

# BIP EUfactcheck Press Freedom Lab

*BIP nr: (ID) 2025-1-DE01-KA131-HED-000308407-1*

## Participating Universities

Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (Spain)

HU Utrecht (The Netherlands)

Jade, Wilhelmshaven (Germany) (Universitat coordinadora)

Haaga-Helia University (Finland)

Thomas Moore, Mechelen (Belgium)

University of Georgia (Georgia)

Mariupol State University / Kyiv Metropolitan University (Ukraine)

## Objectives and Description

Since the full-scale invasion of Russian troops in Ukraine in 2022, we have once again seen open warfare in Europe, with corresponding restrictions on press freedom. In addition, experts warn of a hybrid war in which propaganda plays a significant role. This makes fact-checking, guidance and context provided by journalism more important. The EUFactcheck Lab therefore focuses on press freedom against the backdrop of Russia's war of aggression in Ukraine, hybrid warfare in Europe and the impact of bots and AI-generated propaganda on the internet.

During the week (3-8 May) there are lectures and workshops about Press freedom and specific Media systems in Europe, fact-checking, and working in diverse intercultural groups. There is also time for social interaction, this will assist in bettering the understanding of all the different perspectives that students from other parts of Europe (might) have on the most pressing issues within the EU.

Prior to the week students are introduced to each other in a virtual classroom (April). After the week, student-teams will continue to meet online to finalize their publication. A final virtual classroom (June) will complete the programme.

To sum up, the objectives are:

- To teach students about the press freedom in different media systems in the EU and its most relevant themes;
- To teach students about fact-checking, including in-depth research and interviewing skills;
- To give students the opportunity to publish a fact-check on the EUFACTCHECK platform, for which they need to understand the genre and relate to the audience;
- To give students insights into working with a diverse team, which members have different perspectives on press freedom in the EU;
- To turn students into informed EU citizens AND into journalists who have a broader view and understanding of press freedom in the EU and can relate this to an audience.

## Methods and Outcomes

Students will work together in intercultural teams supervised by a lecturer who teaches and coaches students toward the publication of a fact-check on the EUfactcheck platform. The method used is a fact-check flowchart and fact-check format developed by the EUfactcheck collective and adopted by

over 50 Schools of Journalism throughout Europe, and in the rest of the world. Students will be taught basic and advanced fact-checking skills and do in-depth journalistic research into an EU-relevant topic of press freedom from multiple perspectives. This will result in one or more publishable fact-checks on EUfactcheck.

Students will earn 3 ECTS for full participation and completion of the outcome (fact-check published). It will be visualized in a certificate and 3 EC registered via the BIP platform.

### Planning overview

- Virtual Pre-meeting: 9 April, 12 pm, to be established between the participating schools, most likely we will pick a 2-hour timeslot at the end of a day.
- EUfactcheck elections lab week: 4-8 May, we will start on Monday morning around 10 am, so all participants need to travel on Sunday afternoon at the latest.
- Virtual Wrap-up meeting: (4 June, 12 pm)

### Erasmus requirements

Note that students also need to complete the BIP Erasmusfunding procedure at their home university, to be 'counted' as participants for the Organisational Support that Jade University will receive.

### Next steps:

Please return the information below before 1 March 2026. Each school can send up to 5 students, but as we are with so many participating schools, it is fine to send less students.

We would like to use everybody's expertise to the max, so please indicate if the accompanying teacher can give a workshop, presentation or make any other kind of contribution, apart from coaching a small intercultural factchecking team (that's a task for everybody).

More information about the programme will follow after 1 March.

We have reserved 30 affordable beds in triple and quadruple rooms for students at the Hotel Home until 6 April 2026. Any beds that are not needed will then be made available for general sale again. Rooms can be booked directly at the hotel using the keyword: 'EUfactcheck'. Contact: Mr Oktavio Westerman / Reception Tel. 0049+ 4421- 18 12 500 [info@hotelhome.de](mailto:info@hotelhome.de)

We are also happy to assist staff members in booking suitable accommodation. Please contact Alice: [alice.duewel@jade-university.de](mailto:alice.duewel@jade-university.de)

<b>BIP EUfactcheck Elections Lab</b>	
<b><i>BIP nr: (ID) 2025-1-DE01-KA131-HED-000308407-1</i></b>	
Dates	3- 8 May 2026, at Jade University of Applied Sciences Wilhelmshaven (GER)
Participating University	
Name Teacher/coach	
Teacher expertise	
Student 1	
Student 2	
Student 3	
Student 4	
Student 5	
Student 6	