

Description of the educational intervention

This 15-minute intervention aims to equip students with the knowledge and skills necessary to navigate social media critically and responsibly, reducing disinformation's impact on their personal lives and society at large. The intervention was based on the European Commission's (2022) *Guidelines for teachers and educators on tackling disinformation and promoting digital literacy through education and training*.

During the intervention, we emphasize the following elements:

1. **Introduction to Disinformation** (approx. 3 minutes). We define the concept and highlight the common forms of disinformation (e.g., fake news, deep fakes, manipulated images). We explain why disinformation is a critical issue, particularly in the context of social media, where it can spread rapidly.
2. **Understanding the Role of Social Media** (approx. 4 minutes). We discussed the mechanisms of spreading disinformation and how social media platforms are designed to amplify content, including disinformation, through algorithms that prioritize engagement.
3. **Critical Thinking and Source Verification** (approx. 4 minutes). We discuss how social media users assess information. We encourage participants to critically assess the credibility of information on social media by checking the source, cross-referencing with reliable sources, and identifying potential biases.
4. **Promoting Responsible Digital Citizenship** (approx. 3 minutes). We encourage students to reflect on their role in spreading information and to practice ethical sharing by verifying content before reposting or commenting.
5. **Conclusion and Call to Action** (final minute). Briefly summarize the key takeaways about the role of social media in spreading disinformation and the importance of critical thinking.