

D. Annotation Guidelines for Tweets and Vkontakte Posts about Crimea

The data set contains tweets and VK-posts in Russian or English about Crimea during the Ukrainian Crisis. Please evaluate whether the written content in the post or tweet agrees, disagrees, or is neutral towards the statements in this guide based on what the VK-post or tweet *explicitly* states or *implies implicitly*. Please choose “unrelated”, if the content is not related to the topic. Choose “neutral” if the content is related to the topic, but neither agrees nor disagrees or with the statement.

You are not allowed to evaluate the URLs, look up individual posts through search engines. Each VK-post/tweet can only be assigned to one category.

Statement 1:

The Russian Federation is not carrying out a military operation in Crimea

1 Agree

Examples:

- Explicit: “The troops in Crimea are not Russian”
- Implicit: “Shoygu says there are no Russia troops in Crimea”
- Implicit: The troops are local “self-defence” forces”

2 Disagree

Examples:

- Explicit: “Russian forces are storming Ukrainian ammunition stores in Sevastopol area”
- Implicit: “Ukraine leader warns Russia after armed men seize government HQ in Crimea”
- Implicit: “Ukraine warns Moscow against Russian military movements in Crimea”

3 Neutral

Examples:

- “Putin says the soldiers are local self-defence forces, but the U.S. State Department disagrees”

4: Unrelated

Examples:

- “This is fascinating: How evolutionary biology explains seemingly irrational moves like Crimea and W. Bank”

Statement 2:

Ukrainian Politicians or authorities call to ban Russian language

1 Agree

Examples:

- Explicit: "Tyagnibok calls to ban Russian language in Ukraine"
- Implicit: "Ukrainians will persecute Russian speaking population"

2 Disagree

Examples:

- Explicit: "Russian channel states that there will be a criminal prosecution of Russian speaking people living in Ukraine. However, they have not shown any proof with those threats."
- Implicit: "I can speak Russian freely in Ukraine"

3 Neutral

Examples:

- "Ukrainian Parliament is discussion the status of Russian language in Ukraine"
- "The Ukrainian Parliament (Verkhovna Rada) abolished the 2012 law "On State Language Policy" the day after it voted to dismiss President Viktor Yanukovich. The law allowed the country's regions to use more official languages in addition to Ukrainian if they were spoken by over 10 percent of the local population."

4: Unrelated

Examples:

- "There are many languages in Ukraine"

Statement 3:

Ukrainian right-winged nationalists are on their way from main-land Ukraine to Crimea.

1 Agree

Examples:

- Explicit: "Right Sector are on their way to Simferopol Airport"
- Implicit: "We will not let banderovtsi or nazis enter Crimea!"

2 Disagree

Examples:

- Explicit: "Right Sector are not on their way to Crimea."
- Implicit: "Yarosh denies that Right Sector are on their way to Crimea."

3 Neutral

Examples:

- "Russian media says that Ukrainian Right Sector are on their way from main-land Ukraine to Crimea. Ukrainian media say they're staying put."
- "Is the Right Sector actually on their way to Crimea?"

4: Unrelated

Examples:

- "Euro-maidan led to a fascist coup d'etat in Kiev"
- "Ukrainian politicians are scared of the Right Sector."

Statement 4:

Ukraine is taken over by radical right-winged extremists

1 Agree

Examples:

- Explicit: “The new government is run by “banderovtsi””
- Explicit: “Right sector has taken over the government”
- Implicit: “Ukrainian Junta will kill Russians”
- Implicit: “We repeat the deeds of our grandfathers. Fascism will not pass!”

2 Disagree

Examples:

- Explicit: “Russian TV is lying about Nazis in Ukraine”
- Implicit: “Ukraine will resist Russian fascists”

3 Neutral

Examples:

- “Russia is accusing the Ukrainian government of being fascist. To what extent is this true?”
- “Russian separatists argue that the new Ukrainian government are run by fascists, pro-Ukrainian supporters in Kiev strongly disagree”.

4: Unrelated

Examples:

- “Ukraine has been invaded by Nazi Germany during World War 2”
- “The Ukrainian presidential election will take place next year”