

The phenomenon, tool and threat of disinformation has been increasingly mentioned in the information space in recent years. It is used in many ways, including to hide the truth, influence public opinion, and build fear and social unrest. The main purpose of using disinformation is to mislead the recipient in such a way as to compel him or her to act, refrain from acting or not act. The use of disinformation boils down to winning a battle without using troops. In the second decade of the 21st century, disinformation has gained prominence thanks to the development of information technology, particularly social media.

Through social media, users have gained the ability to share information that is not subject to scrutiny. Thus, by using technology in the form of bots, trolls, fake social media accounts and analytics modules, influencing public opinion has become easier. Noteworthy are the lack of legal regulations relating to disinformation, the lack of a schema of conduct in verifying information, and the psychological aspects of the individual. In this dissertation, the research objective was to investigate whether there is scope for more research in the context of monitoring and countering disinformation, to develop a method, and to satisfy curiosity about understanding the issue. The results of the research are:

- developing a concept for monitoring and countering disinformation in social media, using formal logic (zero-one method) and informal logic (Walton schema),
- conducting a comparative analysis of the terms “security,” “information security,” “social media” and “disinformation.”
- conducting keyword analysis of the above-mentioned terms using VOSviewer software and Scopus database,
- analyzing of the psychological factors influencing the problems of distinguishing true information from disinformation,
- conducting a diagnostic survey in the form of a survey questionnaire, in order to obtain public opinion,
- conducting a SWOT analysis of the developed concept,

The main research problem of the dissertation was the question: *How does disinformation occurring in social media affect the security of the information of the state?* The research hypothesis was: *Disinformation in social media poses a serious threat to state information security.* The dissertation consists of six chapters, starting with the methodology, discussing theoretical issues related to the topic of the research, disinformation, statistical analysis of the results of the survey questionnaire, presenting the concept of monitoring and countering disinformation and the possibility of its implementation in the real environment. As a result of the research, in the form of a survey questionnaire, it should be concluded that disinformation poses a serious threat

to state information security. The results of the survey depict that respondents spend too much time on social media and lack knowledge of legal regulations related to disinformation. In addition, there is a noticeable need to create a tool to counter disinformation, which was the basis for the creation of the concept of monitoring and countering disinformation in social media.