

DIGITOL

Generations united combatting fake news _

Welcome to the first Newsletter of the DIGITOL Project. We aim to provide you with up to date information about our project as well as interesting inputs concerning digital competences and media literacy.

DIGITOL and Media Literacy

Our country and overall reports offer a snapshot of the perceived needs and preferences for digital competence and media literacy trainings for older people. Our findings reflect insights both from the perspectives of experts, as well as from the perspectives of older people themselves.

Media literacy refers to the capacity to access, critically understand and interact with the media. Sharpening their media literacy skills, empowers citizens of all ages to take informed decisions and to counteract the effects of disinformation campaigns.

Our research shows the following:

- there is a common interest across age groups to improve digital competences and a shared curiosity for disinformation and how to tackle it.
- There is a plethora of initiatives for digital literacy, but these often focus on the younger generations.
- Where older people are trained, most initiatives focus on skills to use digital devices and the Internet.
- For a training of older people, very few initiatives address the issue of how to understand and interact with online content.

Addressing the challenge of disinformation

The European Commission **Report of the High Level Expert Group on Fake News and Online disinformation**, proposes a multidimensional approach to addressing disinformation. As part of this approach, the report recommends the strengthening of media literacy to counter disinformation.

In line with this recommendation, **DIGITOL provides training opportunities** for improving media literacy

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online. Across the age groups, participants learn how to navigate the challenges of today's digital information landscape.

DIGITOL is looking for Young Ambassadors!

In October, project partners have launched a **Call for Young Ambassadors** in their countries to identify and select 10 young people aged 18-30 who are willing to become DIGITOL Young Ambassadors and actively engage in the project to counter hate speech, polarization and fake news at the local and EU level.

After attending the ToT programme, the **Young Ambassadors will engage with a selected group of adults over 55 in their cities**. They will **establish a dialogue and plan joint actions** to raise public awareness of the importance of accurate information online for an active participation in society.

Young Ambassadors are motivated and interested in understanding how online media and disinformation work, have prior experience in digital projects (e.g. communication, blogging, etc.) and have a good knowledge of the main social networks. Joining the DIGITOL project, they will have a unique chance to grow as professionals in the field of media literacy, countering disinformation and fake news, and to learn facilitation and training methods to be used in a professional environment.

During the ToT Programme and beyond, the Young Ambassadors from all partner countries will interact online via the project E-learning Academy and offline, through the participation to international events taking place in 2021 in Italy and Germany.

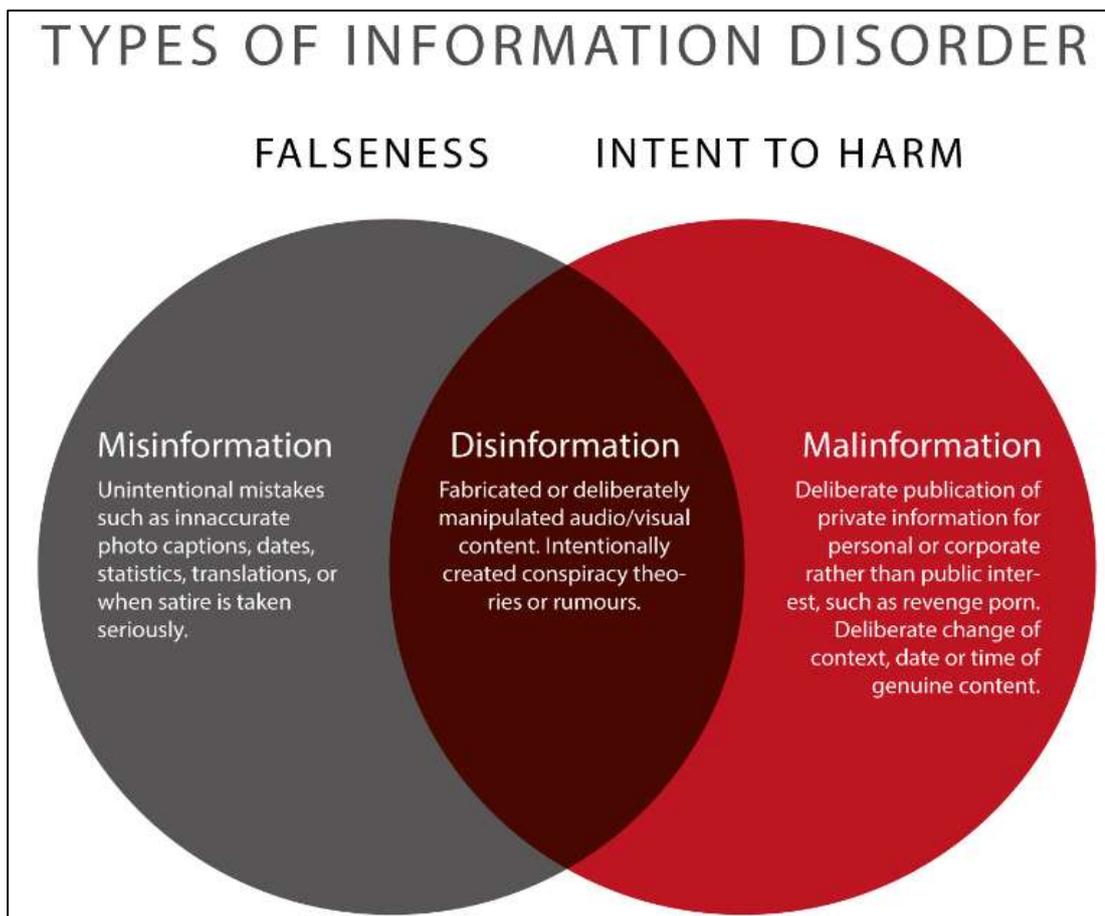
Please refer to the local partners to know more about the Calls for Young Ambassadors.



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Understanding Disinformation

[The Council of Europe Report on the “Information Disorder”](#) suggests a framework to understand and distinguish different types of false information, as portrayed in the following graph:



The DIGITOL Training includes discussions about terms, acronyms and phrases used in relation to the challenge of mis-,dis- and mal-information, such as those featured in Claire Wardle’s [“Information Disorder: The Essential Glossary”](#).

Credit: Claire Wardle and Hossein Derakshan, 2017

Training of Trainers (ToT) Programme

In the 2nd phase of the project, DIGITOL partners are working on the preparation and delivery of an innovative Training of Trainers programme (ToT) targeting the project’s Young Ambassadors and focusing on countering fake news and polarisation.

The ToT programme in figures:

- At least 10 Young Ambassadors each in Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, Italy, aged 18-30
- 5 Senior Trainers in each partner country
- 30 hours of residential training, plus online webinars and e-learning modules available through the project’s E-learning Academy

The training programme will deal with topics such as: the problem of fake news and ways how to identify and investigate them, as well as counter-react; hate speech online and various forms of racism and discrimination; narrative construction in the public discourse around socio-economic and political themes; intergenerational practices; digital competences for inclusion and active citizenship.

Save the date:

- [Monza](#) (Italy): 15 December 2020
- [Dietzenbach](#) (Germany): 7-11 December 2020
- [Athens](#) (Greece): 16 December 2020
- [Sofia](#) (Bulgaria): 12 November 2020

Find out more about DIGITOL:

Contact us at: hello@digitol.eu

Visit the project website: <https://digitol.eu/>

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