

**CORRUPTION
IN THE COVID-
19 VACCINE
ROLLOUT:
WHAT ONLINE
MEDIA**

REVEALS

**A data micro-report for researchers based on media reports
from around the world captured by Artificial Intelligence-
based media monitoring**

BRIBERY IN THE COVID-19 VACCINE ROLLOUT: WHAT ONLINE MEDIA REVEALS

A DATA MICROREPORT FOR RESEARCHERS ON CORRUPTION-RELATED TRENDS CAPTURED VIA ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE-BASED MONITORING OF MEDIA REPORTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

INTRODUCTION

This report analyses global online news media coverage focussed on bribery and vaccines, published between 1 November 2021 and 30 April 2022. Articles were retrieved and thematically categorised by our Artificial Intelligence-based media monitoring tool, AIMON. A full explanation of this tool is [available in Annex 1](#).

Our analysis has discovered several trends that will be of interest to researchers working in this field. Most notably, we have observed that obtaining a vaccine certificate without undergoing the vaccination was by far the most common motivation for bribery in the six-month period we tracked.

We used AIMON to retrieve online news media from on the topics of “bribery” and “vaccine management”. AIMON searches for and stores over 5 million articles a day, from hundreds of thousands of sources across the globe. The initial dataset included 976 articles which were published between the 1st November 2021 and the 30th April 2022. The data was manually verified and analysed by TIGH researchers. Articles unrelated to the topic (447 in total) were removed. The remaining articles were de-duplicated, resulting in a final dataset of 144 articles.

Figure 1. The composition of the dataset

Articles found by AIMON in total	Unrelated articles	Duplicates	Articles used for the analysis
976	450	383	144

We use this data in two ways:

In Part 1, we ask a series of questions related to the form of bribery occurring and attempt to answer them as well as we can with the information provided in the online news articles (the full methodology can be found in Annex 2). In this way, we aim to answer the following question as closely as possible: **In which form, where and why has bribery been conducted in relation to the vaccine rollout?**

In Part 2, finally, we provide this data to interested researchers for further analysis and validation.

PART 1. INITIAL ANALYSIS

Due to the novelty of the vaccine, research on corruption in its distribution is so far very scarce. This analysis hence presents an initial attempt to shed light on which forms bribery can take in the vaccine rollout in order to signpost emerging corruption modalities. To do this, we focus on the following questions:

- What is the prevalence of bribery?
- What is the monetary value of the bribe?
- What is the type of service that was demanded or delivered in return for the bribe, i.e., the administration of the vaccine, the issuance of a falsified vaccination certificate or COVID-19 test result, or other actions?

We started with a broader list of questions (detailed in Annex 2), but found that our dataset, due to the limitation to one type of data only, was insufficient in answering some of them. In general, the report can only present an analysis of where, at which cost and in which form occurrences of bribery have been reported, and cannot make any overarching statements about the impact of bribery on the health system or any other broader contexts. For more information on how corruption in the COVID-19 vaccine rollout has been affecting health systems in Bangladesh, Uganda and Zambia, please view [this report](#) from TI Global Health.

Prevalence of bribery

Whilst the true prevalence of bribery in the rollout of vaccines is impossible to estimate through online news articles, our dataset suggests that it is **a widespread issue – at least within certain countries**. In Greece, for example, investigations carried out by local health authorities in response to a wave of reports of irregular activities uncovered that petty bribery is widespread amongst the country's 2,000 vaccination centres. According to the reports, between **200 to 300 doctors and nurses in 100 to 200 vaccination centres** have accepted bribes of around 400 Euros (344 GBP) in exchange for issuing falsified vaccination certificates and injecting patients with water instead of the vaccine.

Looking at the global heat map (figure 2), **a regional cluster can be found for Southern and Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Russia**. However, this can also be attributed to a relatively high presence of online media in these countries.

Figure 2: Global heat map of reported bribery cases



What was demanded or delivered in return for the bribe

Perhaps the most striking finding is that **obtaining a vaccine certificate without undergoing the vaccination was by far the most common motivation for bribery in the past six months**. As figure 3 shows, 93% of the bribery cases were motivated by obtaining such a certificate. Most of these cases involved a bribe being given to a staff member of a healthcare facility in exchange for a falsified vaccination certificate. However, some of the doctors and nurses accepted the bribe without issuing a falsified certificate and proceeded to administer the real vaccine anyway¹.

Illustrative Case 1. A doctor from Valea Călugărească was detained for falsifying 43 COVID-19 vaccination certificates in exchange for around 500 Romanian Leu (87 GBP) per certificate. The bribes were partially facilitated by intermediaries who received a share of 100 to 200 Leu (17 to 34 GBP) of the bribe. 30 people were taken to the Prosecutor's Office for questioning on this case².

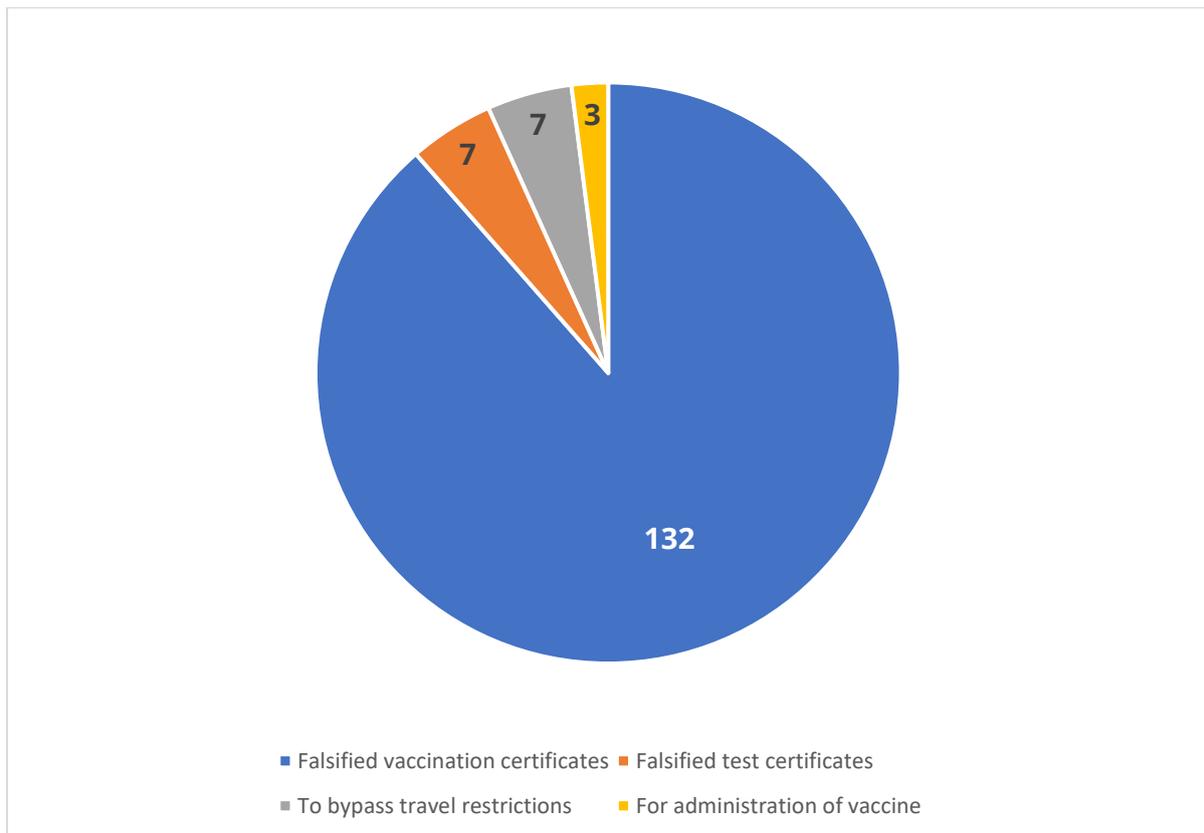
Illustrative Case 2. A doctor at a hospital in Tatarstan, Russia, has been investigated for taking over 25,000 Russian roubles (384 GBP) in bribes for falsifying vaccination certificates against COVID-19, as the Investigative Committee of the Russian Investigative Committee reports. She fully admitted her involvement in the crime³.

Illustrative Case 3. Certain articles indicate widespread occurrences of such modalities of briberies: A nurse and a nursing assistant in Spain allegedly issued around 2,300 fake vaccination certificates until they got caught in April 2022. Paying bribees included well-known actors, football players and singers, and both gained around 90,000 Euros (77,564 GBP) each from their criminal activities⁴. The upcoming trial is considered one of the largest trials for fraud and falsification of documents in the country.

Illustrative Case 4. A paramedic at a health centre in Slovenia has been charged for issuing around 4,000 fake certificates in exchange for bribes and amassing 1.6 million Euros (1.38 million GBP) in bribes together with his partner, with bribees including politicians, athletes and entertainers⁵. Similar large bribery cases were reported from Romania (3,800⁶ and 1,000⁷ fake certificates), Lithuania (1,000⁸ and 200⁹), the United States (400¹⁰) and Italy (85-100)¹¹.

There were seven cases in which falsified negative COVID-19 test result certificates were issued. In Slovenia, two doctors were detained who reportedly issued nearly 100 falsified rapid antigen and PCR tests, as well as an unknown number of falsified vaccination certificates, in exchange for bribes¹². Similar reports were found in Armenia¹³, Greece¹⁴, Italy¹⁵ and Russia¹⁶¹⁷.

Figure 3: Motivation for soliciting or accepting bribes



Eight articles deal with cases related to border crossings. These consisted of **travellers offering bribes to border officials for them to accept their falsified vaccination certificates**¹⁸, as well as cases in which travellers offered a bribe because they **wanted to enter a country without having the required proof of vaccination**^{19 20 21 22 23 24}. The cost of bribes given in these incidences was generally lower than what was offered for vaccination certificates and test results, with prices ranging between 8-43 GBP.

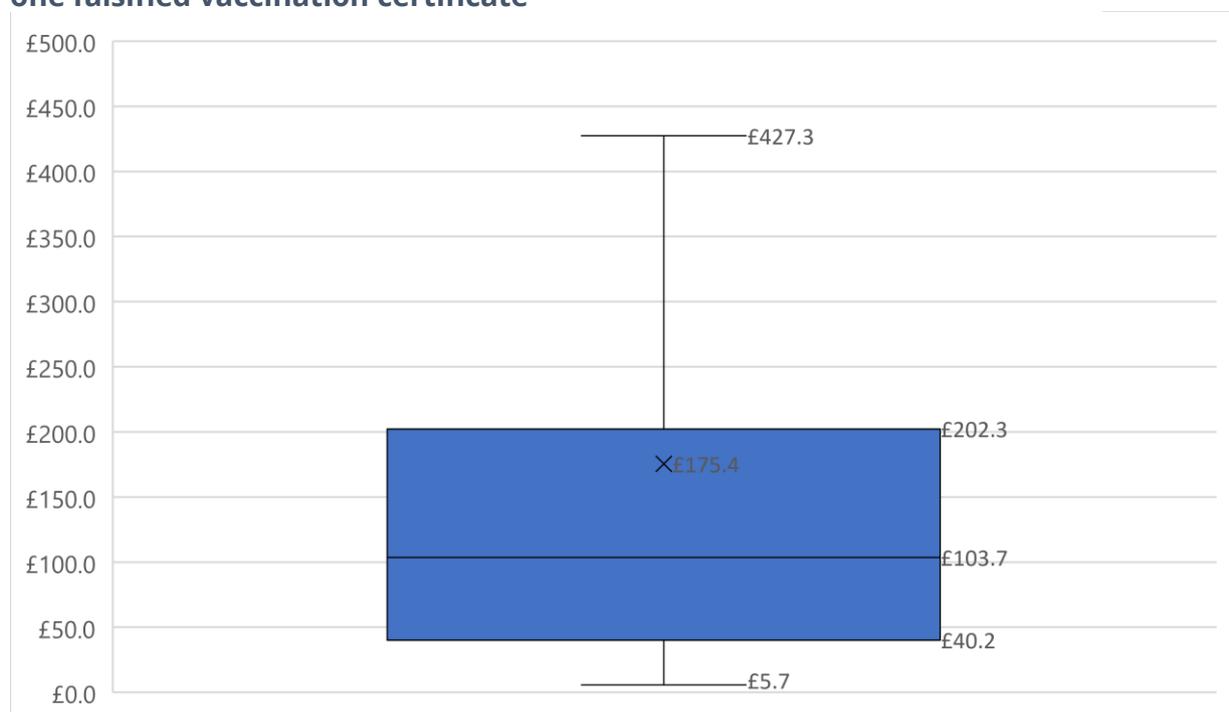
Only occasionally have there been reports of bribes being solicited to obtain the vaccine in advance, although prior to the global rollout of the vaccine, 'jumping the queue' was seen as one of the biggest, if not *the* biggest, bribery risk²⁵. The only cases discussing 'queue-jumping' were found in Spain, where a mayor is investigated for soliciting bribes in order to receive the vaccine before becoming eligible for it, as well as abusing his power to get other councillors immunised prematurely²⁶.

Monetary value of bribes

Extracting all mentioned monetary values of bribes from the news articles, we found that there is a **large variation in the monetary value of the given or offered/solicited bribes (n=87)**, ranging from (converted) £5.7 to £4,273. As illustrated in figure 4, most cases fell within £39.8 – 205.3, with the **median value being £103.2 and £175.4 being the mean average**.

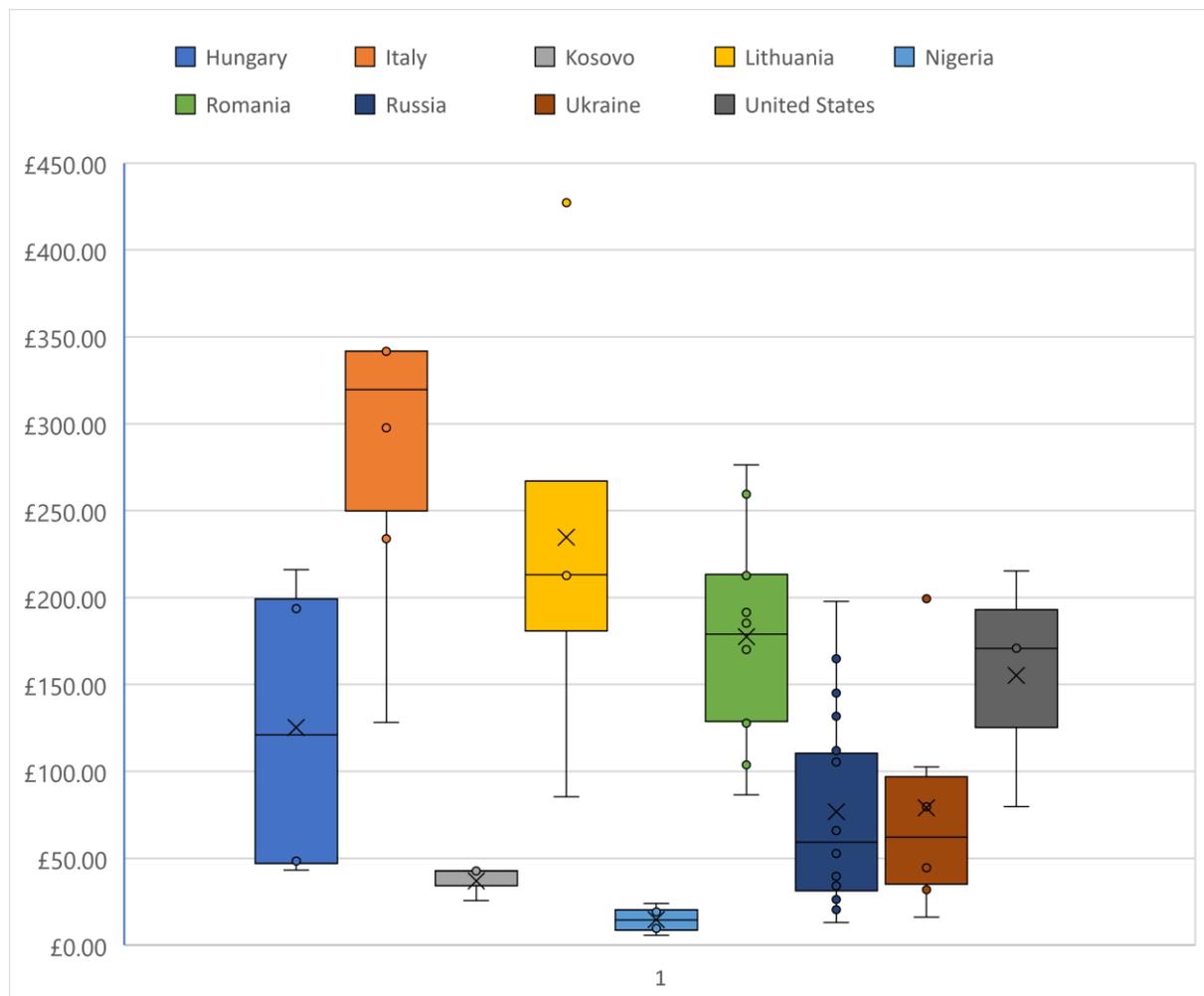
***Illustrative Case 5.** The highest outlier (and therefore not included in figure 4) was the case of a health worker in Italy who attempted to bribe a pharmacist with 5,000 Euros (4,273 GBP) to receive the 'Green Pass', the Italian COVID-19 vaccination certificate, without vaccination. The pharmacist did not accept the bribe and reported it to the police. Upon investigations, the health worker admitted the attempted bribe without stating his motivation for offering it²⁷.*

Figure 4: Variation in the monetary value of bribes offered/solicited for one falsified vaccination certificate



Comparing figure 4 with figure 5, it is evident that whilst the monetary value of bribes, perhaps expectedly, varies between countries, there is much less variation within countries. This could be due to a range of different factors from GDP per capita to the prevalence of bribery within particular systems, i.e., the health system or the police.

Figure 5. Distribution of monetary value of bribes for fake certificates in countries with 4+ articles on reported cases of bribery



Conclusion

Whilst online media can never fully answer the question “in which form, where and why has bribery been conducted in relation to the vaccine rollout?”, it provides us with enough information to make initial estimations on why and at which cost bribery is currently occurring in the vaccine rollout, as well as to carefully identify some regional ‘hotspots’.

Most notably, the data has enabled us to understand that vaccine certificates represent a big risk to the health sector that should be addressed: The issuance of falsified vaccination certificates means that vaccines are wasted, immunisation rates become unreliable, and parts of the population continue to be exposed to a health risk – all of which ultimately slows down pandemic control.

Yet, this information will most useful when connected to other data collection approaches, such as interviews and literature reviews, creating a more holistic view on the topic. The limitations of online media in, for example, determining the prevalence of bribery, are mitigated by the

strengths of other research approaches, such as survey data. Conversely, online media can provide in-depth perspectives in real time that enable researchers to narrow down the scope of corruption and inequity happening in the rollout and refine their research focus. In our next part, we therefore provide the data used for this microreport to enable further research. Furthermore, we encourage researchers to contact us should there be interest in expanded data.

PART 2. CASE LIST

Case No.	Title	Publication date	URL	Country
1	Indictment of Albanian citizen, tried to bribe police officer in Vermica	2021-12-21	https://www.koha.net/kronike-e-zeze/302223/aktakuze-shtetasit-te-shqiperise-tentoi-te-korruptonte-zyrtarin-policor-ne-vermice/	Kosovo
2	Albanian Arrested for Attempting to Enter Kosovo without Jab Certificate	2021-12-22	https://albaniadailynews.com/news/albanian-arrested-for-attempting-to-enter-kosovo-without-jab-certificate	Kosovo
3	A verdict was passed in the first case of fictitious vaccination in the Voronezh region	2022-02-08	https://voronej.bezformata.com/listnews/pervomu-delu-o-fiktivnoy-vaktcinacii/102312468/	Russia
4	Three residents of Tatarstan have created a scheme of fictitious vaccination against covid	2021-12-09	https://news-r.ru/news/incident/519593/	Russia
5	The Investigative Committee told about the sale of fake vaccination certificates in the Amur region	2022-02-04	https://blagoveshensk.bezformata.com/listnews/komitet-rasskazal-o-prodazhe-poddelnih/102176035/	Russia
6	A doctor will be tried in Tatarstan for forgery of vaccination certificates	2022-03-28	https://kazan.mk.ru/incident/2022/03/28/v-tatarstane-budut-sudit-vracha-za-poddelku-sertifikatov-o-vakcinacii.html	Russia
7	Ivanovo medical worker is suspected of bribery and forgery of vaccination certificates from COVID-19	2022-03-30	https://www.interfax-russia.ru/center/news/ivanovskaya-medrabotnica-podozrevaetsya-vo-vzatochnichestve-i-podloge-sertifikatov-o-vakcinacii-ot-covid-19	Russia
8	An employee of a hospital in the Saratov region is suspected of bribes	2022-01-24	https://iz.ru/1281691/2022-01-24/sotrudnitcu-bolnitcy-v-saratovskoi-oblasti-podozrevaiut-vo-vziatkakh	Russia
9	In Republic of Dagestan brought three criminal cases for sale certificates of vaccination	2021-12-14	https://news.myseldon.com/en/news/index/263820605	Russia
10	A medical institution in Primorye sold vaccination certificates for 8 thousand rubles	2022-01-28	https://www.teleport2001.ru/news/2022-01-28/141620-meduchrezhdenie-v-primore-prodavalo-sertifikaty-o-vakcinacii-po-8-tysyach-rublej.html	Russia
11	Samaritan suspected of "selling" vaccination certificates	2022-01-26	https://samara.bezformata.com/listnews/v-prodazhe-sertifikatov-o-vaktcinacii/101870284/	Russia
12	Tula nurse will go on trial for selling vaccination certificates	2022-01-11	https://rg.ru/2022/01/11/reg-cfo/tulskaia-medsestra-pojdet-pod-sud-za-torgovliu-spravgkami-o-vakcinacii.html	Russia

13	The doctor of the polyclinic MSCH No.2 Samara will go on trial for bribes when issuing COVID certificates	2022-04-25	https://www.samru.ru/society/novosti_samara/130099.html	Russia
14	The former head of the department of the Saratov polyclinic is accused of trading vaccination certificates worth more than 200 thousand rubles	2022-03-29	https://news-life.pro/saratov-obl/316159905/	Russia
15	The silicone arm of the Biella dentist was just the beginning - there are those who throw away the vaccine, those who make FAKE GREEN passes and those who rely on unfaithful doctors who pocket bribes to declare the fake: everything to avoid an injection - the case of PIPPO FRANCO and contacts with the underworld	2022-01-14	https://www.dagospia.com/rubrica-3/politica/braccio-silicone-dentista-biella-era-solo-rsquo-inizio-296140.htm	Italy
16	In Saratov, a doctor issued fake vaccination certificates for bribes	2021-12-09	https://rg.ru/2021/12/09/reg-pfo/v-saratove-za-vziatki-oformliali-poddelnye-sertifikaty-o-vakcinacii.html	Russia
17	Involved in receiving bribes to help obtain a vaccination certificate, the Kota Kinabalu man was deducted for 7 days to help check Ma Xinshe 18 minutes ago	2022-01-12	https://www.malaysiakini.com/news/606601	Malaysia
18	Primorets will appear in court for the purchase of vaccination certificates for 10 relatives	2022-03-24	https://baikal24-sport.ru/adaptive/text?date=23-03-2022&url=065	Russia
19	Three more Tatarstan citizens were caught selling fake covid certificates	2021-12-17	https://kazan.mk.ru/incident/2021/12/17/eshhe-tri-tatarstanca-popalis-na-prodazhe-poddelnykh-covidsertifikatov.html	Russia
20	The scheme for the purchase of vaccination certificates was disclosed in Primorye	2022-02-21	https://news-life.pro/primorsky-krai/312739376/	Russia
21	A MEDICAL WORKER HAS BEEN DETAINED IN ITALY! He prefaced himself with a vaccine in exchange for bribes (video).	2022-01-12	https://www.espresso.co.rs/svet/plane ta/956337/uhapsen-zdravstveni-radnik-u-italiji-video	Italy
22	In Neftekamsk, a therapist at a local hospital forged vaccination certificates for 33 residents for bribes	2022-04-07	https://www.dailyadvent.com/ru/news/5542e4b0949d61604c5bd49e9841a19a	Russia
23	He tries to bribe a pharmacist to have the green pass strengthened: 43-year-old in trouble	2022-03-11	https://www.ilgazzettino.it/nordest/padova/vaccino_farmacista_corrompere_green_pass_rafforzato-6556897.html	Italy
24	No VA cerca tries to bribe the nurse: offers him money to pretend he administered the vaccine	2022-02-04	https://123ru.net/foreign/it/311000614/	Italy
25	Fasano, tries to bribe a health worker to have the green pass without vaccine: denounced	2022-01-08	https://www.msn.com/it-it/notizie/italia/fasano-tenta-di-corrompere-un-operatore-sanitario-per-avere-il-green-pass-senza-vaccino-denunciato/ar-AASylks	Italy
26	A doctor was convicted in Sochi for issuing fake vaccination certificates	2022-02-22	https://www.vesti.ru/article/2680748	Russia

27	In Chuvashia, a doctor and nurses are suspected of fake vaccination against coronavirus	2021-12-06	https://news-life.pro/chuvashia/304723071/	Russia
28	The investigation of the criminal case against an employee of a medical institution accused of committing crimes when issuing vaccination certificates has been completed	2022-02-03	https://samara.bezformata.com/listnews/meditsinskogo-uchrezhdeniya-obvinyayemogo/102139204/	Russia
29	Two medical workers will stand trial for forgery of vaccination certificates near Vladimir	2022-02-25	https://rueconomics.ru/566337-dva-medrabotnika-predstanut-peredsudom-za-poddelku-spravok-ovakcinacii-pod-vladimirom	Russia
30	Murmansk resident will be tried for false information about vaccination from COVID-19	2022-03-23	https://murmansk.mk.ru/incident/2022/03/23/murmanchanina-budut-sudit-za-lozhnye-svedeniya-ovakcinacii-ot-covid19.html	Russia
31	An anti-vaccinator from Gdynia tried to bribe a nurse not to vaccinate him. He could go to jail now.	2022-02-18	https://www.msn.com/pl-pl/wiadomosci/opinie/antyszczepionkowiec-z-gdyni-chcia%C5%82-przekupi%C4%87-piel%C4%99gniark%C4%99-%C5%BCeby-go-nie-szczepi%C5%82amo%C5%BCe-teraz-trafi%C4%87-dowi%C4%99zienia/ar-AAU1fG1?li=BBr5KbO&srcref=rss	Poland
32	Bribe of 100,000 euros for vaccination at the sink, in Romania	2022-01-18	https://www.ziarelive.ro/stiri/mita-de-100000-de-euro-pentru-vaccinare-lachiuiveta-in-romania.html	Romania
33	Immunity card" next to vaccination": another police officer interrogated as suspect	2022-02-12	https://nepszava.hu/3146189_covid-hamis-vedettsegi-igazolvany-vesztegetes	Hungary
34	Tried to corrupt the Borderers in the absence of the third Vaccine, The Citizen of Albania is arrested	2022-02-02	https://zeri.info/kronika/439856/tento-i-ti-korruptonte-kufitaret-nemungese-te-vaksines-se-trete-arrestohet-shtetasi-i-shqiperise/	Albania
35	Bribes from doctors and trade in COVID certificates: the director of a medical institution was detained in Kiev	2022-01-19	https://24tv.ua/kyivnews/ru/vzjatki-vrachej-torgovlja-covid-sertifikatami-kieve-novosti-kiiev_n1845969	Ukraine
36	I wanted to bribe border guards: in the Lviv region, a man was fined 17 thousand UAH because of a fake document	2022-02-21	https://rus.redtram.com/news/politics/610142416/	Ukraine
37	The Audiencia of Alicante files the case related to the vaccination against Covid of the mayor of the popular Nucia Bernabé Cano	2022-04-27	https://www.eldiario.es/comunitat-valenciana/audiencia-alicante-archiva-causa-relativa-vacunacion-covid-alcalde-nucia_1_8948362.html	Spain
38	Involved in the Sale of the Vaccine Covid-19, dr Kristinus Saragih Sentenced to 2 Years in Prison	2021-12-29	https://medan.tribunnews.com/2021/12/29/terlibat-penjualan-vaksin-covid-19-dr-kristinus-saragih-divonis-2-tahun-penjara	Indonesia
39	Turkish Nurse Sentenced To 241 Years In Prison For Fake Covid-19 Vaccination	2022-03-29	https://www.rctiplus.com/news/detail/nasional/2183265/perawat-turki-terancam-hukuman-241-tahun-penjara-akibat-vaksinasi-covid-19-palsu	Turkey

40	Users try to bribe nurses to have the vaccination stamp without receiving the vaccine	2021-12-24	https://zap.aeiou.pt/utentes-tentam-subornar-enfermeiros-para-ter-o-carimbo-da-vacinacao-sem-receber-a-vacina-452363	Portugal
41	Doctor awarded by the prefect of Iasi, arrested for vaccinations at the sink	2022-01-14	https://www.diacaf.com/stiri/actualitate/medicul-premiat-de-prefectul-de-ia-i-arestat-pentru_122223018.html	Romania
42	The director of the medical institution was detained on charges of making fake vaccination certificates	2021-12-03	https://ru.netgazeti.ge/28874/	Georgia
43	Covid: attempts to bribe pharmacist to get green pass, denounced	2022-03-11	http://www.msn.com/it-it/notizie/italia/covid-tenta-di-corrompere-farmacista-per-ottenere-green-pass-denunciato/vi-AAUWXu9?srcref=rss	Italy
44	Brazil: vaccine scandal, for Federal Police Bolsonaro unrelated to the facts (2)	2022-01-31	https://www.agenzianova.com/a/61f82ad1159136.83260303/3773929/2022-01-31/brasile-scandalo-vaccini-per-polizia-federale-bolsonaro-estraneo-ai-fatti-2	Brazil
45	A man offered a bribe to the staff of a vaccination center for a false record of bypassing vaccinations	2022-01-06	https://www.lrytas.lt/lietuvosdiena/kriminalai/2022/01/06/news/vakcinacijos-centro-darbuotojams-plungeje-vyras-siule-kysi-uz-melaginga-irasa-apei-skiepus-21967198	Lithuania
46	The nurse for bribes enrolled people as vaccinated, appointed her detention	2021-12-01	https://dalmatinskiportal.hr/vijesti/medicinska-sestra-za-mito-upisivala-ljude-kao-cijepljene--odreden-joj-privor/117285	Croatia
47	Man charged with bribing nurse to record he had taken 2nd COVID vaccine shot	2022-01-13	https://forums.hardwarezone.com.sg/threads/man-charged-with-bribing-nurse-to-record-he-had-taken-2nd-covid-vaccine-shot.6678051/	Singapore
48	Four women traded fake vaccination certificates, earned more than 20 thousand euros	2022-01-04	https://www.trend.sk/spravy/styri-zeny-obchodovali-falosnymi-ockovacimi-certifikatmi-zarobili-vyse-20-tisic-eur	Czech Republic
49	Nurse detained for vaccination at the sink. Charged 2,000 lei for two fake certificates	2022-03-04	https://adevarul.ro/locale/tulcea/asistent-medical-retinut-vaccinare-chiuveta-incasat-2000-lei-doua-certificate-false-1_622232485163ec4271c3390b/index.html	Romania
50	Saudi anti-corruption authority pursues makers of fake Covid-19 vaccine certificates	2022-01-20	https://www.thenationalnews.com/gulf-news/saudi-arabia/2022/01/20/saudi-anti-corruption-authority-pursues-makers-of-fake-covid-19-vaccine-certificates/	Saudi Arabia
51	Kurgan doctor issued vaccination certificates for a bribe	2022-02-11	https://kurgan.bezformata.com/listnews/vrach-vidala-sertifikati-o-vaktcinacii/102427618/	Russia
52	DGA announces dozens of searches and raids at public institutions-doctors suspected of taking bribes for fictitious vaccination	2022-03-21	https://www.ziarelive.ro/stiri/dga-anunta-zeci-de-perchezitii-si-descinderi-la-institutii-publice-medici-	Romania

			suspectati-ca-au-luat-mita-pentru-vaccinare-fictiva.html	
53	Coronavirus: 130 people have already been questioned as suspects on immunity certificate	2021-12-29	https://www.napi.hu/magyar-gazdasag/koronavirus-jarvany-covid-vedettsegi-igazolvany.743096.html	Hungary
54	The lad who wanted to fake the vaccination record heard the decision: offered a bribe, and then grabbed a syringe with the vaccine and ran away	2022-01-28	https://m.lrytas.lt/lietuvsdiena/kriminalai/2022/01/28/news/suklastotiskiepo-irasa-norejusi-kauniete-isgirdo-sprendima-siule-kysi-o-tadagriebe-svirksta-su-vakcina-ir-pabego-22188788	Lithuania
55	They detained the laboratory assistant while he was taking a bribe for a fake certificate.	2022-01-10	http://vevesti.bg/266630/zadarzhaha-laborant-dokato-v/	Bulgaria
56	Cost of passport options	2021-12-04	https://kauno.diena.lt/naujienos/nuomones/nuomones/galimybiu-pasokaina-1054151	Lithuania
57	Health workers arrested after bribe sought for administering COVID-19 vaccine	2021-12-14	https://english.khabarhub.com/2021/14/226343/	Nepal
58	Two assistants from SVSU Bistrita were detained! They are suspected of receiving money to vaccinate fictitiously and issue fake Covid certification	2022-04-09	https://www.observatorbn.ro/2022/04/09/doi-asistenti-de-la-svsu-bistrita-au-fost-retinuti-sunt-banuiti-ca-au-primit-bani-pentru-a-vaccina-fictiv-sia-emite-certificare-covid-false/	Romania
59	Primorets tried to buy fake certificates for himself, family and friends	2022-01-17	https://www.dailyadvent.com/ru/news/9a0199c870c058a02c975d3fe14954f7	Russia
60	Earned a million: a policeman and a medical worker in Kiev forged COVID certificates	2021-12-10	https://24tv.ua/kyivnews/ru/zarabotali-million-policejskij-medrabotnica-kieve-novosti-kiev_n1816913	Ukraine
61	Two hospital nurses asked for 20 thousand HUF for false immunity certificates	2021-12-16	https://www.origo.hu/itthon/20211216-megvesztegettek-ket-korhazi-apolot-hogy-hamis-vedettsegi-kartyat-szerezzenek.html	Hungary
62	Medical Center, director and doctor of which were arrested on charges of forging document confirming Pfizer vaccination, closed	2021-12-03	https://www.interpressnews.ge/en/article/117176-medical-center-director-and-doctor-of-which-were-arrested-on-charges-of-forging-document-confirming-pfizer-vaccination-closed	Georgia
63	Another doctor with vaccination certificates arrested-video	2022-03-04	https://www.origo.hu/itthon/20220304-asszisztensevel-egyutt-tobb-embert-juttattak-jogosulatlanul-vedettsegi-igazolvanyhoz.html	Hungary
64	A family doctor, an ambulance driver and two other persons, pre-emptively arrested in the case of fictitious vaccinations in Dolj. How the network worked	2022-01-20	https://ziare.com/arestari/arestari-dosar-vaccinari-fictive-dolj-medic-ambulantier-1721152	Romania
65	Kuwait .. Imprisonment of a nurse for 4 years for forging a vaccination certificate for an expatriate who refused the vaccine	2022-03-20	https://www.tellerreport.com/life/2022-03-20-kuwait----imprisonment-of-a-nurse-for-4-years-for-forging-a-vaccination-certificate-for-an-expatriate-who-refused-the-vaccine.rk2b2CVz9.html	Kuwait

66	More than 4 thousand Penza residents were fined for violating security measures	2022-02-11	https://penza.bezformata.com/listnews/epidbezopasnosti-oshtrafovali-bolee-4-tis/102432040/	Russia
67	12: 54 Hat persons arrested for issuing fake Covid vaccination cards	2021-12-22	https://www.agerpres.ro/agerpres/2021/12/22/hat-szem-lyt-vettek-rizetbe-hamis-covid-olt-si-igazolv-nyok-ki-ll-t-sa-miatt--835947	Romania
68	Scandal at Vilnius City Clinical Hospital: manager and 4 doctors suspected of demanding bribes	2022-01-14	https://www.tv3.lt/naujiena/lietuva/skandalas-vilniaus-miesto-klinikineje-ligonineje-vadovas-ir-4-medikai-itariami-reikalave-kysiu-n1133952	Lithuania
69	Twenty-one 'fraudsters' arrested for \$150MILLION fake Covid schemes	2022-04-20	https://whatsnew2day.com/twenty-one-fraudsters-arrested-for-150million-fake-covid-schemes/	United States
70	No va va, fake vaccines for 150 euros in Naples: among the customers also employees of the Ministry of the Interior and Justice	2022-01-27	https://www.ilmattino.it/napoli/cronaca/no_vax_finti_vaccini_a_napoli_ultime_notizie_oggi_quanto_costa-6464519.html	Italy
71	In Komi, the person involved in the case of fake covid vaccinations was charged with petty bribery	2022-02-09	https://siktivkar.bezformata.com/listnews/komi-figurantke-dela-olipovih/102337222/	Russia
72	A health worker got caught trying to sell a vaccination certificate	2022-01-24	https://saratov.bezformata.com/listnews/medrabortnitca-popalas-napopitke-prodat/101796883/	Russia
73	For fake certificates up to 5 years behind bars? The police described what was happening in Vsetin!	2022-01-05	https://www.msn.com/cz-cz/news/other/za-fale%C5%A1n%C3%A9-certifik%C3%A1ty-a%C5%BE-5-let-zam%C5%99%C3%AD%C5%BEemi-policie-popsala-co-se-ve-vset%C3%ADn%C4%9B-d%C4%9Blo/ar-AASrY5E	Czech Republic
74	"Attempts to bribe": doctors under pressure	2022-02-14	https://wien.orf.at/stories/3143127/	Austria
75	Convicted person for bribe sought to be placed on the list of vaccinated persons	2022-02-23	https://gargzdai.lt/nuteistas-asmuo-uz-kysi-siekes-buti-irasytas-i-pasiskiepijusiu-asmenu-sarasa/	Lithuania
76	Covid bribery flourished with the arrival of the pandemic in Novosibirsk	2021-12-07	https://nsknews.info/materials/kovid-noe-vzyatochnichestvo-rastvelo-s-prikhodom-pandemii-v-novosibirske/	Russia
77	Fake vaccination certificates in Neamt and Iasi	2022-01-12	https://www.ziarelive.ro/stiri/certificat-e-de-vaccinare-false-in-neamt-si-iasi.html	Romania
78	Trade in covid-19 certificates	2022-02-04	https://radioszczecin.pl/6,435095,handel-certyfikatami-covidowymi	Poland
79	The gang of vaccines-fake collected 5 thousand euros per week: for the fake green passes also customers in Maserati 1 month to only 0,99 Solo only 1 per	2022-02-23	https://www.corriereadriatico.it/ancona/ancona_vaccini_finti_green_pass_covid_inchiesta_emanuele_luchetti_hu_b_paolinelli-6521097.html	Italy
80	The police are investigating incredible scams: people pay drug addicts to get vaccinated against Covid-19 for them	2022-01-25	https://www.delfi.lt/ru/news/live/policija-rassleduet-neveroyatnye-afery-lyudi-platyat-narkomanam-za-tochtoby-oni-za-nih-privilis-ot-covid-19.d?id=89283793	Lithuania

81	Three women gave unvaccinated immunity certificates	2021-12-21	https://www.origo.hu/itthon/20211221-egy-orvos-az-asszisztense-es-egy-kozmetikus-ellen-indult-eljaras.html	Hungary
82	Paid bribes to get a vaccination certificate	2022-04-15	https://www.politika.rs/sr/clanak/505009/Davao-mito-da-bi-dobio-potvrdu-o-vakcinaciji	Serbia
83	Coronavirus: family doctor arrested for corruption	2022-03-04	https://24.hu/belfold/2022/03/04/koronavirus-covid19-oltas-vedettsegi-haziorvos-orizetbe-vettek/	Hungary
84	Messinia: "monkey "vaccinations and false" rapid test - - what the case file for illegal prescriptions revealed	2021-12-15	https://www.enikos.gr/society/messinia-emvoliasmoi-maimou-kai-psevdi-rapid-tests-ta-osa-apokalypse-i-dikografia-gia-tis-paranomes-syntagografiseis/1724427/	Greece
85	Corruption: The Other Side of COVID-19	2022-01-29	https://latinamericanpost.com/39765-corruption-the-other-side-of-covid-19	Multiple
86	Susanna Griso, on the fake covid passport plot: 'They're going to need the 90,000 euros to pay themselves lawyers'	2022-04-28	https://headtopics.com/es/susanna-griso-sobre-la-trama-de-pasaportes-covid-falsos-van-a-necesitar-los-90-000-euros-para-pag-26008549	Spain
87	The entire section of the buyers of false covid confirmed celebrities as well.	2021-12-03	https://novice.si/page/celje-zalec-med-kupci-laznih-covid-potrtil-tudiznane-osebnosti/	Slovenia
88	Fake covid vaccinations to have the green pass: three arrested, two are doctors	2022-02-23	http://247.libero.it/rfocus/48041099/0/finte-vaccinazioni-anti-covid-per-avere-il-green-pass-tre-arrestati-due-sono-medici/	Italy
89	STT INVESTIGATES POSSIBLE BRIBERY AND FALSIFICATION IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A COVID-19 VACCINATION RECORD	2022-04-05	https://m.klaipeda.diena.lt/naujienos/klaipeda/nusikaltimai-ir-nelaimes/stt-tiria-galima-papirkima-ir-klastojimasiekiant-gauti-skiepijimo-nuo-covid-19-irasa-1072008	Lithuania
90	Anti-COVID vaccination at the sink. Family doctors arrested for issuing forged certificates UPDATE	2022-04-13	https://adevarul.ro/locale/constanta/vaccinare-anti-covid-chiuveta-medici-familie-retinuti-emiterea-certIFICATE-falsificate-1_6256bed05163ec4271551125/index.html	Romania
91	Pre-trial arrests in Maramures. They were claiming between 300 and 500 euros for a fake vaccination certificate	2022-03-04	http://stiri.eclub.ro/stire-1653153.htm	Portugal
92	How Nigerian Health Workers Collect Bribes, Issue COVID-19 Cards Without Vaccination	2022-02-19	https://www.dailyadvent.com/news/6cb98e71123cc957e6b623bd11f51aeb-How-Nigerian-Health-Workers-Collect-Bribes-Issue-COVID19-Cards-Without-Vaccination	Nigeria
93	Fictional vaccination in Caras-Severin. 9 doctors and nurses, taken to court. How much did customers ask	2022-02-14	https://www.ziarelive.ro/stiri/vaccinare-fictiva-in-caras-severin-9-medici-si-asistente-dusi-la-audieri-ce-sume-cereau-clientilor.html	Romania
94	Fake vaccines, nurse in prison: investigations started by the girlfriend of a no VA finito	2022-02-08	https://www.quotidianodipuglia.it/nordest/venezia/infermiera_falsi_vaccini_indagini-6486783.html	Italy
95	Doctor from Valea Călugărească, under judicial control for vaccination" at the sink " for a fee	2022-02-02	https://www.secundatv.ro/penali/doct_rita-din-valea-calugareasca-sub-	Romania

			control-judiciar-pentru-vaccinare-la-chiuveta-contra-cost-207664.html/	
96	Bribery and falsification of documents for the possible illegal receipt of a record confirming COVID-19 vaccination is being investigated	2022-04-08	https://gargzdai.lt/tiriamas-papirkimas-ir-dokumentu-klastojimas-del-galimai-neteiseto-covid-19-vakcinacija-patvirtinancio-iraso-gavimo/	Lithuania
97	A case was opened against a doctor of the Balashov hospital for issuing a fake vaccination certificate	2022-01-24	https://saratov.bezformata.com/listnews/balashovskoy-bolnitci-zaveli-delo/101794557/	Russia
98	Fictitious vaccinations and the desire to get rid of criminal cases - explanations from bribe files on behalf of doctors	2021-12-10	https://romania.europalibera.org/a/vaccinari-fictive-%c8%99i-dosare-penale/31602827.html	Romania
99	Nurse jailed for three months in custody	2022-02-07	https://www.pandurul.ro/articol/asistenta-spagara-de-trei-luni-in-arest_149264.html	Romania
100	Arrest of a nurse for accepting a bribe and extracting false certificates to receive Corona vaccinations	2021-12-23	http://www.almadenahnews.com/article/962674-%D8%AA%D9%88%D9%82%D9%8A%D9%81-%D9%85%D9%85%D8%B1%D8%B6-%D9%84%D9%82%D8%A8%D9%88%D9%84%D9%87-%D8%B1%D8%B4%D9%88%D8%A9-%D9%88%D8%A7%D8%B3%D8%AA%D8%AE%D8%B1%D8%A7%D8%AC%D9%87-%D8%B4%D9%87%D8%A7%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D9%83%D8%A7%D8%B0%D8%A8%D8%A9-%D9%84%D8%AA%D9%84%D9%82%D9%8A-%D9%85%D8%B7%D8%A7%D8%B9%D9%8A%D9%85-%D9%83%D9%88%D8%B1%D9%88%D9%86%D8%A7	Jordan
101	The fact of commercial bribery and production and sale of forged official documents by a group	2022-04-05	http://news.leportale.com/doc?id=594303421	Georgia
102	Searches in Bucharest and Olt, in a fictitious anti-Covid vaccination file. In the last eight months alone, more than a thousand people gave money to receive fake certificates, and most no longer even went to the vaccination center.	2022-04-11	https://www.biziday.ro/politistii-efectueaza-12-perchezitii-in-bucuresti-si-caracal-la-persoane-banuite-ca-au-luat-mita-pentru-a-elibera-in-fals-certIFICATE-de-vaccinare-din-august-pana-in-prezent-reteaua-ar-fi-emis-pest	Romania

103	Promised money to get a fake vaccination certificate	2022-04-15	https://www.danas.rs/vesti/drustvo/o-becao-novac-kako-bi-dobio-laznu-potvrdu-o-vakcinaciji/	Serbia
104	Vaccination spat at the sink-police 'picked up' 10 people in a case targeting two nurses	2022-01-31	http://news.leportale.com/doc?id=558740450	Romania
105	Nurses arrested! Vaccination at the sink in two centers!	2022-04-04	https://www.ziarobiectiv.ro/asistente-din-arges-arestare-vaccinare-la-chiuveta-in-doua-centre/	Romania
106	DGA raids on a new vaccination record at the sink. Doctors accused of receiving bribes of up to 300 euros	2022-03-16	https://www.ziarelive.ro/stiri/descind-eri-ale-dga-intr-un-nou-dosar-de-vaccinare-la-chiuveta-medici-acuzati-ca-ar-fi-primita-spagi-de-pana-la-300-de-euro.html	Romania
107	Turnersville Woman Made Fake COVID-19 Vaccination Cards, Feds Say	2022-04-21	http://patch.com/new-jersey/moorestown/s/i7yzz/fake-covid-19-vaccination-cards-made-turnersville-woman-feds-say?utm_source=article-mostrecent&utm_medium=rss&utm_term=crime%20%26%20safety&utm_campaign=recirc&utm_content=normal	United States
108	A border guard was detained at the border who did not receive a green certificate	2022-03-27	https://www.flagman.bg/article/263244	Bulgaria
109	Albanian citizen arrested: tried to give 10 euros bribe to the borderman after he did not have three doses of the vaccine	2022-02-02	https://lajmi.net/arrestohet-shtetasi-i-shqiperise-tentoi-tia-jap-10-euro-ryshfet-kufitarit-pasi-si-pati-tri-doza-te-vaksines/	Kosovo
110	Russia > Medicine. Vnesheconombank, Politics >, November 26, 2021	2021-11-27	https://polpred.com?ns=1&ns_id=3897507	Russia
111	Another figure in the corruption scheme on the issue of anti-Covid vaccination certificates was detained by the CNA	2021-11-26	https://123ru.net/foreign/ro/304018364/	Moldova
112	Assistant and co-worker with a certificate of vaccination has been arrested	2021-11-25	https://24.hu/belfold/2021/11/25/letartoztattak-az-oltasi-igazolassal-uzletelo-asszisztent-es-tarsat/	Hungary
113	Vaccinations: heavy criminal charges over forged certificates	2021-11-23	https://www.patriss.gr/2021/11/23/emvoliasmoi-varies-poinikes-dioxeis-giata-plasta-pistopoiitika/	Greece
114	In the Saratov region, 8 criminal cases have been initiated on the facts of fictitious vaccination and forgery of certificates on the absence of covid	2021-11-23	https://www.dailyadvent.com/ru/news/eac17312603de3d8cf3ce40dc7b13152	Russia
115	Attempted bribery in Luis Eduardo: women gain freedom by paying bail.	2021-11-23	https://jornaloexpresso.wordpress.com/2021/11/23/tentativa-de-suborno-em-luis-eduardo-mulheres-ganham-liberdade-pagando-fianca/	Brazil
116	Bribery doctor arrested red-handed, asks for bribe to give certificate without Corona vaccine	2021-11-19	https://haryana.punjabkesari.in/haryana/news/bribery-doctor-arrested-red-handed-1494406	India
117	A doctor was arrested in Volgograd for selling vaccination certificates	2021-11-19	https://news.rambler.ru/internet/47604746-v-volgograde-arestovali-	Russia

			vracha-za-prodazhu-sertifikatov-o-vaktsinatsii/&block_click=lenta_12	
118	Vaccination bribe accused appears in court	2021-11-18	https://thewest.com.au/news/geraldton-guardian/kalbarri-woman-krystle-maigan-westwood-appears-in-court-on-covid-vaccine-bribe-allegations-ng-b882079102z	Australia
119	Arrest of health official who issued false coronavirus vaccine certificates	2021-11-17	http://www.almadenahnews.com/article/954598-%D8%AA%D9%88%D9%82%D9%8A%D9%81-%D9%85%D8%B3%D8%A4%D9%88%D9%84-%D8%A8%D8%A7%D9%84%D8%B5%D8%AD%D8%A9-%D8%A3%D8%B5%D8%AF%D8%B1-%D8%B4%D9%87%D8%A7%D8%AF%D8%A7%D8%AA-%D9%84%D9%82%D8%A7%D8%AD-%D9%83%D9%88%D8%B1%D9%88%D9%86%D8%A7-%D9%83%D8%A7%D8%B0%D8%A8%D8%A9	Oman
120	In Dnipro, a family doctor is suspected of forging COVID certificates for an enterprise: what threatens him	2021-11-17	https://newsmir.info/2449421	Ukraine
121	A resident of Primorye was suspected of paying a bribe for vaccination certificates	2021-11-16	https://news2world.net/obzor-proisshestvij/zhitelya-primorya-zapodozrili-v-dache-vzvatki-za-sertifikati-o-vaktsinatsii.html	Russia
122	A medical worker in Samara was suspected of entering false data on vaccination against COVID-19	2021-11-15	https://www.samru.ru/society/novosti_samara/128402.html	Russia
123	Man and woman in WA allegedly attempt to bribe health workers to avoid Covid job	2021-11-14	https://www.agedcareinsite.com.au/2021/11/man-and-woman-in-wa-allegedly-attempt-to-bribe-health-workers-to-avoid-covid-jab/	Australia
124	94,000 lei confiscated from a nurse after false vaccinations in total	2021-11-14	https://www.monitorulbt.ro/national/2021/11/14/94-000-de-lei-confiscati-de-la-o-asistenta-dupa-vaccinari-false/	Romania
125	Coronavirus crisis: Port Hedland man on fraud charge after allegedly attempting to bribe nurse to fake vax	2021-11-12	https://www.dailytelegraph.com.au/news/western-australia/coronavirus-crisis-port-hedland-man-on-fraud-charge-after-allegedly-attempting-to-bribe-nurse-to-fake-vax/news-story/3fcf77a5be78318ecc233ff8e2aaf5bb	Australia
126	Russians pay bribes to evade vaccination	2021-11-12T16:05:30Z	https://commercant.ge/ge/post/rusebi-vaqcinacii-tvis-tavis-asarideblad-grtamebs-ixdian	Russia
127	So far in Croatia, the police have caught 806 people with fake PCR tests, they have published how often in which district	2021-11-12	https://www.rtl.hr/vijesti-hr/novosti/hrvatska/4138192/dosada-u-hrvatskoj-policija-ulovila-806-	Croatia

			ljudi-s-laznim-pcr-testovima-objavili-su-koliko-cesto-u-kojoj-zupaniji/	
128	WA man charged over COVID-19 vaccine bribe as mandate looms over 1.4 million workers	2021-11-12	https://perthonline.com.au/wa-man-charged-over-covid-19-vaccine-bribe-as-mandate-loom-over-1-4-million-workers/	Australia
129	In Khabarovsk, 6 people were detained who bought fake vaccination certificates for 10 thousand rubles	2021-11-12	https://news.rambler.ru/crime/47552793-v-habarovske-zaderzhali-6-chelovek-kotorye-za-10-tysyach-rublej-pokupali-poddelnye-sertifikaty-o-vaktsinatsii/	Russia
130	Police suspect health worker of falsifying vaccination passports	2021-11-11	https://uudised.tv3.ee/eesti/uudis/2021/11/11/keskriminaalpolitsei-kahtlustab-tervishoiutootajat-vaktsineerimispasside-voltsimises/	Estonia
131	Security forces detained a group of Khabarovsk residents-anti-vaccinators	2021-11-11	https://news.rambler.ru/incidents/47552552-siloviki-zaderzhali-gruppu-habarovchan-antiprivivochnikov/	Russia
132	Scandal - employee may have falsified records on COVID-19 vaccinations for bribes	2021-11-10	https://kauno.diena.lt/naujienos/kriminalai/nusikaltimai/taurageje-skandalas-darbuotoja-uz-kysius-galimai-klastojo-covid-19-skiepu-irasus-1050771	Lithuania
133	Fifteen medical staff members charged in Armenia with providing fake vaccination and negative PCR certificates	2021-11-10	http://arka.am/en/news/society/fifteen_medical_staff_members_charged_in_armenia_with_providing_fake_vaccination_and_negative_pcr_certificate/	Armenia
134	The case of fake certificates: The Prosecutor's Office demands the arrest of three intermediaries	2021-11-10	https://noi.md/ru/obshchestvo/delo-o-poddelinyh-sertifikatah-prokuratura-trebueta-arestovati-treh-posrednikov	Moldova
135	With false medical certificates of up to a million euro	2021-11-09	http://www.delo.si/novice/crna-kronika/z-laznimi-zdravniskimi-spricevali-do-milijona-evrov/	Slovenia
136	Scandal in Greece over large-scale scam involving antivaccine, bribes and water in syringes	2021-11-09	https://www.theallineed.com/news/20211109/scandal-in-greece-over-large-scale-scam-involving-antivaccine-bribes-and-water-in-syringes/	Greece
137	Three people who are targeted in a corruption scheme when issuing COVID vaccination certificates, have been detained by the CNA	2021-11-08	https://www.ziarelive.ro/stiri/trei-persoane-care-sunt-vizate-intr-o-schema-de-coruptie-la-eliberarea-certificatelor-de-vaccinare-anti-covid-au-fost-retinute-de-cna.html	Romania
138	In Lviv region, border guards were offered bribes for invalid vaccination certificates	2021-11-08	https://golossokal.com.ua/podii/nalvivshchyni-trykordonnykam-proponuvaly-khabari-za-nediysni-sertyfikaty-pro-vaktsynatsiiu.html	Ukraine
139	In the Ivano-Frankivsk region, large-scale fraud with vaccination data was exposed - SBU	2021-11-08	https://nv.ua/ukraine/events/v-ivano-frankovskoy-oblasti-razoblachili-mahinacii-s-dannymi-o-vakcinacii-50194437.html	Ukraine
140	Seven criminal cases were brought against Voronezh residents for forging QR codes	2021-11-03	https://vrn.mk.ru/social/2021/11/03/s-em-ugolovnykh-del-zaveli-na-voronezhcev-za-poddelku-grkodov.html	Russia

141	Oryol general practitioner peddled vaccination certificates	2021-11-03	https://www.dailyadvent.com/ru/news/0beb7ff816f406afd5de78a41a933cd9	Russia
142	In Bashkirie, a midwife issued vaccination certificates for manicure and pedicure to friends	2021-11-02	https://www.fontanka.ru/2021/11/02/70231532/	Russia
143	Accused soldier	2021-11-02	https://news.lv/Kurzemes-Vards/2021/11/02/apsudzets-karavirs	Latvia
144	Nurse gets in trouble. Offered 5000 euros to pharmacist to fake anti-Covid vaccination and get Green Pass.	2021-11-02	https://www.informazione.it/a/F96CA4AB-6FE7-4059-B4F6-91D03B935FE4/Infermiere-finisce-nei-guai-Offerti-5000-euro-a-Farmacista-per-fingere-vaccinazione-anti-Covid-e-ottenere-Green-Pass	Italy

ANNEX 1. METHODOLOGY AIMON

Developed by the Transparency International Global Health Programme (TIGH) together with Signal AI, the data for this research was collected by a tool which tracks, collates and categorises news articles on corruption and inequity in the rollout of the COVID-19 vaccine across worldwide online media. We call this tool Artificial Intelligence media monitoring, or AIMON for short.

The first stage in this process is data collection, for which AIMON automatically searches for and stores over 5 million articles a day, from hundreds of thousands of sources across the globe.

The second stage is categorisation using Natural Language Processing (NLP) and Machine Learning (ML). TIGH provide the tool with a “seed paragraph” or definitional paragraph for specific topics – in our case specific types of corruption or inequity. Then the topic training begins, which in the first phase requires the researcher to provide examples of articles that are on topic. This is done by keyword searches on the Vulcan platform. When at least 50 articles have been identified as on topic, the researcher can progress to the ‘Active Learning’ stage of the training. Here, the Vulcan platform searches for articles that it deems on topic based on an initial model, and it is the researcher’s job to label them as on or off topic to improve the model. This is done at least 440 times, until AIMON has an 80% success rate. Whilst not limited thematically, the TIGH team has trained several corruption-related “topics”:

- Embezzlement
- Bribery
- Sextortion
- Corrupt Fraud
- Nepotism
- Corruption (General)

The developed models are then used to categorise articles as they are stored, along with other metadata such as source, people, organisations, country of origin and published date.

To avoid duplications, search results are deduplicated and clustered based on metadata of the articles using opensource machine learning python package “dedupe”. Articles with similar titles are first identified and removed from the dataset. In a second step, search results are then

clustered according to their date, location, title and further meta data, with the aim of grouping together articles whose focus is the same. Additionally, the geography of the focus of the article is deciphered using Natural Language Processing as well as open-source python package “geolocate” – a additional piece of data that allows us to map regional trends.

Limitations

Due to the clandestine nature of corruption, it is estimated that there is a high number of unreported cases of bribery in vaccine management which have not been picked up by the media. Hence, it is most likely that the numbers reported by AIMon are a huge underestimation of the actual scale of corruption cases related to COVID-19 vaccines and thus should not be used as a precise measurement for prevalence. Furthermore, some corrupt cases or ways in which they were committed will have been reported more due to being considered more ‘newsworthy’. Solely comparing the numbers of articles on corruption cases between countries is hence not necessarily indicative for the actual prevalence of corruption in these countries.

Secondly, the results are inherently biased towards countries with more online media presence, bear the risk of including fake news, and are subject to bias in the media sources. Together, these factors inevitably compromise the reliability and accuracy of the dataset. This is further impacted through Google Translate having been used to translate non-English news articles, as this translation tool can be faulty, and details might have been lost in translation. Additionally, not all articles that are available in printed or televised media are also made available online, which means that the dataset does not represent a conclusive picture of media coverage on corruption cases worldwide.

ANNEX 2. METHODOLOGY BRIBERY REPORT

This paper analyses the dataset that was returned by AIMON from the joint search on the trained topics “bribery” and “vaccine management”. The initial dataset included 976 articles which were published between the 1st November 2021 and the 30th April 2022.

Due to the relatively short time period and narrow scope of the research, the data was manually verified and analysed by TIGH researchers. Articles unrelated to the topic (447 in total) were removed. The remaining articles were deduplicated, resulting in a final dataset of 147 articles. From these we decided to focus on retrieving perspectives on the following criteria:

- Prevalence of bribery,
- The monetary value of the bribe,
- The type of service that was demanded or delivered in return for the bribe, i.e., the administration of the vaccine, the issuance of a falsified vaccination certificate or COVID-19 test result, or other actions

Initially we considered other criteria, but it was clear the form of data collection wasn't suitable. These criteria included:

- Professional roles during the solicitation of the bribe, i.e., whether the bribe was offered to or by healthcare staff, civil servants, border police or other roles. However, most articles did not specify the job titles of those taking the bribes. Whilst we know that most of the cases involved health workers, more information on their professional status could help to assess on which levels and out of which motivation bribery is happening in the health system.

- the **contextual factors** that enabled the bribery, as most articles did not contain any information on the incentives behind or context of those giving and receiving the bribes.
- Similarly, whilst we know that around 17% of the reports refer to a case in which a bribe was rejected, no to little information is given on **why some bribes were accepted and others not**.

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Reference No.	Title	Source	Case No.
1	Scandal in Greece over large-scale scam involving antivaccine, bribes and water in syringes	https://www.theallined.com/news/20211109/scandal-in-greece-over-large-scale-scam-involving-antivaccine-bribes-and-water-in-syringes/	136
2	Doctor from Valea Călugărească, under judicial control for "sink" vaccination for a fee	https://www.secundatv.ro/penali/doctorita-din-valea-calugareasca-sub-control-judiciar-pentru-vaccinare-la-chiuveta-contracost-207664.html/	95
3	A doctor will be tried in Tatarstan for forgery of vaccination certificates	https://kazan.mk.ru/incident/2022/03/28/v-tatarstane-budut-sudit-vracha-zapoddelku-sertifikatov-o-vakcinacii.html	6
4	Susanna Griso, on the fake covid passport plot: 'They're going to need the 90,000 euros to pay themselves lawyers'	https://headtopics.com/es/susanna-griso-sobre-la-trama-de-pasaportes-covid-falsos-van-a-necesitar-los-90-000-euros-para-pag-26008549	86
5	The entire section of the buyers of false covid confirmed celebrities as well.	https://novice.si/page/celje-zalec-medkupci-laznih-covid-potrdil-tudi-znane-osebnosti/	87
6	Fictitious vaccinations and the desire to get rid of criminal cases - explanations from bribe files on behalf of doctors	https://romania.europalibera.org/a/vaccinari-fictive-%c8%99i-dosare-penale/31602827.html	98
7	Bribe of 100,000 euros for vaccination at the sink, in Romania	https://www.ziarelive.ro/stiri/mita-de-100000-de-euro-pentru-vaccinare-la-chiuveta-in-romania.html	32
8	STT INVESTIGATES POSSIBLE BRIBERY AND FALSIFICATION IN ORDER TO OBTAIN A COVID-19 VACCINATION RECORD	https://m.klaipeda.diena.lt/naujienos/klaipeda/nusikaltimai-ir-nelaimes/stt-tiria-galima-papirkima-ir-klastojimasiekiant-gauti-skiepijimo-nuo-covid-19-irasa-1072008	89
9	Cost of passport options	https://kauno.diena.lt/naujienos/nuomones/nuomones/galimybiu-paso-kaina-1054151	56
10	Turnersville Woman Made Fake COVID-19 Vaccination Cards, Feds Say	http://patch.com/new-jersey/moorestown/s/i7yzz/fake-covid-19-vaccination-cards-made-turnersville-woman-feds-say?utm_source=article-mostrecent&utm_medium=rss&utm_te	107

		rm=crime%20%26%20safety&utm_campaign=recirc&utm_content=normal	
11	The gang of vaccines-fake collected 5 thousand euros per week: for the fake green passes also customers in Maserati 1 month to only 0,99 Solo only 1 per	https://www.corriereadriatico.it/ancona/ancona_vaccini_finti_green_pass_covid_inchiesta_emanuele_luchetti_hub_pao_linelli-6521097.html	79
12	With false medical certificates of up to a million euro	http://www.delo.si/novice/crna-kronika/z-laznimi-zdravniskimi-spricevali-do-milijona-evrov/	135
13	Fifteen medical staff members charged in Armenia with providing fake vaccination and negative PCR certificates	http://arka.am/en/news/society/fifteen_medical_staff_members_charged_in_armenia_with_providing_fake_vaccination_and_negative_pcr_certificate/	133
14	Messinia: "monkey "vaccinations and false" rapid test - - what the case file for illegal prescriptions revealed	https://www.enikos.gr/society/messinia-emvoliasmoi-maimou-kai-psevdi-rapid-tests-ta-osa-apokalypse-i-dikografia-giatis-paranomes-syntagografiseis/1724427/	84
15	Fake vaccines, nurse in prison: investigations started by the girlfriend of a no VA finito	https://www.quotidianodipuglia.it/nord-est/venezia/infermiera_falsi_vaccini_indagini-6486783.html	94
16	An employee of a hospital in the Saratov region is suspected of bribes	https://iz.ru/1281691/2022-01-24/sotrudnicu-bolnitcy-v-saratovskoi-oblasti-podozrevaiut-vo-vziatkakh	8
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18	In Lviv region, border guards were offered bribes for invalid vaccination certificates	https://golossokal.com.ua/podii/navivshchyni-prykordonnykam-proponuvaly-khabari-za-nediysni-sertyfikaty-pro-vaktsynatsiiu.html	138
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20	Indictment of Albanian citizen, tried to bribe police officer in Vermica	https://www.koha.net/kronike-ezeze/302223/aktakuze-shtetasi-teshqiperise-tentoi-te-korruptonte-zyrtarin-policor-ne-vermice/	1
21	Albanian Arrested for Attempting to Enter Kosovo without Jab Certificate	https://albaniandailynews.com/news/albanian-arrested-for-attempting-to-enter-kosovo-without-jab-certificate	2
22	Tried to corrupt the Borderers in the absence of the third Vaccine, The Citizen of Albania is arrested	https://zeri.info/kronika/439856/tentoi-ti-korruptonte-kufitaret-ne-mungese-te-vaksines-se-trete-arrestohet-shtetasi-i-shqiperise/	34
23	I wanted to bribe border guards: in the Lviv region, a man was fined 17 thousand UAH because of a fake document	https://rus.redtram.com/news/politics/610142416/	36

24	A border guard was detained at the border who did not receive a green certificate	https://www.flagman.bg/article/263244	108
25	COVID-19 Vaccines and Corruption Risks: Preventing Corruption in the Manufacture, Allocation and Distribution of Vaccines	http://www.unodc.org/documents/corruption/COVID-19/Policy_paper_on_COVID19_vaccines_and_corruption_risks.pdf	N/A
26	The Audiencia of Alicante files the case related to the vaccination against Covid of the mayor of the popular Nucía Bernabé Cano	https://www.eldiario.es/comunitat-valenciana/audiencia-alicante-archiva-causa-relativa-vacunacion-covid-alcalde-nucia_1_8948362.html	37
27	Nurse gets in trouble. Offered 5000 euros to pharmacist to fake anti-Covid vaccination and get Green Pass.	https://www.informazione.it/a/F96CA4AB-6FE7-4059-B4F6-91D03B935FE4/Infermiere-finisce-nei-guai-Offerti-5000-euro-a-Farmacista-per-fingere-vaccinazione-anti-Covid-e-ottenere-Green-Pass	144
