



Question what you get. Media education to fight Disinformation

A.1. DESK RESEARCH Spain



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2. Measures against disinformation	Answer
<p>2.1 Indicate the main strategies your country has followed to fight disinformation in the last 5 years (possible regulatory framework, possible creation of agencies, forums or expert groups...).</p>	<p>The Spanish regulatory framework and the public policies currently in force in Spain in the fight against disinformation are derived from the European framework (IBERIFIER Reports, 2023), and it is advisable that this remains the case (Ministry of the Presidency, Relations with Parliament and Democratic Memory, 2022).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In this regard, in 2019 the Spanish cybersecurity strategy recognised the danger of disinformation (Government of Spain, 2019), an issue that has been assigned to the bodies and entities of the National Security System (Department of National Security, 2019). The National Intelligence Centre (CNI) is in charge of monitoring agents associated with disinformation campaigns, and at the national level and within its competences, the State Security Corps is also involved (Department of National Security, 2022). Also in 2019, the National Cryptologic Centre (CCN), which reports to the CNI, creates a unit on disinformation. • In 2020, the Department of National Security publishes the procedure for action against disinformation (Ministry of the Presidency, 2020), which obtains the backing of the European Commission. It also created a group of experts from civil society to carry out, together with representatives of the public administration, an analysis of the threat and possible strategies to combat it from a social, informational, technological and regulatory perspective (Office of Science and Technology of the Congress of Deputies, 2023).

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2021, the National Security Strategy includes as its main update the risks derived from disinformation campaigns, as well as the challenges to manage them (Department of National Security, 2021), although the specific threats had been included since COVID-19 in the annual national security reports (Presidency of the Government, 2020). • In 2022, the National Forum against disinformation campaigns was created in Spain for consultative purposes. In this forum, civil society, the private sector and the administration cooperate in nine working groups that address all dimensions of the problem (Department of National Security, 2023). • In 2023, both the expert group and the Forum and the administrations involved agree on the need to articulate a national strategy against disinformation, which they are currently working on developing (Department of Homeland Security, 2022).
<p>2.2 Mention at least two academic studies from your country in which the authors state the need to incorporate media literacy contents in formal and/or informal education.</p> <p>Briefly summarize their conclusions.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sádaba, C. & Salaverría, R. (2023). Combating disinformation with media literacy: analysis of trends in the European Union. <i>Revista Latina de Comunicación Social</i>, (81), 1-17. https://doi.org/10.4185/RLCS-2023-1552 <p>The authors examine reports and legal texts from Europe and EU countries, and conclude that in order to tackle disinformation, "a clear commitment to the presence of media literacy in formal and informal education" is necessary (Sádaba and Salaverría, 2023: 27). In order for teachers to acquire the necessary knowledge to promote this competence, "the involvement of communication professionals emerges as essential for the success of any initiative", the authors point out in their conclusions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Herrero-Curiel, E. & La-Rosa, L. (2022). Secondary school students and media literacy in the age of disinformation. <i>Comunicar</i>, 73, 95-106. https://doi.org/10.3916/C73-2022-08 <p>The authors conclude that media and information literacy is still a pending subject in secondary school curricula (Herrero-Curiel and La-Rosa, 2022). Their research includes 77 in-depth interviews</p>

	<p>with secondary school teachers, teachers who point out "the absence of critical thinking when dealing with media content" (Herrero-Curiel and La-Rosa, 2022: 103). During their research, the authors surveyed 1,651 students in Compulsory Secondary Education (ESO) throughout Spain, warning that despite being used to surfing the Internet and using social networks on a recurrent basis, "they present a deficit in basic competences related to media literacy".</p>
<p>2.3 Name at least two organizations in your country that provide media literacy training for teachers to combat disinformation in the classroom.</p> <p>Briefly summarize their work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Maldita.es Foundation</p> <p>Partner of the QYourself project, Maldita.es is a non-profit foundation/media that fights against disinformation in Spanish and promotes transparency through fact-checking, education and data journalism. Maldita.es believes that the best way to tackle disinformation is education.</p> <p>Hence Maldita Educa, a department with extensive experience in media literacy and in the development of materials and workshops for different audiences, including young people, training more than 2,000 people each year. Among other tools, it has developed a repository of educational content for teachers to find resources on media literacy, from texts to games and infographics that they can use in class.</p> <p>Maldita.es co-leads Iberifier, the digital media and verification observatory for Spain and Portugal, funded by the European Commission and linked to the European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO). In this project, the organisation works, among other activities, on the definition of a standardised curriculum to teach fact-checking and media literacy to journalists and universities.</p> <p>EFE Verifica</p> <p>EFE Verifica is a tool of Agencia EFE against disinformation. EFE is Spain's leading news agency, whose raison d'être, according to the agency itself, is to tell the facts as they are, without</p>

	<p>conveying its own opinions. The agency adheres to the principles of professional journalism ethics laid down by UNESCO, the Council of Europe and the International Federation of Journalists. To respond to disinformation, EFE launched its verification service in 2019: EFE Verifica. Since then, it has been providing useful information against falsehoods in Spanish, whether through messages, videos, photographs or statements. The aim, according to the agency, is to "contribute to the improvement of public debate and informed decision-making". EFE Verifica is also part of Iberifier.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Newtral <p>Newtral is a Spanish media-startup, founded in 2018 by journalist Ana Pastor, to fight disinformation. It has Newtral Educación, a department launched in 2019 with the aim of promoting critical thinking in schools, colleges, universities and other training centres. In 2022, it gave 40 talks and courses, according to Newtral on its website. Newtral also collaborates as a fact-checker in Iberifier.</p>
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