RE: Slovakia / disinfo

[redacted]@nsc.eop.gov Berschinski, Robert G. EOP/NSC Tuesday, April 26, 2022 at 3:54:22 PM Eastern Daylight Time

To: powersj@usaid.gov Samantha Power
Cc: jowalsh@usaid.gov John Walsh (jowalsh@usaid.gov), nburroughs@usaid.gov Nikole Burroughs, adsiegel@usaid.gov Adam Siegel, iblecha@usaid.gov Isabella Blecha

The DSA is a huge deal that is going to have significant impact. I don't know enough to know if these moves are an attempt to get in front of it, or would have happened anyway given the war. But contrary to some of the reporting that came out over the weekend, the DSA hasn't yet formally passed. My understanding is that the political agreement was reached, and it will be soon, but the text is still being finalized.

From: Samantha Power <powersj@usaid.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, April 26, 2022 3:47 PM
To: Berschinski, Robert G. EOP/NSC <[redacted]@nsc.eop.gov>
Cc: John Walsh (jowalsh@usaid.gov) <jowalsh@usaid.gov>; Nikole Burroughs <nburroughs@usaid.gov>; Adam Siegel <adsiegel@usaid.gov>; Isabella Blecha <iblecha@usaid.gov>
Subject: Re: Slovakia / disinfo

Isn't the biggest game changer the new European law that just passed. Seems to create whole new level of liability for them?

Johnny or Adam please follow up with Globesec in Slovakia tonight to get us their lay down on FB staff in region broadly

Sent from my iPad

> On Apr 26, 2022, at 3:38 PM, Berschinski, Robert G. EOP/NSC <[redacted]@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:
>
> After speaking with Bridget, I had a chat with my usual contact on Meta's security team to make sure tomorrow's call is as productive as possible. A few tidbits to guide your thinking –
>
> Most importantly, yesterday FB made two significant changes to policy that have global reach and impact, but are relevant to Slovakia. Note that at least the first change is public, but FB isn't trying to promote them given that they're worried about further punitive action from the Kremlin (and thus I couldn't find any news stories about them).
>
> 1. FB "won't allow governments that have instituted sustained blocks of social media to use their official departments, agencies, and embassies to deny the use of force or violent events in the context of an attack against the territorial integrity of another state in violation of Article 2(4) of the UN charter." In other words this content is subject to take-down.
>
> 1. FB is now downranking content exempt from #1 above generated by Russian embassies.

On numbers and capacity of Slovak language content moderators and fact-checkers, they're doing their homework in advance of your call, but I got mild push-back indicating their sense that they have more bodies on the problem than what has been relayed to you. Certainly an area ripe for discussion tomorrow.

From: Samantha Power <powersj@usaid.gov>
Sent: Saturday, April 16, 2022 5:04 PM
To: Berschinski, Robert G. EOP/NSC <[redacted]@nsc.eop.gov>
Cc: John Walsh (jowalsh@usaid.gov) <jowalsh@usaid.gov>; Nikole Burroughs <nburroughs@usaid.gov>
Subject: Re: Slovakia / disinfo

Thank you Rob. We are only now reaching out. You would be most welcome to join the call

Sent from my iPhone

> On Apr 16, 2022, at 4:59 PM, Berschinski, Robert G. EOP/NSC <[redacted]@nsc.eop.gov> wrote:
>
> Samantha – I just finished your very helpful P trip note on Slovakia and Moldova. I'll jump on both the issue of Russian disinfo in Slovakia and sanctions on corrupt Moldovan oligarchs (the latter a matter I pushed hard on back in '15-'16, under very different circumstances, with none other than Bridget Brink).
>
> On disinfo in Slovakia, among other things I'll double-track your outreach to Nick Clegg in the coming week – Anne Neuberger and I met with their head of security policy last week on all things Russia-Ukraine, so can push him on the lack of content moderators. If anything comes of your conversation with Clegg I would welcome getting a readout from your team.
>
> Thanks,
>
> Rob