

# exoportail.com

A website that writes about purported extraterrestrial activities and that promotes numerous conspiracy theories and false claims, including misinformation about COVID-19.



**Proceed with caution: This website severely violates basic journalistic standards.**

**Score: 7.5/100**

## Ownership and Financing

ExoPortail.com does not disclose its ownership. The Authors page states that it was founded by “Jonathan,” who also appears to run the site. In April 2018, the site published a heated exchange between Jonathan and Laurent Gouyneau, the founder of French conspiracy-oriented site StopMensonges.com, which revealed that Jonathan previously worked as a top contributor for StopMensonges, where he wrote under the name Jonathan Thébaud. According to the exchange published on ExoPortail.com, Thébaud left StopMensonges (today known as LumiereSurGaia.com) after a fallout with Gouyneau.

The site generates revenue from advertising, sponsored content, and donations.

## Content

ExoPortail.com states on the “What’s ‘Exoportail?’” page that its goal is to “create a bridge between Geopolitics and Exopolitics in order to provide the most detailed and widest possible interpretation of the state of affairs on our beautiful planet” (“créer un pont entre la Géopolitique et l’Exopolitique afin de proposer une grille de lecture la plus détaillée et la plus large possible de la situation de notre belle planète”). The term “exopolitics” is often used by alien-conspiracy theorists to describe the study of alleged extraterrestrial influences on human activities.

ExoPortail.com stories that purport to cover “exopolitics” are generally translated from the English-language alien conspiracy-oriented blog 2012Portal.Blogspot.com. These articles often blend spiritual New Age beliefs with theories about the presence of aliens on Earth meddling in human affairs. Other articles on the site are aggregated, or

-  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.](#)

republished, from a range of English-language websites that promote various conspiracies, including HumansAreFree.com and TheMindUnleashed.com.

Typical headlines on the site have included “10 spiritual symbols you must know” (from AwarenessAct.com) and “Italy, Germany, France and Netherlands sign deal for up to 400 million Oxford Covid-19 vaccines” (from Russian news and propaganda site RT.com).

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#### Credibility

The site publishes some original content but primarily republishes conspiracy theories and other false claims, often from sites that NewsGuard has found to be unreliable, including NaturalNews.com, ZeroHedge.com, and MintPressNews.com. The site itself has published numerous false claims, including about the COVID-19 pandemic.

For example, a June 2020 article claimed that the French government, in response to the COVID-19 outbreak, was “secretly” installing a contact-tracing application on people’s cell phones. The article included instructions on how to navigate cell phone settings supposedly to deactivate the application. “The government has been installing the COVID-19 application illegally since last night,” the article stated. “I advise those who have nothing on their smartphone to check again in 12 or 24 hours. Dozens of my friends have already disabled it while others have not yet disabled it on their smartphones.” (“En toute illégalité le gouvernement fait installer l’application COvid-19 depuis hier soir... Je conseille à ceux qui n’ont rien sur leur Smartphone de revérifier dans 12 ou 24 heures. Des dizaines de mes amis l’ont déjà désactivée alors que d’autres ne l’ont pas encore sur leur Smartphone.”)

It is not true that the French government is secretly installing a COVID-19 tracking application. The government launched a contact-tracing app, called StopCovid, but downloading the app is entirely voluntary, and the government’s effort was public. Some iPhone and Android smartphone users may see an option to activate a COVID-19 notification system on their phones. However, this option, created by Google

and Apple, is unrelated to the StopCovid app, and is inactive unless users enable it, tech news site Numerama reported.

In April 2020, the site published an original article that claimed that high doses of vitamin C can cure COVID-19. "The government of Shanghai now officially recommends the use of high doses of intravenous vitamin C for the treatment of COVID-19.... Even small amounts of vitamin C can prevent severely ill patients from dying," the article stated. ("Le gouvernement de Shanghai recommande désormais officiellement l'utilisation de perfusions à hautes doses de vitamine C pour le traitement du Covid-19... Même de petites quantités supplémentaires de vitamine C peuvent empêcher les patients gravement malades de mourir.")

In fact, the government of Shanghai did not urge vitamin C therapy for the treatment of COVID-19. Vitamin C is being studied as a treatment of COVID-19 in several clinical trials. However, fact-checking organizations including French newspaper 20 Minutes' fact-checking unit, Factcheck.org, and HealthFeedback.org have said that there is currently no credible evidence that high doses of vitamin C can slow or stop the disease. The World Health Organization, the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the French Health Ministry have said that there is no specific treatment recommended for the coronavirus strain responsible for the 2020 outbreak.

The site also promotes stories about purported alien interventions on Earth. For example, in January 2020, the site published the translation of a post from 2012Portal.Blogspot.com claiming that a group of alien beings called the Pleiadians was "working tirelessly to stop the epidemic. On Friday, January 24th, they have developed the first Stardust nanopowder to erase the virus and have spread it towards the surface of the planet from their ships stationed in Low Earth Orbit."

This article also claimed that the COVID-19 virus "is an advanced ethnic bioweapon that targets mostly Asian population," citing an article by Canadian writer

Benjamin Fulford, a conspiracy theorist who says on his website that he writes about “the ongoing secret war for control of Planet Earth.”

There is no evidence to support the claim that the virus was manipulated. 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.” In an April 2020 statement, the U.S. intelligence community said that it “concurs with the wide scientific consensus that the COVID-19 virus was not manmade or genetically modified.”

The site has also published articles that suggested the police killing of George Floyd in Minnesota on May 25, 2020, was staged to incite racial tensions in the U.S. Floyd, an African American, died while being restrained by a Minneapolis police officer who pressed his knee into Floyd’s neck for nearly nine minutes.

In June 2020, the site published an original story based on a video by Youtuber Mohamed Diallo that said that George Floyd’s “arrest videos appear to be completely doctored (maybe filmed well in advance).” The article also stated that “the so-called police officers don’t even all have the same badge,” which the site said is evidence that the incident was likely fabricated. (“Les vidéos d’arrestation de GF semblent totalement truquées (peut-être filmées bien en avance)... Les prétendus policiers n’ont même pas tous le même badge.”)

In fact, the autopsy report released by the Hennepin County Medical Examiner in early June 2020 revealed that Floyd died from “cardiopulmonary arrest” caused in part by “neck compression.” His killing was filmed by multiple surveillance cameras and bystanders. Moreover, police departments often use different kinds of badges, according to an AFP fact-check, and Minneapolis police officers have been seen wearing various types of badges.

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

ExoPortail.com does not describe itself as an opinion website and does not disclose a point of view. However, many articles labelled as news on the website are strongly opinionated.

For example, in May 2020, the site published an article based on various sources about the death of Spanish priest Adolfo Nicolás, the former leader of the Jesuit order, which was labelled “News & Geopolitics.” The article stated that the order’s “main motive is spiritual/vibrational control and the oppression of humanity.” (“Leur principale motivation est le contrôle spirituel/vibratoire et l’oppression de l’humanité.”)

In June 2020, the site published the translation of a “News & Geopolitics” article from U.S. news site TheLastAmericanVagabond.com, titled “Coronavirus gives a dangerous boost To DARPA’s darkest agenda,” which criticised technology development research projects at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), a U.S. government agency. “The current coronavirus crisis appears to be the perfect storm that will allow DARPA’s dystopian vision to take hold and burst forth from the darkest recesses of the Pentagon into full public view,” the article stated.

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

ExoPortail.com does not publish a corrections policy, and NewsGuard did not find corrections on the site.

ExoPortail.com did not respond to two emails from NewsGuard seeking comment on the articles cited above, its handling of opinion, and its approach to corrections.

does not say who is in charge of content.

Most articles include the byline of the site's founder, Jonathan, or another author named Nikolas LeTouareg. The site's Authors page provides their biographies and email addresses. However, the site does not reveal Jonathan's full name, which does not meet NewsGuard's standard for identifying content creators.

Readers can contact the editorial staff via an online form.

Advertisements and sponsored articles are distinguished from editorial content.

NewsGuard sent two emails to the site inquiring about its transparency standards, but did not receive a response.

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#### History

ExoPortail.com was created in 2017.

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

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

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

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History

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