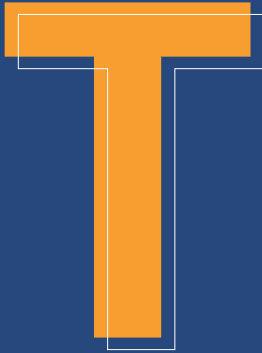


NOTE.



Preliminary Results
of the Automated Detection
of **Climate Misinformation**
in French Television
and Radio



This report lays the foundational groundwork for the international initiative on the automated detection of climate disinformation, known as “Climate Safeguards,” as well as for the climate disinformation analysis conducted by the Media Observatory on Ecology.

The results presented here were initially generated using a preliminary AI-based method and subsequently validated manually. As such, they do not yet reflect the full accuracy or capabilities of the more advanced models and methodologies currently under development by the consortium.

The final methodology and consolidated results for the French media landscape, published by the Media Observatory on Ecology with support from Science Feedback, are scheduled for release in the fourth quarter of 2025.



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Executive Summary

Over a three-month broadcasting period, **128 instances of climate disinformation were detected** – equivalent to roughly ten cases per week. This challenges the common belief that disinformation is confined to social media, revealing that traditional media are now significantly affected by climate disinformation.

This trend is particularly concerning **given the continued high level of trust in traditional news media**. It increases the risk of normalising misleading narratives, **blurring the line between fact and opinion**, and ultimately weakening the foundations of our democratic society.

The spread of climate disinformation intensifies around **major political and geopolitical events**, revealing how vulnerable public debate becomes to disinformation during core democratic moments.

This trend is especially alarming in the context of the growing influence of anti-democratic political parties, which increasingly use disinformation as a central campaign strategy, both in Europe and globally.¹

While climate disinformation is present across nearly all traditional media outlets, **some safeguards were identified during the reporting period**. However, some media channels showed heightened vulnerability, especially when **political discourse was aired without sufficient contextualisation**. One notable case is Sud Radio, which stood out with 40 detected cases of climate disinformation, making it a major contributor to the overall disinformation volume.

The **normalisation of climate disinformation within the audiovisual media space**, despite its presumed regulatory safeguards, demands a strong and coordinated response. This responsibility lies not only with the media outlets involved but also with the independent regulatory authority (ARCOM).

In parallel, advertisers must urgently acknowledge their role in enabling this trend and take appropriate action. Civil society must also become more aware and engaged in confronting this growing threat.

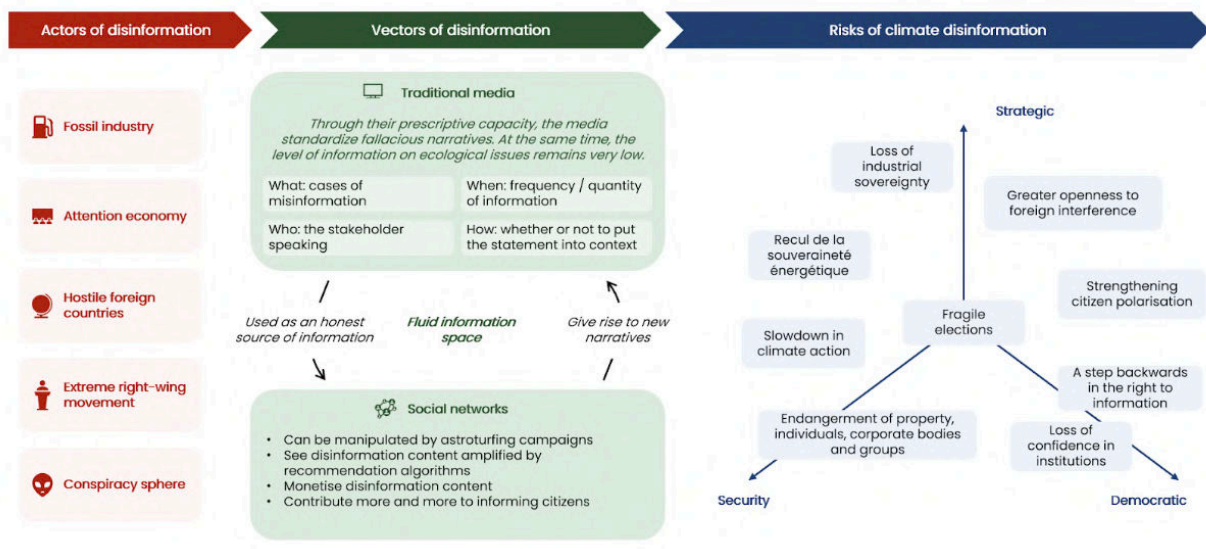
A **complementary** analysis, broadening the scope beyond disinformation to include discourses of inaction, identified 373 relevant cases over the review period. Among the most widespread narratives are efforts to **delegitimise solutions to the ecological transition** and, notably, to discredit key messengers—including scientists, expert institutions, environmental advocates, and environmental journalists. These narratives are particularly prevalent on media outlets with editorial lines leaning further to the right, which often play an active role in undermining the credibility of net-zero advocates.

¹ Deepfake, "cheapfake": IIA au service de la campagne présidentielle argentine ; Comment Donald Trump a utilisé la désinformation pour s'imposer ; Hongrie : comment Viktor Orban utilise la désinformation pour asseoir son pouvoir ; Hongrie : plongée au cœur de la machine de propagande de Viktor Orban

I. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

METHODOLOGY: Methodology: In this report, **climate disinformation** refers to statements classified as having **very low accuracy** (inaccurate or erroneous), or **low accuracy** (misleading) when they carry a high potential to mislead the public about established facts. Our threshold for disinformation is deliberately high and does not include simple inaccuracies or matters of interpretation. Instead, **it covers unsupported statements that are either scientifically contradicted, manipulative by omission, or based on discredited theories—all relating to the ongoing environmental crises.**

ACTORS, CHANNELS AND ASSOCIATED RISKS OF CLIMATE DISINFORMATION



A Mainstream Media: Catalysts or Watchdogs of Climate Disinformation

The information landscape is now hybrid, shaped both by professionalised journalism and a decentralised production of online content.

Despite fast-changing information ecosystems, traditional news media continue to play a key role in shaping public perceptions and setting the agenda.² Traditional media remain central to the legitimization and normalisation of narratives. Notably, **news programmes** remain the most trustworthy information sources, with **TV news broadcasts** and **24-hour news channels** being the most-watched media for information. In fact, **69% of French people trust TV news** as a source of information, compared to **29% who trust social media**.³

2. [Rapport QuotaClimat "Climate disinformation goes mainstream: time for strong media watchdogs"](#)
3. [Baromètre de la confiance des Français dans les media](#)

I. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

At the same time, the Media Observatory on Ecology⁴ highlights a **persistent information gap on environmental issues**. In France, estimates show that only 2% of airtime (news programs on television and radio) in early 2025 was dedicated to information relating to environmental issues.

Climate disinformation is spreading both online and **offline. It is no longer limited to social media but is increasingly infiltrating traditional media**, characterised by the lack of proportionate counter-narratives. This permissiveness is rooted in weak governance structures, limited training and awareness, as well as deeper structural factors such as media ownership, editorial influence, the socio-economic homogeneity of media leadership and journalists, economic pressures, and, more broadly, the regulatory environment within which the media operate.

Climate disinformation is a strategic tool deployed by identifiable actors, including actors of the fossil fuel industry, of the attention economy, hostile foreign state actors, far-right movements, and conspiracy groups, to advance their converging agendas, all of which seek to obstruct environmental action.⁵

Given that traditional news media outlets **remain a primary source of information for the public**⁶, their role in spreading disinformation remains insufficiently addressed by independent media authorities. In France, the audiovisual regulator (ARCOM) issued three notable decisions in 2024: two warnings to Sud Radio for unchallenged climate disinformation⁷, and an unprecedented €20,000 financial penalty against CNews⁸ for similar violations. While these initial responses are encouraging first steps, they remain uncoordinated measures and fall short of a systemic response that matches the growing scale of detected cases.

B Climate Change and Disinformation: Interconnected Challenges

The World Economic Forum's 2024 Global Risks Report⁹ identifies **disinformation¹⁰ as the most significant short-term risk**. In the longer term, climate-related threats dominate the top-ten global challenges. These issues are deeply interconnected and can be addressed in a complementary manner.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)¹¹ report explicitly highlights the growing link between climate change denial and distrust in climate science.

Climate and energy transition policies have become focal points of populist rhetoric, seeking to rally support by tying climate denial to broader public discontent with urban elites and political institutions.

This political strategy plays on fears over the speed and cost of socio-economic transformations, and amplifies concerns about the perceived erosion of national sovereignty.

4. [Observatoire des Médias sur l'Écologie – Des données chiffrées sur le traitement médiatique des enjeux environnementaux dans les programmes d'information](#)

5. [Challenging Climate Change: The Denial Counter-movement | Climate Change and Society: Sociological Perspectives | Oxford Academic](#)

6. [Baromètre de la confiance des Français dans les médias](#)

7. <https://www.arcom.fr/se-documenter/espace-juridique/decisions/Emission-bercoff-dans-tous-ses-etats-diffusee-le-7-decembre-2023-sud-radio-et-sud-radio-mises-en-garde>

8. <https://www.arcom.fr/se-documenter/espace-juridique/decisions/Emission-punchline-ete-diffusee-le-8-aout-2023-sanction-pecuniaire-lencontre-de-lediteur-du-service>

9. [Global Risks Report 2024 | World Economic Forum | World Economic Forum](#)

10. This note does not distinguish between disinformation and misinformation, which traditionally depends on the intentionality of the discourse.

11. [A global foresight report on planetary health and human wellbeing | UNEP – UN Environment Programme](#)

I. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

Climate Disinformation: A Growing Threat

Disinformation is an increasingly serious threat, driven by a range of compounding factors: rapid technological developments¹², political shifts towards deregulation¹³, a growing crisis of trust¹⁴, the rise of a techno-industrial complex with converging economic interests¹⁵, opportunistic industries, foreign interference¹⁶, and the rise of far-right movements.¹⁷

Climate change has become one of the most targeted topics by disinformation campaigns. In December 2024, 13%¹⁸ of online disinformation in Europe focused on climate issues, more than that concerning Ukraine, LGBTQ+ topics, and even the regional conflict in the Middle East.

This alarming trend has prompted several national responses. Notably, Poland launched a comprehensive investigation into its exposure. At the end of 2024, the Polish government published a report¹⁹ revealing **the extent of Russian interference in the spread of climate disinformation**, as well as Poland's lack of preparedness to counter this threat. The report described the situation as a "cognitive war," with **climate emerging as one of its key battlegrounds**.

A Unique Political Window of Opportunity

The rapid surge of climate disinformation is now being met by **increasing political recognition**.

In November 2024, at the G20 summit, the Brazilian government, UNESCO, and the United Nations jointly announced the launch of **a Global Initiative for Information Integrity on Climate Change**.²⁰

In parallel, the UN's Joint Declaration on the *Climate Crisis and Freedom of Expression*²¹ emphasizes the **critical role of environmental journalism and the need for balanced, science-based media coverage** to ensure the public receives accurate information on climate issues.

At EU level, the new European Commissioner for Climate Action, Wopke Hoekstra, has been officially tasked with addressing climate disinformation as part of his mandate.²²

Furthermore, the Polish Presidency of the EU (January–June 2025) has made the fight against climate disinformation one of its top three priorities.²³

While this political recognition has yet to be translated into comprehensive strategies, it paves the way to the rapid deployment, support, and funding of both reactive and preventive measures.

12. [Climate Action Against Disinformation | The AI Threats to Climate Change](#)

13. [Rapport Commission Bronner](#)

14. [Barometre confiance CEVIPOF Vague 16 fev 2025-v2_0.pdf](#)

15. [cssn.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Climate-Obstruction-in-Europe.pdf](#)

16. [Russia 'Spread Conspiracy Theories and Attacked Climate Scientists in Poland' - DeSmog](#)

17. [When Do Parties Lie? Misinformation and Radical-Right Populism Across 26 Countries - Petter Törnberg, Juliana Chueri, 2025](#)

18. [EDMO-Horizontal-42.pdf](#)

19. [Raport Zespołu ds. Dezinformacji Komisji ds. badania wpływów rosyjskich i białoruskich - Ministerstwo Sprawiedliwości - Portal Gov.pl](#)

20. [Global Initiative for Information Integrity on Climate Change | UNESCO](#)

21. [Joint declaration OSCE](#)

22. [Wopke Hoekstra - Mission letter | European Commission](#)

23. [Polish Presidency debriefs EP committees on priorities | News | European Parliament](#)

II. FINDINGS FROM THE ANALYSIS OVER THE REPORTING PERIOD

A. General Overview: Comprehensive Analysis of Disinformation Trends in the French Information Ecosystem

The automated detection, followed by manual verification, of disinformation cases confirms the following trend: during the first quarter of 2025, disinformation was consistently present across traditional media. While it appears to be becoming normalized and spreading throughout the broader information ecosystem, a significant amount of detected disinformation cases remain concentrated within a small number of specific media outlets.

1. Prevalence of Climate Disinformation in the First Quarter of 2025

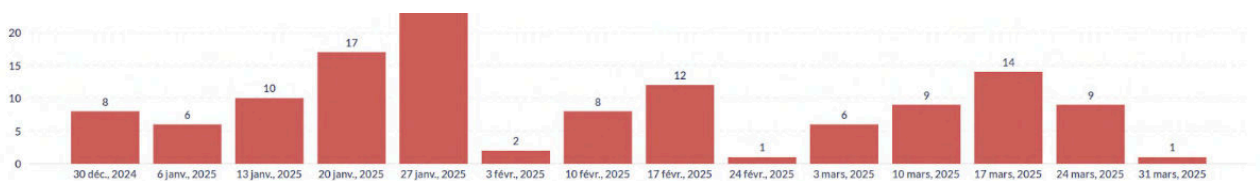
Labelled and verified data from Science Feedback confirm that climate disinformation is consistently present within traditional media.

In the first quarter of 2025, an average of ten cases of climate disinformation were detected each week.

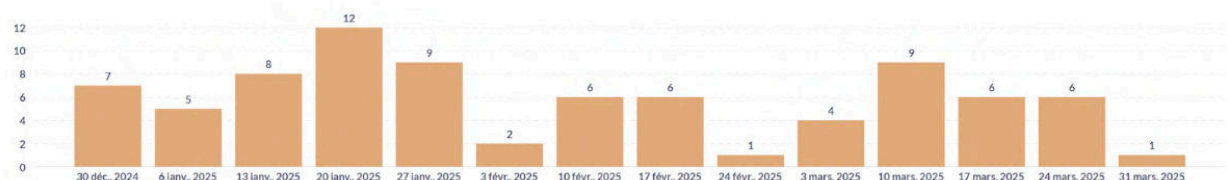


A total of 128 verified cases of climate disinformation were detected during the reporting period.

NUMBER OF CLIMATE DISINFORMATION CASES DETECTED AND VERIFIED BY SCIENCE FEEDBACK PER WEEK



NUMBER OF DISTINCT BROADCASTS CONTAINING VERIFIED CLIMATE DISINFORMATION DETECTED BY SCIENCE FEEDBACK PER WEEK



2. Overrepresentation of Climate Disinformation During Key Political Events

The week of Donald Trump's inauguration marked a significant spike in climate disinformation, with a 150% increase compared to the levels observed two weeks before and after. Among the 17 disinformation transcripts during the week of 20 January, 7 explicitly referenced Donald Trump to support its claims, accounting for 41% of the total.

Given the growing influence of governments that openly deny climate change around the world (e.g. the United States, Argentina), and the rising media and electoral traction of political parties positioning themselves on this issue, the permeability of traditional media to climate disinformation during geopolitical events is alarming.

Another surge in disinformation was observed during the weeks of March 10 and 17. These two weeks coincided with two major climate-related political events: (a) the launch of the final public consultation on the Multiannual Energy Programming (PPE) on March 7th²⁴, and (b) the release of the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (PNACC) on March 10th.²⁵



Allowing international political developments to shape the informational standards the public is exposed to would pose serious risks to both national security and democratic sovereignty.



Considering the technical complexity of the Multiannual Energy Programming (PPE) and its public consultation phase, it is regrettable that its media coverage triggered such waves of disinformation. **Public debate is both necessary and legitimate but it must be grounded in accurate, well-informed reporting.**

Similarly, considering the urgency of climate adaptation, the release of the National Climate Change Adaptation Plan (PNACC) should not serve as a pretext for spreading disinformation. **Such distortions undermine public acceptance of measures that aim at safeguarding the security and well-being of citizens.**

24. [Programmation pluriannuelle de l'énergie \(PPE 3\) : lancement de la consultation finale du public | Ministère de l'économie des Finances et de la Souveraineté industrielle et numérique](#)

25. [Le gouvernement lance un nouveau plan national d'adaptation au changement climatique | Ministères Aménagement du territoire Transition écologique](#)

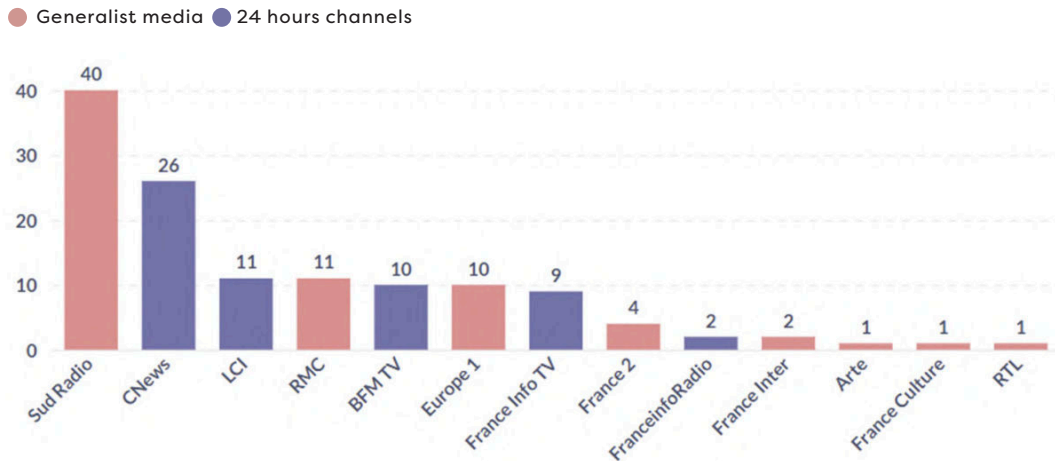
II. FINDINGS FROM THE ANALYSIS OVER THE REPORTING PERIOD

3. Comparison Between News Channels: Prevalence Among Certain Private Broadcasters



NUMBER OF CLIMATE DISINFORMATION SEGMENTS IDENTIFIED PER CHANNEL.

NOTE: MEDIA OUTLETS NOT SHOWN IN THIS CHART RECORDED NO INSTANCES OF CLIMATE DISINFORMATION DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD.



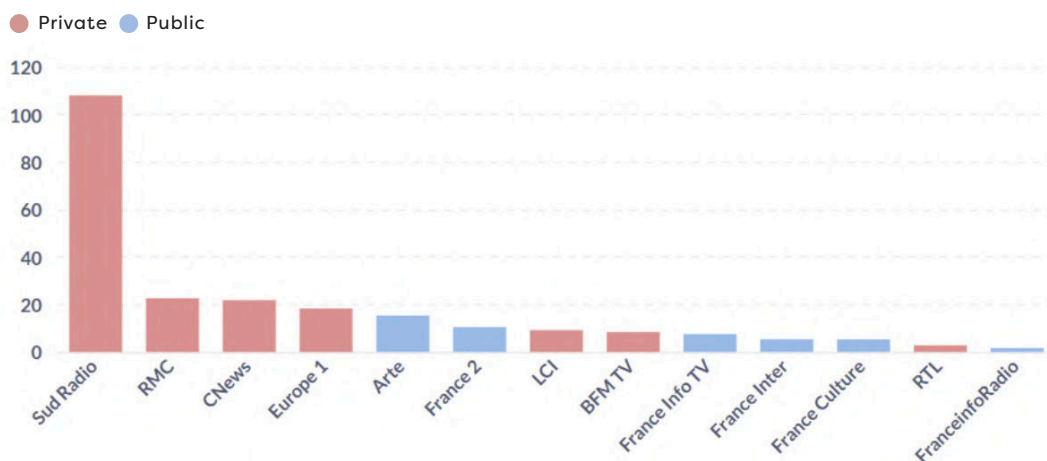
The raw analysis of disinformation segments highlights that certain channels present particularly high-risk. However, due to the significant differences in the volume of content monitored across different outlets (e.g. 119 hours per week for all-news channels (24/7) versus 37 hours per week for Sud Radio), it is essential to establish a weighted indicator for a fair comparison. One such indicator could be constructed as follows:

$$\frac{\text{NUMBER OF DETECTED CASES}}{\text{TOTAL AIRTIME MONITORED.}}$$

This normalisation allows for a proportional assessment of disinformation prevalence across channels, accounting for differences in broadcast volume and ensuring a more accurate comparative analysis.



CLIMATE DISINFORMATION SCORE NORMALISED BY VOLUME OF MONITORED NEWS COVERAGE



II. FINDINGS FROM THE ANALYSIS OVER THE REPORTING PERIOD

This comparison of broadcasters' susceptibility to climate disinformation yields the following key insights:

- **The private media sector shows high relative levels** of climate disinformation, accounting for **81%** of the identified disinformation content.
- **Sud Radio alone is responsible for 45% of the relative portion** of all climate disinformation detected within news programming.
- When excluding Sud Radio, the gap between private and public broadcasters narrows, with **64% of the relative amount of disinformation** is found in private media, versus **36% in public outlets**.

Note on ARTE: The case of ARTE is different, as its weekly monitored airtime is very low (6.5 hours) compared to other channels (ranging from 25 to 119 hours). As a result, a single detected instance of disinformation disproportionately impacts its relative disinformation score.

4. Political Climate Disinformation within the Public Broadcasting Service

It is essential to take a closer look at the verified cases of climate disinformation within the public audiovisual sector. In France, public broadcasters are entrusted with a mission of "education on environmental protection and sustainable development," as outlined in Article 43-II of the 1986 L otard Law²⁶ on freedom of communication. This responsibility is further reinforced through the performance and funding agreements these broadcasters sign with the French State, which require them to lead by example.²⁷

The presence of climate disinformation in public broadcasters' news programming is deeply concerning. It not only reflects the growing normalization of such narratives but also highlights the failure of public broadcasters to fully uphold their educational mandate and fulfill their role in environmental communication.

However, several important considerations should be taken into account when assessing this situation:

1 A significant portion of detected disinformation is focused on **solutions** to the environmental crisis. While it is unfortunate that such content is aired, it is understandable that not all journalists conducting political interviews can immediately challenge every inaccurate statement. Nonetheless, this highlights the need to **strengthen two critical areas:**

- **Environmental training for journalists**, to increase their capacity for real-time analysis and response;
- **Fact-checking and counter-disinformation efforts**, to correct the record post-broadcast.

2 Moreover, **most occurrences of environmental disinformation in public audiovisual media arise in political interviews or as reported statements from public figures**. This underlines the need to reinforce

- The **role of journalists during political interviews**, as they are particularly exposed and vulnerable to climate disinformation
- The **responsibility of journalists to contextualise reported speech** from political figures, as unchallenged statements can be misinterpreted as factual and authoritative.

26. <https://www.legifrance.gouv.fr/loda/id/JORFTEXT000000512205>

27. <https://www.culture.gouv.fr/thematiques/audiovisuel/Publications/Contrats-d-objectifs-et-de-moyens-2020-2023-entre-l-Etat-et-les-entreprises-audiovisuelles-publiques>

II. FINDINGS FROM THE ANALYSIS OVER THE REPORTING PERIOD

Addressing these shortcomings is crucial to ensuring that public broadcasters live up to their mandate and remain credible, trustworthy sources of information in the fight against climate disinformation.

5. Link with Broader Media Coverage Trends



EVOLUTION OF CLIMATE CHANGE MEDIA COVERAGE IN AIRTIME SHARE - SOURCE: MEDIA OBSERVATORY ON ECOLOGY²⁸



The presence of climate disinformation within the French information space must also be assessed in light of the overall low volume of media coverage on environmental issues.

During the period under review (1 January 2025 – 31 March 2025), climate-related information accounted for only 2% of total news coverage, with variations ranging from 0.9% on CNews to 6% on RFI.

Sociological studies on disinformation vulnerability consistently underline the effectiveness of both **prebunking** and **debunking** as protective measures against informational threats.²⁹ Moreover, it is well-established that **frequency of exposure to reliable information** is crucial for retaining accurate messages.³⁰ In this context, the limited volume of environmental coverage increases public permeability to climate disinformation campaigns.

This quantitative shortfall, especially within a hybrid media landscape characterized by the rise of climate disinformation, thus contributes to:

- **Increased vulnerability** of citizens to misleading narratives;
- **Ideological polarisation**, despite the unequivocal scientific consensus on climate change.

Furthermore, while the quantity of climate-related reporting varies across media outlets, so too does the prevalence of disinformation. A comparative analysis of disinformation scores relative to climate coverage reveals three distinct categories of media:

- **PERMEABLE:** Media outlets offering an average level of environmental coverage, but showing some susceptibility to climate disinformation;
- **WATCHDOGS:** Media with or without a particular editorial emphasis on climate topics, but showing **no recorded cases** of climate disinformation;
- **HIGH-RISK:** Media outlets with **limited climate coverage** and a **high likelihood** of disseminating climate disinformation.

28. <https://observatoiremediaecologie.fr/methodologie/>

29. [Investigating the role of source and source trust in prebunks and debunks of misinformation in online experiments across four EU countries | Scientific Reports](#)

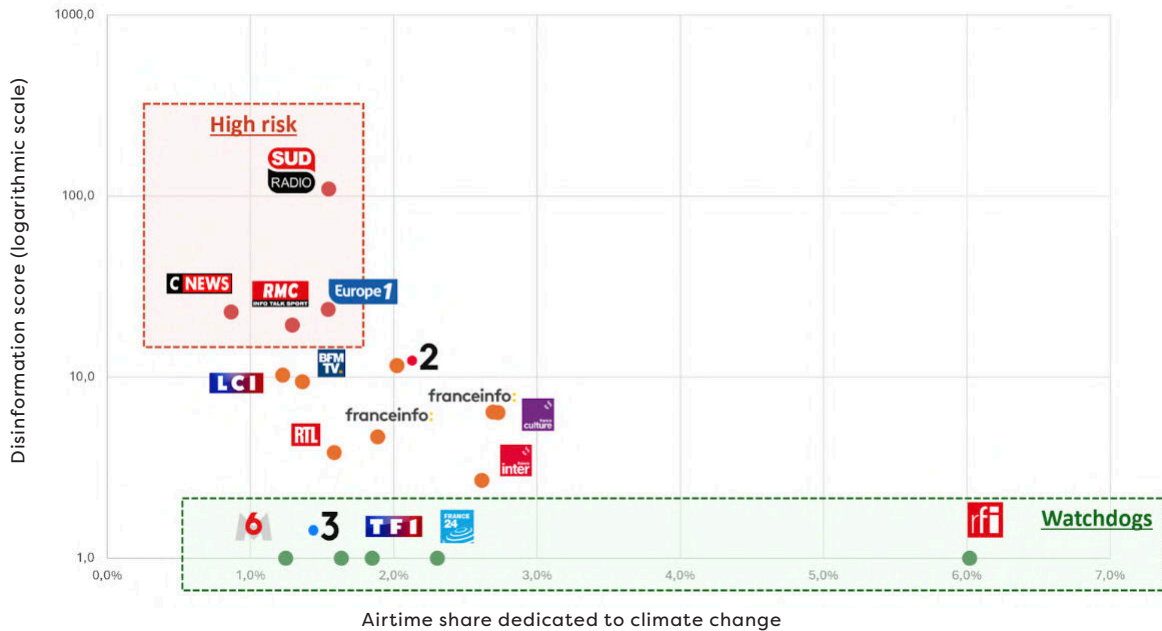
30. The Power of TV: Nudging Viewers to Decarbonise their Lifestyles | BIT ; <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/08838151003735018> ; <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC10451722/>

II. FINDINGS FROM THE ANALYSIS OVER THE REPORTING PERIOD



PREVALENCE³¹ OF DISINFORMATION CONTENT RELATIVE TO CLIMATE CHANGE COVERAGE

NOTE: BECAUSE OF ARTE LOW MONITORED AIRTIME, IT HAS BEEN DECIDED NOT TO INCLUDE THEM IN THE GRAPH ABOVE.



B

Types of Disinformation Narratives and Discourses of Inaction

1. Identification of Thematic Disinformation Waves

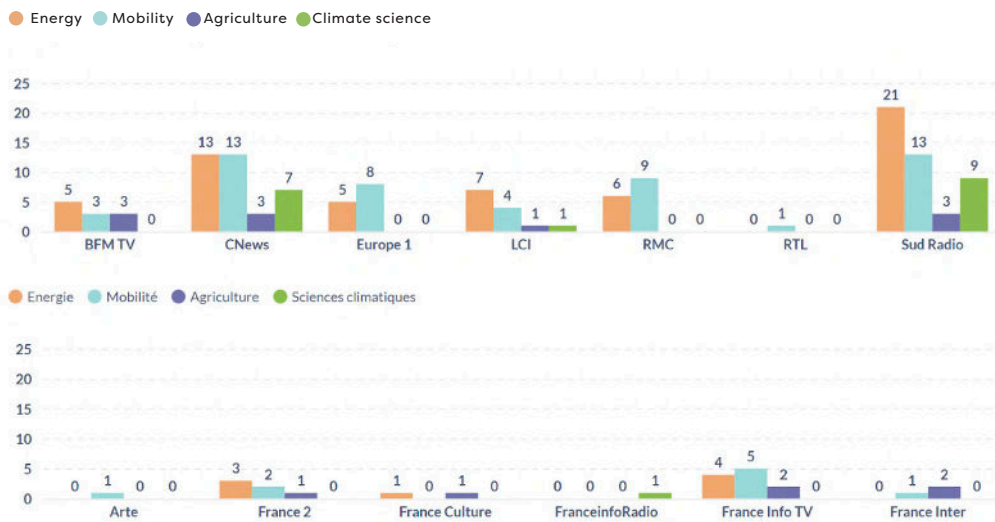
Preliminary analysis suggests that two topics are particularly exposed to climate disinformation in the first quarter of 2025: energy (50%) and mobility (47%).

The narratives primarily target **electric vehicles** on one hand, and **renewable energy sources** on the other. This is especially concerning given the strong scientific consensus on the urgent need to decarbonise our energy mix and accelerate the electrification of the vehicle fleet.

31. Watchdogs: Disinformation score = 1; High-risk: Disinformation score > 19 & climate change airtime share < 1,6%

II. FINDINGS FROM THE ANALYSIS OVER THE REPORTING PERIOD

BREAKDOWN BY MEDIA OUTLET OF EXPLICITLY MENTIONED SECTORS³² IN IDENTIFIED DISINFORMATION INSTANCES



2. Beyond Disinformation: Analysing the Discourses of Inaction

METHODOLOGY: For discourse analysis, **the terms discourses of inaction or narratives (CARDS)** are used interchangeably and represent the different categories of the CARDS taxonomy outlined below. This analytical typology is separate from the analysis of disinformation. While a large number of disinformation cases contain CARDS narratives, only a portion of CARDS narratives are confirmed cases of climate disinformation (details in section 3. Methodology). However, they all carry significant weight in terms of the acceptability—or lack thereof—of the environmental transition.

In addition to identifying climate disinformation cases, a complementary approach has been introduced to detect **narratives that promote climate inaction**³³.

In particular, the **CARDS framework**³⁴ defines eight categories of inaction narratives. Some of these align directly with verified instances of climate disinformation, while others only partially overlap.³⁵

1. Climate change does not exist

2. Climate change is not/ not entirely attributable to human activities

3. The risks related to climate change are overestimated

4. Climate change solutions do not work

5. Climate science is unreliable

6. The messengers of the transition are biased

7. The global economy cannot function without fossil energy

8. Others

32. Keywords in French for classification: Energie : éolien, photovoltaïque, solaire, nucléaire ; Mobilité : voiture, avion, train ; Agriculture : agriculture, agriculteur, agricole, tracteur ; Sciences climatique : giec, onu, scientifiques, climatologue, co2

33. See 3. Methodology

34. [Computer-assisted classification of contrarian claims about climate change | Scientific Reports](#)

35. See 3. Methodology

II. FINDINGS FROM THE ANALYSIS OVER THE REPORTING PERIOD

This analysis of narratives within the French information landscape reveals the following key findings:

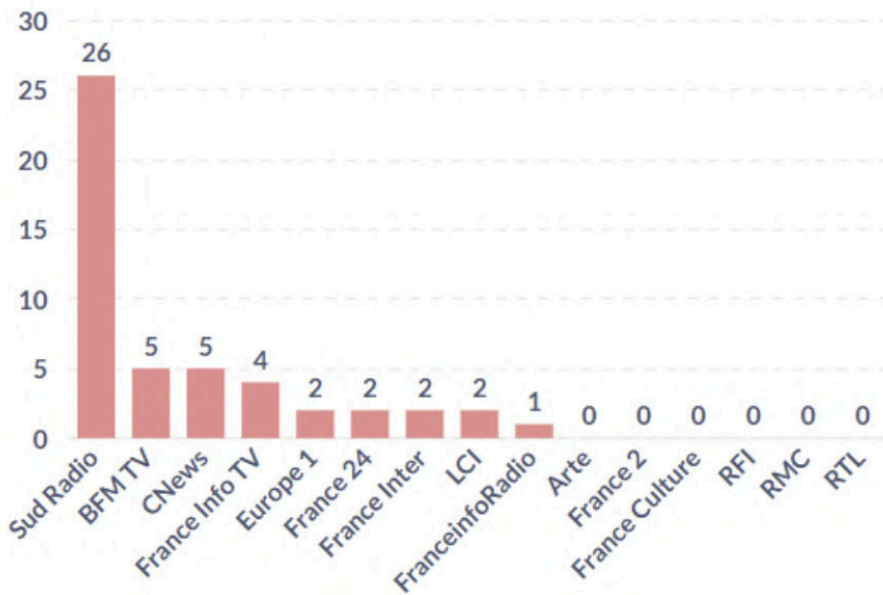
- **61%** of the identified narratives focus on **discrediting solutions** to the climate crisis.
- **24%** target **the messengers of the net-zero transition**, including attempts to undermine climate scientists and environmental advocates through denigration.
- **13%** relate to the **denial or minimisation of the scientific consensus**, broken down as follows: 5% deny the existence of climate change; 3% deny its anthropogenic origin; 4% minimise the severity of its impacts; 1% cast doubt on climate science as a whole.



A total of 379 CARDS narratives, corresponding to various forms of climate inaction discourse, were identified during the reporting period.



DISTRIBUTION OF NARRATIVE CASES UNDERMINING THE SCIENTIFIC CONSENSUS ON CLIMATE CHANGE



Overall, all-news channels (broadcasting 24/7) appear to be **partially permeable** to narratives that discredit climate science.

In contrast, among generalist broadcasters, **Sud Radio**, and to a lesser extent **Europe 1**, are responsible for the majority of misleading narratives related to climate science.

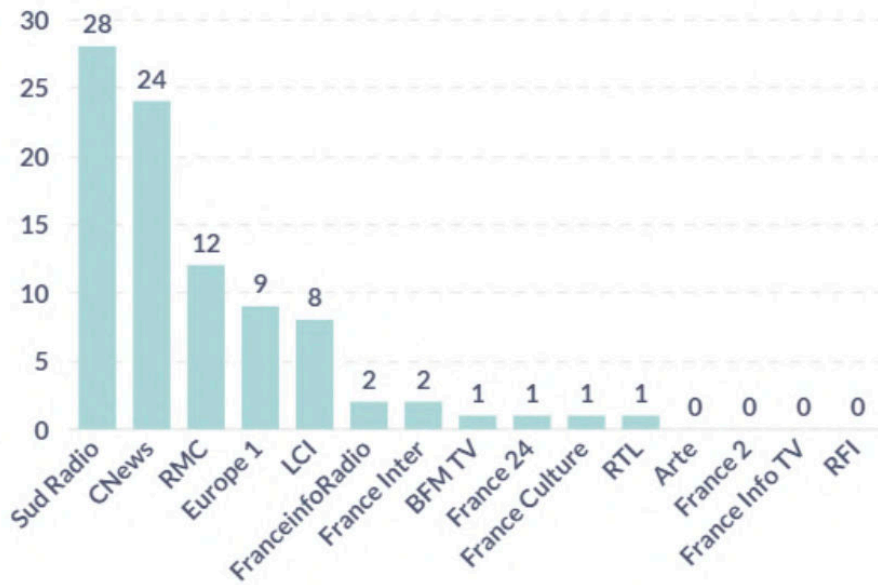
This observation should be viewed in light of the recent decision by the **Conseil d'État**³⁶ and the subsequent **ARCOM deliberation**³⁷ on the application of pluralism in generalist channels. Specifically, this development expands the definition of pluralism to encompass the diversity of political opinions as well as the **range of topics covered** and the **variety of schools of thought and perspectives** represented.

36. Pluralisme et indépendance de l'information : l'Arcom devra se prononcer à nouveau sur le respect par CNews de ses obligations - Conseil d'État

37. L'Arcom adopte une délibération relative au respect du principe de pluralisme des courants de pensée et d'opinion dans les médias audiovisuels | Arcom

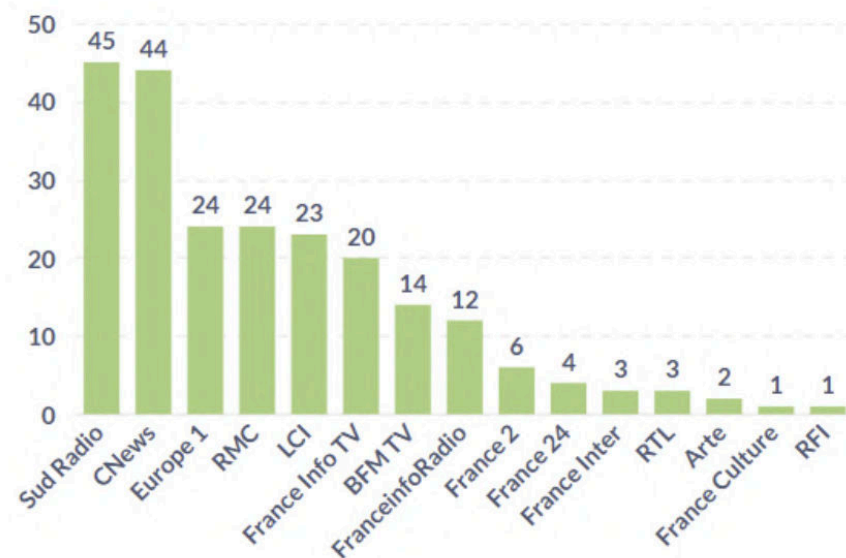
II. FINDINGS FROM THE ANALYSIS OVER THE REPORTING PERIOD

▶ DISTRIBUTION OF NARRATIVE CASES UNDERMINING THE MESSENGERS OF THE GREEN TRANSITION



The narrative discrediting messengers of the green transition appears to be particularly prevalent on **Sud Radio, CNews, RMC, Europe 1, and LCI**.

▶ DISTRIBUTION OF NARRATIVE CASES RELATED TO THE DEMOBILISATION AROUND CLIMATE CHANGE SOLUTIONS



Finally, misleading narratives about solutions to the green transition are spread across a wide **range of media outlets, although not all are involved**.

While the spread of these narratives often reflects **editorial choices**, it raises important concerns about the **active role certain media may play in fuelling opposition** to the green transition, and their potential role in fueling the **polarisation of public debate** by amplifying existing societal divides.

C Case-Specific Analysis

1. 19th of January 2025 – LCI

On **January 19th**, during a broadcast on **LCI**, Luc Ferry claimed that **electric vehicles pollute more than internal combustion vehicles**. To this, the journalist replied: “many young people believe we’re not even allowed to have this debate.”

According to **Science Feedback’s fact-checking work³⁸**, the above statement can be defined as follows:

- **MISLEADING:** Electrifying vehicles **reduces greenhouse gas emissions** in most countries, except where electricity generation remains highly carbon-intensive.
- **UNFOUNDED:** While electric vehicle production emits more carbon than that of combustion vehicles, **life-cycle emissions** are the key metric, clearly demonstrating the **decarbonisation potential** of electric vehicles.

Moreover, the journalist’s comment is factually incorrect: a significant portion of the population³⁹, going beyond the younger generation, **values accurate information** and expects journalists to uphold their role as fact-checkers.

By neither challenging nor expressing doubt about Luc Ferry’s claim, the media neglects its journalistic duty, blurring the line between fact and opinion.

2. 21st of January 2025 – BFMTV

During this broadcast, Donald Trump’s representative in France was invited as a guest. When addressing the issue of climate change, he stated: “*We’ve been lied to for years [...] it’s time to stop.*” The presenter moved on without comment or correction.

It is deeply concerning that such relativism, clearly mirrors the climate disinformation promoted by Donald Trump, was met with complete indifference on a French television set.

This form of climate relativism is contradicted by recent data:

- **Global temperatures have risen by about 1.2°C since the late 19th century**, closely tracking the sharp increase in atmospheric CO₂—now at its highest level in at least 800,000 years due to human fossil fuel emissions;
- **The rising frequency and severity of extreme weather events—especially heatwaves and intense rainfall—are strongly aligned with climate model predictions.**

On 12 December 2024, BFM TV renewed its agreement with ARCOM, which outlines its responsibilities and editorial commitments.

According to **Article 2-3-7 (page 6)** of that agreement, BFM TV commits to “ensuring the honesty of information in its programming.” The third paragraph explicitly states:

“The broadcaster shall ensure an honest presentation of controversial issues, in particular by distinguishing between facts and commentary, and by ensuring the expression of diverse viewpoints.”

38. [Attention aux propos trompeurs de Luc Ferry sur LCI, l'électrification des voitures diminue les rejets de gaz à effet de serre dans la plupart des pays - Science Feedback](#)
39. [Baromètre de la confiance des Français dans les médias](#)

II. FINDINGS FROM THE ANALYSIS OVER THE REPORTING PERIOD

This segment **constitutes a clear breach** of the commitments made by the media (BFMTV) upon signing this agreement.

This is far from an isolated case. It reflects a broader and deeply troubling trend of **media mismanagement of environmental and climate issues**, increasingly influenced by actors who use disinformation as a strategic tool. It is currently left unchecked and **without a proportionate counterbalance** to the risks their claims pose.

With an average audience of **227,000 viewers⁴⁰** and more than **600 million video views** across its social media platforms⁴¹, **BFMTV plays a pivotal role in shaping public perceptions and understanding collective issues**. As such, its failure to **uphold factual integrity is particularly** damaging to the broader information ecosystem.

3. 29 January 2025 – Sud Radio

On **January 29th 2025**, despite **two previous warnings from ARCOM for climate disinformation** (a first of its kind globally), Sud Radio **asserted** its commitment to giving a platform to guests who deny the scientific consensus on climate change.

ARCOM DECISION DATED 29 JULY 2024 (OUR OWN TRANSLATION)⁴²

Arcom was alerted about segments broadcast in the program “*Bercoff dans tous ses états*” on March 25 and May 2, 2024, on Sud Radio and Sud Radio +, which focused on climate change.

The Authority noted that several statements contradicted or downplayed the existing scientific consensus on climate disruption, through coverage that lacked rigor and provided insufficient counterpoints. This constitutes a breach by the broadcaster of its obligation to provide honest and rigorous information, as well as a failure to uphold its responsibility for editorial control.

As a result, Arcom issued a warning to the broadcaster against the recurrence of such violations.

The program “*Bercoff dans tous ses états*” broadcasted on Sud Radio still continues to invite guests who, as its chief editors present it, “*think differently from others*”.

Behind this non-confirmist statement, Sud Radio’s position only seems to aim at amplifying the voices of those who challenge the **unequivocal scientific consensus** on climate change.

Media regulation requires French audiovisual media to monitor all audiovisual media and promote **rigorous and honest information**. The above examples demonstrate how media regulation frameworks should be strengthened.

40. AUDIENCES 2024 : BFMTV, PREMIÈRE CHAÎNE INFO

41. Ibid

42. Émission «Bercoff dans tous ses états» diffusée le 25 mars et le 2 mai 2024 : Sud Radio et Sud Radio + mises en garde | Arcom

II. FINDINGS FROM THE ANALYSIS OVER THE REPORTING PERIOD

3. 31st of January 2025 – Sud Radio

On **January 31st 2025**, misleading claims on climate change were broadcasted without contradiction on **Sud Radio**. The following was heard: *“So for environmentalists, we need to fight CO₂, which I remind you is only 0.04% of the air we breathe and surrounds the planet. And anthropogenic emissions represent just a tiny fraction, something like 0 point something. In other words, we’re fighting to reduce the capacity to warm the atmosphere by 0.004%, and considering the remaining 99.997% doesn’t matter for global warming.”*⁴³

The journalist’s response was simply: *“Yeah.”*

Denying the scientific consensus without any journalistic contextualisation and/or contradiction is particularly alarming, especially considering **Sud Radio’s history of sanctions** from ARCOM.

The fact-checking analysis carried by Science Feedback⁴⁴ is clear:

- **INCORRECT:** Human CO₂ emissions are not negligible—they have increased the CO₂ concentration in the atmosphere by 50% between 1750 and 2023.
- **MISLEADING:** While CO₂ represents **0.04%** of the atmosphere’s volume, it has unique physical properties: it absorbs **infrared radiation**, disrupting the planet’s energy balance and leading to **global warming**.

4. 21st of February 2025 – Radio Classique – Morning show

On **February 21st 2025**, **Radio Classique** interviewed **Christian G rondeau**, who spent 12 minutes outlining, without any contradiction, that **climate change is not caused by human activity**.⁴⁵

3 misleading elements relating to climate change were used by **Christian G rondeau** in this interview:

- *“The first is that we are heading toward a climate warming unlike anything we’ve ever seen. This is entirely false; the climate varies cyclically.”*
- *“The second is that the sea will rise catastrophically. This is entirely false; the sea rises by 1, 2, or 3 millimeters per year, and it would take thousands of years to reach 15 meters.”*
- *“The third is that this is all the fault of humans, who emit CO₂. This is also false.”*

He even added: *“Donald Trump says the same thing I do, that it’s all a giant hoax, and he’s right.”*

During this interview, the journalist asked **9 questions**, but none of them even attempted to contextualise, propose a counter-narrative or highlight the established scientific consensus that **Christian G rondeau** was denying.

This sequence represents a clear **breach of Radio Classique’s regulatory and ethical commitments to fact-based public debate**, especially considering that the guest has long been known for his **climate science denialism**.

In addition to strengthening existing media regulation frameworks and bolstering national media authorities’ capacities to mitigate disinformation, a powerful way to prevent climate disinformation in traditional media programs would be to recognize the importance of environmental information in **journalistic ethical principles**.

43. Rediffusion : <https://youtu.be/hRsfUz9nsA0?si=hPRaeUU4OAOQY3CQ&t=1800>

44. [Le CO₂ est un gaz   effet de serre en raison de ses propri t s physiques : m me s’il ne repr sente qu’une petite partie de l’atmosph re, il impacte le climat global – Science Feedback](#)

45. Matinale du 21 f vrier 2025, chronique «L’invit  de la matinale» : [L’ mission L’invit  de la matinale – R coutez le podcast – Radio Classique](#)

III. METHODOLOGY AND SCOPE

This report analyzes the full spectrum of French audiovisual information landscape, focusing specifically on **news programmes** and informational content, from both public and private channels, as well as publicly accessible radio stations across France.

Data analysis conducted in this report is limited to the scope of **television and radio channels monitored by the Media Observatory on Ecology**⁴⁶, i.e **19 television and radio channels**. As such, all programmes classified as “news” by ARCOM are monitored, including public and historical free television channels, as well as radio stations in category E. The detailed scope can be found on the **Observatory’s website**.

The scope of this analysis includes:

TV channels: TF1, France 2, France 3 Ile de France, M6, France 24, France Info Télévision, CNews, LCI, BFM TV, Arte.

Radio channels: France Info Radio, France Inter, France Culture, RFI, Europe 1, RMC, RTL, Sud Radio.

It is important to note that the scope of analysis is limited to **information programmes**. It does not provide an exhaustive coverage of all programmes that may “**contribute to information**” but are not listed under the official category⁴⁷. Additionally, under the French regulatory framework, these programmes are subject to “**particular attention**” in addressing any **visible and sustained imbalance** in the expression of diverse currents of thought and opinion. This assessment, conducted by the ARCOM in France, is based on a range of indicators: the **diversity of speakers, themes, and points of view expressed**. This clarification results from the **deliberation on respecting pluralism** published by ARCOM on 18 July 2024⁴⁸, following the decision of the **Conseil d’État** on 13 February 2024 on the same topic⁴⁹.

This study focuses on the period from **January 1st 2025 to March 31st 2025**. Ongoing work by the **Media Observatory on Ecology** will subsequently extend the review period.

In this report, the analysis of specific disinformation cases, however, has been expanded to monitor the period from **April 2023 to March 2025**.



This approach, including the **categorisation of disinformation cases**, complies all **professional and ethical standards** of journalism, including those established by the International **Fact-Checking Network**⁵⁰ and the **European Fact-Checking Standards Network**⁵¹. **Science Feedback** is a signatory of the latter.

46. <https://observatoiremediaÉcologie.fr/methodologie/>

47. L’Arcom adopte une délibération relative au respect du principe de pluralisme des courants de pensée et d’opinion dans les médias audiovisuels | Arcom

48. *ibid*

49. Pluralisme et indépendance de l’information : l’Arcom devra se prononcer à nouveau sur le respect par CNews de ses obligations - Conseil d’État

50. International Fact-Checking Network – Poynter

51. European Fact-Checking Standards Network (EFCSN)

METHODOLOGICAL CLARIFICATIONS:

- A segment is defined as a sequence of two consecutive minutes (e.g., 18:00 – 18:02).
- A climate change segment is defined as one that includes at least one keyword related to climate change, according to the open-source methodology developed by the Media Observatory on Ecology, supported and co-financed by ARCOM⁵².
- The credibility of information is assessed using an evaluation framework developed by Science Feedback⁵³:

1. Statements rated as having “very high” credibility:



If the statement is an evidence-based statement, it is labelled as “Exact” when it describes an observation consistent with available data and does not omit any relevant context. If the statement is an explanation of the causes of an observation (either a “theory” or “hypothesis” in science), it is considered “Correct” if it has been properly tested through scientific studies and generates observed results that are confirmed by real-world observations.

2. Statements rated as having “high” credibility:



A factual statement is considered “Mostly accurate” if it requires clarification or additional information to be entirely accurate. An explanation is considered “Mostly correct” if it presents an argument and/or an assumption that has been properly tested in scientific studies, but the formulation of the statement may overestimate the level of confidence in this non-proven assumption or slightly distort what can be predicted from it.

3. Statements rated as having “neutral” credibility:



A statement is classified as “Neutral” if it omits important information or is made out of context (“Lack of context”). For example, a statement will be labelled “Partially correct” if it overstates the level of scientific confidence in an assumption or argument. It will be labelled as “Vague” if it uses poorly defined terms or lacks details, making it unclear what is being said without making further unmentioned assumptions.

4. Statements rated as having “low” credibility:



A statement is considered “Low” credibility when it is not supported by adequate references or if the available evidence does not corroborate it (labelled as “Unfounded”). If a statement contains some truth but leads the reader toward a misinterpretation of the facts, such as omitting fundamental contextual elements, it will be labelled as “Misleading.”

5. Statements rated as having “very low” credibility:



A statement is considered to have “very low” accuracy when it is false, such as when it presents a fact that directly contradicts available scientific data (labelled as “Inaccurate”), or if it provides an explanation or theory whose predictions have been invalidated by a scientific consensus (labelled as “Erroneous”).

52. <https://observatoiremediafecologie.fr/methodologie/>
53. Méthodologie – Comment Science Feedback fonctionne – Science Feedback

A. About climate disinformation

This detection project is part of the collaboration between the **Media Observatory on Ecology** and **Science Feedback**, using **machine learning models** currently being developed.

Segments classified as climate disinformation have been detected using a preliminary Artificial Intelligence-based method, then manually validated by **Science Feedback teams**.

A segment is classified as disinformation when it includes statements deemed to have **very low accuracy** (Inaccurate or Erroneous), or **low accuracy** (Misleading), particularly when the statement has a **high potential to mislead the public** about established facts. This classification does not include minor inaccuracies or interpretative differences; but rather refers to **claims that are scientifically refuted, manipulative by omission, or grounded in discredited theories**.

The classification is also based on fact-checking ethical practices⁵⁴, which include:

- **PUBLIC IMPORTANCE AND RELEVANCE:** The statement must be relevant and have an impact on public opinion, policies, health, or finances.
- **VIRALITY AND REACH:** The statement must be widely shared on social media, debated on media outlets, or disseminated by public figures.
- **POTENTIAL HARM:** The statement must present real risks or dangers to the population (e.g., discouraging efforts to mitigate climate change).
- **FALSIFIABILITY AND VERIFIABILITY:** The statement must be specific and verifiable using credible data or scientific consensus.
- **AUTHORITY AND INFLUENCE OF THE SOURCE:** Statements from public figures, officials, or major media outlets are prioritized.
- **CLARITY AND CONTEXT:** The statement must be clear enough to be analyzed and should not be taken out of context or come from satire.
- **RECURRENCE AND PERSISTENCE:** If the false statement reappears regularly in public discourse, it is more likely to be fact-checked.

⁵⁴ifcn.codeofprinciples.poynter.org/the-commitments



EXAMPLE OF A DISINFORMATION CHUNK

“Listen to what she was saying a few years ago. ‘How dare you, how dare you!’ Yes, how dare you, you’ve stolen our childhood, do you remember Greta Thunberg, magnificent! She’s the one who stopped Franco, well... François Gervais, hello. Now, for those who say ‘Ah, but François Gervais, what he says!’ Let me tell you who he is. He was a research director at the High Temperature Physics Research Center at CNRS, and at CNRS, he wasn’t focused on saying ‘Hello, I’m leaving X.’ No, that wasn’t his job. Others took that up. He was also an expert reviewer for the AR5 and AR6 reports from the IPCC. And we’re always told, here and elsewhere, that the only true source of accurate and scientific information is the IPCC. Anyone who steps outside the IPCC is no longer a scientist. We, you know, we’re not climatologists, we’re not scientists, but we question everything. And we are not on the side of the party line. We’re not in North Korea. So, François Gervais, after publishing other works, has written: ‘There is no climate apocalypse.’ Now, I really want us to talk about this, and talk very, very precisely about the facts. We’ve seen recently that certain cars should be banned, first thermal vehicles, they should be finished, and millions of French people will not be able to enter certain cities because they won’t have the required vehicles, climate, etc. So, I really want us to talk about this precisely, and in numbers, François Gervais, your book is fascinating because it gives concrete facts and precise information. **So, is CO₂ still the culprit, the dirty one from which all the evil comes? It is by no means a pollutant, on the contrary, it’s a fertilizer.”**

B. About CARDS classification

In addition to the CARDS classification framework, a **complementary approach** is applied to identify more precisely the type of disinformation narrative. The taxonomy used to classify the type of narratives present in a segment is based on the work of the **University of Exeter**, commonly referred to as **CARDS** (Computer Assisted Recognition of Denial and Skepticism).⁵⁵

55. [Computer-assisted classification of contrarian claims about climate change | Scientific Reports](#)

III. METHODOLOGY AND SCOPE

CARDS TAXONOMY



→ 1, 2, 3, 5. The scientific consensus is not credible

1. Climate change does not exist
2. Climate change is not/not entirely linked to human activities
3. The risks related to climate change are overestimated
5. Climate science is unreliable

→ 4. Climate change solutions do not work

Within this category, some narratives qualify as **disinformation**, while others pertain to **political and/or geopolitical debates**, which should be distinguished from disinformation. As such, only blunt denial of scientific consensus or the promotion of **scientifically unproven solutions as disproportionately effective** are classified as disinformation.

→ 6. Advocates of the green transition are biased

A large portion of the narratives classified in this category are **not considered disinformation**, but rather fall under **discourses of inaction**.

The elements considered in this category include **direct and personalized attacks** against environmental scientists or individuals recognized as associated with the climate transition.

→ 7. The global economy cannot function without fossil fuel energy

→ 8. Others



EXAMPLE OF A CARDS NARRATIVE

Because, whichever side you lean towards, you say to yourself, “But this isn’t possible, it’s not possible to push this many absurdities.” With Trump exposing the social engineering operations through USAID, the NED, etc. Then there’s the World Economic Forum, which is still the Davos summit of Klaus Schwab, an example of opinion manipulation with that creature who appeared in 2018, young Greta Thunberg. Ah yes, that’s right, it’s Roland. I explained to you how Greta Thunberg was created by the World Economic Forum. It’s an interesting creation, actually, but the worst part is that it works. Because you have a young person, 16 years old, autistic, and who suddenly starts campaigning against global warming, etc. So it works and it functions. And it’s true that, at the level of the World Economic Forum, even in terms of their marketing, quote-unquote, their promotional campaign, it’s still quite strong. Now, when you start to push aside all that media brainwashing, you realize that behind it, there’s nothing. It’s unfortunately an empty façade, but... behind it, there are consulting firms opening new consulting markets on carbon, on corporate accounting—everything that, by the way, is currently collapsing, since BlackRock has decided to drop these indicators. It’s interesting to see how easily they flip their stance on what was supposed to save us from climate catastrophe. In the end, these major financiers very quickly throw that in the trash. Yes, because they’ve now understood that it’s no longer going to bring them enough money, so they switch to something else. You know, it’s really just a matter of profit, of money made. It’s only that. And it’s unfortunate because we can clearly see that only money truly drives this world. And it’s crazy because we’re still living in a time where there are always... I’ve never seen so many convoluted systems, so many humanitarian foundations that I’ve...

Légend: CARDS (6. Messengers)

C. Comparison between analytical frameworks

The following figures help to clarify the distinction between verified disinformation segments and the CARDS classification methodology:

- **95%** of segments classified as disinformation indeed contain **CARDS narratives**, indicating a near-total overlap.
- **57%** of segments containing **CARDS narratives** are also classified as disinformation, specifically:
 - **86%** of segments containing **CARDS narratives related to climate science (1, 2, 3, 5)** are also classified as disinformation.
 - **56%** of segments containing **CARDS narratives related to solutions of the green transition (4)** are also classified as disinformation.
 - **46%** of segments containing **CARDS narratives related to the advocates of the transition (6)** are also classified as disinformation.

▶ NUMBER OF DISINFORMATION CASES DETECTED AND CERTIFIED BY SCIENCE FEEDBACK PER WEEK



It is important to clarify that the **CARDS narratives** present within a segment classified as disinformation are not necessarily the ones that are classified as disinformation. For example, a segment may address the **advocate of the transition** in the introduction, and then spread disinformation about the scientific consensus on climate change within the same 2-minute sequence. These overlaps are therefore **illustrative of a trend in media discourse** and should be interpreted with caution.

Finally, the starting point for constructing the data in this analysis is the detection of **disinformation cases**, on which **CARDS** provides an additional layer of analysis. There may be occurrences of **CARDS narratives** that have not been previously identified by the model. Therefore, this analysis is not exhaustive in its current form.

IV. RECOMMENDATIONS

This report offers the first comprehensive quantitative analysis of the spread of climate disinformation across French audiovisual me-

dia. Given the scale of the issue, we urge for coordination action from media outlets, advertisers, regulators, lawmakers, and civil society.



1. For the media

As a democratic counter-power, the media have a fundamental responsibility to ensure the public is accurately informed especially in the face of pervasive climate disinformation.

Four priorities emerge:

- **Support and expand media coverage of environmental issues.** The permeability of public opinion to climate disinformation is directly linked to the low levels of environmental information.
- **Support an ongoing training of journalists on environmental issues** within newsrooms, in a transversal, systematic and substantive manner across all departments. It should include editors-in-chief, presenters, and hosts—who play key roles in shaping public narratives.
- **Adapting fact-checking practices** to live formats, as well as political and economic interviews with economic stakeholders. This could involve **live teams**, support from **technological tools**, and the presence of **experts on set or in the control room**, ready to respond to the most repetitive disinformation narratives.
- **Resist the misinformation challenge posed by the rise of infotainment**, content positioned at the intersection of information and entertainment, at the expense of factual reporting. This trend contributes to an increasing blurring of the line between facts and opinion. The rise of infotainment can largely be attributed to its low production costs, particularly when compared to the economic demands of field reporting or investigative journalism. However, this shift has tangible consequences for the overall quality of the information disseminated. French media must distinguish themselves from Anglo-Saxon-style opinion media, a boundary that is increasingly under strain.



2. For the national media regulation authority (e.g Arcom)

The law (Article 4 of the 1986 Léotard Law) specifies that *“The Audiovisual and Digital Communication Regulatory Authority ensures the honesty, independence, and pluralism of information and programmes contributing to it.”*

ARCOM has already intervened on climate disinformation in three documented cases.

Building on this precedent, two key priorities should guide its action:

- **Addressing complaints regarding climate disinformation** with speed and proportionality.
- Reaffirm and apply its mandate in light of growing climate-related informational threats.



3. For the law-maker

As disinformation spreads and regulatory enforcement remains limited, a legislative clarification of ARCOM's responsibilities is urgently needed.

A bill introduced by **MP Stéphane Delautrette** (Socialist Party), co-signed by **80 MPs** from eight political parties, proposes that ARCOM be tasked with ensuring that media coverage *"reflects the state of scientific knowledge on environmental issues, particularly the anthropogenic origin of climate disruption, and the need for action in line with France's international commitments (Art.1)."*

We call for this bill to be placed on the National Assembly's legislative agenda⁵⁶.



4. For the advertisers

Advertisers align their brand values with the platforms they support. When advertisements appear alongside climate disinformation, they lend direct or tacit legitimacy to its content.

Continued commercial partnerships with outlets that repeatedly disseminate climate disinformation amount to an endorsement of these editorial choices.

We call on advertisers to leverage their financial influence to promote responsible information practices. This includes:

- Raising concerns with media partners about disinformation;
- Reassessing partnerships based on editorial integrity.



5. For the civil society

The right to reliable information is under strain. Citizens and civil society organisations have an essential role to play in defending this democratic pillar.

Concretely, this means:

- **Demanding accountability from media outlets and journalists** when encountering misleading content;
- **Fact-checking emotionally charged information** before sharing;
- **Diversifying news sources** to avoid echo chambers and deepen understanding;
- **Supporting independent journalism**, which provides balanced, verified, and high-integrity reporting.

⁵⁶ [Proposition de loi, n° 601 - 17e législature - Assemblée nationale](#)

V. APPENDIX: NOTE ON THE FUTURE AVAILABILITY OF THE DETECTIONS FROM THIS ANALYSIS

This document constitutes an interim note within the framework of an ongoing research project dedicated to the identification and quantification of climate-related misinformation in television and radio broadcasts. The final report is scheduled for publication in September 2025.

The detections presented herein are preliminary and used exclusively for quantitative analytical purposes. They result from an automated detection process, followed by manual verification aimed at identifying false or misleading claims.

The findings reveal two key points:

- First, the dissemination of climate disinformation within the French audiovisual space is so extensive that it exceeds the capacity of most specialised media outlets to produce a dedicated fact-checking article for each false statement (130 detections over a three-month period). This reality underscores the need to foster a broader public debate, notably through the publication of this interim report, while refraining, at this stage, from providing a detailed fact-check for each individual instance.
- Second, our detection tool has demonstrated highly promising performance, even in its prototype phase.

This work represents a first step in the identification process. Its objective is to quantify the phenomenon and validate the output of our automated detection system, without yet undertaking a systematic, public, individual and comprehensive evaluation of the truthfulness of each detected claim. Nevertheless, such evaluations are already being conducted for the most salient cases, as detailed below.

Our methodology distinguishes between two types of verification:

1. **Internal analytical verification**, which serves to categorise detected statements as disinformation or not, and to enhance the performance of the detection tool. The considerable number of false or misleading claims identified and confirmed also enables the identification of certain trends, as illustrated in this note.
2. **Editorial fact-checking for public dissemination**, which requires a case-by-case approach that is in-depth, pedagogical, and supported by multiple sources. This process leads to the publication of articles on the Science Feedback website, based on detected instances such as:

V. APPENDIX

- [CO₂ is a greenhouse gas due to its physical properties:⁵⁷ although it represents only a small fraction of the atmosphere, it has a measurable impact on the global climate.](#)
 - **Full statement:** “So according to environmentalists, we have to fight CO₂, which, I remind you, makes up just 0.04% of the air we breathe. Anthropogenic emissions are something like 0-point-something percent. In other words, we are fighting the warming capacity of 0.004%, and claiming the other 99.997% don't matter for climate change.”
- [Nearly half of France's energy consumption comes from fossil fuels; electricity covers only a quarter of its energy needs.⁵⁸](#)
 - **Full statement:** “If you look at European pollution maps, most of the CO₂ comes from Germany. We are the least polluting country in the world because we have nuclear energy.”
- [Jordan Bardella downplays France's responsibility in global CO₂ emissions.⁵⁹](#)
 - **Full statement:** “[...] we already have one of the cleanest economies, since we emit only 0.2% of global CO₂ emissions, compared to almost 40% for the United States and China combined.”
- [Should we question the role of humans in climate change, as Pascal Praud suggests? Scientists already know the answer.⁶⁰](#)
 - **Full statement:** “I'm fine discussing climate change, but can't we ask who's responsible for it? Is it 100% humans or not? Can we even ask the question?”
- [Beware of misleading claims by Luc Ferry on LCI: electrification of vehicles reduces greenhouse gas emissions in most countries⁶¹](#)
 - **Full statement:** Luc Ferry: “[...] the electric car is far more polluting than small hybrid petrol cars.” Laurent Dandrieu: “[The electric car] makes no ecological sense. It's highly polluting—less so when driving, but much more so during manufacturing and production.”

This interim note is therefore intended to share the first quantitative insights from our automated detection of climate disinformation in French television content. While preliminary, the findings confirm both the scale of the phenomenon and the relevance of our methodological approach.

The next phase of the project will focus on refining the detection tool, expanding the database, and conducting in-depth analyses in the form of fact-checking articles covering as many cases as possible.

The final report, due in September 2025, will provide a comprehensive synthesis, supported by a database of detailed, sourced evaluations aligned with editorial fact-checking standards. Numerous such verifications, aimed at the general public, will continue to be regularly published on Science Feedback's website, with explicit reference to this project.

57. <https://science.feedback.org/fr/review/co2-gaz-effet-de-serre-proprietes-physiques-meme-represente-petite-partie-atmosphere-impacte-climat-global/>
58. <https://science.feedback.org/fr/review/pres-moitie-energie-consommee-france-provient-combustibles-fossiles-electricite-fournit-un-quart-besoins-energie/>
59. <https://science.feedback.org/fr/review/jordan-bardella-minimise-la-responsabilite-de-la-france-dans-les-emissions-mondiales-de-co2/>
60. <https://science.feedback.org/fr/review/interroger-role-humains-rechauffement-climatique-pascal-praud-scientifiques-connaissent-deja-reponse/>
61. <http://org/fr/review/attention-propos-trompeurs-luc-ferry-lic-electrification-voitures-diminue-rejets-gaz-effet-serre-plupart-pays/>



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