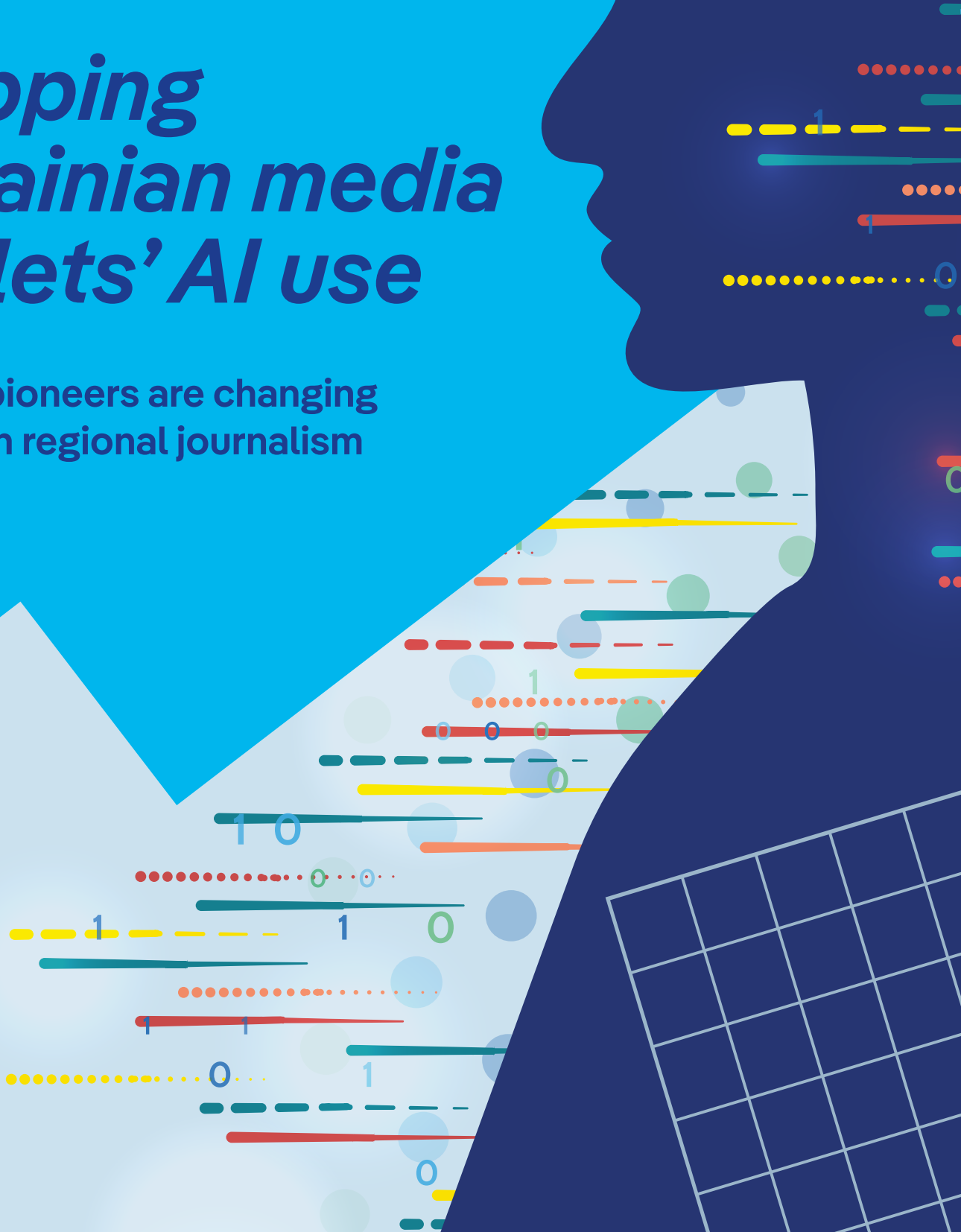


Mapping Ukrainian media outlets' AI use

How AI pioneers are changing
Ukrainian regional journalism





Supported by the



This publication was co-funded by the European Union. Its contents are the sole responsibility of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union.

Imprint

Publisher

Deutsche Welle
53110 Bonn
Germany

Published

August 2025

© DW Akademie

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Executive summary

This report explores how regional media outlets in Ukraine are adopting artificial intelligence (AI) to transform journalistic practices, with a particular focus on AI pioneers leading these changes. Drawing from in-depth interviews with journalists and media innovators, the research maps the evolving landscape of AI integration across content creation, editorial workflows, and media innovation.

Ukrainian journalists are increasingly relying on AI tools like ChatGPT, DeepL, Fireflies, and ElevenLabs to automate routine tasks such as transcription, translation, SEO optimization, and social media content production. Some outlets have gone further, developing their own AI assistants or bots tailored for editorial use. While these tools have significantly boosted efficiency and creativity, many media organizations still face barriers, including financial limitations, technical gaps, and data privacy concerns.

A significant challenge identified is the gap in available AI solutions, particularly the lack of narrowly focused applications explicitly designed for journalistic tasks or tailored to specific regional and linguistic contexts.

Despite the challenges, the study identifies a growing culture of experimentation and innovation. Ukrainian media pioneers are not just users but are beginning to contribute to the development of AI tools customized for local needs. The report highlights successful use cases, challenges, ethical considerations, and provides practical recommendations for ensuring safe, cost-effective, and sustainable AI adoption in independent journalism.

Introduction

As artificial intelligence (AI) technologies evolve, their impact on journalism is becoming increasingly profound. From automated transcription to real-time content analysis and personalized audience engagement, AI offers powerful tools that can reshape how news is produced, distributed, and consumed. In the context of Ukraine's independent media, these tools are not only about innovation—they are vital for survival amid limited resources, security concerns, and an ever-accelerating news cycle.

This report investigates how Ukrainian regional media outlets and journalists are using, adapting, and even developing AI tools to improve journalistic workflows. Through a series of qualitative interviews with leading media professionals, the research identifies AI pioneers who are leveraging AI for tasks such as content planning, visual storytelling, translation, and audience interaction. It

also addresses the challenges posed by dependency on big tech platforms, and explores ways AI can be better tailored to their specific operational needs, more private, and more cost-effective for local newsrooms. The findings aim to inform journalists, media strategists, funders, and policymakers on how AI can be safely and effectively integrated into newsroom operations across Ukraine. DW Akademie commissioned the report in March 2025, and it was funded by the German Federal Ministry for Cooperation and Development.



Ukrainian journalists at DW Akademie headquarters in Bonn during the AI Innovation Lab. The journalists came together to explore, experiment, and build AI solutions tailored to their needs.

Methodology

This report is based on a qualitative research approach, primarily drawing from in-depth interviews conducted with over 20 Ukrainian media outlets, represented by editors, CEOs, or leading journalists across Ukraine. Participants were selected from a diverse range of regional outlets, including independent platforms, investigative newsrooms, and media outlets that publish primarily online (often referred to as digital-first publications). All regions of Ukraine were represented—including the southern, western, eastern, and central parts—ensuring comprehensive geographical coverage. These interviews were conducted in February and March 2025.

Each interview followed a semi-structured format, allowing for a mix of consistent data collection across core themes—such as AI tools used, changes in workflow, challenges faced, and future aspirations—while also leaving space for interviewees to share unique insights and local context. The analysis focused on identifying recurring patterns, innovative applications, and practical recommendations.

The research specifically targeted individuals and media organizations that are either early adopters or experimenters in AI-driven journalism. In addition to interviewing media professionals, the author conducted interviews with AI experts and reviewed public sources to help identify AI pioneers. The goal was to capture both successful implementations and ongoing struggles to provide a well-rounded view of the Ukrainian AI media landscape. Attention was also given to the role of data privacy, alternative tools to big tech ecosystems, and the emergence of locally driven AI solutions.

To transcribe interviews and to structure the project, a combination of open-source AI tools—such as Whisper, hosted locally, and Qwen/Qwen3-235B-A22B, hosted on HuggingFace—was used alongside proprietary models like ChatGPT-4o and ChatGPT-o1. This hybrid approach ensured both data control and advanced language processing capabilities.

Use of AI tools by Ukrainian independent media

Platforms already in use and their purposes

Based on the qualitative interviews carried out, it can be concluded that Ukrainian independent media are using a wide range of different tools, but most tools are general tools, not specifically designed for media use, or for the Ukrainian context. Commonly used AI platforms include:

ChatGPT and GPT+: Used for content generation, SEO headline creation, email response automation, text editing, translation, and idea generation. For instance, the media outlet Korabelov.info successfully uses ChatGPT+ to generate graphics, write articles, analyze data, and even code in Python, significantly streamlining their workflow.



AI greatly helps us automate our daily work.

Serhii Bielov, Korabelov.info

Canva: Leveraged for design purposes and seeking AI-driven suggestions for visual improvements. Bilyaivka.City utilizes Canva to quickly enhance visual content for social media posts.



Interestingly, we don't have a designer, but we create layouts in Canva. We upload them to AI and ask for tips on what to improve. It even pulls text from images.

Nataliia Khalymonyk, Bilyaivka.City

Fireflies and Good Tape: Employed for transcribing video calls and audio recordings, significantly reducing journalists' administrative workloads. For example, Sylva Pravdy ("Power of Truth" in English) relies on Good Tape to effectively transcribe lengthy interviews and meetings, saving valuable editorial time.



I constantly use ChatGPT for formulas, like for spreadsheets. It writes the formulas, and it writes them well for Excel. We also have a subscription to an audio transcription service.

Yurii Horbach, Sylva Pravdy

DeepL: Used extensively for cost-effective and high-quality translations. Media outlet Intent noted significant savings and improved translation accuracy compared to manual processes.



Currently, we use AI in two main ways. Editors leverage it primarily for text processing—selecting headlines, writing leads, filling SEO fields, and creating simple graphics. A generic stock image often suffices. Our developers, however, are integrating AI directly into our system to streamline workflows even further.

Valerii Bolhan, Intent

Midjourney, Adobe Firefly, Leonardo, Ripple Edit, Fire-Cut, and Enhance Speech: Used for multimedia creation, including images, videos, and audio enhancement. The media organization Cukr actively uses these tools to produce engaging multimedia content efficiently.



We have been implementing these automation tools in our workflows for more than a year. We develop custom bots tailored to our specific needs, working languages, and requirements for rapid processing of large datasets.

respondent from Cukr

ElevenLabs and other text-to-speech tools: Deployed to automate voiceovers for news and articles, aiding outlets like 6262.com.ua in diversifying content formats without additional staff.



We use core services like ChatGPT, Claude, Gemini, plus additional tools for transcriptions – G-Tape and others. In total, we leverage around ten different AI engines. Each model serves specific tasks best; instead of retraining them, we assign the right task to the right model and then review the output

Valerii Harmas, 6262.com.ua

Telegram bots and custom-developed AI solutions: Including APIs for automated summarization and custom assistants like Raya, developed by rayon.in.ua, for text editing and content management. Rayon.in.ua's custom assistant notably improves the editing process, helping journalists manage workloads more efficiently.



Raya is a management-grade tool we developed in-house. It works via API to help journalists shape text into our required editorial formats. We're testing a prototype, identified a few issues, and are now preparing to embed it into our admin panel – an update that even necessitated a full site overhaul.

Nataliia Pakhalkchuk, Rayon.in.ua

Impact on journalistic work

AI tools have notably transformed journalistic practices by:

- Automating routine tasks (e.g., transcription, translation, content formatting), allowing journalists more time for creative and analytical tasks.
- Improving content quality through automated editing, grammar checking, and enhanced SEO.
- Enhancing multimedia content creation, facilitating better audience engagement through visually appealing and interactive content.
- Increasing operational efficiency and productivity, making small newsrooms more competitive and sustainable.

Our analysis indicates that Ukrainian local independent media predominantly utilize established, paid AI services from major international providers, notably big tech companies such as OpenAI, DeepL, Google and various Adobe tools. These media outlets prefer these solutions due to their extensive functionality, ease of use, and reliability in improving efficiency and productivity. Journalists interviewed expressed minimal ethical concerns. These media outlets prioritize functionality and efficiency provided by large tech services over stringent data privacy measures. Conversely, there is limited adoption of locally developed Ukrainian AI solutions, open-source platforms, or custom-built and fine-tuned AI models. This reliance highlights a gap and potential opportunity for growth and advancement in Ukraine's own technological landscape, emphasizing the need for investment and development of tailored AI innovations that directly address the unique linguistic, cultural, and operational requirements of Ukrainian journalism.

AI tools and privacy

Some of the interviewees from the regional media outlets mentioned that they prefer private usage, for example on local servers, indicating a strong desire for enhanced privacy options to protect sensitive information. They emphasize the need for greater control over data privacy, primarily to maintain editorial independence and prevent external influences. These media outlets, in particular, show significant interest in adopting local, private Large Language Models (LLMs) that ensure data privacy and independence from major tech conglomerates. Such models are viewed as beneficial for preserving data integrity and offering customized solutions to regional and linguistic needs.

In contrast, the majority of the journalists surveyed increasingly use AI tools for various tasks including content creation, translation, SEO optimization, and transcription. However, this group generally does not perceive data sharing with host servers as a major concern, primarily because they already engage extensively as they stated in data sharing through daily use of smartphones, Gmail, Facebook, and similar services. These media outlets prioritize functionality and efficiency provided by large tech services over stringent data privacy measures.

Many independent media organizations exploring AI tools do not currently express significant privacy concerns and thus do not emphasize the importance of localized, private LLMs tailored to regional journalism.

Recommendations

1. Develop and implement targeted cybersecurity and privacy awareness training programs specifically tailored to journalists.
2. Include practical scenarios that illustrate risks associated with data sharing and demonstrate best practices for secure AI usage.
3. Identify and promote trustworthy AI platforms that prioritize user privacy, helping journalists choose reliable services.
4. Create and distribute standardized guidelines on how journalists can effectively use AI tools without compromising sensitive information or editorial independence.
5. Facilitate collaboration among independent journalists and regional media to share experiences, insights, and resources regarding privacy-conscious AI use.

Existing gaps between journalistic needs and AI tool offerings

Despite the evident benefits and increased adoption of AI tools by independent Ukrainian media, there remains a significant disparity between journalists' specific demands and what current AI solutions can practically deliver. This gap is particularly noticeable when media organizations seek narrowly focused AI applications designed explicitly for journalistic tasks or tailored to regional and linguistic contexts.

Identified challenges and gaps

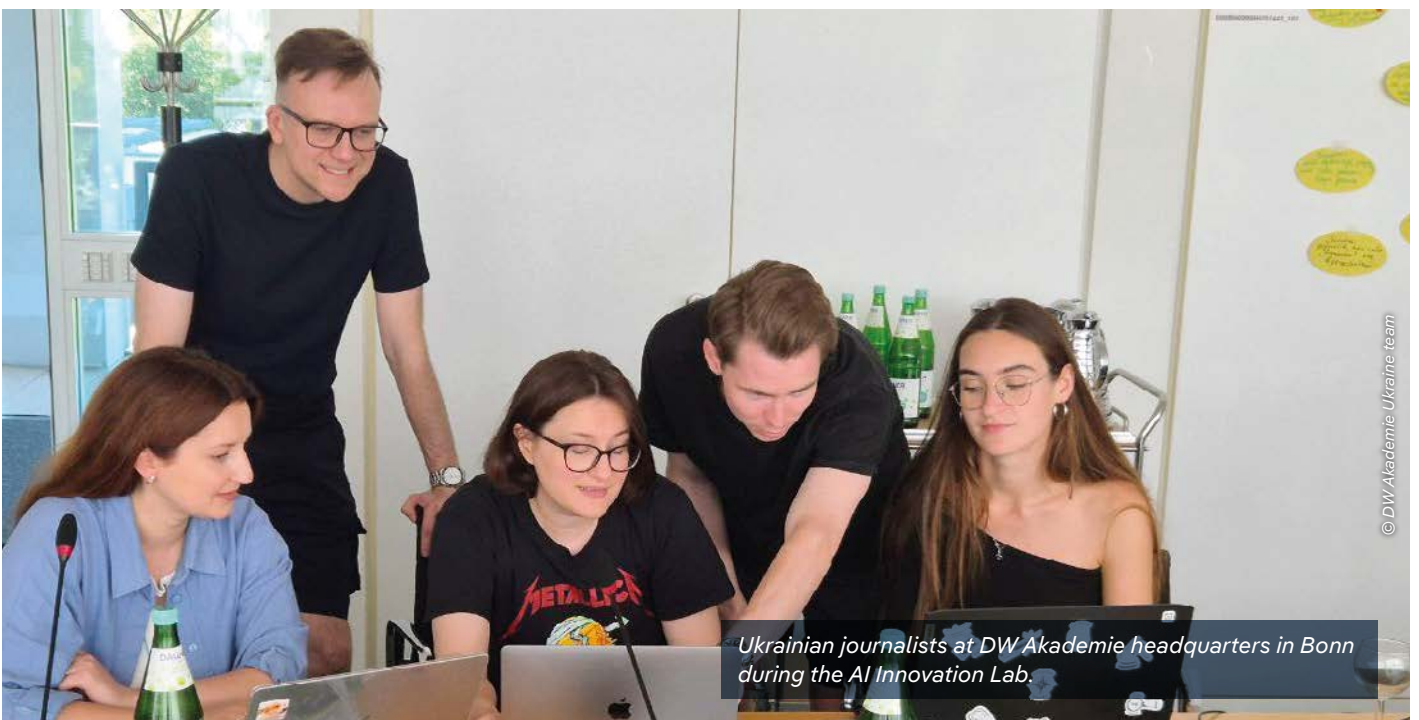
1. Lack of specificity for niche and regional needs

A recurring issue cited by media professionals is that existing AI tools often fail to meet the highly specific requirements essential to regional journalism. For instance:

- **Local specificity and niche topics:** As reported by 20 Khvylyn. Zhytomir, general-purpose AI tools are frequently inadequate for producing accurate, detailed reporting on hyperlocal or niche issues, due to reliance on generalized data rather than context-specific sources.
- **Language and regional dialect issues:** AI tools predominantly developed by global companies are not fully adapted to Ukrainian linguistic nuances and regional dialects. Oleksandr Minakov, an AI expert, underscores that Ukrainian innovations specifically tailored to regional linguistic and dialect needs are still lacking.

2. Limited functionality for specific journalistic tasks

Journalists highlight notable shortcomings in AI capabilities regarding task-specific journalism functions:



Ukrainian journalists at DW Akademie headquarters in Bonn during the AI Innovation Lab.

- **Analytical functions for legislative and procurement documents:** Sylva Pravdy (Power of Truth) specifically mentioned the absence of AI tools capable of efficiently analyzing complex legislative documents, procurement contracts, or performing detailed investigative journalism automatically.
- **Historical context generation:** Mykvisti emphasized a particular lack of AI solutions that can quickly and accurately generate historical context or comprehensive background notes from extensive archives or documents—an essential task to support new journalists.

3. Integration difficulties and technological fragmentation

A significant operational hurdle identified by multiple media professionals involves technical integration and interoperability of different AI systems:

- **Lack of cohesive infrastructure:** 6262.com.ua notes significant difficulties in integrating diverse AI tools, each specialized for specific tasks (e.g. text generation, social media posting, data analysis), into a single cohesive newsroom system. This fragmentation results in workflow inefficiencies and reduces overall productivity gains from using AI.

4. Financial constraints and cost of implementation

Cost remains a substantial barrier to more widespread adoption and specialized use of AI tools within Ukrainian independent media:

- **High cost of specialized AI training and development:** KhAC highlighted the prohibitive costs associated with training specialized AI models for specific journalistic functions, such as analyzing platforms like ProZorro or legislative projects.

- **Inaccessibility of paid advanced solutions:** Suspilne Dnipro noted that financial limitations significantly restrict media organizations from accessing and benefiting from the advanced functionalities of paid AI platforms.

5. Limited Ukrainian innovations

Interviews indicate a notable absence of fully developed Ukrainian-origin AI solutions tailored explicitly to journalistic contexts:

- While there are promising Ukrainian initiatives like **Osavul** for media monitoring, as mentioned by Intent, they often remain at the early startup stage, with limited usability due to insufficient funding and inadequate technological support.

Recommendations

To address these gaps, these points should be considered:

1. Collaborating with local technology developers and Ukrainian AI startups to foster innovation in media-specific applications, thereby addressing both linguistic and context-specific journalism needs.
2. Seeking external funding opportunities such as grants or partnerships to offset the high costs associated with training, integration, and specialized AI implementation.
3. Encouraging open-source or community-driven projects tailored specifically for Ukrainian media to achieve cost-effective, accessible, and highly specialized AI tools.

Good use cases that can help alleviate independent media's funding crisis

AI-driven solutions and automated tools can significantly alleviate financial and operational pressures by streamlining workflows, reducing administrative burdens, and enhancing content quality and reach. The following use cases highlight practical implementations that have successfully allowed independent media organizations to optimize resources, improve efficiency, and remain competitive despite limited budgets.

1. Automated transcription and audio processing

Tools such as **Good Tape** (used by Sylva Pravdy and Cukr) and **Fireflies** (used by rayon.in.ua) significantly reduce administrative burdens by transcribing interviews, meetings, and podcasts. This reduces labor, saving editorial time and reducing personnel costs. Nikcenter has developed the **Telegram-based AI chatbot**, which efficiently transcribes audio files into text, greatly simplifying the transcription process and significantly saving both time

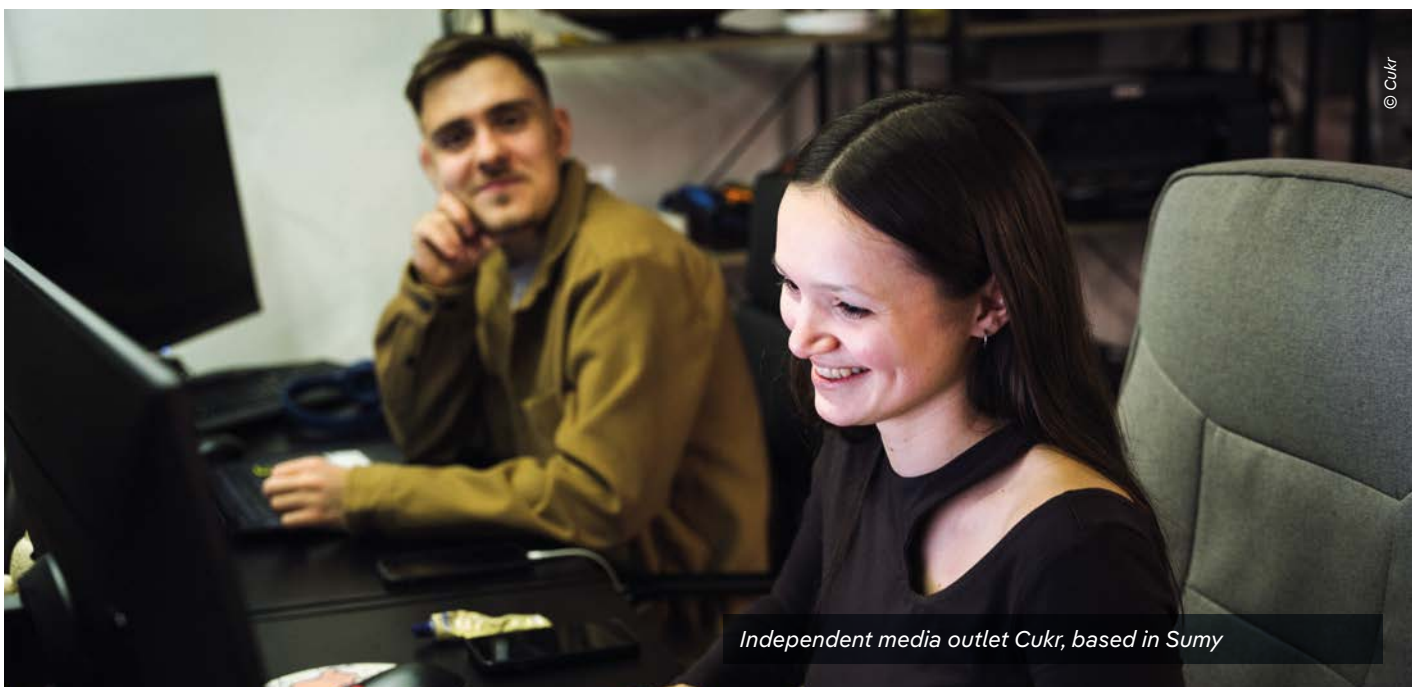
and resources for small, independent newsrooms. It has more than 200 customers.

2. Cost-effective translation

Platforms like **DeepL** (used extensively by Intent and Eastern Variant) provide affordable and high-quality translations, enabling smaller newsrooms to deliver multilingual content without additional staff, significantly reducing translation costs.

3. Multimedia content creation and enhancement

AI-driven multimedia tools such as **Canva**, **Midjourney**, **Adobe Firefly**, **Ripple Edit**, **FireCut**, and **Leonardo** (utilized notably by Cukr and Bilyaivka.City) empower journalists to quickly create professional-quality visuals and video content, avoiding the costs of external designers and video editors.



Independent media outlet Cukr, based in Sumy

4. Text-to-speech automation for diverse content formats

Media outlets like 6262.com.ua successfully employ tools like **ElevenLabs** to create automated voiceovers. This expands their reach and accessibility, offering new content types at minimal costs.

5. AI-based SEO optimization

Several outlets, including Korabelov.info, Mykvisti, and Ye Novyny, actively use tools like **ChatGPT** and **GPT+** to optimize headlines, generate SEO-friendly content, and attract greater audience traffic—directly impacting advertising revenue potential.

6. Chatbots and custom AI assistants

Customized AI solutions, such as the assistant “**Рая**,” (“Raya” in English) developed by rayon.in.ua, significantly reduce the editorial workload by automating text editing, content structuring, and administrative tasks. This saves valuable staff time and streamlines operations.

7. Automated news summarization and programming assistants

Telegram bots and custom APIs, such as those implemented by Korabelov.info, quickly summarize and disseminate news updates, allowing smaller teams to cover more news stories efficiently, enhancing audience engagement without expanding the workforce. The team at Nikcenter effectively utilized AI technology to build and maintain a comprehensive database containing over 7 million Ukrainian declarations and court decisions. This database serves as an essential investigative resource for journalists across Ukraine, enabling rapid access to crucial information. The tool significantly cuts down research time, enhances accuracy, and allows newsrooms to perform sophisticated investigative journalism more cost-effectively.

8. Grant writing and application support

Tools like **ChatGPT AI Assistant** support journalists at Novyny Ternopolia. 20 khvylyn in drafting high-quality grant applications, significantly increasing their chances of successfully securing funding with less effort and time investment.

9. Content planning and ideation automation

Outlets such as Bilyaivka.City and Ye Novyny utilize AI platforms (e.g., **ChatGPT** and **GPT+**) to generate creative ideas and structured editorial plans, enhancing efficiency, reducing planning time, and freeing resources for high-value journalistic work.

10. AI-supported investigative journalism and data analysis

Outlets like ngl.media and Intent employ AI tools such as **ChatGPT+ Canvas** for rapidly analyzing extensive documents, investigative reports, and data sets. By shortening the research phase, AI significantly reduces labor-intensive tasks associated with investigative journalism, leading to cost savings and the possibility of delivering more impactful investigative content within tighter budgets.

AI pioneers and forerunners

In an era defined by information overload, disinformation threats, and shrinking newsrooms, artificial intelligence is becoming an essential tool in the media industry, particularly for regional and independent outlets striving to stay agile, accurate, and impactful. Across Ukraine, a new generation of AI pioneers is transforming how media is produced, monitored, and protected. These innovators are not only tackling large-scale challenges, such as information warfare and narrative manipulation, but are also creating practical tools tailored for local newsrooms, where resources are limited, but the need for trustworthy journalism is critical. This section highlights the groundbreaking work of Ukrainian organizations and startups that are applying AI to empower regional media, from real-time fact-checking and social media monitoring to automated editing, transcription, and investigative research. Their work underscores the growing role of AI in supporting sustainable, resilient, and ethical journalism in communities that need it most.

AI for disinformation detection and narrative analysis

Focus: Combatting info-warfare, narrative manipulation, and coordinated inauthentic behavior

1. LetsData

LetsData is an AI-driven platform co-founded by Andriy Kusyy and Ksenia Iliuk, focusing on the early detection and mitigation of information operations (InfoOps). Established in response to heightened threats intensified by the war in Ukraine, the platform serves businesses, governments, and civil society organizations by providing real-time monitoring of media and social media to identify early signals of InfoOps orchestrated by cybercriminals, hostile states, or competitors.

Project details

LetsData has developed a comprehensive solution that scans millions of media and social media publications daily, detecting early signals of InfoOps. The platform addresses challenges such as disinformation, deepfakes, public social engineering, synthetic identities, spoofing, impersonation, astroturfing, and threat declarations. By unmasking manipulated content and deceptive tactics, LetsData empowers organizations to navigate risks and seize opportunities in an increasingly complex digital landscape.

AI technology

The platform leverages artificial intelligence to process and analyze vast amounts of data, enabling the detection of media anomalies and orchestrated information operations. Its “No Keyword” technology uncovers 80 percent more risks than traditional methods, enhancing proactive and predictive security capabilities. This technology allows for cross-platform, cross-continent, and cross-language insights, ensuring comprehensive coverage and support for global operations.

Context, scope, and impact

LetsData operates globally, serving a diverse clientele that includes media outlets, organizations, and networks. The platform has been integrated into ongoing workflows, providing real-time monitoring and analysis to detect and mitigate information operations. Its impact is significant, offering proactive measures to prevent threats before they escalate, thereby enhancing predictive security capabilities for its users.

Challenges faced

In the rapidly evolving landscape of information warfare, LetsData confronts technical challenges related to processing and analyzing large volumes of data across multiple languages and platforms. Organizational challenges include staying ahead of sophisticated disinformation tactics and ensuring the accuracy of insights. Ethical considerations involve responsibly unmasking manipulated content without infringing on privacy rights and maintaining the integrity of authentic information.



From the outset of Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the war has taken a devastating toll on the Ukrainian media on every possible level: Physical safety, mental health, team challenges, staff shortages, financial crises, and other issues

Funding and sustainability

LetsData has secured 1.6 million US dollars in funding to combat information operations and synthetic identities, reflecting strong institutional support and confidence in its mission. In 2024, Google selected LetsData for its three-month growth program for startups working in AI and cybersecurity, underscoring LetsData's commitment to leveraging AI for cybersecurity and media integrity. These funding sources contribute to the platform's sustainability and scalability, enabling continuous enhancement of its AI capabilities and expansion of its services.

Through its innovative use of AI, LetsData exemplifies a pioneering approach to safeguarding information integrity in the digital age, addressing critical challenges in media and cybersecurity.

Potential for extended use / replicability:

LetsData's multilingual, cross-platform AI capabilities make it adaptable for Ukrainian regional media to combat localized disinformation.

2. Mantis Analytics

Mantis Analytics is a Ukrainian-born AI platform specializing in real-time situational awareness and risk

management. Founded in 2022 by Maksym Tereshchenko, Ostap Vykhopen, and Anton Tarasyuk during Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, the company evolved from a volunteer initiative into a dual-use startup. The platform assists organizations in enhancing security operations by providing real-time incident verification to protect operations and reputations from risk.

Project details

Mantis Analytics offers several AI-driven solutions:

- Mantis Platform: Provides real-time, AI-driven intelligence to secure physical assets and enhance Global Security Operations Centers (GSOCs).
- Incident Feed: Delivers a verified incident feed to empower threat platforms with trustworthy data, minimizing noise.
- Bespoke Intelligence: Offers regular physical and informational risk reporting, powered by AI-driven insights and prepared by intelligence analysts.

These solutions address the general problem of timely and accurate risk intelligence, aiming to enhance organizational resilience and decision-making.

AI Technology

Mantis Analytics uses artificial intelligence to analyze vast datasets from media, social networks, and various sources. This analysis helps identify communication patterns, detect misinformation, and provide real-time situational awareness. The integration of AI into their workflows allows for swift threat detection and response, enhancing security operations.

Context, scope, and impact

The platform has been implemented across various sectors:

- City governance: Provided AI-powered open-source intelligence (OSINT) incident feeds to a Ukrainian city's Resilience Center, aiding in rapid urban threat response during times of aggression.
- Think tanks: Empowered organizations with data-driven insights into media coordination, assisting in identifying coordinated influence and propaganda efforts.
- NGOs and media: Equipped entities with data to debunk disinformation campaigns, exposing key narratives and coordinated disinformation.

These initiatives have been integrated into ongoing workflows, demonstrating the platform's adaptability and effectiveness in various contexts.

Challenges faced

Mantis Analytics has encountered several challenges:

- Technical: Developing an AI platform capable of analyzing vast and diverse datasets in real-time requires advanced technical solutions.
- Organizational: Integrating AI-driven insights into existing security operations necessitates organizational adjustments and training.
- Financial: Securing funding for development and expansion, particularly into new markets like the US, poses financial challenges.
- Cultural: Addressing ethical considerations, such as ensuring data privacy and mitigating biases in AI algorithms, is crucial.

The company addresses these challenges by securing investments, collaborating with industry experts, and maintaining a focus on ethical AI deployment.

Funding and sustainability

In September 2024, Mantis Analytics secured a 240,000 US dollars investment from the Nezlamni fund, founded by Ukrainian entrepreneurs, including Uklon co-founders. This pre-seed SAFE round aims to accelerate platform development and facilitate entry into the US market. The company also participated in the US-based Alchemist Accelerator, securing a 30,000 US dollars investment to expedite US market entry. These investments contribute to the platform's sustainability and scalability, enabling further development and market expansion.

In summary, Mantis Analytics exemplifies innovation in utilizing AI for journalism-related applications, enhancing situational awareness, and combating disinformation across various sectors.

Potential for extended use/replicability

Mantis Analytics' real-time verification and multilingual AI capabilities make it highly adaptable for Ukrainian regional media to combat localized disinformation.

3. Osavul – Effective AI tool to track disinformation

Osavul is a Kyiv-based AI-powered media intelligence company founded in February 2022 in response to the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine. The company specializes in assessing information environments to detect and counter disinformation effectively. Leveraging artificial intelligence, Osavul has rapidly positioned itself as a pivotal player in the media intelligence sector.

Project details

Osavul has developed an AI-driven intelligence platform designed to analyze various data types, including text, video, and audio, from multiple platforms like social media and websites. This platform addresses the challenges posed by the rapid growth of digital content and sophisticated disinformation tactics. By structuring narratives and tracing their origins, Osavul offers a dynamic solution to safeguard the informational ecosystem against narrative attacks.

AI technology

The platform utilizes advanced AI and machine learning models to process extensive datasets, structuring narratives and mapping their sources. This includes analyzing text, video, and audio data from various online sources to assess the information environment. The AI capabilities enable real-time monitoring, advanced analytics, and the detection of coordinated inauthentic behavior.

Context, scope, and impact

Initially focused on countering disinformation during Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine, Osavul has expanded its services globally, assisting governments, businesses, and civil society organizations in protecting against information threats. The platform has been instrumental in detecting disinformation campaigns, including those targeting elections and corporate entities, thereby enhancing media intelligence and open-source analytics.

Challenges faced

Osavul has encountered technical challenges in processing large volumes of diverse data and identifying sophisticated disinformation tactics. Organizational challenges include adapting the platform to various regional contexts and languages. Ethical considerations involve ensuring data privacy and avoiding biases in AI algorithms. The company addresses these challenges by continuously refining its AI models and adhering to strict ethical guidelines.

Funding and sustainability

In September 2024, Osavul secured 2.78 million euros in seed funding to enhance its AI capabilities and expand its services to the business sector, recognizing the growing threat of disinformation campaigns targeting companies. The company aims to scale its operations and offer its services to businesses worldwide, ensuring sustainability and scalability in combating disinformation.

Potential for extended use/replicability

Osavul's AI-driven narrative analysis and multilingual capabilities make it highly replicable for Ukrainian regional media to detect localized disinformation and trace hostile narratives in real time. By integrating its platform, regional outlets could strengthen resilience against targeted propaganda.

4. *Texty.org.ua*

Texty.org.ua is an independent Ukrainian media outlet founded in 2010 by Anatoliy Bondarenko and Roman Kulchynsky. The organization specializes in data journalism projects and traditional journalistic genres, aiming to provide in-depth analyses and insights into various societal issues.

Project details

In October 2024, Texty.org.ua conducted a comprehensive analysis titled "Carousel of emotions: Manipulation Level of Ukrainian Telegram Channels." The study aimed to evaluate the prevalence of manipulative language techniques across 100 popular Ukrainian Telegram channels, focusing on how language is used to influence readers' emotions and perceptions.

AI technology

The project leveraged advanced artificial intelligence, specifically a large language model, to identify and categorize common manipulative techniques in Telegram posts. By training this AI model on an annotated dataset of 7,604 samples, the team enabled it to detect specific manipulative techniques, such as loaded language, appeals to fear, euphoric language, and more.

Context, scope, and impact

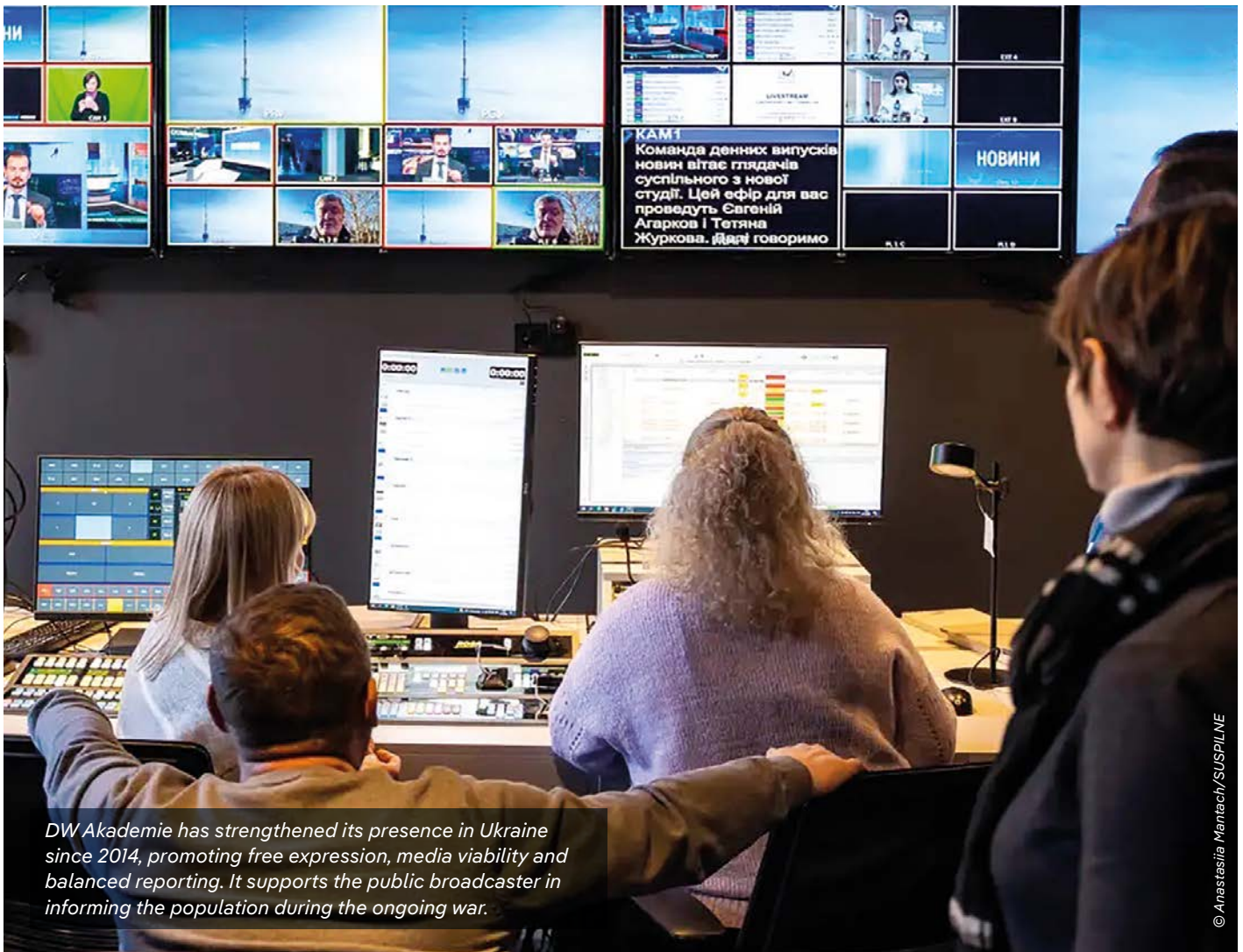
This initiative was conducted independently by Texty.org.ua as part of their ongoing efforts to promote media literacy and transparency in Ukraine. By highlighting the prevalence of manipulative language in popular Telegram channels, the project aimed to educate the public about the potential biases and emotional triggers present in their news consumption. The findings have been disseminated through their official website and have garnered attention from other media outlets, amplifying the project's reach and impact.

Challenges faced

Implementing AI-driven analyses posed technical challenges, including the need for extensive data annotation and model training to accurately detect subtle manipulative techniques. Additionally, addressing potential biases within the AI model and ensuring the reliability of the analysis required meticulous attention. Ethical considerations included the responsible use of AI in media analysis and the potential implications of publicly labeling channels as manipulative.

Funding and sustainability

Specific details regarding the funding sources for this particular project were not disclosed in the available



DW Akademie has strengthened its presence in Ukraine since 2014, promoting free expression, media viability and balanced reporting. It supports the public broadcaster in informing the population during the ongoing war.

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information. However, as an independent media organization, Texty.org.ua relies on various funding mechanisms to support its initiatives. The sustainability and scalability of such AI-driven projects depend on continued financial support, technological advancements, and the organization's commitment to enhancing media literacy and transparency.

Potential for extended use / replicability

Texty.org.ua's AI-driven methodology for detecting manipulative language in Telegram channels offers a replicable blueprint for Ukrainian regional media to audit local disinformation, propaganda, or emotionally charged narratives in real time.

AI tools for journalistic workflows

Focus: Assisting with editorial tasks, text optimization, and multimedia integration

5. Grammarly

Grammarly is an AI-powered writing assistant that enhances communication by offering real-time grammar checking, tone adjustments, and content generation. Founded by Ukrainians Max Lytvyn, Alex Shevchenko, and Dmytro Lider, Grammarly has evolved from a basic grammar checker to a comprehensive writing tool integrated across various platforms.

Project details

Initially launched as an online editor with a paid subscription model, Grammarly quickly became cash-flow positive. The core problem it addresses is the need for clear and effective written communication, helping users to avoid grammatical errors and improving the overall quality of their writing. Over time, Grammarly has expanded its features to include tone detection and style recommendations, aiming to make users' writing more persuasive and tailored to their intended audience.

AI technology

Grammarly's AI system combines machine learning with natural language processing (NLP) techniques to analyze text at multiple levels—from individual characters and words to full sentences and paragraphs. This approach enables the platform to provide contextually aware suggestions that enhance clarity, coherence, and engagement in writing.

Context, scope, and impact

Grammarly can significantly enhance efficiency, accuracy, and quality in newsrooms by providing real-time assistance with grammar, punctuation, and style, allowing journalists to refine articles during the writing process and reduce editing time. Its tone detection capabilities ensure content matches the intended audience and maintains professionalism, while seamless integration with productivity and collaboration tools like Google Drive, Microsoft 365, Asana, and Monday.com improves research, file management, and editorial consistency. Grammarly also supports multimedia content integration through Giphy and Unsplash, facilitates scheduling with Calendly, and enhances contact management via HubSpot, further streamlining journalistic processes. By incorporating robust security and privacy measures, Grammarly ensures that sensitive newsroom information remains confidential, making it a valuable AI-powered asset for journalism professionals seeking to optimize their workflow.

Challenges faced

In its development journey, Grammarly has encountered challenges such as ensuring the accuracy of its suggestions, maintaining user trust, and addressing security vulnerabilities. For instance, a security researcher discovered a vulnerability in Grammarly's browser extension that exposed authentication tokens to websites, potentially allowing unauthorized access to user data. The company promptly released a fix and reported no evidence of compromised user information. Additionally, ethical considerations, such as preventing the generation of harmful content, have been addressed through content filtering mechanisms to reduce potential misuse of the platform.

Funding and sustainability

Grammarly has secured significant funding to support its growth and development. In 2017, the company raised 110 million US dollars in its first funding round, followed by 90 million US dollars in 2019. In 2021, Grammarly raised an additional 200 million US dollars, bringing its valuation to 13 billion US dollars. These investments have enabled Grammarly to expand its product offerings and maintain its position as a leader in AI-driven writing assistance.

Potential for extended use/replicability

Grammarly's AI-powered writing tools can offer Ukrainian regional media a robust solution to enhance journalistic precision and efficiency. Its real-time grammar checking and tone detection can streamline editing workflows, reducing human error and ensuring clarity in reporting.

6. Rayon.in.ua

The Ukrainian media organization Rayon.in.ua, a national network of hyperlocal news outlets that deliver regional news across Ukraine, covering regions such as Volyn, Rivne, Zakarpattia, Kherson, Odesa, Mykolaiv, and Poltava.

Project details

"Рая"(Raya) is an AI assistant developed specifically by Rayon.in.ua for editorial use, primarily designed to automate and simplify text-related tasks within journalistic workflows. The tool operates via an API integration, allowing journalists to efficiently edit texts according to editorial standards and publish materials directly within the media's administrative backend. The primary goal of Raya is to address the challenge of staff shortages in regional media by automating routine editorial tasks, thereby freeing journalists to focus on more creative and investigative work.

Currently, Raya is undergoing testing within the media organization's internal systems and is being refined for full deployment. The necessity of this AI assistant prompted Rayon.in.ua to undertake a significant upgrade to their administrative system, demonstrating the importance of seamlessly integrating AI tools within journalistic processes.

AI technology

Raya is developed using OpenAI's API infrastructure, specifically leveraging models such as ChatGPT, with the flexibility to easily switch to other advanced AI models like Claude, based on editorial needs. The technology is embedded within the Laravel-based administrative interface of Rayon.in.ua, ensuring ease of use, direct

accessibility, and seamless integration into editorial workflows. Pre-written prompts are available to journalists, allowing them to quickly execute specific editorial functions with minimal effort.

Context, scope, and impact

The initiative takes place within Rayon.in.ua's media network, known for its hyperlocal approach to news delivery across various Ukrainian regions. Raya represents a significant advancement in the network's digital transformation, helping journalists and editors manage workloads more effectively. Once fully implemented, Raya is expected to enhance productivity, content quality, and operational efficiency across the entire network.

Challenges faced

The implementation of Raya faced several technical and organizational challenges. Initial testing revealed areas where the tool required improvement, necessitating further development. Additionally, the integration required substantial updates to the existing administrative infrastructure, which demanded additional resources. Ethical considerations have also been acknowledged, particularly regarding AI's impact on job security and maintaining the creative essence of journalism.

Funding and sustainability

The development and implementation of Raya were made possible through a European grant, as the media organization lacked sufficient internal financial resources. Currently, Rayon.in.ua is exploring commercial opportunities to ensure the initiative's sustainability and scalability. They acknowledge the necessity of securing ongoing funding to further develop and maintain this innovative solution effectively.

Potential for extended use / replicability:

Rayon.in.ua's Raya AI assistant, built on Laravel's framework, demonstrates how AI integration can streamline editorial workflows for hyperlocal Ukrainian media. While its current implementation is Laravel-based, the API-driven logic—leveraging models like ChatGPT or Claude for text editing, formatting, and publishing—can be replicated in any CMS (e.g. WordPress, Drupal, Django) by adapting the backend API integration. This modular approach allows regional outlets with diverse technical infrastructures to adopt similar AI tools without overhauling existing systems.

7. Nikcenter

Nikcenter is a Ukrainian media project under the Mykolaiv Center for Investigative Reporting, a non-profit NGO dedicated to investigative reporting and data-driven journalism. The organization focuses on delivering in-depth investigations and news, particularly in the regions of Mykolaiv, Odesa, and Kherson.

Project details

Nikcenter developed a Telegram chatbot designed to transcribe audio files into text. Initially created to meet the internal needs of their editorial team, the tool quickly garnered interest from the broader journalism community. Recognizing this demand, Nikcenter made the chatbot accessible to other journalists, streamlining the transcription process and significantly reducing the time required to convert audio interviews into text.

AI technology

The transcription chatbot leverages the open-source audio model Whisper, hosted on Nikcenter's own servers, thus avoiding payments to big tech companies. Developed using Python and Bash scripting, the tool operates within the Telegram platform, offering users a seamless and efficient transcription experience. Additionally, Nikcenter successfully hosts and utilizes other open-source models, including Llama and Deepseek, specifically for cybersecurity purposes.

Context, scope, and impact

Started as a tool to address specific transcription needs within Nikcenter, the tool's effectiveness led to its wider adoption by other journalism professionals in Ukraine. By automating transcription, journalists can dedicate more time to content creation, analysis, and investigative tasks. This innovation has thus enhanced productivity and efficiency within newsrooms. Nikcenter also provides other journalism-focused tools, including resources for investigative data analysis, multimedia content generation, and tools aimed at combating disinformation and verifying facts. The team at Nikcenter effectively utilized AI technology to build and maintain a comprehensive database containing over 7 million entries such as court decisions and public officials' financial declarations. This database serves as an essential investigative resource for journalists across Ukraine, enabling rapid access to crucial information. The tool significantly cuts research time, enhances accuracy, and allows newsrooms to perform sophisticated investigative journalism more cost-effectively.

Challenges faced

Implementing AI solutions often involves addressing technical hurdles such as ensuring transcription accuracy, managing diverse accents and dialects, and integrating the tool into existing workflows. Ethical considerations include maintaining the confidentiality of transcribed content and ensuring that AI-generated transcriptions do not misrepresent the original audio.

Funding and sustainability

The Transcriber chatbot was developed with financial support from the Internews Network, with the project costing a modest 300 US dollars. Nikcenter continues to operate as a non-profit organization, depending significantly on financial contributions from donors and readers. This funding model indicates a sustainability challenge, as ongoing use and further development of the tool would require additional financial support and resources. However, its low initial development cost enhances its potential scalability among independent and regional media outlets in Ukraine.

Potential for extended use/replicability

Nikcenter's Telegram-based transcription chatbot is a powerful tool for Ukrainian regional media, but its reliance on Telegram—a platform potentially vulnerable to future restrictions in Ukraine—highlights the need for cross-platform adaptability. To ensure continuity, the project's open-source architecture (Whisper, Python, Bash) could be repurposed for alternative platforms like Viber, Signal, or standalone web apps, preserving functionality even if Telegram is blocked.

8. Respeecher

Respeecher is a Ukrainian software company specializing in speech synthesis, enabling one person to speak in another's voice using advanced artificial intelligence. Founded in 2018 by Alex Serdiuk, Dmytro Bielievstov, and Grant Reaber, the company has become a leader in AI voice cloning technology.

Project details

Respeecher's primary innovation is its AI-driven voice cloning technology, which replicates human speech patterns and vocal characteristics. This technology has been utilized across various media projects, including Hollywood films, video games, and documentaries. Their speech-to-speech technology allows real-time voice transformation, enabling users to speak in another's voice while preserving the original's natural qualities. This

has applications in entertainment, gaming, and assistive technologies.

AI technologies

Respeecher utilizes advanced artificial intelligence, neural networks, and machine learning algorithms to analyze and replicate human speech. Their proprietary technology captures subtle emotional nuances, ensuring authentic and nuanced voice replications. This technology integrates seamlessly into existing media workflows, offering tools like the AI Voice Lab and Voice Marketplace for easy adoption.

Context, scope, and impact

Operating globally, Respeecher's technology has been adopted by top-tier Hollywood studios, game developers, and content creators. Respeecher's AI voice cloning technology might offer journalists innovative tools to enhance storytelling and accessibility. By converting written articles into natural-sounding audio, it caters to audiences who prefer listening or have visual impairments, thereby broadening reach. The technology also enables multilingual reporting, allowing journalists to present content in various languages while preserving the original speaker's voice characteristics, fostering authenticity across diverse audiences.

Challenges faced

Respeecher has faced challenges related to the ethical use of AI voice cloning, addressing concerns about consent and potential misuse. They implement strict consent mechanisms, transparent voice origin tracking, and legal compliance frameworks to ensure ethical practices.

Funding and sustainability

Since its inception, Respeecher has raised over 3 million US dollars in investments, enabling continuous development and expansion. Its sustainable business model caters to a broad spectrum of clients, from individual creators to large enterprises, ensuring scalability and ongoing innovation in AI voice technology.

Potential for extended use/replicability

Respeecher's AI voice-cloning technology is particularly well-suited for Ukrainian radio and TV reporters and web-based media platforms, offering tools to streamline content creation while enhancing accessibility and multilingual reach. For regional radio and TV journalists, the platform enables rapid production of audio reports by converting written scripts into natural-sounding voiceovers in any language. For news websites, Respeecher can automate text-to-audio conversions, transforming articles into high-quality audio versions for audiences who

prefer listening or for podcast distribution. This not only broadens accessibility but also increases engagement by repurposing written content into dynamic audio formats.

AI for media monitoring and audience insights

Focus: Social media analytics, image recognition, trend detection

9. YouScan

YouScan is a Kyiv-based company specializing in social media monitoring and analytics, leveraging artificial intelligence to help businesses understand customer opinions, extract valuable insights, and manage their online reputation. Founded in 2009 by Alexey Orap, YouScan has evolved into a leading platform in the industry.

Project details

YouScan has developed an AI-powered social media listening platform with advanced image recognition capabilities. This technology enables businesses to analyze visual content from over 500,000 sources, providing insights into how products are used, brand visibility, and audience demographics. The platform addresses challenges in monitoring brand mentions online and offers in-depth analytics to enhance brand management.

AI technology

The platform integrates advanced AI technologies, including image recognition, to detect logos, objects, scenes, activities, and demographic information within images. This allows businesses to analyze visual content effectively, offering a deeper understanding of customer interactions and brand perception.

Context, scope, and impact

The platform is used across various industries for brand management, crisis management, competitor analysis, market research, trend analysis, and influencer marketing. Its continuous development and integration into business workflows have solidified its position as a leader in social media analytics. YouScan's AI-powered social media listening platform has the potential to significantly enhance journalistic practices by providing real-time access to vast amounts of user-generated content across various platforms. Journalists can use YouScan to monitor emerging trends, public sentiments, and breaking news by analyzing

text and visual data from social media, blogs, forums, and news sites. The platform's advanced image recognition capabilities enable the detection of logos, objects, and scenes within images, offering deeper insights into public events and behaviors. By integrating YouScan into their workflows, journalists can swiftly identify and verify information, track the dissemination of stories, and gain a comprehensive understanding of audience reactions, thereby enhancing the accuracy and depth of their reporting.

Challenges faced

In its early stages, YouScan addressed the difficulty businesses faced in monitoring online brand mentions and extracting quality analytics. The company has navigated technical challenges related to processing vast amounts of social media data and adapting to the evolving digital landscape. Ethical considerations include ensuring user privacy and compliance with data protection regulations, as outlined in their privacy policy.

Funding and sustainability

YouScan has secured investments to support its growth and innovation. In 2010, the company received a seed investment of 50,000 euros from The OpenFund, a European venture fund. In 2015, it secured a Series A funding round led by investment funds Kinnevik AB and VNV Global AB. In July 2022, YouScan raised an additional 2 million US dollars from existing investors to expand its business. These investments have contributed to the platform's sustainability and scalability in the competitive field of social media analytics.

Potential for extended use/replicability

YouScan's AI-powered social media monitoring and image recognition tools hold significant potential for Ukrainian regional media to enhance investigative journalism, disinformation tracking, and audience engagement. Its ability to detect visual content and analyze sentiment across multilingual platforms enables journalists to swiftly verify breaking news, uncover hidden narratives, and trace the origins of disinformation campaigns. For investigative reporting, YouScan's tools can map coordinated inauthentic behavior, identify sources of fake news, and track the spread of visual propaganda (e.g., manipulated images or deepfakes) in real time.

Institutional AI capacity building

Focus: Strategic AI integration in public services, media, and national LLMs

10. WINWIN AI Center of Excellence

The WINWIN AI Center of Excellence (CoE) is a pioneering initiative launched by Ukraine's Ministry of Digital Transformation to spearhead the development and integration of artificial intelligence (AI) across various sectors, thereby enhancing the nation's global competitiveness. Established under the WINWIN 2030 Digital Innovation Development Strategy, the center aims to transform government processes, defense, healthcare, education, and business through AI-driven solutions.

Project details

The primary objective of the WINWIN AI CoE is to incorporate AI into critical areas of Ukrainian society. This includes integrating AI into public services like the Diia platform and the Mriya educational application, developing tools for data analysis within government operations, and creating AI solutions tailored to the defense sector. By doing so, the center seeks to enhance the efficiency of public services, optimize the work of civil servants, and bolster national security.

AI technology

The center is committed to developing a national language model (LLM) to establish AI sovereignty for Ukraine. This involves building the technical infrastructure necessary to launch national AI products and formulating a technological AI strategy focused on scaling and integrating AI into various projects, including Diia, Mriya, and AI Legal. Additionally, the center plans to create an AI incubator to facilitate the development of innovative AI solutions.

Context, scope, and impact

The national LLM, tailored to the intricacies of the Ukrainian language, can greatly improve natural language processing (NLP) tasks such as text generation, translation, and sentiment analysis. This advancement enables journalists to process and analyze large volumes of Ukrainian text more efficiently, facilitating in-depth investigative reporting and comprehensive news coverage. Given the ongoing shift from Russian to Ukrainian language in media and public discourse, such tools are increasingly vital. This initiative is part of a broader strategy to position Ukraine among the top three countries globally in terms of AI integration and implementation by 2030.

Challenges faced

Implementing AI on a national scale presents several challenges, including technical complexities, organizational restructuring, financial investments, and cultural adaptations. Ethical considerations, such as data privacy, algorithmic bias, and the impact of AI on employment, are also critical factors that the center must address to ensure responsible AI deployment.

Funding and sustainability

The WINWIN AI Center of Excellence was initiated by the Ministry of Digital Transformation, with its concept developed with support from the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO) and Deloitte UK. This collaboration underscores a commitment to international partnerships and sustainable development in AI.

Potential for extended use / replicability

The WINWIN AI CoE's national language model (LLM) could further empower Ukrainian regional media by enabling AI-driven content generation tailored to Ukrainian linguistic and cultural nuances, reducing reliance on foreign models while ensuring sovereignty in public discourse. Integrated automated proofreading and fact-checking tools would enhance journalistic credibility by flagging errors, verifying facts, and aligning narratives with verified data — critical for rapid, accurate reporting in high-stakes environments like wartime journalism.

Recommendations for regional independent media on the safe and cost-effective use of AI tools

Based on insights from Ukrainian media professionals, independent regional newsrooms should prioritize developing and integrating locally adapted AI tools. Doing so enhances their operational efficiency, protects sensitive information, and reduces dependency on costly international technology subscriptions.

Journalists consistently highlight concerns over data sovereignty, emphasizing the importance of maintaining complete control over sensitive newsroom data, internal documents, confidential sources, and website content. Choosing AI tools that prioritize transparent data management, open-source solutions, or locally developed AI models significantly reduces risks associated with data leakage and enhances journalistic autonomy.

To maximize AI's value, regional newsrooms must integrate these technologies deeply into their daily operations. Advanced AI systems—fine-tuned through methods such as Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG),¹ should be thoroughly familiarized with internal newsroom databases, archives, and departmental documentation. These integrated AI solutions would enable newsrooms to produce accurate, context-rich reports automatically, embedding historical backgrounds seamlessly into new content.

Furthermore, AI tools should fully integrate into all departmental workflows, facilitating collaboration between editorial, administrative, investigative, and multimedia teams. AI can serve as an effective editorial assistant—actively participating in newsroom planning, task assignment, deadline management, and reminding team members of ongoing responsibilities. Each media organization's AI solution should be individually customized, ensuring alignment with its unique linguistic, regional, and operational contexts, significantly enhancing newsroom productivity and operational efficiency.

Regular capacity-building activities—such as workshops, training sessions, and ongoing knowledge exchanges—should accompany AI adoption. These ensure staff are equipped to safely and effectively integrate AI tools into their everyday workflows, maintaining best practices around data privacy and security.

By pursuing these unified recommendations, Ukrainian regional independent media can achieve greater operational efficiency, reduce long-term technology costs, ensure robust data sovereignty, and sustainably enhance journalistic quality and audience engagement.

¹ Retrieval-Augmented Generation (RAG) is an AI technique that enhances the accuracy and relevance of language model outputs by combining document retrieval with text generation. Instead of relying solely on pre-trained knowledge, RAG first searches a database or external sources to retrieve relevant information based on a user's query, and then uses that data to generate a grounded, context-aware response. In our case, this helps automate tasks like writing articles or summaries based on real-time data, improving factual accuracy, reducing hallucinations, and enabling faster content creation with up-to-date information. More information is available here: <https://www.datacamp.com/tutorial/llama-3-1-rag>

Conclusion

Based on the research, Ukrainian regional media outlets are undergoing a significant transformation with the integration of artificial intelligence into journalistic practices. The adoption of AI tools such as ChatGPT, DeepL, Fireflies, and ElevenLabs has facilitated automation of routine tasks—transcription, translation, content optimization, and social media management—allowing journalists to focus more on creativity and investigative work. A small but growing number of pioneering media organizations are customizing or even developing their own AI solutions tailored to local requirements, demonstrating a culture of innovation despite facing financial and technical constraints.

However, the study finds there are still very few comprehensive alternatives to Big Tech solutions, which remain dominant due to their accessibility and feature sets. Nevertheless, alternative open-source tools and locally driven AI projects are starting to emerge, reflecting increasing awareness about privacy, sustainability, and independence from global tech monopolies. Ethical questions, data security, and the need for resource-sharing further shape the landscape. The research offers practical recommendations supporting responsible, sustainable, and context-sensitive AI adoption, emphasizing collaboration, skill development, and experimentation.

Key takeaways

1. There are limited alternatives to Big Tech in Ukraine, but some viable local and open-source options are emerging.
2. AI has delivered tangible benefits to Ukrainian newsrooms, boosting efficiency in repetitive tasks and sparking new editorial workflows.
3. Financial, technical, and data privacy constraints remain significant obstacles for many regional media outlets.
4. Some pioneers have successfully implemented and even created AI solutions addressing local needs, setting examples of replicability for others.
5. Collaboration—both between media outlets and with technical experts—increases the chance of responsible and sustainable AI integration.
6. Ongoing experimentation and openness to new tools are essential for building resilient and innovative media in Ukraine.
7. Ethical and privacy considerations must remain at the forefront as AI becomes more deeply embedded in newsroom operations.

Annex: Media outlets interviewed

1. **Novyny Ternopolia. 20 khvylyn**
Region: Ternopil • Oblast
Coverage: Local news, community events, and regional developments.
2. **Syla Pravdy (Power of Truth) (Lutsk)**
Region: Volyn • Oblast
Coverage: Investigative journalism focusing on corruption and social issues.
3. **Kharkiv Anticorruption Centre**
Region: Kharkiv • Oblast
Coverage: Investigative reporting on local governance and public affairs.
4. **Ye Novyny (Khmelnyskyi)**
Region: Khmelnytskyi • Oblast
Coverage: Regional news, culture, and community stories.
5. **20 Khvylyn. Zhytomyr**
Region: Zhytomyr • Oblast
Coverage: Local news and daily updates.
6. **Raion.in.ua**
Region: Volyn • Oblast
Coverage: Regional news network covering multiple districts.
7. **Chetverta Vlada (Rivne)**
Region: Rivne • Oblast
Coverage: Investigative journalism, focusing on transparency and accountability.
8. **Intent (Odesa)**
Region: Odesa • Oblast
Coverage: Regional and national news, with emphasis on public investigations and exposing corruption cases.
9. **Bilyaivka.City (Bilyaivka)**
Region: Odesa • Oblast
Coverage: Local news with a focus on environmental issues, particularly the Dniester River.
10. **Cukr (Sumy)**
Region: Sumy • Oblast
Coverage: Creative journalism, cultural stories, and community features.
11. **Korabelov.info (Mykolaiv)**
Region: Mykolaiv • Oblast
Coverage: News from the Korabelnyi district, including war updates and local events.
12. **6262.com.ua (Sloviansk)**
Region: Donetsk • Oblast
Coverage: City news, business directory, and community announcements.
13. **MIST (Kherson)**
Region: Kherson • Oblast
Coverage: Regional news, focusing on post-occupation recovery and local developments.
14. **MykVisti (Mykolaiv)**
Region: Mykolaiv • Oblast
Coverage: Local news and community updates.
15. **Eastern Variant**
Region: Donetsk and Luhansk • Oblast
Coverage: Independent media covering Eastern Ukraine, with emphasis on reconstruction and recovery.
16. **Suspilne Dnipro (Dnipro)**
Region: Dnipropetrovsk • Oblast
Coverage: Public broadcasting with a focus on regional news and cultural programming.
17. **ngl.media**
Region: National (originated in Lviv)
Coverage: Investigative journalism with a focus on anti-corruption.
18. **ЖАР.INFO**
Region: Khmelnytskyi • Oblast
Coverage: Regional news and investigative reports.
19. **Nikcenter (Mykolaiv)**
Region: Southern Ukraine
Coverage: Investigative journalism focusing on corruption, governance, and public accountability in Southern Ukraine.
20. **0372.ua (Chernivtsi)**
Region: Chernivtsi • Oblast
Coverage: Local news, community events, cultural happenings, and public announcements in Chernivtsi and the surrounding Bukovina region.



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