

# German Marshall Fund

## BACKGROUND

Through its Digital Innovation and Democracy Initiative, the German Marshall Fund of the United States (GMF), a nonpartisan think tank, studies societal issues at the intersection of technology and democracy and makes policy recommendations for the U.S. and Europe

## BACKGROUND

To bolster its work studying misinformation, GMF has used NewsGuard's Reliability Ratings data since early 2020 to conduct ongoing analyses of misinformation and its threats to democracy. For example, GMF's first research project that relied on NewsGuard data analyzed how engagement levels differed for sources in three categories (as informed by NewsGuard data): outlets that regularly publish false content, outlets that use a variety of tactics to mislead audiences, and outlets that blur the lines between news and opinion. The goal of the project was to offer insights to policymakers and social media platforms to inform more tailored policies towards a variety of types of misleading content online.



The German Marshall Fund  
of the United States

STRENGTHENING TRANSATLANTIC COOPERATION

“Much of the current policy debate around misinformation lumps false and misleading content together as a single policy problem. This one-size fits-all approach to disinformation fails to adequately define and examine the variety of strategies that are used by dubious news outlets to mislead or influence audiences and the differential effects that these strategies have on information integrity.”

**- Laura Schwartz-Henderson, Fellow and Policy Manager, German Marshall Fund**