

## **EU Officials Push Another RUSSIA HOAX**

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**Glenn Greenwald (GG):** The United States and our political discourse became completely drunk, utterly inebriated and suffocated with this bizarre, obsessive attempt to blame Russia for everything that happened that, in the view of the American establishment or American elites, was bad, beginning with the 2016 election, which wasn't blamed on Hillary's utter lack of charisma as a candidate, or the perception that she was incredibly corrupt, or her laziness and refusing to visit key swing states, or even the things we found out about Hillary, throughout the course of the campaign from media outlets and others, no, the attempt was to say it was Russia. Russia was responsible for Trump's election. And the Europeans, in many ways, are even more fanatical and unhinged when it comes to blaming Russia for their problems. The British decided that Brexit was passed only because the Russians interfered. Whenever there's an election outcome they dislike, they blame the Russians. They blame the Russian for Marine Le Pen's lead in the polls. And then that helped justify her conviction on very dubious charges that led to her being barred from running in 2028, so that problem was solved, that problem of democracy. They actually nullified the election results in Romania when the candidate opposed to the war in Ukraine, a more populous right-wing candidate, not very friendly to the EU, when that candidate won, they nullified the election, they're like, yeah, this election doesn't count. And the whole theory was Russia interfered. And then when they redid the election and saw that that candidate was likely to win again, they just barred him from running on the grounds that Russia had supported him.

So they blame Russia for everything. Even more reflexively and compulsively, the United States does. And one of the absolute worst people, I was going to say one of the worst people who blames Russia for everything, but I could just leave it at one of the worst on the planet, is the unelected German president of the EU, Ursula von der Leyen, who craves war so much, she just loves it so much – she's an extremist supporter of Ukraine and wants to have the Europeans send more and more money to Ukraine to get glorious victory against Russia, something that Germans say every generation. They find some reason to want to send tanks, German tanks, eastward toward the Russian border and talk about the glories of victory over Russia. She does that constantly. Also a very vocal and vehement supporter of Israel, arming

Israel, financing Israel. So she was on her plane, her little, not little, her big private plane that the EU gives her as the unelected president, flying around and her GPS system supposedly failed. And the pilots were forced to fly and land without the use of GPS. And you'll never guess who they blame. From the Financial Times, September 1st: *Ursula von der Leyen's plane is hit by suspected Russian GPS interference*. Quote, "A suspected Russian interference attack targeting Ursula von der Leyen disabled the GPS navigation services at a Bulgarian airport and forced the European Commission president's plane to land using paper maps. A jet carrying von der Leyen to Plovdiv on Sunday afternoon was deprived of GPS navigational aids while it approached the city's airport, in what three officials briefed on the incident said was being treated as a Russian interference operation. Quote, 'The whole airport area GPS went dark', said one of the officials. After circling the airport for an hour, the plane's pilot took the decision to land the plane using alternative electronic aids and paper maps, they added. Quote, 'It was undeniable interference.' Subsequently, flight recordings showed the pilots reported a GPS issue at 17.10 local time as they approached the airport. The plane then made several turns and landed 23 minutes later. The European Commission later confirmed the incident. Quote, 'There was GPS jamming, but the plane landed safely in Bulgaria', a spokesperson said. Quote, 'We have received info from the Bulgarian authorities that they suspect that this was due to blatant interference by Russia.'"

You may remember as well as we'll show you that when the Nord Stream 2 pipeline was blown up, one of the worst acts of industrial terrorism in history, one of the worst environmental disasters in history, totally not caused by the United States, working with Ukraine – totally not – the Europeans actually had the audacity to try and blame Russia. And the Western media all reported that, oh, there's lots of suspicion that maybe Russia blew up its own pipeline. The pipeline on which future economic prosperity depends, maybe they blew it up. Maybe Putin blew it. That's how limitless this compulsivity is when it comes to blaming Russia. Here is a EU Commission spokesperson. Her name is Arianna Podesta. And she's speaking to the German media outlet Deutsche Welle. And here's what she had to say on September 1st, the day that the event happened.

**Arianna Podesta:** We have received information from the Bulgarian authorities that they suspect that this was due to blatant interference by Russia. We are, of course, aware and used to the threats and intimidations that are a regular component of Russia's hostile behaviour. Of course, this will only reinforce even further our unshakable commitment to ramp up defence capabilities and support for Ukraine. This incident actually underlines the urgency of the mission that the President is carrying out in the frontline member states these days. There she has seen firsthand the everyday challenges of threats coming from Russia and its proxies. And of course, the EU will continue to invest into defence spending and in Europe's readiness even more after this incident.

**GG:** So that's one of the big benefits of blaming Russia, is you scare the population of how we need to spend billions more on defence spending. I mean, the British are insane. They just talk openly about the need to be prepared to finance their military to go to war with Russia. Now, the Europeans aren't going to go war with anybody. They're Europeans. They can't

fight. They don't fight, but they like to talk big game. They want to spend a lot on buying things from big arms dealers in Europe. And so this is what you need, an enemy, obviously, for the public to be scared of. And this is one way you get them scared: Oh, Russia. They're interfering in our elections. They cause the British to move out of Brexit. They control who wins elections. They're supporting Marine Le Pen and right-wing extremists. And now they're jamming the GPS at the airport where the EU President is trying to land, endangering her plane.

Now, there's been a lot of talk about this sort of thing for a while. Here's from the Council of the European Union in June of this year. So essentially three months ago, the title was: *Call for Common Actions in Response to Global Satellite Navigation Systems, Jamming and Spoofing Threats*. Quote, "GNSS interference cases are not random incidents, but a systematic deliberate action by Russia and Belarus, which can be used as a hybrid attack on a strategic radio spectrum, which is essential for modern technology and regional safety and security. So far, causing significant damage has been cheap and simple without taking any responsibility. Therefore, this activity is most likely to continue unless proportional countermeasures are taken. GNSS interference as a growing safety and security concern requires immediate coordinated action. So far, the attempts by several member states to address the problem have not brought any more tangible results.". That's the EU in a nutshell. They have meetings, they do all this alarmist rhetoric, but it never brings, quote, "any more, tangible results, therefore it is necessary to increase diplomatic efforts to address the interference and put the pressure on the responsible parties."

So they were already building this narrative, that their planes are at risk from GPS jamming at the hands of the Russians. Now, here is Flight Radar, which I believe is a website tracker for flights. And here's what they were able to confirm based on what they saw on September 1st. Quote, "We are seeing media reports of GPS interference affecting the plane carrying Ursula von der Leyen to Plovdiv, Bulgaria. Some reports claim that the aircraft was in a holding pattern for one hour. This is what we can use from our data. The flight was scheduled to take one hour and 48 minutes. It took one hour and 57 minutes." So by that reasoning, it only was nine minutes longer than planned. And then they were also able to confirm this. "The aircraft's transponder reported good GPS signal quality from takeoff to landing." And they had a path of the flight, which was enabled by the GPS system having good signal quality from the time it took off to the time that it landed. Both points obviously contradicting the EU version of events.

But this claim that Russia blocked the GPS of the airport as von der Leyen was trying to land and that Russia was doing so as part of this sinister plot to endanger EU officials and EU aircraft, in the words of Politico, not exactly a pro-Russian to have to put that mildly, Politico EU, started to, quote, unravel. Here's the headline: *Von der Leyen's GPS scare gripped Europe. The Russian allegations are starting to unravel*. Quote, "Public data also showed the same aircraft that experienced GPS jamming the day before over the Baltics – but not in Bulgaria. On Tuesday, Bulgarian Prime Minister Rosen Zhelyazkov toned down claims of direct Russian interference, calling the incident a routine glitch tied to broader fallout from

the war in Ukraine. Quote, 'There is no need to investigate the situation', he said, 'because these disturbances are neither hybrid nor cyber threats.' A Bulgarian government statement shared with Politico said that, quote, 'air traffic services immediately proposed an alternative landing approach underground-based navigation aids, independent of GPS systems.' SkAI Data Services, a tech startup focused on aviation database in Switzerland, said in a post on LinkedIn that, quote, 'regional jamming was present at high altitudes' in the region, quote, 'but the flight data does not indicate GPS loss on von der Leyen's aircraft.'"

Like the whole story was made up about how long it circled, about the lack of GPS, about the need to land, with paper maps. And about claims that they knew indisputably Russia was involved. Quote, "Responding to questions about the flight data on Tuesday, European Commission Chief Spokesperson Paula Pinho said, quote, 'there was GPS jamming, but the plane still managed to land safely.'"

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