

Opinion: The Arizona ‘audit’ is a big problem. Online disinformation will make it worse. | The Washington Post

By Greg Sargent

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It is obvious to anyone who is paying attention that the sham “audit” of 2020 votes underway in Arizona is not about actually reaffirming the vote count. It’s about furthering the spread of more disinformation about the outcome in the state — and about the 2020 outcome overall.

Here’s something that could make this problem even worse: The proliferation of disinformation online.

The Tech Transparency Project, a nonprofit that tracks online disinformation, is seeking to put this idea on the agenda in a new way. We talk about the Arizona audit as a huge problem, in that bad actors are using comically dubious tactics to find fake “evidence” of fraud, undermining people’s faith in the electoral system. We also talk about online disinformation as a huge issue in and of itself.

But the combination of these two things could create an even more toxic situation, with online disinformation grotesquely amplifying the Arizona nonsense and bringing it to a much larger audience.

[...]

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