

Instagram is busy fact-checking memes and rainbow hills while leaving political lies alone | Nieman Journalism Lab

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Instagram fact-checking hits some bumps. A Photoshopped image of [some painted hills](#) by a graphic designer was [declared “false” by one of Instagram’s new fact-checking partners](#), [spurring fears](#) that artists’ work on the platform would be more broadly blocked. (The Next Web: [“Instagram’s decision to hide photoshopped images is a disservice to art.”](#))

“We will treat this content the same way we treat all misinformation on Instagram,” a spokesperson [told The Verge](#). “If third-party fact-checkers mark it as false, we will filter it from Instagram’s recommendation surfaces like Explore and hashtag pages.”

The company ended up backtracking, though: The fact-checking partner, Indian news site [NewsMobile](#), reversed [its fact-check](#) (which was [first published last year](#), under the headline “Here’s the truth behind these mesmerizing rainbow mountains”) and [the image was set free](#).

[...]

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