

# The future of democratic debate and the impact of pandemic

Bulgaria



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Long term effects





# Covid-19 in Bulgaria

How it went

- **07.03.2020** - emergency epidemic situation around 2 years
- Total confirmed cases of Covid-19 in Bulgaria - **1 296 164**
  - Deaths - **38 202**
  - Healed patients - **1 255 265**
- Total vaccinations - **4 608 214\***

\* This data is taken from the official website for Covid-19 statistics and news of the Republic of Bulgaria: <https://coronavirus.bg/>



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# Effects of Covid-19

## Disinformation

- Complete **disinformation** and implementation of disinformation in the democratic process
- **Rumors, false statements and news** about Covid-19 as a worldwide conspiracy

**COVID-19  
FAKE NEWS**



Political debate

Disinformation is a major tool in the political debate on the crisis in Bulgaria



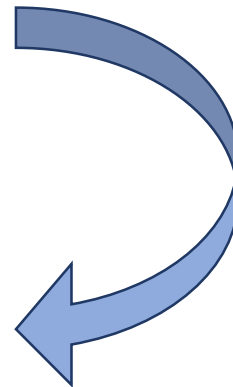
5<sup>th</sup> **early election** on the 2<sup>nd</sup> of April

# Effects of Covid-19

Mistrust

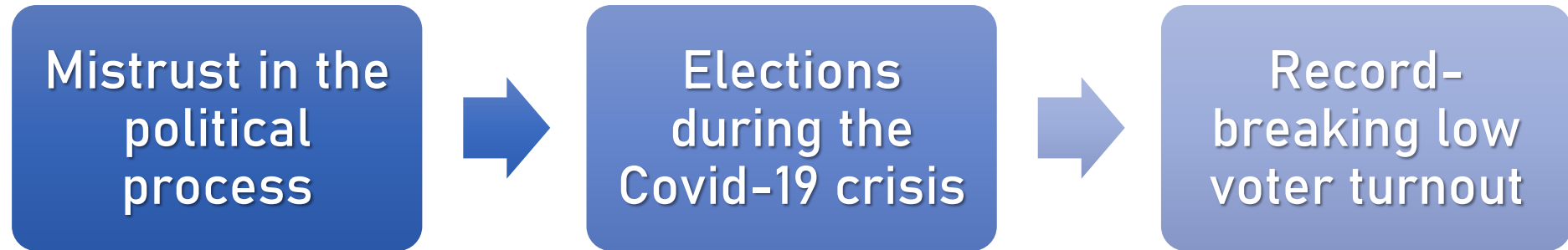
- Mistrust in the institutional system
- **Unwillingness** for vaccination (manipulative practices and disinformation)
- Usage of Covid-19 disinformation and fake news for **political purposes** by many political parties who do not support vaccination

General obstacle to  
successful vaccination on  
national level



# Effects of Covid-19

Elections' turnout



# Effects of Covid-19

Political echo

Imposing the mechanisms of disinformation as an overall tool for manipulation

Bulgaria's admission in the Eurozone was expectedly postponed

Bulgaria wasn't accepted in the Schengen Area







**Thank you!**



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