

## New World Order Conspiracy Theories and Anti-Nato Rhetoric Surging on Twitter Amid Russian Invasion of Ukraine.

### BLUF

In the US, public support for Ukraine appears to share consensus from mainstream left and right; fringe actors spreading conspiracy from both extreme poles.

Since beginning of Ukrainian war, New World Order (NWO) and global dominance conspiracies doubled on Twitter, in tandem with antisemitic conspiracy about Soros, Globalists, and World Economic Forum.

Self-identified members of Communist Parties' are engaging in coordinated activity to trend #AbolishNATO.

These anti-NATO themes from both sides are highly convergent and suggest that extremist influences are developing a shared narrative.

### Background

In the wake of Russia's invasion of Ukraine, online activity surged by nearly 20% - on Twitter alone - as users are seeking coverage over critical events. In the online ecosystem, fringe elements from both extreme poles are amplifying conspiracy theories and anti-NATO rhetoric, sometimes in a coordinated fashion. Analysis by the NCRI shows that these actors are amplifying conspiracy theories related to the Ukraine invasion and anti-NATO rhetoric.

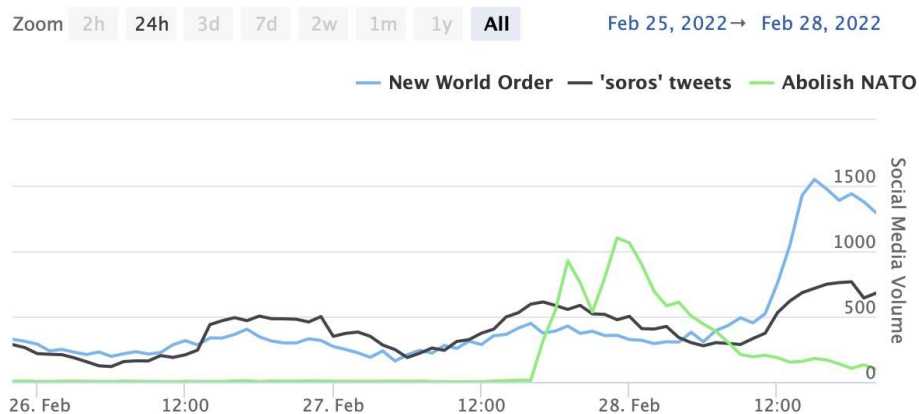


Figure 1. A timeline analysis (excluding retweets) of “New world Order” (and related terms, NWO and #newworldorder), tweets with the term Soros, and tweets containing either “abolish NATO (or #abolishNATO) showed substantial surges on Twitter in the days following the invasion of Ukraine.

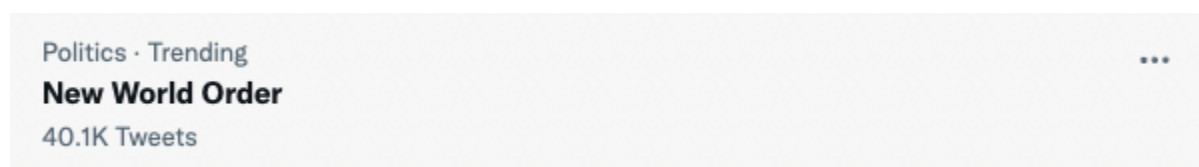
### The New World Order

NCRI analysis suggests that New World Order (NWO) conspiracy, a global dominance narrative with overt antisemitic elements<sup>1</sup> has nearly doubled on Twitter (figure 1) since XXXX, along with cryptically antisemitic framings around terms such as “Soros” and “Globalist”. Key right wing influencers have amplified the conspiracy over the past several days.



Figure x. Influencers such as Wendy Rogers, a state senator from Arizona, and @HegKong, a “medical rights” activist disseminate explicitly pro-putin and anti-Zelenski NWO conspiracy.

Natural language processing on the NWO conspiracy before and after the invasion shows that the conspiracy initially encapsulates a range of topics, including Covid, the events in Canada, and the global economy (figure x) but then converges into Ukraine and Putin themes almost entirely (figure x).



<sup>1</sup> <https://networkcontagion.us/reports/a-contagion-of-institutional-distrust/>



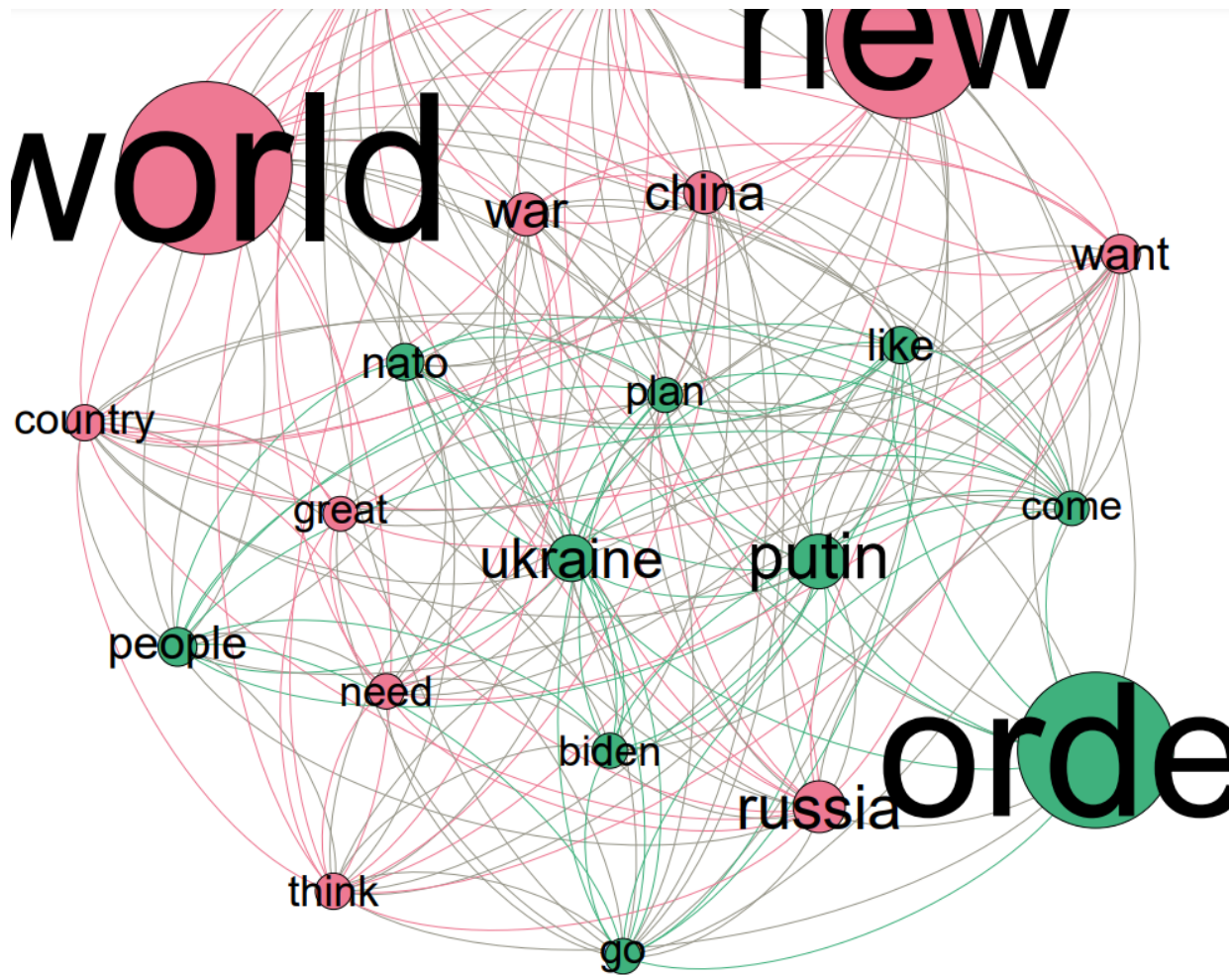
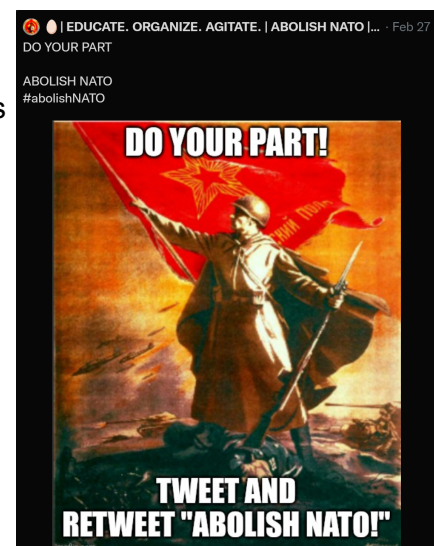


Figure x. A topic network of over 12 thousand tweets from 02/24/22 to 02/28/22 on Twitter shows themes collapsing narrowly on the Ukraine crisis in the NWO narrative.

## #AbolishNATO

In addition to far right elements, authoritarian left-wing elements have been engaging in a coordinated effort to disseminate extreme messaging to advocate for disbanding or abolishing NATO. On Feb 27th, @mountainchen24, a communist influencer, acted as a point of origin for the hashtag #abolishNATO using traditional communist era propaganda in meme format. The user tweeted the #abolishNATO over 50 times, with some posts receiving over 100 retweets.

Groups of users employing communist emoji symbols, users expressing support for communist regimes and bot accounts began to disseminate the hashtag in a coordinated fashion. (figure x)





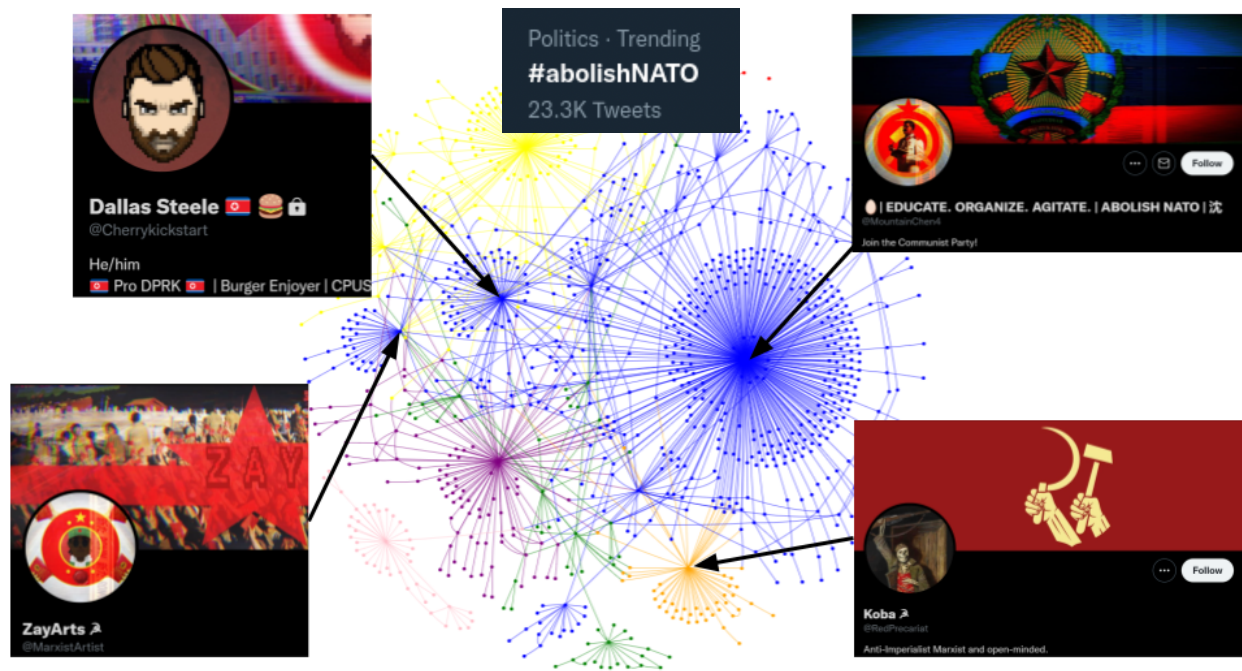


Figure x. A retweet network<sup>2</sup> of the most prominent disseminators of #abolishNATO show communist/socialist influencers with overlapping audiences collectively amplifying the hashtag.

The hashtag has been tweeted close to 25,000 times and counting, though pushback against the anti-NATO sentiment appears to have surfaced strongly against the campaign. This campaign followed on the heels of a statement from [The Democratic Socialists of America](#) calling for the United States to withdraw from NATO; a sentiment amplified by numerous communist and socialist influencers on Twitter, including the United States Communist Party.



Figure x. Official Communist Party chapters share anti-NATO material as well as false flag conspiracy.

The parallels between the New World Order narrative and the coordinated efforts to Abolish NATO have remarkable similarities to one another. Accusations of global control for the New World Order closely mirror narratives of “Western Hegemony” among those in the far left. Episodes of false flag conspiracy and fears of a controlling elite are also notable parallels. For these reasons, it is not surprising that amongst the bot-like activities and ideological actors behind these campaigns, cross fertilization and converging efforts are beginning to appear between polar groups. Actors from both extreme left and extreme right disseminate the #abolishNATO hashtag for example. Furthermore, elements of the New World Order Conspiracy, especially focus on global elite, show overlapping language on both sides.