

DigiDem-EU WP2: Disinformation and Narratives

Securing the right to quality information. Securing fact-checking

Barcelona, 19 May, 2023

CIDOB. Elisabets 12, 08001 Barcelona

Organised by: CIDOB with the support of the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV) of the European Commission

Disinformation, conspiracy theories, hoaxes, cheap-fakes or deep-fakes; the information pollution evolves and new and stronger strategies are needed to deal with it. Journalists and fact-checkers have to work in a greater complex context, shaped not only by the boundless possibilities of Artificial Intelligence but also strained by political pressure, online harassment or even judicial persecution.

This is a mutual learning activity on how to reassess the importance of truth and pluralistic environments, but also on how to ensure quality journalism and fact-checkers's guidance and safety.

The aim of this conference is to connect fact-checking organisations, journalists and academia to share experiences and challenges.



Co-funded by
the European Union

09.00 - 09.15 **Welcome and Goal of the Dialogue**

Pol Morillas, Director, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)

09.15 - 10.45 **Rebuilding Trust: From Bad Algorithms to Biased Users**

How can information pollution be reduced? How can independent journalism be protected? What are the systemic weaknesses threatening quality journalism in the European Union? What is disinformation and what amplified propaganda?

Eduardo Suárez, Head of Editorial, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford

Carme Colomina, Senior Research Fellow on Disinformation, EU and Global Politics, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)

Laura Cervi, Doctor of Political Sciences and Journalism Professor, UAB

Lorenzo Consoli, Brussels' correspondent and former president of the Brussels International Press Association

David Block, ICREA Research Professor, Universitat Pompeu Fabra. Author of *Post-Truth and Political Discourse*

Moderated by **Montserrat Rigall**, Artificial Intelligence Researcher, RTVE

Followed by a debate between all the speakers and invited guests.

10.45 – 11.15 **Coffee break**

11.15 - 12.45 **Freedom of Speech and Media Freedom: Protection, (Self)Regulation and Pluralism**
What are the pseudomedia? How are press standards ensured? And how can the freedom of the media be protected? Regulation or self regulation? How to protect fact-checkers from harassment and coordinated attacks? How is the relation of journalists and fact-checkers with tech platforms?

Carlos Hernández-Echevarría, Head of Public Policy and Institutional Development, Maldita.es

Elda Brogi, Member of EDMO, European Digital Media Observatory; Professor, EUI Centre for Media Pluralism

Jorge Tuñón, Lecturer, University Carlos III of Madrid and Jean Monnet Chair. Author of *Europa frente al Brexit, el populismo y la desinformación*

Patricia Ventura Pocino, Journalist, Consultant and Lecturer specializing in new media and digital culture. Author of *Algorithms in the newsrooms. Challenges and recommendations for artificial intelligence with the ethical values of journalism*

Moderated by **Lorenzo Marini**, Cofounder, Verificat

Followed by a debate between all the speakers and invited guests.

12.45 – 13.00 **Final Remarks and Conclusions**
Carme Colomina, Senior Research Fellow on Disinformation, EU and Global Politics, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs)

13.00 – 14.30 **Light lunch**

List of participants

- **Marc Argemí Ballbé**, author *Rumors en guerra. Desinformació, Internet i periodisme* (ed. A Contra Vent Editors, 2013) and *El sentido del rumor. Cuando las redes sociales ganan a las encuestas* (2017); Professor, UIC
- **Carlos Baraiibar**, Journalist, Catalunya Ràdio; member of the Platform for Media Education
- **David Block**, ICREA Research Professor, Universitat Pompeu Fabra
- **Elda Brogi**, Member of EDMO (European Digital Media Observatory); Professor, EUI Centre for Media Pluralism
- **Nereida Carrillo**, Journalist; Founder, learntocheck.org
- **Laura Cervi**, Professor and Researcher in Political Communication and Media Literacy, UAB
- **Carme Colomina**, Senior Research Fellow on Disinformation, EU and Global Politics, CIDOB
- **Yevhen Fedchenko**, Director, Mohyla School of Journalism, Co-founder/Chief Editor, StopFake.org
- **Carlos Hernández-Echevarría**, Head of Public Policy and Institutional Development, Maldita.es
- **Joan Julibert**, Journalist; Professor, UB. Author of *El poder de la mentida*
- **Lorenzo Marini**, Cofounder, Verificat
- **María Victoria Mas**, Lecturer and Researcher on Disinformation, News Consumption Patterns and News Literacy, Universitat Abat Oliba CEU
- **Marta Montagut**, Journalist; Professor of Communication, URV. *Learn to Check* contributor
- **Pol Morillas**, Director, CIDOB
- **Candela Ollé Castellà**, Professor of journalism. Director of the university master's degree in Journalism and Digital Communication at the UOC
- **Susana Pérez-Soler**, Journalist specialized in digital journalism, web culture and social networks. Founder of Verificat; Professor, Ramon Llull University
- **Montserrat Rigall**, Artificial Intelligence Researcher, RTVE
- **Joan Rosés**, Journalist and Editor, Collateral Bits
- **Héctor Sánchez Margalef**, Researcher, CIDOB
- **Eduardo Suárez**, Head of Editorial, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford
- **Jorge Tuñón**, Lecturer, University Carlos III of Madrid; European Commission expert. Author of *Europa frente al Brexit, el populismo y la desinformación*

- **Miquel Urmeneta**, Communication consultant. Expert in Digital Democracy and disinformation
- **Patricia Ventura Pocino**, Journalist, Consultant and Lecturer specializing in new media and digital culture. Author of *Algorithms in the newsrooms. Challenges and recommendations for artificial intelligence with the ethical values of journalism*