

News Item

The disinformation war has taken a toll, but researchers feel a shift ahead of 2024 election | NBC News

By Brandy Zadrozny, Jason Abbruzzese March 27, 2024

After weathering a yearslong political and legal assault, researchers who study disinformation say they see reasons to be cautiously hopeful as their efforts heat up ahead of the 2024 election.

These researchers, along with the universities and nonprofits that they work for, have been in the crosshairs of Republicans and their allies, accused of acting as government proxies in a Biden administration plot to censor conservative speech online. Since 2021, those who worked to identify and combat disinformation around the last presidential election and Covid-19 have faced lawsuits, congressional inquiries and attacks online and in right-wing media that have threatened their reputations, careers and personal safety.

But recently, those researchers have achieved quiet but significant victories that could signal a shift in the larger war against disinformation.

[...]

Source: The disinformation war has taken a toll, but researchers feel a shift ahead of 2024 election