2018–2020

#SeeThingsClear #FakeNews #SMARTeD

SMARTeD
against fake news

mana balss.lv

Ministry of Culture
Republic of Latvia

Co-funded by the
Europe for Citizens Programme
of the European Union

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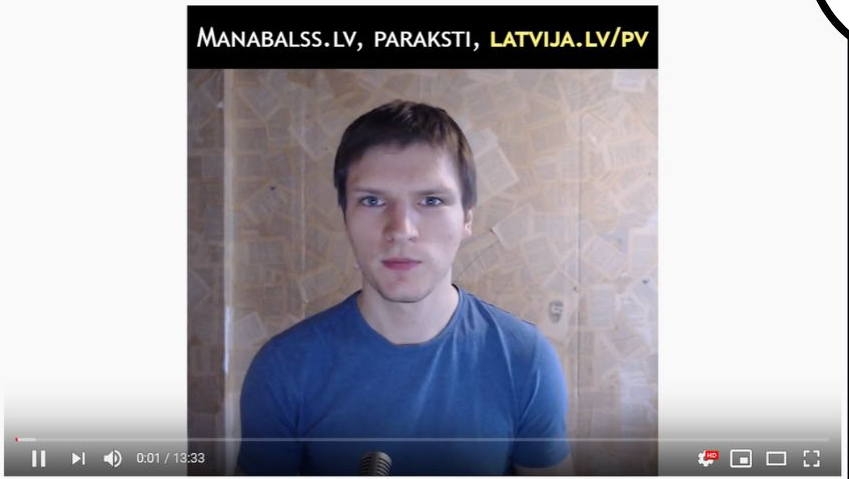

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26 5 SHARE SAVE ...

Tweet

Indars Melzobs @IndarsMelzobs · Apr 24

No Ždanokas sākotnēji savāktajiem 20k parakstiem kolektīvā iesnieguma "Par pieminekļu cīnītājiem pret nacismu aizsardzību" pēc personas kodu pārbaudes vairāk kā 4000 (!!!) ir atzīts, ka šādas personas neeksistē!

12 84 232

4diena @CetvergsJanis · Apr 24

Ja jau Jums ir šāda informācija. Tad vai jau ir iesniegums @Valsts_policija par dokumentu viltošanu?

2 4

Bumbuls @Bumbuls2 · Apr 24

Uz policiju ar iesniegumu prom!

1

WHY WE CARE

ManaBalss experience with disinformation

mana balss.lv

SMARTeD RESULTS

1

Research on disinformation

2

Developed methodology for a local workshop

3

Recommendations for EU and member states

I Survey on disinformation and fake news

Survey participants

- 48 participants from Czech Republic, Estonia, France, Greece, Latvia and Slovenia.
- Main group of survey participants were academia, followed by civil society activist, media professionals / journalists and researchers.
- On-line survey data collection took place in October and November 2018.

THE SCOPE OF DISINFORMATION

46 %

AN AVERAGE SHARE OF POPULATION THAT CANNOT IDENTIFY DISINFORMATION

1x

AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK SURVEY PARTICIPANTS COME ACROSS INFORMATION THAT THEY BELIEVE IS FALSE

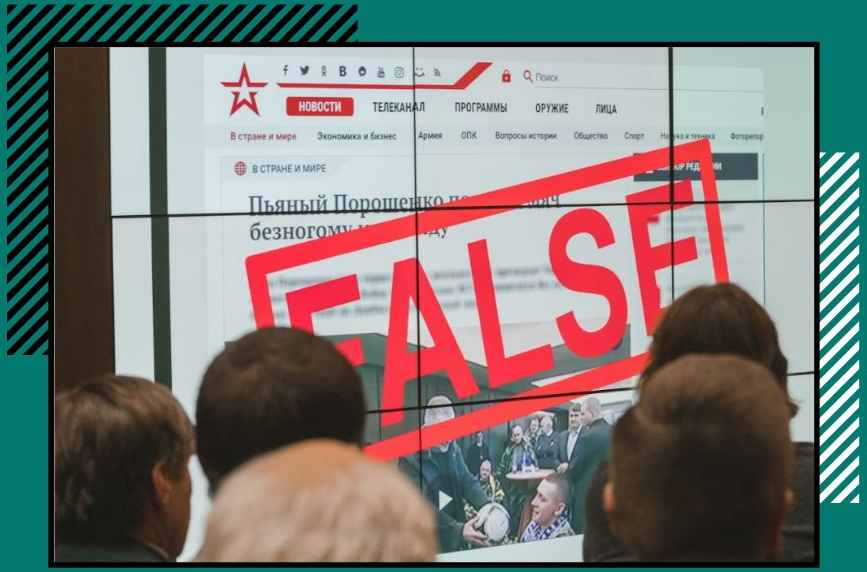
MIGRATION POLICIES ARE AN AREA OF PUBLIC LIFE THAT IS HARMED TO A GREATEST EXTENT

SOURCES OF HARM

INTENTIONAL POLITICAL ABUSE FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES

SOCIAL MEDIA AND MESSAGING APPS ONLINE BLOGS AND FORUMS

ANONYMOUS SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS AND POLITICIANS



Addressing the disinformation and fake news issue

- 88 % indicated that the EU should be empowered to take a more active role in combating disinformation
- Raising awareness among the public - the most effective measure for reducing the adverse effects of disinformation
- Media / journalists and media policy makers - must be leaders
- Online platforms should assume greater responsibilities in protecting their users from disinformation and ensure transparency about sponsored content

TOOLS AIMED AT REPORTING THE DISINFORMATION AND SPECIFIC PLATFORMS FOR MAKING SOUNDDECISIONS BEFORE VOTING - GOOD EXAMPLES OF EXISTING TOOLS

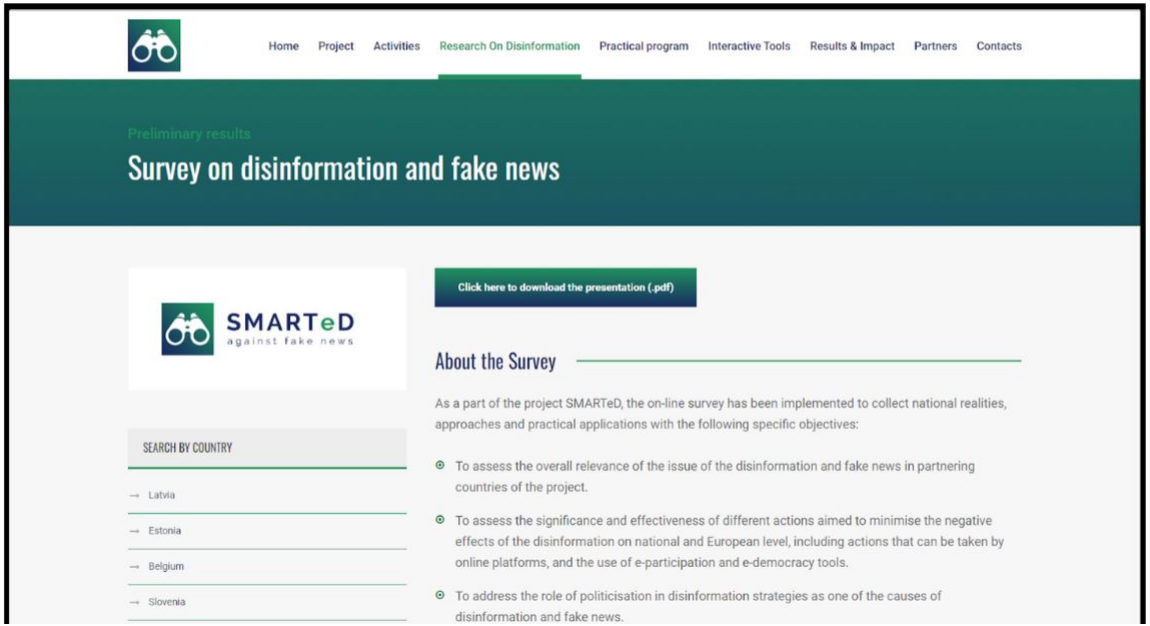
E-democracy tools to address the disinformation

SUGGESTED E-DEMOCRACY TOOLS:

- Content trustworthiness rating systems in line with journalistic principles
- Tools aimed at reporting the disinformation
- Trusted fact-checking organisations and academia with access to platform data

FIND FULL REPORT HERE:

https://smartedemocracy.org/research-on-disinformation/



II Developed methodology for a local workshop (youth & NGOs)

389 people
12 local workshops
6 countries

CONCLUSIONS MADE BY PARTICIPANTS:

1. Dig deeper (critical thinking, purpose)
2. Check the source
3. Fact checking
4. Stop sharing
5. Educate others

III
Recommendations for EU and member states

EU POLICY & FUNDING

- Strengthening and expanding the existing EU policy on disinformation
- Supporting media literacy and active citizenship through EU programmes
- Ensuring funding for national and local civic initiatives that fight with disinformation and strengthen fact-checking platforms

Recommendations

FEW IDEAS

- Subsidizing countries that introduce programs in schools
- Funding translations of the existing [tech] tools across EU

ACCOUNTABILITY

- Introducing laws, regulations and penalties on EU and national level, preventing the spreading of disinformation via media and social networks

Recommendations

- A single European Regulatory Framework for Disinformation
- Establishment of national agencies (funded by all media), journalists check the news
- Law that obligates social media to introduce algorithms that track and enable reporting of fake news and following fact checking

RESPONSIBLE MEDIA

- Encouraging the development of trustable and responsible media ecosystem in Europe.

Recommendations

- A certificate of reliability given to news outlets, social media actors etc.
- National press”trust ability” list / EU awards
- Transparency of media, stronger media regulations

ENCOURAGING COOPERATION

- Working towards cross-sectoral, cross-national cooperation in sharing the best practices and achieving common goals.

Recommendations

- EU Program for exchanging know-how and best practices for journalists, focusing on media literacy, data journaling etc

EDUCATION

- Introducing education on media literacy and critical thinking in schools, starting from early age
- Carrying out awareness campaigns and supporting non-formal education activities

Recommendations

- Educational campaigns in schools using digital applications to Raise awareness
- EU awareness raising campaign lead by youth
- Establishment of European Day Against Fake News with a clear message such as “Stay Calm and Double-Check”

TECH TOOLS

- Introducing laws, regulations and penalties on EU and national level, preventing the spreading of disinformation via media and social networks.

Recommendations

- A single European Regulatory Framework for Disinformation
- Establishment of national agencies (funded by all media), journalists check the news
- Law that obligates social media to introduce algorithms that track and enable reporting of fake news and following fact checking

The role of civil society

RAISING AWARENESS

EDUCATION & TRAINING

WATCHDOG FUNCTIONS

ACCOUNTABILITY OVER TECH TOOLS

THANK YOU!

VISIT THE PROJECT PAGE

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