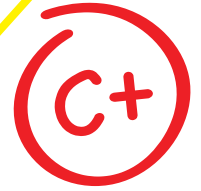


# SOCIAL MEDIA REPORT CARDS

AN ASSESSMENT OF THE CCP'S INFLUENCE ON SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS



## CASE #2: FACEBOOK

While the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) blocks its citizens from using Facebook, CCP propaganda outlets are using Facebook to **build a huge and growing audience around the world**. HFAC Minority staff found that CCP propaganda outlets, such as China Daily, Xinhua, and CGTN, are using Facebook to post information that distorts facts about the origins of COVID-19 and the CCP response. Reports indicate that Chinese state media are also **flooding Facebook with undisclosed ads from CGTN, Global Times, Xinhua, and CCTV that attempt to rewrite the CCP's role in the pandemic**.


 China Xinhua News  
Like This Page · April 6 · Edited

Key takeaways from the timeline of China releasing information on #COVID19 and advancing international cooperation on epidemic response

**Timeline of China releasing information on COVID-19 and advancing international cooperation on epidemic response**


- TIMELY RELEASING INFORMATION ON COVID-19 SINCE THE ONSET OF THE EPIDEMIC
- OPEN, TRANSPARENT AND RESPONSIBLE
- UNRESERVEDLY SHARING WITH THE WHO AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY ITS EXPERIENCE IN EPIDEMIC RESPONSE AND MEDICAL TREATMENT
- STRENGTHENING COOPERATION ON SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH
- PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO ALL PARTIES TO THE BEST OF ITS ABILITY

Late December 2019 - January 2020 - February 2020 - March 2020

 China Xinhua News  
March 6 · 🌐

As rumors and misinformation on #COVID19 still run rampant on social media, here are 3 facts you should know: #RumorBuster

- It has a natural origin
- Origin still unknown, not necessarily in China
- Outbreak epicenter and virus origin may not be the same [xhne.ws/Nj3oU](https://www.xhne.ws/Nj3oU)

 People's Daily, China  
April 30 at 11:30 AM · 🌐

Ten questions the U.S. needs to offer clear answers to the world regarding the #COVID19.

- 1.Regarding the restarted avian influenza virus modification experiment last year, why does the US release no more updates? ...
- 2.The United States Army Medical Research Institute of Infectious Diseases (USAMRIID) was previously closed.What is the truth behind ? ...

## ASSESSMENT OF FACEBOOK PROCEDURES:

- ✓ Labels for Propaganda/State-Funded Outlets
- ✗ Blocks CCP Officials/State-Funded Propaganda Outlets from Having Verified Accounts
- ✓ Factchecking Policies for Truthfulness
- ✗ Comprehensive Removal of CCP Propaganda and Disinformation

## RESPONSE BY FACEBOOK:

While Facebook engaged in conversations with HFAC Minority staff, they do not currently plan to take down content flagged by the staff or take sufficient action to prevent the CCP from using Facebook to spread propaganda and lies about COVID-19. In addition, while Facebook does have factcheckers looking at content on their site, it does not appear factcheckers have acted on content posted by CCP propaganda outlets or that their factchecking operation is equipped to identify and address CCP propaganda.

## SUMMARY:

HFAC Minority staff remains concerned that CCP outlets are using the global audience they've built on Facebook to spread disinformation and propaganda about the origins of COVID-19 and the CCP response. Facebook is providing some level of factchecking and is applying a new label that the CCP exerts editorial control over these propaganda outlets. However, Facebook is not taking down CCP propaganda and disinformation flagged by staff. They also are continuing to allow CCP managed accounts to spread disinformation about COVID-19 on their platform. For these reasons, we give them a **C+**.