

# contre-info.com

A site owned by a nonprofit connected with the Catholic nationalist organization *Renouveau Français* that often publishes misleading information to push far-right political narratives.



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

**Score: 39.5/100**

## Ownership and Financing

Contre-Info.com is owned by the Association St Michel Archange (ASMA), a Paris-based nonprofit that also publishes the nationalist political magazine *L'Héritage*. ASMA is linked to the far-right nationalist political movement *Renouveau Français* (French Renewal). *Le Monde* has described the site as an "outgrowth of *Renouveau Français*" ("*émanation du Renouveau Français*"), and the site and *Renouveau Français* used the same financial contact information on their donation pages before the website for *Renouveau Français* stopped its activity in 2017. The now inactive page from *Renouveau Français* recommends to "follow the alternative information site *Contre-Info.com*."

The founder of *Renouveau Français*, Thibaut de Chasse, is a radio host on the far-right station *Radio Courtoisie*. He is also the director of *L'Héritage* and the managing director of the book publishing company *Editions Des Cimes* and the Paris bookstore *Librairie Française*. A representative of *Librairie française* told *NewsGuard* in a phone interview that de Chasse was in charge of *Contre-Info.com*.

*Contre-Info.com* derives revenue from donations. The site does not carry advertising.

- ✓ Does not repeatedly publish false content (22points)
- ✗ 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.](#)

## Content

*Contre-info.com* (which means "Counter information") states in its tagline that it provides "alternative news" ("l'information alternative"). The site focuses on news related to religion, politics, crime, and social issues. Most stories promote traditional Catholic and nationalist views, voicing opposition to immigration, Islam, abortion, gay marriage, and euthanasia.

The site also contains content related to Catholic liturgy and history and often publishes articles alleging conspiracies involving Freemasons, Jews, and others.

Contre-Info.com is divided in content sections including Politics (Politique), Globalism/Europeanism (Mondialisme / européisme), Lobbies and cults (Lobbies et sectes), Zionism (Sionisme), Christianophobia (Christianophobie), Immigration/Insecurity (Immigration / insécurité), and “Homo-crazy, morals, feminism” (homofolie, mœurs, féminisme).

Typical articles have run under headlines including “Coronavirus in Marseille: A Maghreb doctor complains that Comorians occupy 70% of beds” (“Coronavirus à Marseille : un médecin maghrébin se plaint que les Comoriens occupent 70% des lits”); “Iraq: Release of 3 French hostages from SOS Chrétiens d’Orient kidnapped in January” (“Irak : libération des 3 otages français de SOS Chrétiens d’Orient enlevés en janvier”); and “Pakistani Justice approves the forced marriage of a 14-year-old Christian with her Muslim kidnapper” (“La justice pakistanaise valide le mariage forcé d’une chrétienne de 14 ans avec son ravisseur musulman”).

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#### Credibility

Contre-Info.com’s coverage primarily relies on information from other websites and organizations, with its own added commentary. The site sometimes cites reputable news sites, such as regional newspaper Ouest France and national daily 20 Minutes. Headlines generally reflect the content of stories.

However, Contre-Info.com also shares information and stories from sources that NewsGuard has found to be unreliable, such as far-right website Breizh-Info.com, EgaliteEtReconciliation.fr, The Epoch Times, and RiposteLaique.com.

Contre-Info.com itself has published misleading and unverified claims, including about the Covid-19 pandemic.

For example, in April 2020, the site featured an interview with a French medical doctor named Joëlle de Monredon titled “Coronavirus: Covert euthanasia with the use of Rivotril” (“Coronavirus : de l’euthanasie déguisée avec l’utilisation du Rivotril”), which was originally published on Bvoltaire.fr. In the interview, de Monredon said that a recently issued government decree allows French doctors to use the sedative and anti-epileptic drug Rivotril to “euthanize” Covid-19 patients. “Since it’s associated with morphine, it’s a guaranteed death via complete respiratory depression... It was talked about for the elderly in EPHAD [Senior Assisted Living Centers] because they’re not all sent to the hospital; so it’s euthanasia and eugenics,” she said. (“Comme il est associé à de la morphine, c’est le décès assuré par totale dépression respiratoire... On en avait parlé pour des personnes âgées en EPHAD car elles ne sont pas toutes envoyées à l’hôpital ; c’est donc de l’euthanasie et de l’eugénisme”).

It is true that In March 2020, the French government issued a decree that allowed doctors to temporarily use Rivotril to alleviate pain for patients in severe respiratory distress who are not being treated in intensive care units. However, the decree did not authorize euthanasia or physician-assisted death.. There is no evidence that any patients in France were euthanized under these circumstances.

In April 2020, the site re-published an article from the French version of Epoch Times titled, “The government secretly passes an order to facilitate the discreet installation of 5G in the country” (“Le gouvernement fait passer en catimini une ordonnance pour faciliter l’installation discrète de la 5G sur le territoire”). The article claimed that the French government “secretly” signed a new order allowing “the installation of relay antennas in the country to prepare for the installation of 5G.” (“L’installation d’antennes relais sur le territoire pour préparer l’installation de la 5G.”)

The government order, which was signed in March 2020 and which was done publicly, does not make any mention of 5G installations. According to Vie-Publique.fr, a government information site, the order

allowed network providers to cut through some bureaucratic red tape when modifying or installing telecommunications systems to help cope with a massive increase in cell traffic due to France's coronavirus lockdown.

As of April 2020, French operators were not allowed to deploy any 5G infrastructures. The first version of 5G is set to launch in July 2020, according to France's Electronic Communications, Postal and Print media distribution Regulatory Authority (L'Autorité de régulation des communications électroniques, des postes et de la distribution de la presse).

In March 2020, the site re-published an article by the nationalist site [ResistanceRepublicaine.com](http://ResistanceRepublicaine.com) that was titled "Migrants forced their children to inhale smoke and beat them to make them cry in front of the cameras" ("Des migrants forcent leurs enfants à avaler de la fumée et les battent pour les faire pleurer devant les caméras"). The story claimed that "'refugees' force their children to inhale smoke, beat them, and intentionally bring them to the border to show everyone how cruel the Greeks are with refugees". ("Les 'réfugiés' forcent leurs enfants à inhaler de la fumée, les battent et les emmènent à la frontière exprès pour montrer à tout le monde comme les Grecs sont cruels avec les réfugiés.") The story featured an anonymous video tweet that claimed to show migrant children being forced to inhale smoke and dragged to the border between Greece and Turkey.

In fact, according to a fact-check by The Associated Press, the video actually shows migrant children choking on tear gas in the town of Edirne, Turkey, near the Greek border. A man is seen tapping on the back of a choking child who had been exposed to tear gas. Other people then urged him in Farsi to bring the child to urgent care, according to the Associated Press. The news organization also confirmed that the Greek police had sprayed tear gas on groups of migrants near the Turkish border in early March 2020.

Because [Contre-Info.com](http://Contre-Info.com) has published inaccurate and misleading stories from unreliable sources, NewsGuard has determined that the site does not gather and

present information responsibly.

In a December 2019 article, Contre-Info.com described its editorial point of view as "dissident, patriotic (meaning truly anti-globalist; more precisely nationalist in the best sense of the word) and Christian." ("Dissident, patriotique (c'est-à-dire vraiment anti-mondialiste ; nationaliste, au meilleur sens du terme, plus précisément) et chrétien.")

However, the site's orientation is not disclosed on any of its main pages in a standing location, where readers would likely look for such information. Moreover, although Contre-Info.com features an Op-Ed section (Tribunes libres), opinionated statements regularly appear outside of that section.

For example, a January 2020 article published in the Immigration/Islamization section stated: "All the plans that aim to fight against the Islamization of our countries will be useless if we don't quickly control the flood of immigrants submerging us." ("Tous les plans qui visent à lutter contre l'islamisation de nos territoires ne serviront à rien si nous ne maîtrisons pas rapidement le flot d'immigrés qui nous submerge.").

Another January 2020 article posted outside the Op-Ed section described a Netflix billboard campaign showing two men kissing as "a gross provocation, a scandalous attack on morality, a disgusting obscenity" and "a normalization of unnatural practices." ("Une grossière provocation, d'une scandaleuse atteinte aux bonnes mœurs, d'une répugnante obscénité, d'une banalisation des pratiques contre-nature.")

Because Contre-Info.com publishes opinion outside of its Op-Ed section and does not clearly disclose its agenda, NewsGuard has determined that the site does not handle the difference between news and opinion responsibly.

Contre-Info.com does not articulate a corrections policy, and NewsGuard did not find corrections on the site.

Contre-Info.com did not respond to two messages sent by NewsGuard via its online form and one phone call seeking comment about the articles cited above, the

site's approach to corrections, and its handling of opinion content.

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#### Transparency

Although Contre-Info.com's donation page provides instructions on how to donate to ASMA, it does not disclose how the site is financed. Moreover, the website does not reveal its affiliation with Renouveau Français.

The site does not publish any information about its editorial leadership. A contact page includes a post office box in Paris and an online form where readers can send stories or contact Contre-Info.com.

Most articles do not include author names. The site does not provide contact or biographical information for its content creators.

Contre-Info.com did not respond to two messages sent through its contact form and one phone call inquiring about the site's lack of disclosure regarding its ownership and financing, its editorial leadership, and its content creators.

The site does not run advertising.

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#### History

Contre-Info.com launched in 2009.

**Written by:** [Sophia Tewa](#)

**Edited by:** [Eric Efron](#), [Chine Labbe](#), [Yves Clarisse](#)

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

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