

A right-leaning site that regularly publishes unsubstantiated, unsourced, and misleading information, including about the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.



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

Score: 7.5/100

Ownership and Financing

The site does not disclose its ownership. The domain was registered in December 2018 by Sabrina Romano, who is identified as “data protection officer” (“responsabile della protezione dei dati”) on the Privacy Policy page. In May 2020, Romano confirmed to NewsGuard in a phone interview that she is the owner of the site.

The site derives revenues from advertising.

Content

Content on the site is organized in sections including Current Affairs (Cronaca), Weather (Meteo), Gossip, Natural Remedies (Rimedi Naturali), Health and Wellbeing (Salute e Benessere), Recipes (Ricette), and Diets (Diete).

Typical articles have run under headlines including “Coronavirus: migrants and Roma do not close their small markets...” (“Coronavirus: migranti e rom non chiudono i loro mercatini commerciali...”); “NASA: 4 kilometers long asteroid is moving towards the Earth... discover here, when you can see it” (“Nasa: Asteroide lungo 4 Km è in movimento verso la Terra... ecco quando è possibile vederlo”); and “Single and divorced women live longer and are happier!” (“Le donne single e separate vivono più a lungo e sono più felici!”).

- ✗ 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.](#)

Credibility

Articles on the site are generally unsourced and often contain false and unproven claims, including about the 2020 COVID-19 pandemic.

For example, a March 2020 article falsely claimed that hot lemon can cure the coronavirus. According to the article, “Hot lemon can kill the proliferation of this virus in our body!” (“Il limone caldo può uccidere la proliferazione di questo virus nel nostro organismo!”).

There is no evidence that lemon can cure the 2020 coronavirus. Both the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization have stated that there is currently no known cure for the strain of coronavirus responsible for the 2020 outbreak.

In May 2020, this article was removed from the site, with no notice to readers, after NewsGuard mentioned the article in a report on Facebook “Super-spreaders” of false COVID-19 information.

An April 2020 article was headlined “Donald Trump announces: ‘We have the vaccine for coronavirus’” (“Donald Trump dichiara: ‘Abbiamo il vaccino contro il Coronavirus’”). U.S. health officials have said that the first human trial testing a potential vaccine to prevent Covid-19 has begun. However, there is no evidence that U.S. President Donald Trump announced that “we have the vaccine for coronavirus,” and there is no such vaccine.

In February 2020, FanMagazine.it published an article headlined “Human subcutaneous microchip: it will be mandatory” (“Microchip sottocutaneo umano: diventerà obbligatorio”). The article made the preposterous claim that people will be required to have chips inserted into their bodies. “The 15-digit ID number of the microchip will become our new ‘social security number’” (“E il numero identificativo di 15 cifre da essi contenuto diventerà il nostro nuovo ‘numero di sicurezza sociale’”), the site claimed. The article attributed this claim to “some scientists” (“alcuni scienziati”), but NewsGuard could not find any evidence to support this claim.

A June 2019 article, headlined “A miraculous soup with incredible power” (“Una zuppa miracolosa dal potere incredibile”), claimed that a soup with garlic, onion, and thyme “has an incredible healing power, 100 times more powerful than antibiotics” (“ha un potere curativo incredibile, 100 volte più potente degli antibiotici”). The article stated: “A study from the University of Washington has been able to show that garlic is 100 times more effective than two of the largest antibiotics we can find on the market.” According to the article, this soup can “fight many conditions, including flu, colds and norovirus.”

A 2012 study by the Washington State University stated that “a compound in garlic is 100 times more effective than two popular antibiotics at fighting the Campylobacter bacterium, one of the most common causes of intestinal illness.” However, the study did not involve humans, just cells in a laboratory. Moreover, the study did not address the effectiveness of the compound against “the flu, the cold and the norovirus,” as the article claimed.

A 2014 review of existing scientific evidence published by the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews found that “There is no conclusive evidence to recommend garlic supplements as a preventative or treatment option for the common cold.”

Because FanMagazine.it regularly publishes false and misleading information, often with no sourcing, NewsGuard has determined that the site repeatedly publishes false content, does not gather and present information responsibly, and does not avoid deceptive headlines.

Asked about these articles in May 2020, Romano told NewsGuard: “Unfortunately, I just have to admit the fact is that we see an article, we think it is interesting, we re-write it and we publish it, but without making any checks. We are talking about news that actually should be verified before being published” (“Purtroppo devo solo ammettere il fatto che effettivamente è stato visto un articolo, sembrava interessante, è stato riscritto e pubblicato, però senza fare ulteriori verifiche. Parliamo di notizie che effettivamente magari andrebbero verificate prima di essere pubblicate”).

The site, which does not disclose its right-leaning, anti-immigration perspective and does not have a dedicated section for opinion, regularly inserts opinion into its coverage.

For example, an April 2020 article headlined: “Italy is BANKRUPT: more and more migrants arriving to get financial support” (“Italia in BANCAROTTA: sempre più migranti in arrivo per farsi mantenere”), stated: “Italy does not make the right investments and risks bankruptcy” (“L'Italia non fa i giusti investimenti e rischia la bancarotta”). The article also stated that “Unfortunately, more and more migrants keep arriving in our country to be maintained and not to give a real working contribution” (“Purtroppo sempre più migranti arrivano nel nostro Paese per farsi mantenere e non per dare un reale contributo lavorativo”).

A February 2020 article, criticizing Nicola Zingaretti, leader of the Democratic Party, for underestimating the Covid-19 pandemic, stated: “In a serious country, such a farce coming from a representative of an entire population, would lead to his resignation.” (“In un paese che si rispetti, una simile buffonata da parte di un rappresentante di un intero popolo, porterebbe alle dimissioni”).

Another February 2020 article stated that “It’s obvious that, with all these foreigners in our country, sexual violence or rape is one of the most common crimes” (“Certo è che con tutti questi stranieri nel nostro paese, la violenza sessuale o stupro, è uno dei reati più comuni”).

Because FanMagazine.it regularly inserts opinion in articles presented as news, without disclosing its right-leaning perspective, NewsGuard has determined that the site does not handle the difference between news and opinion responsibly.

Asked about the site’s political orientation, Romano told NewsGuard: “It’s true that the articles are right-leaning, but the site does not have a political alignment” (“Sicuramente gli articoli sono più vicini alla destra, però il sito non ha uno schieramento politico”). Romano also said that the site plans to add an opinion section to host opinionated content.

FanMagazine.it does not publish a correction policy and NewsGuard did not find corrections on the site.

Asked about the lack of corrections, Romano said: “We generally correct errors directly in the article, without saying that it had been corrected” (“Si correggeva direttamente l’articolo senza dire che era stato corretto”). This practice does not meet NewsGuard’s standard for publishing corrections in a transparent manner. Romano added she plans to start notifying readers when errors are corrected.

Transparency	<p>The site does not provide information on its ownership or editorial leadership.</p> <p>Articles generally do not provide the name of the writer and are often signed by a generic “FanMagazine” or by a pseudonym “Thesciur”. No biographical or contact information for the site’s content creators are provided.</p> <p>Asked about the site’s lack of information about ownership, editorial leadership, and content creators, Romano told NewsGuard: “I trusted the webmaster who created the site. I thought that my name put on that page [Privacy Policy] was enough” (“Io mi sono affidata a un webmaster che ha creato il sito. Pensavo che il mio nome messo in quella pagina [Privacy Policy] fosse esaustivo”).</p> <p>Romano said that she plans to add an About Us page to publish information about the site’s ownership and editorial leadership, and that the site will also add biographical information for its authors.</p> <p>A Contact link at the top and at the bottom of every page was not functioning at the time of NewsGuard’s review in April 2020.</p> <p>Advertisements are distinguished from editorial content.</p>
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History	<p>The domain was registered in 2018.</p> <p><i>Editor’s Note: This Nutrition Label was updated on May 7, 2020, to add the site’s comments and to note that an article mentioned in the label was deleted from the site.</i></p>
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Send feedback to NewsGuard:[Click Here](#)

Sources

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