



Alleged terrorist attack in Hurghada – Is the lying press a reality after all?



In the beginning of 2015 the term "lying press" was elected un-word of the year 2014 by the "Un-Word jury". The jury justified its decision of this word because the media would generally be vilified through its use. The past year of 2015 however mostly showed that the term "lying press" isn't an un-word, but in reality, unfortunately quite often true.

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And even the year 2016 doesn't promise to be anything better. Based on the reporting of an alleged terrorist attack on the hotel Bella Vista in the popular tourist resort Hurghada in Egypt at the beginning of January we show today that the leading media -at least in this casegenerally spreads lies. What was reported?

The weekly German magazine "Stern" (star) wrote on January 8, 2016: "Terrorist attack in Egypt: Three tourists wounded in a hotel shooting. Three armed people fired guns in a Hotel of Hurghada, Egypt and wounded three people. The attackers were said to have carried IS flags with them." Here they still wrote they were said to have carried IS flags with them, the newspaper "B. Z. Berlin" wrote, I quote: "An ISIS attack was carried out on a hotel." - So easily possibilities have turned to facts.

The Bayrische Rundfunk (Bavarian Broadcasting) reported that one of the attackers had taken a tourist captive and had tried to kill him. Initially nobody confessed to this act. The attackers however were said to have worn a black flag of the terrorist militia Islamic State (IS). In this case again the mentioned "initially" isn't solved and the reader is made to belief that "later" someone confessed to these alleged attacks. That this can only be Islamic State, "Zeit online" (Time online - German newspaper on the web) skilfully reveals: "Egypt: Armed people attack hotel in Hurghada. IS-followers also confessed to be accountable for the crash of the Russian passenger airplane in October, in which 224 people died." That this confession of the IS is not about the attack in Hurghada cannot be read from these lines. Greenpeace Magazine also shows the alleged connection between Hurghada and Islamic State: "The terrorist militia Islamic State (IS) confessed to several attacks in Egypt. Friday evening two young men attacked tourists in a hotel in the well-loved seaside resort Hurghada with knives and hurt three guests." Here the media also clearly leave the impression that Islamic State confessed to this alleged attack.

The Swiss Newspaper "20 Minutes" even writes: "Injured people in IS-attack on hotel in Hurghada - Armed men attacked a tourist hotel in the Egyptian seaside resort Hurghada. Three Europeans were injured. An Egyptian IS-branch confessed to it."

Yet the formulation of diverse other news sources also suggested that this incident was a terror attack, partially with reference to the Islamic State:

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Time online, New Journal of Zurich NZZ, Spiegel online, Deutschlandfunk, news.ch, Huffington Post, Focus online, Die Welt, SAT 1, Handelsblatt, the Austrian "Kurier", the FAZ (German newspaper) and many more.

All of western media unanimously agreed firstly that this incident in Hurghada was a terroristic act and second that the Islamic State must be connected to it.

Yet what really happened? In this instance Klagemauer.TV wanted to know more and researched on-site in Egypt and spoke personally to three different people who had been directly or indirectly involved:

First, (please fade in: Name known to the editorial staff) an Egyptian tour guide from a different hotel. As early as January 9, 2016 he reported that the incident in the Bella Vista hotel had, by no means, been a terrorist attack but a dispute between two Egyptians. A knife was involved and three tourists who were at this restaurant at that time became involved in this scuffle. He also testified that within minutes the news of not even an alleged, but a confirmed, terrorist attack made its way onto our media via Facebook, Twitter, and other social media. This happened even before the event was investigated and the Egyptian government had been able to take an official position on it. Watch the comprehensive talk with this Egyptian travel guide at the end of this broadcast.

Next Klagemauer.TV spoke on-site with one of those responsible and who was directly in contact with the European victims who were injured. (please fade in: Function and Name are known to the editorial staff.) Independently from the Egyptian travel guide she also explained that it was in no way a terrorist attack. On the contrary it started with a stupid little dispute over wages between two young Egyptians. Additionally, they had been under the influence of drugs. The injured tourists told her personally that they were not afraid as a result of what happened and that this incident could have happened anywhere. They would not end their vacation and would love to stay in Hotel Bella Vista in Hurghada till their booked day of departure because, I quote, "it is so nice in Egypt".

To eliminate all ambiguity and to report first-handedly our correspondent in Egypt contacted the European victims of the alleged terrorist attack directly. However, the husband of this Austrian couple was not willing to sit down for an interview with us. Listen to what he agitatedly told our correspondent: "Not one single thing of what was reported by the European media on this incident is true. If you really mean to take it seriously - not like the other media who interviewed me - then by all means tell your viewers this: All of it is just one big lie!"

Due to his very bad experiences with the media he was so indignant and therefore not willing to give any further information. He asked however that we tell the viewers of Klagemauer.TV that he and his wife were very shaken and sad over the effects that this would have on tourism in Egypt. For all people at the Hotel Bella Vista were so kind and warm-hearted. Yet what does the press codex say that journalists commit themselves to?

"The publication of specific information in word, picture and graphics must be carefully checked in respect of accuracy in the light of existing circumstances and be portrayed accordingly." (Due Diligence, Section 2, Press Codex).

There is no doubt that with this reporting due diligence was massively ignored. Whoever does not want to accept such gross violations any more can hand in a complaint at the German press council (www.presserat.de) or send it directly to one of the editorial offices.

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The manipulation of the news always serves a special purpose. In this case a sturdy dispute was sold as a terrorist attack with Islamic State background. As consequence of this lie, fear of new terrorism is stirred in the western citizens on the one hand. And on the other hand the economy which in Egypt is based on tourism to a very great extent is weakened. For now even more hotels in the tourist regions are left vacant and more staff has to be dismissed. Thus crime rates in Egypt continues to massively increase and the vicious circle continues on until the next dispute for wages is "made to be another terrorist act." All of these are small steps up to the destabilization of all nations so that they will not only accept a new world order because of the present state of neediness and chaos but will even cry out for one. Please - you do also report distortions and obvious media lies to us at kla.tv. We are thankful for every clarifying letter for the sake of the well-being of the affected people and countries and thus the well-being of us all.

from bb./mb.

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