

News Item

'Astroturfing' spreads disinformation — and is harder to spot than Twitter bots | The Washington Post

By Franziska Keller, David Schoch, Sebastian Stier and JungHwan Yang October 29, 2019

<u>Facebook</u> recently announced it had dismantled a number of alleged disinformation campaigns, including Russian troll accounts targeting Democratic presidential candidates. Over the summer, <u>Twitter and Facebook</u> suspended thousands of accounts they alleged to be spreading <u>Chinese disinformation</u> about Hong Kong protesters.

<u>Disinformation campaigns</u> based in Egypt and the United Arab Emirates used fake accounts on several platforms this year to support authoritarian regimes across nearly a dozen Middle East and African countries. And the <u>Mueller</u> <u>report</u> describes in detail how <u>Russian trolls</u> impersonated right-wing agitators and Black Lives Matter activists to sow discord in the 2016 U.S. presidential election

[...]

Source: <u>'Astroturfing' spreads disinformation — and is harder to spot than Twitter bots –</u> <u>The Washington Post</u>