The War for Hearts and Memes by Mary Beaudoin

Two potent messages have been resounding through the echo chamber of the collective consciousness of American citizens—in other words, these memes have gone viral: “Russia hacked the U.S. elections” and “fake news.” But the Russian hack remains unproven, and arbiters of fake news have smeared some good information resources. However, you might not hear about this unless you look at alternative news.

These memes coincide with the U.S./NATO military build-up on Russia’s borders. And lest peace-loving U.S. citizens might desire détente instead, the National Defense Authorization Act of 2017 is creating a Global Engagement Center, a collaboration of the U.S. Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of State to counter foreign influence on Americans. This was preceded by “PropOrNot”, which popped up rather mysteriously on the internet and the front page of the Washington Post, attacking many legitimate alternative websites claiming that they are fake news, pushing Russian propaganda or acting as useful idiots to influence gullible Americans on behalf of Putin’s “brutal kleptocracy.” PropOrNot also cautioned against Russian and Iranian media assuming that U.S. citizens are too unsophisticated to be able to handle perspectives other than those provided by U.S. officials and corporate media. Have an open mind? Here are some websites maligned on the list:

antiwar.com
asia-pacific research.com
blackagendareport.com
consortiumnews.com
corbettreport.com
globalresearch.ca
greanvillepost.com
informationclearinghouse.info
journal-neo.org
mintpressnews.org
nakedcapitalism.com
opednews.com
paulcraigroberts.org
presstv.com
ronpaulinstitute.org
rt.com
russia-insider.com
southfront.org
sputniknews.com
stormcloudsgathering.com
strategic-culture.org
thesaker.is
truth-out.org
truthdig.com
voltairenet.org
washingtonsblog.com
wikileaks.org
zerohedge.com