



# Barun ICT Global News

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## Contents

- **Wihogora Xandra**  
Rwanda

### AI Revolutionizing Bar Culture



- **Sally Chien Wang**  
Taiwan

### “Red Media” and Fake News in Taiwan





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## AI Revolutionizing Bar Culture



photo = Freepik

“Queuing is a part of British life that we all have trouble to endure, but we wanted to do something to improve the experience” stated John Wylie, the Managing Director at DataSparQ, highlighting how queuing has been a problem recently around the world. In order to solve this problem, IT professionals and scientists have been working on introducing various solutions, such as the scheduling method. Recently, the research focus has shifted onto bars, where the sequence of service does not always follow the customers’ order of arrival; this leads to discontentment and feelings of unfairness, sometimes even resulting in fights.



photo = CNN business

British developers presented a new software known as the “AI bar” which can easily recognize which customer came first in order to be served first. The developers explained that<sup>[1]</sup> this new system uses a webcam to film customers upon their arrival and send the order of a virtual line to bartenders via a display screen behind the counter. Bartenders can prepare drinks accordingly, and managers are notified when there is an increase in orders, enabling them to adjust staffing and other costs accordingly. This will lead to an increase in fairness in the bar’s services as well an effective system of management, leading to a reduction of queues.

So far, this system has been tested in June at a bar in Central London and is planned to be tested in more establishments in September. It is planned that soon, the system will also scan clients’ faces to analyze their age in order to reduce the time for checking identification at the entrance of pubs. The cost is estimated to be \$240 per month.

Despite the promising implications of this software, it is inevitable that people will question the clients’ privacy, mainly because of their facial data being used in the bars’ system. Therefore, it is necessary to take precautions for protecting personal information privacy.

## References

- [1] Rob Picheta, CNN Business, August 2, 2019, 2nd paragraph, AI technology will decide who’s next in line at the bar, <https://edition.cnn.com/2019/08/02/business/bar-facial-recognition-scli-gbr-intl/index.html>, retrieved in August 3, 2019



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## “Red Media” and Fake News in Taiwan



photo = The Straits Times

Media helps us transfer information faster than ever, and this includes the increasing spread of fake news through legitimate outlets and social media platforms. Disinformation may be shared faster than the truth despite the positive aspects offered by the media. As analysts in Taiwan claim, the mainland Chinese government is attempting to use media to interfere in the 2020 presidential election of Taiwan.

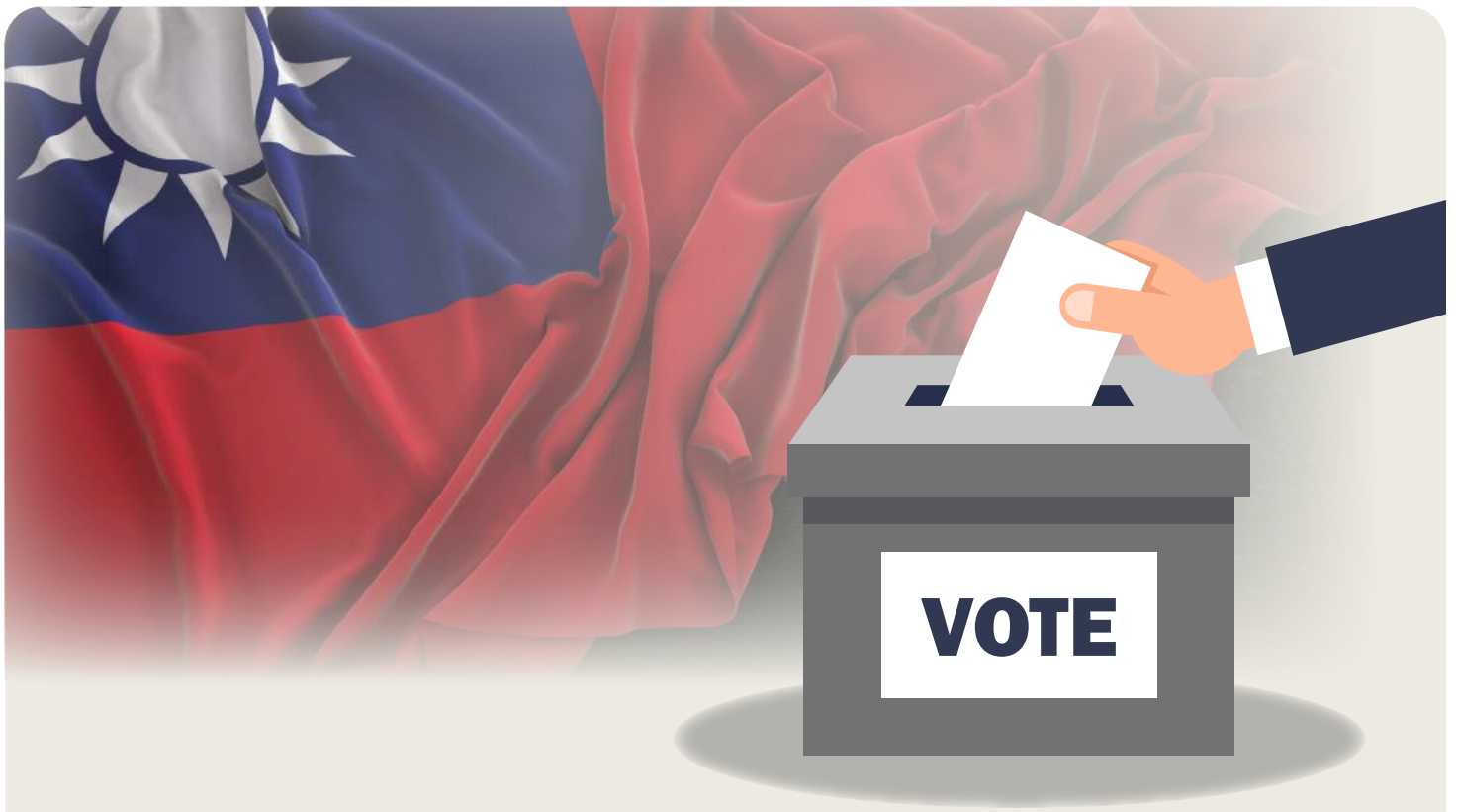


image = Freepik

According to J. Michael Cole, an expert in the University of Nottingham's Taiwan Studies Programme, “[fake reports] tend to highlight the contrast between Taiwan and China to try to portray a chaotic Taiwan versus a strong China<sup>[1]</sup>.” Dubbed as the “red media” in Taiwan, it spreads pro-China disinformation through the internet or other news outlets to tip the balance of the Taiwanese presidential election in favor of the pro-Beijing candidate.

The internet has become a platform where information exchange could occur freely and reach a wider audience. Unfortunately, this holds true for the transfer of fake news as well. Therefore, it is necessary for news outlets as well as the audience to rigorously check the credibility of online sources and to filter out false information. Otherwise, the public would receive misinformed and heavily biased information, which could lead to influencing the entire process of a presidential election. The task of differentiating between real and fake news is not easy, as even social media giants like Facebook is subject to be used to spread disinformation. Nevertheless, the challenge remains to prevent the spread of disinformation.

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