

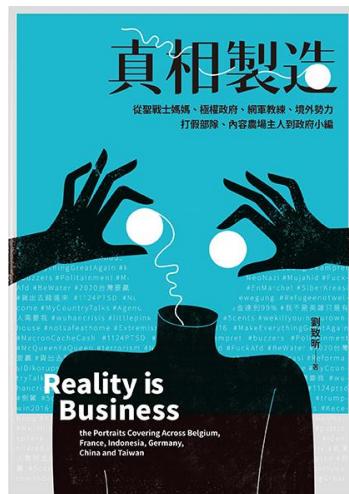
MAKING TRUTH: INSIDE THE GLOBAL FAKE NEWS INDUSTRY

真相製造：從聖戰士媽媽、極權政府、網軍教練、境外勢力、打假部隊、內容農場主人到政府小編

In a time when contradictory sources of information constantly vie for our attention, how do we distinguish truth from lies? Follow journalist Liu Chih Hsin on a five-year international journey as he unravels the complex origins of the current glut of fake news and false information, and tells the stories of the people who generate and consume this fake content.

The rise of internet communications and social media has made it easier than ever to connect, interact, and exchange information with others. Yet, this non-localized exchange of ideas has brought new challenges to democratic societies. Extremists use the internet as a recruitment tool. Foreign adversaries can reach across the globe to amplify social divisions and meddle in elections. The methods of internet marketing can be applied to politics, manufacturing voices that drown out the genuine voice of the people. Now more than ever we need to understand how manufactured truth is altering politics, society, commerce, and even our individual psychology.

Determined to understand this complex phenomena, journalist Liu Chih Hsin set out for Brussels in 2016 to interview the heartbroken, yet still hopeful, mother of young man recruited by online Muslim jihadists. From there, Liu guides readers on a journey into the depths of the misinformation industry, tracing its chilling impact through Belgium, France, Indonesia, Germany, China, and Taiwan. Even as the mechanics of the industry are unveiled to readers, the emotional core of *Making Truth* remains its human stories. Refreshingly free of condemnation, Liu probes the lives of the victims, true believers, opportunists, and content farmers of the misinformation age, making



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us privy to the spaces in which they move, and the social structures that define their worldviews.

A necessary book for our times, *Making Truth* shines a light on one of the most troubling issues of the day, giving readers much needed perspective on a force that already impacts our daily lives, and delivering a warning about the future of open societies.

Liu Chih Hsin 劉致昕

Graduate from National Chengchi University with a degree in international relations, Liu Chih Hsin previously worked as a reporter for the Taiwan bureau of the *Financial Times*. Currently the deputy editor-in-chief of *The Reporter*, Liu has received numerous awards for his work in journalism, including the Taiwan Ministry of Culture's Golden Tripod award for excellence in publishing, and awards from the Foundation for Excellence in Journalism, and the Society of Publishers in Asia.

