While the Commission cannot comment on the individual user complaints and the study mentioned by the Honourable Member, comprehensive action has been taken regarding the Kremlin’s disinformation and propaganda surrounding its aggression against Ukraine and regarding the role of online platforms’ algorithms in spreading disinformation more generally.

When it comes to algorithms, the recently agreed Digital Services Act introduces new due diligence obligations in particular with regard to algorithms used by very large online platforms, requiring them to address a range of societal risks, including disinformation. These obligations are backed by sanctions, which can range from detailed action plans to hefty fines or, in severe cases of systemic failure, restrictions of service.

Moreover, the Commission has put in place a strategy tackling online disinformation, a key element of which is the strengthened Code of Practice on Disinformation¹, which includes a range of commitments to limit the spread of disinformation online, while fully upholding the fundamental right of freedom of expression. The Commission is in close contact with major online platforms signatories regarding their actions taken to limit the spread of disinformation related to the war in Ukraine in application of the commitments of the Code.

Furthermore, the EUvsDisinfo website raises awareness and the Rapid Alert System is used to share insights and material across the EU. The EU also provides support to Ukraine’s strategic communication efforts and is developing a toolbox to address foreign information manipulation and interference.