Question the Source
Check who produced the content and question their intent.

A lot of foreign influence content is designed to look like real news – the following best practices will help you discern quality content and avoid being duped. Look for a diversity of credible sources. You should be able to trust that the author’s ideas are their own, are unbiased, and are backed up by sound, fact-based evidence.

Check the author
Check to see that the author is clearly identified. Do a search on them. Are they real? What are their qualifications for covering the topic? Be cautious of news that doesn’t share who is reporting it.

Check the date
Look for a publishing date and see if it is current. Outdated articles can be misleading and irrelevant to current events.

Check for a match
Read past the headline and see if the content matches. Be cautious of over-the-top headlines crafted to make you feel strong emotions.

Check their sources
A credible website will cite their supporting sources and provide additional resources for greater understanding. Click them to make sure they work.

Disinformation Stops With You
You have the power to stop foreign influence operations. Follow these steps:

To learn more about how you can stop disinformation, visit our website at www.dhs.gov/cisa/protect2020.