

News Item

## Viral Vendetta | Graphika

By The Graphika Team December 3, 2021

On Dec. 1, Meta <u>said</u> it had removed an "adversarial network" of authentic, duplicate, and fake accounts on Facebook linked to a group known as the V\_V movement. The network originated in Italy and France, and was used by antivaccine activists to harass specific individuals, as well as spread Covid-19 conspiracies and health misinformation.

Graphika has <u>tracked</u> the <u>growth</u> of conspiratorial movements online throughout the course of the Covid-19 pandemic, seeking to understand how these communities have evolved, and to what extent they have enabled real-world and online harms. In the case of V\_V, we have observed what appears to be a sprawling populist movement that has combined pre-existing conspiracy theories with anti-authoritarian narratives, and a groundswell of health misinformation. The group claims to be a self-organizing collective of internet "warriors" engaged in a guerilla "psychological warfare" campaign against the oppressive forces of "medical Nazism."

[...]

Source: Viral Vendetta