INTEGRITY INITIATIVE SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENT PERFORMANCE

Our Twitter following has continued to grow and we regularly get good engagement with tweets that meet a specific set of criteria or subsets thereof: knowledge of subject, timing, engagement with other users in our field and original content.

Our Twitter and wider social performance will improve with the expression of a consistent and recognizable voice, more of our own content, attendance at real-life events and the setting up of Facebook and other social channels.

Our tweet of an article written by our Lithuanian cluster and published on our website was picked up by prominent Lithuanian sources and garnered 23 retweets and 22 likes.

The article was about the Kremlin encouraging Russian speaking youngsters from ex-Soviet countries, and even non-Russian speakers, to attend camps with a strong military training and World War II re-enactment theme. The Lithuanian Foreign Ministry STRATCOM team tweeted it out.

LT MFA STRATCOM@LT_MFA_Stratcom

#Russian Military Camps for Lithuanian Children: reenactment of #WWIII, #soviet weapons and more - a piece by @_Andriukaitis via @InitIntegrity; Full read: http://goo.gl/ugXg2W



1:52 PM - 9 Apr 2018

- 23 Retweets
- 22 Likes

After Russia's attempt to assassinate the Skripals, a chemical weapons expert named Dan Kaszeta began combating disinformation and conspiracy theories about Novichok and its effects on Twitter. He of course attracted vicious attacks from the usual quarters. Our tweet pointing out that people were trying to debunk him using a severely discredited MIT academic's articles gained 3,960 impressions, and a like by Eliot Higgins of Bellingcat.

https://twitter.com/InitIntegrity/status/982639417889259521

It also started a conversation that led to a tweet mentioning us getting 80 engagements.

https://twitter.com/Kliness75/status/982649715165548544

Chris Donnelly and Chris Hernon attended an event of The Media Society on the subject of 'Media War with Russia'. Chris D spoke and his comments were well received by the audience and tweeted by the society and some attendees. Two people also followed Chris Hernon after he retweeted tweets on the event, although they did not follow @InitIntegrity.

The Media Society Retweeted

Philip Sime @PhilipSime

The Salisbury spy poisoning was an 'act of war', Chris Donnelly tells <u>@BBCJLandale</u> at <u>#TMSRussia</u>, adding that Russia views Britain as economically strong but politically weak.



https://twitter.com/PhilipSime/status/983416117967368192

This highlights how public activity can increase our profile. It also shows that the social media face of the project needs more substance. Chris H has proposed a new wording for the Twitter profile that emphasizes the European network standing behind the account. This is currently being discussed and will be implemented when appropriate.

David Leask is a Scottish investigative journalist with a Russianist background who writes about financial corruption schemes and Kremlin propaganda attempts to co-opt the Scottish independence movement. Chris Hernon has told him about the project and brought him to meet the group. He tagged us in a tweet containing an article about tackling Scottish money-laundering and taxavoidance schemes. Our real-life connection got us the mention. And while it didn't specifically lead to any new followers for us, it got a lot of engagement, and shows how being part of conversations with high-profile accounts can increase traffic.

https://twitter.com/LeaskyHT/status/983655207266549760

Here is the performance in last quarter's report with the subsequent months to now added in:

Month 2017/2018	New followers	Impressions	Profile views	Number of tweets
September	10	6,467	88	17
October	16	6,873	164	45
November	30	22,200	380	56
December	19	12,300	327	58
January	14	3,055	155	15
February	9	10,800	213	60
March	34	51,100	723	174
Up to 10 th April	16	8,801	188	30

Our total number of followers increased from 328 as of 18th January to 395 as of 10th April.

So while Twitter performance has been reasonably good with simple participation in the relevant community, a steadier footing for the project and its clusters would allow us to regularly add our own material in to the mix and boost our presence on the scene even more.