

gospanews.net

An anti-immigration website that says it provides “Christian Journalistic Information.” The site has published pro-Russia propaganda and false claims about politics and health, including COVID-19.



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

Ownership and Financing

GospaNews.net belongs to Gospa Srl, a private company based in Piedmont, Italy, that is owned by Fabio Carisio, who is also the site’s founder and editor-in-chief. In his LinkedIn profile, Carisio states that he is also the director of the online magazine Art&Wine Magazibook.

The site derives revenues from advertising and solicits donations.

Score: 20/100

- ✗ 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.](#)

Content

The site's tagline is "Christian Journalistic Information" ("Informazione Giornalistica Cristiana"). On its Mission page, the site states that it "is inspired by the values of Christian culture and therefore aims to provide information on topics relating to Christianity and its social implications in a period in which persecutions of Christians are increasingly frequent, widespread and brutal." ("Gospa News è ispirata ai valori della cultura cristiana e si prefigge pertanto di fornire informazioni su argomenti attinenti il Cristianesimo e le sue implicazioni sociali nel periodo storico in cui le persecuzioni ai cristiani sono sempre più frequenti, diffuse ed efferate").

GospaNews.net's articles cover topics including national and international politics, health, and the economy. Content is organized in sections including World News, Justice-Mafia (Giustizia-Mafia), Society-Bioethics (Società-Bioetica), Geopolitics-Economics (Geopolitica-Economia), and Opinions (Opinioni). Many articles focus on immigration and migrants, which the site often depict as a threat to Italy and to Christianity.

Typical headlines on the site have included: "HEROES AGAINST THE CORONAVIRUS: Roberto, martyr doctor, and Martina, nurse in the trenches" ("EROI CONTRO IL CORONAVIRUS: Roberto medico martire, Martina infermiera in trincea"); "BABY-PROSTITUTION AT 10 YEARS OF AGE, ROME AS BANGKOK: thanks to the left-wing No-Gender culture and to pro-LGBT cardinals" ("BABY-PROSTITUZIONE A 10 ANNI, ROMA COME BANGKOK: grazie alla cultura No-Gender di sinistra e ai cardinali pro-LGBT"); and "Breaking News: TERRORISTIC ATTACKS IN ITALY, ALARM FROM THE US EMBASSY" ("Breaking News: ATTACCHI TERRORISTICI IN ITALIA, ALLARME DALL'AMBASCIATA USA").

Credibility

The site regularly publishes articles that promote discredited conspiracy theories, pro-Russia propaganda, and unproven medical and scientific claims, including about the 2020 coronavirus pandemic.

For example, a March 2020 article, headlined "CoronaVirus - 8. Exclusive: 'Russian Mission in Italy and in the world to clean it from the bio-weapon'" ("CoronaVirus - 8. Esclusiva: 'Missione Russa in Italia e nel Mondo per ripulirli dalla bio-Arma'"), called the coronavirus a "biological attack" ("attacco biologico") and portrayed Russia as working to help the

world solve this problem. "Russia's 'soft power' appears today in front of the entire population of the world in the most beautiful form of mercy. This is the real Russia," the article stated. ("Il 'soft power' della Russia appare oggi davanti all'intera popolazione della Terra nella più bella forma di misericordia. Questa è la vera Russia").

A February 2020 article, headlined "CoronaVirus - 2. BIO-GENETIC WEAPON. Secret agents: 'Spread by CIA nano-drones' and by cyber-dragonflies. Massacre in Iran. Emergency in Italy" ("CoronaVirus - 2. ARMA BIO-GENETICA. Gli 007: 'Diffusa coi nano-droni CIA' e Cyber-libellule. Strage in Iran. SOS Italia"), referred to the novel coronavirus "a biogenetic weapon" ("arma biogenetica") and a "premeditated epidemic" ("epidemia pilotata"). Citing an unspecified "international entity" ("soggetto internazionale"), the article stated that the COVID-19 virus "is a biological weapon spread by a CIA agent in China with nano-drones. The US already has the vaccine." ("Coronavirus è un'arma biologica diffusa da un agente della CIA in Cina con nano-droni. Gli Usa hanno già il vaccino").

There is no evidence to back the claim that the COVID-19 virus is a bioweapon made in a laboratory or that the U.S. has developed a vaccine. A March 2020 study published in the journal Nature Medicine concluded that the virus "is not a laboratory construct or a purposefully manipulated virus." An earlier study, published in February 2020 in the journal Nature, found that the COVID-19 virus is "96% percent identical at the whole-genome level to a bat coronavirus."

The site also promotes the unsubstantiated theory that 5G cellular technology causes health problems. For example, in November 2018, the site stated in a headline: "'STOP THE 5G PROJECT' APPEAL OF 170 WORLD SCIENTISTS AGAINST THE DEVASTATING INVASION OF ELECTROMAGNETIC WAVES THAT DAMAGE BRAIN AND HEART" ("'FERMATE IL PROGETTO 5G' APPELLO DI 170 SCIENZIATI MONDIALI CONTRO L'INVASIONE DEVASTANTE DELLE ONDE ELETTROMAGNETICHE CHE DANNEGGIANO CERVELLO E CUORE").

The International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection, a German organization that studies the health effects of non-ionizing radiation such as radio waves, has reported that it has found no evidence that 5G exposure poses a risk to human health. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration states on its website that "to date, there is no consistent or

credible scientific evidence of health problems caused by the exposure to radio frequency energy emitted by cell phones."

GospaNews.net also advances the narrative of the Russian government that Syrian government forces under Russia-backed President Bashar al-Assad did not engage in a chemical attack in Duma in April 2018. For example, a September 2018 article, headlined "Conspirators against Assad" ("I cospiratori contro Assad"), claimed that "there was no trace of the use of chemical weapons in Duma" ("a Duma non vi era traccia alcuna di uso di armi chimiche").

This claim contradicts a large body of evidence assembled since the attack by, among others, the Syrian civil defense group White Helmets, the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, and the Syrian-American Medical Society. Multiple press reports, including by the BBC and The New York Times, have pointed to evidence linking chemical attacks to the Syrian government.

A dedicated section of the site links to articles published by Italian journalist Maurizio Blondet on his personal website, which NewsGuard has determined regularly publishes debunked conspiracy theories on health and politics. Among other falsehoods, Blondet has claimed that the 9/11 terrorist attack was a "false flag" perpetrated by the U.S. government and Jewish interests and that top Democrats run a child sex ring out of a pizza restaurant in Washington.

Because GospaNews.net frequently publishes false claims and debunked conspiracy theories, NewsGuard has determined that the site repeatedly publishes false content, does not gather and present information responsibly, and fails to avoid deceptive headlines.

GospaNews.net has a dedicated section for opinion. However, the site regularly includes commentary in news stories and regularly supports an undisclosed, anti-immigration agenda.

For example, in a February 2020 article, labeled "Geopolitics-Economy," the author stated that the United Nations, "promoting migration at all costs, is creating a social disaster in more than one country" ("pur di promuovere le migrazioni a tutti i costi sta creando un disastro sociale nei pochi paesi").

In a January 2020 article published ahead of the regional elections in Calabria and Emilia Romagna, the author concluded: "This is why today Italy ... supports,

applauds and votes for Salvini. Let's hope Italians in Calabria and Emilia Romagna will vote for him on Sunday" ("Ecco perché oggi l'Italia [...] supporta, acclama e vota Salvini. Speriamo che domenica lo facciano anche gli italiani di Calabria ed Emilia Romagna").

Because GospaNews.net regularly publishes unlabeled opinionated content outside its opinion section, often advancing an agenda that it does not disclose, NewsGuard has determined that the site does not handle the difference between news and opinion responsibly.

GospaNews.net does not publish a corrections policy, and NewsGuard did not find any corrections on the site.

In response to NewsGuard's questions about the site's editorial practices, including its handling of opinion and its approach to corrections, Carisio, the site's owner and editor-in-chief, said in email: "I could respond point by point to all your UNFOUNDED OR SPECIOUS observations but I think it would mean giving importance to a rabble of hack writers that probably do not really have the slightest idea of what independent journalism means." ("Potrei rispondere punto per punto ad ogni vostra osservazione INFONDATA O PRETESTUOSA ma ritengo che significherebbe dare importanza ad un'accozzaglia di pennivendoli che probabilmente non ha davvero la minima idea di quello che significa fare giornalismo indipendente").

Transparency

On its Mission-Publisher (Mission-Editore) page, the site names Gospa Srl as the owner and Fabio Carisio as founder and editor-in-chief. The same page provides Carisio's biography and an email address to contact the newsroom.

Articles often have Carisio's byline. However, although the site provides Carisio's biography, it does not provide a biography or contact information for other content creators. Therefore, NewsGuard has determined that GospaNews.net does not meet its standard for providing information about content creators.

Advertising is distinguished from editorial content.

Carisio did not respond to NewsGuard's inquiry about the lack of information on the site's content creators.

History The domain was registered in July 2018.

Written by: [Virginia Padovese](#)

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

Sources

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Credibility

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Transparency

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History

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