

German TV says no sign Varoufakis middle-finger video is fake

BERLIN, GERMANY: A video showing Greek Finance Minister Yanis Varoufakis making the middle-finger gesture to Germany does not appear to be fake, a German talk show said earlier this week after the Greek politician contested its authenticity (Video)...



The footage shown during the Guenther Jauch weekly talk show on Germany's ARD channel late Sunday prompted an immediate and vehement rebuttal by the maverick Greek minister who was a guest on the programme.

Varoufakis, who took part in a live discussion with other guests via a link from Athens, insisted on air that the video of him speaking at a 2013 event in the Croatian capital, Zagreb, had been "doctored".

Jauch, the host of the popular show that draws millions of viewers, announced at the end of the programme that the video would be examined to try to clear the matter up.

"As far as we know at this stage the editorial department of Guenther Jauch can determine no indication whatsoever of manipulation or falsification in the video shown during the live show," it said in a statement on Monday.

It said the video was being further checked by experts.

The video shows Varoufakis before he became finance minister talking about his debt-laden country and making the comment "stick the finger to Germany," as he makes the offensive gesture.

Greece and Germany, Europe's paymaster, have been at loggerheads since Greece's radical-left Syriza party came to power in January on promises of ending austerity and erasing most of the country's massive debt.

The gesture is made two minutes into this video. Doctored? Judge for yourself...

Source: AFP, via I-Net Bridge

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