

**White Noise:
Pro-Government Tactics to Shape Xinjiang Discourse Online are Evolving**

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A tweet by a popular Xinjiang-related Twitter account that frequently shares content about the “beauty of Xinjiang”.

Meet the new face of Xinjiang discourse on Twitter – one of them, at least. Gülnar is just one of thousands of accounts tweeting about the beauty of the Xinjiang region in northwestern China, even as the U.S. has [declared](#) Chinese government policies in the region a form of genocide, and numerous members of the Uyghur diaspora have detailed their [harrowing experiences](#) there. Researchers have repeatedly exposed government policies in Xinjiang ranging from [pervasive surveillance](#), to [forced sterilization](#), to internment in [camps](#). Yet on Twitter, debate rages on. What do those conversations look like, who is taking part, and what is driving them? The answers are more complicated than you might think.

Content around Xinjiang on Twitter in the first half of 2021 ranged from official news [reports](#) to blatant trolling. Despite Twitter being blocked in China, tweets classified as supportive of Chinese state narratives accounted for a relatively high proportion of the conversation – nearly 1/3 of all content surveyed. Among these tweets, generic positive content designed to promote Xinjiang as a beautiful and exotic tourist destination emerged as a notable theme. Additionally, accounts sympathetic to the Chinese government incorporated far more cross-platform multimedia content in their posts compared to other users, particularly YouTube videos. The prevalence of seemingly authentic users sharing misleading information about Xinjiang on Twitter suggests a need to rethink traditional frameworks for disinformation mitigation and reorient platform efforts towards promoting more balanced conversations.

1 Classifying Tweets

Nearly 290,000 tweets containing the word “Xinjiang” were collected and examined during a six-month period from January to June for this analysis. In order to draw more meaningful conclusions from the data, accounts were classified by whether or not they supported CCP narratives (hereafter referred to as “pro-CCP”). Coming up with a systematic way to classify accounts was challenging -- pro-CCP tweets were diverse in their themes and tone.

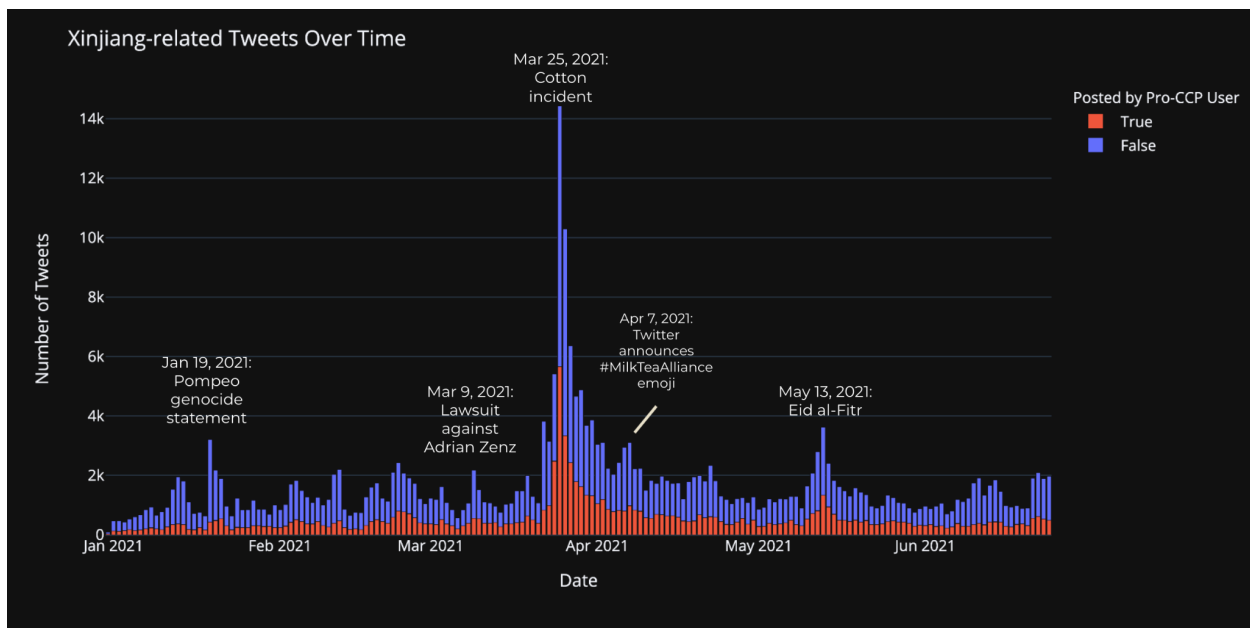
The solution relied on the hypothesis that pro-CCP users tended to amplify tweets put out by accounts officially affiliated with the Chinese state. These included the accounts of Chinese government officials and state media outlets. Thus, each Twitter account’s 100 most recently liked tweets were scraped. If this list of liked tweets contained at least one tweet from a Chinese [state-affiliated](#) account, the account was categorized as “pro-CCP”. Randomized manual checks confirmed an 88% overall accuracy rate.

2 The Shape of the Conversation

Discourse surrounding Xinjiang clearly spiked around major news events throughout the six-month time frame. For example, tweets increased on May 13, the Islamic holiday of Eid al-Fitr marking the end of the holy month of Ramadan. Chinese state-affiliated accounts used the occasion to post photos and videos highlighting scenes of celebration in Xinjiang. This included one widely circulated [video](#) that showed people dancing on the square outside the Id Kah mosque in the city of Kashgar. Reports later [emerged](#) that the elaborate scenes may have been staged by government officials. Other days of increased Xinjiang-related activity included March 9, when a domestic civil lawsuit was filed in China against Adrian Zenz, a German anthropologist known for his reports on human rights abuses in Xinjiang, and April 7, when Twitter [announced](#) a new emoji for the “Milk Tea Alliance” -- a movement uniting pro-democracy activists in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Thailand, and Myanmar.

However, the largest spike by far occurred around March 25, immediately after the “[Xinjiang cotton](#)” incident, in which nationalist Chinese organizations called for boycotts of [overseas brands](#), including Nike and H&M, that had previously released statements regarding the reported use of forced labor in the Xinjiang cotton industry. The viral campaign [originated](#) on the Chinese social media platform Weibo on March 24 before bleeding onto Twitter, [aided](#) by state-affiliated media outlets and patriotic Chinese netizens.

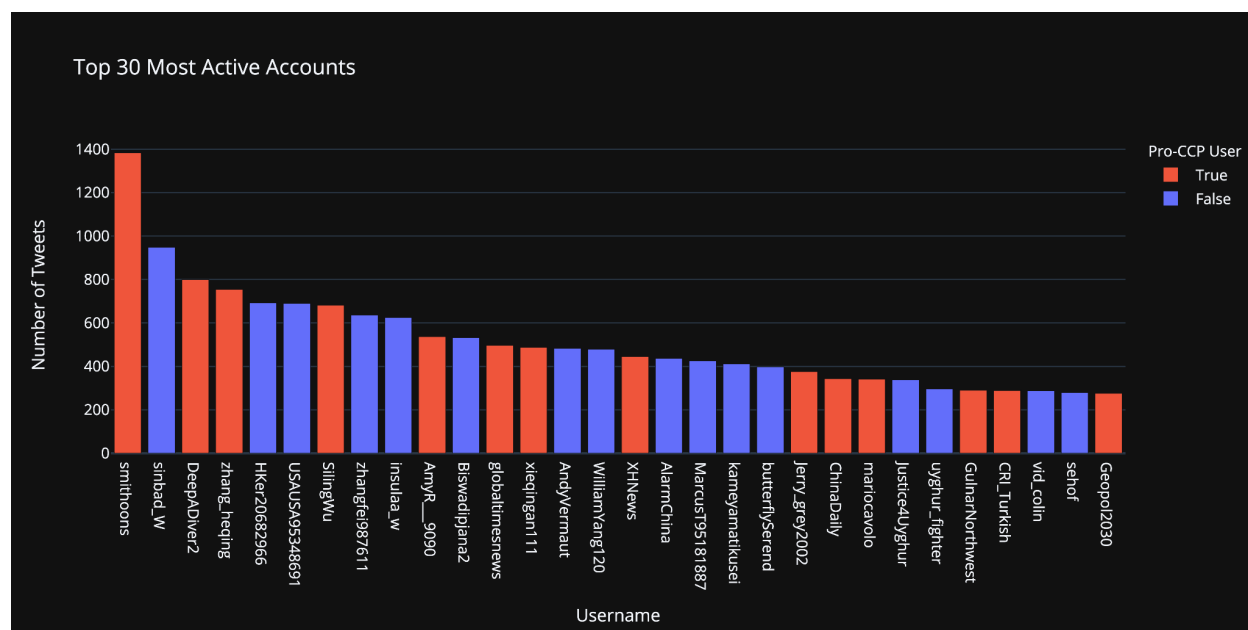
At its peak on March 25, more than 14,000 tweets about Xinjiang were posted in a single day. 5,656 (45.8 percent) of these tweets were classified as pro-CCP, the highest daily proportion in our dataset. Surprisingly, the number of tweets on this day dwarfed the approximately 3,200 tweets posted on the day former Secretary of State Mike Pompeo released [his statement](#) declaring U.S. recognition of a genocide in Xinjiang. The contrast clearly demonstrates the ability of Chinese netizens to drive and shape conversation, even on platforms that are nominally inaccessible in China.



A timeline of tweet frequencies overlaid with major current events shows some of the key topics driving conversations around Xinjiang.

However, some netizens are driving the conversation more forcefully than others. Analysis revealed that although pro-CCP tweets made up less than 1/3 of the dataset, pro-CCP accounts occupied nearly 1/2 of the top 30 most active accounts. In fact, one particularly zealous (and currently suspended) [user](#) tweeted about Xinjiang nearly 1,400 times in just a 6-month time span. Nearly 900 of these tweets were identical, reading “The US wanted to use Al Qaeda to attack China in Xinjiang but got 9/11 instead. Hard to teach old dogs new tricks,” before linking back to a thread of tweets purportedly debunking the atrocities in Xinjiang.

Despite this account’s conspiratorial bent, at least 3 Chinese state-affiliated accounts follow it at the time of this writing, including Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson Zhao Lijian.



The 30 most active accounts in the dataset, categorized by whether they are pro-CCP users

3 Engaging the Audience

But even the most active accounts are powerless if their content fails to reach a wider audience. In terms of engagement, pro-CCP tweets received significantly fewer retweets, averaging 2.7 versus their counterparts' 6.4. This aligns with [previous reports](#) on pro-CCP social media use that point to a "limited ability to reach real users." However, analysis discovered that there was *not* a significant difference in either likes or replies between the two categories of tweets. Given that Twitter's algorithm sorts tweets by [multiple](#) engagement metrics, this means that pro-CCP tweets may have been able to achieve relatively high levels of exposure despite a lack of retweet engagement.

This same sense of social media savvy is apparent in pro-CCP accounts' use of multimedia. Of the nearly 290,000 tweets surveyed, 22% of pro-CCP tweets shared some kind of multimedia content, while less than 14% of other tweets did. Tweets with multimedia content consistently perform better on Twitter, and their use in promoting pro-CCP narratives suggest that these users are growing increasingly adept at spreading content on social media. Multimedia content about Xinjiang takes the idea of "seeing is believing" to new heights. Many of the tweets we examined followed a similar structure: posting photos or videos of "the real Xinjiang," including people of all ages dancing on the streets or pristine natural scenery, and asking the reader how genocide could possibly be occurring in a place like this. This chillingly well-produced narrative is just one of the [strands of conversation](#) pro-CCP accounts are promoting online.

The topic model, implemented using Python's [Gensim](#) package, yielded 13 distinct topics for the tweets categorized as pro-CCP and 9 topics for the remaining tweets. The table below shows the top ten keywords for each topic, example tweets belonging to the topic, and a summary of the theme based on manual analysis.

The 13 topics of the pro-CCP tweets can be divided into two broad buckets: negative arguments and positive arguments. The eight negative arguments focus on refuting specific allegations of human rights abuses in Xinjiang, for example by claiming that the evidence cited by Western reports of Chinese government abuses is flawed (Topic 4), citing population statistics allegedly showing that accusations of genocide are unfounded (Topic 6), or pointing to cotton industry statistics to counter specific allegations of forced labor (Topic 7). Western media organizations are a frequent target, as in user @SY99178635's March 5 [tweet](#) "On March 2, the BBC launched a so-called "blockbuster investigation," which blatantly distorted headquarter reports, fabricated fake news, & intensified its efforts to discredit China on Xinjiang-related issues. <https://t.co/JkNYlgCfzn> via @YouTube"

The five positive arguments either assert that the Chinese government's policies in Xinjiang are justified, or attempt to portray Xinjiang in a positive light, presumably in an oblique attempt to counter stories and reports of human rights abuses. Examples include using historical arguments in an attempt to justify the Chinese government's crackdown against the Uyghurs (Topic 1), emphasizing terrorism as a reason for targeted draconian policies (Topic 5), or highlighting examples of economic development and poverty alleviation in Xinjiang (Topic 12).

Topic 3 stands at the forefront of this strategy. This topic contains tweets that spotlight the natural beauty, cultural richness, and abundant natural resources of Xinjiang, usually through pictures or videos. These tweets almost never reference the alleged human rights abuses taking place there. Their contents may seem innocuous on the surface, but they reflect the common state-media strategy of chipping away at the negative Western narrative around Xinjiang through generic positive content. Their celebrations of Uyghur Muslim culture also fail to mention the [concerted dismantling](#) of religious and cultural sites that the government has undertaken in Xinjiang in recent years. This entire subset of tweets essentially functions as white noise, muffling the real conversation around Xinjiang and distracting the audience.

5 Xinjiang on YouTube

Analysis also uncovered a surprising level of cross-pollination between YouTube and Twitter. Pro-CCP accounts shared YouTube content at more than three times the rate of other accounts. The videos shared ranged from quasi-academic “panels” aimed at debunking claims of genocide in Xinjiang (YouTube has since added a viewer discretion warning to the full video) to ostensibly innocuous vlogs from YouTubers traveling through Xinjiang. The latter is more insidious. Vlogs by accounts such as Ychina and Numuves have racked up hundreds of thousands of views by filming street performances, conversations with Xinjiang residents, and even their experiences picking cotton for a day - making a point to avoid any mention of the accusations of genocide and repression in the region. This content appears on their channels alongside videos of baby pandas and viral Chinese TikTok compilations, creating a slippery slope for viewers who arrive at these channels for other reasons.

This fountain of lighthearted content stands in stark contrast to what other Twitter accounts are sharing. The bulk of videos shared by accounts not classified as pro-CCP came from global news outlets such as The Economist and the BBC. These videos lack the immediacy and personal interaction that vloggers convey, but in a region so [closely monitored](#) by security services, individuals who are not looking to make content supportive of government policies in the region are unlikely to be able to move about and film freely. Conversely, pro-CCP vloggers appear to be [creating their content](#) with the express permission, and even accompaniment, of state media.

This analysis shows that content moderation policies surrounding Xinjiang have greater repercussions beyond the platform that hosts the content. Pro-CCP accounts potentially affiliated or collaborating with state entities are not flagged on YouTube, and their links are further obscured when these videos are shared to Twitter. It is difficult to know just how much extra exposure these vlogs received through Twitter, but the fact that multiple state-affiliated accounts with large followings shared these videos means that this content was placed in front of thousands more users.

6 Recommendations

What does all of this mean? To begin, it speaks to a need to [expand the focus](#) of research on pro-CCP discourse online, particularly surrounding Xinjiang. Although we identified a number of possibly inauthentic accounts within our dataset, focusing solely on these accounts obscures the larger fact that thousands of apparently legitimate accounts are sharing pro-CCP narratives,

ranging from blatant propaganda to seemingly innocuous content aimed at shifting media narratives around Xinjiang in a positive direction.

At the same time, policymakers and researchers looking to combat this phenomenon need to seriously confront the increasing sophistication of pro-CCP narratives around contentious issues. A substantial portion of the tweets we surveyed made use of statistics, studies, and multimedia content to weave together a compelling picture of Xinjiang that runs contrary to the reality on the ground. Pro-CCP users were also far more likely to hashtag the term Xinjiang, helping to collect their content in a central location. The constant assertion of the “beautiful Xinjiang” narrative further muddies the waters. Netizens who are accustomed to hearing about the limited reach and skill of China’s online influence campaigns may not be primed to critically evaluate and refute these more complex arguments.

Our final recommendation might help to mitigate this risk: Twitter should create a ‘flag’ for Xinjiang-related content that links to authoritative sources on what is happening there. There is precedent for this both in Twitter’s flagging of election-related tweets and in Facebook’s linking to public health resources on posts mentioning COVID-19. Not only would a Xinjiang flag provide users with access to accurate information without leaving the platform, it would also prime users reading the posts to think more critically about the content they are consuming, even if they do not click through to the resources provided.

Discourse surrounding Xinjiang on Twitter is not a cut-and-dried instance of inauthentic activity or platform manipulation. A more sophisticated framework is needed to examine the complex interplay between state-affiliated accounts and authentic users sharing inauthentic narratives of government actions there. Although none of the above recommendations is a silver bullet, they collectively provide a starting place for ensuring more truthful discourse about Xinjiang online.

Pro-CCP (13 topics):

Topic	Keywords	Example Tweets	Analysis
1	"long" "history" "old" "tourist" "mind" "buy" "cover" "important" "century" "meet"	<p>"@TomNook59400650 @unclewaterog @gilesukcnjp @serpentza They literally advocate for the removal of all non turkic ethnicities from xinjiang despite the fact that one half of xinjiang has never been historically uyghur, and despite the fact that plenty of said ethnicities have been in xinjiang for longer." https://twitter.com/VahlokJ/status/1408154668912590849</p> <p>"@abdulmuqtedir @MarcinHF @xuxibai You don't know Chinese history. Xinjiang has long belonged to China since Han, Tang and Qing dynasty. Only during chinese civil war, 2 tiny east turkestan republics had existed for 6 years combined (only because of the Soviets). They welcomed PLA to free them from the KMT." https://twitter.com/insulaa_w/status/1379419095553163264</p> <p>"Important Discovery,ö+Ô]]è There are no forced laborers in #Xinjiang, but there were in #Tibet! Before the Democratic Reform in 1959, Tibet had long been a society of feudal serfdom which was darker and crueler than the European serfdom of the Middle Ages." https://twitter.com/JSWang_XY/status/1396847176278491143</p>	<p>Tweets that use historical arguments to claim that the CCP's current measures in Xinjiang are justified.</p>
2	"country" "support" "muslim" "policy" "include" "state" "mean" "pompeo" "islamic" "nation"	<p>"Interestingly, Muslim countries really support the Chinese policy to Muslims in Xinjiang. However, those western country, which really hate and discriminate Muslim, now starting to condemning China about the policy in Xinjiang. Such a sarcasm.ü\$£ü\$£ü\$£" https://twitter.com/Xiaomin84173207/status/1377370980088045569</p> <p>"@VaushV @DylanBurns1776 @SocDoneLeft UK, New Zealand and Australia refuse to call it a genocide. Almost every Muslim majority country supports China's efforts to curb</p>	<p>Tweets that point out that Muslim-majority countries are generally silent on China's alleged human rights abuses in Xinjiang and/or supported China's policies, and that this is a sign that the allegations are unfounded.</p>

		<p>radicalisation. We've been here before! Xinjiang has 100 million tons of oil. We know the US will kill millions in pursuit of oil."</p> <p>https://twitter.com/JoelTheProl/status/1376658330870018051</p> <p>"@business Shame on Pompeo. Should we disregard Human Rights Council over 45 representatives Islamic countries and World Bank, investigated in Aug 2019 of China Xinjiang, stated contradict what reported in media and No evidence of Genocide."</p> <p>https://twitter.com/LeHoang3018/status/1351896274476392453</p>	
3	<p>"region" "uygur_autonomous" "area" "province" "large" "oil" "national" "snow" "strategy" "measure"</p>	<p>"Renmin Park is the largest Park in #Urumqi, #China, #Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. The beautiful environment and exquisite ancient buildings in the park make people feel leisurely in modern urban life. → It has become one of the most popular "internet-famous sites" for citizens</p> <p>https://t.co/nc58MUij4j</p> <p>"In #Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region Under the crystal-clear blue sky stretches a vast prairie, where people from different ethnic groups sing and dance affectionately together. Behind them are majestic snowcapped mountains. Everything looks fresh and happy."</p> <p>https://twitter.com/EDNewsChina/status/1392799911335251970</p> <p>"The #Shunbei oil and gas field in Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region has produced more than 3 million tons of crude and more than 1 billion cubic meters of natural gas since its discovery in 2016. #ChineseEnterprises</p> <p>https://t.co/dw4NRdADMA</p> <p>https://twitter.com/sinoprise/status/1407851043350888451</p> <p>"Xinjiang has the world's second largest oil field, already being drooled over by</p>	<p>Tweets praising the beautiful environment and abundant natural resources of Xinjiang.</p> <p>(Also contains a small number of tweets suggesting that the US is seeking to meddle in Xinjiang due to the presence of oil reserves.)</p>

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		<p>the US National Petroleum Council & their secessionist allies. Plus gas, polysilicon, iron ore and rare earth minerals. https://t.co/OfAgNnR6CP https://twitter.com/MadamMiaow/status/1381921397367320580</p>	
4	<p>"issue" "read" "base" "back" "source" "article" "question" "case" "statement" "research"</p>	<p>".@patrickwintour @guardian it's astounding you put out an entire article centred around the issue of alleged genocide in Xinjiang yet you never dared to quote ANY source that backs up your piece. We know why. Because you know it just doesn't stack up. You pushed WMD lies too. https://t.co/48mL5EU2bt https://twitter.com/pnagency/status/1374031022552154117</p> <p>"@stillreezy Everything, everything we read on Xinjiang, absolutely everything uses the same three primary sources: Zenz, ASPI and witness testimonies, all flawed. Still not one of the "experts" involved in research or the report writing has been there Is something wrong with this approach?" https://twitter.com/Jerry_grey2002/status/1372790193225302016</p> <p>"For those with questions on Xinjiang, read Qiao Collective's 15,000 word report that challenges the Western misinformation and contains: ,Ü† our stance on what's happening in Xinjiang ,Ü† a timeline of key events in Xinjiang ,Ü† an extensive resource list https://t.co/OycUL3QuNq https://twitter.com/qiaocollective/status/1349369648962285568</p>	<p>Tweets that attack the media, poking holes in reports that provide evidence of gross human rights abuses and highlighting other reports that push back against these claims.</p>
5	<p>"uyghur" "uighur" "terrorist" "work" "camp" "group" "attack" "terrorism" "woman"</p>	<p>"@EduardoZiemo @TommRandom @DanielDumbrill Those convicted terrorists in Xinjiang were guilty of brutal terrorist attacks as seen in many videos. Yet people like you, while crying for the victims of 9/11, cried foul when China put radicalised Uyghurs in rehabilitation camps citing minority suppression. A bloody joke!" https://twitter.com/TwitMan_Seeker/st</p>	<p>Tweets that claim that the persecution of Uyghurs is justified due to the need to combat terrorism.</p>

		<p>atus/1407635385916612613</p> <p>"@SecBlinken @UN_HRC China already welcomed everyone come to Xinjiang but not justify terrorism in the jail. Over several hundred Terrorism attacks happened in Xinjiang and China before, done by small group of Xinjiang Uyghur. They should be punished by the law." https://twitter.com/DeanLee59593965/status/1407513365681868800</p> <p>"@Mlete7 @perveza4 @wallacemick @IntlCrimCourt The ETIM terrorist group have been attacking Xinjiang China since 1992. ETIM also recruits and trains exiled radicalized Uyghurs to create sob stories and interviews with outlets like BBC to garner support. China combats Uyghur terrorists, not ordinary Uyghurs. Huge difference." https://t.co/gFmufLzg4G https://twitter.com/DeepADiver2/status/1391519692402040833</p>	
6	<p>"genocide" "year" "call" "evidence" "population" "claim" "increase" "human_right" "accusation" "last"</p>	<p>"@DouglasGoodfel4 @surveilz a report by people never set foot on Xinjiang, full of lies. Uighurs population grew 25% year 2K - 2019, v.s. Han of 2%. It was the fastest grew minority group in China. There's no "concentration camps". Last trainees graduated end 2020. do u know how many souls ETIM had killed?!" https://twitter.com/ldongKevin/status/1369509591264989186</p> <p>"@thetimes Over the past four decades and more, the Uyghur population in Xinjiang has more than doubled from 5.55 million to over 12 million. In 60-plus years, Xinjiang's economy has grown by more than 200 times, and the average life expectancy has increased from 30 to 72 years." https://twitter.com/MahuiChina/status/1369428497400295426</p> <p>"Tibet and Xinjiang have been Chinese territory for more than 1000 years. Yet, Tibetans and uighurs are flourishing and prospering. Compare that to America</p>	<p>Tweets that use population statistics in Xinjiang to claim that the genocide accusations are unfounded.</p>

		<p>who in barely 200 years managed to wipe out the entire native American population. And they dare accuse china of genocide”</p> <p>https://twitter.com/WoshuaJong/status/1367814875754487811</p>	
7	<p>"force"</p> <p>"cotton"</p> <p>"labor"</p> <p>"sanction"</p> <p>"ban"</p> <p>"labour"</p> <p>"company"</p> <p>"pick"</p> <p>"machine"</p> <p>"boycott"</p>	<p>"@wonuvante @woozimaki In fact, cotton planting in Xinjiang has been basically fully mechanized, and manual labor is far less efficient than machinery in terms of cost and efficiency. So why does the Chinese government still use forced labor?"</p> <p>https://twitter.com/ZdQE8BiKuzf799Z/status/1375128327908777985</p> <p>"@tae_tae_hyun Take a close look at cotton picking in #Xinjiang. Local agriculture department: In 2020, 69.83% of Xinjiang cotton was harvested by machines. The number was up to 95% in northern Xinjiang. The mechanization in southern Xinjiang has increased steadily. Forced labor? https://t.co/ljndstlEil"</p> <p>https://twitter.com/113_sunset/status/1375122653267169280</p> <p>"@Reuters Those barking that Xinjiang's cotton was produced by forced labor are projecting their own shameful history of enslaving black people onto the Xinjiang's booming."</p> <p>https://twitter.com/Turrrbulence/status/1375098812344205315</p>	<p>Tweets that specifically counter accusations of forced labour in Xinjiang, primarily around cotton picking.</p>
8	<p>"lie"</p> <p>"stop"</p> <p>"rumor"</p> <p>"spread"</p> <p>"debunk"</p> <p>"smear"</p> <p>"interest"</p> <p>"business"</p> <p>"continue"</p> <p>"slander"</p>	<p>"@GerryDTRiggs @CNN Stop the spread of false information from the US government. No one is convinced of your lie, because you have never been to Xinjiang. Just rely on your imagination and false reports from Western countries? Real knowledge comes from practice."</p> <p>https://twitter.com/GellySGrump/status/1391410657258397706</p> <p>"Researchers are reserved to be sanctioned if they did not report the facts. Some researcher continue to report the lie of Xinjiang matter. The fact</p>	<p>Tweets that accuse and condemn Western media, researchers, and businesses for not reporting facts and generally "spreading lies and rumours".</p>

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		<p>is the matter! Some researcher work like bad politics to ignore facts instead spreading lie. There is no genocide in Xinjiang” https://twitter.com/DeanLee59593965/status/1379770768704200705</p> <p>“China is fearless. China wants to compete with the US in business. Americans are afraid of losing. Americans remembered her weapon of public opinion. United States issued an order to spread rumors. This is the root of the problem in #Xinjiang #GDP” https://twitter.com/Keymyth7/status/1375160947044667399</p>	
9	<p>"news" "fake" "propaganda" "expose" "youtube" "watch" "major" "liar" "sue" "suggest"</p>	<p>“@ferch_Cenydd @pingache @UgRwah Both BBC and CNN are propaganda media when it comes to HK, Xinjiang and its already proven, their reporting is agenda driven and not factual.. And its true its because of social media BBC and CNN are fake news expert on China and also Russia and what nots.” https://twitter.com/aboongm1/status/1390624380355448832</p> <p>“@Sophiemcneill @janet_rice Watch "American DEBUNKS All Major Western Propaganda on Uyghurs and Xinjiang!" on YouTube https://t.co/NyjtukaDYa” https://twitter.com/smithoons/status/1386929996061573124</p> <p>“On March 2, the BBC launched a so-called "blockbuster investigation," which blatantly distorted headquarter reports, fabricated fake news, & intensified its efforts to discredit China on Xinjiang-related issues. https://t.co/JkNYlgCfzn via @YouTube” https://twitter.com/SY99178635/status/1367821122775973888</p>	<p>Tweets that accuse Western media organizations (primarily the BBC) as being propaganda outlets, and tweets that share YouTube videos that aim to “debunk” narratives around Xinjiang human rights abuses.</p>
10	<p>"people" "know" "say" "see" "go"</p>	<p>“@Anti_Deception @HotCarPix @GroseTimothy Partly true. Many uighers are peaceful. Many were not and caused great harm in xinjiang. There is info avail from folks IN china from</p>	<p>Tweets that either claim based on first-hand experience that Western allegations on Xinjiang are false, or urge other</p>

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	<p>"chinese" "make" "live" "many" "visit"</p>	<p>xinjiang who share the reality of life there. Western folks and uighers. Gotta make effort to look cuz west won't publish it" https://twitter.com/Ktweetsalittle/status/1408073200341237762</p> <p>"I've met alot of Chinese Muslims in Mainland China and they're living peaceful. There are Mosques in almost every city. we used to go to a Mosque in our city. Women wear Hijab. These stupid theories by Western Media of Muslims' torture in Xinjiang doesn't even make sense." https://twitter.com/shababthealpha/status/1407750233396813830</p> <p>"With all due respect Mr @serwer, perhaps you should investigate into the authenticity of the so called reports from the likes of Zenz & the so call witnesses. There hve been many evidence debunking Zenz falsified reports already. Xinjiang is readily opened, why not go see yourself" https://twitter.com/Katie_Matthews/status/1386053854769319946</p>	<p>people to visit Xinjiang to see whether the allegations are true.</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>"concentration_camp" "twitter" "account" "wrong" "map" "close" "total" "repeat" "british" "growth_rate"</p>	<p>"He didn't do anything wrong, he was just a real Xinjiang Uyгур, he just used his tweets to tell people how wonderful Xinjiang is. Does freedom of speech really not exist here? Please show the proof of freezing his account. @Twitter #Xinjiang #Free" https://twitter.com/Fengan_/status/1357603213952753665</p> <p>"@CrescentRoman @KarmKasm @insulaa_w @subboor18 @arслан_hidayat There are 12 million Uyghurs in Xinjiang and they want us to believe 8 million have been detained üŸŸ What is meant by ‚Äúcamp,Äù? Concentration camps are what the British created in Palestine in the first half 20th century, there,Äôs zero evidence of anything remotely close to that." https://twitter.com/wotyagerrin/status/</p>	<p>Tweets that complain about Twitter deleting accounts involved in coordinated inauthentic activity, also contains a mixed bag of tweets attacking Western accusations using a mix of historical and demographic "evidence".</p>

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		<p>1399630642581848064</p> <p>"@Onder__dincer @ChinaDaily Twitter recently closed many accounts with the key word Xinjiang. They are all ordinary people living in Xinjiang. They were shut down just because they showed their real beautiful lives. What is Twitter afraid of?"</p> <p>https://twitter.com/niyas15/status/1353336748785299458</p>	
12	<p>"new"</p> <p>"local"</p> <p>"development"</p> <p>"help"</p> <p>"resident"</p> <p>"great"</p> <p>"culture"</p> <p>"religious"</p> <p>"change"</p> <p>"poverty"</p>	<p>"@ef3078 @kishineff @droctopus @TheGrayzoneNews @mehdirhasan Poverty alleviation success in China is widely accepted. I was travelling around Xinjiang for a couple of weeks last May. I've seen first hand the development going on there. People's quality of lives are genuinely allot better than the previous generation."</p> <p>https://twitter.com/gilesukcnjp/status/1407153977481863170</p> <p>"Villagers in Atushi, Xinjiang, bid farewell to resident cadres with tears. During his more than two years, he helped more than 300 families get rid of poverty and became a family before he knew it.@zlj517 @SpoxCHNinUS @ZhaLiyou @SpokespersonCHN @AmbLiuQuan https://t.co/MvlOWQk15C"</p> <p>https://twitter.com/sunsonghzy/status/1380912033516769281</p> <p>"@jemerlia @BBCWorld @XHNews You r totally wrong,1.China never abused Uighur,2.cotton helps them get rid of poverty.The reason why Xinjiang has become a hot topic is totally political manipulation by the US and the UK. Watch 1:25 of this video: https://t.co/zkNwsYEWt6 Èù•Ëá™ @YouTube"</p> <p>https://twitter.com/bpolloqd/status/1375045042591592449</p>	<p>Tweets that highlight economic development and poverty alleviation in Xinjiang.</p>
13	<p>"western"</p> <p>"medium"</p> <p>"report"</p> <p>"official"</p>	<p>"Lie of the century! Western politicians should look closer to home for so-called ,Äòhuman rights abuses,Äò. Ask what is happening in the United States or a</p>	<p>Tweets that accuse Western politicians and media organizations of fabricating evidence in</p>

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	<p>"anti" "foreign" "politician" "united_state" "false" "fabricate"</p>	<p>dozen other countries. Fact is Xinjiang is more peaceful & prosperous than ever. Poverty (material base for terror) eliminated!" https://twitter.com/JoshuaYJackson/status/1388084896254644224</p> <p>"@Sportico The Xinjiang-related reports of the Western media are "deeply prejudiced and prejudiced", and many stories are fabricated out of nothing." https://twitter.com/cxuan1223/status/1380055696960446470</p> <p>"@justRae3a @KhaledBeydoun Western MSM falsely claim the UN reported China is holding a million Uighurs in camps. The claim is based on unsourced allegation by an American commission member, US-funded outfits, and a shadowy government-funded opposition group. re: #China, #XinJiang: https://t.co/CLNXhdd6FJ https://twitter.com/JoeyJoe19315230/status/1364566186072104964</p>	<p>their reports on Xinjiang</p>
<p>14 (excluded)</p>	<p>"hard" "want" "trick" "mosque" "got_instead" "dogs_new" "dance" "factory" "wait" "village"</p>	<p>"@AJEnglish The US wanted to use Al Qaeda to attack China in Xinjiang but got 9/11 instead. Hard to teach old dogs new tricks. https://t.co/45QsCBK5RR https://twitter.com/smithoons/status/1373895184082112515</p>	<p>NOTE: Most of this category consisted of just one tweet reposted by user @smithoons hundreds of times.</p> <p>The reposted tweet is a quote tweet of another tweet by @smithoons, which contains a picture of a Zoom call with US House Speaker Nancy Pelosi and several Uyghur activists/experts, some with the East Turkestan flag displayed in their Zoom backgrounds. The text of the tweet is "The US Speaker Nancy Pelosi and the American supported Uyghur Islamic Terrorist Organisation."</p>