**Appendix**

**Appendix A. Experimental stimuli in the mis- and disinformation conditions**

*Note.* These versions are translated into English, the original versions shown to participants were written in their native language (blinded for peer review)

**Condition: misinformation attribution**

**Section** Factcheck

By: OUR EDITORIAL BOARD

April, 11, 2020 Two minutes of estimated reading time

**A recently published video of the European Commission contains different statements from Frans Timmermans, who, among other things, argues that we need to act now to prevent a rise in the global temperature of approximately 1,5 degrees centigrade in a period of 30 years. This claim is not accurate.**

We conclude that there is no concrete evidence that would substantiate the claims of Frans Timmermans. Climate models are not consistent and differ to some extent, but none of the climate models arrives at the conclusion that the global temperature will rise with 1,5 degrees over the next 30 years. Timmermans does not give an accurate image of the true consequences of climate change. We are thus unable to verify the accuracy and factual basis of his claims.

Based on this assessment, we conclude that the claims made in the video message you just saw are inaccurate, and based on factual inconsistencies and erroneous conclusions.

**Condition: disinformation attribution**

**Section** Factcheck

By: OUR EDITORIAL BOARD

April, 11, 2020 Two minutes of estimated reading time

**A recently published video of the European Commission contains different statements from Frans Timmermans, who, among other things, argues that we need to act now to prevent a rise in the global temperature of approximately 1,5 degrees centigrade in a period of 30 years. The video is a so-called ‘deep fake’: a fabricated video for which the makers – the climate lobby – used Artificial Intelligence (AI) to make Frans Timmermans say things he never said.**

The video is fabricated by the climate lobby to disguise the truth about climate change.

The prediction that global temperature will rise with 1,5 degrees over the next 30 years is a blatant lie that is used strategically to overestimate the relevance of climate change.

Based on this assessment, we conclude that the video message you just saw is a fabricated deepfake that is used to keep the truth hidden.

**Appendix B. Question wording**

**Green Deal support:**

If you think about the central topic discussed in the message, to what extent do you agree with the following statements?

*[**1 Completely disagree… 4 Don’t agree, don’t disagree… 7 Completely agree]*

1. The Green Deal is crucial if we want to combat climate change
2. It is important that the EU takes drastic measures to prevent climate change
3. National governments should collaborate more to protect the climate
4. It’s not the EU’s task to intervene in the climate change policies of individual countries
5. The Green Deal should not be a priority of the EU
6. The Green Deal offers the right solutions to successfully combat climate change

**Credibility of the video:**

If you think about the video fragment that you just saw, to what extent do you agree with the following statements?

*[1 Completely disagree… 4 Don’t agree, don’t disagree… 7 Completely agree]*

1. The message is factually correct
2. The message is accurate
3. The message does not have a hidden political agenda
4. The message is not manipulated
5. The message is true

**Credibility of the false flag:**

If you think about the short article that offered a short reflection on the video message you just saw, to what extent do you agree with the following statements about this response?

*[1 Completely disagree… 4 Don’t agree, don’t disagree… 7Completely agree]*

1. The message is factually correct
2. The message is accurate
3. The message does not have a hidden political agenda
4. The message is not manipulated
5. The message is true

**Climate urgency attitudes:**

Could you indicate your agreement with each of the following statements?

*[1 Completely disagree… 4 Don’t agree, don’t disagree… 7 Completely agree]*

1. People should care more about climate change
2. Climate change should have the highest priority
3. It is frustrating to see that people do not act on problems related to climate change
4. People worry too much about climate change
5. The severity of climate change is overstated
6. Climate change is a global challenge

**Appendix C. Illustration of interaction effect.**

Chart, scatter chart

Description automatically generated