

Websites Review

International initiatives

International Fact Checking Network

<<https://www.poynter.org/channels/fact-checking>>

The International Fact Checking Network (IFCN) was launched in 2015 and is based at [The Poynter Institute](#). The network has grown over the past few years in terms of the number of fact-checkers worldwide. Some of the IFCN's most notable achievements have been to establish a [Code of Principles](#) that promotes basic standards for fact-checkers, the creation of a [Research Database](#) on fact-checking, fake news and disinformation, as well as the development of tools for independent evaluators that wish to verify sources, such as the online "[Hands-on Fact-Checking](#)" course.

Facebook and national fact-checkers: USA, France, Germany, Italy and the Netherlands

<<https://www.facebook.com/help/1952307158131536>>

Facebook is being helped by fact-checkers certified by the International Fact Checking Network in order to control the accuracy of certain links shared by its users. The multinational has [fact-checking partners](#) in various countries:

- North America: Associated Press, Factcheck.org, PolitiFact, Snopes, and the Weekly Standard.
- France: Agence France Presse (AFP), Desintox from *Libération*, Fake Off from *20 Minutes*, Les Decodeurs from *Le Monde*, Les Observateurs from *France 24*.
- Netherlands: NUcheck from *NU.nl*.
- Germany: Correctiv.
- Italy: Pagella Politica.

The company has reported that it will soon start to collaborate with partners in Asia and Latin America.

Tech & Check News Cooperative

<<https://reporterslab.org/tech-and-check/>>

The Duke University Reporters' Lab has the Tech & Check News Cooperative, a project launched in 2017 and dedicated to automating fact-checking. This cooperative brings together journalists, developers and academics to create new tools that help fact-checkers do their work.

The project focuses on two areas: helping fact-checkers to identify claims to check, one of the most time-consuming tasks for journalists; and also disseminating fact-checking to the public at large. Regarding identification, Tech & Check News is working with scientists at the University of Texas who've developed [Claim Buster](#), a tool that uses an algorithm

to automatically identify factual claims. The Tech & Check [team](#) is also creating trackers that analyse news transcripts and send the most important claims to journalists via email. They're also developing similar tools at the state government level in the US, in collaboration with [Digital Democracy](#). Regarding the dissemination of fact-checking, they're developing apps for mobiles and TV platforms such as Chromecast and Apple TV that will provide instant fact-checking during live events. They've also developed fact-checking apps for digital voice-activated assistants, such as Google Home and Amazon Echo.

Share the Facts project

<<http://www.sharethefacts.org/>>

The Share the Facts project, developed by the [Duke Reporters' Lab](#) and [Google Jigsaw](#), has created a widget to share and spread facts checked by international organisations including PolitiFact, the *Washington Post* Fact Checker and FactCheck.org. Once information has been verified as accurate, Share the Facts provides access to more information related to the content.

Journalism Trust Initiative

<<https://rsf.org/en/news/rsf-and-its-partners-unveil-journalism-trust-initiative-combat-disinformation>>

At the beginning of 2018, Reporters Without Borders (RSF), together with its partners Agence France Presse (AFP), the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) and Global Editors Network (GEN), launched a media self-regulatory initiative designed to combat disinformation online. This is the Journalism Trust Initiative, designed in order to promote the development and implementation of accuracy and transparency standards in journalism by means of the [Workshop Agreement of the European Centre of Standardization \(CEN\)](#).

Credibility Coalition

<<https://credibilitycoalition.org/>>

The Credibility Coalition is an initiative co-founded by [Meedan](#) and [Hack/Hackers](#), forming part of the global MisinfoCon movement launched in February 2017 at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT). The Credibility Coalition is made up of specialists from different organisations and institutions with the aim of improving information ecosystems and media literacy through transparent and collaborative exploration by the coalition. The project has been funded by the Knight Foundation. Since March 2018 it has been supported by Google News Lab, Facebook Journalism Project, Craig Newmark Philantropies and other private firms.

InVID platform

<<http://www.invid-project.eu/description/>>

InVID is an initiative created by the consortium made up of the Information Technologies Institute from CERTH, Module Technology from MODUL University Vienna, the Universitat de Lleida, the company Exo Makina, the start-up WebLyzard Technology, the company Condat AG, APA-IT Informations Technologie from the Austria Press Agency (APA), Agence France-Presse and Deutsche Welle. InVID is a platform that provides services to detect, authenticate and check the reliability and accuracy of newsworthy video files and audiovisual content of public interest that are disseminated via social media. InVID is aimed at news agencies, newspapers and publishers, among others, to enable them to integrate checked social media content into their news output.

Report: Fact-checking triples over four years

<<https://reporterslab.org/tag/fact-checking-census/>>

According to the annual census carried out by the research institute Duke Reporters' Lab of Duke University (North Carolina), since 2014 number of fact-checkers around the world has grown from 44 to 149. Of these, 41 have been in business for more than five years and a group of 6 have now enjoyed 10 years of nearly continuous operation. The Duke Reporters' Lab also provides a [world map](#) of fact-checkers.

Regarding their affiliation, 87% of fact-checkers in the US are directly linked with the media, a situation which only occurs with 53% of the fact-checkers in the rest of the world. The non-media fact-checkers include projects affiliated with universities, think tanks and non-partisan watchdogs focused on government accountability, and well as other independent fact-checkers, including nonprofit organisations and those run by volunteers.

Report: The Rise of Fact-Checking Sites in Europe

<<https://reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/our-research/rise-fact-checking-sites-europe>>

In November 2016, Lucas Graves and Federica Cherubini, from the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (University of Oxford) published the study entitled *The Rise of Fact-Checking Sites in Europe. Digital News Project 2016*, which analyses the increase in websites devoted to fact-checking in Europe. The study believes that independent political fact-checkers can be seen as "a new democratic institution" insofar as they promote truth in public discourse.

United States

AP Fact Check

<<https://www.apnews.com/tag/APFactCheck>>

The fact-checker of the independent news agency Associated Press is dedicated to checking media and political discourse in the United States and the rest of the world. As part of its *Science Says* section, it also offers verified information on health, medicine, biology, space, climate and the environment.

Checking Language: English.

Coverage: United States and international.

This fact-checker is a Facebook partner.

Factcheck.org

<<https://www.factcheck.org/about/our-mission/>>

Factcheck.org is a nonpartisan, nonprofit organisation. This fact-checker monitors the factual accuracy of what is said by US political players in the form of TV ads, electoral debates and speeches, interviews and press releases. Factcheck.org belongs to the Annenberg Public Policy Center of the University of Pennsylvania.

Checking Language: English.

Coverage: United States and international.

This fact-checker is a Facebook partner.

PolitiFact

<<http://www.politifact.com/>>

PolitiFact was launched in 2007 as part of the *Tampa Bay Times* (afterwards *St. Petersburg Times*), Florida's leading newspaper. Recently this fact-checker has been taken over by The Poynter Institute and consequently, today it is an independent, nonpartisan and nonprofit organisation. Since it was launched, PolitiFact has focused on verifying the degree of accuracy of political statements.

Checking Language: English.

Coverage: United States and international.

This fact-checker is a Facebook partner.

Snopes.com

<<https://www.snopes.com/>>

Snopes.com, founded 23 years ago, is the oldest registered fact-checker and was launched due to its founder, David Mikkelson, wanting to disprove urban legends and hoaxes (hoax-busting). Snopes now fundamentally verifies political statements but also other content of social interest. It's financed solely via team contributions and does not receive any external funding.

Checking Language: English.

Coverage: United States and international.

This fact-checker is a Facebook partner.

TWS Fact Check

<<https://www.weeklystandard.com/tag/tws-fact-check>>

The Weekly Standard and Facebook started up Fact Check, designed to monitor political statements, news agency reporting and statements made on the internet.

Checking Language: English.
Coverage: United States and international.

Climate Feedback

<<https://climatefeedback.org/>>

Climate Feedback is a worldwide network of scientists that collectively assess the accuracy of the most influential media coverage on climate change. They define their mission as pedagogical and nonpartisan and their main aim is to help readers, both the general public and key decision-makers, to differentiate inaccurate discourse on climate change from reliable, scientific information. The project is hosted and mainly funded by the Center for Climate Communication, of the University of California Merced, and many of its members are doctors with experience in influential scientific publications.

Checking Language: English.
Coverage: international.

Fact Checker (*The Washington Post*)

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/?utm_term=.8c40fba1b7b5>

The fact-checker of *The Washington Post* was launched in 2007 with the aim of being used as a tool during the 2008 US presidential elections. This fact-checker focuses on monitoring the statements made by key political figures regarding important facts, be they local, national or international. It also works to explain the context of other complex information.

Checking Language: English.
Coverage: United States and international.

Gossip Cop

<<https://www.gossipcop.com/>>

This fact-checker verifies the accuracy of entertainment news, mainly related to Hollywood and celebrities. Gossip Cop monitors websites, TV programmes, newspapers and magazines in order to spot false rumours and debunk them. The company has no affiliation with any political parties, advocacy groups, media organisations, TV or movie studios, or celebrity management, public relations or talent agencies.

Checking Language: English.
Coverage: United States.

News 3 Reality Check

<<https://www.channel3000.com/news/politics/reality-check>>

One example of a local fact-checker is the one set up by the US TV channel *WISC-TV (News 3)*, another of the oldest fact-checkers which, for the past 14 years, has verified political statements and TV ads locally in Wisconsin, especially at election time.

Checking Language: English.
Coverage: local, Wisconsin (USA).

United Kingdom

BBC Reality Check

<<http://www.bbc.com/news/topics/cp7r8vgl2rgt/reality-check>>

The aim of the BBC News Reality Check is to assess and explain the degree of accuracy of different types of news content and statements relevant for the United Kingdom. The project was launched during the 2015 election and was revived for the Brexit referendum.

Checking Language: English.
Coverage: United Kingdom and international.

Fact Check UK

<<https://theconversation.com/uk/topics/fact-check-uk-15076>>

The UK newspaper, *The Conversation*, has a Fact Check UK section dedicated to verifying a range of news stories. Articles are written by academics and specialists and edited by professional journalists. It belongs to The Conversation Trust UK Limited, the British equivalent of *The Conversation Australia*, which also has its own [fact-checker](#).

Checking Language: English.
Coverage: United Kingdom /Australia.

France

Les Décodeurs

<<http://www.lemonde.fr/les-decodeurs/>>

Les Décodeurs is the fact-checker for the French newspaper *Le Monde*. It focuses on identifying and debunking declarations, statements and rumours of all kinds, placing them in context and within today's news, as well as providing explanations for the newspaper's readers.

Checking Language: French.
Coverage: France and international.
This fact-checker is a Facebook partner.

Désintox and Checknews

<<http://www.liberation.fr/desintox,99721>>

The French newspaper *Libération* has Désintox, a section created in 2008 devoted to detecting and correcting lies and errors of all kinds in the discourse of politicians and public officials. This fact-checker is a Facebook partner.

Since the French presidential elections in 2017, *Libération* also has “[CheckNews. The human search engine](#)”. Given the millions of results provided for each question by the customary search engines (such as Google and Bing), CheckNews is a new search engine that replaces algorithms with journalists who verify the information and provide, in response, a number of results checked and ordered using the criteria of accuracy and information quality.

Checking Language: French.
Coverage: France and international.

Factuel

<<https://factuel.afp.com/>>

Factuel, the fact-checker of Agence France Presse (AFP), was launched in response to the increase in fake news across the media. On this website, AFP journalists debunk inaccuracies and provide the necessary context to understand the information.

Checking Language: French.
Coverage: France and international.
This fact-checker is a Facebook partner.

Fake Off

<<https://www.20minutes.fr/societe/desintox/>>

After the latest US presidential elections, the French newspaper *20 Minutes* launched Fake Off, a section devoted to verifying the most viral and latest content and also content that is repeatedly passed on.

Checking Language: French.
Coverage: France and international.
This fact-checker is a Facebook partner.

Les Observateurs

<<http://observers.france24.com/fr/>>

Les Observateurs is a website in four languages (French, English, Arab and Persian) from the French TV channel *France 24*, a consortium between the state holding France Télévisions and the private broadcaster TF1. Les Observateurs selects, verifies, translates and explains texts, videos and photographs generated by a network of amateur collaborators who produce content and send it to the media.

Checking Language: French, English, Arab and Persian.
Coverage: France and international.
This fact-checker is a Facebook partner.

CrossCheck

<<https://firstdraftnews.org/project/crosscheck/>>

CrossCheck is an online project set up to provide verified information. During its first phase, the 2017 presidential elections, the project's collaborators totalled 37 different French and English media, including the Agence France Presse. The project is related to the Harvard Kennedy School.

Checking Language: English and French.
Coverage: international.

Canada

Détecteur de rumeurs

<<http://www.sciencepresse.qc.ca/detecteur-rumeurs>>

Set up in 2017, this fact-checker aims to verify scientific information in French. It belongs to the [Agence Science Presse](#), a nonprofit, independent media organisation founded in Montreal in 1978, whose mission is to feed the media with scientific news.

Checking Language: French.
Coverage: Francophone.

Germany

Correctiv

<<https://correctiv.org/en/>>

Correctiv is the first nonprofit investigative newsroom in the German-speaking world. It aims to help investigative journalism to be accessible for all German media organisations. Correctiv has also initiated an education programme to pass on the methods of investigative journalism. The aim is to help empower citizens to gain access to information and promote transparency.

Checking Language: German.
Coverage: Germany.
This fact-checker is a Facebook partner.

Fakt oder Fake

<<https://www.zeit.de/serie/fakt-oder-fake>>

The fact-checker Fakt oder Fake is linked to the weekly newspaper *Zeit Online* (the online version of *Die Zeit*). The newspaper's finance reporters and editors check the accuracy of news related to German tax, employment and companies.

Checking Language: German.
Coverage: Germany.

StimmtDas

<<https://www.stimmtdas.org/>>

StimmtDas is an independent, nonprofit platform dedicated to verifying important German political statements published in newspapers, in TV debates and on social media. This fact-checker does not include evaluations or opinions. Its team, based in Berlin, works voluntarily and it is currently unfunded.

Checking Language: German.

Coverage: Germany.

Italy

Pagella Politica

<<https://pagellapolitica.it/progetto/index>>

Pagella Politica is an initiative dedicated to checking and assessing the accuracy and objectivity of the political statements made the main Italian political representatives. As noted by the website, team members cannot belong to any political party, movement or pressure group. Pagella Politica was set up as a voluntary project funded by the founding members themselves. Today it's financed by its clients. In this respect, Radiotelevisione Italiana (RAI), the Agenzia Giornalistica Italia (AGI) and EastWest contributed almost 90% of Pagella Politica's income in 2016 and 2017.

Checking Language: Italy.

Coverage: Italian.

This fact-checker is a Facebook partner.

Netherlands

NUcheckt

<<https://www.nu.nl/nucheckt>>

In the Netherlands, the online newspaper *NU.nl* and the Universiteit Leiden have collaborated since 2017 with Facebook to combat the rise in misinformation on this social media site. Part of the work carried out by the fact-checkers is to verify the content which users complain about and pass this on to Facebook. NUcheckt underlines that neither the newspaper nor the university receives funding from the social media site and that it works independently from the multinational.

Checking Language: Dutch.

Coverage: international.

This fact-checker is a Facebook partner.

Norway

Faktisk

<<https://www.faktisk.no/>>

Faktisk is a fact-checker launched by a group of Norwegian journalists, editors and designers. It's an independent, nonprofit organisation dedicated to verifying information in circulation related to Norwegian public debate and discourse. It is funded by subsidies from nonprofit organisations, foundations and other sponsors/shareholders that identify with the company's aims. The company's statutes require that Faktisk work according to the self-imposed ethical guidelines of the Norwegian media. The company is a member of the Mediebedriftenes Landsforening (MBL) (Norwegian media association) and Norsk Presseforbund (Norwegian press association).

Checking Language: Norwegian.

Coverage: Norway.

Portugal

Fact Checks do Observador

<<https://observador.pt/seccao/observador/fact-check/>>

The Portuguese newspaper *Observador* has its own fact-checker devoted to measuring and explaining, in context, the accuracy of statements made by representatives of the government and the rest of the country's political parties.

Checking Language: Portuguese.

Coverage: Portugal.

Spain

Maldita.es

<<https://maldita.es/>>

Maldita.es is an independent Spanish media initiative. Its aim is to fact-check the content of Spanish political discourse and information circulating the social media. It's divided into two parts: Maldita Hemeroteca and Maldito Buló. Maldita.es has a weekly section entitled "[Pruebas de verificación](#)" (verification proof) from the TV programme *El Objetivo*, on *La Sexta*. It also collaborates on a daily basis with the radio programme *Julia en la Onda*, on *Onda Cero Radio* and sometimes with the online newspaper *elDiario.es*. It also took part in the electoral interviews on the Catalan radio station *RAC1* during the Catalan elections in 2017.

Checking Language: Spanish and Catalan.

Coverage: Spain.

La Chistera

<<https://blogs.elconfidencial.com/espana/la-chistera/>>

The Spanish newspaper *El Confidencial*, co-founded in 2001 by Jesús Cacho, has La Chistera, a blog dedicated to fact-checking. Through this blog, every week the newspaper monitors the accuracy of statements made by key figures in the political and social news. The project was set up at the end of 2015 during the country's general elections.

Checking Language: Spanish.
Coverage: Spain.

Polétika

<<http://poletika.org/>>

Polétika is an independent Spanish organisation, made up of organisations, platforms and movements from civil society and financed exclusively through their contributions. These movements work in different areas (development, foreign affairs, tax, education, health, wages, social protection, participation, children, climate change and gender). Polétika monitors what the Spanish government and the rest of the main political parties do and say in relation to these areas and policies that may help to reduce inequality.

Checking Language: Spanish.
Coverage: Spain.

Rest of the world

Agência Lupa

<<http://piaui.folha.uol.com.br/lupa/>>

Agência Lupa is the first fact-checker in Brazil, created in 2015. Lupa monitors daily news items on politics, the economy, cities, culture, education, health and international relations, prioritising statements made by renowned figures and issues of particular interest to Brazil. Once identified, the misinformation is corrected and the correct details provided. The agency sells the results of its work to other media companies and also publishes them online. Its financing comes from such sales and it's also supported by Editorial Alvinegra and sometimes by other companies, such as Google.

Checking Language: Portuguese.
Coverage: Brazil and international.

Chequeado

<<http://chequeado.com/>>

Chequeado is the main project by the Argentinian foundation La Voz Pública. It's a nonpartisan, nonprofit online media organisation that fact-checks the country's public discourse and promotes access to information and data. In 2017, Chequeado launched [Chequeabot](#), a project that works on automating fact-checking, using empirical methods in natural language processing. This bot tracks political statements based on data in online media.

Checking Language: Spanish.
Coverage: Argentina and international.

Africa Check

<<https://africacheck.org/>>

Africa Check is the first independent organisation devoted to fact-checking on the African continent. It was set up in 2012 in order to encourage rigorous public and media discussion and to ensure African society had access to good quality information. This independent organisation was created by the nonprofit division of the international news agency Agence France Press. Africa Check verifies information from areas related to issues such as crime, racism and health. The [Senegal division](#) of Africa Check works in the French-speaking part of the continent.

Checking Language: English and French.
Coverage: South Africa and francophone Africa.

GoHoo

<<http://gohoo.org/>>

In Japan, GoHoo, from the Watchdog for Accuracy in News Reporting of Japan, fact-checks the accuracy of information disseminated by the national media on a wide range of issues of political importance for the country. It's nonprofit and financed via donations and crowdfunding.

Checking Language: Japanese.
Coverage: Japan.