

## **Abstract**

This bachelor thesis deals with the current political problem posed by disinformation occurring during the pandemic of the new covid-19 disease. The thesis is theoretical, describes the current state of knowledge, and proposes possible directions of public policies based on the observed information.

This recent and alarming phenomenon is associated with potential danger to public health and thus makes the subject of the thesis relevant. An unusual event such as a pandemic provides a fertile ground for the spread of disinformation and conspiracy. The public space is overwhelmed by information and, at the same time, with emotions such as fear and uncertainty caused by the pandemic.

The main finding is the continuation of pro-Kremlin and Chinese interventions in the form of anti-Western disinformation narratives. Those undermine citizens' trust in public institutions and the government, where trust is related to susceptibility to disinformation.

Fact-checking positively impacts disinformation, but it has no chance of keeping up with the vast amount of information that emerges during a pandemic of a new disease. Therefore, it is necessary to focus on the prebunking method of the theory of psychological inoculation, which is further described in the thesis. Based on the findings, specific recommendations are proposed for the policymakers and others.