

Reading List — Existing Investigations & Research

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Priority Reads (start here)

Investigations

- **openDemocracy — Dark Money series**
 - Turning Point UK funding from US
 - Legatum / GB News connections
 - URL: <https://www.opendemocracy.net/> (search "dark money", "turning point")
- **Byline Times — Follow the Money**
 - Various UK political funding investigations
 - URL: <https://bylinetimes.com/>
- **Bellingcat — Far-right financing**
 - Methodology examples, especially on crypto tracing
 - URL: <https://www.bellingcat.com/>
- **Private Eye — Arron Banks / Leave.EU**
 - Electoral Commission investigation coverage
 - Check back issues 2018-2019
- **Channel 4 Dispatches — "Brexit: The Inside Job"**
 - Arron Banks, Russian connections
 - Also: various Tommy Robinson investigations

NGO Reports

- **Hope not Hate — State of Hate (annual)**
 - Yearly survey of UK far-right groups
 - URL: <https://www.hopenothate.org.uk/>
 - Key: 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025 editions

- **Hope not Hate — specific financial investigations**
 - Check publications page for targeted reports
- **Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD)**
 - Extremism research, some financial analysis
 - URL: <https://www.isdglobal.org/>
- **Centre for Media Monitoring**
 - Media analysis, some funding overlap
 - URL: <https://www.centreformediamonitoring.org/>
- **Anti-Defamation League (ADL)**
 - US-based but covers international networks
 - URL: <https://www.adl.org/>

Academic Books

- **Matthew Feldman — "Fascism, Contemporary History and Digital Culture"**
 - Methodology for researching far-right online
- **Nigel Copsey — various works on BNP and far-right**
 - Historical context on funding patterns
- **Hilary Pilkington — "Loud and Proud: Passion and Politics in the EDL"**
 - Ethnographic work, insight into grassroots funding
- **Graham Macklin — "Failed Führers" (2020)**
 - History of British far-right leaders, some financial context
- **"The International Alt-Right" (edited collection)**
 - Transnational funding networks chapter

Academic Articles (search on Google Scholar / JSTOR)

- Feldman, M. — various on fascist financing
- Copsey, N. — BNP financial history
- Busher, J. — English Defence League ethnography
- Macklin, G. — transnational far-right

Key Journalists / Researchers to Follow

- **Peter Jukes** (Byline Times) — far-right investigations
- **Jamie Doward** (Guardian) — UK far-right
- **Jason Burke** (Guardian) — extremism
- **Peter Geoghegan** (openDemocracy) — dark money
- **Adam Bienkov** (Byline Times / PoliticsHome)
- **Michael Crick** (former Channel 4, independent)
- **Patriot Act blog** — OSINT on far-right

- @PatrioticAltUK (monitoring accounts — careful with bias)

Podcasts / YouTube

- "The Bunker" (**Political Betting**) — occasional UK political funding coverage
 - "Novara Media" — left analysis, some funding investigations
 - "Double Down News" — political commentary
 - **Patreon-based investigators** (check who's doing good financial OSINT)
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Methodology Resources

OSINT Financial Investigation

- **Bellingcat — Financial Investigations** (online guides)
- **OCCRP — Aleph tutorial** (entity search training)
- **GIJN (Global Investigative Journalism Network)** — resource guides
- "Follow the Money: A Digital Guide for Tracking Corruption" — OCCRP/ICFJ

Tools Training

- **Maltego tutorials** (network mapping)
 - **OpenRefine tutorials** (bulk data cleaning)
 - **Wayback Machine / archive.today** (archiving best practice)
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Data Dumps to Acquire

Bulk Downloads (do these first)

- ☐ Electoral Commission — full donation database (CSV)
- ☐ Electoral Commission — loans database
- ☐ Companies House — full data download (available via API or bulk)
- ☐ Charity Commission — full register download
- ☐ ProPublica Nonprofit Explorer — scrape/save relevant 990s
- ☐ GiveSendGo 2022 leak (Unicorn Riot published) — if available, archive carefully

FOI Requests to Submit

- ☐ Electoral Commission — all enforcement actions against far-right parties (2020-2025)
 - ☐ Home Office — proscription applications for far-right groups
 - ☐ Police forces — arrests under Terrorism Act related to far-right (anonymised)
 - ☐ Ofcom — complaints upheld against GB News, TalkTV (financial aspects)
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Archive Strategy

Web Archiving

- **Wayback Machine:** <https://web.archive.org/> — save every URL you cite
- **archive.today:** <https://archive.today/> — good for paywalled or JS-heavy sites
- **Local copies:** Download PDFs, screenshots of ephemeral content

Naming Convention

- `YYYY-MM-DD_source-title.ext`
- Example: `2026-06-14_electoral-commission-reform-uk-donations.csv`

Storage

- Primary: This folder (`~/Desktop/Politics/funding-research/`)
 - Create `archive/` subdirectory for saved pages
 - Create `data/` subdirectory for bulk downloads
 - Consider encrypted backup for sensitive research
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To Be Found (open questions)

- ☐ Comprehensive list of GB News investors
- ☐ Full financial picture of Legatum's UK political investments
- ☐ Complete mapping of TPUSA → TPUK funding
- ☐ Tommy Robinson's total income sources (post-RT)
- ☐ Patriotic Alternative's business model (merch revenue?)

- ☐ Homeland's CIC filings (what's the declared activity?)
 - ☐ GiveSendGo leak analysis for UK recipients
 - ☐ Crypto wallet addresses from major UK far-right Telegram channels
 - ☐ Full Arron Banks / Russian meetings timeline
 - ☐ Reform UK's major donors 2024-2025 (post-election surge)
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Last Updated

- **Date:** 2026-06-14
 - **Status:** Initial reading list, needs expanding as research progresses
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Revision #1

Created 2026-08-21 11:56:41 UTC by Admin

Updated 2026-08-21 11:56:42 UTC by Admin