

# KABATAAN, PAG-ASANG BAYAN! REP. SARAH ELAGO



# Dealing with Disinformation in the 2019 Midterm Election in the Philippines

# FIGHT ELECTION FRAUE STOPPOLITICAL REPRESSION

Movement Against Tyranny-MAT

www.kontradaya.org

### TOPICS

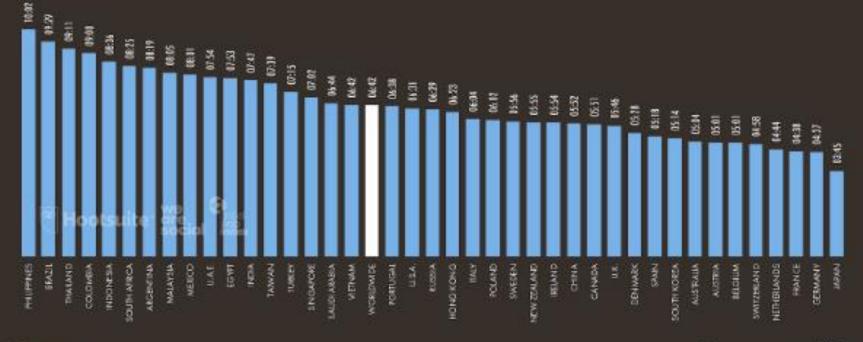
- Disinformation and Hate Speech Trends in the Midterm Election
- Challenges/Impact to Candidates
- Networks and Organizations Countering Disinformation
- Campaign Strategies on How to Prevent Spread of Disinformation and Hate Speech

### **Global Digital Report by We Are Social and Hootsuite**



# TIME PER DAY SPENT USING THE INTERNET

AVERAGE AMOUNT OF TIME PER DAY SPENT USING THE INTERNET VIA ANY DEVICE, IN HOURS AND MINUTES (SURVEY BASED)



🖱 Hootsuite<sup>-</sup> are

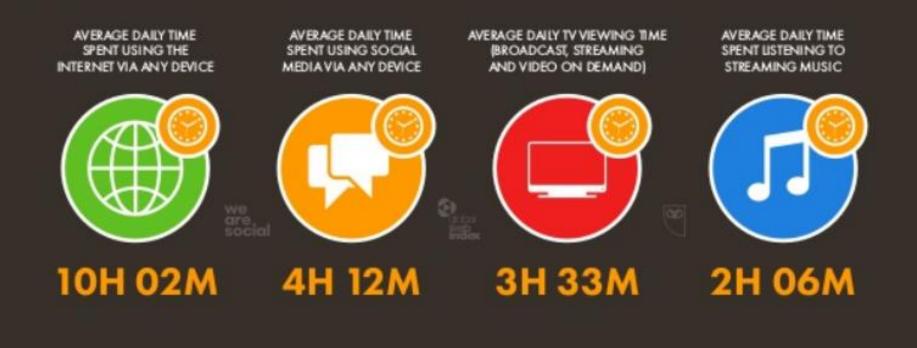
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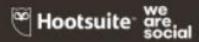
# TIME SPENT WITH MEDIA

AVERAGE DAILY TIME SPENT CONSUMING AND INTERACTING WITH MEDIA [SURVEY BASED]





SOUR DE GLOBALWEINNER JOZ & GD 2016, FRUERS REFRESENTTHE FINISHOS OF A BROAD SUEVEY OF IN TERNETUSERS AGED 16-64. TIMES ARE DALLY AVERAGES, REFORTED IN HOURS AND MINUTES, NOTE SOME ACTIVITES MAY TAKE FUNCE CONCURRENTLY.



# SIMILARWEB'S TOP WEBSITES

RANKING OF WEBSITES BY AVERAGE MONTHLY TRAFFIC



#	WEBSITE	CATEGORY	MONTHLY TRAFFIC	TIME PER VISIT	PAGES PER VISIT
01	FACEBOOK.COM	SOCIAL	423,300,000	15M 15S	18.5
02	GOOGLE.COM	SEARCH	340,800,000	09M 26S	9.3
03	GOOGLE.COM.PH	SEARCH	266,400,000	09M 30S	7.4
04	YOUTUBE.COM	TV & VIDEO	247,300,000	27 M 20S	n.1
05	ҮАНОО.СОМ	NEWS	54,400,000	07M 30S	6.6
06	PORNHUB.COM	ADULT	50,300,000	12M 47S	8.0
07	TWITTER.COM	SOCIAL	47,400,000	13M 33S	10.6
08	WIKIPEDIA.ORG	REFERENCE	34,200,000	04M 00S	2.7
09	XNXX.COM	ADULT	30,400,000	17M 04S	10.9
10	LAZADA.COM.PH	SHOPPING	28,500,000	07M 10S	8.1



25

SOURCE: SIMILARWEB (JANUARY 2019), FIGURES BASED ON MONTHLY AVERAGES FOR G4 2018. NOTES: 'MONTHLY TRAFFIC' DOES NOT REPRESENT UNIQUE VISITORS. 'TIME PER VISIT' FIGURES REPRESENT THE AVERAGE DURATION OF USERS' VISITS, MEASURED IN MINUTES AND SECONDS. ADV ISORY: SOME WEBSITES FEATURED IN THIS RANKING MAY CONTAIN ADULT CONTENT, PLEASE USE CAUTION WHEN VISITING UNKNOWN WEBSITES.

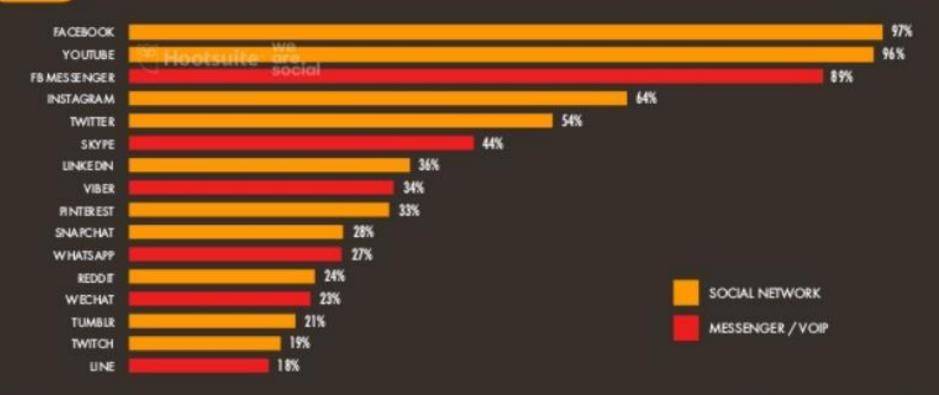


## JAN 2019

33

# **MOST ACTIVE SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS**

PERCENTAGE OF INTERNET USERS WHO REPORT USING EACH PLATFORM [SURVEY BASED]



Hootsuite are

# **Tsek.ph** found social media as the main source for mis-/disinformation during and after the midterms.



MEDIA, ACADEME. UP President Danilo Concepcion (7th from left) joins representatives of newsgroups and universities after the signing of the MOU for the Tsek.ph collaborative fact-checking project. Photo by Michael Bueza/Rappler

Police, Army reservists share false disgualification claim vs Makabayan bloc

UP Journalism Department, VERA Files, Rappler and Philippine Star Mon, 05/13/2019 - 01:32





FACT CHECK: No. this is not an ABS-CBN News story on a former Bulacan official

ABS-CBN News Sun, 05/12/2019 - 08:34





Comelec disgualification order vs CDO mayor Oscar Moreno spurious

Froilan Gallardo, Mindanews Sat, 05/11/2019 - 19:00







# SNAPSHO of electoral disinformation

Looking through the lens of **TseX.ph** fact checks



JAKE C. SORIANO & YVONNE T. CHUA



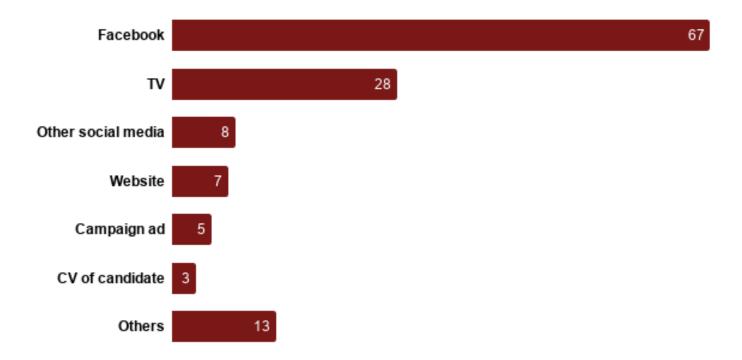
## Who were the sources of mis- and disinformation?



Source:



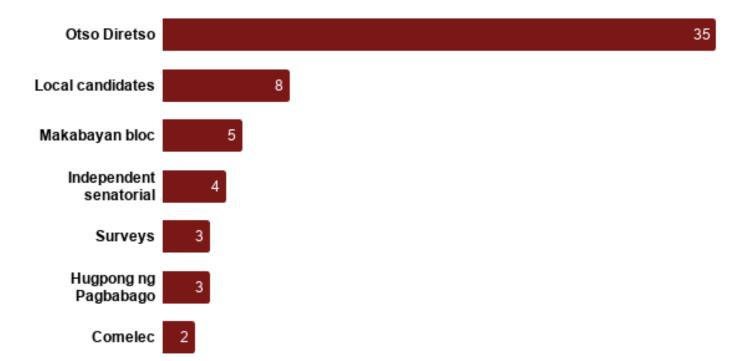
## Where were deceptive claims made?



#### Source:



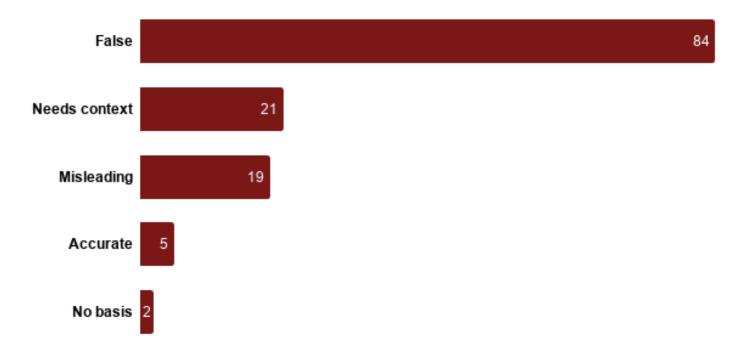
## Who were most targeted by mis- or disinformation?



#### Source:



## How did tsek.ph rate deceptive claims?



Source:

# Tsek.ph

#### UPDATED: Netizens mistake SATIRICAL piece on VP Robredo as true

Written by: VERA Files and University of the Philippines Journalism Department Post date: Monday, May 13, 2019 - 22:36 Last modified: Friday, May 17, 2019 - 12:59





### Facebook post falsely claims Diokno an NPA head

Written by: University of the Philippines Journalism Department Post date: Monday, May 13, 2019 - 18:15 Last modified: Monday, May 13, 2019 - 18:42



#### Roxas never made 'bobo' comment

Written by: UP Journalism Department Post date: Monday, May 13, 2019 - 18:13 Last modified: Monday, May 13, 2019 - 18:14





FB page wrongly identifies partylists, organizations

Written by: DZUP 1602 Post date: Monday, May 13, 2019 - 17:45 Last modified: Monday, May 13, 2019 - 17:47

Tsek.ph

# Tsek.ph

Huli kal Isa pang team ng unipormadong PNP CRG na pinamumunuan ni Lt. Atendido (OJT lang daw siya nung tinanong) kasama ang isang babaeng pulis na nakilalang si Waguis ang nahuli ng Team Makabayan at Kontra Dava volunteers na namimipay no black prop tabloid sa Maypaio Elementary School, Brgy 35, Dist. 2, Caloocan City, #KontraDava

PNP Officers, namimigay ng mga BLACK PROPAGANDA na babasahin! I Sampaloc Manila







The PNP tabloid that was making rounds in Sampaloc, Manila, So obviously kinuha na ang marami pang kopya para di na kuma













ACCURATE PNP distributes publication,

redtags Bayan Muna,

Kabataan partylists



Tsek.ph

### Accurate: PNP distributes publication red-tagging partylists

Written by: DZUP 1602 and University of the Philippines Journalism Department Post date: Monday, May 13, 2019 - 19:56 Last modified: Monday, May 13, 2019 - 23:21





# COMELEC DISQUALIFIES FIVE PARTYLIST, DAYS BEFORE ELECTION.

Disqualified! yan an 2019. Ang kadahilanan t pakikilahok upang paba na inihain ni Angel Agui



kbo sana ngayong halalan t ay dahil sa aktibo nitong -ugat sa isang petisyon ng anim na Partylist

Dagdag pa ng COMELEC, makikita parin sa balota ang mga nasabing Partylist dahil na-print na ang mga balota bago pa sila masuspinde, Ngunit walang saysay ang pag-boto sa mga .nasabing Partylist dahil sila ay DISQUALIFIED na sa balalan.







#### Pulis Icpo Serbisyo Publiko

38 mins • 🕄



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NEWS

2019. Ang

pakikilat

na inihair

**Diego Pagbabago** hrs . A

COMELEC DISOUALIFIES SIX PARTYLIST BEFORE ELECTION



Dagdag pa ng COMELEC, makikita parin sa balota ang mga nasabing Partylist dahil na-print na ang mga balota bago pa sila masuspinde. Ngunit walang saysay ang pag-boto sa mga .nasabing Partylist dahil sila ay na sa balatan



COMELEC DISQUALIFIES SIX PARTYLIST BEFORE ELECTION



COMELEC DISQUALIFIES SIX PARTYLIST BEFORE ELECTION



Digital operations are becoming:

More prevalent

Strategically obscured

# Influential in shaping political conversations

Source:

Ong, Jonathan, Tapsell, Ross & Curato, Nicole (2019). *Tracking digital disinformation in the 2019 Philippine Midterm Election*. Public report available at: <a href="http://www.newmandala.org/disinformation">www.newmandala.org/disinformation</a>

> Jonathan Corpus Ong Ross Tapsell Nicole Curato

First Key Message

Social media and disinformation have become more central and entrenched in the conduct of Philippine political campaigns.

new mandala August 2019

PUBLISHED B

Source: Ong, Jonathan, Tapsell, Ross & Curato, Nicole (2019). *Tracking digital disinformation in the 2019 Philippine Midterm Election*. Public report available at: <u>www.newmandala.org/disinformation</u>

> Jonathan Corpus Ong Ross Tapsell Nicole Curato

Campaigners leverage social media platforms to reach discrete audiences and cultivate new intimacies consistent with own politicians' own brands.

PUBLISHED BY new mandala August 2019

## Source: Ong, Jonathan, Tapsell, Ross & Curato, Nicole (2019). *Tracking digital disinformation in the 2019 Philippine Midterm Election*. Public report available at: <u>www.newmandala.org/disinformation</u>

### Second Key Message

# Disinformation producers are becoming more insidious and evasive.

# **DISINFORMATION INNOVATIONS** in the 2019 Philippine Midterm Elections

# **MICRO-/NANO-INFLUENCERS**

#### 5FT

6FT

#### 4FT

# **Political Parody Accounts**

#### WHO:

Accounts taking on the persona of politicians, government offices, or news pages that poke fun at the gaffes and excesses of their targets

#### SPECIAL ABILITY:

Uses emotionally-arousing and occasionally-vulgar language to rally followers

#### PLATFORM:

Facebook, Twitter

#### Pop Culture Accounts

#### WHO:

Fictional pop culture figures that comment on Filipino society at large

#### SPECIAL ABILITY:

6

in between inspirational quotes or humorous posts, slips in political propaganda and coordinates hashtag boosting

#### PLATFORM:

Facebook, Twitter

#### **Thirsttrap Instagrammers**

#### WHO

Hypersexual Instagram users flaunting their bodies for likes and followers

#### SPECIAL ABILITY:

in between flirtatious poses and lifestyle pictures, slips in political content

#### **PLATFORM**

Instagram

Source: Ong, Jonathan, Tapsell, Ross & Curato, Nicole (2019). Tracking digital disinformation in the 2019 Philippine Midterm Election. Public report available at: www.newmandala.org/disinformation



#### **Hyper-partisan News**

#### WHAT:

News pages/channels that have explicit political alignments catering to political fandoms

#### SPECIAL ABILITY: Use emotions of anger and resentment to rally the base

#### PLATFORM: Facebook and Youtube

# **Thematic/Local News**

6 6

#### WHAT:

Platforms that curate news for specific topics or localities

#### SPECIAL ABILITY:

Neutral-sounding while occasionally sneaking in political propaganda

6 0

#### PLATFORM:

Facebook

Source: Ong, Jonathan, Tapsell, Ross & Curato, Nicole (2019). *Tracking digital disinformation in the 2019 Philippine Midterm Election*. Public report available at: <a href="https://www.newmandala.org/disinformation">www.newmandala.org/disinformation</a>

# **CLOSED GROUPS**



## E.g., OFW groups and Conspiracy groups

#### WHAT:

Private groups where members require approval from group moderators; usually organic communities based on common interests but vulnerable to infiltration by political operators

#### PLATFORM:

Facebook

Source: Ong, Jonathan, Tapsell, Ross & Curato, Nicole (2019). *Tracking digital disinformation in the 2019 Philippine Midterm Election*. Public report available at: <u>www.newmandala.org/disinformation</u>

PUBLISHED B

mandala August 2019 Jonathan Corpus Ong Ross Tapsell Nicole Curato Third Key Message

Existing regulatory interventions are not enough, especially given that the disinformation industry has become increasingly well-funded, sophisticated, and harder to detect.

Source: Ong, Jonathan, Tapsell, Ross & Curato, Nicole (2019). *Tracking digital disinformation in the 2019 Philippine Midterm Election*. Public report available at: <u>www.newmandala.org/disinformation</u>

> Jonathan Corpus Ong Ross Tapsell Nicole Curato

PUBLISHED BY new mandala August 2019 Challenges Ahead:

Political strategists "capitalize on weak regulatory infrastructure around political campaign consultancies and industry self-regulatory mechanisms that enable them to produce black ops campaigns as supplementary gigs to more respectable corporate projects."

Common failure of fact checks is that "they often neglect tracing the connection between a singular instance of 'fake news' to a broader project of undermining values in society, whether it is the legacies of liberal democracy or emerging power of China."

Source: Ong, Jonathan, Tapsell, Ross & Curato, Nicole (2019). *Tracking digital disinformation in the 2019 Philippine Midterm Election*. Public report available at: <a href="https://www.newmandala.org/disinformation">www.newmandala.org/disinformation</a>

> Jonathan Corpus Ong Ross Tapsell Nicole Curato

PUBLISHED BY new mandala August 2019

## POLICY RESPONSE: Shift in regulatory interventions around social media from content regulation to process regulation

Building a process oriented-approach to political campaigning:

## 1. Continue public conversation

2. Review possibilities for a broader legal framework that might encourage transparency and accountability in political consultancies

3. Review COMELEC's existing frameworks for campaign finance and social media regulation.

4. Encourage COMELEC to form intersectoral alliances

Source: Ong, Jonathan, Tapsell, Ross & Curato, Nicole (2019). *Tracking digital disinformation in the 2019 Philippine Midterm Election*. Public report available at: <a href="https://www.newmandala.org/disinformation">www.newmandala.org/disinformation</a>



# Networks/Organizations Countering Disinformation









Macaranas Journalism Grant



# **AFP Philippines**

# **Vera Files**

# Facebook





More campaign strategies to prevent spread of disinformation and hate speech **Report** posts, websites and other materials that are false or hateful in content to the relevant publishers/site administrators and the authorities to take further action.





PLS SHARE: Fake news alert!

Hindi po totoong "disgualified" ang #42KABATAAN! Labanan ang malawakang pandaraya! #MyVoteNot4Sale On May 13, cast your vote! Make it count!



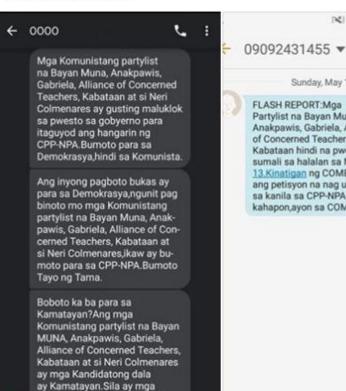


KABATA/



Kabataan Partylist Cebu May 13 · Q

#### FAKE NEWS ALERTIII



CALL Sunday, May 12, 2019 FLASH REPORT:Mga Partylist na Bayan Muna, Anakpawis, Gabriela, Alliance of Concerned Teachers at Kabataan hindi na pwedeng sumali sa halalan sa Mayo 13.Kinatigan ng COMELEC ang petisyon na nag uugnay sa kanila sa CPP-NPA kahapon,ayon sa COMELEC."

10:46 PM

MO

NI B A 72% B 6:44 /

sirain ang bansa.

pakawala ng CPP-NPA upang

Ε

SMS



MPs/electoral candidates are influential people who often appear on the media and have a large following on social media. These platforms provide opportunities to **counter and debunk disinformation**.





#### FAKE NEWS ALERT:

QUOTE not mine nor from Kabataan! Enlightened Pinoy, Bayan Ko Ph, among other trollish FB pages, have launched this fake news attack yet again. Please help us report these pages! Strongly urging Facebook to take action against these pages which have been spreading fake quotes and disinformation, inciting hate and harm against our representation and the youth at large who are exercising their political and civil rights in pursuit of a better life and future for their families, loved ones, compatriots and country!

We're looking into the matter, especially in light of latest news reporting that those involved are already speaking up on the issue, and that Sen. Bato's first hearing exposes Duterte regime's real motives behind the malicious allegations: increase police presence and militarize campuses to curtail our rights and silence dissent where students, teachers and school officials have been at the forefront of opposing drug war killings, attacks against human rights defenders, tax hikes, term extension, among others.###

Support and promote digital and media literacy for the public, but also for other stakeholders such as politicians/MPs who are often sources of disinformation.

f 3



## Youth solon to file bill promoting critical media literacy in fight vs. fake news

Published June 13, 2018 5:30pm Updated June 13, 2018 9:15pm

in

By ERWIN COLCOL, GMA News

In a bid to fight fake news, Kabataan party-list Representative Sarah Elago is intending to file this month a bill that seeks to promote critical media literacy among Filipinos.

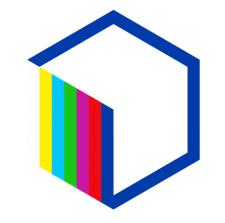
Elago made the pronouncement on Wednesday after the Social Weather Stations (SWS) released the result of its March 2018 survey showing that 67 percent of adult Filipino Internet users believe that fake news online is a serious problem.

Solon bats for media literacy amid proliferation of 'fake news' newsinfo.inquirer.net/1000479/solon-... via @inquirerdotnet



Solon bats for media literacy amid proliferation of 'fake news' | Inquirer ... Kabataan party-list Rep. Sarah Elago is preparing to file a bill that would provide for critical media literacy in a bid to combat the proliferation of ...  $\mathscr{O}$  newsinfo.inquirer.net Support and collaborate with groups who are working on capacity building programs related to disinformation and hate speech.

# ASEAN PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR HUMAN RIGHTS



# Out of The Box MEDIA LITERACY INITIATIVE

# SALAMAT!

QUESTIONS? SUGGESTIONS?

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