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1.1 CTI Disinformation Reading Group

We have a reading group! We meet Fridays at 4pm PST/ 7pm EST. [Name Redacted] is running the group.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85454323080?pwd=bjNnVE1RY3pmSVhFaWd3UXR1YUVHUT09

1.1.1 Reading Schedule

- Friday May 8th 2020: ARTICLE <u>Facebook shut down commercial disinformation</u> network based in Myanmar and Vietnam
- Friday May 15th 2020: NO READING GROUP MEETING
- Friday May 22nd 2020: BOOK Thomas Rid's "Active Measures" Chapter 1 & 2
- Friday May 29th 2020: ARTICLE (Bellingcat) Uncovering A Pro-Chinese Government Information Operation On Twitter and Facebook: Analysis Of The #MilesGuo Bot Network
- Friday June 5th 2020: ARTICLE <u>Unpacking China's Viral Propaganda War</u>

1.1.2 Meeting Notes

• Friday May 8th 2020 Notes

1.2 Bedtime Readings

1.2.1 Books

If you really want to get into how we got here, the history of information operations, what disinformation and propaganda are etc, these books were recommended by the team:

- [Name Redacted] 2018 book stack dated, but some good classics in here
- Thomas Rid's "Active Measures"
- PW Singer and Emerson Brooking's "Like War"
- Zeynap Tufeki's "Twitter and Tear Gas" (free version)
- Verification handbook: handbook, investigative reporting
- Verification Handbook: homepage

1.2.2 Articles

- Unpacking China's Viral Propaganda War
- Prevalence of Low-Credibility Information on Twitter During the COVID-19 Outbreak (5 pages)
- Media Manipulation and Disinformation Online (106 pages)
- Facebook's Coordinated Inauthentic Behavior An OSINT Analysis
- Naval Post Graduate Disinformation (many)
- Hate multiverse spreads malicious COVID-19 content online beyond individual platform control (9 pages)
- From Russia with Blogs (26 pages)
- The COVID-19 Social Media Infodemic (18 pages)
- We've Just Seen the First Use of Deepfakes in an Indian Election Campaign
- <u>Facebook shut down commercial disinformation network based in Myanmar and Vietnam</u>
- Facebook April 2020 Coordinated Inauthentic Behavior Report (26 pages)
 - o Iran's Broadcaster: Inauthentic Behavior (46 pages)
 - Facebook's VDARE Takedown (18 pages)
 - Facebook Downs Inauthentic Cluster Inspired by QAnon (19 pages)
- (Bellingcat) Uncovering A Pro-Chinese Government Information Operation On Twitter and Facebook: Analysis Of The #MilesGuo Bot Network
- <u>Unmaking Democracy: How Corporate Influence Is Eroding Democratic Governance</u> (Harvard International Review) 4 May 2020 (6min read)
- Conspiracy Theory Handbook (12 Pages)
 - o Google Drive Location
- What if we've all been primed? (6 pages)
- (Bellingcat) Investigate TikTok Like a Pro (15min read)

1.2.3 Podcasts and videos

- Motherboard's <u>Cyber Podcast Episode with Thomas Rid about Active Measures</u> and implications for modern disinformation
- Lawfare's Arbiters of Truth podcast series about disinformation
 - Especially <u>this episode with Camille Francoise</u> specifically about COVID-19 disinfo and the ABCs of Disinfo
- vOPCDE #2 Discussion: Disinformation about Disinformation (Grugg, SJ, Brian)

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1.2.4 People to Follow

Disinformation data science:

- Conspirador Norteno and Dr ZQ: @conspirator0 @ZellaQuixote
 - o always a great example on bot tracking
 - went looking at reopen etc
 https://twitter.com/conspirator0/status/1252374902121721859?s=19
 - Tools: https://makeadverbsgreatagain.org/allegedly and python/jupyter with libraries pandas, tweepy, bokeh, cytoscape
 - Looking at a botnet: https://twitter.com/conspirator0/status/1265829648056954881?s=20
- Andy Patel: <u>@r0zetta</u>
 - Infosec and misinformation data scientist

 - https://blog.f-secure.com/author/andrew-patelf-secure-com/page/2/
- Elliot Alderson: @fs0c131y (fs0c131y.com)
 - Infosec and misinformation data scientist

Disinformation tracking:

- Erin Gallagher: @3r1nG
- @josh emerson
- Kate Starbird: @katestarbird

1.2.5 Examples of disinformation tracking

- "Distinguished Impersonator" Information Operation That Previously Impersonated U.S.
 Politicians and Journalists on Social Media Leverages Fabricated U.S. Liberal Personas to Promote Iranian Interests
- From Russia With Blogs
- <u>Facebook shut down commercial disinformation network based in Myanmar and</u>
 Vietnam
- Facebook's Coordinated Inauthentic Behavior An OSINT Analysis

Disinfo data science (short investigations)

https://onezero.medium.com/facebook-groups-and-youtube-enabled-viral-spread-of-plandemic-misinformation-f1a279335e8c

Images and disinformation

Deepfakes by BJP in Indian Delhi Election Campaign

Disinformation Counters

- Training end-users about disinformation
 - https://getbadnews.com/#intro game to train people on how disinformation works
 - CrashCourse media literacy videos

1.3 Covid19 disinformation references

Disinformation

- https://tomnikkola.com/prime/
- https://www.russiamatters.org/analysis/dark-arts-disinformation-through-historical-lens
- https://www.brookings.edu/blog/order-from-chaos/2020/05/19/the-kremlins-disinformation-playbook-goes-to-beijing/
- https://www.snopes.com/news/2020/05/20/michigan-lockdown-protesters/
- https://eng.lsm.lv/article/society/defense/nato-stratcomcoe-considers-disinformation-in-asia.a360361/
- https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/blogs/new-atlanticist/activists-fight-covid-19-disinformation-in-the-caucasus/
- https://www.aljazeera.com/indepth/features/anatomy-disinformation-campaign-coup-200518142503624.html
- https://hub.jhu.edu/2020/05/08/thomas-rid-disinformation-in-covid-19-pandemic/
- https://warontherocks.com/2020/05/disarming-disinformation/
- https://www.expressandstar.com/news/uk-news/2020/05/20/tech-giants-recalled-by-mps-over-lack-of-adequate-answers-on-disinformation/
- https://www.businessinsider.com/coronavirus-trump-us-disinformation-foreign-interference-2020-4
- https://www.foxnews.com/politics/house-democrats-coronavirus-bill-1-million-study-disinformation
- https://www.thetelegraph.com/opinion/article/Editorial-Disinformation-15279496.php
- https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/event/belarus-moldova-and-ukraine-covid-19-disinformation-in-eurasia/
- https://www.theverge.com/2020/5/12/21255823/alex-stamos-interview-election-2020-security-tik-tok-zoom-vergecast
- https://www.businessinsider.com/coronavirus-trump-us-disinformation-foreign-interference-2020-4

- https://www.oregonlive.com/nation/2020/05/eu-tackles-coronavirus-disinformation-seeks-regulatory-framework-for-facebook-other-social-media-companies.html
- https://www.ft.com/content/e479043f-a197-41f1-86c8-ff6c922e3492
- https://www.winchesterstar.com/coronavirus/wexton-seeks-study-of-covid-19-disinformation-misinformation/article/29119442-31ab-5e76-b362-9e65bcfe6141.html
- https://www.bellingcat.com/news/2020/05/05/uncovering-a-pro-chinese-governmentinformation-operation-on-twitter-and-facebook-analysis-of-the-milesguo-bot-network/
 Also briefly about Covid19 disinformation network

Covid19 Narratives

https://allianceforscience.cornell.edu/blog/2020/04/covid-top-10-current-conspiracy-theories/