

Propaganda Czar:

Soros Bankrolls 253 Groups to Influence Global Media

JOSEPH VAZQUEZ AND DANIEL SCHNEIDER

Executive Summary

Leftist billionaire George Soros used his charities to build ties with hundreds of media organizations around the world involved in news and activist media. The journalism and activist media groups Soros supports mold public opinion on practically every continent and in many languages. They also insulate him from inquiry because reporters see him as an ally, not a target for investigation.

The 92-year-old philanthropist's multimillion-dollar efforts promoting his bizarre "open society" agenda encompass some of the most radical leftist ideas on abortion, Marxist economics, anti-Americanism, defunding the police, environmental extremism and LGBT fanaticism.

His global media clout is massive. An extensive analysis by MRC Business discovered at least 253 news and activist media organizations across the world financed by Soros' philanthropic organizations. These groups wield massive power over information in international politics.

This report is the first in a three-part series that reveals the extent of the reach Soros wields over international media to influence the world population. Soros <u>once told</u> *The New York Times* that he was working to "bend" the arc of history "in the right direction." He means it.

Project Syndicate: A Global Soros-Funded Behemoth

There is no publication that exemplifies Soros' hold on the global media more than Project Syndicate, self-dubbed "The World's Opinion Page."

A Global Propaganda Operation. The publication boasts a "global audience" that includes "prominent politicians, policymakers, scholars, business leaders, and civic activists from six continents" and "over 140 heads of state." Project Syndicate claimed its commentaries appeared an amazing 20,393 times in 156 countries in 2021 alone. Soros' OSF funneled at least \$1,532,105 to Project Syndicate between 2016 and 2020. The outlet promoted everything from abortion to global climate lockdowns to hatred against Israel. It also influences White House propaganda.

Poynter Institute: A Global Soros-Backed Ministry of Truth

The Poynter Institute has devolved from a premier outlet for journalistic training to another leftist media outlet.

• Poynter Is Soros' 'Gold Standard' for Liberal Journalism Gatekeeping. Poynter sells itself as a "global leader in journalism" and as the "gold standard" to emphasize its influence. Soros gave \$492,000 to finance Poynter's leftist International Fact-Checking Network between 2016 and 2020. The network works with 100 so-called fact-checking organizations worldwide, distinguishing itself as a de facto Ministry of Truth. Poynter's fact-checking operation restricts opinions on issues like abortion, "transgenderism," COVID-19 and Marxist economics. IFCN signatories like Lead Stories, Poynter's own PolitiFact and Agence-France Presse, actively work with Big Tech platforms like Facebook and its sister company Instagram to boost their "fact-checking" operations to censor users.

openDemocracy: Soros' Leftist Global Journalism Operation

Through the leftist U.K.-based openDemocracy, Soros works to control journalism worldwide.

• openDemocracy Is a Cesspool of Leftist Extremism. OSF gave at least \$1,633,457 to openDemocracy between 2016 and 2020. The outlet pushes extreme leftist content masquerading as journalism. It promotes transgender ideology in children, anti-Christian propaganda, calls for the abolishment of the nuclear family, climate radicalism and anti-Semitism. openDemocracy flaunts that it "attracts more than 11 million visits per year" and publishes "in Russian, Spanish and Portuguese as well as English."

Free Press: 'Socialism' Restricting Conservative Speech

Free Press is activism disguised as journalism. It pushes to silence conservative speech.

• Liberal Media Props Up Free Press' Anti-American Mission. Free Press boasted how it received "3,200 press hits in places including the Associated Press, Bloomberg, CNN, Democracy Now!, The Guardian, The Los Angeles Times, MSNBC, NPR, Poynter and Wired" in 2021. Leftist Free Press co-founder Robert W. McChesney made a Marxist call to action in 2000 to "make media reform part of our broader struggle for democracy, social justice, and, dare we say it, socialism."

Media Democracy Fund: A Soros-Funded Gargantuan Dedicated to Woke 'Social Justice'

The Soros-funded Media Democracy Fund is a dark money operation at "the crossroads of digital technology and social justice."

• Media Democracy Fund Is a Money-Spewing Cog in Soros' Sphere of Influence. It received \$3,520,000 from Soros' OSF between 2016 and 2020. Its so-called "Disinfo Defense League" (DDL) urges government to fund journalism, ."[t]o fully combat the problems of disinformation, hate and other malign practices online." The fund pressured for "Congress to create a small percentage tax on the online advertising revenues of the largest online platforms," DDL claimed.

National Public Radio: Soros and State Media

Soros' media empire wouldn't be complete without a connection to U.S. state media.

NPR Is Soros' Taxpayer-Funded Radio Propaganda Mill. National Public Radio has proven to be
a propaganda mill for Soros' anti-American agenda. NPR received \$600,000 from Soros' foundations in 2016. NPR currently exploits a weekly audience of 48 million, according to NPR network
exclusive sponsorship representative National Public Media. During the Aug. 1, 2022, edition of All
Things Considered, NPR reporter Sergio Martinez-Beltran compared "hardline Republicans" pushing Texas Gov. Greg Abbott (R) to be stricter on immigration to the mass shooter at the El Paso
Walmart in 2019.

COMING UP NEXT...

Soros Report Part 2:

Find out just how much money George Soros has funneled into the 253 news and activist media organizations in his global media network.

Soros Report Part 3:

MRC Business will expose who in the establishment media are connected to George Soros.



Propaganda Czar:

Soros Bankrolls 253 Groups to Influence Global Media

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Leftist billionaire **George Soros** used his charities to build ties with more than **250 media organizations** around the world that focus on news and activist media. This was discovered through an extensive analysis by MRC Business.

The journalism groups Soros supports have the ability to mold public opinion on practically every continent and in many languages. They also insulate him from inquiry because reporters see him as an ally, not a target for investigation.

The 92-year-old philanthropist's multimillion-dollar efforts promoting his bizarre "open society" agenda encompass some of the most radical leftist ideas on abortion, Marxist economics, anti-Americanism, defunding the police, environmental extremism and LGBT fanaticism.

In the United States, Soros is known for his massive involvement backing liberal policies and politicians. Since the 2016 election, he has spent at least \$200 million backing political candidates, which includes \$29 million for local prosecutors and district attorneys. In 2022 alone, he committed \$128 million to Democrats in the midterm elections, according to Open Secrets. *The New York Times* even conceded that Soros was the "largest donor" for the 2022 midterms. But that's just a drop in the bucket compared to the over \$32 billion he pumped into his Open Society Foundations (OSF) since 1984 to shape politics to his liking on a global scale.

His worldwide media clout is massive as a result.

MRC Business conducted an extensive analysis of Soros' deep-rooted ties to global media. In summary, MRC discovered at least 253 organizations across the world tied to news and activist media financed by Soros' philanthropic organizations. A number of these groups wield massive power over the flow of information in international politics.

This report is the first in a three-part series that reveals the extent of the reach that Soros wields over international media to influence the world population with his radical leftist ideas. It is easy to criticize Soros' politics. But he is a savvy investor – whether he's trying to make money or use it to push his agenda. Soros once told *The Times* that he was working to "bend" the arc of history "in the right direction." He's wasn't kidding.

 global governance, <u>open borders</u>, <u>fomenting political unrest</u>, <u>undermining</u> national currencies and donating millions to groups dedicated to crushing American exceptionalism and capitalism. Yes, a man who made tens of billions of dollars from capitalism considers it a threat.

Major media organizations then repackage this anti-American agenda to brainwash consumers of print, digital, radio and TV news. When the George Floyd <u>riots, looting and racial unrest</u>, were running hot in 2020 across the U.S., for example, Soros' OSF exploited the incident to announce a \$220 million campaign push to promote so-called "racial equality." *The New York Times* fawned over how Soros' leftist activism "signal[ed] the extent to which race and identity have become the explicit focal point of American politics in recent years, with no sign of receding." Then-OSF president Patrick Gaspard <u>capitalized</u> on the chaos to condemn the United States as being systemically racist:

"We recognize that the struggle to dismantle systemic racism is an ongoing one; it has existed from the dawn of the republic to the present day, and is embedded in every level of government and in our penal and justice systems."

Soros also directly funds journalism outlets dedicated to smearing the U.S.

<u>The Marshall Project (MP)</u> — a leftist journalism outlet that's primarily focused on demonizing the American criminal justice system — received at least <u>\$1,250,000</u> from Soros' OSF between 2016 and 2020.

Providing a window into how radical the outlet is, MP's founder Neil Barsky claimed on Marshall's "About Us" webpage that the Marxist "Black Lives Matter movement became a formidable force in the fight for racial justice." In addition, the publication exploited the Capitol Hill riot of Jan. 6, 2021, to push a crazy propaganda story headlined, "White Terrorism Often Leads to Harsher Punishment for People of Color." MP is so powerful that it lists prominent U.S. media corporations like NBC, The New York Times, TIME magazine, The Associated Press and New York Magazine as its "publishing partners" in its 2021-2022 annual report.

But that's just scratching the surface of the level of power wielded by Soros-funded media outlets. When President Joe Biden's Department of Homeland Security chose to <u>erect</u> an Orwellian Disinformation Governance Board <u>targeting</u> American speech in <u>reported</u> coordination with social media platforms, a Soros-tied media figure managed to gain control over the operation. DHS Principal Deputy General

Counsel Jennifer Daskal, the founding editor of the Just Security blog, was tapped by DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas to co-chair the Disinformation Governance Board. Not only did Soros' OSF finance Daskal's publication with \$675,000 between 2016 and 2020, Daskal also personally worked for Soros. Daskal previously served as an Open Society Institute fellow "working on issues related to privacy and law enforcement access to data across borders."



▶ <u>WATCH</u>: DHS Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas on new Disinformation Governance Board

DHS would later dismantle the DGB in August 2022 following <u>major political backlash</u> over the Biden administration creating its own acceptable speech gatekeeper. Any "<u>nonpartisan</u>" veneer Biden's administration falsely propped up for the DGB flew out the window after MRC Business exposed the Soros connection.

Few Americans are familiar with Soros-funded outlets like Project Syndicate or openDemocracy. But they should be. Project Syndicate communicates Soros' propaganda with readers in 156 countries in 66 languages. It gives him a global platform for his radical open society ideas and his own writing. The outlet has published Soros at least 115 times. Fellow global outlet openDemocracy, based in the U.K., doesn't have quite the same reach, but still shares its content across multiple languages.

Project Syndicate, in particular, is prominently influential in shaping narratives. The White House attempted to gaslight Americans by casting confusion over the meaning of a recession when U.S. GDP was set to contract for two consecutive quarters in 2022. But evidence suggests a possibility that the Biden administration may have taken its cues from Project Syndicate. The White House Council of Economic Advisers (CEA) released propaganda July 21, 2022: "It is unlikely that the decline in GDP in the first quarter of this year—even if followed by another GDP decline in the second quarter—indicates a recession."

Three days earlier, Project Syndicate released a <u>column</u> by <u>Jeffrey Frankel</u>, a Harvard economist and <u>research associate</u> of the National Bureau of Economic Research, which pushed the same talking points: "[E]ven if the [Bureau of Economic Analysis] estimate is negative, however, it does not necessarily mean that the US has entered a recession."

Frankel spun that the Business Cycle
Dating Committee of his NBER "makes
[the official recession] call, based on a
variety of indicators – a role that the
BEA officially recognizes." The CEA,
along similar lines, touted the NBER's
Business Cycle Dating Committee as
"the official recession scorekeeper." It
didn't take long for major liberal media
outlets to follow suit and regurgitate
the same propaganda redefining the
meaning of a "recession" that a Sorosfunded outlet projected to the world.



▶ <u>WATCH</u>: The controversial influence of the Soros-Funded Project Syndicate

Then there are the fact-checkers. No phony aspect of journalism has more daily impact than the fact-checking regimen utilized to control content on social media and search engines. The Soros-funded International Fact-Checking Network, a project of the Poynter Institute for Media Studies — approves official fact-checkers scattered all around the world, comprising roughly 100 organizations.

Want to post on Facebook? Fact-checkers can flag your post and place so-called fact-checks on the content even if the alleged fact-check doesn't relate at all to what you wrote. Facebook and Instagram often blindly accept these fact-checks and use them to determine whether to remove your post or

hide it from the public, thereby limiting how many people see it. Those fact-checkers are approved by Poynter's operation, funded by Soros.

Fact-checkers squelched the Hunter Biden laptop story. That is real power. Just ask Hunter's father – President Biden.

As former Harvard Business School professor <u>David Korten</u> stated in <u>a review</u> on the Soros book *Open Society: Reforming Global Capitalism:* "Soros plans to buy civil society." He at least is making a downpayment.

In an exclusive interview with MRC Business, Bongino Report Content Manager Matt Palumbo noted that "one of the biggest consequences" of billionaires like Soros wielding broad control of the media is that publications then become "horse blinders in front of us" and that is "creating a filter on what we can see." In effect, said Palumbo, "You really can create any impression you want." And that apparently includes creating the false impression that anyone who criticizes Soros at all is anti-Semitic.



Matt Palumbo- Bongino Report Content Manager

When *The Times* praised OSF's \$220 million cash dump into the racial strife fire in 2020, the publication made it a point to paint conservative critics of Soros as fomenting anti-Semitism, which had nothing to do with the story:

"Mr. Soros has become a favorite target of some conservatives and right-wing groups, which have sometimes used anti-Semitic tropes to try to recast his giving as an effort to seek world influence."

This is the kind of influence that someone with mountains of cash like Soros can buy.

Palumbo — who authored the 2022 book *The Man Behind the Curtain: Inside the Secret Network of George Soros* — told MRC Business that Soros' media reach "appears in different ways," such as when journalists who work at major publications like *The Times, The Washington Post*, CBS, CNN and ABC simultaneously appear on Soros' "payroll" at other organizations. "That's going to influence your coverage," in Palumbo's assessment. "Just type in Soros' name in any of the" major liberal publications he's linked to "and see how they cover him."

Usually, according to Palumbo, "if they're ever covering him in a negative way, it's framed as if his critics are the bad guys for noticing." But, as Palumbo noted, "No one would ever say that about" <u>critics</u> of late Jewish conservative billionaire Sheldon Adelson or of other "Jewish donors on the right, but because it's convenient for them on the left, they can do that and the media goes along with it."

It helps that Soros' media ties have made his radical "open society" idealism and liberal press propaganda one and the same.



Soros' 'Open Society' at War with National Sovereignty

The crux of Soros' extreme "open society" worldview could be summed up in his hatred for national sovereignty and support for wild leftist positions on race, climate change, defunding the police and the nuclear family.

Soros directs a ton of energy to destroy American sovereignty.

Soros advocated in *Open Society: Reforming Global Capitalism* (2000) for an "Open Society Alliance" led by "developed democracies." He said the United States "must subordinate our sovereignty" and lambasted America as the "greatest obstacle to establishing the rule of law in international affairs." At the time, the president of the United States was Democrat Bill Clinton.

Soros' anti-American sentiment only grew more strident during the eras of Republican presidents George W. Bush and Donald Trump. On Oct. 24, 2004, Soros issued a preelection screed in Project Syndicate claiming "Bush is endangering the United States and the world's safety while undermining American values." During a speech at the World Economic Forum in January 2018, Soros smeared the Trump administration as a "danger to the world."



► <u>WATCH</u>: Soros calls Trump administration a 'danger to the world' at the World Economic Forum — January 25, 2018.

The ideas promoted by Soros-funded media provide the blueprints for his envisioned "open society." openDemocracy published an op-ed from a "queer communism" activist who said the COVID-19 crisis "shows it's time to abolish the [nuclear] family." Specifically, the pandemic, according to the article, provided an opportunity to "evacuate and generally"

empower survivors of – and refugees from – the nuclear household." Project Syndicate <u>pushed</u> ecodystopian fear-mongering that the world may need a "climate lockdown" to preempt climate change unless the world undergoes a "green economic transformation."

The Poynter Institute for Media Studies, the journalism giant that houses the Soros-funded International Fact-Checking Network, <u>repudiated</u> a news anchor's usage of the word "moms" to describe mothers giving birth to children. It pushed for the normalization of "gender-neutral language" in reporting in order to "influence legislation and national discourse about LGBTQ+ families and parents in the workforce."

During the Middle East refugee crisis in Hungary, Soros emphasized his disdain for Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban's policy to protect his country's borders. "[Orban's] plan treats the protection of national borders as the objective and the refugees as an obstacle. Our plan treats the protection of refugees as the objective and national borders as the obstacle," Soros said. The media organizations funded by and linked to Soros have also denigrated countries that have defended national sovereignty, including the United States, Israel and Hungary. For example, the Soros-funded openDemocracy justified the launch of terrorist rockets into Israel as "a necessary counter-discourse" to what it dubbed a "colonial power."

The Godfather of the Left makes no bones about what the outlandish "open society" world he envisions entails when taken to its logical conclusion: "[I]n a perfectly open society none of the existing ties are final, and people's relation to nation, family, and their fellows depends entirely on their own decisions." What his absurd vision means, however, is that "the permanence of social relationships has disappeared; the organic structure of society has disintegrated to the point where its atoms, the individuals, float around without any roots," Soros wrote in *Underwriting Democracy*. The Investor's Business Daily Editorial Board didn't mince words in 2015 about what Soros' worldview means in light of his ardent support for international governing bodies like the European Union: "One World Government."

The editorial board wrote:

"The EU with all its political correctness, overbearing bureaucracy, intolerance of diversity and lack of respect for the unique histories and cultural identities of its nation-states is Soros' own vision. No wonder his Open Society Foundations focus on gun control, open borders, repression of religion, open jails, ending patriotism and curtailing freedom."

Soros' media empire has done everything to sell this dark view to the world. Those who oppose his agenda have been his consistent targets — <u>including</u> George W. Bush and Trump.

Soros specifically <u>devoted</u> hundreds of millions in donations and commitments to so-called social justice and racial justice groups, including those that promote the radical idea of "reparations." Soros pursued those aims with everything from exploiting the death of George Floyd in 2020 to advance a leftist racial justice agenda, pledging \$100 million to support <u>radical feminism</u> across the globe, pouring <u>millions</u> into left-wing journalism and <u>financing groups promoting</u> global climate-change radicalism and <u>anti-police hatred</u>. Stifling free speech on social media is also apparently part of Soros' "open society" brand.

MRC Business <u>discovered</u> a litany of left-wing activist groups financed to the tune of at least \$80,233,084 from Soros between 2016 and 2020, that put enormous pressure on Big Tech CEOs to censor free speech

on their platforms before the 2022 midterm elections. The targeted executives included CEOs like Meta's Mark Zuckerberg, Google's Sundar Pichai, YouTube's Susan Wojcicki and TikTok's Shou Zi Chew.

Anti-Americanism is also a signature of Soros' funding apparatus. The Soros Economic Development Fund (SEDF), the <u>impact investment arm</u> of the Open Society Foundations, has spent hundreds of millions of dollars around the world in "private-sector investments to advance" OSF's left-wing agendas such as "<u>racial equity</u>" and "<u>climate justice</u>." The organization states that it has doled out \$400 million to 54 countries as of April 2022, \$9.3 million of which went toward "<u>independent media</u>." The SEDF's "Racial Equity" focus in particular is dedicated to "combatting" America's so-called "entrenched white supremacy" and "anti-Black racism."

Soros has a record for not being shy in describing how important he sees himself and how he sees his role in the world, which explains his aggressive efforts to influence the information that people see, hear and watch. Soros admitted in his magnum opus, *The Alchemy of Finance*, that he "always harbored" an "exaggerated view" of his "self-importance."

He continued: "[T]o put it bluntly, I fancied myself as some kind of god or economic reformer like [John Maynard] Keynes (each with his General Theory) or, even better, a scientist like Einstein." That "exaggerated view" of Soros' importance is reflected in how he uses his money to transform countries into his own distorted perception of "open society," even if it means knee-capping national sovereignty.

As he said in *Soros on Soros: Staying Ahead of the Curve (1995)*: "Of course, what I do could be called meddling, because I want to promote an open society. An open society transcends national sovereignty." Late City Journal contributing editor <u>Stefan Kanfer</u>, who referred to Soros as a "Connoisseur of Chaos," <u>perfectly</u> summarized OSF's global agenda: "Underneath its lofty rhetoric, the organization was clearly devoted to the eradication of national sovereignty." Harvard Business School Isidor Straus Professor of Business History <u>Geoffrey G. Jones</u> even <u>co-authored</u> a study on Soros, describing his persona as a "stateless statesman."

Soros has a knack for saying <u>outrageous things</u> when it comes to exploiting tragedy if it serves his own political ends. His comments on the opportunities he saw with the coronavirus pandemic were no exception. The pandemic was "a revolutionary moment when the range of possibilities is much greater than in normal times," Soros <u>told</u> Italian newspaper <u>La Repubblica</u> in a 2020 interview. "What is inconceivable in normal times becomes not only possible but actually happens. People are disoriented and scared." *The Washington Times* summarized that Soros sees "the COVID-19 crisis has opened up politics in a radical direction."

Soros certainly used his billions over the years to encourage the "radical" political shift to great effect. Progressive donor hub Blue Tent <u>described his</u> OSF as perhaps "the single most influential nonprofit organization in the world." Former Carnegie Endowment for International Peace President <u>Morton Abramowitz</u> once said of Soros that he was "the only man in the United States who has his own foreign policy and can implement it," according to late New York Times reporter <u>Michael T. Kaufman's</u> 2002 book *Soros: The Life and Times of a Messianic Billionaire*. In addition, then-Morgan Stanley Dean Witter Chief Strategist <u>Byron Wien</u> claimed that Soros wielded "more influence in the world than anyone who has ever held high elective or appointive office."

Characteristic of this dominant influence in world affairs is reflected in Soros' major investments to buy access and influence in major media.

Project Syndicate

Project Syndicate: A Global Soros-Funded Behemoth

There is arguably no publication that exemplifies Soros' hold on the global media more than Project Syndicate, self-dubbed "The World's Opinion Page."

The liberal <u>publication boasts</u> it reaches a "global audience" through contributors that include "prominent politicians, policymakers, scholars, business leaders, and civic activists from six continents." Project Syndicate isn't kidding. The publication also brags that "over <u>140 heads of state</u>" are Project Syndicate contributors. And Soros, himself — published in the outlet at least 115 times.

Project Syndicate <u>claimed</u> its commentaries appeared an amazing 20,393 times in 156 countries in 2021 alone. Project Syndicate also works with 508 media outlets around the world and its articles have reportedly appeared in 66 languages. The structure of Project Syndicate is a massive interconnected hub of liberal elites spreading extremist ideas globally.

Soros' OSF funneled at least \$1,532,105 to Project Syndicate between 2016 and 2020.

The outlet has promoted everything from abortion to global climate lockdowns to hatred against Israel.

Project Syndicate contributors include former high-level government officials from countries like the U.K., Australia, Sweden, Mexico and Venezuela, and top-ranked left-wing leaders from powerful international organizations like the World Bank and the Orwellian World Economic Forum (WEF), which recently promoted an insane idea of microchipping children. One notable contributor included individuals such as anti-American and anti-Israel former Iranian President Hassan Rouhani. Project Syndicate allowed Rouhani to push propaganda in 2014 threatening conflict with the U.S. if an agreement on his country's notorious nuclear program wasn't reached. "By diminishing the prospects for a permanent negotiated agreement on our nuclear program, such behavior increases the likelihood that the Iran-US standoff will continue," Rouhani wrote.

Rouhani <u>reportedly</u> denounced Israel in 2021 as "the enemy' of the Middle East in comments leading up to World Al Quds Day, which Iran inaugurated after the 1979 Islamic Revolution to protest the existence of the Jewish state,"

according to i24News. Rouhani proclaimed: "The Zionists are the enemies of the region and of the security of the Palestinian people."

Other Project Syndicate contributors included WEF Executive Chairman <u>Klaus Schwab</u>, former Democrat <u>President Jimmy Carter</u>, former British Prime Ministers <u>David Cameron</u> and <u>John Major</u>, French President <u>Emmanuel Macron</u>, former German Chancellor <u>Angela Merkel</u> and former U.S. Deputy Secretary of Defense <u>Paul Wolfowitz</u>.

Macron, in particular, <u>wrote</u> in 2019 how "all" of the liberal European Union's institutions "need to have the climate as their mandate." Former U.S. Vice President and eternal <u>green activist Al Gore</u> is also listed as a Project Syndicate contributor, though the publication has listed no obvious pieces by Gore.

Important names in the Big Tech industry wrote for Project Syndicate too. Liberal billionaire Microsoft co-founder <u>Bill Gates</u> has placed nine columns and an interview to Project Syndicate between 2012 and 2021. Project Syndicate's enormous contributor list also includes Google CEO <u>Sundar Pichai</u>.

Soros' collaboration with Project Syndicate indicates how valuable the billionaire considers the outlet to be for driving his message.

Soros himself has written extensively for Project Syndicate. To date, Soros has contributed at least <u>115</u> <u>columns</u> to Project Syndicate since 1997, which is eye-opening in light of the publication's enormous reach.

Soros' first Project Syndicate column, "The Capitalist Threat," made this stark claim about what he considered the true threat to his bizarre vision of the post-Soviet Union era: "The main enemy of the open society is no longer the communist but the capitalist threat." Fast-forward 25 years, and a Soros column teed up the Fourth of July celebrations by decrying the so-called "far-right" United States Supreme Court as a "greater" threat than both Communist China and authoritarian Russia. The reason? The Supreme Court overturned the 1973 pro-abortion *Roe v. Wade* ruling in a victory for the pro-life movement.

Soros went further, fomenting a conspiracy theory that the court's logic in overturning Roe "could even allow states to ban inter-racial marriage." He continued: "It is also clear that this Court intends to mount a frontal attack on the executive branch. One of the most consequential rulings of the Court's just-completed term denied the Environmental Protection Agency the authority to issue regulations needed to combat climate change."

The Soros column for Project Syndicate created a boogeyman out of the supposedly "extremist majority" on SCOTUS and used it as a pivot point to attack congressional Republicans. Soros, of course, suggested gutting the Senate filibuster so Congress could codify abortion into law:

"There is only one way to rein in the Supreme Court: throw the Republican Party out of office in a landslide. That would allow Congress to protect through legislation the rights that had been entrusted to the protection of the Supreme Court. It is now clear that doing so was a big mistake. Congress must act, starting with protecting a woman's right to choose. If the filibuster must be amended to achieve that, so be it."

But the extremism that Project Syndicate pushes isn't limited to Soros.

In 2020, Project Syndicate <u>pushed</u> an eco-dystopian idea from economist <u>Marianna Mazzucato</u> who exploited the COVID-19 pandemic to fear-monger that the world may need a "climate lockdown" to preempt climate change unless the world undergoes a "green economic transformation."

"The world is approaching a tipping point on climate change, when protecting the future of civilization will require dramatic interventions," Mazzucato claimed. "In the near future, the world may need to resort to lockdowns again – this time to tackle a climate emergency" — and COVID-19 set the precedent.

Soros — who made <u>end-of-the-world</u> climate change propaganda a centerpiece of his multibillion-dollar political agenda — made a <u>point of telling</u> Italian newspaper *La Repubblica* in 2020 that the pandemic was a "revolutionary moment when the range of possibilities is much greater than in normal times." He continued: "What is inconceivable in normal times becomes not only possible but actually happens. People are disoriented and scared."

"Disoriented and scared" enough to entertain the idea of needing a global climate lockdown like Mazzucato is suggesting? Soros himself <u>funded</u> Mazzucato's research.

Project Syndicate certainly pushed the climate armageddon idea. It hosted a Sept. 14, 2022, climate alarmist event called "Forsaken Futures" well-stocked with green activists, all clamoring for the "green transition" and warning of imminent disaster resulting from climate change.

BBC journalist <u>Jo Coburn</u> led off the <u>video conference</u> with these ominous words: "Some, although not all economists, are warning that the global economy is teetering on the brink. Inflation, an energy crisis, rising interest rates" and "flaccid stock markets" all present a major threat, Coburn said. "Where does it all leave the green transition?" Coburn asked.

<u>Bill McKibben</u>, <u>co-founder</u> of radical environmentalist group 350.org, did not seem concerned about any risk that a so-called "green transition" might pose to a world suffering through an energy crisis. McKibben instead resorted to fear-mongering, arguing that there is a "grave need for the rapid transition off fossil fuel and onto renewable energy" because otherwise the world will experience climate destruction "everyday, everywhere." McKibben's group is also funded by Soros.

Soros gave McKibben's group 350.org \$700,000 between 2016 and 2020. McKibben is the same eco-

doomsayer whose past climate predictions were so extreme, even Scientific American called him out in 2011 for throwing up "overheated rhetoric" and "fear-mongering." The Soros-tied McKibben also heads "The Climate Crisis," The New Yorker's newsletter on the environment.

McKibben wasn't the only talking head proclaiming climate disaster. "It is no longer a question of if or when climate change will affect us. Climate change is already here. The question is how bad



► <u>WATCH</u>: Project Syndicate Events: Forsaken Futures

things will get. So while this summer was remarkable, it may unfortunately also be the new normal," Denmark climate minister <u>Dan Jørgensen</u> said. Jørgensen, Soros and his son Alexander are all listed as "<u>Council members</u>" at the Soros-funded European Council on Foreign Relations (ECFR). Soros gave \$11,683,720 to the ECFR between 2016 and 2020.

Project Syndicate even allowed the promotion of anti-Semitic content on its website. London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE) International Relations Professor <u>Fawaz A. Gerges</u> published an April 30, 2021, <u>column</u> for Project Syndicate that was very much on point with the site's anti-Israel bent: "Apartheid in the Holy Land." To prove his incendiary thesis, Gerges relied on research from the <u>anti-Semitic</u>, Soros-funded Human Rights Watch (HRW), which <u>released a report</u> in 2021 casting Israel as an apartheid state.

HRW <u>received</u> a massive sum of at least \$32,106,746 from Soros' groups between 2000 and 2014. In 2010, Soros and his OSF announced it would <u>give</u> \$100 million to the anti-Israel HRW over 10 years. Gerges proceeded to pretend Israel was obsessed with Jewish dominance:

"(HRW) asserts that the Israeli government is enforcing a systemic policy to maintain the 'domination by Jewish Israelis over Palestinians.' The nearly seven million Palestinians in the occupied territories and within Israel itself face collective persecution under an apartheid system."

Soros also funds Gerges' school. Soros gave LSE at least \$2,228,284 between 2016 and 2020. JewishPress.com reported in 2016 that leaked documents revealed a "very long" list of Soros-funded groups "hostile to Zionism and to the Jewish State" accounting for at least \$9,591,801 in Soros cash between 2001 and 2015 alone.

Poynter.

Poynter Institute: A Global Soros-Backed Ministry of Truth

The Poynter Institute has devolved from a premier outlet for journalistic training to another leftist media outlet. Its prestigious reputation made it an ideal home for the international headquarters of so-called "fact-checking." Soros has supported media efforts to either stomp out opinions contradicting his views or to target conservatives. The liberal Poynter Institute for Media Studies represents the essence of Soros' "fact-checking" efforts.

Poynter sells itself as a "global leader in journalism" and as the "gold standard" to emphasize its influence as a liberal media superpower. Soros gave \$492,000 to finance Poynter's liberal International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN) between 2016 and 2020. The Soros-funded IFCN works with 100 so-called fact-checking organizations worldwide, powerfully distinguishing itself as a de facto Ministry of Truth. Poynter's IFCN hosts the international Global Fact event, the "world's largest annual fact-checking summit" for individuals including "fact-checkers, journalists, technologists, policy makers, leaders, educators and the public from more than 55 countries."

Poynter's fact-checking operation is engineered to make sure opinions that oppose the left's narrative on a variety of issues like abortion, "transgenderism," COVID-19 and economics are silenced before they gain traction on social media.

Big Tech companies like Facebook and Its sister company Instagram actively partner with Poynter's IFCN and Poynter's own liberal fact-checker PolitiFact. Other fact-checking organizations like Agence-France Press and Lead Stories must be approved by the IFCN to operate as official fact-checkers. Facebook itself doled out \$1 million in 2020 to finance Poynter's IFCN. Google and its subsidiary YouTube recently announced a \$13.2 million grant to the IFCN to create a "Global Fact Check Fund." Google bragged in a blog post that the grant was its "single largest grant in fact-checking." The Communist Chinese Party-tied TikTok app — which is notorious for censoring content that contradicts leftist narratives — partners with at least 11 IFCN signatories. The Big Tech platform fights so-called "dangerous misinformation" across "55 markets."

IFCN published an <u>open letter</u> criticizing YouTube for "allowing its platform to be weaponized by unscrupulous actors to manipulate and exploit others, and to organize and fundraise themselves." In the IFCN's draconian view, "Current measures are proving insufficient." IFCN exploited the COVID-19 pandemic to decry how "destructive disinformation and misinformation can be for social harmony, democracy, and public health; too many lives and livelihoods have been ruined, and far too many people have lost loved ones to disinformation."

The network called on YouTube to "make sure it does not actively promote disinformation to its users or recommend content coming from unreliable channels." In effect, a liberal organization financed by a left-wing billionaire like Soros tried to push YouTube to accept its own biased perspective about what sources are reliable and which ones aren't.

IFCN actively pressured YouTube to juice its <u>operations</u> to destroy free speech on its platform. For example, IFCN stipulated that YouTube should be "acting against repeat offenders that produce content that is constantly flagged as disinformation and misinformation."

Soros' OSF made it clear where it stood on the leftist practice of "fact-checking" during the same month that Poynter announced the launch of the IFCN in July 2015. In a July 2015 blog headlined, "True or False? Fact-Checking Journalism Is Booming," Sameer Padania, former program officer for the Open Society Program on Independent Journalism, fawned at how "[t]he role of fact-checking journalists in this environment is crucial." Padania continued: "Their credibility depends in large part on transparency around their methods. Most fact-checking sites—like [Poynter's] PolitiFact, UYcheck, and Polish site Demagog—involve a team of journalists using a public methodology."

Padania even promoted the views of PolitiFact founder <u>Bill Adair</u>, who pushed that his "dream" was "to get the fact-check information in front of citizens at the point of the political message," such as placing fact checks on political advertising. But, Adair mourned, "as we develop new techniques, they find new ways to get around them. It's an arms race." In essence, per Adair's characterization, fact-checking is a war between liberal internet traffic cops acting like they have a monopoly on truth and their targets who aren't content with their voices being silenced.

Facebook and Instagram wield Poynter's publication, PolitiFact, like a sledgehammer to crush free speech on their platforms. Poynter <u>heralds</u> its PolitiFact as "the largest political fact-checking news organization in the United States" and touts that it "published more than 16,000 fact-checks of politicians and pundits."

But PolitiFact's infamous "Truth-o-Meter" is <u>frequently</u> used against <u>conservatives</u> who dare question liberal narratives and have the audacity to criticize left-wing political leaders. The ratio disparity is not even close. An MRC analysis of PolitiFact between Jan. 20, 2021, and Jan. 19, 2022, found that Biden critics were flagged <u>almost six times as often</u> as the president. In fact, during Biden's first 100 days in office, "Biden was fact-checked 40 times, while Biden critics were checked on 230 occasions."

Poynter, which is responsible for training writers and reporters, came under heavy fire in 2019 when MRC Free Speech America exposed how the group attempted to <u>blacklist</u> 29 conservative outlets as "UnNews." Those that Poynter branded "unreliable news websites" included Breitbart, CNSNews. com, Daily Signal, The Daily Wire, Judicial Watch, the MRC, PJ Media, *The Washington Free Beacon* and *Washington Examiner*. Poynter <u>retracted</u> its "UnNews" list after major backlash ensued, but the Sorosbacked organization's war against free speech online and conservative opinion hasn't wavered.

That's why Poynter's power over global fact-checking is so dangerous. And PolitiFact is a key weapon for Poynter.

MRC Business researched <u>961 fact-checks</u> that PolitiFact levied on Donald Trump as of Dec. 1, 2022, 75 percent of them were negative ("Mostly False," "False," and "Pants on Fire"). On the other hand, PolitiFact only had 244 fact-checks on Joe Biden as of the same date, with 57 percent being positive in nature ("True," "Mostly True," and "Half True").

Members within Poynter's IFCN — including Poynter's PolitiFact — pulled out all the stops when a major Biden scandal arose that could have swung the 2020 election to Trump. Multiple fact-checkers falsely cast the scandal as some kind of disinformation operation.

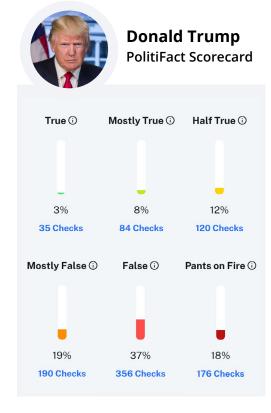
The New York Times, The Washington Post and CBS News verified the emails obtained by the New York Post from Biden's son Hunter's laptop involving shady business dealings between Joe Biden and Ukraine. Poynter's PolitiFact, along with <u>Lead Stories</u> and <u>FactCheck.org</u> — each a signatory in the Soros-funded IFCN — failed to update old stories that smeared the entire 2020 bombshell as possible fake news.

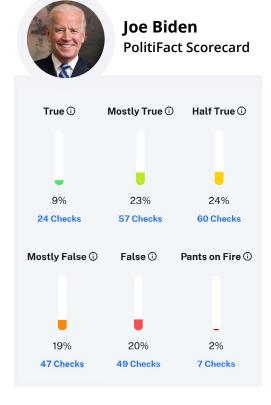
PolitiFact dismissed the emails, claiming it wasn't able to "verify" them in an Oct. 15, 2020, story. The outlet also tried to gaslight readers on the now-verified "smoking gun" email between Hunter and an adviser on Ukrainian energy company Burisma by accusing the New York Post of shoddy work.

In May 2022, PolitiFact slammed Tesla CEO Elon Musk for correctly accusing NBC News of having "covered up" the Hunter Biden laptop scandal in 2020. Here was PolitiFact's Tokyo-based contributing writer Monique Curet's reasoning for why the fact-checker awarded Musk a "False" rating: "NBC News said its lack of in-depth reporting in 2020 on the laptop was due to people in Trump's circle trying to limit access to the information. That's not the same as covering up the story."

In effect, PolitiFact blamed Trump for NBC appearing to cover up the bombshell. In fact, a NewsBusters analysis found that NBC only spent 9 minutes and 6 seconds of coverage on the Hunter Biden laptop scandal and spent 7 minutes and 3







seconds of that time dismissing the story between Oct. 14, 2020 through the morning of April 18, 2022.

In terms of scope of its other activities, Poynter's influence is enormous. Its "MediaWise" operation, which purports to train people to spot so-called "misinformation and disinformation," reportedly reached "over 53 million people in the U.S."

The program has since expanded to "Brazil, France, Spain and Turkey" with "aims to slow the spread of misinformation online and help people make informed decisions about the content they engage with," which means slowing the spread of any information that doesn't align with Poynter's liberal political bent. "With more than 10 million unique visitors in 2021, Poynter.org is an influential and far-reaching source of news for an industry and a public that needs journalism," Poynter <u>claimed</u>. Its "Teen Fact-Checking Network" operation also incorporates children into its fact-checking scheme. The <u>TFCN</u> is reportedly "a virtual newsroom made up of middle and high schoolers who use social media to debunk viral misinformation and share media literacy tips."

TFCN, which is listed as a "verified signatory" of IFCN's "code of principles," works through a partnership with <u>PBS Newshour</u> launched in 2022 that allows "millions of teachers throughout the U.S." to access "lesson plans based on the work of MediaWise's Teen Fact-Checking Network." The TFCN also lists liberal Big Tech behemoths like Google and the communist Chinese government-tied TikTok as supporters.

But the "journalism" that Poynter promotes is blatantly biased. Poynter's senior media writer <u>Tom Jones lambasted</u> CNN leadership for the supposed offense of trying to <u>shift</u> the ardently left-wing network toward the political center. Jones made it clear that he endorsed one-sided journalism: "Sometimes, the other side shouldn't be given a voice, particularly if that side's argument is based on lies or pushes harmful agendas."

It's not just that one side that should be doing most of the talking, apparently, according to Poynter. Journalism, per Poynter, should be programmed to use pre-approved language that caters to the radical ideas of the far left.

For example, Poynter published guidance for journalists in January 2022, that sought to obliterate the standard of using gendered language in reporting. In an <u>article</u> tagged under "Ethics & Trust" with the headline, "Why using gender-nonspecific language in reporting extends beyond the page," author <u>Liana DeMasi</u> railed at how "not dismant[ling] the norm of gendered language in reporting on topics like paid family leave is to work to perpetuate and safeguard discrimination." Poynter dubbed DeMasi a "queer, Brooklyn-based writer" with "they/she" pronouns.

DeMasi took aim at NBC's *Today* show for daring to <u>publish</u> a November 2021 article on MSNBC anchor <u>Katy Tur</u>. The article used gendered language to talk about paid parental leave. "Tur, a straight ciswoman, calls herself a 'mother,' 'mom,' and 'parent,' referencing her husband several times," DeMasi screeched. "[Tur's] usage of 'moms' implies that a birth-giver must always be a mother. After this distinction, Tur uses the term 'partner,' a gender-neutral and inclusive term, one that she could have substituted throughout her dialogue."

DeMasi pushed in her rebuke of Tur that normalizing leftist "gender-neutral" language in reporting could eventually lead to directly influencing the lawmaking process:

"The normalization of gender-neutral language has the potential to create safer, more welcoming, and less discriminatory medical practices for birthing persons and their families. It also has the potential to influence legislation and national discourse about LGBTQ+ families and parents in the workforce. At a base level, it allows a news organization's readership to feel welcome in the digital or print space they've entered."

Poynter Director of Teaching and Diversity Strategies **Doris Truong even used** the controversial term "Latinx" in a June 30, 2020 blog to promote how a nonprofit called "Honor 41 reclaims a slur to elevate LGBTQ+ Latinx stories." According to the propaganda, "Honor 41 profiles 41 Latinx LGBTQ+ role models each year." Poynter pushed how National Association of Hispanic Journalists Executive Director Alberto Mendoza "decided to reclaim the number 41 because there is no national LGBTO+ organization or singular voice for Latinx people." The term "Latinx" is panned among Latino Americans.

Pew Research Center released a December 2019 survey asking Hispanic adults about "Latinx" just a few months after Poynter promoted the term. The survey found that "only 23% of U.S. adults who self-identify as Hispanic or Latino have heard of the term Latinx, and just 3% say they use it to describe themselves."

In 2021, however, Poynter published an article by the Soros-funded NPR trying to spin that words like "Latinx" were simply part of the journalistic struggle to supposedly "find the language to tell stories about racial justice and social equity — issues that pervade American life." The article first appeared in the NPR Public Editor Newsletter. NPR Public Editor Kelly McBride, as the article disclosed, also chairs Poynter's Craig Newmark Center for Ethics and Leadership.



openDemocracy:

Soros' Leftist Global Journalism Operation in the U.K. Through the leftist U.K.-based openDemocracy, Soros works to control the slant of journalism worldwide.

He has an easy starting point. Former openDemocracy Editor-in-Chief Mary Fitzgerald, who oversaw operations from 2014 to 2021, was named director of "Information Democracy" for OSF in June 2021. She is currently listed as "director of Expression, leading our global work to advance open society values at the intersection of journalism, technology, and culture and art" for OSF. Her openDemocracy profile says her new role at OSF involves fighting so-called "disinformation," which is revealing given her documented disdain for Trump.

Before the 2020 election, Fitzgerald <u>claimed</u> that someone worse than Trump could potentially arise who would be more savvy at deceiving people into believing "myths" about "American 'freedom'" to "oppress and exploit others" if the former president lost his reelection bid. "The danger now seems less that Biden loses, and more that a far-Right leader who's much more competent than Trump emerges within the next four to eight years," Fitzgerald said.

Her previous site, openDemocracy, was a good platform to learn what Soros wants. openDemocracy flaunts that it "attracts more than 11 million visits per year" and has projects "publishing in Russian, Spanish and Portuguese as well as English." The outlet showcased how far its reach spans across the globe in its 2021-22 annual report. According to the report, openDemocracy accumulated 15.3 million page visits and 8.92 million new users.

Soros' OSF gave at least \$1,633,457 to openDemocracy between 2016 and 2020. The outlet pushes some of the most extreme leftist content masquerading as journalism. It promotes transgender ideology in children, anti-Christian propaganda, calls for the abolishment of the nuclear family, climate radicalism and anti-Semitism. Foundation Directory Online data suggest that Soros' foundations have been funding openDemocracy as far back as 2011.

The leftist site further emphasized the scope of its influence in global media in its <u>2020-2022 strategic plan</u>: "As a global organisation with strong ties to local news networks,

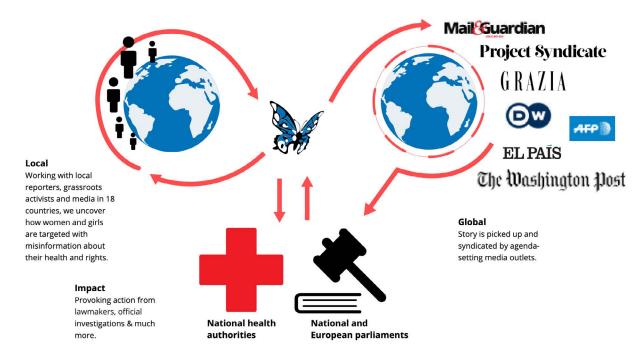
openDemocracy is uniquely positioned to act as a bridge between global policy and media debates, and local contexts and perspectives."

A graphic showed that it works with "activists" around the world in addition to powerful media like the Soros-funded Project Syndicate and *The Washington Post*. Further emphasizing the interconnection between Soros and openDemocracy is the fact that it <u>lists The Global Investigative Journalism Network</u> and <u>Eurozine</u> as part of its "network." Soros funds both.

The Global Investigative Journalism Network and Eurozine received \$1,350,000 and \$210,000 between 2016 and 2020, respectively, from Soros.

How? Bridging global and local (case study 1)

As a global organisation with strong links to local networks, openDemocracy is uniquely positioned to act as a bridge between global policy and media debates, and local contexts and perspectives. This diagram shows how a 'Tracking the Backlash' investigation into anti-abortion misinformation has impacted lawmakers, health authorities and media.



A diagram in the strategy plan showed a "how a 'Tracking the Backlash' investigation into anti-abortion misinformation has impacted lawmakers, health authorities and media." The so-called "anti-abortion misinformation" "Tracking the Backlash" project, announced in February 2020, was engineered to map and target Christian pro-life crisis pregnancy centers. "There are thousands of these centres in the US where some have been previously criticised for presenting themselves as neutral health facilities while hiding their anti-abortion and religious agendas from women who are looking for help," openDemocracy claimed.

The group's website revealed that Soros' OSF specifically <u>pledged</u> \$600,000 in 2021 to fund the outlet's "Tracking the Backlash" project.

An openDemocracy "exclusive" revealed a scheme that sent undercover reporters "posing as vulnerable women with unwanted pregnancies to centers affiliated with the Ohio-based Heartbeat International in eighteen countries." The result was a dossier against a so-called "global network of 'crisis pregnancy centres', backed by US anti-abortion groups linked to the Trump White House." openDemocracy boasted in a follow-up article that "we began following the money of two US religious right groups. Then, we deployed our own global network – of feminist investigative journalists."

openDemocracy hailed that its vendetta against pro-lifers had global impact, leading "politicians, doctors and rights campaigners" to call for "urgent government action and new regulations." The countries that openDemocracy listed as being spurred into government action against crisis pregnancy centers following its pressure campaign — such as Argentina, Italy, South Africa — were proof of Soros' influence on global politics through media.

openDemocracy justified Palestinian terrorists launching rockets at Israel as a proper response to what it dubiously deemed a "colonial" power in a 2014 piece that dripped with anti-Semitism headlined "Rejecting victimhood: the case for Palestinian resistance." "Resistance rockets fired from the Gaza Strip provide a necessary counter-discourse," the outlet exclaimed. "The Israeli Jewish public must understand that there shall be no security so long as they do not turn their anger and frustration at their very supremacist privilege and ideological system which is embodied in the Israeli government, left-wing, centrist, or right-wing." The article continued: "To be clear, Palestinians fire rockets into what belongs to them in the first place."

The outlet even claimed that terrorist "rocket fire" was comparable to "civil disobedience." openDemocracy as a publication repeatedly used the word "apartheid" to smear the state of Israel between 2014 and 2021.

It also published an <u>op-ed</u> by a "<u>queer communism</u>" enthusiast in 2020 claiming the COVID-19 crisis "shows it's time to abolish the [nuclear] family." The Marxist article took a page out of the logic of <u>The Communist Manifesto</u> and attempted to make the nuclear family seem like nothing more than a capitalist symbol of oppression: "In short, the pandemic is no time to forget about family abolition."

The op-ed continued: "Far from a time to acquiesce to 'family values' ideology, then, the pandemic is an acutely important time to provision, evacuate and generally empower survivors of – and refugees from – the nuclear household."

openDemocracy made a habit of promoting Soviet-style extremism. The organization promoted an <u>oped</u> by its special correspondent <u>Adam Ramsay</u> using climate change as a pretext to argue for obliterating private property.

His Aug. 16, 2022, proposal was headlined: "Droughts and wildfires prove we need to end private land ownership." He argued that "We can't accept an annual lurch from droughts to floods – we must take our land back from the aristocracy."



Free Press:

Soros-Funded 'Socialism' Outfit Trying to Silence Conservative Speech Soros-funded Free Press is an activist organization disguised as a journalism operation. It uses its sizable resources to push the federal government and Big Tech to silence conservative speech.

Leftist Free Press co-founder Robert W. McChesney once made a Marxist <u>call</u> to action in 2000 to "overhaul" the American press: "Our job is to make media reform part of our broader struggle for democracy, social justice, and, dare we say it, socialism." He published his comments in the *Monthly Review*, a self-dubbed "independent socialist magazine."

McChesney's "socialism" mindset is downloaded into Free Press's operating structure, and is exemplified by its push for Big Tech to censor speech in addition to trying to wield the government to silence conservative viewpoints it hates. Free Press has used its enormous web of influence in the media to push leftist messaging fomenting racial division, lobbying Big Tech and government agencies to censor Trump and more. Soros funneled at least \$1,625,000 to Free Press between 2016 and 2020 alone.

Free Press boasts significant impact. It prides itself in how it received "3,200 press hits in places including the Associated Press, Bloomberg, CNN, Democracy Now!, The Guardian, The Los Angeles Times, MSNBC, NPR, Poynter and Wired" in 2021 alone. The Associated Press (AP) alone claimed that "Four billion people see news from The Associated Press every day," meaning that Free Press content cited by AP alone could have millions of readers

Free Press's 2021 <u>annual report</u> claimed that its efforts were largely responsible for convincing liberal Big Tech platform Twitter to <u>permanently ban</u> Trump after the Jan. 6, 2021, Capitol riot:

"Our efforts have yielded numerous concrete changes. After years of pressure from Free Press and our allies, Twitter finally banned Trump, who fueled the insurrection and had long used his account to target people of color, immigrants, religious minorities and other communities."

In addition, Free Press emphasized how it applied the same pressure on Facebook, and sneered how its efforts moved the Big Tech giant to deplatform Trump in the first place:

"Facebook initially suspended Trump 'indefinitely' and later changed his suspension to a two-year ban in response to our organizing with Change the Terms and other coalitions. We're urging the company to permanently ban Trump and to close a loophole that's allowing a Trump PAC to fundraise and organize on his behalf."

Free Press reported that it coordinated this activist effort with Common Cause, another Soros-funded organization that received \$100,000 from the billionaire between 2016 and 2020, and "delivered 140,000 petition signatures to CEO Mark Zuckerberg and COO Sheryl Sandberg." Free Press also touted how it circled Facebook's D.C. headquarters with a mobile billboard.

Free Press promoted how it was "involved in direct talks that pressured Google and Amazon to boot the dangerous" <u>free-speech platform</u> Parler from their app stores because of so-called "election lies." "We also helped push Discord, Instagram, Reddit, Shopify, Snapchat, Spotify, TikTok and Twitch to either suspend Trump or restrict his access," Free Press bragged.

The organization doesn't just bully Big Tech into complying with its demands. It even tried to pressure the government to accomplish its anti-Trump ends. During the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, Free Press issued a petition to the Federal Communications Commission to malign Trump's regular coronavirus briefings as "hoaxes."

The Free Press <u>petition</u> slammed the so-called "deadly disinformation broadcast on television stations across the country in the form of context-less coverage of President Donald Trump's press conferences and other statements." The organization even tried to sic the FCC on broadcasters that aired Trump's briefings.

The group's strong-arm tactics with the executive branch were not without precedent. The organization's 2015 report celebrated how it was responsible for influencing the Obama-era FCC into adopting draconian "Net Neutrality" rules that arbitrarily sanctioned massive government regulation on the Internet. Free Press praised how the FCC reportedly cited the Soros-funded organization "close to 70 times" in its final order on the matter.

The adopted FCC rules empowered government officials to review, approve or reject Internet service provider rates. What they actually did, according to the Cato Institute, was <u>guarantee</u> "ISPs government-enforced market protection and profitability, in exchange for regulators ensuring that ISPs won't be too profitable."

In essence, the FCC rules proposed by former President Barack Obama and Free Press in 2015 sought to regulate the internet as a public utility. Then-FCC commissioner <u>Ajit Pai</u> stated that the move gave the agency "broad and unprecedented discretion to micromanage the Internet," in a 2015 <u>press release</u> on the proposed rules.

Free Press's gambit to impose government control fits right in line with Soros' vision for a micromanaged Internet. A 2015 MRC Business <u>study</u> released around the time that the FCC <u>adopted</u> its new rules found that Soros' OSF gave a whopping <u>\$82,784,698</u> to groups pushing net neutrality regulations between 2003 and 2013 alone, which included Free Press.

Free Press is adamant about installing Soros-tied ideologues at the FCC. The outlet promoted in its 2021 <u>annual report</u> that it actively pushed the Senate to confirm Biden's leftist nominee <u>Gigi Sohn</u> for a leadership role at the FCC. Sohn, who <u>happened to once work</u> for Soros as an OSF fellow, has a <u>documented history</u> of left-wing bias against conservative media and is <u>co-founder</u> and former <u>president</u> of the leftist group <u>Public Knowledge</u>. Public Knowledge "has long sought more government control of the internet and media," <u>according</u> to *The Wall Street Journal* Editorial Board.

Soros <u>funded</u> Sohn's Public Knowledge with at least <u>\$1,148,984</u> between 2016 and 2020 alone.

The Journal warned that Sohn has "hinted at deploying the agency's regulatory power to censor conservative media and revive a version of its mooted fairness doctrine." Sohn's "strident partisanship should disqualify her from serving as an officer of an independent agency with so much power to control the public airwaves," The Journal declared.

Sohn's Twitter account tweeted multiple attacks against Fox News. "For all my concerns about #Facebook, I believe that Fox News has had the most negative impact on our democracy," she posted in an Oct. 28, 2020, tweet. In another tweet Nov. 6, 2020, Sohn questioned whether Fox News was more dangerous to democracy than social media: "So do you still want me to believe that social media is more dangerous to our democracy than Fox News?" In another tweet, Sohn demanded that Congress drag in Fox News to be grilled over what she deemed "misinformation": "So the next time Congress brings in Mark Zuckerberg 4 a hearing on misinformation, Murdoch or Suzanne Scott should join him at the witness table."

Free Press has even carelessly promoted violent rhetoric. In September 2021, the organization sent yet another petition to the FCC demanding it "investigate its own history of racism and examine how its policy choices and actions have harmed black people and other communities of color." The initial petition included a comment that promoted violence against Republicans:

"How come we have racist horseshit like FOX and the other ultraconservative outlets and Christians owning most of our media. What happened to separation of church and state? Are we going to have to shoot Republican[s] to reclaim our democracy."

FCC Commissioner <u>Brendan Carr</u> reportedly told <u>The Washington Free Beacon</u> that "The only action the FCC should take on a request like this—one based on a comment asking whether Republicans should be shot—is to dismiss it with prejudice." Free Press issued a statement following the backlash <u>acknowledging</u> "that some violent and inappropriate language was included in the comments" of its petition. The group <u>reportedly</u> "withdrew the petition" after Carr denounced it.

Free Press repeatedly used the race card in an attempt to pressure the FCC into capitulating to its demands. Free Press hosted a radical event that blamed the FCC as a racist organization that systematically excluded "Black people and other communities of color" in a Sept. 8, 2021, video headlined: "Calling on the FCC to Examine its History of Racism."

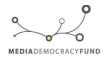
Free Press Senior Director of Strategy and Engagement <u>Joseph Torres</u> unleashed a series of accusations on the FCC during the video. He listed his pronouns as "he" and "him." Torres claimed that the FCC's

policies "are harming communities of color" and that it's "intentional." He added that the FCC must "conduct an equity audit" and examine "its history of racism," in support of a radical congressional proposal on the same topic.

"[The FCC] gave out radio stations to white supremacists," Torres also alleged.

The organization's wild behavior when it comes to the issue of race doesn't stop here. Free Press co-CEO <u>Jessica Gonzalez</u> compared Fox News to the Nazi Third Reich in a 2017 <u>tweet</u> lambasting a poll run by the network that showed that 40 percent say the media writ large posed a greater threat to the U.S. than white supremacists. "There is some Third Reich-level brainwashing going on," she whined.

Gonzalez also complained in <u>another 2017 tweet</u> on the net neutrality issue that "History demonstrates that when companies control our narratives we are not free. Media companies have pushed narratives to legitimize Native American genocide (#FuckThanksgiving), slavery, rape, etc."



Media Democracy Fund:

A Soros-Funded Gargantuan Dedicated to Woke 'Social Justice' The Soros-funded Media Democracy Fund (MDF) is a dark money funding operation. It is essentially an interconnected media funding organization that prides <u>itself</u> on being at "the crossroads of digital technology and social justice." Dark money organizations are groups that "do not need to report their donors" <u>according</u> to *The Washington Post*.

MDF received \$3,520,000 from Soros' OSF between 2016 and 2020. MDF is a project of the "New Venture Fund (itself managed as part of a network of 'dark money' organizations under the supervision of for-profit philanthropic consultancy Arabella Advisors) and was founded by a seed grant from the Proteus Fund," according to Capital Research Center's Influence Watch. The Proteus Fund got \$10,927,309 from Soros' OSF during the same time frame as Soros' MDF funding. Arabella Advisors, which manages a "massive dark money network" that includes the New Venture Fund, also oversees three other liberal dark money organizations — the Sixteen Thirty Fund, the Hopewell Fund, and the Windward Fund — all of which are funded by Soros.

The New Venture Fund received \$50,321,490 — which included MDF funding — from Soros also between 2016 and 2020.

In the face of this alliance, the fact that the MDF happens to be another activist organization looking to shape U.S. law in a manner that meshes with Soros' "open society" worldview is par for the course. The organization's influence is noteworthy: "MDF has made more than \$34 million in grants to over 200 organizations since our founding in 2006."

Some of the Soros grants to MDF were earmarked to fund the radical organization's war against so-called "disinformation." Disinformation has become a media term widely deployed to silence facts and narratives with which the left disagrees.

MDF made the specter of "disinformation" a springboard to lobby the U.S. government to adopt tyrannical policies affecting journalism in the U.S.

MDF's racially charged <u>Disinfo Defense League</u> (DDL) is "a distributed national network of organizers, researchers

and disinformation experts disrupting online racialized disinformation infrastructure and campaigns that deliberately target" communities "of color." Part of the DDL's extremist "disinformation" manifesto pushed for the government to tax digital advertising to create a federally funded local media cartel.

"To fully combat the problems of disinformation, hate and other malign practices online, we must fund high-quality local journalism and urge Congress to create a small percentage tax on the online advertising revenues of the largest online platforms," DDL claimed.

DDL pushed the FCC to set up an entire "disinformation" apparatus that polices news media with approved narratives on COVID-19. "The FCC's broadcast-hoax rule prohibits broadcasters from knowingly airing false information about a catastrophe if it's foreseeable that doing so would cause substantial harm," DDL said on its website. "The FCC should use this authority to stop the spread of deadly health disinformation. Before renewing broadcasters' licenses, the agency should evaluate whether licensees are adhering to their public-interest mandates."

Free Press celebrated the DDL's policy platform in a December 2021 video. The guests spouted a laundry list of woke talking points in a not-so-intellectuallydiverse panel. MediaJustice Executive Director Steven Renderos absurdly stated that his problem with Big Tech algorithms was that they were "most likely designed by a white man or a white person or a man of some relative privilege."



▶ <u>WATCH</u>: Disinfo Defense League Policy Platform: Disrupting Online Racialized Disinformation

In the video, then-Free Press Senior Policy Counsel Carmen Scurato claimed

that "disinformation" allows "lies about the pandemic and vaccines to flourish" and has "real-world consequences" like "voter suppression." Scurato, who is tied to the Soros-funded Free Press, left the outlet to join the Federal Communications Commission as FCC Chairwoman Jessica Rosenworcel's legal adviser for consumer and public safety issues. In the video, University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Gender Studies associate professor Safiya Noble included her pronouns, "she" and "her" for her byline and described herself as a "person who's brought black feminism and critical race theory" into the public consciousness. New Georgia Project CEO Nse Ufot also included pronouns in her bio, and called election-denier and two-time failed Georgia gubernatorial candidate Stacey Abrams "a friend."

Free Press promoted how its advocacy arm, Free Press Action, was one of a number of liberal cosignatories that signed the DDL calls to action. Demos, Common Cause and Mijente are just a few of the litany of Soros-funded groups that signed onto Media Democracy Fund's DDL call to action.



National Public Radio:

Soros and State Media Soros' media empire wouldn't be complete without an established connection to state media.

The taxpayer-funded National Public Radio has proved to be nothing but a propaganda mill for Soros' anti-American agenda. NPR received a grant of \$600,000 from Soros' foundations in 2016. He picked an obedient target.

NPR tried to <u>cast</u> the famous Revolutionary War-era "Don't Tread On Me" Gadsden flag as a symbol of "dangerous far-right extremist ideology." NPR used a Feb. 5, 2021, episode of its <u>On The Media</u> show to attack Fox News. The episode aired on 400 public radio stations across the country and was headlined, "Slaying the Fox Monster."

In January 2021, NPR argued that Biden's presidency could potentially change the Catholic Church's pro-life stance, a foundational Catholic teaching: "[F]or those who would like to see the church take a more permissive stance on issues including abortion, Biden's election is an opportunity." NPR pushed a story in June 2020 on how pre-born baby slaughter mill Planned Parenthood was backing then-candidate Biden in a "life and death election."

NPR currently exploits a weekly audience of 48 million across its platforms, according to NPR network exclusive sponsorship representative <u>National Public Media</u> (NPM).

Democrats' emergency Coronavirus stimulus bill in 2020 directed \$75 million in extra taxpayer money into the Corporation for Public Broadcasting (CPB) to maintain NPR and PBS radio stations, on top of the \$465 million already granted to the CPB (itself an increase of \$20 million in annual funding).

The mixture of liberal donor support and government funding has delivered the expected results. During the Aug. 1, 2022, edition of *All Things Considered*, Austin, Texas-based NPR reporter <u>Sergio Martinez-Beltran compared</u> "hardline Republicans" pushing Texas Gov. Greg Abbott (R) to be stricter on immigration to the mass shooter at the <u>El Paso Walmart</u> in 2019: "Still, some hardline Republicans have criticized Abbott for stopping short of invoking a, quote,

'invasion under the U.S. Constitution,''' Martinez-Beltran said. "That's the same language used by a white man in 2019 before killing 23 people, most of them Hispanic, in El Paso."

Turning Republicans into pariahs over immigration aligns with Soros' political agenda to <u>promote open borders</u>. That radical ideology is written into the very name of Soros' grantmaking group, OSF. But open borders isn't the only Soros-cherished issue NPR embraces. The outlet supports the "trangender" narrative. It once <u>scolded</u> people who use dinosaur emojis to communicate on the internet because they supposedly belonged to "trans" people. A "transgender" NPR guest named Riley Black during a June 10, 2022, segment mourned how dino emojis were being hijacked from the LGTBQ-plus community. "No matter who you are, if you see something beloved taken over by someone else, that can be hard. Suddenly gender queer fans of dinos everywhere felt under attacks as TERFs [Trans-Exclusionary Radical Feminists] kept dropping the emoji into their feeds," said WBUR podcast host Amory Sivertson.

TERF is a slur word for liberal women who don't embrace "transgender" people taking over traditional spaces for women – like sports.

In another incident, NPR-affiliate WNYC Radio Host Melissa Harris-Perry, a former MSNBC host, attacked the U.S. Supreme Court. During a June 30 segment of her show, she compared the <u>Dobbs decision</u> that overturned the <u>Roe v. Wade</u> ruling to the notorious <u>Dred Scott v. Sandford</u> (1857) case. <u>Dred Scott denied citizenship rights</u> to any "negro, whose ancestors were imported into [the U.S.], and sold as slaves,' whether enslaved or free," as Oyez.org summarized.

The headline for the segment read as follows: "Reproductive Coercion is an American Cornerstone." Harris-Perry railed that since Roe's overturning, "many progressives have revived this Dred Scott conversation, but this time arguing that future generations will look back on Dobbs with the same disgust that is now reserved for Taney's 1857 opinion." This parallels the argument Soros would make just a couple of days later in a Project Syndicate column wildly claiming Dobbs would set a legal precedent to ban "inter-racial marriage."

Naturally, NPR took the next step and moved to create its own "<u>Disinformation Reporting team</u>." Ironic, given how NPR legal reporter <u>Nina Totenberg pushed fake news</u> in a story claiming that U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor was upset with Justice Neil Gorsuch for not wearing a mask at oral arguments. Both Sotomayor and Chief Justice John Roberts denied the incident ever occurred.

MRC Business Researcher Jeffrey Clark contributed to this report.

METHODOLOGY: MRC Business utilized data provided by the Open Society Foundations to tally all grants to journalism, media and organizations with journalism programs between 2016 and 2020. In addition to the OSF records, MRC Business used the Foundation Directory Online and Open Secrets databases to track other donations cited in this report. For our research into the OSF database, we tallied donations to all media groups listed under OSF's "journalism" theme with a few exceptions where certain media outlets were categorized differently. MRC Business also researched the boards of directors, trustees and others for our tally showing individuals connected to Soros-funded groups who also hold prominent positions in legacy media outlets (The New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN, NBC News, Bloomberg News, etc).

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