin-backed candidates in Ukraine was accumulated from my independent research and volunteer work over the past six years and did not involve the help of any foreign government. Starting in late 2013, while a stay-at-home mom to three young girls, including a newborn, I volunteered my time and national security expertise to work with President Obama's White House and State Department to help the Administration navigate the developments of Ukraine's Revolution of Dignity and the human rights crisis that resulted in its aftermath when Russia invaded and illegally annexed Crimea. This included organizing multiple meetings with Ukraine experts and the National Security Council (NSC) and promoting State Department initiatives to combat Russian propaganda in the U.S. and abroad. At this time, through my independent research, Paul Manafort came on my radar, including his work on behalf of Putin in Ukraine, which was in direct conflict with the national security interests of the United States and our allies.

² Testimony of Oleksij Keis, in U.S. Congress and Commission on the Ukraine Famine, *Investigation of the Ukraine Famine, 1932-1933: Second Interim Report*, 22.

In early 2014, I reported my concerns about Manafort to the NSC, and was told that not only were they valid, but that Manafort's pro-Russian Federation work was much more extensive than known to the public. For example, in addition to propping-up Kremlin-backed politicians in Ukraine, Manafort's name was discovered all over documents retrieved from the bottom of a lake at the home of his former client, Ukraine's ousted president Victor Yanukovich, which were retrieved hours after the former leader fled to Moscow with tens of billions of dollars he stole from Ukraine. I was informed that Manafort advised Yanukovich throughout Ukraine's Revolution of Dignity, helped him escape to Russia, and that his work was perceived as very problematic by the U.S. government. I was also aware that Manafort failed to register with the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA).

My volunteer work then, which was important to U.S. national security as well as human rights and prodemocracy efforts, got the attention of Manafort, his pro-Russia Ukraine clients, and the Kremlin when it was leaked that I organized a meeting between heads of Ukrainian-American organizations and the NSC in early January 2014. During this meeting, the delegation of experts I connected the NSC with, requested that the White House order Magnitsky sanctions against Manafort's Ukrainian government clients who were involved in ordering police to beat peaceful Ukrainian student protestors on November 30, 2013. Putin perceives the Magnitsky Act as a great economic threat.³

It was also during this period, through conversations with Ukrainian-American leaders, Ukrainian civic leaders and journalists, as well as Canadian and American friends who lived in Kyiv, Ukraine, that I learned about Manafort's operation in Moscow where he frequently traveled while working for Kremlin-backed clients in Ukraine. At the time, anyone who paid attention to Manafort knew well he worked for Putin's interests. I discovered that Manafort's activities were well-known in the Ukrainian Diaspora. This was not a secret; many understood that it posed a major national security concern for the U.S. There are even news reports that President George W. Bush's NSC had issues with Manafort's Kremlin-linked work in Ukraine, which interfered with the Bush Administration's policies.⁴

In 2015, while a part time consultant at the DNC overseeing the Democratic Party's ethnic engagement program, I also engaged in a variety of volunteer work. This included serving as a Girl Scout troop leader, volunteering at my children's schools, and organizing multiple White House briefings with a diversity of American ethnic leaders, including meetings focused on national security, immigration, and refugee issues. I was also the lead volunteer organizer of the White House's annual June Immigrant Heritage Month summit celebrating

³ Kara-Murza, V. (2018, July 20). What's really behind Putin's obsession with the Magnitsky Act. Retrieved from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/democracy-post/wp/2018/07/20/whats-really-behind-putins-obsession-with-the-magnitsky-act/>

⁴ Meier, B. (2008, June 12). Lawmakers Seek to Close Foreign Lobbyist Loopholes. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2008/06/12/washington/12agent.html>

America's diversity. The American ethnic leaders I worked with included experts on foreign policy on Europe, the Middle East, Africa, and Asia, and provided me with a unique understanding of Vladimir Putin's increased aggressions toward western democracies. At the same time, I also volunteered to occasionally connect Members of Congress and the White House with Ukrainian civic leaders to discuss human rights issues, including the impact of Russia's ongoing war in Ukraine that left over two million displaced people and its effect on U.S. national security. I learned through these collective meetings and friendships that Manafort continued to work on behalf of Russia's interests in Ukraine, even after many of his former clients had fled to Moscow, and despite the strong bipartisan U.S. support for Ukraine's new pro-western government. This was well before Manafort joined Donald Trump's presidential campaign.

Before 2016, there was almost no recent press about Manafort; he operated in the shadows. However, having poured over articles published in the 1980s about his lobbying work, including his first Congressional investigation for a Housing and Urban Development scam that cost American taxpayers more than \$40 million,⁵ I learned about his network of associates, which included his former lobbying partner Roger Stone and the work they conducted together for Donald Trump. I was also aware of Trump's business dealings with Russians, including his Miss Universe Pageant in Moscow that took place in November 2013, which was around the time when massive protests in Ukraine first started. Like many who were aware of Manafort's work, I knew that Putin's close friend and associate, Russian oligarch Oleg Deripaska, was one of Manafort's top financiers. Some Ukrainian civic leaders and journalists also informed me that it was believed Manafort received a generous cut of the tens of billions of dollars Yanukovich's regime stole from Ukraine. Again, this is the knowledge I had before Manafort joined the Trump campaign.

Months after Donald Trump announced his candidacy for president of the United States and consistently praised Putin, I grew alarmed and began warning both Republicans and Democrats that I believed Putin was interfering in the 2016 U.S. election, and if I was correct, Paul Manafort was involved. I even told this to an Executive of the DNC in early 2016. Weeks later, the *New York Times* reported that Paul Manafort joined the Trump campaign. None of this information was provided from a foreign government nor was it obtained in the capacity of my Democratic Party work.

2. **DNC Part-Time Consultancy**

Early in the 2016 presidential election cycle, I transitioned from being a stay-at-home mom to a part-time consultant at the DNC, working as part of the Community Engagement team. I was responsible for developing and overseeing the national party's ethnic engagement program, working with first, second, third generation Americans who strongly identified

⁵ GOP Consultant Admits Using Influence to Obtain HUD Grant but Defends Action. (1989, June 21). Retrieved from <https://www.latimes.com/archives/la-xpm-1989-06-21-mn-2408-story.html>

with their familial heritages. I never performed Russia or Manafort related research for the DNC, that was not part of my contract nor asked of me. My responsibilities included developing and running a program of organizing ethnic engagement events and building leadership coalitions in 14 states; hosting national meetings at the DNC; writing talking points and speeches; writing briefings for party officials; issuing rapid response statements; building an ethnic youth program; developing an ethnic engagement finance program; helping with Democratic primary debates; preparing for the Democratic National Convention; and encouraging ethnic leaders to write and publish opinion pieces sharing their families' personal immigration stories and celebrating their shared values as Americans.

When it was announced that Manafort joined the campaign, I sounded the alarm bells of the significance of his hire, including his long history of influence peddling for Putin in Ukraine. This was not information obtained from a foreign government but rather information I learned the years prior in the capacity of working with the White House, the State Department, and Congress on Ukrainian human rights issues and U.S. national security, as explained above. I was moved to warn Americans out of a sense of duty to our country and was one of the earliest to see clearly that Putin was attacking America's democracy through political hybrid warfare, of which Manafort was key. I identified a similar pattern of conduct that I had witnessed executed by Manafort in Ukraine that was used in the 2016 U.S. election. No one instructed me to warn of this serious threat; I did so in my personal capacity and not for a moment did I view that doing so was a partisan issue, but rather was purely out of national security interests.

I warned American ethnic leaders, Members of Congress, the White House, Republicans, Democrats, journalists, Many did not listen. It turned out, I was 100% correct to be alarmed, as Special Counsel Mueller's report and Congressional testimony made clear.

As an American, it was my duty to warn. After 9/11, which took the lives of three of my husband's classmates from Brown University, the U.S. government instructed Americans that if we "see something, say something." I saw something and said something during the 2016 U.S. election, and I was heavily retaliated for it as a result by both the Kremlin and the Trump White House.

What was not known to me nor the DNC at the time when I first cautioned the Committee about Manafort's presence on the Trump campaign, was that Russian intelligence was in the DNC servers monitoring our communications. In fact, when the massive security breach was discovered, for weeks after I warned the DNC and others, including a veteran journalist, that understanding how Manafort and the Russian government operated, the DNC emails were stolen and would be released at the Convention to cause the most possible chaos. The DNC told me that the cyber security firm it hired, CrowdStrike, did not believe any emails were stolen. Unfortunately, I was correct. When Wikileaks did publish the emails, including some of mine, I gave the DNC my one-week resignation notice. It was at this time that I learned, first from a journalist, and then weeks later from DNC Chairwoman Donna Brazile,

that when Russian intelligence was in the DNC servers, the GRU (Russian military intelligence) targeted me and three others the most aggressively.

My personal iPhone, email account, and laptop were also targeted by state-sponsored cyber-actors as was reported in the press in 2016. Yahoo's then Cybersecurity Chief Bob Lord confirmed to me and to the press that my Yahoo account received the most serious level state-sponsored attacks.^{6 7} The weeks leading up to the Democratic National Convention, I also experienced a wave of consistent harassment at my home, including car break-ins; a young woman wearing a Ukrainian-looking flower headpiece who appeared in my backyard at 1:30 AM and attempted to break into my home; and another young woman who cased my home for weeks. A song was put on my iPhone's personal music library, which was by the European death heavy metal band Avatar, called 'Regret' which is about a mother owl who was too curious for her own good and had her wing clipped by a predator in the middle of the night, and laid dying on the ground with regret, unable to get back to her nest of three little eggs. As a mother of three little girls, I perceived this as a death threat, especially since the song appeared the same early morning as my DNC colleague, Seth Rich, was murdered; he was one of the other three the GRU most aggressively targeted during the DNC cyber breach.

I reported some of these concerns to the DNC in the early summer of 2016, before the Convention and before I quit my contract. While one DNC executive suggested and offered to connect me with the FBI Special Agent investigating Russia's cyber-attack on the Committee, the DNC's General Counsel Marc Elias blocked me from speaking to their FBI contact. I also informed federal law enforcement about this, which seemed to puzzle the federal agents I spoke with.

The false accusations in the *Politico* article maliciously claiming that I worked with the Hillary campaign and the Embassy of Ukraine to undermine Trump's candidacy make no

⁶ Yahoo News. (2016, October 24). 16 people who shaped the 2016 election: Alexandra Chalupa. Retrieved from <https://www.yahoo.com/news/16-people-who-shaped-the-2016-election-alexandra-chalupa-171541199.html>

⁷ Isikoff, M. (2016, July 25). Exclusive: Suspected Russian hack of DNC widens - includes personal email of staffer researching Manafort. Retrieved from <https://www.yahoo.com/news/exclusive-hacked-emails-of-dnc-oppo-researcher-point-to-russians-and-wider-penetration-154121061.html>

sense given that Perkins Coie partner Marc Elias, who served as both the general counsel for the Hillary campaign and DNC, was involved with overseeing millions in funding for a private research initiative that resulted in the infamous Steele Dossier, which highlighted credible information about the Trump campaign's Russia connections. I was not aware of this at the time nor involved. But it speaks further to how preposterous the *Politico* article's false allegations are in light of this information that has since become public. I also never worked for the Hillary campaign, which Andrii Telizhenko continues to falsely state.

3. **The Embassy of Ukraine**

I never asked the Embassy of Ukraine for documents or research on Donald Trump or his senior campaign official Paul Manafort. No representative of the Embassy of Ukraine provided such documentation or research. As I stated in my initial response to the FEC, that allegation is false. I had extensive knowledge about Manafort's pro-Putin work in Ukraine from non-political volunteer work when helping the Obama Administration during Ukraine's Revolution of Dignity, which was obtained before Trump announced his run for President.

A. Media Failed to Pay Attention to a National Security Threat Impacting the Election

Within days of the news reports that Paul Manafort joined the Trump campaign, the DNC Communications Director asked me whether I could see if the President of Ukraine, Petro Poroshenko, would be willing to take a question from a television reporter about Paul Manafort working in Ukraine. The Ukrainian government declined. The only mainstream interview the President of Ukraine conducted during his visit to Washington, D.C. that week was with *Fox News* and he was never asked about Manafort. Also, the DNC Communications Director Luis Miranda, who had previously worked at the White House and was aware of the national security implications of Manafort's work for pro-Putin clients from our communications in 2014, understood the threat Manafort's involvement in the U.S. election posed to America's democracy and national security.

Most media reports about Manafort joining the Trump campaign brushed over his work influence peddling for Putin in Ukraine, despite that this was publicly known at the time and a national security threat. The articles available prior to the 2016 election included the *Wall Street Journal's* Mary Jacoby and Glenn Simpson reporting on May 14, 2008, '*McCain Consultant Is Tied to Work for Ukraine Party,*' in which they described how the lobbying firm of Davis Manafort Inc., was hired to "burnish the U.S. image of a Ukrainian political party backed by Russian leader Vladimir Putin, according to documents filed with the Justice Department."⁸ On March 5, 2014, Alexander Burns and Maggie Haberman reported for *Politico* an expose on Manafort, '*Mystery Man: Ukraine's U.S. Fixer,*' how Manafort,

⁸ Jacoby, M., & Simpson, G. R. (2008, May 15). McCain Consultant Is Tied To Work for Ukraine Party. Retrieved from <https://www.wsj.com/articles/SB121072447597990171>

“the notorious political fixer emerged overseas, playing a familiar role in an unfamiliar place: advising Yanukovich, the pro-Russian strongman whose ouster last month has triggered an international crisis reminiscent of a Cold War spy novel.”⁹ Despite this publicly available information, most media outlets either underreported Manafort’s work in Ukraine or gave him a platform to misrepresent his work, as most notably seen when *Meet the Press* host Chuck Todd secured the first sit-down with Manafort as a senior representative of the Trump campaign on April 10, 2016. When Todd asked Manafort about his work in Ukraine, Manafort lied and said, “Well, the work I was doing in Ukraine was to help Ukraine get into Europe, and we succeeded. But I’m not working for any clients right now other than Mr. Trump.”¹⁰ Todd accepted him at his word, failing to challenge Manafort’s disinformation, despite that it was well documented that Manafort’s former Ukraine presidential client did not move his country toward the EU but instead tried to move it more politically aligned with the interests of Russia, which is what sparked months of protests that ousted him. Manafort’s Ukraine-related work for Putin’s interests and his relationship with Kremlin-linked oligarchs and proxies was at the heart of Special Counsel’s Russia investigation.¹¹

Many who understood Manafort’s work to help the Kremlin were alarmed that the media failed to properly cover this national security threat that an established influence peddler for Putin was working on a U.S. presidential race for a candidate consistently praising Putin and who had strong Russia business ties. Instead, the media branded him as a political Convention expert. Had this information been properly reported early on, resulting in Manafort’s quick departure from the Trump campaign, it would have drastically weakened Putin’s ability to attack the U.S. 2016 election, which would have helped all Americans on both sides of the aisle as a matter of national security. For example, Donald Trump, Jr. may never have been involved in the infamous Trump Tower meeting in June 2016 with Kremlin-linked agents, which Manafort, a seasoned political operative knew was illegal coordination and provided Manafort with compromising information over the candidate’s son and son-in-law. Another example is that Manafort would have been unable to share Trump campaign polling data targeting key battle ground states with a Putin-linked Russian oligarch, which was confirmed by Special Counsel Mueller’s investigation.¹² Again, this was not a political issue but rather a matter of U.S. national security.

⁹ Burns, A., & Haberman, M. (2014, March 05). Mystery man: Ukraine's U.S. fixer. Retrieved from <https://www.politico.com/story/2014/03/paul-manafort-ukraine-104263>

¹⁰ Meet the Press - April 10, 2016. (2016, April 10). Retrieved from <https://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press/meet-press-april-10-2016-n553716>

¹¹ Relman, E. (2018, September 14). Former Trump campaign chairman Paul Manafort has just become a cooperating witness in the Mueller probe - here's what you need to know about him. Retrieved from <https://www.businessinsider.com/who-is-paul-manafort-and-why-is-he-at-the-center-of-the-trump-russia-probe-2017-3>

¹² Voreacos, D., & Baker, S. (2019, April 19). Why Did Manafort Share Trump Polling? Mueller Leaves Clues. Retrieved from <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-04-24/manafort-kilimnik-polling>

B. False Accusations that the Ukrainian Embassy Provided Opposition Research

The *Politico* article mentioned that I met with Oksana Shulyar of the Embassy of Ukraine at a coffee shop called Café Leopold in Georgetown but failed to mention the reason for my meeting. As I explained to the article's author Ken Vogel when he called me about the story, the meeting had nothing to do with the DNC. Shulyar and I, as well another Ukrainian-American friend of ours, were organizing a cultural event hosted at the Embassy called 'House of Ukraine.' It was a Women's June Immigrant Heritage month reception celebrating Ukrainian food, culture, history, and honored Ukrainian-American Melanne Verveer, the first-ever U.S. Ambassador of Global Women's Issues, who discussed her new women's leadership book at the event. During this meeting at the cafe, which was strictly in my personal capacity and not as a representative of the DNC, I mentioned to Shulyar that an acquaintance of mine, *Yahoo News* journalist Michael Isikoff was working on a story on Paul Manafort and was interested in speaking to someone at the Embassy of Ukraine for his story. Shulyar told me that the Embassy had received a lot of calls from journalists about Manafort, but they were not comfortable speaking to reporters they did not know, and that they had no information to share regarding Manafort, and that a journalist they had a relationship with already called them about a related story he was working on. It is worth noting that Isikoff and the Clintons viewed one another unfavorably; he is the journalist credited with breaking the Monica Lewinsky story and wrote the book *Uncovering the Clintons*.¹³

Toward the end of our meeting, Shulyar asked me to meet her colleague, a midlevel, communications staffer Andrii Telizhenko who she explained would be a secondary contact for the cultural event we were organizing and helping with the communications portion of it. I had never heard of Telizhenko before this meeting. During the course of the meeting with Telizhenko to discuss the event, which was less than twenty minutes long, and the only time I recall ever speaking with him or seeing him in person, he mentioned that he spoke to a journalist about a story on Trump and Russia, the same one Shulyar referred to earlier. The journalist was planning to hold the story until closer to the Republican Convention, which was four months away. When I circled back to Michael Isikoff telling him that the Embassy would not speak with him and that some other journalist whose name I was not provided was already working on a story but holding it, Isikoff told me that made no sense because journalists do not wait to hold important stories. I did not share this information with the DNC. There is no indication that Telizhenko was being honest about speaking with such a journalist or that the journalist he claimed to speak with ever published the story. It could very well have been a tactic to try to prevent me from exposing Manafort, since I posted on Facebook well before that meeting, calling for Congress to investigate Manafort and warning that it was a dangerous sign that he was involved in the 2016 U.S. election.

¹³ Isikoff, M. (1999, March 30). *Uncovering Clinton: A Reporter's Story*. Retrieved from <https://www.amazon.com/Uncovering-Clinton-Reporters-Michael-Isikoff/dp/0609603930>

What was unknown to me or Shulyar then, was that Telizhenko was setting up the ‘Ukraine collusion’ narrative based on the short encounter, while an employee of the Embassy of Ukraine. Telizhenko was fired from the Embassy months later, before the 2016 U.S. election, and sent back to Kyiv, Ukraine unemployed. After Trump won the election, he used that one encounter to conspire against the Ukrainian government, me, and the Hillary campaign with false accusations saying we worked together to undermine Donald Trump’s candidacy, which was untrue. Whether he was a mole for the Russian Federation, Manafort, or another Trump associate while at the Embassy of Ukraine is not something that I have been able to confirm. I initially assumed he was merely a disgruntled former employee or mentally unwell.

As will be discussed below, U.S. intelligence officials, including Trump’s former National Security Advisor H.R. McMaster, confirmed that the story Telizhenko helped plant in *Politico* was deemed Russian propaganda. However, if Telizhenko was a mole, it would not have been the first time the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington had such a security breach. While Manafort worked for President Yanukovich in Ukraine, there was a spy for Russia who worked at the Embassy and then was transferred to Kyiv as an interpreter for Ukraine’s President and Prime Minister. He was arrested by Ukraine’s Secret Service in 2017.¹⁴

I do know that after the 2016 U.S. election, Telizhenko claimed to work with “senior level” members of the Trump Transition team and their associates, to help develop the execution of this strategy and to promote the fabricated narrative he fueled in the *Politico* article. He worked with Russian foreign agents like *Sputnik* and *RT* to fuel the Kremlin-originated propaganda, as will be explained in the following section and in the attached addendum timeline, which I provided an earlier version to the House Judiciary Committee.

It appears from Telizhenko’s interview with *Sputnik*, he also falsely claimed that I was involved with the Steele Dossier and admitted that no credible person would listen to his unsubstantiated accusations against me, including those in the *Politico* article. Telizhenko, a foreigner, also publicly attacked the U.S. intelligence community as “incapable” on Twitter.¹⁵ However, Telizhenko continues to meet with at least one member of Trump’s inner circle; a few months ago he posted on Facebook a photo of himself with Trump’s personal lawyer Rudy Giuliani, during a period when Giuliani was publicly calling on Ukraine’s Prosecutor General to investigate interference in the 2016 U.S. election. In fact, Giuliani continues to

¹⁴ Harding, L. (2017, December 21). Ukrainian interpreter who visited May arrested on Russian spying charges. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2017/dec/21/ukrainian-interpreter-who-visited-theresa-may-arrested-russian-spying-charges>

¹⁵ Sputnik. (2018, September 26). Ukrainian Diplomat Reveals How Clinton Operatives Sought Dirt on Trump (WATCH). Retrieved from <https://sputniknews.com/analysis/201809261068369350-Ukrainian-Diplomat-Clinton-Operatives-Dirt-Trump/>

coordinate with Ukrainian officials to collect “dirt” on Trump’s opponents to be used in the 2020 election as *Buzzfeed* recently reported.¹⁶

Moreover, not only did the Embassy of Ukraine not provide me with research on Paul Manafort as the *Politico* article falsely stated, Shulyar, who is a Facebook friend of mine, read my social media posts about the harassment I experienced at home, and cautioned me that it was dangerous to draw attention to Manafort and that I was putting myself at personal risk. Her warning proved to be correct, as this document and the attached addendum illustrate.

4. “Ukraine Collusion” Kremlin Propaganda

once Trump secured the Electoral College vote, the Kremlin aimed its propaganda machine at me directly.

A few weeks after the election, a spokesperson for the Russian Federation Foreign Ministry held a press conference denying that Russia interfered in the U.S. election and scolded the government of Ukraine and accusing it of interfering in the 2016 U.S. election by exposing Paul Manafort’s corruption in Ukraine. A Ukrainian Anti-corruption agency based in Kyiv that works closely with the FBI, made public a black ledger showing Manafort hid millions in payments for his pro-Putin work he failed to disclose, which resulted in Manafort leaving the Trump campaign. This was the beginning of the “Ukraine collusion” strategy that was later reinforced by the *Politico* article. Ken Vogel and Julia Ioffe for *Politico* reported on December 1, 2016 in ‘*Russia Accuses Ukraine of Sabotaging Trump*’:

“A top Russian official is accusing the Ukrainian government of undermining Donald Trump’s presidential campaign by trashing him on social media and disseminating dirt on one of his close associates. A spokeswoman for Russia’s Foreign Ministry on Thursday contended that the Ukrainian government over the summer damaged Trump’s campaign by implicating his then-campaign chief Paul Manafort in a corruption scandal involving a pro-Russian Ukrainian political party funded by oligarchs.”¹⁷

¹⁶ Sallah, M. (2019, July 25). Two Unofficial US Operatives Reporting To Trump's Lawyer Privately Lobbied A Foreign Government In A Bid To Help The President Win In 2020. Retrieved from <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/mikesallah/rudy-giuliani-ukraine-trump-parnas-fruman>

¹⁷ Vogel, K. P., Ioffe, J., Bender, B., Hanna, A., Goldmacher, S., & Debenedetti, G. (2016, December 02). Russia accuses Ukraine of sabotaging Trump. Retrieved from <https://www.politico.com/story/2016/12/russia-ukraine-trump-manafort-232101>

A week later, in early December 2016, an American friend of mine alerted me that a former employee from the Embassy of Ukraine, who had moved back to Kyiv, Ukraine, months earlier after being fired from the Embassy, was visiting Washington, D.C., and asked her to meet with him. She told me that during their meeting he boasted to her that he attended a very senior level meeting with the Trump transition team and that I was the main topic of conversation. He told her that the Trump team was very interested in knowing “what Chalupa was up to” and that my friend could make good money in exchange for collecting information on me. She said she declined the offer but wanted to warn me. It was not until weeks later that she confirmed to me that individual was Andrii Telizhenko, whom she was friends with and did not want to get in trouble.

Days later, I began receiving threatening tweets from unfamiliar Twitter accounts saying things like, “You’re about to become famous soon and not in a way that you’ll like. Justice is coming.” That same day, an unfamiliar account began posting on my Facebook page links to dark websites with conspiracy theories about me, falsely accusing me of being a high level lobbyist for Ukraine, accusing me of working for the CIA, that I’m a neo-Nazi, and that I harbor child traffickers and Muslim terrorists, among other bizarre claims. My Gmail account was also compromised that day.

A couple weeks later, I received a cold call from Ken Vogel of *Politico*, who accused me of working with the Embassy of Ukraine to undermine Donald Trump and help Hillary Clinton. Vogel mentioned my meeting at Café Leopold. At the time of his call, I was in the process of writing a hundred-page report on how Putin attacked the U.S. election, which I provided to my counter-intelligence contact, and that highlighted Vogel’s reporting on Manafort, he was someone whose reporting I admired prior to that experience. I spent time explaining to Vogel that his information was not accurate, including information I highlighted above. However, in the early morning of January 11, 2017, less than 12 hours after *BuzzFeed* published the Steele Dossier the evening before, *Politico* published the inaccurate story, ‘*Ukraine’s Efforts to Sabotage Donald Trump.*’ I met with a law firm that day for advice, understanding how Manafort operated, that the article was meant to be weaponized against me through lawfare – a hybrid warfare tactic of using legal means to hurt an opponent. I also spoke to the DNC’s Communications team, which first told me that it thought the article made me “look good” and then assured me it was going to counter the disinformation but did not. I also published a public Facebook post correcting the record that same day, which *CNN* highlighted months later.¹⁸

¹⁸ Merica, D. (2017, July 14). First on CNN: Former DNC contractor denies working with Ukrainian officials. Retrieved from <https://www.cnn.com/2017/07/14/politics/dnc-contractor-ukraine-alexandra-chalupa-trump/index.html>

In the article, Vogel twisted my statements and took others out of context, and refused to include any of the facts I provided him, while he and his co-author in Kyiv, David Stern, pulled from FEC reports all the money I ever made working at the DNC, off-and-on over a ten-year period, and bundled these payments in their reporting, giving the illusion that I was paid hundreds of thousands of dollars to research Manafort, and despite that I told Vogel I was not asked to research Manafort for the DNC and explained to him my role overseeing ethnic engagement. The next day, the Republican National Committee promoted the story on its Facebook account and Twitter feed, focusing on my financial compensation to further support the false narrative. Vogel, through the act of doxing, scavenged through my personal Facebook page and found photos of me at my Women's June Immigrant Heritage Month at the Embassy of Ukraine, which he downloaded and tweeted out to support the false narrative of his story. The story gained little traction at the time, since it was overshadowed by *Buzzfeed* publishing the Steele Dossier the evening before.¹⁹

In early February, shortly after Donald Trump's Inauguration, Russian propaganda expert Julia Davis tweeted at me that Russian state-owned media in Moscow, Russia Channel 1, aired a segment accusing me of being the chief person causing Russia hysteria in the U.S. and discrediting Donald Trump. The Kremlin-funded news channel used a photo of my young daughters in the segment, which was obtained from my Facebook page, as well as a video clip of my sister. Over the following months, Lee Stranahan, who works for Russian funded *Sputnik* (which is registered under FARA as an agent of the Russian Federation)²⁰ and previously worked for Steve Bannon's *Breitbart*,²¹ harassed me on Twitter for weeks with a series of conspiracy videos he created which promoted the *Politico* story as well as other inaccurate information. Among his claims, he falsely accused me of being a secret agent for Ukraine; he falsely stated I traveled to Ukraine during the election to collect dirt on Paul Manafort; and he falsely connected me to people I don't know, including a Ukrainian oligarch. For the record, I have never been to Ukraine.

By June 2017, when this Russian propaganda harassment escalated, I met with senior staff of U.S. Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, who serves on the Senate Judiciary Committee, and told them I was concerned *Sputnik's* campaigns were meant to instruct someone on their Committee to investigate me for a FARA violation even though I have never worked for a foreign government. The Senator's office told me that would never happen based on the facts and that it was clear I had not violated FARA. A few weeks later, Senator Chuck

¹⁹ Bensinger, K. (2017, January 11). These Reports Allege Trump Has Deep Ties To Russia. Retrieved from <https://www.buzzfeednews.com/article/kenbensinger/these-reports-allege-trump-has-deep-ties-to-russia>

²⁰ Layne, N. (2018, February 18). U.S.-based Russian news outlet registers as foreign agent. Retrieved from <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-usa-trump-russia-propaganda/u-s-based-russian-news-outlet-registers-as-foreign-agent-idUSKCN1G201H>

²¹ Gray, R. (2017, April 06). From Breitbart to Sputnik. Retrieved from <https://www.theatlantic.com/politics/archive/2017/04/from-breitbart-to-sputnik/522051/>

Grassley, then-Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, wrote an open letter to the Department of Justice in late July calling for me to be investigated for violating FARA.²² *The Daily Caller* published the letter and at the time of Grassley's call for an investigation, one of his Committee staffers was Barbara Ledeen, a close friend of former General Michael Flynn, who co-wrote a book with Ledeen's husband. After my family incurred tens of thousands of dollars in legal fees as a result of this bogus investigation, the DOJ cleared me and determined that I did not violate FARA.²³

Starting in mid-July 2017, the White House revived the six-month old *Politico* story and launched a two-week public relations campaign directly targeting me by name. This included White House advisors tweeting and going after me on television, including Sarah Huckabee Sanders, Sebastian Gorka, and Kellyanne Conway, as well as their many surrogates, like Rep. Steve King. Almost every night during this period, Sean Hannity of *Fox News* aired my photo on his show and further fueled disinformation. On the 15th day of the White House's coordinated campaign targeting me and fueling the Ukraine collusion conspiracy based on the same *Politico* article, Donald Trump tweeted on at 6:03 AM on the 25 of July: "Ukraine efforts to sabotage Trump campaign – "quietly working to boost Clinton." So where is the investigation A.G. @seanhannity."²⁴

The Trump Administration was using a *Politico* story that members of its transition team appear to have helped plant months earlier, for several purposes: 1) to distract from the peak of the Russia investigation, including breaking news stories about Donald Trump, Jr., Jared Kushner, and Paul Manafort's secret meeting with proxies of the Russian government to discuss obtaining dirt on Hillary Clinton; 2) for Donald Trump to have an excuse not to sign the Russian sanctions bill that was being passed by Congress that week, which was made veto-proof, and which he made publicly known he was upset about after it passed;²⁵ and 3) as direct retaliation against me for sounding the alarm bells early on that Putin was interfering in the 2016 U.S. election and for trying to expose Manafort for his crimes against the U.S.

²² Ross, C. (2017, July 25). Senator Asks DOJ About Democrats' Work With Ukraine To Smear Trump Campaign. Retrieved from <https://dailycaller.com/2017/07/24/senator-asks-doj-about-democrats-work-with-ukraine-to-smear-trump-campaign/>

²³ Kirchgaessner, S. (2017, October 13). Flynn ally sought help from 'dark web' in covert Clinton email investigation. Retrieved from <https://www.theguardian.com/us-news/2017/oct/13/michael-flynn-clinton-email-investigation-russia-dark-web>

²⁴ Bump, P. (2017, July 25). Trump's Tuesday Twitter tirade, explained. Retrieved from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/politics/wp/2017/07/25/trumps-tuesday-twitter-tirade-explained/>

²⁵ Phillip, A. (2017, August 02). Trump signs what he calls seriously flawed bill imposing new sanctions on Russia. Retrieved from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/post-politics/wp/2017/08/02/trump-signs-bill-imposing-new-sanctions-on-russia-but-issues-a-statement-with-concerns/>

Ironically, on the exact two-year anniversary of Donald Trump’s tweet about the “Ukraine collusion” false narrative, on July 25, 2019, your Commission found reason to believe that I violated provisions of the Federal Elections Campaign Act, “based exclusively” on the same *Politico* article the president tweeted about, which is why the additional information below is important, most of which was not publicly made available until this past year:

- The U.S. Intelligence Community confirmed that the White House and Donald Trump were promoting Russian propaganda by pushing the *Politico* article and “Ukraine collusion” narrative. Bob Woodward wrote in his book *Fear* the following:

“On July 25th 2017...On the colonnade outside the Oval Office, McMaster spoke with Gary Cohn, the economic adviser, and Rob Porter, the White House staff secretary. McMaster said that at 6:03 a.m., Trump had tweeted “Ukraine efforts to sabotage Trump campaign, quietly working to boost Clinton. So where is the investigation, Attorney General?” It was clearly Russian propaganda, experts had concluded that, but the president had picked it up and shot it out. McMaster said he wasn’t sure how long he could stay.”²⁶

MSNBC’s Rachel Maddow interviewed Woodward about his book on MSNBC on September 11, 2018 and focused on the above passage. Maddow said:

“So, page 230 of the book, we learn that the National Security Council and the National Security Adviser to the president concluded last summer that the president had somehow “picked up Russian government propaganda” and started tweeting it to the American people. The national security adviser knew about it. He told for some reason the White House economic adviser and the White House staff secretary, and he told them that it was confirmed both by him and his shop and by intelligence experts that the president had obtained and was distributing Russian government propaganda. Oh! That seems like a story. How did the president get Russian propaganda?”²⁷

- Paul Manafort instructed the White House on how to discredit the Russia investigation, including by targeting the FBI, prosecutors, and me. This included pushing the Russian propaganda narrative that “Ukraine colluded” during the 2016

²⁶ WOODWARD, B. (2019). *FEAR: Trump in the White House*. S.I.: SIMON & SCHUSTER.

²⁷ DHS transferred funds from FEMA to ICE. TRANSCRIPT: 09/11/2018. The Rachel Maddow Show. (2018, September 11). Retrieved from <http://www.msnbc.com/transcripts/rachel-maddow-show/2018-09-11>

election via the same *Politico* article that Woodward wrote U.S. intelligence experts confirmed was Russian propaganda.

On December 14, 2018, veteran journalist Murray Waas reported for *Vox* in, 'Exclusive: Paul Manafort advised White House on how to attack and discredit investigation of President Trump', how Manafort directed the White House to use Russian propaganda to distract from the Russia investigation:

“Manafort advised administration officials in the spring and summer of 2017 on how to politically undermine the FBI and Mueller investigation in three ways, according to government records and interviews with three people with knowledge of the contacts. He also gave them advice on how some of the witnesses against both him and the president might be discredited. In short, Manafort and Trump were working together to discredit the investigators as well as potential witnesses.”

“Manafort counseled the White House to allege – albeit with no evidence to back up said charges – that the pro-Western Ukrainian government had colluded with the Democratic National Committee to try to help Hillary Clinton win the 2016 presidential election. A source with direct knowledge of the matter told me that the White House adopted Manafort’s recommendation in the summer of 2017 to specifically target Alexandra Chalupa, a political strategist and consultant for the DNC, for allegedly working with Ukrainian officials to hurt Trump’s candidacy. Despite a torrent of allegations, no evidence has surfaced that Chalupa or the DNC did anything wrong...”

“When Chalupa brought up Manafort with anyone at the DNC, they were largely disinterested, and in July 2016, she left her part-time consulting role at the DNC to work full time on her human rights advocacy. The DNC and the Clinton campaign have said that they were uninvolved with her efforts, and no evidence has surfaced to contradict that claim.”²⁸

Murray Waas of *Vox* was not the only journalist to report how Paul Manafort helped the White House to discredit the Russia investigation and attack his opponents. In fact, Ken Vogel for *Politico* was the first to break the story in late May 2017, before the White House executed Manafort’s plan publicly. However, Vogel buried his own story when the White House used his “Ukraine collusion” article less than two

²⁸ Waas, M. (2018, December 14). Exclusive: Paul Manafort advised White House on how to attack and discredit investigation of President Trump. Retrieved from <https://www.vox.com/2018/12/14/18140744/paul-manafort-trump-russia-mueller-investigation>

months later to attack me for two weeks. Rather than drawing attention to his article that Manafort was behind this strategy, on MSNBC and Twitter he fueled the White House's Russian propaganda narrative. Ken Vogel wrote for *Politico* on May 25, 2017 in 'Manafort Advised Trump Team on Russia Scandal' how in mid-January 2017, Manafort already had a plan to use the *Politico* article he helped plant to distract from the Russia investigation, which he spoke to RNC Chairman Reince Priebus about:

"On the day that the dossier came out in the press (January 10, 2017), Paul called Reince, as a responsible ally of the president would do, and said this story about me is garbage, and a bunch of the other stuff in there seems implausible," said a person close to Manafort..."

"While the people say the conversations were mostly of a political or, in some cases, personal nature, the conversation with Priebus, described by the four people familiar with it, was related to the scandal now consuming Manafort and the Trump presidency..."

"It suggests that Manafort recognized months ago the potentially serious problems posed by the investigation, even as Trump himself continues to publicly dismiss it as a politically motivated witch hunt while predicting it won't find anything compromising..."

"Manafort told Priebus that the dossier was tainted by inaccuracies and by the motivations of the people who initiated it, whom he alleged were Democratic activists and donors working in cahoots with Ukrainian government officials, according to the operative...."

"Manafort discussed with other Trump allies the possibility of launching a countervailing investigation into efforts by Ukrainian government officials who allegedly worked in conjunction with allies of Trump's Democratic rival Hillary Clinton to damage Trump's campaign, according to the operative. The operative added that Manafort saw such an investigation as a way to distract attention from the parallel FBI and congressional Russia probes."²⁹

²⁹ Vogel, K. P., Demko, P., Haberkorn, J., & Scher, B. (2017, May 25). Manafort advised Trump team on Russia scandal. Retrieved from <https://www.politico.com/story/2017/05/25/manafort-trump-russia-advise-238803>

- Matthew Whitaker, then the Executive Director of FACT, was instructed by the White House to file an FEC complaint against me and the DNC, and to take other actions to undermine the Russia investigation, which he a) failed to disclose to the DOJ Ethics officials, and b) misinformed Members of Congress about during his Congressional testimony.³⁰ It was reported that White House senior advisors, including members of the legal team, provided him with these instructions in 2017. During that time, the White House Counsel was Don McGahn, a former Chairman of the FEC who served in that capacity from 2008 to 2013.³¹ In an article for the *New York Review of Books* published on December 18, 2018, Maury Waas wrote in, ‘*Matthew Whitaker: The Ethnical Mire of Trump’s Top Law Officer*’:

“A Republican political operative involved in some of FACT’s earliest efforts told New York Magazine: “The whole thing just became a chop shop of fake ethics complaints...”

“The complaint against Chalupa and the DNC was extraordinary for another reason: one former Trump administration official and one current one told me that Whitaker made the filing only after the White House encouraged him to do so. As a CNN legal commentator and the head of FACT, Whitaker was one of the most high-profile and outspoken critics of Special Counsel Robert Mueller’s investigation. That caught the attention of President Trump. As a result, Whitaker was interviewed by then-White House Counsel Don McGahn and a second lawyer for the president about joining Trump’s legal team. Although Whitaker did not get the job, he and White House officials discussed how Whitaker might serve the president’s interests in a private capacity. They suggested specific arguments Whitaker could make in defense of the president. They encouraged him to attack Mueller relentlessly, and they identified other possible targets for him. Among them was Alexandra Chalupa—and not long after that discussion with White House officials, Whitaker filed his complaint against her and the DNC with the FEC...”

“In discussions with both the ethics officer and a group of Justice officials whom Whitaker selected to consider whether he should recuse himself, Whitaker never disclosed that while he headed FACT and worked as a CNN legal commentator, he had consulted with the White House about lines of attack against Mueller, according to a senior Justice Department official familiar with the

³⁰ Ballhaus, R., & Volz, D. (2019, February 26). House Investigators Probe Trump Contact With Matthew Whitaker. Retrieved from <https://www.wsj.com/articles/house-investigators-probe-trump-contact-with-matthew-whitaker-11551144842>

³¹ Retrieved from <https://www.fec.gov/about/leadership-and-structure/donald-f-mcgahn/>

matter. Neither did Whitaker inform them that he had filed his complaint against Chalupa and the DNC at the behest of the White House.

The senior official, fearing retaliation if he spoke publicly on the issue, told me that this “omission by Whitaker is a glaring one” and “a half-step away from being a lie by omission.” The official said that any Justice Department official, even the ones handpicked by Whitaker, would—in light of the Chalupa filing and his attacks on other political adversaries of the president at the behest of the White House—have advised that Whitaker needed to recuse himself from the special counsel’s investigation.”³²

- Senator Grassley, then Chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, filed a complaint against me with the DOJ accusing me of violating FARA.³³ Telizhenko implied through a Facebook comment on our common friend’s post that he knew in advance that Grassley was filing this complaint before I or the public were made aware. I have included a screenshot of his message in the attached addendum within the timeline. The DOJ cleared me and found no violation. Grassley’s Senate Judiciary Staffer Barbara Ledeen, who is close friends with Michael Flynn, was investigated and mentioned in Special Counsel Mueller’s report.³⁴
- Andrei Derkach, an independent Member of Parliament in Ukraine, who was once part of the pro-Russia party that Paul Manafort worked for, wrote an open letter to Ukraine’s Prosecutor General calling for me, Hillary Clinton, and the Embassy of Ukraine to be investigated. Derkach was trained by the KGB Academy in Moscow in the early 1990s and his father was a KGB officer.³⁵ I first learned that he was shopping around the story in mid-July from the Editor of *Fast Company* who said one of his freelance journalists was communicating with Derkach over a course of a few days. When the journalist asked Derkach if he spoke with Manafort or any of his American associates about his calls for an investigation, which was based on the same *Politico* story, the MP abruptly stopped communicating with the reporter. He began shopping the story shortly after Rudy Giuliani visited Ukraine, where Giuliani

³² Waas, M. (n.d.). Matthew Whitaker: The Ethical Mire of Trump's Top Law Officer. Retrieved from <https://www.nybooks.com/daily/2019/01/15/matthew-whitaker-the-ethical-mire-of-trumps-top-law-officer/>

³³ Ross, C. (2017, July 25). Senator Asks DOJ About Democrats' Work With Ukraine To Smear Trump Campaign. Retrieved from <https://dailycaller.com/2017/07/24/senator-asks-doj-about-democrats-work-with-ukraine-to-smear-trump-campaign/>

³⁴ Larson, E. (2019, April 18). Inside the Trump Campaign’s Frenzied Search for Clinton’s Emails. Retrieved from <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2019-04-18/mueller-report-trump-hillary-clinton-emails>

³⁵ Andriy Derkach. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://ukraine.mom-rsf.org/en/owners/individual-owners/detail/owner/owner/show/andriy-derkach/>

met with Ukraine's Prosecutor General and other high level government officials.³⁶ Giuliani has several Ukrainian Kremlin-backed clients, including politicians tied to organized crime.³⁷ David Stern, who co-wrote the original "Ukraine collusion" story with Ken Vogel for *Politico*, wrote on August 16, 2017 in 'Ukraine MP Seeks Probe of Ukraine-Clinton Ties' that the day before Trump tweeted promoting the *Politico* article Russian propaganda, Derkach sent a letter calling for an investigation:

"In a July 24 letter to Ukraine's prosecutor general, Andrei Derkach, an independent MP who was formerly aligned with a pro-Russian party, requested that authorities launch a pretrial investigation into "illegal interference in the election of President of the United States organized by a criminal organization." This organization, he said, consisted of senior members of the country's National Anti-Corruption Bureau, government officials, and other public figures.

*Derkach's accusations center around reports, first published in POLITICO in January, that Ukrainian politicians and diplomats may have cooperated with people connected to the Democratic National Committee to hamper Donald Trump's candidacy and bolster Hillary Clinton's presidential bid. The key figure involved has denied any coordination with the DNC. Interest in these claims gained new life after a tweet by President Trump on July 25, in which he called on the US attorney general's office to investigate "Ukrainian efforts to sabotage the Trump campaign."*³⁸

- Louis Mensch, the former British MP who worked for Robert Murdoch and has contacts to some of Steve Bannon's top associates, and was once considered a reliable source on the Russia probe as a leader in the "Resistance," launched more than a dozen disinformation warfare campaigns targeted at me, including during the same period when the White House was pushing the "Ukraine collusion" narrative. However, Mensch was misinforming her large Twitter following by planting false stories saying that

³⁶ (2017, 8 of August). Retrieved from <https://pinchukfund.org/en/news/16611/>

³⁷ Aslund, A. and Carpenter, M. Retrieved from https://twitter.com/anders_aslund/status/1127325006545997824 and <https://twitter.com/mikercarpenter/status/1126889115411075073?lang=en>

³⁸ Stern, D., Samuelsohn, D., Dawsey, J., Dawsey, J., & Samuelsohn, D. (2017, August 16). Ukrainian MP seeks probe of Ukraine-Clinton ties. Retrieved from <https://www.politico.com/story/2017/08/16/ukraine-andrei-derkach-clinton-investigation-241704>

I worked for Russian military intelligence and was a mole in the DNC.³⁹ During this period, she and her followers urged U.S. Judiciary Committee and Senate Intelligence Members to investigate me for working for the Russian Federation. Shortly after, I received a letter from the U.S. Senate Intelligence asking me to testify and to provide information about my contacts with Russian officials during the 2016 U.S. election, of which I had none. But this still caused me tens of thousands of dollars in legal fees to defend against.

- Devin Nunes, as Chairman of the House Intelligence Committee wrote an open letter for me and more than a dozen others to be investigated in public hearings by other House oversight committees in the Russia probe.⁴⁰ He rolled out this list in July 2018, as well as two others – one of State Department officials and another with DOJ and FBI officials – days before Donald Trump’s meeting with Vladimir Putin in Helsinki.⁴¹ For those of us on these public target lists, it was considered a direct threat and intimidation tactic. As has been reported, Putin and Trump discussed Americans during their meeting who Putin considers a threat to his regime.⁴² The House Committees never called me to testify before the 2018 midterms elections, though I would have been very happy to speak about my knowledge of Paul Manafort and Russia’s hybrid warfare against the U.S.
- There are countless other examples of this type of targeting that originated from Russian propaganda that led to a *Politico* article, using as its source a disgruntled Ukrainian Embassy mid-level staffer, who was fired but who continues to coordinate with Giuliani and Russian-sponsored media. I have attached an addendum that includes a timeline of this information with screenshots and additional links to support this information.

³⁹ Mensch, L. (2017, July 26). Alexandra Chalupa will be answering many questions to the FBI. "The Protectors" and anonymous my arse. We are taking RIS. Retrieved from <https://twitter.com/louisemensch/status/890185031628472322?lang=en>

⁴⁰ Ross, C. (2018, July 05). Nunes Calls For Hearings For 15 Connected To Anti-Trump Opposition Research Efforts. Retrieved from <https://dailycaller.com/2018/07/05/nunes-hearings-anti-trump/>

⁴¹ Carlson, J. (2019, April 22). The Nunes List – Forty-Two Names Referred & Growing. Retrieved from <https://themarketwork.com/2018/07/06/the-nunes-list-forty-two-names-referred-growing/>

⁴² Schmidt, S. (2018, July 18). Outrage erupts over Trump-Putin ‘conversation’ about letting Russia interrogate ex-U.S. diplomat Michael McFaul. Retrieved from <https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/morning-mix/wp/2018/07/19/trump-putin-conversation-about-russian-interrogation-of-u-s-diplomat-prompts-outrage-astonishment/>

This includes a book called *Spygate*, which Donald Trump has tweeted about multiple times since his Helsinki meeting with Putin; its first chapter starts with me and Manafort.⁴³ Earlier this year, *Sputnik* tweeted at me saying that I was to blame for Paul Manafort being a “political prisoner.” After Attorney General William Barr released a four-page letter that confused the public about the significance of the findings of Special Counsel Mueller’s report, Giuliani began coordinating with Ukraine’s Prosecutor General to collect “dirt” on me and Vice President Biden.⁴⁴ Ken Vogel, who now works for the *New York Times*, reported about this and tweeted that Giuliani was coordinating this strategy with Paul Manafort from prison through Manafort’s lawyer. A friend of Manafort and Sean Hannity, John Solomon, wrote a hit piece for *The Hill* pushing the false ‘Ukraine collusion’ narrative, and which he then discussed on Sean Hannity’s show. Hannity called for Barr to investigate me. The info above is also highlighted in the addendum.

More recently, Oliver Stone, who is a close associate of Putin’s and promoted Kremlin propaganda through his most recent film projects, released a documentary called *Revealing Ukraine*, which premiered in Sicily on July 4, 2019, and includes interviews with Putin and his top associates who provide disinformation about Ukraine’s Revolution of Dignity. The documentary targets me, Hillary Clinton, and former Vice President Biden. It includes an interview with Lee Stranahan of *Sputnik* and devotes about ten minutes to pushing the Ukraine collusion story based on the same *Politico* article. While I did not participate in the documentary, I learned about it when its director Igor Lopatonok began harassing me on Twitter with threats saying I’m going to be subpoenaed. For the film, he used photos of me he obtained through doxing my social media accounts. The Daily Beast’s Pierre Vaux reviewed the documentary in ‘*Oliver Stone’s Latest Piece of Pro-Putin Propaganda May Be His Most Shameless Move Yet*,’ and described “A new “documentary” sees Putin lackey Oliver Stone turn his lens on Putin as well as one of the Russian president’s Ukrainian businessman-pals.” The Russian oligarchs highlighted in the film include Manafort’s former clients.⁴⁵

⁴³ Bongino, D., McAllister, D. C., & Palumbo, M. (2018). *Spygate: The attempted sabotage of Donald J. Trump*. Nashville, TN: Post Hill Press.

⁴⁴ Vogel, K. P. (2019, May 11). Rudy Giuliani Cancels His Trip to Ukraine, Blaming Democrats' 'Spin'. Retrieved from <https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/11/us/politics/rudy-giuliani-ukraine.html>

⁴⁵ Vaux, P. (2019, July 14). Oliver Stone's Latest Piece of Pro-Putin Propaganda May Be His Most Shameless Move Yet. Retrieved from <https://www.thedailybeast.com/revealing-ukraine-oliver-stones-latest-piece-of-pro-putin-propaganda-may-be-his-most-shameless-move-yet>

The state-sponsored hacking attempts continue regularly on my personal email; the most recent one was last week. My iPhone has also been compromised multiple times since the election and had to be replaced.

I request that the FEC Commissioners take into consideration this information and the attached supporting document. The ‘Ukraine collusion’ narrative that is the basis of the *Politico* article, has been confirmed by top U.S. intelligence experts to be Kremlin propaganda, including by Trump’s own former National Security Advisor H.R. McMaster. The *Politico* article was planted by bad actors, coordinating with a foreigner, who used it to distract from an investigation centered on them and to retaliate against me for trying to warn that Russia was attacking the 2016 U.S. election, an attack that Special Counsel Mueller’s two-year investigation confirmed was “severe.” The main source for the article, which the FEC quoted, is a disgruntled former mid-level Embassy of Ukraine staffer who was fired before the election, and who coordinates with Donald Trump’s associates and registered agents of the Russian Federation, including *Sputnik*. He is not credible and has never been able to back up his claims. Furthermore, I did not ask any foreign government for information on Paul Manafort or Donald Trump, nor did I need to. I had enough information on their Russia connections and Putin’s hybrid warfare tactics from my human rights and national security volunteer work before the 2016 U.S. election.

The *Politico* story was to the benefit of Trump, Putin, and Manafort, and continues to be fueled to distract from the ongoing Russia probe while being used to make a case for Paul Manafort to receive a pardon, as Russian agent *Sputnik* tweeted (see attached addendum). The article was also meant to intimidate and undermine the western-backed government of Ukraine and to directly hurt me and my family, including nearly bankrupting us with legal fees, causing incredible stress, character assassination, and countless other financial loss with the amount of time, energy, and money it has taken to address.

It is worth noting that in late 2017, I met with Ken Vogel for almost two hours, along with my pro-bono public relations representative at the time, and Vogel apologized to me for the *Politico* article and offered to write another one for the *New York Times* to clarify the truth. Given the circumstances and the broken trust, I declined his offer.

Top national security officials warn that U.S. elections will continue be a targeted by hostile foreign actors. The Pentagon issued a report earlier this year warning that Putin continues to target our democracy, which our nation is struggling to counter. *RollingStone* reported:

“Russia’s continued push to undermine America’s institutions is no laughing matter, as the Pentagon detailed in a 150-page assessment provided to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in May. The paper, which was obtained by Politico, describes the ways in which the United States is failing to combat — and thus enabling —

*Russia's far-reaching "grand strategy" to establish itself as a dominant global superpower.*⁴⁶

We need to encourage American political operatives to sound the alarm bells when they see signs of hybrid warfare targeted at our democracy and protect them from being intimidated, silenced, and retaliated against by hostile foreign actors who launch character-assassination campaigns aimed at Americans. As former Special Counsel Mueller testified to Congress in late July, foreign interference in our elections, including by Putin, remains a severe threat. Mueller warned, "They are doing it as we sit here. And they expect to do it during the next campaign."⁴⁷

Thank you for your consideration. I can be reached on my cell phone at _____ or via email at _____.



Alexandra Chalupa

⁴⁶ Bort, R. (2019, July 02). Pentagon Warns That America Is Enabling Putin's Plan for Global Dominance. Retrieved from <https://www.rollingstone.com/politics/politics-news/pentagon-warns-america-enabling-putin-plan-global-dominance-854009/>

⁴⁷ Tucker, E., & Jalonick, M. C. (2019, July 25). Mueller: No Russia exoneration for Trump, despite his claims. Retrieved from <https://www.apnews.com/f109a539220b41218860fa68176a9c98>

ADDENDUM TO FEC LETTER RE MUR 7271

THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION'S ARCHITECTURE OF THE "UKRAINE COLLUSION" PROPAGANDA

December 1, 2016:

Russian Foreign Ministry spokesperson accuses Ukraine of trying to sabotage Trump's campaign by exposing that Paul Manafort hid millions in payment for work he conducted to help Kremlin-backed candidates in Ukraine, which became public in August 2016 by a Ukrainian anti-corruption agency that works closely with the FBI.

<http://www.russianembassy.org/article/excerpts-from-the-briefing-by-foreign-ministry-spokesperson-maria-zakharova-15>

December 1, 2016:

Ken Vogel and Julia Ioffe of *Politico* published an *article 'Russia accuses Ukraine of sabotaging Trump.'* This is a little more than a month before Vogel would write another *Politico* article called, "Ukrainian efforts to sabotage Trump backfire," which was planted with the help of the Trump transition team, as is discussed below, and is at the heart of the FEC complaint against Chalupa. In the December 1, 2016 article, a Russian Foreign Ministry official accused Ukrainian officials of intentionally hurting Trump's campaign by targeting Manafort.'

<http://www.politico.com/story/2016/12/russia-ukraine-trump-manafort-232101>

December 7, 2016:

An Embassy of Ukraine former mid-level employee, Andrii Telizhenko, who was fired shortly before the 2016 US election and sent back to Ukraine unemployed, flew from Kyiv to Washington, D.C. in early December and claimed to have met with senior officials of the Trump transition team to discuss the "Ukraine collusion" narrative and specifically to discuss Chalupa. He bragged about this meeting to a friend of Chalupa's and said the Trump transition team asked him about any encounters he had with Chalupa and inquired if he knew what she was up to. Chalupa's friend notified her of this information after she met with Telizhenko and he told her she could make good money collecting information on Chalupa.

Weeks later, *Politico* ran an article by Ken Vogel and David Stern that dropped on January 11th, less than twelve hours after *BuzzFeed* published the Steele dossier.

December 9, 2016:

Chalupa received a tweet from @Ian56789, an account claiming to be based in the UK with 22K followers, saying "Ukraine Neo Nazi supporting & anti Russia propagandist @AlexandraChalupa is DNC op Wonder where WaPo got the idea for their #FakeNews story." The tweet coincided with breaking news by the *Washington Post* that the U.S. Intelligence Community believed Russia hacked the RNC too.

December 12, 2016:

Alexandra Chalupa posted on Facebook screenshots of two tweets from @TitusAdronicus. The first read “@AlexandraChalup What a twisted little liar for Soros you are! You will be famous very soon, but not in a way you like at all...” The second tweet said, “You run interference for child traffickers and rapists - fuck you, justice is coming.”



That same day, someone by the Facebook name of ‘Missy Saugus’ posted in the comment sections of Chalupa’s public Facebook postings some paragraphs copied from a dark-web conspiracy website. The posts accused Chalupa of being part of a CIA coup, being behind the PropOrNot anonymous report about fake news that the Washington Post published after the election, accusing her of being a highly paid Ukraine lobbyist, a Ukraine nationalist, and a Neo-Nazi. Some of these stories were tracked to a dark web website:

<http://www.con-tru.com/spotlight/cia-front-group-in-ukraine-caught-committing-espionage-on-america>

It’s worth noting that Chalupa’s neighborhood – , – was targeted by the Pizzagate scandal, including a couple of her close friends. One of her best friends, Nora Maccoby , was targeted in a Pizzagate-linked dark website - DC Web - that had a photo of Maccoby with a swastika on her head and CIA emblem behind her image. There was also a map from Comet Pizza to Maccoby’s house

Here’s one of the websites:

<http://tgasc.com/2017/01/chapter two/>

Chalupa was on lock-down for over two hours at Politics and Prose bookstore when a gunman from her husband’s hometown, Salisbury, North Carolina, stormed into the neighboring Comet Ping Pong Pizza.

January 11, 2017:

BuzzFeed published the Steele Dossier on the evening of January 10th, and less than 12 hours later, on the early morning of January 11th, *Politico’s* Ken Vogel and David Stern published an article with the false narrative that the Embassy of Ukraine colluded with the Hillary campaign and the DNC to try to prevent Donald Trump from becoming president. Vogel and Stern pulled from FEC reports all of the money Chalupa made over a decade period working on-and-

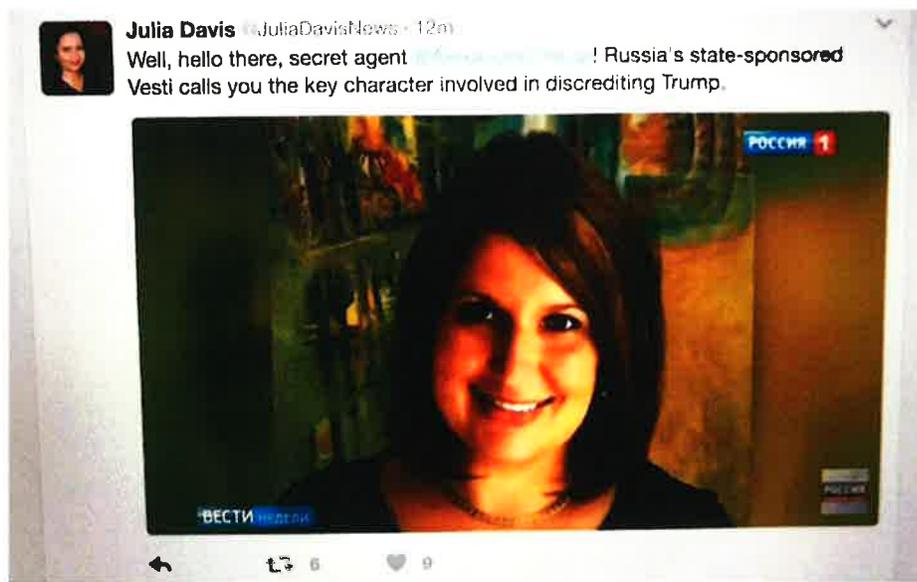
off at the DNC to make it appear to readers like she was paid hundreds of thousands of dollars during the 2016 election cycle to research Paul Manafort; when in fact Chalupa was a part time consultant making \$5K a month to run the Democratic Party's Ethnic Engagement program during the 2016 election cycle, and on staff in senior capacities from 2006 to 2011. The RNC promoted the story on its Facebook page and on Twitter the next day but took the posts down after a Ukrainian-American organization run mostly by Republicans asked the RNC to delete them.

<http://www.politico.com/story/2017/01/ukraine-sabotage-trump-backfire-233446>

February 5, 2017:

Russia Channel 1, one of Putin's top state-sponsored news channels aired a segment that highlighted Alexandra Chalupa, referring to her as the chief person responsible for discrediting Donald Trump and causing Russian hysteria in the U.S. The segment included photos of two of Chalupa's young daughters. It was introduced by Dmitry Kiellyov who was appointed by Putin in December 2013 (a few months before Russia's invasion of Crimea) as the head of the new "official Russian government-owned international news agency Rossiya Segodnya" and Deputy Director of Russian state TV holding company VGTRK.

<http://www.vesti.ru/doc.html?id=2851333#>



May 25, 2017:

Politico's Ken Vogel published an article titled "Manafort Advised Trump Team on Russia Scandal." The article describes how Manafort was behind instructing the RNC and White House to distract from the Russia investigation using the false "Ukraine collusion" narrative and called Reince Priebus in mid-January, who was then RNC Chairman to push the strategy in an attempt to distract from the Russia investigation. This article implies Manafort made this call

to Priebus after *Buzzfeed* published the Steele Dossier on the evening of January 10, 2017. Less than 12 hours later, *Politico* published Ken Vogel's article suggesting Ukraine worked with the Hillary campaign to hurt Trump's candidacy. The article suggests Manafort advised the White House of the same strategy after the Inauguration.

<http://www.politico.com/story/2017/05/25/manafort-trump-russia-advise-238803>

June 2017:

Over several weeks, Sputnik News' Lee Stranaham, a known conspiracy theorist who previously worked as an employee of Steve Bannon's Breitbart News, began releasing a series of online videos targeting Chalupa and pushing the "Ukraine collusion" narrative. Some of the videos included graphics with a lot of disinformation trying to link Chalupa to an oligarch in Ukraine she's never met nor communicated with and calling Chalupa a Chief Technology Officer who worked for Crowd Strike, along with many other false claims. Stranaham called upon his Twitter followers to target Chalupa, accused her of violating FARA, and he himself tweeted at her directly.

July 10-15, 2017:

White House spokesperson Sarah Huckabee Sanders, during a White House press briefing, tried to distract the media from news reports of Donald Trump, Jr.'s meeting with a Kremlin-linked lawyer by referring to the January 11th *Politico* article. The following day, then-White House Deputy Advisor to the President Sebastian Gorka tweeted at Chalupa accusing her of colluding with the Ukrainian government. Gorka, Kellyanne Conway, and other White House surrogates promoted the story on major cable news networks. FOX News' Sean Hannity promoted the narrative every night for about two weeks, airing Chalupa's photo on his show and making false claims about her work, even after Chalupa issued a statement to CNN denying the validity of the story. The song 'Regret' flashed on Chalupa's phone several times throughout this time period, as it did during the Democratic Convention in late July 2016. This song appeared on her phone on July 10, 2016, the night her DNC colleague Seth Rich was murdered and hours before Chalupa had another bizarre incident of harassment at her home that was reported to local and federal law enforcement. This White House campaign would go on for 15 days straight and ended with Donald Trump tweeting the conspiracy as highlighted below.

Politics • Analysis

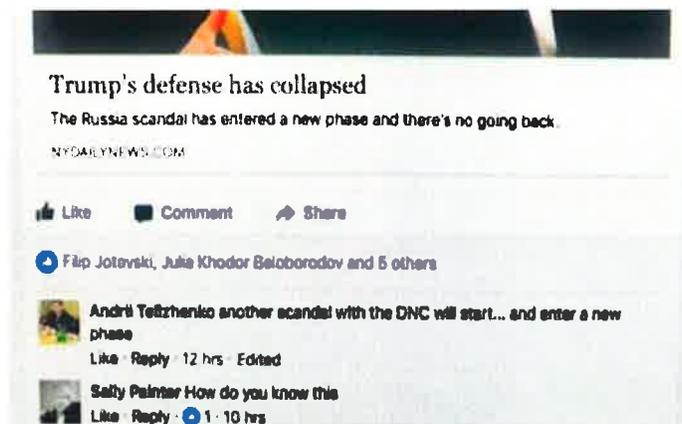
Exploring Sean Hannity's defense of Donald Trump Jr.: Clinton and Ukraine did it, too

By Philip Bump



July 15, 2017:

Andrei Telizhenko, a former mid-level staffer at the Ukrainian Embassy who was fired before the 2016 election and who is believed to have helped push the January 11th *Politico* story, posted on someone's Facebook page comment section that a "another scandal with the DNC will start...and enter a new phase." Telizhenko illustrated that he had clear advance knowledge of a bigger strategy in place targeting Chalupa that would soon follow, which it did.

**July 24, 2017:**

FOX News continued to push the Chalupa story. Louise Mensch who some suspect may be coordinating with Steve Bannon and previously worked for Robert Murdoch, tweeted at Senator Grassley to investigate Chalupa for FARA violations (similar to how Sputnik News had done so in June) and called her a KGB agent (as Mensch has done to hundreds of others). That day, Sen. Grassley publicly sent a letter to DOJ calling for Chalupa to be investigated for FARA violations based on the January 11th *Politico* story, even though Chalupa made clear publicly that she's never represented a foreign government and was never paid by a foreign government or foreign individual. At the time, Barbara Ledeen, a close friend of Michal Flynn's and whose husband co-wrote a book with Flynn, worked for Grassley on the Senate Judiciary Committee. The *Daily Caller* ran the story. Chalupa was cleared by DOJ in late November 2017, the day before Thanksgiving.

<https://dailycaller.com/2017/07/24/senator-asks-doj-about-democrats-work-with-ukraine-to-smear-trump-campaign/>

July 25, 2017:

President Trump tweeted "Ukraine efforts to sabotage Trump campaign – "quietly working to boost Clinton." So where is the investigation A.G. @seanhannity". This tweet took place the same week that Russia increased its aggression in Eastern Ukraine and its separatist declared intention to rename Ukraine "Little Russia." It was also the week that Trump was expected to reluctantly sign the Russian sanctions bill, which Congress had voted on unanimously to hold Putin accountable for attacking the 2016 U.S. election.

August 9, 2016:

FACTS, headed by Matthew Whitaker, a conservative watch group that is funded by dark money, publicly filed an FEC complaint against Chalupa. <https://www.factdc.org/news>

<http://www.dailycallout.com/fec-complaint-alleges-clinton-dnc-colluded-ukraine-candidate-trump/>

August 16, 2017:

Politico's David Stern published an article saying that a Putin-backed Ukrainian MP Andrei Derkach called on the Ukrainian government to have some of its officials investigated for colluding with the Hillary campaign. Derkach, a former member of the Party of Regions (Paul Manafort's former client), was once called "Ukraine's future Putin." Derkach is also an associate of Manafort's financier Oleg Deripaska - <http://www.rumafia.net/en/dosje/348>. Derkach's father was a KGB officer and Derkach also trained with the KGB academy in Moscow - <https://ukraine.mom-rsf.org/en/owners/individual-owners/detail/owner/owner/show/andriy-derkach/>

Derkach shopped the story to several news outlets, but one publication, which was suspect of his motives, reached out to Chalupa and asked for background on the story. This news publication was made aware of the story when Derkach communicated with one of their freelance journalists over the course of a few days over email but stopped communicating when asked whether he had a relationship or communicated about his calls for an investigation with Paul Manafort or an American associate of. David Stern of *Politico*, the original co-author of the January 11th "Ukraine collusion" article ended up being the one to report on the story: <http://www.politico.com/story/2017/08/16/ukraine-andrei-derkach-clinton-investigation-241704>

September 18 - 23, 2017:

Sputnik's Lee Stranahan launched a series of tweet attacks at Chalupa's friend Adam Parkhomenko who was the former DNC Field Director, ran Grassroots operations for Hillary, and started 'Get Ready for Hillary.' Some of Stranahan's tweets at Parkhomenko asked him his relationship with Chalupa and her sister and/or included the hashtag "#DropTheChalupa". Around this time, Roger Stone tweeted at Adam, including @PaulManafort in the tweet. Also around this time, Paul Manafort's business partner in Ukraine - Phil Griffin - harassed on Facebook Chalupa's good friend (the person who notified Chalupa in December 2016 that Andrei Telizhenko (the fired Embassy employee) had told her he met with senior officials of the Trump transition team who inquired about Chalupa.

September 27, 2017:

Lee Stranahan of *Sputnik News*, tweeted out another video about Chalupa called 'Who is Alexandra Chalupa?' That night, Louise Mensch's team started retweeting an old tweet by *Yahoo News* investigative journalists Michael Isikoff from October 2016 that said the FBI had

imaged Chalupa's laptop and iPhone as part of the expanding Russia probe, which was done at Chalupa's request. Mensch's team tried to make it appear as if this was a recent development.



Lee Stranahan ●
@stranahan

Replying to @stranahan and @FBI

Part 6: Who is Alexandra Chalupa?

Link to MUST READ article from
@politico in January: [politico.com/
story/2017/01/...](https://www.politico.com/story/2017/01/...)



- Former Clinton White House official
- Long time DNC consultant
- Created opposition research file about Paul Manafort
- Coordinated with Ukrainian officials about Manafort
- Sister Andrea Chalupa said Alexandra was running Russia / Trump research for the DNC
- Sister Irina Chalupa works for group funded by George Soros and is part of The Atlantic Council

9/24/17, 7:39 PM

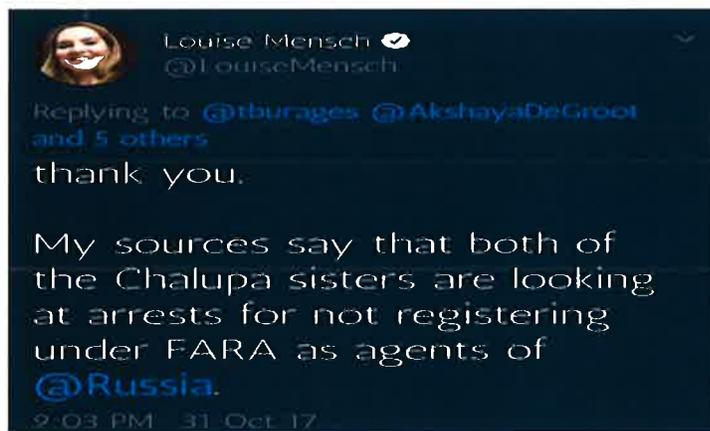
275 Retweets 219 Likes

September 28, 2017:

Louise Mensch and her team, including the @patriotics blog, launched an aggressive twitter attack on Chalupa and her sister Andrea, claiming that her team was provided intelligence that both sisters will soon be indicted for working for the Russian Federation and violating FARA, among a series of other false accusations.

October 31, 2017

The week Manafort and Gates were indicted, Louise Mensch tweeted that the Chalupa sisters will be arrested for not registering for FARA to represent the Russian Government and included the Kremlin's twitter account in her tweet.



July 5, 2018:

Days before the Trump/Putin Helsinki meeting, The Daily Caller published an article, "Nunes Calls for Hearings for 15 Connected To Anti-Trump Opposition Research Efforts," with Chalupa listed as one of the 15. Nunes called for similar hearings targeting the FBI and other DOJ officials in separate letters. <https://dailycaller.com/2018/07/05/nunes-hearings-anti-trump/>

July 23, 2018:

A couple weeks after returning from his meeting with Putin in Helsinki, Trump's tweeted that "Spygate could be one of the biggest political scandals in history!" At the time, journalists had no idea he was referring to the soon-to-be released book 'Spygate' written by Dan Bongino. Chapter 1 starts with Paul Manafort and Chalupa.



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

SPYGATE could be one of the biggest political scandals in history!

7:12 AM · 5/23/18 · Twitter for iPhone

22.6K Retweets 85.8K Likes

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August 2018:

A Russian oligarch closely connected to Putin and Trump tweeted at Chalupa a picture of his hand. She posted on Facebook a screenshot and the following message:

"For the record, this is the creepiest tweet I've received to date. It's from Artem Klyushin, a Russian billionaire and close advisor to Putin, who follows many of us Putin critics on Twitter.

Klyushin was married to Yulya Alferova who was Trump's main contact at the Miss Universe Pageant in Moscow in 2013. She tweeted her advanced knowledge in 2014 and early 2015 that Trump was running for President and had Russia behind him and would win.

Klyushin has tweeted since the 2016 election that Russia helped elect Trump and now seems to be giving orders to Trump. He tweeted that former CIA Director Brennan would have his national security clearance revoked before Trump revoked it. He's now calling on Trump to end "Russiaphobia" in the U.S.

This tweet is his response to one I tweeted to Adam Parkhomenko and Peter Jukes about how Klyushin's twitter handle was one of 15 accounts the official Taj Mahal twitter account was following in 2015 and joked that maybe he has a bot factory in Agra."

[#CreepyOligarchs](#) [#PutinThugs](#)

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10161183979445389&set=a.10150636292560389&type=3&sfns=mo>



@AlexandraChalup
 @AdamParkhomenko
 @peterjukes everything is done
 with this hand 🤖 No automation



АРТЕМ КЛЮШИН

twitter.com

August 23, 2018:

Russian funded Sputnik host Lee Stranahan promoted more theories targeted at Chalupa. Stranahan appeared on InfoWars with Alex Jones to promote disinformation. Andrii Telizhenko was highlighted in the story.



YouTube

Alex Jones: Lee Stranahan on Ukraine's collusion with the DNC

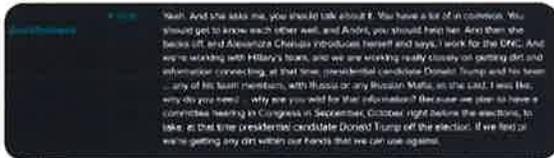
Watch (34:36)

Uploaded by: Maui Smith, Aug 23, 2018



Lee Stranahan @stranahan

In my interview with #UkraineDNC whistleblower Andrii Telizhenko, he says DNC operative @AlexandraChalup told him in March / April '16 that the Democrats were planning committee hearing to remove @realDonaldTrump over Russian connections...this is BEFORE anyone knew about "hack."



5:06 PM · 8/23/18 · Twitter Web Client

170 Retweets 139 Likes

September 3-4, 2018:

George Eliason, a Russian propagandist who claims to be an American journalist in eastern Ukraine, wrote an over-the-top conspiracy piece targeting Chalupa, her sister Andrea, and close friend and colleague Adam Parkhomenko, another Ukrainian-American Democratic political operative who actually worked for Hillary Clinton, unlike Chalupa. The article is a disinformation that accused them of running “Deep State” and working with Ukrainian Intelligence and other fabrications. Eliason also tweeted a conspiracy related to his false story, including accusing Chalupa of being responsible for the DNC hack in 2016.

<https://www.mintpressnews.com/beyond-the-dnc-leaks-funding-the-hacks-and-sedition/248687/>

**George Eliason**

@gheliason

The narrative about #Russian
#cyberattacks on #American election
was paid for by @AlexandraChalup
the #Ukrainian #Diaspora and
#Ukraine

9/3/18, 5:43 AM

2 Retweets 1 Like

September 9, 2018:

Andrii Telizhenko interviewed with Russian-funded *Sputnik* and admitted no one credible took his claims seriously that Ukraine colluded with the Hillary campaign and DNC, and called the U.S. Intelligence Community “incapable” in a tweet that he included Trump family members in. <https://sputniknews.com/analysis/201809261068369350-Ukrainian-Diplomat-Clinton-Operatives-Dirt-Trump/>

September 11, 2018:

Bob Woodward interviewed with Rachel Maddow, focusing on a passage in his book ‘Fear’ on page 230 that confirmed that Politico article and Ukraine collusion narrative was Russian propaganda that originated with the Kremlin. The passage focused on Trump’s tweet about the Politico article on July 25, 2017 and how it was determined to be Russian propaganda:

MADDOW: “Let me give you an example. This is from page 230 of the book. Quote, on July 25th – this is 2017, last year – the president again berated national security adviser H.R. McMaster. He had no interest in allies, Trump said. He didn’t want any troops in South Korea, even when reminded about the differential between the seven seconds it would take to detect a North Korean ICBM launch from there as opposed to the 15 minutes it would take to detect such a launch from Alaska.

On the colonnade outside the Oval Office, McMaster spoke with Gary Cohn, the economic adviser, and Rob Porter, the White House staff secretary. McMaster said that at 6:03 a.m., Trump had tweeted Ukrainian efforts to sabotage Trump campaign, quietly working to boost Clinton. So where is the investigation, Attorney General?

Quote: It was clearly Russian propaganda, McMaster said. He and the National Security Council and intelligence experts had concluded that, but the president had picked it up and shot it out. And then the next line is, quote, McMaster said he wasn’t sure how long he could stay.

So, page 230 of the book, we learn that the National Security Council and the national security adviser to the president concluded last summer that the president had somehow, quote, picked up Russian government propaganda and started tweeting to it the American people. The national security adviser knew about it. He told for some reason the White House economic adviser and the White House staff secretary, and he told them that it was confirmed both by him and his shop and by intelligence experts that the president had obtained and was distributing Russian government propaganda.

Oh! That seems like a story. I would like to know more. Were there consequences of that? How did the National Security Council handle that? How did the president get the propaganda?”

<http://www.msnbc.com/transcripts/rachel-maddow-show/2018-09-11>

November 2017 – December 2018:

Sputnik and right-wing websites as well as other propaganda sources, continue to publish conspiracy articles about Chalupa. Lee Stranahan of *Sputnik* targeted Chalupa on his radio show too. Andrii Telizhenko, the original source of the January 2017 *Politico* article, coordinated with *Sputnik*, *Info Wars*, *RT*, and other Trump-supporting outlets to fuel the Ukraine collusion narrative and aggressively tweeted about it. Chalupa was informed by a journalist working on a story on Telizhenko that he spent time in late 2018 lobbying Republican members of Congress to investigate Chalupa. The journalist ended up not running the story.

December 13, 2018:

Ukraine admits officials meddled in US election (VIDEO) youtu.be/pNo_jfKCy-g

@scottienhughes @stranahan



5:57 PM · 12/13/18 · TweetDeck

85 Retweets 97 Likes

December 15, 2018:

Journalist Murray Waas wrote an article for *Vox*, “Exclusive: Paul Manafort advised White House on how to attack and discredit the Mueller investigation.” The article highlights how Manafort urged the president to attack the FBI, urged the president to attack the DNC and “Alexandra Chalupa” specifically by name, and Manafort urged the president to attack Clinton and the Steele Dossier. The White House followed Manafort’s advice.

<https://www.vox.com/2018/12/14/18140744/paul-manafort-trump-russia-mueller-investigation>

January 15, 2019:

Veteran journalist Murray Waas reported for the *New York Review of Books* how the White House instructed Matthew Whitaker, then the Director of FACT, to file a complaint against Chalupa in the summer of 2017. The direction came from the White House legal team, which was headed by Don McGahn, a former FEC Commissioner, whom Whitaker met with. Waas wrote, “One former Trump administration official and one current one told me that Whitaker made the filing only after the White House encouraged him to do so.” The article highlights how Whitaker failed to disclose this information to the Department of Justice, including ethics officials who advised him to recuse himself from the Mueller investigation, which he didn’t.

<https://www.nybooks.com/daily/2019/01/15/matthew-whitaker-the-ethical-mire-of-trumps-top-law-officer/>

February 9, 2019:

Donald Trump retweeted the *Spygate* book, promoting the story. He tweeted about it the previous December, recommending that everyone should read it. By early January it was number 35 of Amazon’s list of most popular books.

Donald J. Trump Retweeted



Dan Bongino @dbongino · 2/9/19

The corrupt spying operation against Donald Trump's team is the biggest scandal in political history. Read my new book for the shocking details about the scheme to take down Trump. Pick up your copy here



(852 Reviews)

Spygate: The Attempted Sabotage of Donald J. Trump
amazon.com

4,163 10.3K 37.6K

March 18, 2019:

Sputnik's Lee Stranahan accused Chalupa and a Ukrainian anti-corruption official and journalist of being at fault for Paul Manafort being in prison. Stranahan claimed Manafort is a "political prisoner" rather than for his high crimes of financial fraud and conspiring against the U.S.



Lee Stranahan @stranahan

Paul Manafort is a political prisoner, targeted by @AlexandraChalup and Leshchenko.

Manafort was raked over the coals for his lobbying for the Party of Regions.

This article (from @RFERL no less) shows they OPPOSED NAZIs.

And this is bad, why?



Divisive Nationalist Made Ukraine Hero
rferl.org

5:43 PM · 3/18/19 · Twitter Web Client

March 20, 2019:

Donald Trump promoted the Ukraine collusion conspiracy again, this time by amplifying a good friend of Sean Hannity's John Solomon who works as a video editor and writes opinion pieces. Solomon, because of his lack of journalistic ethics is not allowed to publish to The Hill as a journalist but only can write opinion pieces.



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump

"John Solomon: As Russia Collusion fades, Ukrainian plot to help Clinton emerges." @seanhannity @FoxNews

10:40 PM · 3/20/19 · Twitter for iPhone

26K Retweets **85.3K** Likes

March 22, 2019:

Rudy Giuliani who confirmed he was working with Ukrainian officials to collect dirt on Trump's political opponents continued to fuel the "Ukraine collusion" story.



Rudy Giuliani ✓
@RudyGiuliani

Pay attention to @dbongino for an analysis of some real collusion between Hillary, Kerry and Biden people colluding with Ukrainian operatives to make money and affect 2016 election.

11:38 AM · 3/22/19 · Twitter for iPad

12.4K Retweets **34.8K** Likes



March 23, 2019:

Rudy Giuliani promoting the “Ukrainian collusion”/“Deep State” conspiracy theory, targeting the U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, and which was fueled days earlier by the Prosecutor General of Ukraine, whom sources said Giuliani met with the previous month in New York City, and on other occasions in Ukraine since the 2016 U.S. election. (Sourced news report of their meetings are included in the March 27 2019 section below).

↳ Rudy Giuliani Retweeted



Ryan Saavedra
@RealSaavedra

Former federal prosecutor Joe diGenova: “The current United States ambassador Marie Yovanovitch has bad mouthed the President of the United States to Ukrainian officials and has told them not to listen or worry about Trump policy because he’s going to be impeached.”



173K views

4:05 PM · 3/23/19 · Twitter Web Client

March 25, 2019:

While Senator Lindsey Graham was holding a press conference to discuss the Mueller investigation, after returning from a weekend at Mar-a-Lago where he golfed with Donald Trump and spoke at an event to cheers of “lock her up” after making a comment about investigating Hillary Clinton, Donald Trump tweeted a *Fox News* interview with the author of *Spygate*. In Graham’s press conference, he announced that he plans to encourage the Attorney General to appoint a Special Counsel to investigate how the Russia probe came about, including looking into Democrats involved and the FBI.



Donald J. Trump ✓
@realDonaldTrump



1.6M views

11:22 AM · 3/25/19 · Twitter Media Studio

20.7K Retweets **67.7K** Likes

March 27, 2019:

Ukrainian journalists report that between January 27-29, Rudy Giuliani met with Ukraine's Prosecutor General in New York City:

On the January 25th—28th Prosecutor General Yuriy Lutsenko visited New York. According to the Babel's source, he met with President Trump's attorney Rudy Giuliani. (When asked for comment on this meeting Yuriy Lutsenko said: "He is a former US Attorney, we have plenty to talk about. This is not our first meeting".)

https://thebabel.com.ua/texts/27795-prosecutor-general-of-ukraine-clashes-with-obami-us-ambassador-and-opens-the-case-on-ukraine-s-interference-in-2016-elections-donald-trump-takes-notice?fbclid=IwAR26KrWKOcZK_kc46tGaHZPyfXHzaBeqEOLxuLLHdkDxnsOJ5HM_UqpcED0

April 2019:

Donald Trump continued to promote the "Ukraine collusion" story including on *Fox News'* Sean Hannity's show on April 26th, while claiming the Russia investigation was an attempted coup.

<https://www.foxnews.com/politics/trump-barr-will-look-at-incredible-possibility-of-ukraine-clinton-collusion>

May 2019:

Rudy Giuliani coordinated with the Ukrainian General Prosecutor to target Trump opponents, John Solomon pushed out this narrative for The Hill, and Sean Hannity fueled it calling for Biden and Chalupa to be investigated. Chalupa never asked for opposition research or documents from any foreign government. When John Solomon cold called Chalupa on her

personal cell for comment on the story, she refused to speak with him given his reputation for promoting conspiracy theories and false reporting, including twisting people's words.

<https://thehill.com/opinion/white-house/441892-ukrainian-embassy-confirms-dnc-contractor-solicited-trump-dirt-in-2016>

Giuliani planned a trip to Ukraine to meet with the new president and collect dirt on Trump's opponents while undermining the Mueller findings. He admitted to strategizing this with Paul Manafort, from prison, via Manafort's lawyer, as Ken Vogel tweeted.



Kenneth P. Vogel ✓
@kenvogel

Replying to @kenvogel @RudyGiuliani and @JoeBiden

.@RudyGiuliani tells me he spoke yesterday to MANAFORT's lawyer about trying to collect evidence that might be used to undermine the case against MANAFORT ... who of course pleaded guilty to his crimes 8 months ago.



Rudy Giuliani Plans Ukraine Trip to Push for Inquiries That Could Help Trump
nytimes.com

11:05 PM · 5/9/19 · Twitter Web App

<https://www.nytimes.com/2019/05/09/us/politics/giuliani-ukraine-trump.html>

May 20, 2019:

On May 20, 2019, Chalupa received the text below from a media station funded by the Kremlin and which is known to be one of Putin's top propaganda outlets, Russia Channel 24.

Chalupa posted a screenshot of the photo on Facebook along with the following post:

“No, Sergey, while I understand you're only doing your job and taking government orders, I will not participate in your Russian state sponsored hit on me and other Americans, to address a

Kremlin manufactured “Ukraine collusion” narrative that made its way to the White House with Paul Manafort’s help.

While I appreciate Putin is very upset that his boy Manafort is locked up in prison, and that I’m one of the individuals he blames, I’ve had more than enough harassment from the Russian Federation these past few years.

While Manafort and Giuliani failed miserably to get this story fueled again in US press, with Giuliani having multiple meltdowns on twitter begging reporters to pick up the story, even after his client’s guy Sean Hannity did his best with John Solomon to push it, this is a pretty desperate attempt and shows weakness.”

<https://www.facebook.com/photo.php?fbid=10162274263490389&set=a.10150636292560389&type=3&theater>

iMessage
Today 2:30 PM

**Good afternoon, Ms.
Alexandra.
My name is Sergey Baratinskiy,
I work for Russian News
Channel “Russia 24”. I would
like to make a television
interview with you. There are
many items on Ukrainian
government officials’ trying to
help Hillary Clinton during the
election in USA 2016. We film
the report about it and we
would like to talk about it.
Is it possible? Thanks. Best
regards, Sergey**

May 22, 2019:

The former mid-level Embassy of Ukraine staffer who was fired before the 2016 U.S. election, Andrii Telizhenko, posted on Facebook on May 22, 2019 a photo of himself meeting with Rudy Giuliani.



July 2019

Oliver Stone, who is considered a top Kremlin propagandist and close with Vladimir Putin, released his most recent documentary, 'Revealing Ukraine' which targets Chalupa for about ten minutes starting at the 1:05 time mark. The documentary includes interviews with Vladimir Putin and his close associates, including those tied to Paul Manafort, and uses *Sputnik's* Lee Stranahan as a top "expert" source to discuss Chalupa. It focuses on the same *Politico* article and includes clips of interviews with Andrii Telizhenko. The filmmakers doxed Chalupa's social media to pull images for the film and included footage that was used in Russia Channel 1's segment on Chalupa that aired in early February 2017.

The film's writer/director, Igor Lopatonok, harassed Chalupa on Twitter in July 2019. The documentary premiered on July 4, 2019 in Sicily, and his tweets started that week.



Igor Lopatonok 
@lopatonok

Replying to @AlexandraChalupa @hogangidley45
and @realDonaldTrump

#Fakenews don't flying anymore!

Time to investigate

#ukrainiancolussion in #2016

#presidential election

#revealingukraine coming soon!

2:30 AM · 7/8/19 · Twitter for iPhone



Alexandra Chalupa @Alexandra... · 8m 

Replying to @lopatonok @hogangidley45
and @realDonaldTrump

Spoken like a true Kremlin agent.
Congratulations on your influence
peddling for Putin. Cheers.





Igor Lopatonok ✓
@lopatonok

Replying to @AlexandraChalup

You better watch #revealingukraine and your colluding in presidential election of #2016 will be investigated sooner or later. Attacking truth seekers do not save your. Only confession can

12:46 AM · 7/20/19 · Twitter for iPhone



Alexandra Chalupa @Alexandra... · 6s ✓
Replying to @lopatonok

How much does Putin pay you for your role in the Kremlin's disinformation warfare? And no, I'm not watching your ridiculous propaganda film. Everyone should watch 'Winter on Fire' (Netflix) to learn the truth about Ukraine. Have fun sucking up to your masters in Moscow.



NOTE: This is not the full extent of Russian and far-right propaganda that has targeted Chalupa and her family over the past two and a half years but provides an overview of an orchestrated effort between state-sponsored Russian propaganda and the White House. This timeline of events does not include the state-sponsored cyberattacks Chalupa received on her personal iPhone and Yahoo account during the election and which continue; the GRU targeting of her files when Russian intelligence compromised the DNC servers (Chalupa was informed her files were one of four most targeted); nor the incidents of harassment targeted at Chalupa at her home during the 2016 election, including car break-ins, an attempted home break-in, and espionage, that she documented in a report provided to federal authorities and local law enforcement in 2016 and 2017. This document is for the purpose of presenting a timeline that illustrates an ongoing pattern and how the "Ukraine collusion" narrative originated with the Kremlin.