

# **Infodemic**

Week 2023/12/18 ~ 2023/12/25

2024 Taiwan Presidential Election Information Manipulation AI Observation Report



### Quantity of analyzed data

Events	Media Volume	(PRC) State Affiliated Media (%)	Troll Accounts	Community Volume	Troll Volume (%)
981	4,021	84 (2.09%)	2,585	801,983	26,129 (3.26%)

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## **Insights on Manipulation Strategies**

From September to November 2023, PRC state-affiliated media's primary narrative involved threatening Taiwan with war, accusing the Taiwanese government of pushing the island towards the brink of war. In December, as the election approached, the tone of war threats diminished as the election approached. China shifted its focus to emphasize Taiwan's educational system and economic issues, particularly highlighting the "impact of the termination of ECFA on Taiwan's economy" and "the wave of university closures in Taiwan" to the "De-Sinicization of Taiwan's curriculum design" as key education-related issues.

AI Labs' analysis from September to December identified troll groups most closely echoing PRC state-affiliated media narratives, with Facebook #61009 (42.6%) and Facebook #61019 (37.2%) showing the highest level of resonance.

As the election drew closer, the narrative trends of Facebook #61009 closely aligned with China's official media, focusing on war threats against Taiwan and primarily attacking educational and economic issues. Domestically, the group mainly targeted Tsai Ing-wen, labeling her as a 'fake Ph.D.'; internationally, they criticized U.S. domestic issues in English, branding Biden as a dictator. Both domestic and international operations prominently used livelihood issues as their primary attack strategy.

Since September, Facebook #61019 has mirrored official media trends in the narrative of "The U.S. disregards the life and death of Taiwanese people," with recent narratives also including war threats and economic issues. Domestically, the group focused on Tsai Ing-wen's thesis controversy, while internationally, they attacked U.S. foreign policy failures in English, claiming a stronger voice in Taiwan favoring unification.

Regarding the coordinating behavior of this week, PRC state-affiliated media continued last week's narrative and theme, focusing on "DPP's election will lead to military danger" and "Termination of ECFA impacts Taiwan's economy." Following China's announcement on December 21st terminating 12 ECFA tariff preferences, there was a surge in operations on PTT and YouTube.

Throughout the week, platforms in Taiwan featured narratives attacking the illegal construction at Lai Ching-te's family home, with official media also discussing this from December 19th to 21st. Analyzing related narratives across platforms, PTT and Facebook had the highest activity levels. The groups most closely echoing official media, Facebook #61019 (33.8%) and Facebook #61009 (26.6%), were also the most active, employing tactics like repetitive comments using phrases such as "Lai Pi Liao (賴皮寮)" and "Refusing to demolish (賴著不拆)" to manipulate the discussion.

## **Techniques Used by Troll Groups**

Regarding the DISARM framework<sup>1</sup> from NATO, the researcher found that troll group operations on Facebook, YouTube, PTT, and TikTok were divided into two phases: Prepare and Execute.

### **Used Techniques:**

- T0003 Leverage Existing Narratives
- T0023.001 Reframe Context
- T0049 Flooding the Information Space
- T0049.001 Trolls Amplify and Manipulate
- T0116 Comment or Reply on Content
- T0121 Manipulate Platform Algorithm

The execution phase of DISARM is more easily observable. This week, AI Labs noted on the YouTube platform that troll groups extensively repeat comments under media videos to guide discussion trends (T0049 Flooding the information space, T0023.001 Reframe context) or comment early to enhance video interaction and influence the algorithm (T0121 Manipulate platform algorithm). As a result, we have added these tactics to our observations on YouTube. Similar strategies were observed from last week, with troll groups on Facebook and PTT also engaging in guiding discussion directions through comments (T0023.001 Reframe context), flooding discussion spaces with repetitive comments (T0049 Flooding the information space), and posting early to increase the likelihood of content being seen or algorithmically recommended (T0121 Manipulate platform algorithm). Therefore, we believe that on the four platforms of Facebook, YouTube, PTT, and TikTok, it is essential to study existing narratives (T003 Leverage existing Narratives) during the Prepare phase to facilitate subsequent comment operations (T0116 Comment or Reply on Content, T0116 Trolls amplify and manipulate).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> DISARM Disinformation Analysis and Risk Management is an open-source framework designed to describe and understand the behavior parts of FIMI/disinformation. It sets out best practices for fighting disinformation through sharing data & analysis, and can inform effective action. The Framework has been developed, drawing on global cybersecurity best practices. <u>https://www.disarm.foundation/</u>



DISARM

Phase	Tactic	Facebook	Youtube	PTT	Tiktok
Prepare	T0003 Leverage Existing Narratives	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$	$\bigcirc$
T0023.001 Reframe Context		Ø	Ø	Ø	
Execute	T0049 Flooding the Information Space	Ø	Ø	Ø	
	T0049.001 Trolls Amplify and Manipulate	Ø	0	Ø	0
	T0116 Comment or Reply on Content	Ø	Ø	Ø	Ø
	T0121 Manipulate Platform Algorithm	Ø	0	$\bigcirc$	

 $\bigcirc$  indicates observed manipulative behaviors that align with this Tactic.

 $\odot$  signifies observed manipulative behaviors that very closely match this Tactic.

Table 1: DISARM Tactics used on each platform.

## **Trending of PRC State-affiliated Media<sup>2</sup> Narratives**

Observing PRC state-affiliated media, it is evident that China has consistently emphasized three main narratives: "DPP has done a poor job governing Taiwan," "Taiwan is a part of China," and "Taiwan and China are one family." Starting around August, PRC state-affiliated media began to highlight 2 to 3 narratives each month. From September to November, PRC state-affiliated media focused on using military threats against Taiwan, accusing the Taiwanese government of pushing Taiwan to the brink of war, and asserting that the United States, in selling military equipment, disregards the lives of the Taiwanese people. By December, as the elections approached, the tone of military threats somewhat diminished. PRC state-affiliated media shifted its focus to emphasize education and economic issues, particularly highlighting topics such as "Taiwan's economy is facing challenges," "The termination of the ECFA is affecting Taiwan's economy," and issues like egg shortage, power shortage, and labor shortage. On the education front, since August, the emphasis has been on topics ranging from declining birth rates to the impact on Taiwanese high schools and the issue of de-Sinicization in Taiwanese education.

Narrative	September	October	November	December
DPP is pushing Taiwan into a perilous military situation.	11.4%	27.2%	45.6%	15.8%
The U.S disregards the life and death of the people of Taiwan	9.8%	13.5%	20%	13.9%
The termination of the ECFA is affecting Taiwan's economy	4.2%	9.6%	6.9%	22%
Taiwan is a part of China	15.3%	14.4%	13%	7.2%
Taiwan's economy is facing challenges		7.7%	7.3%	4.8%
Taiwanese education de-Sinicization			1.9%	12%
The Taiwanese military's weapons are outdated.	5.3%		5.7%	
Egg shortage, power shortage, labor shortage				9.1%
DPP has done a poor job governing Taiwan		2.9%		
Taiwanese high schools are facing closure		2.2%		

Table 2: Trending of PRC state-affiliated media narratives.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Definition of PRC state-affiliated media: Refers to news organizations like People's Daily, Haiwainet, Xinhua News Agency, Global Times, and China Central Television (CCTV), whose editorial direction is directly influenced by the Chinese government.

Returning to this week, we noted that following China's announcement on December 21st to terminate 12 tariff preferences under ECFA, troll operations closely aligned with PRC state-affiliated media's narrative emerged on both PTT and YouTube.

PTT	Facebook	YouTube	Tiktok	Date	China State-affiliated Media
		Lai Ching-te's family home is illegal construction	Lai Ching-te's family home is	12/18	国防部新闻发言人吴谦就美对台军 售答记者问
Lai Ching-te's family home is illegal construction	Lai Ching-te's family home is		illegal construction	12/19	国台办:人民的力量终将破除两岸 交流前进道路上的人为阻碍
	illegal construction	Vote for Ko Wen-je	Ko Wen-je's agricultural land controversy	12/20	国台办:望广大台湾同胞认清"台 独"的极端危险性,作出正确选择
A The termination of the ECFA is affecting Taiwan's economy	Q	The termination of the ECFA is affecting Taiwan's economy	Lai Ching-te's family home is illegal construction	12/21	A合办:支持相关主管部门采取中 止ECFA部分产品关税减让措施 The termination of the ECFA
DPP has done a poor job governing Taiwan				12/22	Fine Command Jonate Selary Is affecting Talwan's economy 力, 地球内波复台湾夜進产品输入 大陆提供帮助

Graph 1: The situation of troll groups across various platforms echoing the narratives of PRC state-affiliated media.

## **Observations of Troll Groups**

Observations from collaborative users indicate that two user groups exhibit a high degree of alignment with PRC state-affiliated media in both the quantity and timing trends of discourse and discourse publication. Specifically, 42.6% of comments from Facebook #61009 are in line with official media discourse, and 37.2% of comments from Facebook #61019 align with PRC state-affiliated media's narratives.

Group	Proportion of Comments Aligning with PRC State-affiliated Media Narratives
Facebook #61009	42.60%
Facebook #61019	37.20%

Table 3: Troll groups aligned with PRC state-affiliated media narratives.

### Facebook #61009

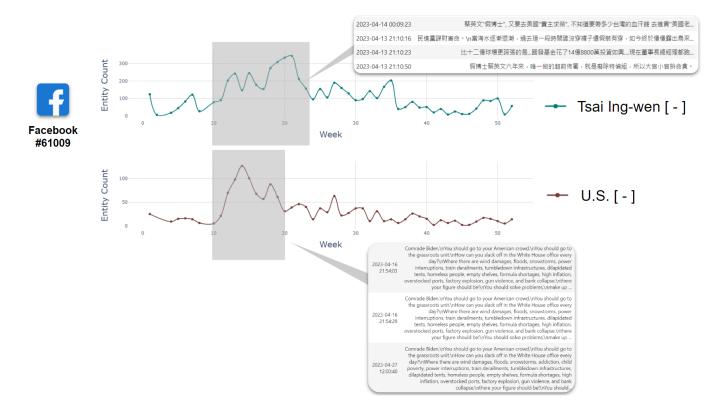
The discourse promoted by Facebook #61009 predominantly revolves around themes of war, education, economy, and criticism of the ruling party DPP. Regarding the war discourse, it focuses on statements such as "The U.S. disregards the life and death of the people of Taiwan" and "DPP is pushing Taiwan into a perilous military situation." Regarding the economy, the discussion centers on livelihood issues like Egg, power, and labor shortages, along with the impact of "The termination of the ECFA is affecting Taiwan's economy." The educational aspect delves into the curriculum issue, focusing on "de-Sinicization in Taiwanese education."

Narrative	September	October	November	December
DPP is pushing Taiwan into a perilous military situation.	2.4%	12.1%	15%	21%
The U.S disregards the life and death of the people of Taiwan	4.8%	2.9%	6%	4.2%
The termination of the ECFA is affecting Taiwan's economy	1%			5%
Taiwan is a part of China				
Taiwan's economy is facing challenges		2.9%	4.6%	3.4%
Taiwanese education de-Sinicization				2%
The Taiwanese military's weapons are outdated.				
Egg shortage, power shortage, labor shortage	7%	6%	9.1%	12.1%
DPP has done a poor job governing Taiwan	35%	23.7%	28%	31%
Taiwanese high schools are facing closure				

\* Red boxes indicate alignment with the current month's PRC state-affiliated media narrative trends.

Table 4: Narratives of Facebook #61009 closely aligned with PRC state-affiliated media.

In the past, the domestic operations of Facebook #61009 primarily targeted Tsai Ing-wen, questioning her doctoral credentials and continually amplifying the shortcomings of national policies (such as the 1.2 billion Hsinchu baseball stadium incident and the domestic vaccine issue). In terms of English-language discourse, the focus shifted to criticizing U.S. domestic issues, including power interruptions, inflation, homelessness, gun violence, etc., with references to Biden as a dictator. Both domestic and international events consistently emphasize using livelihood issues as a primary means of attack.



Graph 2: Operational trends and example comments targeting entities by Facebook #61009.

### Facebook #61019

Since September, Facebook #61019 has been emphasizing the theme of the United States disregarding the lives of the Taiwanese people. Its recent major narratives also involve war threats, manipulation of economic issues, and criticism of the ruling party.

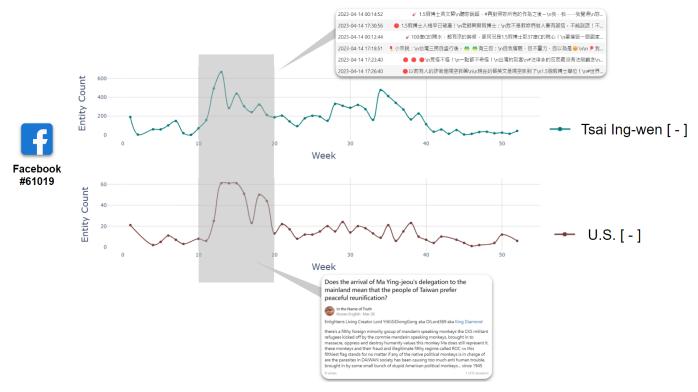
Narrative	September	October	November	December
DPP is pushing Taiwan into a perilous military situation.	15.5%	13.1%	13.9%	21%
The U.S disregards the life and death of the people of Taiwan		1.2%	4.1%	
The termination of the ECFA is affecting Taiwan's economy				
Taiwan is a part of China				
Taiwan's economy is facing challenges	7.2%	4.4%	4.2%	3.1%
Taiwanese education de-Sinicization				
The Taiwanese military's weapons are outdated.				
Egg shortage, power shortage, labor shortage				
DPP has done a poor job governing Taiwan	37.9%	33.1%	35.7%	28%

Taiwanese high schools are facing closure			

\* Red boxes indicate alignment with the current month's PRC state-affiliated media narrative trends.

Table 5: Narratives of Facebook #61019 closely aligned with PRC state-affiliated media.

In the past, concerning domestic events, the discourse primarily revolved around the Tsai Ing-wen thesis controversy. On the international front, it criticized U.S. foreign policy mistakes and claimed that Taiwanese public opinion leans towards reunification.



Graph 3: Operational trends and example comments targeting entities by Facebook #61019.

## **Social Media Manipulation Analysis**

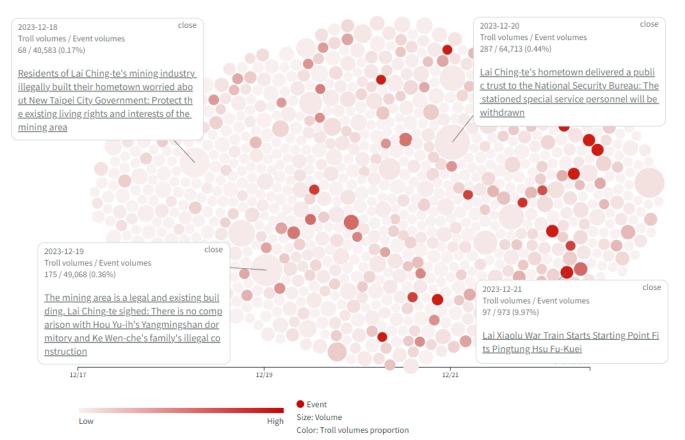
The following content conducts a comprehensive analysis of 981 events, 4,021 news articles, a total of 804,751 comments, 2,585 troll accounts, and 26,129 comments originating from those accounts. Subsequently, tables are included to highlight the three most targeted entities on each platform where troll accounts focused their efforts. Finally, the report's summary is generated by the Taiwan Large Language Model (Taiwan LLM) to encapsulate the findings and conclusions derived from the data concisely.

#### Facebook

This week on Facebook, the main targets of troll group operations included the DPP (6.6%), Lai Ching-te (5.8%), and the KMT (3.3%). Attacks on the DPP accused the party of colluding with businesses, deceiving the public, and claimed that "Lai Pi Liao represents the essence of the DPP.

(賴皮寮就是民進黨的黨性)" Criticisms of Lai Ching-te focused on his property disputes, accusing him of refusing to demolish his controversial family home. The attacks on the KMT revolved around allegations of illegal activities by KMT legislators and harm done to the public.

#### **Event Timeline**



\* Each circle represents a event related to this manipulated story
\*\* The size of each circle defined by the sum of the social discussion of that event
\*\*\* The darker the circle is, the higher the proportion of troll comments in the event
Graph 4: Events on Facebook overview by timeline (from <a href="https://infodemic.cc">https://infodemic.cc</a>)

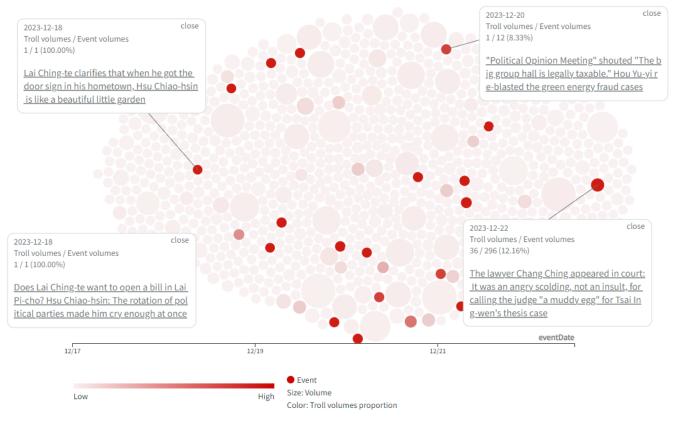
Target Entity	Summary of Narratives
DPP – 6.6%	• The social media comments criticize the DPP and its policies, highlighting issues such as corruption, rising prices, low wages, high housing costs, and a lack of job opportunities for Taiwan's youth. There is also mention of a politician's verbal mistakes during a campaign event. Overall, the comments express dissatisfaction with the DPP government's governance and call for change.
Lai Ching-te – 5.8%	• Negative social media comments about Lai Ching-te include accusations of deceit, causing harm to the people, enjoying privileges, and being a crazy person. The comments also criticize the

	DPP's eight years in power, accusing them of corruption and incompetence.
<mark>КМТ –</mark> 3.3%	• The social media comments express negative opinions towards the KMT, calling them names and expressing a desire to not vote for them. Some comments also criticize the DPP and express disappointment with the KMT's campaign strategy for the upcoming election.

Table 6: Troll group's target entity and summary of narratives on Facebook (from https://infodemic.cc)

#### YouTube

On YouTube this week, troll groups mainly targeted the DPP (9.1%), the Taiwanese government (5.5%), and Ko Wen-je (5.5%). Some users expressed dissatisfaction with the DPP, deeming them incompetent, deceitful, and unjust, and called for the DPP to be voted out. The operations against the Taiwanese government primarily criticized its foreign policy and claimed that statements from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs harmed overseas Taiwanese. Supportive comments for Ko Wen-je appreciated his political views, encouraging others to support him.



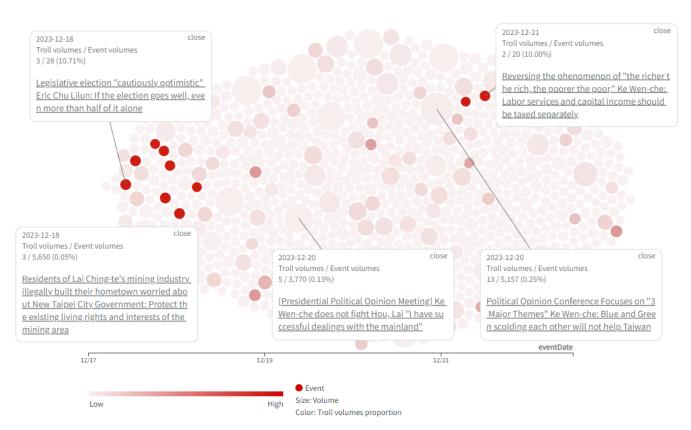
\* Each circle represents a event related to this manipulated story
\*\* The size of each circle is defined by the sum of the social discussion of that event
\*\*\* The darker the circle is, the higher the proportion of troll comments in the event
Graph 5: Events on Youtube overview by timeline (from <a href="https://infodemic.cc">https://infodemic.cc</a>)

Target Entity	Summary of Narratives
DPP – 9.1%	• Negative social media comments express frustration with the DPP and call for a change in leadership. Critics accuse the party of incompetence, not caring about the potential for war, and failing to address injustice and inequality despite being in power for several years.
Taiwan Gov. – 5.5%	• The comments express frustration towards certain politicians and their actions in Taiwan. Some commenters question the existence of the Republic of China, criticize the candidate's political abilities, and accuse them of being influenced by mainland China. The comments highlight concerns about Taiwan's international relations and the impact on Taiwanese people.
Ko Wen-je + 5.5%	• Most comments are positive, with people praising Ko Wen-Je's political stance and encouraging others to vote for him.

Table 7: Troll group's target entity and summary of narratives on Youtube (from https://infodemic.cc)

### TikTok

On TikTok this week, the main operations of troll groups supported Ko Wen-je (12.8%) and the KMT (5.1%). Comments supporting Ko Wen-je lauded him as the only politician who stood up for firefighters, considering him the only choice for fans of Han Kuo-yu. Those supporting the KMT encouraged others to rally behind the party, hoping for a return to moral and ethical education under KMT governance and a prosperous economy with peaceful cross-strait relations.



\* Each circle represents a event related to this manipulated story

\*\* The size of each circle defined by the sum of the social discussion of that event

\*\*\* The darker the circle is, the higher the proportion of troll comments in the event Graph 6: Events on Tiktok overview by timeline (from <u>https://infodemic.cc</u>)

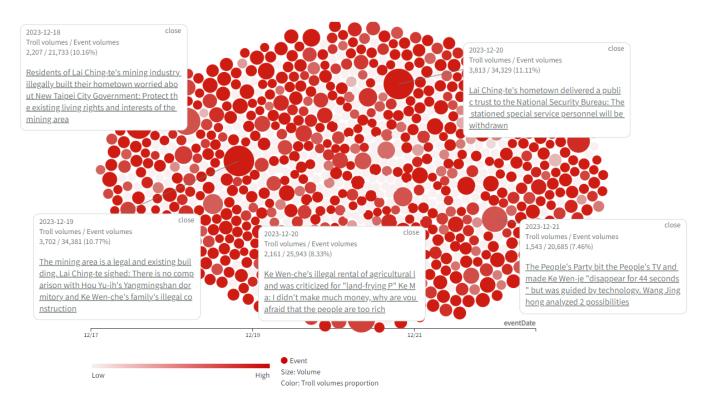
Target Entity	Summary of Narratives
Ko Wen-je + 12.8%	• Ko Wen-Je has some strong supporters who admire his work and believe he is the best choice among the other candidates. Ko is praised for supporting firefighters during a fire incident while Lai and Hou did not.
KMT + 5.1%	• The comments express support for KMT, urging them to work hard and win the elections, emphasizing the need for ethical education, economic prosperity, social stability, cross-strait peace, and the safety of the people. The commenters also encourage others to vote for KMT candidates, believing it will bring blessings and good fortune.

Table 8: Troll group's target entity and summary of narratives on Tiktok (from https://infodemic.cc)

### PTT

On PTT, the primary targets of troll groups this week were the DPP (14.1%), Ko Wen-je (7.5%), and Lai Ching-te (4.3%). Criticisms of the DPP claimed that the party neglected housing justice, leading

to rising housing and rental prices and ignoring firefighters' safety, urging people to vote out the DPP. Criticisms of Ko Wen-je accused him of manipulating false polls and speculated on his involvement in land speculation, labeling him as political trash. Critics of Lai Ching-te focused on the illegal construction of his family home, accusing him of ignoring the issue.



\* Each circle represents a event related to this manipulated story

\*\* The size of each circle defined by the sum of the social discussion of that event

\*\*\* The darker the circle is, the higher the proportion of troll comments in the event

Graph 7: Events on PTT overview by timeline (from https://infodemic.cc)

Target Entity	Summary of Narratives
DPP – 14.1%	• Negative social media comments regarding the DPP suggest that the party is responsible for housing issues, rising prices, and fostering hatred. Critics label them as a corrupt and irresponsible political party and blame them for the mistreatment of firefighters. Some comments call for the DPP's removal from power in Taiwan.
Ko Wen-Je – 7.5%	• Negative social media comments about Ko include accusations of falsifying survey results, criticism of his wealth and property, doubts about his sincerity, comparisons to other politicians, calling him garbage and a political puppet, and expressing a preference for other candidates over him.

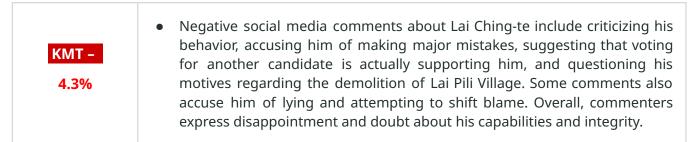


Table 9: Troll group's target entity and summary of narratives on PTT (from <u>https://infodemic.cc</u>)

## Troll operations on Lai Ching-te's Family Home Illegal Construction Controversy

This week, AI Labs observed extensive troll operations on Facebook, YouTube, TikTok, and PTT, all focusing on the controversy over the illegal construction at Lai Ching-te's family home. Looking back at PRC state-affiliated media coverage, we found that they, too, engaged in operations around this controversy from December 19th to 21st. The PRC state-affiliated media stance primarily criticized the illegal construction issue at Lai Ching-te's home, highlighting netizens' criticisms and sarcastic comments (such as "Lai Pi Liao") and linking the controversy to broader issues of housing justice in Taiwan. Notably, PRC state-affiliated media reports did not include any explanations from the DPP side for balanced reporting.

PTT	Facebook	YouTube	Tiktok	Date	China State-affiliated Media
Lai Ching-te's family home is illegal construction	Lai Ching-te's family home is illegal construction	Lai Ching-te's family home is illegal construction	Lai Ching-te's family home is illegal construction	12/18	
				12/19	B清德老家违建被标注"赖皮寮" 成热门打卡景点,邱毅到此开 直播
		Vote for Ko Wen-je	Ko Wen-je's agricultural land controversy	12/20	赖江 <b>ai Ching-te's family home</b> 寮"肯 Is Illegal construction
The termination of the ECFA is affecting Taiwan's economy		The termination of the ECFA is affecting Taiwan's economy	Lai Ching-te's family home is illegal construction	12/21	违建"赖皮寮"变身"纪念馆"?台 民众怒嘲:赖清德能,老百姓 不能!
DPP has done a poor job governing Taiwan				12/22	

Graph 8: Situation of PRC state-affiliated media and cross-platform troll groups addressing the issue of Lai Ching-te's family home illegal construction controversy.

AI Labs conducted an analysis of troll groups operating on the issue of Lai Ching-te's family home's illegal construction. They found that PTT and Facebook are the platforms where this issue is most actively manipulated.

On PTT, the top three groups involved in the Lai Ching-te's family home's illegal construction were PTT #60001 (16.6%), PTT #60021 (8.4%), and PTT #60011 (5.8%). The main narratives in their operations included repetitive comments stating "Refusing to demolish" (38.9%) and "Lai Pi Liao" and "On the other hand, Lai Pi Liao" (31.8%) to attack Lai Ching-te.

Group	Percentage
PTT #60001	16.55%
PTT #60021	8.36%
PTT #60011	5.82%
PTT #60006	2.73%
PTT #60103	2.55%

Table 10: Primary troll groups on PTT platform addressing the issue of Lai Ching-te's family home illegalconstruction controversy.

Percentage	Summary of Narratives
38.9%	Repeatedly commenting "Refusing to demolish Lai's place (賴著不拆)"
31.8%	Repeating the terms "Lai Pi Liao (賴皮寮)" and "On the other hand, Lai Pi Liao"
7.1%	Repeatedly asking in the comments "When will Lai Pi Liao be demolished?"
3.2%	Repeatedly stating "Refusing to demolish; Zheng is lying; Zhao should resign (賴著不拆 鄭在說謊 趙樣不辭)"

Table 11: Key narratives on PTT platform regarding the issue of Lai Ching-te's family home illegal construction controversy.

On Facebook, the top three groups involved in the same controversy were Facebook #61019 (33.8%), Facebook #61009 (26.6%), and Facebook #61096 (20.1%). The primary narratives in their operations included attacking the controversy with "Lai Pi Liao" (12.4%) and flooding comments with "Lai Pi Liao represents the essence of the DPP" (8.1%). Following Lai Ching-te's announcement to donate the building, they continued to attack his decision with "Refusing to demolish at all costs" (8.1%).

Group	Percentage
Facebook #61019	33.83%
Facebook #61009	26.57%
Facebook #61096	20.05%
Facebook #61053	4.76%
Facebook #61017	3.26%

Table 12: Primary troll groups on Facebook platform addressing the issue of Lai Ching-te's family homeillegal construction controversy.

Percentage	Summary of Narratives
12.4%	Using "Lai Pi Liao (賴皮寮)" to attack the controversy over illegal constructions at Lai Ching-te's hometown
8.1%	Flooding comments with "Lai Pi Liao is the essence of the DPP (賴皮寮就是民進黨的黨性)"
8.1%	Attacking the decision to preserve the building with "Refusing to demolish at all costs (打死也賴皮不拆)"
7.7%	Claiming "Taiwan's most beautiful scenery is Lai Pi Liao"

Table 13: Key narratives on Facebook platform regarding the issue of Lai Ching-te's family home illegalconstruction controversy.

## **Troll Groups Information From Infodemic**

This week's report primarily focuses on the troll operations and historical behaviors of Facebook groups. AI Labs has compiled relevant information about these two troll groups on the Infodemic website, which serves as supplementary data for our analysis.

### Troll Group: Facebook #61009

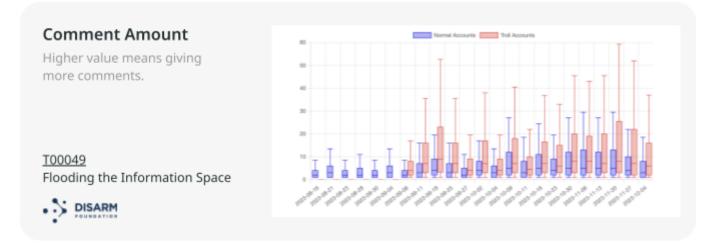
Facebook #61009, observed by AI Labs, is the most active troll group on Facebook, with 439 accounts participating in 4,811 stories.

Troll Accounts	Operated stories	Target entities
439	4,811	1,302

Table 14: Summary of Facebook #61009 (from https://infodemic.cc/collab/61009)

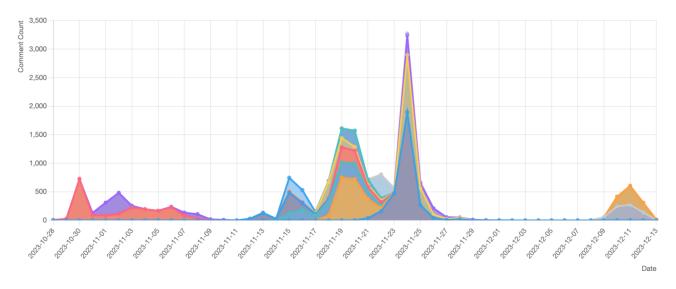
### Abnormal Behaviors

Facebook troll group #61009 began its activities on September 6, 2023, coinciding with the week Terry Gou announced his candidacy.



#### **Operated Stories**

Facebook troll group #61009 is actively involved in topics related to the Taiwan presidential election, with the five most recent events they engaged in also relating to the KMT-TPP collaboration issue. Politically, this group primarily focuses on attacking Ko Wen-je, the KMT, and the DPP.



Graph 9: Operated stories of Facebook #61009 by timeline (from https://infodemic.cc/collab/61009)

Event time (UTC+8)	Title	Community volume	Troll volume (%)
2023-11-22 00:00 2023-11-24 15:28	Newsletter / KMT-TPP Collaboration Breaking the Game? The KMT will hold its regular meeting on the morning of 11 / 24 and is expected to announce the candidate for Hou Yu-ih's deputy	810,254	14,707 (1.82%)

2023-10-03 00:25 2023-11-07 18:37	The mayors of the 15 counties of the Blue Camp jointly signed the "KMT-TPP Cooperation Plan" and called on the White Camp to take the people into mind	849,534	26,843 (3.16%)
2023-11-16 02:39 2023-11-20 10:19	Presidential and Legislative Elections Registration From Today Chu Li-lun: Blue and White are only short of the door	445,169	8,669 (1.95%)
2023-11-23 20:22 2023-11-24 14:46	Ko Wen-je's deputy candidate starts the prize! Confirmed partner with "Princess Xinguang" Wu Hsin-ying	142,790	3,032 (2.12%)
2023-11-15 10:18 2023-11-20 10:23	Blue and white are out of harmony? Ko Wen-je shouted: Continue to fight to the end as the TPP presidential candidate!	727,578	16,146 (2.22%)

Table 15: Top 5 operated stories of Facebook #61009 (from https://infodemic.cc/collab/61009)

#### Targets of Troll Activities

Negative	Positive	大 <sub>小</sub> Font siz	e represents tro	ll volume
South Railway Chen Shuibian TPP Taiwan Hsiao Bi-khim Ma Ying-jeou Tainan horse Lai Chit Executive Yuan Ko Wen-Je	PP <b>DP</b> USA Tsai Ko Wen-Je <b>ng-te</b> Mon Hou Yu-i	Tsailr <sub>Japan</sub> K ely Japa	laiwa ng-wen MT the cp	賴皮寮 Huang Guochang

Graph 10: Troll activity targets of Facebook #61009 (from https://infodemic.cc/collab/61009)

### Troll Group: Facebook #61019

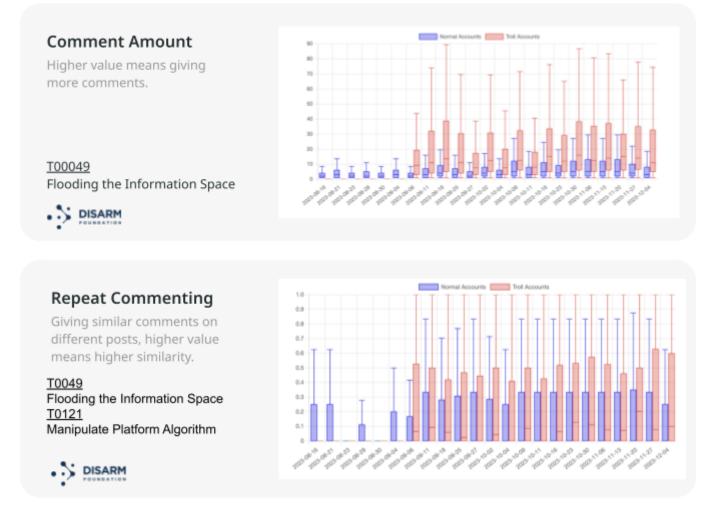
Facebook #61019 is the second most active troll group on the Facebook platform observed by AI Labs, with 170 accounts and participation in 4,333 stories.

Troll Accounts	Operated stories	Target entities
170	4,333	1,057

Table 16: Summary of Facebook #61019 (from https://infodemic.cc/collab/61019)

#### **Abnormal Behaviors**

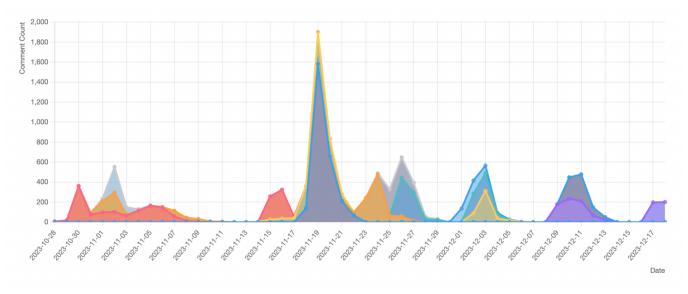
Facebook troll group #61019, also active from September 6, 2023, exhibits a significantly higher volume of comments and repeated comments compared to average users.



#### **Operated Stories**

Facebook troll group #61019 actively engages in topics related to the Taiwan presidential election. Among the five most recent events they participated in, four are related to the KMT-TPP collaboration issue. Politically, this group primarily targets the KMT, Ko Wen-je, and Tsai Ing-wen.

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Graph 11: Operated stories of Facebook #61019 by timeline (from https://infodemic.cc/collab/61019)

Event time (UTC+8)	Title	Community volume	Troll volume (%)
2023-11-16 02:39 2023-11-20 10:19	Presidential and Legislative Elections Registration From Today Chu Li-lun: Blue and White are only short of the door	445,169	2,664 (7.73%)
2023-10-03 00:25 2023-11-07 18:37	The mayors of the 15 counties of the Blue Camp jointly signed the "KMT-TPP Collaboration Plan" and called on the White Camp to take the people into mind	849,534	1,300 (3.77%)
2023-11-22 00:00 2023-11-24 15:28	Newsletter / KMT-TPP Collaboration Breaking the Game? The KMT will hold its regular meeting on the morning of 11 / 24 and is expected to announce the candidate for Hou Yu-ih's deputy	810,254	893 (2.59%)
2023-11-15 10:18 2023-11-20 10:23	Blue and white are out of harmony? Ko Wen-je shouted: Continue to fight to the end as the People's Party presidential candidate!	727,578	867 (2.51%)
2023-11-26 11:22 2023-11-26 16:05	Changhua Auxiliary Elections Chen Su-yueh and Wu Yin-ning Tsai Ing-wen: The incumbents have no capital for laziness and pride	1,917	720 (2.09%)

Table 17: Top 5 operated stories of Facebook #61019 (from https://infodemic.cc/collab/61019)

#### Targets of Troll Activities



Graph 12: Troll activity targets of Facebook #61019 (from https://infodemic.cc/collab/61019)

## References

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- This report used data and tools in <u>https://infodemic.cc</u>
- How does the system work <u>https://infodemic.cc/en/faq</u>
- DISARM Disinformation Analysis and Risk Management is an open-source framework designed for describing and understanding the behavior parts of FIMI/disinformation. It sets out best practices for fighting disinformation through sharing data & analysis, and can inform effective action. The Framework has been developed, drawing on global cybersecurity best practices. <u>https://www.disarm.foundation/</u>