

News Item

The Italian disinformation networks flying under Facebook's radar | Coda Story

By Mary Steffenhagen July 22, 2021

In the weeks leading up to Italy's first Covid-19 lockdown in March 2020, the most widely shared articles on Facebook from the Italian news website Oltre. To were about keeping bacteria out of the house by leaving shoes outside and using garlic and honey to ward off coughs. The website had long been flagged by Italian fact-checkers for spreading disinformation. And as the pandemic ramped up, so did the site's claims — that the Italian government wanted to see more coronavirus deaths, that protective masks can cause diseases and dementia and that the pandemic was a lie, propagated by Big Pharma.

[...]

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