A website that covers politics and health and has frequently published false claims and conspiracy theories, including about the COVID-19 virus.

According to its Imprint page, the site is owned by the publishing company Amadeus Verlag GmbH & Co, based in Baden-Wuerttemberg, in southern Germany. Amadeus Verlag GmbH & Co is owned by Jan Udo Holey, the author of more than a dozen conspiracy oriented books, written under his own name or the pseudonym Jan van Helsing. Holey’s books include “Secret Societies” (“Geheimgesellschaften”), “The millennium lie” (“Die Jahrtausendlügen”), and “Hitler survived in Argentina” (“Hitler überlebte in Argentinien”).

Amadeus Verlag also sells books, CDs, and DVDs that promote alternative medicine practices as well as conspiracy theories, including about aliens on earth and secret plots by global elites.

The site runs advertisements and solicits donations. It also links to an online shop that sells books and DVDs from Amadeus Verlag, as well as products such as incense and amulets.

DieUnbestechlichen.com (“The Incorruptible Ones”) carries a tagline that reads, “Uncensored news. Politically incorrect and free” (“Unzensierte Nachrichten. Politisch unkorrekt und kostenlos”). On its mission statement (Unser Leitbild) page, the site states that “In times when critical opinions are ignored by mainstream media, labelled as ‘fake news,’ … it is all the more important to ensure that a platform exists for such news that can stand up to the censorship that is on the rise.”

The site divides content in sections including News and Politics (Politik), Economy and Finances (Wirtschaft und Finanzen), Islamism & Terror (Islamismus & Terror), Health, Nature & Spirituality (Gesundheit, Natur und Spiritualität) and Conspiracies, Revelations & Incredible Things (Verschwörungen, Enthüllungen & Unglaubliches).

Score: 25/100

- 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)

More information.
The Health section often includes articles about the alleged healing properties of plants, the supposed negative health consequences of 5G radiation, and archeological discoveries. In the Politics section, the site often publishes stories about “deep state” conspiracies to damage U.S. President Donald Trump and about powerful “secret” groups.

Typical articles have run under headlines such as “Is Pope Francis the Antichrist from the apocalypse? He himself fuels that assumption” (“Ist Papst Franziskus der Antichrist aus der Apokalypse? Er selbst nährt diese Vermutung”); “Corona – Fatal blow for the Euro?” (“Corona – Todesstoß für den Euro?”); and “Uncovered: World ruler BlackRock - Whisperer of our government - It's also about your pension” (“Aufgedeckt: Weltbeherrschender BlackRock – Einflüsterer unserer Regierung – Es geht auch um Ihre Rente”).

DieUnbestechlichen.com also offers a News-Ticker page that publishes an overview of articles from other conspiracy oriented sites, including Pravda-TV.com and ScienceFiles.org.

Credibility

The site’s articles do not generally include original reporting, and instead draw on content from other sources. These include established media organisations, such as Süddeutsche Zeitung, taz, Spiegel, and the news agency dpa. However, the site also relies on websites that NewsGuard has found to publish false and misleading information, including Philophilia-Perennis.com, Anti-Spiegel.ru, and Contra-Magazin.com.

DieUnbestechlichen.com itself has frequently published false claims. For example, a January 2020 article was titled “Coronavirus: Bioweapon out of control? - Stolen by Chinese agents from a Canadian laboratory - overwhelming evidence!” (“Coronavirus: Biowaffe außer Kontrolle geraten? – Von chinesischen Agenten aus kanadischem Labor gestohlen – Erdrückende Beweise!”). According to the article, “Chinese agents in a Canadian laboratory” started the COVID-19 pandemic as part of a bioweapon program. “Further investigation revealed that these Chinese agents are linked to a Chinese biological warfare programme,” the article continued. “There is every indication that the virus has broken out from there and started the epidemic.” The article was based on a report by ZeroHedge.com.
PolitiFact, FactCheck.org, and the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. all concluded that there is no evidence that the COVID-19 virus was stolen by Chinese spies from a Canadian lab. While two Chinese scientists were indeed escorted from the lab in July 2019, the Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC) told the CBC that they were asked to leave due to an investigation of what it described as a “policy breach” and “administrative matter,” and that the matter was not connected to the COVID-19 virus outbreak. “This is misinformation and there is no factual basis for claims being made on social media,” PHAC spokesperson Eric Morrisey told the CBC in January 2020.

A March 2020 article, titled “End time madness – Corona Virus and 5G” (“Endzeit Verrücktheit – Corona Virus und 5G”), reported that “new insiders are constantly asserting that the spread of the corona virus has to do with the activation of 5G radiation, and that this is the reason why so many people are dying in Wuhan, China.” The article further claimed that “the coronavirus pandemic was declared in order to hide the real health crisis that was actually caused by the activation of 5G hotspots.” The article was based on reports in TheMillenniumReport.com and NewsTarget.com.

There is no evidence that the health effects from the COVID-19 virus are connected to 5G, according to fact-checking articles published in 2020 by FullFact.org and Reuters. A March 2020 report from the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection, a Germany-based organization that studies the health effects of non-ionizing radiation such as radio waves, found no evidence that 5G exposure posed a risk to human health. The U.S. Food and Drug Administration says 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.”

An April 2020 article, titled “Daniel Prinz: Clones as avatars – how the Illuminati meet in secret while the rest of us sleep” (“Daniel Prinz: Klone als Avatare – Wie die Illuminati sich im Geheimen treffen, während der Rest von uns schläft”), claimed that a secret “Illuminati network” has used a new cloning technology to hold secret nightly meetings to discuss “future events”. The article was based on reports by Donald Marshall, a
Canadian who claims to have been abducted by the Illuminati as a child. According to the article, “while the members of this elite club enjoy infinite possibilities, they have in return agreed to participate in nightly secret meetings held in deep underground military bases... where, among other things, top secret cloning technology is used and where these elites meet as clones while their originals dream at night.”

A September 2018 article included claims that the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks in the U.S. had been carried out by the CIA for the “destruction of the Middle East for Israel and the subsequent doubling of the American military budget.” The article relied on statements by an American named Kevin Barrett, who, according to the article, “finally found out that 15 of the kidnappers from Saudi Arabia were in fact CIA agents working for the U.S. government.”

There is no evidence that the CIA was involved in the 9/11 attacks. The U.S. 9/11 Commission and multiple other investigations concluded that Osama bin Laden and the al-Qaida terror network were responsible for the 2001 terror attacks in the U.S., which killed nearly 3,000 people.

Because DieUnbestechlichen.com frequently publishes false and misleading information, NewsGuard has determined that the site repeatedly publishes false claims and deceptive headlines, and that it does not gather and present information responsibly.

Dieunbestechlichen.com does not articulate a corrections policy and NewsGuard did not find corrections on the site.

The site does not disclose a political orientation, other than stating that it opposes censorship and political correctness. Nevertheless, articles that are presented as news frequently include opinions.

For example, a February 2020 article, titled “Account inquiries explode: All terrorists or transparent citizens?” (“Kontenabfragen explodieren: Alles Terroristen oder gläserner Bürger?”) stated, “Once a state has access to the most private sphere of citizens, it exploits it and constantly extends the limits of what is reasonable.”

An April 2020 article, headlined “Austria: Doctor calls Covid-19 ‘rather mild wave of influenza’ and must now expect withdrawal of his license” (“Österreich: Arzt
bezeichnet Covid-19 als ‘eher milde Grippewelle’ und muss jetzt mit Entzug seiner Zulassung rechnen”), claimed: “However bad or harmless the Covid 19 pandemic may be, the dictatorship that is developing in its shadow is alarming.”

Another April 2020 article, titled “Where is the grief and horror over the death of the aborted children?” (“Wo bleiben Trauer und Entsetzen über den Tod der abgetriebenen Kinder?”), stated, “Here the right to self-determination of pregnant women is declared to be decisive. But with what right?”

All of these articles were published in the Politics & News section.

Because DieUnbestechlichen.com frequently publishes unlabeled opinion in news articles, advancing an agenda that the site does not disclose, NewsGuard has determined that the site does not handle the difference between news and opinion responsibly.

Asked about the articles cited above, the site’s approach to corrections, and its handling of opinion, an unidentified site representative told NewsGuard in an email: “[W]e do not wish to be analyzed by you.” The representative did not address NewsGuard's questions.

**Transparency**

The site’s Imprint page discloses that it is owned by the Amadeus Verlag GmbH & Co. KG and names Holey as its editor-in-chief. The page also provides a physical address for the publishing company, as well as a general email address and phone number.

Articles are typically credited to the writer. An Authors (Autoren) page provides a directory of most of the site’s authors, often including their biographical information and contact information.

Advertisements are distinguishable from editorial content.

**History**

The site was launched in 2017.

In May 1996, after Jan Udo Holey published his book “Secret Societies,” about supposed Jewish plots, he was charged with sedition and the remaining inventory of books was confiscated by the Mannheim public prosecutor's office. However, the case was dropped in
1998 “for lack of local jurisdiction,” according to the Thuringian State Office for the Protection of the Constitution.

Written by: Karin König
Edited by: Marie Richter, Eric Effron, Florian Meißner

Send feedback to NewsGuard: Click Here

Sources

Ownership and Financing
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