

Note: The material contained herein is supplementary to the article named in the title and published in the Harvard Kennedy School (HKS) Misinformation Review.

Table B1a. Descriptives and correlations.

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Table B1b. Descriptives and correlations.

variable	mean	sd	min	max	% of the sample	Social Dominance Orientation	Political Orientation	Religiosity	Traditional Media Use	Online Media Use	Social Media Use	Alternative Media Use
COVID Consp. Belief (binary)					41.0	0.21 ***	0.28 ***	0.10 ***	-0.11 ***	-0.05 *	0.13 ***	0.23 ***
COVID Misinfo Belief (binary)					48.6		0.53 ***	0.78 ***	0.46 ***	0.27 ***	0.35 ***	0.49 ***
COVID Consp. Belief (cont.)	0.74	1.09	0	5		0.21 ***	0.27 ***	0.16 ***	-0.06 **	-0.01	0.13 ***	0.3 ***
COVID Misinfo Belief (cont.)	1.11	1.46	0	5		0.18 ***	0.25 ***	0.1 ***	-0.1 ***	-0.05 **	0.13 ***	0.26 ***
Truth is political	4.07	1.66	1	7		0.28 ***	0.31 ***	0.09 ***	-0.06 ***	-0.08 ***	0.10 ***	0.21 ***
Intuitive Thinking	5.01	1.23	1	7		0.11 ***	0.14 ***	0.06 **	-0.06 **	-0.16 ***	0.03	0.05 **
Actively Open-Minded Thinking	3.79	1.55	1	7		0.27 ***	0.25 ***	0.14 ***	-0.01	-0.09 ***	0.02	0.16 ***
Conspiracy Mentality	6.85	2.69	1	11		0.23 ***	0.27 ***	0.11 ***	-0.12 ***	-0.12 ***	0.12 ***	0.20 ***
Social Dominance Orientation	5.53	0.85	1	9			0.24 ***	0.09 ***	0.02	0.02	0.03	0.14 ***

variable	mean	sd	min	max	% of the sample	Social Dominance Orientation	Political Orientation	Religiosity	Traditional Media Use	Online Media Use	Social Media Use	Alternative Media Use
Political Orientation	4.02	1.22	1	7				0.02	0.03	0	0	0.14 ***
Religiosity	2.89	1.98	1	7					0.12 ***	0.10 ***	0.07 ***	0.22 ***
Traditional Media Use	1.82	1.3	0	5						0.4 ***	0.05 *	0.23 ***
Online Media Use	1.02	1.2	0	4							0.22 ***	0.3 ***
Social Media Use	0.87	0.82	0	2								0.17 ***

Table B2. Item wording.

Variable	Question wording	Item wording	Scale
Age	How old are you?		
Gender	Gender: How do you identify?	1. Male 2. Female 3. Non-binary	Single Choice
Education	What is your highest level of general education?	1. No diploma 2. Lower secondary school diploma (Haupt-/Volksschulabschluss) 3. Intermediate school certificate, Realschulabschluss, or technical school diploma (Fachschulreife) 4. Polytechnical Secondary School diploma (8th/10th grade) 5. Advanced technical college entrance qualification (Fachhochschulreife), or graduation from a technical secondary school 6. High school diploma (Abitur), general or subject-specific higher education entrance qualification 7. University diploma (Fach-/Hochschulstudium) 8. Other school-leaving qualification	Single Choice
Political Trust	How much do you trust...	1. The Bundestag (Government) 2. The courts 3. The police 4. Political parties 5. Politicians	1 – 7
Trust in Media	How much do you trust...	1. News on public broadcasting 2. News on private broadcasting 3. News in daily/weekly newspapers 4. News in television reporting 5. News on portal pages of internet providers (e.g., t-Online, Web.de) 6. News in webblogs/ forums 7. News on social networks 8. News on alternative news pages 9. News on video platforms 10. News in messengers	1 – 7

Variable	Question wording	Item wording	Scale
Media Use	Which of the following news sources did you use last week, if any? Please select all that apply.	1. TV news or programs such as Tagesschau, heute, or RTL aktuell 2. 24-hour news channels such as n-tv, ZDF Infokanal, or WELT 3. Radio news or programs such as NDR2-Nachrichten, FFH-Nachrichten, or Deutschlandfunk 4. Printed newspapers such as FAZ or Bild-Zeitung 5. Printed magazines such as Der Spiegel, Stern, or Focus 6. Websites/ Apps of newspapers such as faz.net or Bild.de 7. Websites/ Apps of news magazines such as Spiegel.de, stern.de, or FOCUS Online 8. Websites/ Apps of TV or radio stations such as tagesschau.de or ARD.de, heute.de, ZDF.de, or rtl.de 9. Websites/ Apps of other news sources such as gmx.de, t-online.de, web.de 10. Social Media such as Facebook, Twitter, or YouTube 11. Messenger such as WhatsApp or Telegram	Multiple Choice
Alternative media use	In recent years, several online news sites have emerged, whose content is often shared via social media. Which of the following providers did you use for accessing news in the past week? Please select all that apply.	1. RT Deutsch 2. Epoch Times 3. PI News 4. Sputnik 5. Compact 6. Junge Freiheit 7. Deutsche Wirtschaftsnachrichten 8. Tichys Einblick 9. Journalistenwatch 10. Achgut 11. KenFM 12. Rubikon 13. Junge Welt 14. Nachdenkseiten 15. Indymedia 16. Kontrast 17. Alternative channels of individuals in messaging apps (e.g., Attila Hildmann, Boris Reitschuster, Oliver Janich, Querdenken, Michael Wendler, etc.)	Multiple Choice

Variable	Question wording	Item wording	Scale
		18. Other (open field) 19. None of the above	
Belief in CT	We will now show you a series of statements. Please tell us for each statement whether you believe it to be true or false.	1. 5G technology is being used deliberately to spread the coronavirus. 2. The coronavirus is being used to install tracking devices inside our bodies. 3. Bill Gates is behind the coronavirus pandemic. 4. The government deliberately instilled fear in the population during the COVID-19 crisis to enforce massive restrictions on fundamental rights. 5. The coronavirus is a bioweapon that was deliberately engineered to harm people.	Single Choice
Belief in Misinformation (false statements)	We will now show you a series of statements. Please tell us for each statement whether you believe it to be true or false.	1. Wearing a mask causes one to inhale harmful amounts of CO2. 2. RNA vaccines being developed against the novel coronavirus are changing the human genome in the long term. 3. The number of Covid-19 deaths is the same as in the 2017-18 winter flu season. 4. The unreliability of Covid-19 tests is demonstrated by the fact that even a glass of Coca Cola can test positive for Covid-19. 5. Covid vaccines have increased the number of miscarriages in Germany.	Single Choice
Social Dominance Orientation (SDO)	There are many different groups in the world: ethnic and religious groups, nationalities, political groups, and gender identities. How much do you support or oppose the following ideas about groups in general?	1. We must consider all groups when setting priorities. 2. We should not push for group equality. 3. Group equality should be our ideal. 4. Superior groups should dominate inferior groups.	1 – 11

Variable	Question wording	Item wording	Scale
Conspiracy Mentality	Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements. I believe that...	1. Many very important things happen in the world that the public is never informed about. 2. Politicians usually do not disclose the true motives behind their decisions. 3. Government agencies closely monitor all citizens. 4. Events that do not seem to be connected at first glance are often the result of secret activities. 5. There are secret organizations that have a significant influence on political decisions.	1 – 11
Trust in Scientists	How much trust do you have that scientists act in the best interest of the public?		1 – 7
Political Orientation	When it comes to categorizing political viewpoints, people often refer to "left" and "right." How would you rate your own political position if 1 means "very left" and 7 means "very right"?		1 – 7
Religiosity	Regardless of whether you belong to a particular religious community, how much guidance do religion and/or spirituality provide you in your daily life?		1 – 7

Variable	Question wording	Item wording	Scale
Epistemic Beliefs	Please tell us how much you agree or disagree with the following statements.	1. Facts are dictated by those in power. 2. What counts as truth is defined by power. 3. Scientific conclusions are shaped by politics. 4. "Facts" depend on their political context. 5. I like to rely on my intuitive impressions. 6. I believe in trusting my hunches. 7. When I make decisions, I tend to rely on my intuition. 8. Using my ""gut-feelings"" usually works well for me in figuring out problems in my life. 9. Intuition is the best guide in making decisions. 10. I often go by my instincts when deciding on a course of action. 11. It is important to be loyal to your beliefs even when evidence is brought to bear against them. 12. Whether something feels true is more important than evidence. 13. Just because evidence conflicts with my current beliefs does not mean my beliefs are wrong. 14. There may be evidence that goes against what you believe but that does not mean you have to change your beliefs. 15. Even if there is concrete evidence against what you believe to be true, it is OK to maintain cherished beliefs. 16. Regardless of the topic, what you believe to be true is more important than evidence against your beliefs.	1 – 7