

Barack Obama Takes On a New Role: Fighting Disinformation | The New York Times

By Steven Lee Myers and Cecilia Kang

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SAN FRANCISCO — In 2011, President [Barack Obama](#) swept into Silicon Valley and yukked it up with [Mark Zuckerberg](#), Facebook's founder. The occasion was a town hall with the social network's employees that covered the burning issues of the day: taxes, health care, the promise of technology to solve the nation's problems.

More than a decade later, Mr. Obama is making another trip to Silicon Valley, this time with a grimmer message about the threat that the tech giants have created to the nation itself.

In private meetings and public appearances over the last year, the former president has waded deeply into the public fray over [misinformation](#) and disinformation, warning that the scourge of falsehoods online has eroded the foundations of democracy at home and abroad.

[...]

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