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News Item

How Facebook let fake engagement distort global politics: a whistleblower's account | The Guardian

By Julia Carrie Wong
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> Shortly before Sophie Zhang lost access to Facebook's systems, she published one final message on the company's internal forum, a farewell tradition at Facebook known as a "badge post".
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> "Officially, I'm a low-level [data scientist] who's being fired today for poor performance," the post began. "In practice, in the 2.5 years I've spent at Facebook, I've … found multiple blatant attempts by foreign national governments to abuse our platform on vast scales to mislead their own citizenry, and caused international news on multiple occasions."
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> Over the course of 7,800 scathing words, Zhang outlined Facebook's failure to combat political manipulation campaigns akin to what Russia had done in the 2016 US election. "We simply didn't care enough to stop them," she wrote. "I know that I have blood on my hands by now."
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Source: How Facebook let fake engagement distort global politics: a whistleblower's account | Technology | The Guardian