Here is the list of principal arguments made in favor of and against the resolution "Do not trust the mainstream media," formatted in a table:[[1]](#footnote-1)

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| --- | --- |
| **Pro Argument (In Favor of the Resolution)** | **Con Argument (Against the Resolution)** |
| The mainstream media prioritizes narratives over facts, often catering to specific political audiences, leading to biased reporting. | The mainstream media has established processes and standards, like fact-checking and fairness, which help ensure accurate and balanced reporting. |
| Examples like the Trump-Russia story and the Hunter Biden laptop case show that the media sometimes spreads misinformation or suppresses stories that don't fit their preferred narrative. | While mistakes happen, these examples are outliers, and mainstream media has a self-correcting mechanism that addresses errors over time. |
| The consolidation of media ownership by billionaires and large corporations compromises journalistic integrity and leads to coverage that serves elite interests rather than the public. | The issue of media ownership is acknowledged, but it’s not unique to the current era. Historically, wealthy individuals have always had influence over the press, yet the media still provides vital checks on power. |
| Public trust in the mainstream media is at a historic low, indicating that people recognize the bias and failures of these institutions. | The decline in trust is partly due to political polarization, but mainstream media remains a crucial source of reliable information compared to alternative media, which often lacks journalistic rigor. |
| The rise of alternative platforms like Substack allows for more diverse perspectives and independent journalism that are not constrained by the biases of mainstream media. | Alternative platforms do not consistently follow the same journalistic standards as mainstream outlets, leading to the potential spread of misinformation and lack of accountability. |

1. Summary courtesy of ChatGPT 4o. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)