**МОСКОВСКИЙ
ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ
УНИВЕРСИТЕТ
имени М.В. ЛОМОНОСОВА
(МГУ)
ФАКУЛЬТЕТ ЖУРНАЛИСТИКИ**
Москва, ул. Моховая, д. 9, стр.1, 125009
Телефон: (495) 629-74-35
e-mail: referent@smi.msu.ru

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ПИСЬМО-ПОДТВЕРЖДЕНИЕ

Настоящим подтверждаю, что тезисы Бодруновой С.С., Непиющих Д.В. (Санкт-Петербургский государственный университет) *Cumulative opinions in unhealthy communicative milieus: Non-deliberative discursive patterns and conspiracist information sourcing in the COVID-dissident Telegram community anti_covid21*, тезисы Смоляровой А.С., Бодруновой С.С., Тарасова Н.А. (Санкт-Петербургский государственный университет) *Ad hoc media: A blurred border between media, arenas, and publics in new forms of collaborative posting on social networks*, тезисы Нигматуллиной К.Р., Бодруновой С.С., Полякова А.К., Касымова Р.М. (Санкт-Петербургский государственный университет) *Narrative Communities on Social Networks and the Roles of Legacy Media in them: The Case of User Complaints in Russian Regions* и тезисы Родичевой А.А., Бодруновой С.С., Блеканова И.С., Тарасова Н.А., Беляковой Н.Ю. (Санкт-Петербургский государственный университет) *Cumulative crises and reputation management of Russian brands on social media* приняты к публикации в сборнике по итогам международного форума «Пятнадцатые международные научные чтения в Москве. СМИ и массовые коммуникации-2023. Эпоха неопределенности в современных СМИ и журналистике: вызовы больших данных и искусственного интеллекта», который состоялся на факультете журналистики МГУ имени М.В. Ломоносова 9-10 ноября 2023 года.

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Cumulative opinions in unhealthy communicative milieus: Non-deliberative discursive patterns and conspiracist information sourcing in the COVID-dissident Telegram community *anti_covid21*

Svetlana S. Bodrunova, Dmitry Nepiyushchikh

With the advent of social networking sites, health dissidents have received unprecedented possibilities for online community building, creation of echo-chamber-like communication milieus, and spreading their views beyond those communities and milieus. Dissident views of AIDS denialists, antivaxxers, and adepts of alternative treatment of deadly diseases have found additional chances for cumulation with the use of platform affordances that border these communities from outer communication, like in closed-up communities on Telegram. In such closed-up communities/milieus, non-rational views, including conspiracy theories and denialist argumentation, reside, accumulate, grow, and spread from there to the outer Internet.

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought along an unprecedented amount of social fear and uncertainty, which spurred the spread of distrust to elites and their rationality, as well as an outburst of conspiracy theories, around the world, much beyond the health denialist communities. Several studies have explored the conspiracist content in COVID-19 denialist and antivaxxer communities (for a review, see Bodrunova et al., 2022); some have tried to reconstruct the ecosystems of information sources that such communities deploy to support their views. We unite these two research goals, linking the aggression, distrust, and conspirology in content of a COVID-denialist community to exploring their information sourcing; by it, we aim at reconstructing the major discursive elements of the unhealthy communication on health.

Today, anti-vaxxer communities are rarely studied beyond the English-language context. Taking Russia as a case, we assess the 282,000+ comments in the largest antivaxxer community on Russian Telegram, namely *anti_covid21* (January to July 2021), including 12,200+ comments coded manually. We find that 'the discourse of distrust' is highly politicized, where distrust to national and global actors may be a mediator to vaccine distrust. We show that conspiracies may be a mechanism of secondary coping not only for a person but also within aggressive discussions, as dynamics of their appearance depends on discussion outbursts and aggression in them. We identify a 'spiral of distrust' as a cumulative effect of interaction between distrust, aggression, and intensity of commenting, and show that mechanisms of trust building in the antivaxxer community are tribal, unlike the media-like ones in more rational pro-vaccination channels. We also show that information sources are divided into individual user-generated evidence, criticized mainstream media content, and content of blurred origin; together they form a discourse that principally questions the mainstream views and creates a clearly conspiracist view on governmental management of information on COVID-19 in many countries.

Bodrunova, S. S., & Nepiyuschikh, D. (2022). Dynamics of distrust, aggression, and conspiracy thinking in the anti-vaccination discourse on Russian Telegram. In: *International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction* (pp. 468-484). Cham: Springer International Publishing.