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Fact-check project

STAY CRITICAL, STAY SAFE

Data & (Mis)information
Academic year 2020-2021, block 2

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December 7, 2020

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STAY CRITICAL, STAY SAFE

The urge to be critical before disseminating tweets

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, the flow of related news items is inescapable. Whether you watch the news, read the paper or open Social Media, there will always be some new information about the global pandemic we are in. The stage of social media becomes more prominent for both reader and writer. In times of a highly uncertain global pandemic, accompanied with the fact that everybody has the agency to spread information, fact-checking has never been more important. It can diminish the fear around our day-to-day lives and the distrust in governmental institutions. With this article, we take the first step and look at whether we can find a possible solution for this issue.

The focus of our investigation is on visual content because we know humans process visual information faster, and most people remember 80% of what they see against 20% of what they read. Also, visual content is more likely to be shared, as it is eye-catching and has a direct effect on human emotions (Manic, 2015). These properties made it urgent to focus on tweets containing a visual element. By manually fact-checking a sample of tweets from a large database, we tried to formulate an answer on the following research question: "How reliable are the most retweeted COVID-19-related tweets containing a visual element?"

To answer this research question, 59 tweets were checked for their truthfulness. These tweets were selected from a database with most retweeted tweets containing a visual element by Pointer. Initially, this database consisted of more than five thousand tweets. To draw fair conclusions about the reliability of the whole database, a random sample was taken from it. The truthfulness of this selection was checked using different tools and sources to investigate the reliability of accounts, media and statements (see report for exact method). Eventually, results showed that 68% of these fact-checked tweets were considered as (mostly) true.

The truthfulness of prestigious sources

While interpreting the results, the majority of the tweets came from prestigious sources, of which some accounts had the verification mark. Examples of these are politicians, scientists, and the National Institute for Public Health and Environment. Comfortingly, almost all of these sources' tweets were found to be factually correct. Often, media, such as a picture, is used to lend force to the statement in the text. However, the source of the picture is, in most cases, not clearly stated. This makes it difficult for Twitter users to decide if what they see is true. For example, Fleur Agema, member of the Dutch political party PVV, states in the tweet below that 11% of the institutes for disabled have been dealing with corona and finds this worrisome. To lend force to her statement, she shared a picture of highlighted sentences from a governmental document, stating these numbers as well. After digging into political reports, we can confirm that this picture is indeed a paragraph from a governmental document. However, the readers of her tweet could have thought that she made up these numbers herself. Therefore, we could stress that adding a source will reduce some suspicion or distrust.
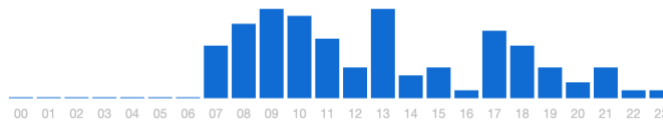

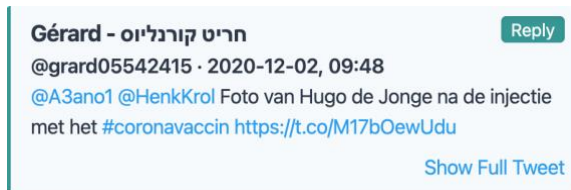@FleurAgemaPVV (2020, April 16) Retrieved from Twitter.

Furthermore, we found that non-verified accounts spread most false information. We, therefore, investigated whether the account below has a humanlike activity pattern or rather shows some suspicious activities. This analysis showed that this account could be a so-called 'Astroturf' bot (see report for detailed explanation). However, we can reject this concern since the activity patterns are humanlike. This means that we expect the account not to be a bot, but an account created to provoke discussion and fear of political matters. The latter becomes more obvious when looking at some of the last tweets and most used hashtags. Furthermore, we did not find any evidence of this tweet's statement that citizens have to pay for the damage COVID-19 costs to our society. Posted by this account, it seems just another fear-provoking tweet.

@grard05542415. (2020, May 16) Retrieved from Twitter.

Pattern showing normal humanlike sleep period. Retrieved from foller.me.

[Translation] "Picture of Hugo de Jonge after injection with Corona Vaccine"
Retrieved from foller.me

[Translation] "So that in a few years you are a patented bio droid of Bill Gates.."
Retrieved from foller.me

Provoking fear

Provoking fear was seen as a thread throughout the tweets we found to be (to some degree) false. This picture of Bill Gates and Prime minister Rutte was posted, by an account stating that 5G causes COVID-19 symptoms. Moreover, it claimed Bill Gates to be the 'inventor of crime against humanity', of which no evidence was found, and even counter-evidence can be found. This insinuates that Mark Rutte and Bill Gates have been meeting on this topic and are together in this 'crime'. A Google reverse image search shows us the truth: this photo was taken on January 26, 2016. On this day, Rutte and Gates talked about the importance of sustainable development goals and not about the subject shown in the tweet (Volkskrant, 2016). Together with other provoking statements, this tweet can be seen as an incitement to fear.

@Aspirides78. (2020, April 12).   @MinPres. (2016, January 26).
Retrieved from Twitter.   Retrieved from Twitter.

Another example of a fear-provoking tweet is the one below, containing a video in which a claim is made about the COVID-19 software. The person in the video claims that, COVID-19 software has been installed automatically in our phones, and that from now on, it will be easy for the government to install the tracking app on our phones. A lot of panicking comments of people concerned about their privacy were elicited. The official website of Apple explains that

the software is only activated when you manually install an official COVID-19 app. Also, the user decides for himself whether to turn tracking on. It is clear that the goal of this video is to elicit fear and collective distrust in the government by creating false panic about COVID-19 software.

@rallyjef (2020, May 23). Retrieved from Twitter.
https://twitter.com/rallyjef/status/1264168192253050882

The importance of data visualisation

The tweet below shows us that we need to stay critical because even (verified) accounts that are expected to be reliable can spread fake news. A Twitter account managed by the Dutch national broadcaster "NPO 1" posted a video of mathematician Bert Slagter. In this video, he explained that the data visualisation of deaths caused by COVID-19 in several countries is misleading. The tweet stated that The Netherlands, in comparison to other countries, are doing 'not too badly' and is confirmed by virologist Jaap van Dissel. This statement was a motivation for Slagter to express his criticism on how the numbers of Corona cases are distributed in the media. However, the explanation of Bert Slagter was not following reality. First of all, we found that Bert Slagter is not a mathematician. A search on his LinkedIn profile told us that he started a study in computer science at Utrecht University, but never completed this, or any related

study. Furthermore, Slagter states that the x- and y-axes are not important in the graph, which is not true, because axes allow readers to interpret a graph objectively (Yang et al., 2020). Therefore, his statement that The Netherlands is one of the countries with the highest death rates' is a wrong interpretation, as the axes showed that rate was per capita. In short, this example visualises that even prestigious sources can be part of spreading fake news.

@op1npo (2020, May 2) Retrieved from Twitter.

The urge to be critical before disseminating tweets

Finally, after analysing 59 tweets, we can conclude that visual tweets related to COVID-19 show some division to reliability. These tweets give us insight into which sources disseminate either fake or genuine news. We found that regular accounts spread fake news, while the institutions and journalists usually shared messages based on the truth. This trend can be traced back to where we started. As we explained, people gain less confidence in institutions such as the government and science (Lewandowsky, Ecker & Cook, 2017). As a result, people express their fear in tweets, creating a vicious circle in which these tweets, in turn, contribute to increased distrust in intuitive parties.

This effect, defined as Elite Discourse, explains how communication shared by the elite about fake news affects people's ability to accurately assess whether the news is true or fake (Van Duyn & Collier, 2019). This means that even when news institutions and journalists disseminate real news, many people will distrust this information. The lack of good judgment is alarming because more people are spreading misinformation on Twitter (see report for the statistics).

A possible solution to this problem is to give people tools with which they can control information. As our research has shown, institutions are not transparent in their resources on Twitter. It is necessary to list resources systematically, even on a transient platform such as Twitter. Hopefully, this will result in a more critical view of the institutions themselves, which may lead to a more in-depth fact check before distributing news and thus, reduce the unintentional dissemination of fake news from their side. With this article, we show the urge to take steps from the transmitter's side to regain confidence in the news and the institutions of a fundamental part of the population.

Method description

To find out how reliable media tweeted by Dutch accounts regarding Covid-19 are, we fact-checked several images and videos based on the background of the account and the nature of the picture or video. We randomly selected 250 tweets in the Tilburg Media excel sheet, which contains the 5000 most retweeted posts with a picture or video. We used the following formula to get our random selection:

"=INDEX($A$2:$A$10,RANDBETWEEN(1,COUNTA($A$2:$A$10)),1)".

In total we fact checked 59 of the 250 selected tweets.

To find out if the content posted in the tweet was actually true, we took a closer look into the background of the accounts, to see if it was a valid and reliable account. We used AccountAnalysis.app, Foller.me, and Botometer, which is mentioned in the article "Hoe analyseer je Twitter-data op trollen" from Pointer, to find out if the account that we checked was humanlike. Botometer, for example, gives a score from one to five, the higher the score, the more bot-like activities were found. There are six types of bot-activities to distinguish: Astroturf (manually labelled political bots and accounts), Fake follower (bots purchased to increase follower counts), Financial (bots that post using cashtags), Self-declared (bots from botwiki.org), Spammer (accounts labelled as spambots), and Other (miscellaneous other bots (Botometer, 2020). Furthermore, Accountanalysis.app gives information about how automated an account is, how many retweets the account posts, or which websites the account often refers to. In addition, Foller.me gives insights into the information of the account, the statistics, and things mentioned by the author. We also investigated the introduction text on the account, and if the person posting the tweet was seen as an influential or political figure in The Netherlands.

With reversed picture searches, we checked the nature of the content. By copying the picture in Google image search, we could find out where the pictures came from, and if the information was correct. With Google, we checked if the statement made in the post was correct. Other websites we often used to check the information presented in the tweet were: Rijksoverheid.nl, RIVM.nl, TweedeKamer.nl.

Moreover, our selected data included video clips that were mostly related to things that were said either at a press conference or in a debate at the House of Representatives. To check if

the fragment was reliable, we watched the original debate or press conference, to check if the fragment was true to the original content, or if it was probably cut in a particular way to frame the content.

Based on all the steps taken to fact-check the content, we could make an argued conclusion on the reliability of covid-19 related media on Twitter. To illustrate, from the 59 checked tweets, there were 32 true, eight mostly true, two half true, four mostly false, four false, three got the label pants on fire, and for six we found no evidence (these evaluation labels are retrieved from Politifact's Truth-o-meter).

True	Mostly true	Half true	Mostly False	False	Pants on Fire	No evidence	**Total**
32	8	2	4	4	3	6	**59**

After analysing 59 tweets, we can conclude that visual tweets related to COVID-19 show some division in relation to reliability. 68% of the analysed tweets considered as (mostly) true, 21.8% included some misinformation, and for 10.2% we did not find any evidence. In addition, we found that regular accounts are more likely to spread fake news, while the institutions and journalists usually shared messages based on the truth.

List of fact-checked tweets

The tweets referred to below are coming from Pointer's media file.

RN = Row number in the original document

VA = If the tweet is coming from a verified account

RN	URL	Post date	VA
20	https://twitter.com/010fotograaf/status/1233856035535888384	29-02-2020	No
248	https://twitter.com/AsbaiBadr/status/1272561854682890241	15-06-2020	No
269	https://twitter.com/Aspirides78/status/1249397804616896512	12-04-2020	No
299	https://twitter.com/AvHuffelen/status/1243209009290776577	26-03-2020	Yes
321	https://twitter.com/BartNijman/status/1258430781246124032	07-05-2020	No
398	https://twitter.com/BeedeGee/status/1235517910744997888	05-03-2020	No
508	https://twitter.com/Bos_M/status/1253261205134811137	23-04-2020	No
575	https://twitter.com/C_ZMCARIB/status/1244707360427425796	30-03-2020	No
745	https://twitter.com/danielverlaan/status/1258008973791330305	06-05-2020	Yes
771	https://twitter.com/DavidIkkersheim/status/1271686530340356096	13-06-2020	No
822	https://twitter.com/Defensie/status/1246360101994336256	04-04-2020	Yes
831	https://twitter.com/Defensie/status/1245679945713672192	02-04-2020	Yes
969	https://twitter.com/DrGjCA/status/1254170430027563009	26-04-2020	No
1080	https://twitter.com/eredivisie/status/1242413099266818048	24-03-2020	Yes
1171	https://twitter.com/FDW_VB/status/1260838955353808896	14-05-2020	Yes
1208	https://twitter.com/FleurAgemaPVV/status/1250727124081750017	16-04-2020	No
1283	https://twitter.com/fthevissen/status/1253798100113768449	24-04-2020	No
1425	https://twitter.com/geertwilderspvv/status/1247152172514439168	06-04-2020	Yes
1553	https://twitter.com/gewoonBar/status/1241700196767207425	22-03-2020	No
1590	https://twitter.com/gjvu/status/1239643578407833601	16-03-2020	No
1607	https://twitter.com/Grard05542415/status/1261751273960980480	16-05-2020	No
1717	https://twitter.com/HLN_BE/status/1241732000391675904	22-03-2020	Yes
1722	https://twitter.com/HLN_BE/status/1247955897730527233	08-04-2020	Yes
1894	https://twitter.com/jannybloemendal/status/1267500599370813441	01-06-2020	No
2079	https://twitter.com/KeesvandeRadio/status/1238528162604158977	13-03-2020	No
2177	https://twitter.com/lammert/status/1238896279851282432	14-04-2020	Yes

2222	https://twitter.com/lewinskylou2/status/1253402101247545345	23-03-2020	No
2319	https://twitter.com/maartenbrink/status/1240567741603594240	19-03-2020	No
2329	https://twitter.com/MaasstadZknhuis/status/1241648507926319107	22-03-2020	No
2436	https://twitter.com/Matthijs85/status/1250384481850195968	15-04-2020	No
2571	https://twitter.com/MinBijleveld/status/1239616903439671296	16-03-2020	Yes
2654	https://twitter.com/MinPres/status/1242166964912619532	23-03-2020	Yes
2713	https://twitter.com/MinVWS/status/1250483778268561415	15-04-2020	Yes
2847	https://twitter.com/mug_willem/status/1264136437542379520	23-05-2020	No
3017	https://twitter.com/Nieuwsuur/status/1250148752905699328	14-04-2020	Yes
3102	https://twitter.com/OlifaNT/status/1263067947683196928	20-05-2020	No
3142	https://twitter.com/op1npo/status/1263569837818855427	21-05-2020	No
3178	https://twitter.com/OrbanTheBest/status/1246696818202890240	05-05-2020	No
3377	https://twitter.com/POL_TVRdam/status/1240734348808204290	19-03-2020	No
3401	https://twitter.com/Politie/status/1233032083569811461	27-02-2020	Yes
3500	https://twitter.com/rallyjef/status/1264168192253050882	23-05-2020	No
3511	https://twitter.com/RdGziekenhuis/status/1247486211595341825	07-04-2020	No
3543	https://twitter.com/ReintJanRenes/status/1239137901465739265	15-03-2020	No
3651	https://twitter.com/rivm/status/1260540206500982787	13-05-2020	Yes
3660	https://twitter.com/rivm/status/1233720561077014529	29-02-2020	Yes
3714	https://twitter.com/rivm/status/1232591220502913025	26-02-2020	Yes
3891	https://twitter.com/RTLZ/status/1231979127730835459	24-02-2020	Yes
3915	https://twitter.com/rubenivangaalen/status/1242693045876916224	25-03-2020	No
4074	https://twitter.com/seven__/status/1239960648836100101	17-03-2020	No
4332	https://twitter.com/tervoorst/status/1238880644291350529	14-03-2020	No
4404	https://twitter.com/TomAcv/status/1244499087266889728	30-03-2020	No
4684	https://twitter.com/VrouwvdVrijheid/status/1245335787236986883	01-04-2020	No
4685	https://twitter.com/VrouwvdVrijheid/status/1250758237944721409	16-04-2020	No
4761	https://twitter.com/VrouwvdVrijheid/status/1237426360303390720	10-03-2020	No
4776	https://twitter.com/VrouwvdVrijheid/status/1237496019102941184	10-03-2020	No
4997	https://twitter.com/wrvandenbroek/status/1246121024699146240	03-04-2020	No
5005	https://twitter.com/WybrenvanHaga/status/1269701367221927936	07-06-2020	No
5056	https://twitter.com/zondagmetlubach/status/1251961363703967745	19-04-2020	No
5072	https://twitter.com/Zu_Demir/status/1248859588750966790	11-04-2020	Yes

Results table

Row number	Statement	Label	Explanation	Checked by
575	Shows pictures of building a medical centre on St. Maarten, as a prevention measure for COVID-19. Pictures: http://pbs.twimg.com/media/EUYWvJLX 0AERzYi.jpg http://pbs.twimg.com/media/EUYWvJP XsAA0QND.jpg http://pbs.twimg.com/media/EUYWvJE XQAMcKkV.jpg http://pbs.twimg.com/media/EUYWvJM XgAEfAcZ.jpg	True	The website of the Ministry of Defense published an article in 2020 that Mr Boots indeed is who he says he is: a marine officer at St. Maarten. https://www.defensie.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/08/20/boots-nieuwe-commandant-zeemacht-in-caribisch-gebied Furthermore, a reverse picture search shows that these pictures have not been published by anyone else but Mr Boots himself.	Britt
745	Gives warning for video in which platform Ongehoord Nederland discusses that during Corona vaccinations a microchip is going to be implanted. Video thumbnail: http://pbs.twimg.com/ext_tw_video_thu mb/1258007599754043393/pu/img/vIX y7hgUv1uM6nz7.jpg	Pants on fire	Daniël is a verified tech journalist who is well-known for warning people about unsafe online situations and fake news. The statement in the video itself is a very far-fetched statement for which no evidence can be found.	Britt
1425	Minister Wilders states that it is not acceptable and life-threatening that due to scarcity medical masks, healthcare workers need to work without it.	Mostly true	The account is indeed the verified account of Geert Wilders, and the photos are questions he wants to ask about this mask scarcity. Doing some research in other news websites, I found that before April 4 (date of post) people were indeed already talking about an upcoming scarcity and after this date about the current scarcity. The part where he says is life-threatening is not necessarily true. An argument for this is that this article by Trouw discusses that also	Britt

			wearing a mask could lead to false safety and could be dangerous.	
2177	Statement: jongen van 16 ligt op de IC te vechten voor zijn leven, werd naar huis gestuurd door huisarts. Foto van RTLnieuws artikel waarin dit beschreven wordt. Photo: http://pbs.twimg.com/media/ETFxmTtX QAI7rKG.jpg	Mostly true	The statement is coming from a verified account of a Dutch public broadcaster journalist. In the base, what he is saying is true, and he shows a real piece of the article by RTL news. But, the same article states that 'this is how was dealt with his symptoms', which is only mostly true. After he went back, with the same symptoms, the General Practitioner sent him to first aid.	Britt
2319	Maarten Brink claims to be the chairman of the police labour union in Zeeland-West Brabant and requests people not unnecessarily to contact the police. He says police, because of the pressure caused by COVID-19, needs to choose between cases, which could cause health problems for others.	Mostly true	We know for sure he is indeed the chairman of this police labour union in that area, as we searched for his name on the official labour union website. His statement about police work seems valid, coming from him, although no quantitative proof can be found as evidence.	Britt
2436	States that even when coughing people need to work without a mask in healthcare and shows a picture of a healthcare employee, indeed not wearing a mask.	False	The statement is coming from testimonials, written down by newspaper Trouw. But, looking at the rules that the government gave for these employees gives a more nuanced image: "Healthcare employees that have respiratory complaints need to call in sick the next day". https://www.evean.nl/sites/default/files/2020-03/PR_2020_COVID19_TZ_KN_30_extramuraal.pdf. Next to that, looking at the website of the Pirate party, Matthijs writes about more information that can't be proven. In certain articles, he refers to himself for evidence. Furthermore, the photo he uses is a stock photo that can be found at any stock photo website searching for 'healthcare worker helping elderly walk'.	Britt
3017	In Denmark, young kids are allowed again to go to school. However, there are strict rules. Video shows an interview with a person in Denmark. http://pbs.twimg.com/amplify_video_thu	True	The schools in Denmark were indeed opening a day after the date of this Tweet was posted. This I could read in a (translated) document published by the Danish government, in which also the strict rules are stated.	Britt

	mb/1250148433136168968/img/-CjwUEIt_DUzNYP6.jpg		https://www.sst.dk/da/Udgivelser/2020/Informationsmateriale-til-plejepersonale	
3102	Stating that the person in the video says that we have to talk about symptoms that are part of COVID-13, not COVID-19.	True	The author of this tweet is obviously sarcastic. Indeed, the person in the video misspoke and said COVID-19 instead of 13. In the comment, some people believe the sarcastic comment by the author, but he addresses them and makes clear that he is sarcastic. The account itself shows no suspicious activity, or bot-like activity, although it is clear the author is very fond of the COVID-19 topic.	Britt
3142	This is an account related to the Dutch broadcaster NPO, which shows a video of mathematician Bert Slagter. In this video, he explains that the data visualisation of deaths caused by corona in different countries is misleading. He attempted to explain it more simply, showing that the Netherlands was doing bad.	Mostly false	First of all, Bert Slagter is not a mathematician. A quick search on his LinkedIn profile tells me that he started a study in computer science at Utrecht University, but never completed this, or any other study next to his high school degree. In the video, he first removes the x and y axes, because according to him these don't matter. Then, he turns the graph 90 degrees and draws a horizontal line to show the Netherlands is doing one of the worst countries. The Netherlands was indeed not doing very well, but the x and y axes and the 90-degree angle of the graph do matter in this case, as that showed the more nuanced image of deaths p. capita. In the 'new' graph by Slagter, he claims the countries on top have more deaths and the countries lower less, but forgets to mention that this is deaths p. capita. Therefore, he is not 100% telling the truth. It could be that countries lower than the Netherlands, have in fact a higher number of deaths, but more citizens.	Britt
3401	Police that links to a webpage of the government where FAQ's about COVID-19 are answered. Photo not of any importance in this tweet: http://pbs.twimg.com/media/ERybndiXYAE6daI.png	True	The statement is posted by the verified account of the Dutch police and links indeed to a webpage of the National Institute for Health and Environment with FAQ's on COVID-19.	Britt
3651	COVID-Update 13 mei 2020: numbers of people in the hospital, diseased and tested positive. Photo is a picture that	True	The statement is coming from the verified account of the National Institute of Public Health and the Environment,	Britt

			which is the institute that measures these numbers themselves.	
4332	This account claims that the blue countries on the map in the photo are countries where schools are closed and questions' how can it be that in the Netherland it is still responsible for keeping schools open'?	Mostly false	After some research on his account, with Botometer and Accountanalysis, it became very probable that his account is a so-called troll account. Botometer gave a score of 0.7. I followed Pointer in their rule of sparking an account as bot/troll when a score is higher than 0.43. After this, I conducted an account analysis and saw that this account only places replies for the majority of the times. Furthermore, a search on the name Tom Tervoorst or Tom ter Voorst did not yield any other results on a person than solely this Twitter account. After checking the account, I have checked the picture and found out this was mostly used by accounts that had a similar tweeting-behaviour. Interestingly, a lot of discussions evoking replies by Tervoorst are about soccer, and another account using the same picture also mostly replies with the same style of tweets. This finding makes me think the same person possibly creates the accounts. Most of the countries in the picture that are coloured blue did have schools closed during the placing of this picture, but this was not necessarily true for the whole country as it could have as well been certain parts of the country as was the case in Germany at the time. It is not clear if Tervoorst created the picture himself. I am expecting this because nowhere on the internet this picture has been posted earlier than he did. The fact that this account is almost certainly a troll account makes him an unreliable source.	Britt
20	A woman from around 50 with the coronavirus, has been hospitalised in the EMC Rotterdam.	Mostly true	At the time of the post, February 29, they did not know yet if this woman had the Corona Virus. https://www.ad.nl/rotterdam/rivm-vandaag-uitsluitsel-over-coronabesmetting-van-patient-in-erasmus-mc~aa644429/	Layla

| | | | It had been confirmed one day later. https://www.ad.nl/rotterdam/patiente-erasmus-mc-heeft-daadwerkelijk-coronavirus-verpleegd-in-strikte-isolatie~a77e22a5/

The biography of this profile states that the author is a Photographer. The botometer gives him a score of 4.1, which is very high. The account has a lot of fake followers. But looking at the analysis on accountanalaysis.app, he seems to be a real person. | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **822** | Thirty-five soldiers came back from a training mission in Iraq. | True | The account that posted this is Ministerie van Defensie. This is a real, trustworthy account from the Dutch ministry of defence in the Netherlands. Also, other sources, like NOS, AD, ANP, AD, etc. told that on April 4 35 soldiers came back from their training, because of Covid-19

The account scores a 2.6 on the botometer. But knowing that this is the official account from Ministerie of Defensie, we can assume it is not a bot. | Layla |
| **1080** | The Dutch premier league wants to support all fans, to stay positive in difficult times. | True | They made this video with all captains of the Dutch soccer teams. To make their fans feel better and support them during the coronavirus.

They uploaded the video on their account, in which all captains were saying something positive.

On the botometer, the account scored a 2.9 / 5 and is labelled as other. But as we know this is the official account of the Dutch Eredivisie, it is assumably not a bot. | Layla |
| **1607** | A comic about the VVD, Rutte is displayed with the text: 'Not tackle, but take away.' | False | This is an image that has already been around since 2016 and has nothing to do with the coronavirus.

The original slogan was: "do not pass on but tackle" https://www.vvddenhaag.nl/nieuws/politiek-cafe-niet-doorschuiven/ | Layla |

			On botometer this account scored a 1.4 / 5 points in the direction of an Astroturf. The hashtags this account uses are mostly related to politics and corona. Looking at his tweets, it becomes clear that this account is created to provoke discussion and fear.	
2079	Traffic increase on Pornhub the day after the government asked people to work from home.	Mostly true	On March 12ve, the government asked people to work from home. On March 13, Pornhub had an increase of 12.4% in comparison with normal times, in the Netherlands. But of course, this is a Porn website so that the results can be questionable. https://www.pornhub.com/insights/corona-virus

The author of the tweet is a radio DJ at BNR; this is the radio station for entrepreneurs. The account scored a 0 on the botometer. The most used hashtags are about FvD and the elections in the US. | Layla |
| **2329** | A message from Maasstad ziekenhuis Rotterdam. Where the intensive care employees ask people to stay at home during corona times. | True | There is nothing wrong with the statement, but we cannot know for sure if this is a real representation of Covid-19, as there are a lot of different pictures of the virus out there

The account of Ank Bijleveld scored a 3.4 on the botometer. But this is mostly because of the language, the botometer analyses only English and not Dutch. | Layla |
| **2571** | A tweet from Ank Bijleveld from CDA, in which she says that we can only overcome corona together. The picture shows some virus cells. | No evidence | There is nothing wrong with the statement, but we cannot know for sure if this is a real representation of Covid-19, as there are a lot of different pictures of the virus out there

The account of Ank Bijleveld scored a 3.4 on the botometer. But this is mostly because of the language, the botometer analyses only English and not Dutch. | Layla |
| **2654** | Mark Rutte shared the new measures of March 23 2020, to get Covid-19 under control on his Twitter profile. | True | https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/03/24/aanvullende-maatregelen-23-maart

These were indeed the measures taken, to prevent the virus | Layla |

			from spreading and trying to get the R below 1 again, on March 23 This is the official account of Mark Rutte. The account scores a 2.7 on the botometer. But as this is a verified account we know this is not a bot. Accounts he refers to most, are the accounts of other political figures.	
3891	"Mystery solved: Coolblue suffers from coronavirus, deliberately raises prices."	No evidence	Several news websites state the same. On some of them, you can read that RTLZ would have gathered internal communication from Coolblue, that states that the rising prices are due to corona. But, RTLZ has deleted this article, Coolblue did not respond to this claim, and no other evidence can be found. https://www.rtlnieuws.nl/business/artikel/5033411/coolblue-corona-leveranciers-voorraad-covid-19-marketing-prijzen RTLZ is the business-related brand of RTL. It scores a 3.5 on the botometer.	Layla
3915	Ikea Israel made a manual how to stay at home during corona	Mostly true	As I work at Ikea, I know this is true, because it has also been shared within our organisation by our communication department. It has been shared in different countries, as well as the campaign video #stayhome https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zg0Hei0cjl0&feature=youtu.be And other manuals how to make your fort at home, with IKEA furniture. https://www.instagram.com/p/CGe4Bv0ooNw/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link There is only no evidence that Ikea Israel made this. The account scored a 0.3 on the botometer, which is very	Layla

			low. Looking at his account, you can see that the author works at CBS and is a teacher at the UvA.	
4074	Long scans of young Belgians on IC show scars from corona: 'Life-threatening' '90 percent infected" problem patients in the making.	No evidence	The only one who is reporting on this is RTL News, and the Twitter account sharing it. But according to the botometer, the account is real. So, based on the information, I could find about this topic. I cannot conclude that it is true or false. On the botometer, the account scored a 1.8 and scored highest on the other label. On foller.me we can see that he oftentimes refers to the webpages of science direct, RIVM, BBC, and Telegraaf. In his biography, the author states that he is the Fact King from the NRC.	Layla
4685	Can corona spread because healthcare workers do not have protection equipment? Jaap van Dissel says: NO!	Mostly true	https://debatgemist.tweedekamer.nl/debatten/update-coronavirus-2 The video fragment posted on the account is correct. It is the same as the original fragment in the debriefing from the corona debate on April 16 2020. But there is no proof that this was actually /not the case. Therefore this statement can be considered as partially true The author votes PVV and makes this very clear on her account. She scores a 1.2 on the botometer. She mostly shares information about the PVV	Layla
4761	Statement: @vrouwvandevrijheid share a motion from the PVV for clear communication and information about the coronavirus, and the worst-case scenario plans, and the votes from the other parties in the House of Representatives "Tweede Kamer."	True	She does not say anything about it and just shares the information as it is presented in the House of Representatives "Tweede Kamer" as well. But, she does give her opinion about Rutte's strategy. https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/moties/detail?id=2020Z04387&did=2020D09159 The author votes PVV and makes this very clear on her	Layla

			account. She scores a 1.2 on the botometer. She mostly shares information about the PVV.	
4776	Statement: The response on WhatsApp of Beps @vrouwvoordevrijheid's mother, on the rejection of Geert Wilders motions on the coronavirus. "Is there someone who understands this ridiculous policy from Rutte III?"	Half true	It is true that the motion of Geert Wilders to stop passenger flights from risk areas has been rejected because a majority of the chamber voted against it. https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerstukken/moties/detail?id=2020Z04387&did=2020D09159 But, there is no evidence that this was in fact, the motion she was talking about in the conversation. And to state that the policy from Rutte 3 is ridiculous, is an opinion, and not a fact. The author votes PVV and makes this very clear on her account. She scores a 1.2 on the botometer. She mostly shares information about the PVV.	Layla
5056	Lubach: Why is the WHO so positive about China, while they have created the coronavirus and let it escape. But on the picture itself, you only see Lubach with the tekst WHO	False	It is plausible that the virus comes from China, but there is no evidence that they have created it. https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19/virus It is generally known that Arjen Lubach playfully discusses topics, to gain attention to the topic, and in the video in the link attached, he explains the story differently. But the picture with the text is purely used to get peoples' attention and is of course not true. On the botometer, the account scored a 2 and referred to self-declared.	Layla
269	• Mark Rutte opened the deadly attack on all of us and installed 5G behind our backs! • 5G generates the same symptoms as Covid19. • Every human being carries Covid19, and 5G reinforces this.	Pants on fire	5G does not have any effect related to the coronavirus. Scientific research did not find any evidence for negative effects from exposure to electromagnetic fields (Nu.nl, 2020). The coronavirus can only be spread by the fluids of people who are already infected with the virus. For example, by sneezing, coughing or sweating (RIVM, 2020).	Lot

	• Mark Rutte does not want to be tested because Mark Rutte knows this! • He knows the inventor of this crime against humanity, Bill Gates! These bastards need to be arrested!		The photo of Mark Rutte and Bill Gates shaking hands was taken on January 26 2016. On this day, Rutte and Gates talked about the importance of Sustainable Development Goals (Volkskrant, 2016). This is unrelated to the topic displayed in the tweet. There is no evidence Rutte and Gates are working together, leave aside, against humanity. https://www.nu.nl/coronavirus/6044727/hoe-complottheorieen-over-5g-en-het-coronavirus-zich-verspreiden.html https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19/verspreiding https://www.volkskrant.nl/nieuws-achtergrond/wij-richten-ons-op-de-armste-mensen-ter-wereld~b35a8f7f/ https://twitter.com/minpres/status/692014883492237312?lang=nl	
398	An account that reported fairly inconspicuously about the coronavirus exploded yesterday. Via @CoronaNederland someone posted all kinds of messages about the virus and its consequences, both inland and abroad. Within a short time, it collected 4,000 followers.	No evidence	The named account does not exist anymore. The name, as well as the logo of the account, is not traceable. It is not known what kind of messages were posted on this account, nor how long it took to reach the 4000 followers as shown in the shared screenshot.	Lot
1283	N-VA uses these charts as a justification for the attitude to the European vote. But you cannot compare these charts. The Cohesion Fund allocation key has nothing to do with corona but has existed for years, based on economic reality, not on the number of corona cases.	True	N-VA is a Flemish-nationalistic liberal-conservative party. They used this image in a comment on their own Facebook post on March 31, in which they state that Cohesion funds are not fairly distributed throughout Europe, nor in Belgium itself. The image shows a comparison of corona cases and how cohesion policy is organised. Tom van Looy argues in his tweet that this policy is based on economic division, and not based on the consequences	Lot

			of corona. Therefore, the data of corona cases and the data of economic funds are not comparable. According to the website of the European Commission, this is indeed true. "Although all regions can still count on cohesion policy, priority is given to countries and regions whose development is lagging" (European Commission, n.d.). https://www.facebook.com/nieuwvlaamsealliantie/photos/a.412175284413/10158219929809414/?type=3&eid=ARATjerZ63E63DP0E8DiUqDritHo_GVwf-cT3eryyYsFmh17lNc3vqE4nFvRo7drJK778V2nL20xWpc0 https://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/nl/faq/#4	
1894	Showing respect for the people who died during the war was not permitted on May 4, 2020, because of the coronavirus. And today everything is allowed.	True	The Dutch Remembrance Day on May 4 is always held with many people on the Dam Square. Due to Covid19, people were not allowed to come to Dam Square in 2020 (Rijksoverheid, 2020). The right picture in the tweet by Janny Bloemendal shows this situation. The left picture in this tweet shows the Dam Square full of people. This was during a demonstration following the death of George Floyd on June 1, 2020. About 5000 people came to the square to demonstrate against Racism (Trouw, 2020). https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/onderwerpen/tweede-wereldoorlog/nationale-herdenkingen https://www.trouw.nl/binnenland/reconstructie-zo-liep-de-dam-vol-met-demonstranten~b664ff18/?referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F	Lot
2847	The party led by Jetten plunges from 19 seats to a meagre 8	Half true	D66 obtained 19 seats in 2017. Polls in May 2020 indeed show a decrease in seats for D66. Although, the polls predict that 8 or 9 (including a 95% margin of uncertainty) seats remain for D66 (Louwerse, 2020).	Lot

				A remain of 8 seats, as stated in the tweet is therefore not completely true. Moreover, one cannot yet speak of an actual decrease as it is a poll, not a real election. https://peilingwijzer.tomlouwerse.nl/2020/05/	
3511	Director Carina Hilders has offered a design for FFP2 mouth masks to the Dutch government. Oral masks made according to this design optimally protect healthcare professionals against contamination with the coronavirus.	True		Multiple credible sources (ad.nl, OmroepWest, TUdelft) confirm that Carina Hilders indeed offered the Dutch government a design for FFP2 mouth masks. The image included in the tweet is a picture of the Reinier de Graaf Hospital, in which the masks are produced and also used during the epidemic. (Reinierdegraaf.nl, 2020) Carina Hilders is the director of this hospital. Moreover, the link in the tweet leads to the corresponding webpage where the message is further explained.	Lot
3543	It has never been easier to save lives. Stay at home	True		The image used in this tweet is created by Mathieu Persan and encourages people to stay at home to fight against the coronavirus. This poster is shared all over the world with the same intention. Staying at home does indeed help to stop the spread of the virus (RIVM, 2020). https://www.archyde.com/how-this-graphic-designer-created-the-stay-at-home-poster/ https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19	Lot
3660	Last night, the partner and youngest child of the patient staying in Diemen tested positive for the new coronavirus.	True		The contact research of the GGD of Amsterdam leads to two people who were also infected with the virus. Indeed, the partner and youngest child of the patient in Diemen tested positive for the virus (RIVM, 2020). https://www.rivm.nl/nieuws/twee-contacten-testen-positief-voor-covid-19	Lot

4404	Only together will we get corona under control, Also at Easter. If we keep this up with each other, we will protect ourselves and each other. * Stay at home as much as possible * Keep a distance of 1.5 metres * Wash your hands more often	True	The three actions to prevent corona, mentioned in the tweet, are in line with RIVM (e.g., https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19) The video consists of several small videos that seem to have been made by people themselves. Still, there is no evidence that these videos were indeed made during the epidemic.	Lot
5072	More and more used gloves and handkerchiefs are being thrown on the ground. This is bad for the environment and offensive to all those who are now working their asses off.	True	Several municipalities and inter-municipal associations in Flanders, Belgium have observed an increase in the litter or illegal dumping (Interafval.be, 2020). Mouth masks and latex gloves increasingly end up as litter (Nieuwsblad.be, 2020). The link included in the tweet leads to a website of Mooimakers.be. This is a Flemish initiative against litter and illegal dumping (Mooimakers.be). The image included in the tweet is part of this initiative. https://interafval.be/actueel/zwerfvuil-ook-een-probleem-tijden-van-corona https://www.nieuwsblad.be/cnt/dmf20200706_91183598 https://mooimakers.be/over-mooimakers	Lot
299	Statement: The Dutch Secretary of State for Finance announced in a video and tweet that conventions couldn't take place because of the coronavirus. Instead, these conventions will be replaced by webinars.	True	This tweet is published by the Dutch Secretary of State for Finance, which is confirmed with the blue verified badge and by the website of the Dutch government: https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/regering/bewindspersonen/alexandra-van-huffelen The video attached to this tweet covers the same information as in the textual part of the tweet. Besides that, the picture of Alexandra van Huffelen on the website of the Dutch government and the person in the video is also a match.	Marielle

321	In this Twitter post, a comparison between the spread of the coronavirus and the spreading of Islam is made.	Pants on fire	No authorities are confirming that this statement is true. The content of the post can better be considered as a sarcastic reaction on a radio program. This radio program is not fake. https://www.nporadio1.nl/radio-eenvandaag/onderwerpen/58270-2020-05-07-een-mondkapje-is-gelaatsbedekkend-net-als-een-boerka	Marielle
508	Statement: @Bos_M posted a photograph of an article from AD on Twitter. The article says that we didn't act alert on the outbreak of the coronavirus in January 2020. Martin Bos states that Thierry Baudet (Dutch politician) already wanted to discuss the coronavirus at the end of January. However, he states that this suggestion was turned down.	True	When googling Martin Bos, several news sources state that he is familiar with posting harmful content on Twitter. https://www.pzc.nl/zeeuws-nieuws/forum-statenlid-martin-bos-weg-bij-cz-na-kwetsende-tweet~af377f71/?referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F / https://www.ad.nl/politiek/verzekeraar-cz-stappen-tegen-forum-statenlid-na-kwetsende-tweet~a6c8249d/?referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F However, in this post, the photo of the new article was indeed published as can be found on the website of AD itself. The content of the online article and the article on the photo are the same. https://www.ad.nl/binnenland/het-coronavirus-was-al-veel-langer-in-nederland~af840f5b/ Besides that, it is also true that Thierry Baudet suggested discussing the coronavirus already in January 2020. It is also true that this suggestion was turned down at that moment. Since the video Martin Bos shared can't be found on another credible website, it cannot be confirmed if this actually happened or not. However, the claim he does is confirmed in a debate on March 18. This is published by the government itself and can be considered as credible. https://debatgemist.tweedekamer.nl/debatten/actuele-ontwikkelingen-rondom-het-coronavirus?start=10611	Marielle
771	Statement: @DavidIkkersheim states that the KPMG and VU published a study on June 13, which proves that the "indamstrategie" yields 123 billion euro and saves up to 50,000 COVID-19	True	David Ikkenheim is partner by KPMG Health & Life Sciences and is familiar with doing research in this field (is a scientist) https://home.kpmg/nl/nl/home/contacts/i/david-ikkersheim.html. The claims in his Twitter post are indeed from the study published on June 13. The picture of the	Marielle

	deaths. Besides that, faster "bron en contact onderzoek" should make this strategy work.		summary in his Twitter post is the exact same as the summary published on the website of the VU, a Dutch University https://research.vu.nl/en/publications/we-are-the-second-wave-a-plea-for-the-containment-of-covid-19. Since the University can be seen as a publisher of credible information the information in this post can be considered as true.	
969	Statement: @DrJHAmsterdam claims that Maurice de Hond is against keeping 1,5-meter distance.	True	The photo of the article in which @DrJHAmsterdam's claim is confirmed does exist. It is from a reliable Dutch source Telegraaf: https://www.telegraaf.nl/nieuws/2142451748/maurice-de-hond-1-5-meter-onnodig-vermijd-gewoon-grote-groepen On a blog, owned by Maurice de Hond (not confirmed), he wrote that keeping distance is nonsense. https://www.maurice.nl/2020/07/10/de-aanhoudende-onzin-van-de-15-meter-buiten/ Other news sources also confirmed this; therefore, the content of this Twitter post is true.	Marielle
1171	Statement: @FDW_VB argues that on May 14, tickets for Medina Expo (event) Antwerp were still for sale.	No evidence	This event was indeed planned on May 30 and 31. No evidence was found if people were able to buy tickets on May 14. Also, no message of cancellation of the event was found. It can be assumed, but there is no evidence for this claim.	Marielle
1208	statement: @FleurAgemaPVV states on April 16 that the RIVM has published that 11% of the disabled care institutions have patients infected with the coronavirus. She also states that, in total, 564 people were infected with the coronavirus, and 94 patients passed away in this sector.	True	Fleur Agema works at the Dutch government for the political party PVV. https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerleden_en_commissies/alle_kamerleden/agema-m-pvv This is what she also states in her bio on her Twitter page. However, she doesn't have a verification mark, and even her profile picture or other Twitter posts do not confirm that she is behind this Twitter account. Regarding the content of the post, the numbers in her post and the content of the photograph are the exact same as the paragraph which can be found in an official document by the government published on April 15, 2020.	Marielle

			https://www.rijksoverheid.nl/documenten/kamerstukken/2020/04/15/covid-19-update-stand-van-zaken	
1590	Statement: @gvju states, by showing a graph, that the strategy used to reduce the number of corona infections would have been better than the strategy in other countries.	True	When looking up the primary source of the graph image, another Twitter post of a scientist (confirmed since there can be found several social media profiles of this person) was already questioning if this graph can be relied on. https://twitter.com/datagraver/status/1239113351046856704 I also found another source, which questioned if the graph represented correct data. He mentioned that the scale of the y-axis is logarithmic, which can be misleading. However, he also states that the presented information is mostly true. https://aartjan.nl/blog/coronavirus-de-missende-grafiek/ However, the organisation who did make the graph is "datagraver". They also published multiple versions of this graph on their Twitter account: https://twitter.com/Datagraver/status/12385167918166658945. Since they are an official research bureau and have some municipalities, the Dutch GGD and Greenpeace (who can all be seen as credible sources themselves) as clients, Datagraver could be considered as a reliable source. https://www.datagraver.com/over-datagraver The claim @gvju makes, is in line with the data shown in the graph.	Marielle
1722	HNL.be claims that experts Marc Van Ranst, Steven Van Gucht, Geert Meyfroidt and Erika Vlieghe have said that people should stay at home to 'save' the summer.	True	First of all, the Twitter post is from an account (official Belgian news source) which has a checkmark. In this video, the named experts are indeed evoking people to stay at home to save the summer. https://www.hln.be/binnenland/corona-experts-doen-oproep-als-we-de-zomer-willen-redden-blijf-dan-nu-in-uw-kot~a686de46/?utm_medium=twitter&utm_content=Nieuws&utm_source=dlvr.it&referrer=https%3A%2F%2Ft.co%2FpUvnfZeeg1%3Famp%3D1 The publication date of the video on this YouTube channel, https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PldBJoBY4sI, suggest that the video indeed is filmed during the pandemic. The	Marielle

			actual content of the video can also confirm this. However, at the end of the video and in several articles which mention the video, it is said that the video is made by VTM news, on their platforms this video can't be found. However, this doesn't affect if the content in the Twitter post is true or not; the claim can be considered as correct.	
2222	Statement: @lewinskylou2 states that excess mortality in Belgium, due to the coronavirus, on some days is 100%. He says that, normally, there are 300 deaths a day and now there are around 600 deaths a day. He argues this by showing a picture of a graph.	Mostly false	Lou Lewinsky cannot be confirmed as someone with authority, which means he isn't a politician or scientist etc.

Regarding the graph he attached to his post, this graph is indeed discussed during a press conference on April 23, in Belgium. It is discussed by virologist Steven Van Gucht and therefore, the information in the graph is likely to be based on real data. However, some numbers in the graph are questionable. Van Gucht state that numbers are based on confirmed corona cases but also on people suspected of being infected with the coronavirus.

Although a reliable source has discussed the graph, the information in the Twitter post of Lou Lewinsky is not. In the press conference no one spoke about an increase of 100%, they talked about 80%. His claim that the amount of deaths increased from 300 to 600 people has also not been confirmed by reliable sources and can be seen as his interpretation.

https://www.hbvl.be/cnt/dmf20200423_04932103
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=asTWHTe4u5c&feature=emb_logo | Marielle |
| **4997** | With an image of a "teletekst" page Wil van den Broek claims that the medicine 'propofol' isn't in stock anymore and that, alternatively, a variant of an animal drug will be used. | True | The information in the photograph is confirmed on a website owned by the Dutch Government. Since this is an official and credible source, the information can be considered as correct.
https://www.igj.nl/actueel/nieuws/2020/04/03/sedatiemiddel-met-propofol-voor-dieren-tijdelijk-ook-toegestaan-voor- | Marielle |

			mensen-op-ic%E2%80%99s-veiligheid-en-kwaliteit-gegarandeerd	
5005	Statement: @WybrenvanHaga states on June 7, 2020, that the Netherlands are in the top 10 of countries doing badly during the pandemic. He claims that the Netherlands has relatively many deaths and enormous economic damage.	True	Wybren van Haga works at the Dutch government. https://www.tweedekamer.nl/kamerleden_en_commissies/alle_kamerleden/haga-wr-van-van-haga This is what he also states in his bio on his Twitter page. He doesn't have a verification mark, but his profile picture and other Twitter posts do suggest that he is behind this Twitter account. Regarding the content mentioned in his Twitter post: the video attached to the post is part of a debate by the Dutch government on June 4. The video in his Twitter post is a non-edited version. https://debatgemist.tweedekamer.nl/debatten/ontwikkelingen-rondom-het-coronavirus-6. The claim he does in the video is the exact same as in the Twitter post itself. It is unknown on which numbers this ranking is based and therefore, it can't be confirmed if this is true. Since other credible news sources do say that the Netherlands has always been high in ranking, the statement can be considered as true. https://nos.nl/artikel/2351241-de-coronaweek-in-grafieken-nederland-bijna-koploper-besmettingen-in-europa.html	Marielle
248	Statement: Residents of Friesland reclaim against the 1.5 society and other corona measures; they do this, for example, by creating banners (FrieslandActieTeam). Visual element: a screenshot of a news-item which covers this rebellion.	True	The screenshot is from a news-item from the website ninefornews.nl, which contains a lot of 'conspiracy' news-items. However, in this particular article, no opinions about corona are given, only the action of the people in Friesland is reported. (https://www.ninefornews.nl/friesland-komt-in-verzet-tegen-coronabeleid-15-meter-niet-ok-en-nood-breekt-wet-maar-nooit-de-grondwet/) This action can also be seen in a video of Omroep Fryslan, the local news station.	Renske

			(https://omropfryslan.bbvms.com/view/omropfryslan_video_inos/3752592.html)	
831	Statement: The Dutch Department of Defence (Ministerie van Defensie) informs people what they do against corona in the link in this tweet. Visual element: an infographic on which the information from the link is presented, and 2 pictures of the department 'in action' during COVID-19.	True	The link is a link to the official Dutch website of the Department of Defence, and the pictures of the Department' in action' report no other hits at google image search; we can assume these are not from previous activities but indeed from activities during the corona crisis.	Renske
1553	A nurse who shares a photo of her busy workplace, and claims that it is busy on the medium care. She states we almost forget that care for non-COVID patients also goes on; a cardiac arrest does not wait.	True	We can assume that this photo is indeed one taken at that particular time because google image search does not show any other hits. The tweet is reliable and asks for some recognition for health workers rather than spreading misinformation.	Renske
1717	Statement: a 39-year-old man died of corona Visual element: a picture of health workers with a stretcher.	No evidence	Other news platforms have also reported the death of this man in Belgium (e.g., https://www.bruzz.be/veiligheid/twee-brusselse-40ers-overleden-aan-corona-wachten-op-medisch-dossier-2020-03-24, https://www.nieuwsblad.be/cnt/dmf20200322_04898227 , https://112vdg.nl/2020/03/22/39-jarige-vader-van-baby-van-4-maand-overlijdt-aan-coronavirus/). Remarkable is that nothing is mentioned about his medical file; whether he had other diseases. It is for us not checkable whether this man really died of corona. The picture only appears in Retweets of this article.	Renske
2713	In this tweet, the Minister from Public Health, Welfare, and Sport shares a video about how to social distance. The video shows how a ball is being passed over the fence between two neighbours, via the hands and the head. This resulted in a lot of people	True (but questionable)	The overall message in the video is true; only together, we get a grip on COVID. Everyone has to do their part (wash hands, keep distance, etc.) The site of the RIVM states that there is a fairly small chance that COVID-19 gets passed on by objects. The lab showed evidence that it is possible, but only under very rare, 'ideal' circumstances. This, together with the fact that the neighbours are playing outside, makes	Renske

	commenting that this video is a joke since objects can also pass on COVID.		the chance thus extremely small that what they are doing is contagious. However, this is what we know now (November) about COVID, the video and comments are from April; it is thus questionable whether throwing a ball was a smart move in the video. https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19/verspreiding	
3178	Statement: This is a sarcastic statement; the tweeter claims that also in times of COVID-19, we have to welcome these (referring to the picture) underaged refugees/asylum searchers. Added is a visual element of a row of Palestinian-looking older men. D66 and Groenlinks are added in hashtags.	False	The picture which is added is used in earlier news-items about refugees, for example, in 2018 (https://sceptr.net/2018/11/aantal-asielaanvragen-van-palestijnen-in-belgie-piekt/). Even though the tweet is meant as satire, the claim the tweeter makes here is false. (Note: Tweeters bio: tweets without a source may be fictive)	Renske
3377	Statement: a tweet of the Police of Rotterdam with the message that everybody should keep distance. Visual element: A video of a police-car with instead of STOP it says KEEP DISTANCE	True	The tweet is of the official account of the traffic police Rotterdam.	Renske
3500	Andries Bik claims in a video that the new update of iPhone (iOS 13.5, looking at the date) contains all software necessary for the corona tracking app. He claims that it will cost the government only the blink of an eye to put the tracking app on our phones. He also says he is scared and does not want a 1.5m society.	Mostly false	iOS 13.5 indeed contains the software which is necessary for COVID-19 apps to work properly (this is called API). https://www.appletips.nl/covid-19-api-ios/ However, it is not the case that this works automatically. This API / tracking function is only activated when you manually install an official COVID app from the government. https://www.macworld.com/article/3545329/apples-covid-19-exposure-notification-api-what-it-is-and-how-it-works.html And even then, Apple provides a lot of information about how your privacy is guaranteed (which Andries reads out loud in the video, ironically). The panicking attitude of the man in the video rather spreads fear than facts.	Renske
3714	Statement: A German man who has been in Holland the weekend of 8 & 9 February is tested positive on COVID-	True	The incubation time (so the time between your contamination and the moment you get complaints) is according to RIVM 2 to 14 days. The German man got	Renske

	19. RIVM states he got complaints more than a week after his stay in NL, so he was not contagious when he was in NL. Visual element: picture of COVID-19		complaints 'more than a week' after his stay; this could also be 9 or 10 days, which means he was already infected when he was in NL. However, the RIVM also states that you only are contagious just before you get the complaints. Even though 'just before' is rather vague and therefore we can conclude that this man was not contagious when in NL according to RIVM.	
4684	Statement: Group immunity is dangerous since there is no vaccine, and we do not know whether people even get immune. Visual element: a video where Baudet asks if the wished outcome of the policy is to get group immunity - Segers confirms.	Mostly true	The video fragment is a valid scene from the original debate on April 1; no misleading cutting has been done (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CAdWQBmIdis 1:00:57). Regarding the statement of this woman: there is indeed no vaccine yet, and RIVM says it is possible to get corona again after being infected (https://www.rivm.nl/coronavirus-covid-19/ziekte) This, however, is, in my opinion, not enough evidence to claim that group immunity is dangerous.	Renske

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