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Characterizing Knowledge Manipulation in a Russian Wikipedia Fork [a.k.a. RWFork]

Authors:

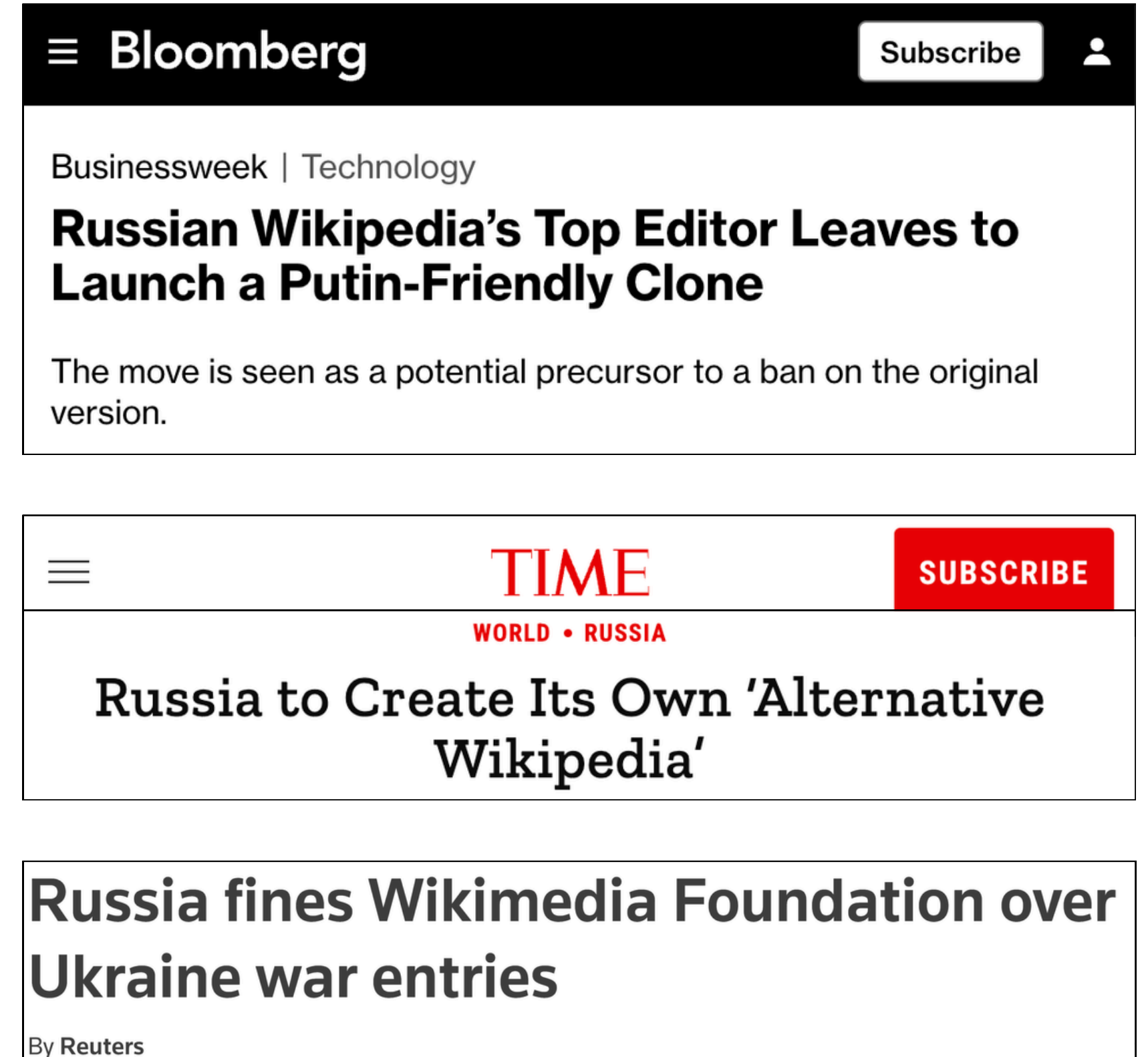
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Motivation

In July 2023, the website Ruwiki (RWFork) was launched as a Russian Wikipedia Fork to meet the requirements of Russian regulation.

33,664 (1.75%)
pages changed in first 3 months

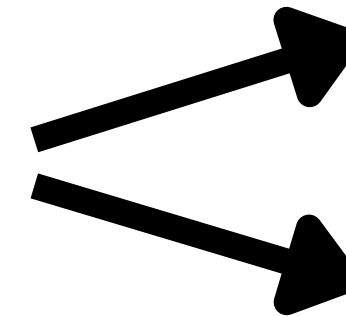
How has Wikipedia's knowledge been manipulated in RWFork?



Main Findings

- **Changing influential and controversial pages**

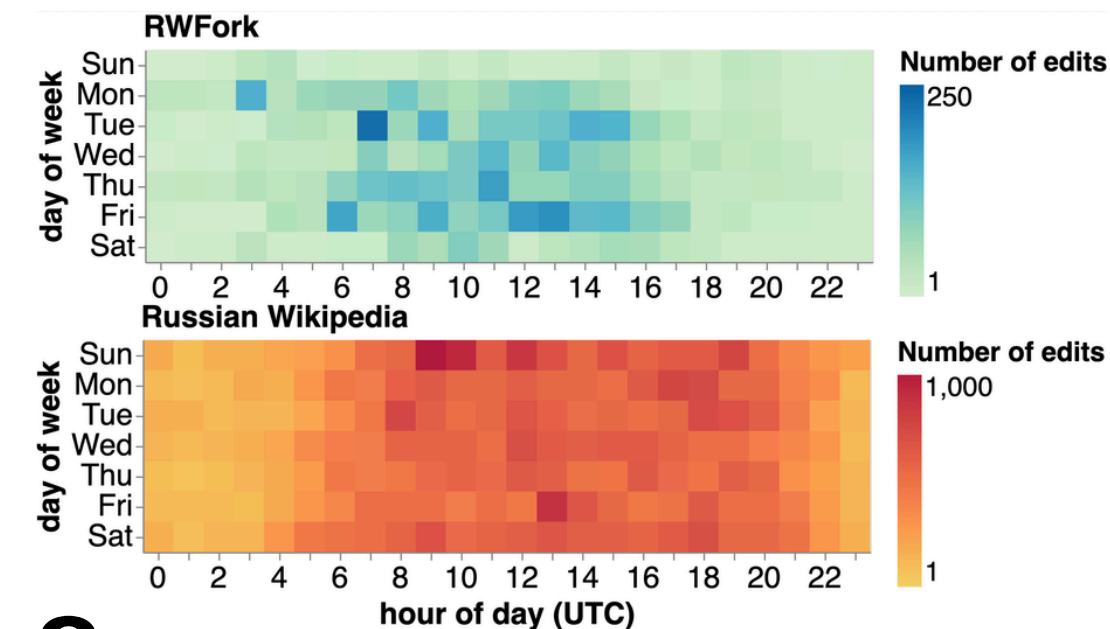
1.75%
articles edited



14.2%
page views
~x2
revert rate

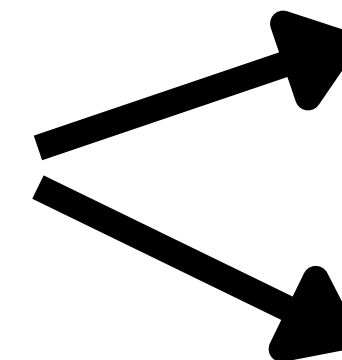
- **Coordinated Editing Patterns**

The **majority** of edits are made during working hours on weekdays.



- **Systematic Knowledge Manipulation**

~90%
changes



8
categories

~44%
related to the
Russo-Ukrainian War

Summary

First study of how original Wikipedia content has been **forked** and **manipulated** to meet the requirements of a national regulation.

RWFork dataset is
available for further study:
<https://zenodo.org/records/15073728>



**Please check out the paper
for the details.**

Thank you