

The 16th Economic International Conference
New Challenges and Opportunities for the Economy 4.0
May 7, 2020 – May 8, 2020

COVID-19 Fake News Analysis from a Social Media Perspective

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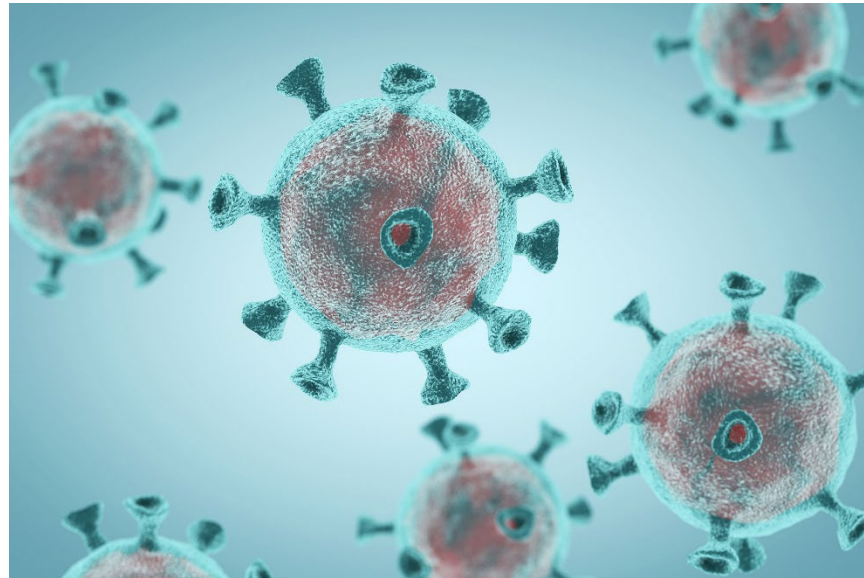
Abstract (1)

- *As the SARS-CoV-2 virus – more popularly known as COVID-19 – has spread around the globe, mankind is fighting this new unseen enemy.*

Abstract (2)

- *This paper comes to review the way that the new CORONAVIRUS is perceived all over the world. In the current scientific literature, there is a gap when speaking about the influence and the impact of fake news.*

- *How is CORONAVIRUS is perceived all over the world?*



SOCIAL MEDIA AND ITS IMPLICATION IN TRANSMITTING INFORMATION

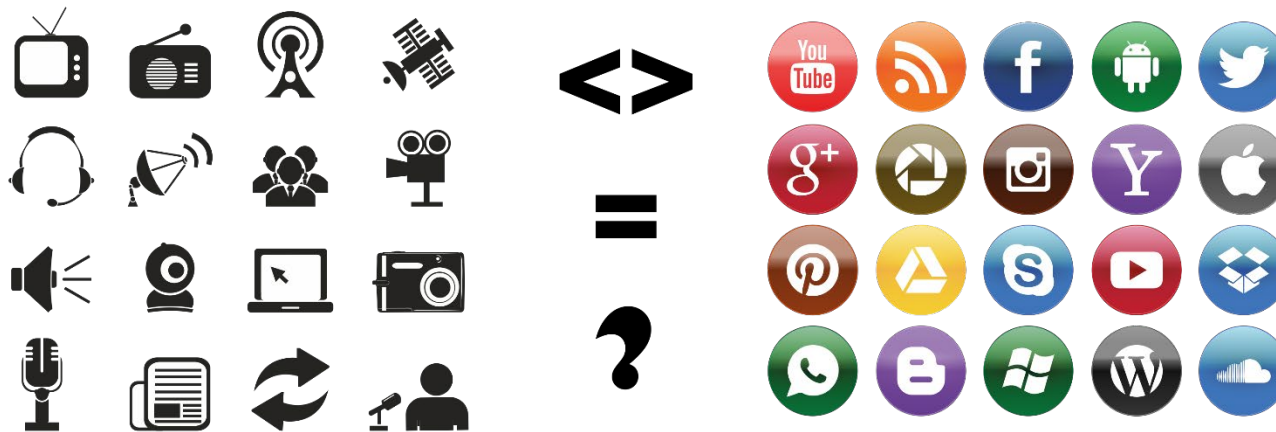
- The latest studies on social media show that people struggled with much information that come across their everyday attention.
- Things that get important, at least in evolved and evolving countries are: disasters, terrorism, controversial moves and other things.

- The need of information is something that besides the good things comes also with something bad. This need can be exploited by people in the need of manipulating the facts to their advantage.

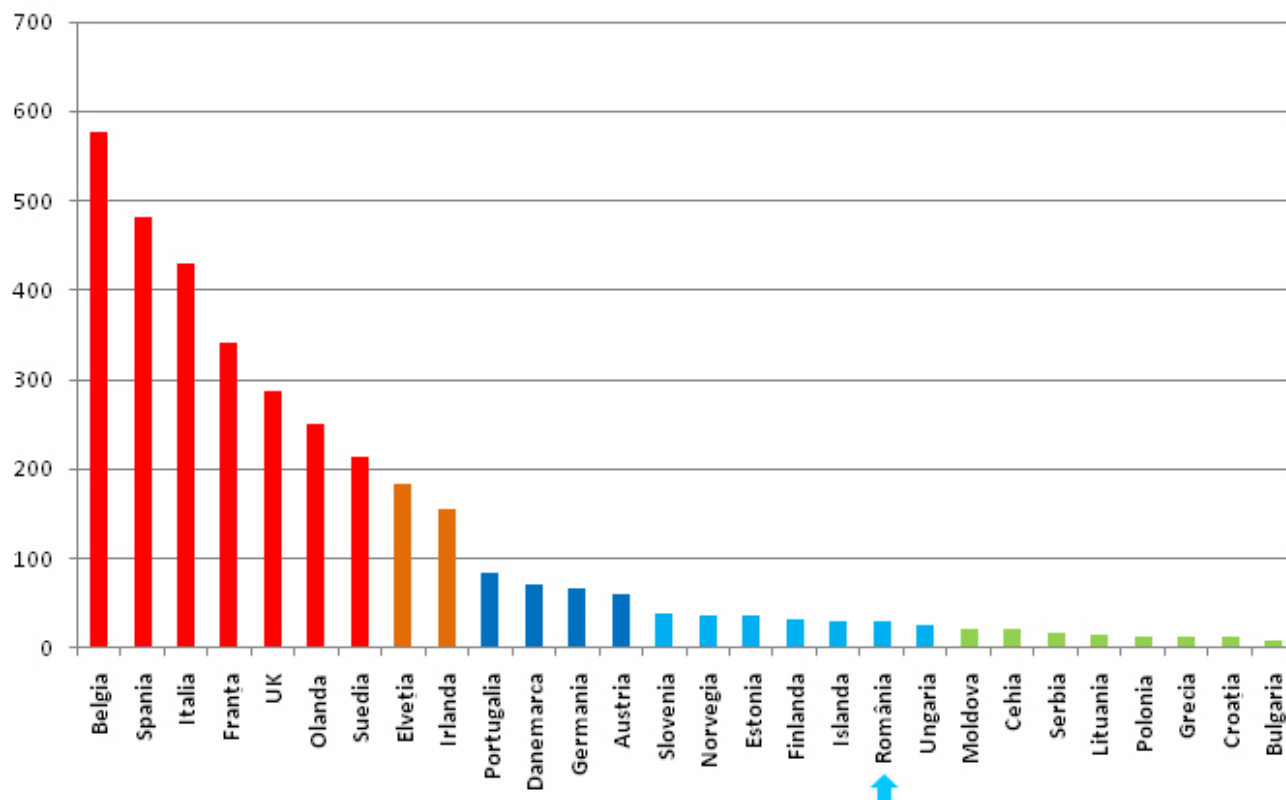
Example of fake news in Romania and the whole world included:

- Planned extermination of the population because we are too many,
- It's the end of the world, and this time Noah's Ark saves us,
- God kills them because they eat bats and mice,
- The great debate: created in the laboratory or comes from rats,
- It's an invention to put the chip in you,
- Bill Gates created the virus,
- Corona beer gives Coronavirus.

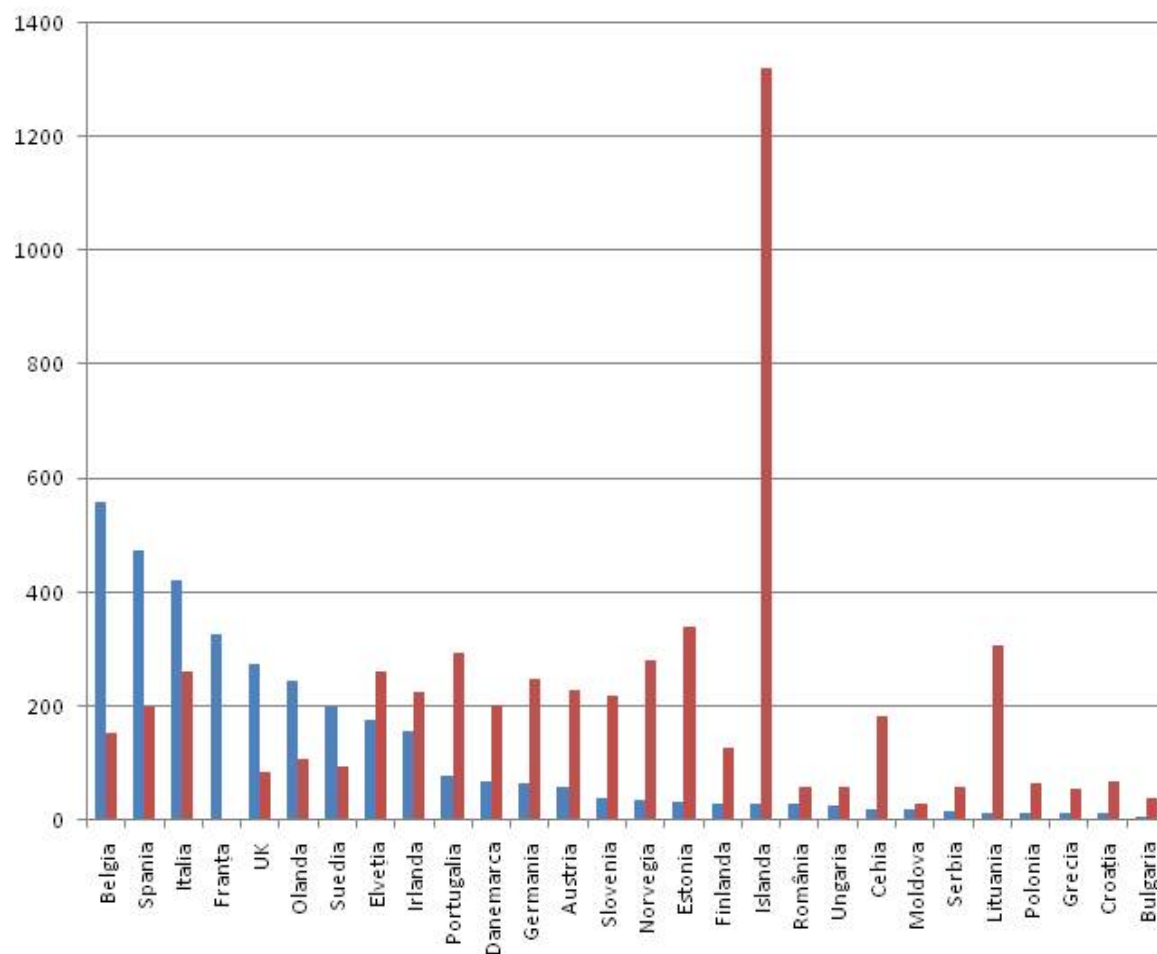
Traditional media vs. Social media



The number of deceased people of COVID-19 per million populations



Blue: deceased/million people, Red: tests /10k people COVID-19

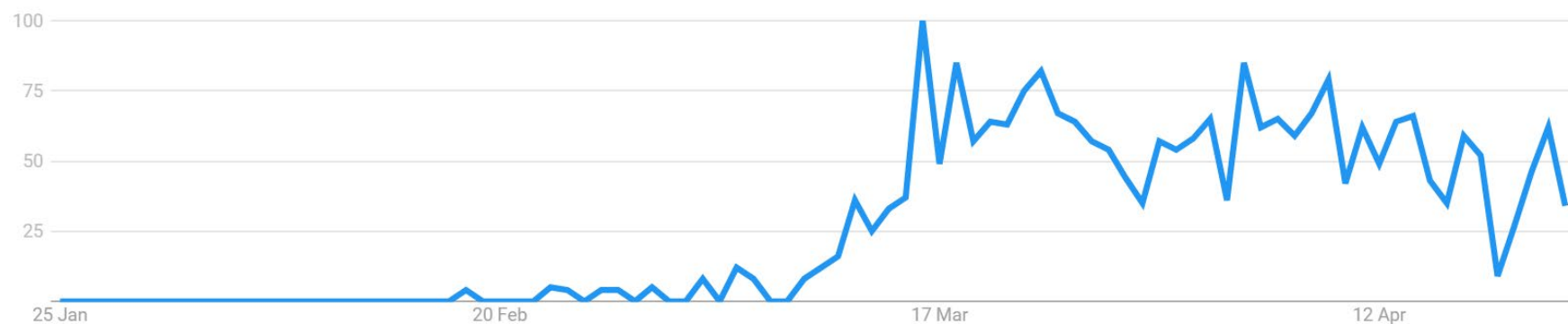


ARE WE ALLOWED TO HAVE OPINIONS? WHAT ABOUT DEEPFAKE

- There is a term circulating on the internet and getting now really strong in the notebooks of the researchers all over the world: deepfake. This term comes from a combination between 2 terms: deep learning and fake. Photo manipulation was developed in the 19th century. Even Stalin used photo manipulation to get a certain come-up.
- Could COVID-19 be as taboo as a subject as religion maybe?

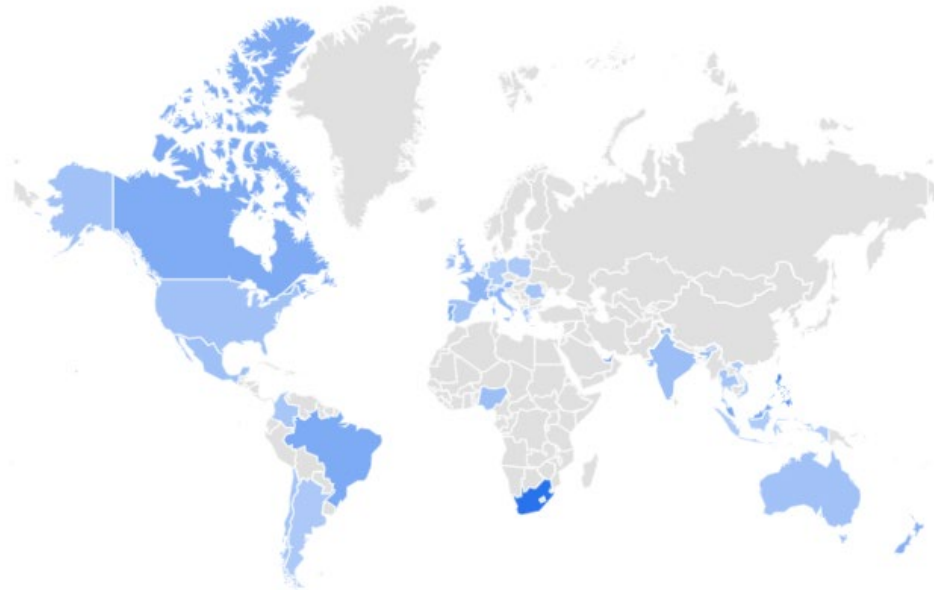
INTEREST IN THE TERM: GOOGLE TRENDS

Interest over time ?



INTEREST BY REGION

Interest by region ?



FAKE NEWS PANDEMIC

- Fake news may also have a form of misinformation that is information being false. It may not have bad intentions, but there are lots of moments when it gets to having. Currently, in regards to COVID-19 pandemic that started in Wuhan, China, and caused a global public health crisis.

CONCLUSIONS

- There are people that try to manipulate the information so that they can gain different opportunities, not necessarily material ones.
- There are some corporations that try to find anything that could help them to sell certain products, trying to get to the people that focus on certain ideas.
- The international context has huge implications. China has a main role here, but it is playing among with the US, Russia and also the EU.

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THANKS



FOR STAYING HOME :)