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Facebook Starts Fact Checking Photos/Videos

Facebook has begun letting partners fact check photos and videos beyond news articles, and proactively review stories before Facebook asks them. Facebook is also now preemptively blocking the creation of millions of fake accounts per day. Facebook revealed this news on a conference call with journalists about its efforts around election integrity that included Chief Security Officer Alex Stamos who's said to be leaving Facebook later this year. Stamos outlined how Facebook is building ways to address fake identities, fake audiences grown illicitly or pumped up to make content appear more popular, acts of spreading false information, and false narratives that are intentionally deceptive and shape people's views beyond the facts. "We're trying to develop a systematic and comprehensive approach to tackle these challenges, and then to map that approach to the needs of each country or election" says Stamos. Samidh Chakrabarti, Facebook's product manager for civic engagement also explained that Facebook is now proactively looking for foreign-based Pages producing civic-related content inauthentically. It removes them from the platform if a manual review by the security team finds they violate terms of service. Meanwhile, advances in machine learning have allowed Facebook "to find more suspicious behaviors without assessing the content itself" to block millions of fake account creations per day "before they can do any harm".