White House Election Manipulation Organizations Spend Over \$500 Million in Campaign to Influence Local Media

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White House Election Manipulation Organizations Spend Over \$500 Million in Campaign to Influence Local Media

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Agroup of 22 left-wing organizations announced the formation of a coalition that vows to spend over \$500 million in a campaign to influence local media outlets.

As the <u>Daily Caller</u> reports, the new coalition, "Press Forward," claims to be "independent of ideology" despite the overwhelmingly left-wing biases in many of the groups. The coalition pledges to "close longstanding inequities in journalism coverage and practice," according to a statement from the group.

Pointing to recent declines in local media, such as the shuttering of roughly 2,500 newspapers since 2005, Press Forward plans to put the \$500 million into grants that will support local media outlets, provide them with resources, and assist in developing collaborative efforts such as legal support groups and membership programs.

The leading group in the coalition is the MacArthur Foundation, which has promised at least \$150 million in grants. MacArthur has also contributed to such far-left organizations as Planned Parenthood, the Environmental Defense Fund, and the Tides Foundation, having given at least \$5 million worth of grants to each of these groups.

Another member of the coalition is the Knight Foundation, pledging another \$150 million, which has given at least \$1.2 million to nine different universities and nonprofit groups in order to "combat disinformation in communities of color."

The remaining \$200 million will be contributed by the other 20 groups, among which is the Democracy Fund, run by the progressive billionaire Pierre Omidyar, which once gave \$130,000 to the Center for Internet Security to establish a "portal" for targeting conservative social media posts as "misinformation" during the 2020 presidential election. Another group is the Ford Foundation, which donated \$15 million in 2021 to launch the Black Feminist Fund.

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"Press Forward seeks to reverse the dramatic decline in local news that has coincided with an increasingly divided America and weakening trust in institutions," the coalition said in its announcement statement. The various member groups say that they are "aligned on a set of shared values to guide their grantmaking: prioritizing transformation, centering community needs, growing with equity, ensuring accessibility, and preserving the editorial independence of news gathering organizations."

George Soros gives at least \$300K to network of TikTok activists to praise Biden and push ultra-left ideas on young voters of defunding the police and abolishing border enforcement



The nonprofit, previously known as 'TikTok for Biden', believe in abolishing border enforcement, defunding the police and ending cash bail.

Meet 'Ad Fontes Media,' The Left's Latest Tool For Annihilating Conservative Voices Like The Federalist



'Ad Fontes is complicit in the defunding of real journalism and turbocharging the revenue stream for legacy media propaganda.'



EVITA DUFFY-ALFONSO

An in-depth investigation into Ad Fontes Media, a "media literacy" organization, found that the for-profit company is making money by actively encouraging Big Tech platforms, advertisers, and educators to deplatform, boycott, and exclude conservative commentators and media organizations, including The Federalist.

"Masquerading as a 'media literacy' organization, Ad Fontes Media is the left's newest weapon to erase conservative speech while bolstering legacy media," wrote the investigators at Media Research Center (MRC) Free Speech America.

Ad Fontes, founded in 2018, claims to be impartial. According to its <u>website</u>, it is continuously updating its "Media Bias Chart," which includes over 3,000 media sources graded on their own "bias" and "reliability" metrics. The organization insists it is objective because its evaluations stem from the consensus of anonymous analysts who are supposedly politically diverse. This couldn't be further from the truth.

Ad Fontes analysts evaluate individual news articles and other forms of media content in groups of three. Even though the three analysts are supposed to include one individual on the left, one on the right, and another in the center, Ad Fontes' founder and CEO <u>Vanessa Otero</u> <u>brags</u> that "99% of the time," the three allegedly diverse analysts arrive at a single score.

Promoting False, Leftist Narratives

Purportedly "Impartial" Ad Fontes promotes indisputably false left-wing narratives, such as the claim that the highly credible Wuhan lab leak theory is a "baseless" and "fringe theory." Indeed, Ad Fontes gave the infamous 2020 Washington Post article "debunk[inq]" the lab leak theory its highest reliability rating.

Ad Fontes also gave a "reliable" rating to an article from The Root, which claims that Stacey Abrams won the 2018 Georgia gubernatorial election, which she did not. It gave another "reliable" score to a story from The New York Times that said, "There's no evidence of a wiretap" at Trump Tower. Trump Tower was indeed wiretapped.

Ad Fontes gave a perfectly "balanced" rating to an article by the CCP propaganda publication, China Daily, which lobbied for a reduction in trade restrictions between the United States and China. Ad Fontes also gave a perfectly balanced score to a New York Times puff piece on former YouTube CEO Susan Wojcicki headlined "The Most Measured Person in Tech."

"By the time the article was published, Wojcicki—now infamous for her far-reaching censorship policies—had already been caught targeting pro-life groups, demonetizing journalists critical of the left, and systematically removing Republican campaign ads," reported the MRC.

Misleading Its Clients

MRC found that Ad Fontes' executives "rigged" a cherry-picked and condensed version of its "Media Bias Chart" to fool clients into thinking the organization is unbiased. The colorful chart makes it appear like Ad Fontes is critical of just as many left-wing sources as it is critical of right-wing sources.

MRC's analysis, however, "shows a completely different story." The majority (64 percent) of media Ad Fontes labeled "left" was deemed fully "reliable." These "reliable" sources include CNN, The New York Times, ABC, CBS, and NBC. Only one-third of media labeled "right" was deemed "reliable."

"Ad Fontes is 10 times more likely to give its lowest rating of 'unreliable' to media on the right as it is to give this badge of shame to media on the left," reported the MRC. According to the MRC, "only 2.9 percent of media it considered on the left as 'unreliable,' while it rated 29 percent of media it labeled on the right as 'unreliable.'"

For instance, Ad Fontes describes The Federalist as "Unreliable, Problematic," whereas CNN is "Reliable, Analysis/Fact Reporting."

Ad Fontes' cherry-picked "Media Bias Chart" is described by the MRC's Free Speech America Vice President <u>Dan Schneider</u> as "a veneer of objectivity." It draws advertisers in and then persuades them to spend their money on left-wing, predominantly legacy media organizations.

Radical Left-Wing Leadership

"Both Otero and her top lieutenant <u>Brad Berens</u> are documented left-wing political activists," reported the MRC. Both admit to being political ideologues and have consistently contributed to leftist political candidates.

Berens has referred to Tucker Carlson as "a sexist pig" and called President Trump a "white supremacist" and "the worst president in the history of this great country."

He even wrote an open letter imploring Big Tech platforms to permanently ban then-President Trump, saying in the letter that he has "a persistent fantasy of seeing Donald Trump's favorite color on a jumpsuit he is forced to wear."

Berens' political views on Trump appear to be shared by Ad Fontes as a whole. After Trump was indicted in Georgia, Ad Fuentes sent out a gleeful email that read, "The wheels of justice, however slow, had turned in the general direction that they are supposed to turn."

Media filters

Ad Fontes has recently added a Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) "media filter." This new feature "allow[s] advertisers to segregate media by race and sexual orientation of both ownership and audience," reported the MRC.

To benefit from the DEI filters, sources have to "identify the racial composition of its ownership, hosts or target audience, and then champion it so as to ensure Ad Fontes's diversity scorers could spot it."

Since emphasizing people's immutable qualities rather than their merits is generally considered immoral by conservatives, the filter acts as just another way to penalize conservatives' voices while elevating leftist ones.

The MRC notes that the DEI filter is also in contradiction to "Ad Fontes's pledge to focus on analysis of 'content,' rather than preconceptions and prejudices about the media's speaker or viewer."

Ad Fontes is present in public schools, has contracted with major advertisers, and partners with tech giants like Meta and Microsoft. "Tragically," concludes the MRC, "every firm bamboozled into outsourcing its advertising decisions to Ad Fontes is complicit in the defunding of real journalism and turbocharging the revenue stream for legacy media propaganda."

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