

indexexpurgatorius.wordpress.com

An anonymous website covering German and global politics with a focus on immigration that has published false and misleading claims, including about the Wuhan coronavirus and right-wing conspiracies.



Proceed with caution: This website severely violates basic standards of credibility and transparency.

Score: 7.5/100

Ownership and Financing

The site does not clearly disclose its ownership, although in a January 2020 article on the site, "Maria S" describes herself as the owner and provides an address in Mexico. A PayPal account linked at the bottom of every page lists the owner as Maria Sorpresa.

The site does not run advertising and solicits donations from readers.

Content

The site's tagline states that it stands in opposition to Germany's third constitutional article ("Per Gesetz gegen GG Art.3"), the nation's constitutional protection against discrimination based on race, gender, language, ancestry, disability, or religious and political beliefs. The tagline links to a statement regarding immigration: "Even today, long after the first influx of guest workers, Germans still look at migrants as their poor relatives from the animal kingdom.... Nobody says it publicly yet, but secretly everyone believes it: The stinkers are eating the hair off our heads."

The site's articles, which run in the form of blog posts on a templated WordPress site, mainly cover national and international politics, often focusing on immigration, crime, and health. The site also reports on climate change, economic policies, and other political issues, often taking positions that align with Germany's far-right political party, AfD (Alternative for Germany).

Typical articles have run under headlines including "African Cardinal: 'Europe is dominated by migrants'" ("Afrikanischer Kardinal: 'Europa wird von Migranten dominiert'"); "Rapists: Europeans can no longer defend their women" ("Vergewaltiger: Europäer können ihre Frauen nicht mehr verteidigen"); and "Imam:

✗ Does not repeatedly publish false content (22 points)

✗ Gathers and presents information responsibly (18)

✗ Regularly corrects or clarifies errors (12.5)

✗ Handles the difference between news and opinion responsibly (12.5)

✗ Avoids deceptive headlines (10)

✗ Website discloses ownership and financing (7.5)

Clearly labels advertising (7.5)

✗ Reveals who's in charge, including any possible conflicts of interest (5)

✗ The site provides names of content creators, along with either contact or biographical information (5)

Criteria are listed in order of importance.

[More information.](#)

Celebrating Christmas is worse than committing murder" ("Imam: Weihnachten feiern ist schlimmer als einen Mord zu begehen").

Credibility

Articles on the site generally do not include original reporting. Instead, the site draws on content from both reputable outlets, including Süddeutsche Zeitung, Spiegel Online, and Le Journal du Dimanche, as well as from sites such as the Russia-controlled RT France and Sputnik that NewsGuard found publishes false and misleading information.

Indexexpurgatorius.wordpress.com itself has frequently published false or misleading claims. For example, a February 2020 article, titled "Corona Virus Update For U.S.A.," claimed that the Wuhan Coronavirus could be spread via packages from China, stating, "packages that you receive through the post office, FedEx, UPS, Amazon or other companies may have VIRUSES on them if an infected person has handled them, coughed on them or sneezed on them." The article, which was a translation of a report first published on the site of American political commentator Hal Turner, continued: "The package arrives, you open it and now you have the virus on your hands. If you touch your face, mouth, or nose... you are infected." The article included no evidence to support this claim.

In fact, health authorities have said that the virus cannot spread via packages. According to a February 2020 statement issued by the World Health Organization (WHO), "People receiving packages from China are not at risk of contracting the new coronavirus. From previous analysis, we know coronaviruses do not survive long on objects, such as letters or packages." The German consumer protection office and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) have released similar statements.

In February 2020, the site published numerous articles with false claims about a shooting in Hanau that month, in which a man shot nine people with migrant backgrounds before killing his mother and himself.

One article, titled “Hanau, the story about a crazy right-wing extremist killer could be wrong” (“Hanau, die Geschichte über einen irren rechteextremistischen Killers könnte falsch sein”), suggested that details of the shooting had been manipulated, stating, “The German secret service, in cooperation with the public prosecutor's office, and the media spun a story that could not be true.”

Another article suggested that authorities had framed the suspect. “The authorities monitor [Neonazis], infiltrate them, condition them. If they need it, they frame them for a ‘bunch of murders,’” the article stated.

The site did not provide evidence or sources for these claims, and no such evidence has emerged. The Attorney General told the investigative nonprofit newsroom Correctiv that more than 40 witnesses had confirmed the suspect’s identify and that there were “no deviating investigation results.” A manifesto reportedly produced by the shooter included hateful accusations against migrants.

A January 2020 article titled “Immigrant confesses: The UN gives us the money to pay smugglers and get into Europe” (“Einwanderer gesteht: Die UNO gibt uns das Geld um Schmuggler zu bezahlen und nach Europa zu gelangen”) claimed that a report by The Guardian showed that the UN was using taxpayer money to pay smugglers to illegally transport refugees from a refugee center in Libya to Europe. “[T]he United Nations pays illegal immigrants and they pay smugglers,” the site’s article said. “The UN uses our money to pay smugglers to bring illegal immigrants to Europe.” The site’s article linked to The Guardian’s report.

However, the Guardian’s article includes no mention of the United Nations paying smugglers. Rather, it reports that as the refugee center in Libya became overcrowded, some refugees were given “‘urban assistance package[s]’ intended to support refugees and migrants living in urban areas of Libya” — thus helping them leave the center. There is no evidence for the claim that the UN paid refugee smugglers.

Another January 2020 article, titled "Fire in a monkey house or a charade?" ("Affenhausbrand oder Affenzirkus?"), reported on a fire that, according to authorities and multiple press accounts, broke out in a German zoo on New Years Eve, killing more than 30 apes. Police quickly determined that the fire had been caused by an aerial paper lantern, a balloon-like object that carries a flame inside. Two days after the incident, three women, who had released the lanterns on New Year's Eve near the zoo, informed the police of their apparently inadvertent role in the fire.

The [Indexexpurgatorius.wordpress.com](https://indexexpurgatorius.wordpress.com) article stated that readers should not "fall for the media's lies" about the incident, and questioned whether the apes actually died. "Have any of you seen a picture of the dead monkeys? Or are we just being told that they're dead?" the article stated. "[W]ho can tell us that the animals were not removed beforehand and sold to other zoos abroad?" The article also drew parallels to the April 2019 Notre Dame fire, implying that authorities in both cases were not being honest about the incidents. "Will it be the same here as with Notre Dame? Lots of donations plus insurance money....?" the article stated. "Well, the Deep State is broke and needs money."

The article does not provide sources for the claims that monkeys may not have actually died and that authorities are covering something up. Police have ruled that the incident was an accident, and the women were charged with negligent arson. As was the case with the Notre Dame fire, officials found no evidence that the fires were intentionally set or that the local governments used the fires as a way to make money.

A June 2019 article, titled "Tripoli is not a safe haven? Beaches full of tourists!" ("Tripolis ist kein sicherer Hafen? Strände voller Touristen!"), claimed that "there is no war in Tripoli," the capital of Libya, where a civil war has been ongoing since 2014. The article also claimed that although there have been clashes among clans and factions in the desert, "the rest of Libya is peaceful." According to the article, the bogus war narrative is

being used as an excuse "to force us [Europeans] to take Africans and Bengalis who use Libya as a transit base to Europe, with the joke that it is not safe to send them back." The article does not provide sources or evidence for these claims.

Multiple press accounts and reports by the United Nations, the German government, the U.S. government, and others have chronicled Libya's Second Civil War, as many call it. Two months before the publication of the site's article, in April 2019, the Libyan National Army clashed with the UN-recognised Government of National Accord (GNA), with fighting occurring in Tripoli and other cities in Libya.

A March 2019 article headlined "Pope Francis: Islamification of Europe is a step forward for humanity" ("Papst Franziskus: Islamisierung Europas ist ein Fortschritt für die Menschheit"), claimed that Pope Francis had called for the "islamification of Europe" during a 2016 interview with the French newspaper La Vie. "For him the Islamic invasion of Europe should not be opposed but rather supported," the article stated.

However, a transcript of the original La Vie interview obtained by Correctiv showed that the Pope did not mention an "islamification" at any point during the interview, let alone voice support for it.

Because Indexexpurgatorius.wordpress.com has repeatedly published false and misleading information in its articles and headlines, NewsGuard has determined that the site repeatedly publishes false claims and deceptive headlines, and that it does not gather and present information responsibly.

Indexexpurgatorius.wordpress.com does not articulate a corrections policy, and NewsGuard did not find corrections on the site.

Although Indexexpurgatorius.wordpress.com is clear about its anti-immigration agenda, every article includes a note at the bottom stating that the site provides "independent, honest, and patriotic

journalism," thus purporting to provide news. However, the site frequently publishes opinion content without labeling it as such.

For example, a January 2020 article titled "Priest: 'Bergoglio leads the islamification of Europe, we need to stop him'" ("Pfarrer: 'Bergoglio führt die Islamisierung Europas an, wir müssen ihn stoppen'"), stated: "There are now two churches, one Catholic and the other, the church of Bergoglio, with its increasingly corrupt hierarchy. It is a sadomasochism that sees in the disappearance of the West a kind of atonement for a sin."

Another January 2020 article, headlined ("Islamic students: 'You are a disgusting pig-eater'" ("Islamische Schüler: 'Du bist ein widerlicher Schweinefresser!")), stated, "While indigenous children in European schools learn to practise multiculturalism and kill their identity, immigrants in schools do not even know what the word 'integration' is."

A third January 2020 article, titled "Shocking plan: Another million Africans as wage dumpers to Europe" ("Schockplan: Weitere Millionen Afrikaner als Lohndumper nach Europa"), criticized a proposal by representatives of Morgan Stanley and an Italian nonprofit to set up European employment agencies in Africa. The article stated, "These foundations and these self-proclaimed experts receiving payment from multinationals that want to destroy nations must be wiped off the face of the earth. Our future is at stake: it is not a question for the globalists, it is a war to the death."

Because the site frequently mixes news and (typically far-right) opinion in its news coverage, NewsGuard has determined that the site does not handle the difference between news and opinion responsibly.

Indexexpurgatorius.wordpress.com did not respond to two emails inquiring about the site's editorial practices and articles listed above, as well as its mixing of news and opinion and approach to corrections.

Transparency

The site, which carries no advertising and does not charge for subscriptions, does not provide any ownership or financing information. It does not identify its editorial leaders or staff members.

Most articles do not name their author. The site does not disclose biographical or contact information for its authors.

The website does not run advertisements.

Indexexpurgatorius.wordpress.com did not respond to two emails inquiring about the site's lacking disclosures regarding ownership and financing, editorial leadership, and content creators.

History

According to a note at the bottom of every article, the site went online in 2011.

Written by: [Karin König](#)

Edited by: [Marie Richter](#), [Eric Efron](#), [Florian Meißner](#)

Send feedback to NewsGuard:[Click Here](#)

Sources

Ownership and Financing

Possible owner:

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Transparency

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History

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