

REPORT

## Head of Russian State Outlet Says Russian and Chinese Media Must Work Together

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The editor-in-chief of a prominent Russian state media outlet said recently that Russian and Chinese media must work together on the global stage to resist what she called the “powerful army of Western mainstream journalism.”

In an Oct. 5, 2023, interview-style [article](#) in Chinese state-controlled outlet Global Times (**Trust Score: 39.5/100**), Margarita Simonyan, the editor-in-chief of RT (**Trust Score: 20/100**) — a Russian news channel and government disinformation and propaganda effort — stressed the importance of Russian and Chinese media outlets collaborating to offer “alternative voices” to mainstream Western media.

“It is difficult to overestimate how important it is for Russian and Chinese media to work together in the international news space. It is simply a matter of survival of Russian and Chinese voices on a global stage. We are virtually alone in confronting the most powerful army of Western mainstream journalism, and such dominance makes for a dangerous, bellicose world,” Simonyan told the Global Times.

Simonyan also emphasized that RT has higher engagement on Chinese social media platforms than Western outlets do, saying, “We are proud that RT is available in Chinese on popular Chinese social media platforms - Weibo, Bilibili, and Douyin. RT's Weibo account is well ahead of AFP, Financial Times, Associated Press and BBC in terms of audience engagement and follower growth rate.”

NewsGuard has found Chinese state media often echoes false claims published on Russian state media, and [vice versa](#). For example, Chinese state media outlet People’s Daily (**Trust Score: 39.5/100**) [advanced](#) the pro-Kremlin false claim first published by [RT](#) that the U.S. has funded biological labs in Ukraine. (See NewsGuard’s Misinformation Fingerprint of this claim [here](#).)

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