# Experimental Design of the Students

The purpose of this experiment is to explore the effect that different sources of information have on beliefs and decisions in the context of the war in Ukraine.

I feel the need to add that I think it is not very appropriate to use the context of that tragedy to “practice” the experimental design. However, as my intentions are pure, and should the experiment be realized, it might bring about interesting new information on how false news, using/disseminating, which in the context of war is particularly cruel and heinous, might be tamed.

Sources of information used:

* official information of the Polish government (verbalized through official outlets, such as the Polish Press Agency) [T1]
* official Russian government information (verbalized through official Russian outlets, such as Russian propaganda media) [T2]
* information from social media (Facebook and/or Twitter) [T3]

The sources of information are the treatments (T1-3) and it is a within-subject design.

Each subject would receive a packet with news statements, each with an info what is its source. Each packet will contain 15 statements (S1-15). All subjects will receive the same 15 statements.

The statements will be either true or false and will involve information about the war in Ukraine.

Before seeing the statements, the subjects would be asked to rate on a scale of 1-10 how much do they trust the T1-T3 sources of information. These would be their stated beliefs. I do not have an idea of how to incentivize these.

The next part, which involves subjects' decisions, will be incentive compatible. The subjects will be rewarded for correctly guessing which statement/news/info-source pair was in fact true and which was false news. There will be a payment for correctly guessing the true/false status of each of the 15 statements that each subject gets. Thus, the more correct the answers, the higher the fee.

This will show what the subjects really believe about each of the sources and we will be able to compare it to their ex ante stated beliefs.