

# Democracies Can't Blame Putin for Their Disinformation Problem | Foreign Policy

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April 23, 2020

With a looming election and an ongoing pandemic, concerns about Russian disinformation are never far from U.S. policymakers' minds. So it was no surprise when former U.S. President Barack Obama [shared](#) an article on the subject last week, exhorting Americans to become more aware of foreign informational threats. The problem is that the [article](#), which focused on Russian COVID-19 disinformation efforts, had been roundly criticized by experts. They pointed out its factual [inaccuracies](#), its amplification of obscure [troll accounts](#), and its unwillingness to consider the [domestic sources](#) of disinformation that have plagued the United States since long before the pandemic.

[...]

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