

## **Abstract**

The master thesis addresses the social network Twitter and the spread of disinformation in the last weeks before 2019 European Parliament elections in Germany. The target of the research is to analyze the spread of disinformation immediately before the elections and determine the specifics of the German Twitter landscape. The theory of information disorder by Wardle and Derakhshan enabled a deep study of disinformation. The thesis explains the basic theory of disinformation and its connection to the right-wing populist movements. In Germany, this phenomenon is connected to AfD – Alternative für Deutschland party, that follows the topics of migration, alleged censorship, and climate skepticism, which are also the defined topics of disinformation in Germany. Through a content analysis of quantitative data from 1st to 25th May 2019 explains the types of disinformation according to the information disorder theory and the spread of disinformation in German landscape, interpretes the topics and is trying to link the spread of disinformation directly to the AfD party. The researcher analyses three Twitter accounts: the account of the party election leader Jörg Meuthen, the account of German conservative right-wing media Junge Freiheit and the account of a supporter of the party. The thesis aims to map the German disinformation landscape, explain its topics, and confirm the presence of the permanent topics of the populist right-wing party on Twitter. The thesis also addresses, if and how is disinformation used in the party's campaign on the preferred social network and how the results of the research can be interpreted in the German landscape.