

News Item

With COVID-19 Worsening, Thailand Targets 'Fake News' | Foreign Policy

By Tyler Roney August 5, 2021

Over the last 30 days, Thailand's COVID-19 cases have more than <u>tripled</u> in the wake of a disappointing vaccine rollout, accompanied by <u>bodies in the street</u>, a <u>violent crackdown on protests</u>, and <u>chilling attacks</u> on civil society. In response, Thai Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha's military government took on the obvious culprit: the press—more specifically, "fake news."

"Distorting information to cause a misunderstanding about the emergency situation, which may eventually affect state security," is prohibited, the government announced in the *Royal Thai Government Gazette*, an official public journal, on Thursday, adding that internet service providers should immediately suspend violators' accounts.

[...]

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