

Truth in the age of sharing: From the history of "fake news" in Poland

Preliminary research

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Research Problem

Research Problem

- What are main topics and functions of fake news in Polish public discourse?
- What is a "real" fake-news? (intention, authorship)

The Age of Sharing



Nicholas A. John, *The Age of Sharing*, Malden, MA: Polity, 2017.

*"sharing is a type of communication that implies a certain style of interpersonal relationship, one that is based on honesty, openness, mutuality, caring, equality, **trust and fairness.**"*

Methodology

1. Internet — Google: „fake news polska 2017” etc
2. article actually contains the expression „fake news”
3. years 2017-2019
4. the expression refers to actual fake news from Polish infosphere
5. epistemological problem: What is a "real" fake news?
6. presumption: the one that gained some notoriety (eg. no fake-news generators)

Results

Figures

Results

1. 37 analysed sources (press articles, blog entries, social networks sites)
2. 64 "verified" fake-news found

Results

	photo	video	tweet	other	total
2017	3	3	0	27	33
2018	5	2	0	11	18
2019	6	0	2	6	13
2017	9%	9%	0%	82%	100%
2018	28%	11%	0%	61%	100%
2019	46%	0%	15%	38%	100%

Numbers of fake-news by year and form

Results

	politics	society	celebrities	nature	church	economy
	36	10	7	5	5	1
2017	17	6	4	4	0	1
2018	7	3	3	0	5	0
2019	11	1	0	1	0	0
	56%	16%	11%	8%	8%	2%
2017	53%	19%	13%	13%	0%	3%
2018	39%	17%	17%	0%	28%	0%
2019	85%	8%	0%	8%	0%	0%

Numbers of fake-news by year and subject

Results

	Poland	Sweden	USA	France	UK	Russia	India	Europe
	20	6	3	3	1	1	1	1
2017	8	5	0	2	1	1	1	0
2018	3	0	3	1	0	0	0	0
2019	9	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	56%	17%	8%	8%	3%	3%	3%	3%
2017	44%	28%	0%	11%	6%	6%	6%	0%
2018	43%	0%	43%	14%	0%	0%	0%	0%
2019	82%	9%	0%	8%	0%	0%	0%	9%

Numbers of fake-news on the topic of politics by year and country/region

Examples

Politics - Poland



Michał Szczerba
@MichałSzczerba



#PaństwoPiS. Precedencja się nie przyjęła.



6:47 PM · 15 sie 2019 · Twitter for iPhone

174 podania dalej 657 polubień

1. attacks on particular persons or groups (laying flowers at the monument: Kaczyński ahead of Duda (foto))
2. refugees and immigrants (refugees spread tropical diseases (2015))
3. Ukraine (Ukrainians bring weapons to Poland)



A viewpoint in Radziki, cost 146.776 PLN (€34.000)

1. sharia zone in Sweden (no-go) (2015)
2. crime increasing in Sweden
3. increasing number of rapes in Sweden (no day without rape, the world capital of rape)
4. Sweden has outlawed marital sex (permission for sex)
5. civil war in Sweden
6. A Swedish scientist promotes cannibalism (Europe wants to legalize pedophilia, zoophilia and cannibalism)

1. A Russian agent in a white house
2. Obama insults Trump (video — deepfake)
3. Melania Trump has a body double

1. Macron's accounts in tax havens
2. Macron's campaign funded by Saudi Arabia (Rotschields)
3. France legalizes pedophilia



Does Władimir Putin play polish national anthem?

Politics - UK



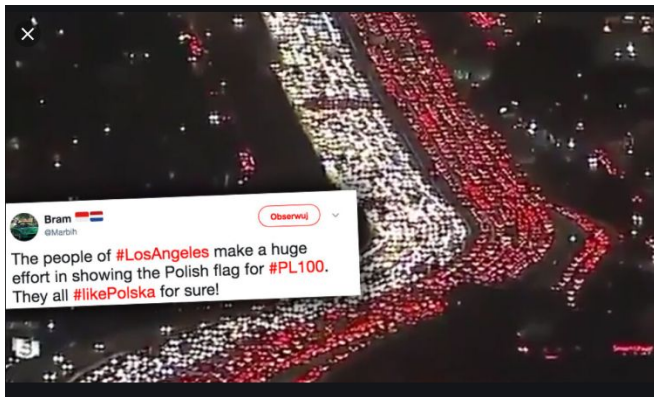
I'll just leave this here.

👍 7,3 tys. 💬 3,6 tys. ➡ 14 tys.

A Muslim woman ignores a terrorist attack



Transparent toilets in Sosnowiec



Celebrating 100 Years of Independence of Poland



An orangutan raped an Irishman

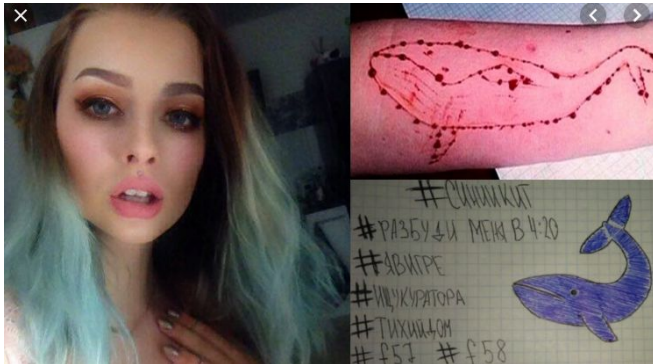
- Polish TV reported this news after satirical portal

Society



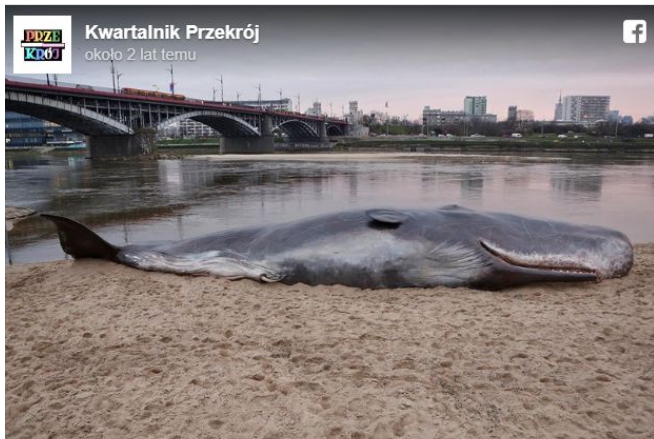
American Dee Dee is looking for a Pole, Wojtek (advertisement)

Society



Blue Whale (2017)

1. false deaths (Sylvester Stallone, Michael J. Fox, Benedykt XVI, Tina Turner, Swietłana Aleksijewicz, Jan Pietrzak, Janusz Gajos, Tadeusz Szuk))
2. false pregnancies (Princess Kate, Selena Gomez, Miley Cyrus)
3. Gal Gadot in a porn movie (deepfake)



W Warszawie, na brzegu Wisły przy "Poniatówce" leży wieloryb (prawdopodobnie kaszalot). Ma ponad 15 metrów długości. Na miejsce przyjechali naukowcy. Chodzą pogłoski, że w Wiśle może pływać jeszcze jeden wieloryb.

Nature



Pope supports LGBT

Summary

Main functions of fake-news

1. political (both sides, leftists and conservatives along)
2. economical (advertisement, attraction of attention)
3. ludic (celebrities)
4. misunderstanding (orangutan, Polish flag in Los Angeles, Muslim ignoring injured in attack)

Works Cited

1. Nicholas A. John, *The Age of Sharing*, Malden, MA: Polity, 2017.