

## **Abstract**

This thesis examines the extent of Russian information warfare efforts targeted at the West in recent years, highlighting the strategic use of information warfare by Russia to destabilize the West. Information warfare, which consists of but is not limited to disinformation, misinformation, demoralization, and psychological operations, as well as the overall concept of revisionism, and sources of revisionist thought in modern Russia, are detailed through a theoretical discussion. This discussion highlights the cultural and geographically based notions that blur a wholistic understanding of these concepts, particularly in their Russian application. Four case studies, focusing on Russian information warfare attempts surrounding COVID-19, migration crises, and the ongoing war in Ukraine, serve to demonstrate the danger posed by Russia's information warfare capabilities, by analyzing the origins, goals, targets, and methods of these attempts. The research conducted leads to multiple conclusions. First, Russian information warfare campaigns are successful when they exploit existing feelings or emotions but have so far not been able to create entirely new ones, whether anger or fear. Second, recent proactive efforts to thwart Russian information warfare in the West have so far been successful. Third, Russia is now quickly adapting to these new conditions, which would hint that Russia's revisionist information warfare attempts targeting the West are not disappearing, but simply undergoing a change of methods, goals, and targets.