Call with TikTok 06/11/2020
Participants: Daniel Braun and Wojtek Talka (cab jourova), TikTok

TikTok asked about the future of the CoP and the EDAP.

DB thanked for TT’s engagement in the Code of Practice and explained that vaccines will be our new focus on disinformation on covid. We believe the CoP should be amended; the CoP 2.0 should fill the gaps that have already been outlined in the September Code assessment. We see also some missing elements, such as more requirements on manipulative behaviour, setting more concretely the cooperation with fact-checkers, data disclosure for researchers. We are currently discussing these internally.

DB asked what does TT see as effective measures on their network? Is the demotion of false content more difficult than promoting authoritative content?

TT recognises that common definitions and standards would be appreciated. TT was removing false health disinfo, had a sticker. TT pointed out that some of the commitments are not relevant for their platform - it hasn’t been able to look at user engagement and trends, they need more time to have a full understanding.

DB stated that the impact of engaging with harmful content, esp. on health, needs to be addressed.

WT asked if the political ads are a problem on TT? Should we address how the paid for content is used?

TT has a political guide for elections. They set up a team focusing on German elections. On US elections, they were directing users to official sources. They will share a debrief report. It hasn’t been a problem for the platform.

TT is setting up a network of fact-checkers and would like to discover what are the more precise transparency requirements.

DB replied that our June Communication was a good test, the DSA will provide general transparency provisions and this should be developed in the follow up to the Code. EDMO could be a useful umbrella for fact-checking.

DB flagged that the VP may wish to engage with top executives by the end of the month, also for updates on further work on vaccines disinformation.