

## This week in the Information Environment

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To: DoD IOCR <InfolOC@nps.edu>



**Dear Colleagues,**

**As always, we hope that these weekly links focused on what is currently happening in the information environment prove to be helpful to you and the good work you do.**

**the Pew Research Center published data which found about a fifth of both Republicans and Democrats get their news from media forums which are geared to others who believe as they do. To be frank, it seems like it would be an even higher percentage during this time of combating narratives. This is a good reminder that we should seek to hear both sides of any debate and double check sources for any material that may be passed on. WhatsApp is rolling out a "Search the web" feature where any story passed on five times or more will have a magnifying glass that will take you to sources on the web for that story.**

**On misinformation - our adversaries seemed the likely culprit behind the recent Twitter hack to prominent accounts. Turns out it was a wayward Tampa teen with excellent hacking skills. In the information environment, as with any type of warfare, caution has to be taken before calling out potential culprits.**

**Dr. John Arquilla, Distinguished Professor here at NPS, has a new publication out of RAND: "Whose Story Wins." Dr. Arquilla and his co-author, Dr. Ronfeldt discuss *noopolitik* - and the increasing usage of "soft power" as well as how the use of that soft power affects the utility and access to the *global commons* - the areas of Earth and space that have no jurisdiction.**

**Join us tomorrow for this week's PWP webinar. This week, the two person panel will be discussing Political Warfare during the Cold War: Lessons from the past to inform the future.**

**Paul Musgrave, University of Massachusetts, Amherst  
Katya Drozdova, Seattle Pacific University**

**Moderated by: Dr. Ryan Maness, NPS DoD IOCR**

**Wednesday, August 5, 2020 1100(PDT)/1400(EDT)  
The link for the webinar can be found on the DoD IOCR  
website: [https://nps.edu/web/dod\\_iocr](https://nps.edu/web/dod_iocr)**

**Have a good week. Stay safe, stay healthy and stay diligent,**

**DoD IOCR Team at NPS**

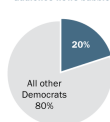
**Dr. Ryan Maness  
Rebecca Lorentz  
LTC Roland Miraco  
Ed Fisher**

**A fifth of Democrats, Republicans get news only from outlets with like-minded audiences**

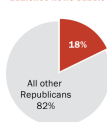
**About one-fifth in each party only  
get political news from sources  
with like-minded audiences**

*% of each party who only got political  
and election news from sources with  
right- or left-leaning audiences*

20% of Democrats  
are in a left-leaning  
audience news bubble



18% of Republicans  
are in a right-leaning  
audience news bubble



Note: Republicans and Democrats include those who lean toward each party.  
Source: Survey of U.S. adults conducted Oct. 29-Nov. 11, 2019.

Pew Research Center

**A fifth of Democrats, Republicans  
get news only from outlets with  
like-minded audiences | Pew  
Research Center - Journalism &  
Media - Pew Research Center**

While Pew Research Center's recent report on media polarization and the 2020 election found that many Democrats and Republicans differ from each other in their sources of news, about one-fifth of those in each party are in a more isolated kind of media bubble – getting political news in a given week only from

## The Cold War Bunker That Became Home to a Dark-Web Empire



### The Cold War Bunker That Became Home to a Dark-Web Empire

An eccentric Dutchman began living in a giant underground facility built by the German military—and ran a server farm beloved by cybercriminals.

[www.newyorker.com](http://www.newyorker.com)

## From Minecraft Tricks to Twitter Hack: A Florida Teen's Troubled Online Path



### From Minecraft Tricks to Twitter Hack: A Florida Teen's Troubled Online Path - The New York Times

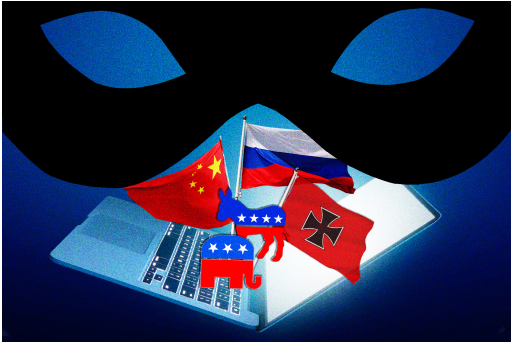
The teenage “mastermind” of the recent Twitter breach, who had a difficult family life, poured his energy into video games and cryptocurrency. Graham Ivan Clark’s arrest raised questions ...

[www.nytimes.com](http://www.nytimes.com)

## Silicon Valley is losing the battle against election information

### Silicon Valley is losing the battle against election misinformation - POLITICO

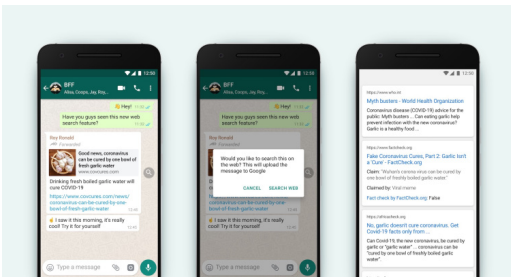
Technology. Silicon Valley is losing the battle against



election misinformation. More groups are pushing false information into voters' social media feeds in the run-up to November, and the ...

[www.politico.com](http://www.politico.com)

## WhatsApp pilots new feature to fight misinformation: Search the web

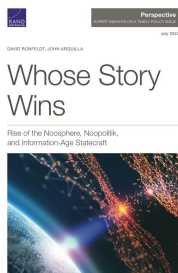


## WhatsApp pilots new feature to fight misinformation: Search the web – TechCrunch

WhatsApp, one of the most popular instant messaging platforms on the planet, has rolled out a new feature in select markets that makes it easier for users to verify whether the assertions made in ...

[techcrunch.com](http://techcrunch.com)

## Whose Story Wins



## Whose Story Wins

In this Perspective, the authors urge strategists to consider a new concept for U.S. grand strategy—noopolitik, which focuses on "soft power"—to supersede realpolitik, which has relied on "hard power" to counter U.S. adversaries.

[www.rand.org](http://www.rand.org)

