

Eventually This Had to Happen: France Investigates Russia over Yellow Vest Riots

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Global Research, December 11, 2018

[Mish Talk](#) 10 December 2018

Region: [Europe](#), [Russia and FSU](#)

Theme: [Media Disinformation](#), [Police State](#)
& [Civil Rights](#)

France is investigating Russia over the yellow vest riots. Sorry, Macron, please look in the mirror.

Please consider [France to Probe Possible Russian Influence on Yellow Vest Riots](#). (Bloomberg)

France opened a probe into possible Russian interference behind the country's Yellow Vest protests, after reports that social-media accounts linked to Moscow have increasingly targeted the movement.

According to the Alliance for Securing Democracy, about 600 Twitter accounts known to promote Kremlin views have begun focusing on France, boosting their use of the hashtag giletsjaunes, the French name for the Yellow Vest movement. French security services are looking at the situation, Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said Sunday in a radio interview with RTL.

"An investigation is now underway," Le Drian said. "I will not make comments before the investigation has brought conclusions."

The Twitter accounts monitored by the alliance usually feature U.S. or British news. But the French protests "have been at or near the top" of their activity for at least a week, according to Bret Schafer, the alliance's Washington-based social media analyst. "That's a pretty strong indication that there is interest in amplifying the conflict" for audiences outside France.

Technology

France to Probe Possible Russian Influence on Yellow Vest Riots

By [Carol Matlack](#) and [Robert Williams](#)

December 7, 2018, 11:00 PM GMT-5 Updated on December 9, 2018, 9:23 AM GMT-5

Bloomberg, December 7, 2018

Damn. Maybe it's me. Or ZeroHedge. Or the Washington Post. Or anyone else writing about events in France. Even Trump!

As noted yesterday, [4th Weekend of French Riots, Trump Blames Climate Change, Others Blame Facebook](#).

Then again, perhaps media interest is up due to four weeks of rioting in Paris. Could that possibly be it?

Nah.

It's Russia. Let's start the investigation there. If that fails, try Facebook.

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