

A German-language online TV news channel based in Switzerland that frequently publishes false claims, including about the 9/11 attacks, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the safety of vaccines.



Proceed with caution: This website severely violates basic standards of credibility and transparency.

Ownership and Financing

Kla.tv is owned by Ivo Sasek, a Swiss sect leader and author of religious and conspiratorial texts. The site's Imprint page lists an address in St. Margrethen, Switzerland.

Sasek is the founder of Organische Christus-Generation (Organic Christ Generation), a Christian fundamentalist sect that has promoted controversial educational methods, including corporal punishment and prohibiting sex education. The sect has "about 2000 followers," according to the North Rhine-Westphalia Sects Advisory and Information Centre. Sasek's other institutions include the Anti-Zensur-Koalition (Anti-Censorship Coalition), the publishing company Elaion-Verlag, and the production company Panorama-Film.

Sasek also publishes the leaflets S&G (Stimme und Gegenstimme, "voice and dissenting voice") and the Anti-Zensur-Zeitung (Anti-censorship newspaper), which are critical of established media organizations and promote conspiracy theories on terrorist attacks, climate change, homosexuality, and the Euro crisis.

Sasek has written more than 30 books, including "The Bible — Sacred Scripture or Jewish conspiracy book?" ("Die Bibel— Heilige Schrift oder jüdisches Verschwörungsbuch?") and "Educate [children] with vision!" ("Erziehe mit Vision!"). Sasek and numerous members of his family operate multiple websites, including Sasek.News, Sasek.TV, Familie-Sasek.ch, and OCG-Jugend.com.

According to a January 2020 report by Zeit, events organized by Sasek often present anti-Semitic conspiracy theories. In 2012, Holocaust denier Sylvia Stolz spoke at an Anti-Censorship Coalition event organized by Sasek, after which she was sentenced to one year and eight months in prison for "Holocaust denial" ("Holocaustleugnung"), according to Zeit. Sasek, who was also charged with racial discrimination, was acquitted in 2018 by the Regional Court Chur. Kla.tv

Score: 7.5/100

- ✗ Does not repeatedly publish false content (22points)**
- ✗ Gathers and presents information responsibly (18)**
- ✗ Regularly corrects or clarifies errors (12.5)**
- ✗ Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly (12.5)**
- ✗ Avoids deceptive headlines (10)**
- ✗ Website discloses ownership and financing (7.5)**
- Clearly labels advertising (7.5)**
- ✗ Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest (5)**
- ✗ The site provides names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information (5)**

Criteria are listed in order of importance.

[More information.](#)

has on occasion published anti-Semitic content, including about the Rothschild family, in a documentary titled “The Rothschild Control.”

The site — which uses the names Kla.tv and KlagemauerTV interchangeably — states on its About Us page that Kla.tv has “165 film and sound studios with over 213 presenters...” The website is available in 66 languages. The site’s popular YouTube channel, KlagemauerTV, also republishes the site’s videos.

The site does not run advertising. According to the site’s About Us page, Kla.tv is run on a “voluntary basis.”

The site’s name, Klagemauer (Wailing Wall), appears to be a reference to the ancient religious site in Jerusalem, where Jewish worshippers place written prayers into the cracks of the wall.

Content

Kla.tv states on its About Us page that “Klagemauer TV unmasks ruinous media lies and deceitful media outlets!” The site’s Focus (Brennpunkt) page describes its videos as providing “Important dissenting voices against the reporting of the mainstream media, for the free and uncensored formation of opinion.”

The site publishes videos and broadcasts in a variety of formats, including daily evening news reports, documentary-length films, and interviews. Videos are organized chronologically as well as by topic, in sections for Education & Upbringing, Health & Medicine, Ideology, Culture, Media, Politics, Justice & Law, Terrorism, Environment, Technology, Economy, and Science. The site prominently features “trending topics” on its homepage, including videos critical of 5G technology and global elites.

Typical articles have run under headlines including “Back to Stasi methods through mandatory vaccination?” (“Durch Impfzwang zurück zu Stasi-Methoden?”); “Behind the mask of peace - hybrid warfare” (“Hinter der Maske des Friedens – Die hybride Kriegsführung”); and “Microwave device: friend or enemy?” (“Mikrowellengerät: Freund oder Feind?”).

Kla.tv publishes some satire content in the Satirically Serious (Satirisch Ernstes) section.

The site offers a feature called “Submit a complaint” (“Klage einreichen”), allowing users to submit articles that the site claims it verifies, edits, and publishes as its own articles.

Credibility

Most videos include a list of sources and links. Videos typically rely on reports by other media outlets, including sites that NewsGuard has found to be unreliable, including Connectiv.Events, Watergate.tv, and RT Deutsch.

Kla.tv itself has published numerous false claims. For example, a February 2020 video, titled “The coronavirus: ‘Random product’ or specifically employed as a bioweapon?” (“Das Coronavirus: ‘Zufallsprodukt’ oder als Biowaffe gezielt eingesetzt?”), suggested that the COVID-19 virus was a bioweapon. “A further indication that the coronavirus could be a deliberate military bioweapon is the fact that certain tribes, especially Chinese and Japanese, are genetically much more endangered by the coronavirus than other peoples, such as Arabs and Europeans,” the video stated. To back this claim, the site relied on statements by two virologists and reports by conspiratorial websites Connectiv.Events and GlobalResearch.ca.

There is no evidence that certain nationalities are “genetically” more vulnerable to the virus, nor that the virus is a deliberately created bioweapon. A March 2020 study published in the journal Nature Medicine concluded that the virus “is not a laboratory construct or a purposefully manipulated virus.” An earlier study, published in February 2020 in the journal Nature, found that the COVID-19 virus is “96% percent identical at the whole-genome level to a bat coronavirus.”

An April 2020 video, titled “Forced into danger! A documentary film about mandatory vaccination” (“Zur Gefahr gezwungen! Ein Dokumentarfilm über den Impfzwang”), included a segment called “Proven: MMR vaccine causes autism,” which claimed that a secret U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) document released by a CDC whistleblower in 2017 “proves that the MMR vaccine against measles, mumps and rubella causes autism.” The video did not identify the whistleblower or name the report.

In fact, the CDC and many other health and science authorities, including the U.K. National Health Service and the World Health Organization, have repeatedly stated that there is no link between vaccines and autism, based on an abundance of scientific evidence.

A January 2020 video, titled “9/11 - The official version collapses like a house of cards” (“9/11 – Die offizielle Version bricht wie ein Kartenhaus zusammen”), claimed that 9/11 had been “staged” by the U.S. government. “In fact, evidence suggests a staged attack, meaning that secret services were carrying out the attack on behalf of the government,” the video stated. The video cited three YouTube videos, which were no longer available.

The U.S. 9/11 Commission and multiple other investigations concluded that the towers were brought down by two passenger planes that had been hijacked by terrorists. No credible evidence has emerged suggesting the attack had been staged by the U.S. government.

A March 2020 video, titled “5G for electronic telepathy” (“5G zur elektronischen Gedankenübertragung”), made the preposterous claim that 5G waves “can be transmitted into the human organism in such a way that a thought transfer takes place. Even reading and controlling thoughts is possible.” The video cited a report by the conspiratorial site EpochTimes.de.

Kla.tv has also advanced the Kremlin’s claim that the Russia-backed Syrian government did not use chemical weapons against its own citizens. An April 2018 video, titled “Syria expert explains the background to the poison gas attack” (“Syrien-Experte erklärt Hintergründe zum Giftgasanschlag”), stated, “Contrary to what the Western leading media portrayed, the chemical weapons attack was not carried out by the Assad government but by the rebels as a false flag action. The major Western powers supporting them - the USA, Great Britain and France - are thus to be called into action.” The video did not provide evidence for this claim.

Syria’s culpability in the atrocity has been established by eyewitness accounts, photos, and videos, and in reports from the United Nations, the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), and France.

Because Kla.TV has repeatedly published inaccurate and misleading claims in videos and articles, NewsGuard has determined that the site repeatedly publishes false content and deceptive headlines, and that it does not gather and present information responsibly.

Kla.tv does not articulate corrections guidelines, and NewsGuard did not find corrections on the site.

On the Focus (Brennpunkt) page, the site states that it provides “dissenting voices against the reporting of the mainstream media.” However, the site does not disclose a particular orientation or agenda, and articles published outside the site’s three opinion sections — Media Commentaries (Medienkommentare), Unvarnished Opinion (Meinung ungeschminkt), and “Here's how I see it” (“So seh ich’s”) — frequently include opinionated content.

For example, an April 2020 video, published in the Health & Medicine section and titled “Coronavirus makes for increased surveillance” (“Coronavirus sorgt für mehr Überwachung”), stated, “The coronavirus pandemic seems to be the appropriate pretext to significantly increase surveillance of the population.... It would appear that this virus, just like the ones that are planted into computers, is being used as a gateway to privacy.”

Another April 2020 video, published in the Politics section and titled “5G launched in Austria - 'thanks to' the interdependence between politics and telecom companies” (“5G in Österreich gestartet – ‘dank’ Verflechtung zwischen Politik und Telekomkonzernen”), stated: “In practice, however, it is clear that the Austrian government has not only ignored all health concerns so far, but has even legitimized the deployment and further expansion of 5G. How does this fit together? Do the highest political circles in Austria have no interest in seriously addressing the fears of the population and changing the 5G strategy?”

A third April 2020 video, published in the Terrorism section and titled “Hidden warfare & devilish obsession” (“Verdeckte Kriegsführung & teuflische Besessenheit”), stated that “We must no longer confuse the absence of bombs with the absence of war! Because for years, such delusional elites have been driving a new form of

war forward - it can safely be described as a Third World War on a hybrid, i.e. diverse and above all hidden, level. Their goal: a New World Order under their total control.”

Because Kla.tv regularly publishes opinionated content in news articles advancing an undisclosed agenda, NewsGuard has determined that the site does not handle the difference between news and opinion responsibly.

Asked about the articles cited above and the site’s editorial practices, including its approach to corrections and handling of news and opinion, a site representative told NewsGuard in an email: “[I]t should be noted that we do not present a fixed opinion in Kla.TV's broadcasts. We only publish 'dissenting voices'. In our broadcasts we raise questions which we would like to have addressed and investigated by the judiciary and the public media.” The representative did not answer NewsGuard’s other questions.

Transparency

The site’s #IvoSasek page discloses that Sasek is the founder of the site, but does not say if he is also the owner. The site does not disclose its editorial leadership.

Videos do not typically name the presenter. Texts below videos often include the author’s initials, but the site does not provide a staff list or contact or biographical information for content creators.

Kla.tv’s Imprint page provides a general email address and phone number.

The site does not run advertising.

A site representative NewsGuard reached via email did not respond to questions about Kla.tv’s lack of disclosure regarding ownership, editorial leadership, and content creators.

History

According to Whois domain records, the site was launched in February 2012 under the name Klagemauer.tv. The domain name changed to Kla.tv in March 2014.

Until 2016, Kla.tv offered a separate site for children and teenagers called Jugend-TV.net (YouthTV), which included similar content as Kla.TV and was hosted by

teenage presenters. The site ceased adding new content after the German Commission for the Protection of Minors in the Media requested that some content be restricted for people under 18 and the Federal Office of Saxony for Private Radio and New Media notified the site “that the protection of minors is not sufficiently guaranteed,” according to Jugend-TV. The site remains accessible, although no new videos have been posted since July 2016.

Editor’s Note: This Nutrition Label was updated on April 27, 2020, to include comments from a site representative.

Written by: [Marie Richter](#)

Edited by: [Eric Efron](#), [Florian Meißner](#)

Send feedback to NewsGuard:[Click Here](#)

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Financing

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