

**Question for written answer E-000082/2023
to the Commission**
Rule 138
Virginie Joron (ID)

Subject: Disinformation on Twitter revealed by Elon Musk: has the Commission established a ministry of truth?

The Commission published the results of its COVID-19 disinformation monitoring programme¹ until July 2021.

To that date, Twitter had reportedly suspended 1 500 accounts, removed 43 000 tweets and challenged 11.7 million accounts for disseminating disinformation relating to COVID. In May 2021 alone, Facebook and Instagram reportedly removed 76 000 posts for violating their COVID and vaccine misinformation policy.

Following his purchase of Twitter in 2022, Elon Musk and his teams revealed that Twitter had deleted accounts and posts due to pressure from the White House and international organisations. However, the information published relating to COVID treatments and vaccines (side effects, inefficacy over time or in children, etc.) were useful for the political and scientific debate or reflected information given by official sources or medical publications. Some accounts were censored despite belonging to legitimate experts or doctors².

1. Has the Commission established a ministry of truth relating to treatments for COVID?
2. What instructions have been given to digital platforms?
3. Has the Commission analysed or corrected the decision trees used by the robots or moderators of major platforms (Twitter, Facebook, etc.) in 2021 or 2022?

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¹ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/library/reports-june-actions-fighting-covid-19-disinformation-monitoring-programme>

² <https://twitter.com/MartinKulldorff/status/1607405287887208448>