

Oversight Board Selects a Case Regarding a Video of an Edited Cartoon Depicting a Croatian City

UPDATED

MAR 15, 2022

Today, the [Oversight Board selected a case](#) appealed by a Facebook user regarding a video depicting an edited version of a Disney cartoon, “The Pied Piper,” posted by a Facebook page that describes itself as a news portal. The video depicts the Croatian city of Knin as being overrun by rats who are driven out by a piper from the Croatian village of Cavoglave playing a well-known Western Balkans’ folk song.

Upon initial review, we found the content to be non-violating and it was left up. However, upon further review, we determined the post did in fact violate our policy on [Hate Speech](#), as laid out in the Facebook Community Standards, and removed it. Meta takes down content that targets a person or group of people based on their race, ethnicity and/or national origin with “dehumanizing speech or imagery in the form of comparisons, generalizations, or unqualified behavioral statements (in written or visual form) to or about: animals that are culturally perceived as intellectually or physically inferior.” In light of the case’s historical context, we determined the content contained a direct attack by comparing Serbians to rats.

We will implement the board’s decision once it has finished deliberating, and we will update this post accordingly. Please see the [board’s website](#) for the decision when they issue it.