

## Russian Bots Unleashed Campaign to Save General Hux, Star Wars Director Says

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## YouTube

"Star Wars: The Last Jedi" director Rian Johnson reportedly batted off a legion of Russian bots who launched a campaign pleading to save the life of a ruthless military general named General Hux.

The revelation was documented in a behind-the-scenes film about the making of The Last Jedi that <u>screened</u> at the South By Southwest (SXSW) festival in Austin, Texas on Tuesday. Johnson's Twitter account flooded with #HuxLive hashtags early in the 2017 feature's production, the Film School Rejects website <u>reported</u>.

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"It's amazing [...]There's a coordinated effort by these Russian accounts. Hundreds of them," Johnson was cited as saying in the documentary that is <u>slated</u> for wide release this summer.

The #HuxLive hashtag has resurfaced in the past 24 hours with <u>users ironically questioning</u> whether their desire to keep General Hux alive meant they were "Russian bots."

The franchise grossed over \$16 million in Russia and post-Soviet countries since its mid-December 2017 release.

"Why the Russians bots love Hux is clear now — they are way into authoritarian regimes — but at the time, it appears to have been perplexing for Johnson and his collaborators," the website reported.

## Original url:

https://www.themoscowtimes.com/2018/03/14/russian-bots-unleashed-campaign-to-save-general-hux-star-wars-director-says-a60803