

## EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	101081624 – Faktabaari / Avoin yhteiskunta ry
PIC number:	909984937
Project name and acronym:	Immunising citizens against dis/misinformation - IMMUNE 2 INFODEMIC

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	8
Event name:	Saving democracy with digitally literate youth and educators – EDUCA 2024
Type:	campaign event
In situ/online:	<b>in-situ</b>
Location:	Helsinki Expo & Convention center, Finland, Helsinki
Date(s):	26-27th of January 2024
Website(s) (if any):	<a href="https://faktabaari.fi/tapahtumat/faktabaari-educassa-tekoalyn-aika-edellyttaa-uudenlaista-lukutaitoa/">https://faktabaari.fi/tapahtumat/faktabaari-educassa-tekoalyn-aika-edellyttaa-uudenlaista-lukutaitoa/</a>
Participants	
Female:	230
Male:	31
Non-binary:	7

From country 1 [Finland]:	246		
From country 2 (Germany)	1		
From country 3 (Estonia)	3		
From country 4 (Greece)	1		
From country 5 (Sweden)	2		
From country 6 (Poland)	1		
From country 7 (Iceland)	1		
From country 8 (Japan)	2		
From country 9 (Great Britain)	1		
From country 10 (Netherlands)	1		
From country 11 (Lithuania)	2		
From country 12 (Denmark)	1		
From country 13 (Spain)	1		
From country 14 (Italy)	1		
From country 15 (France)	2		
From country 16 (Latvia)	1		
From country 17 (Austria)	1		
Total number of participants:	268	From total number of countries:	17
<b>Description</b>			
<i>Provide a short description of the event and its activities.</i>			

The Finnish campaign event for Immune 2 Inf demic was organized within the EDUCA fair 26th and 27th of January 2024. EDUCA fair is the largest Nordic education-related event, gathering over 17 000 visitors annually from around the world. Due to the size of the event and the fact that EDUCA would by far be best suited for contacting and disseminating materials directly to teachers, Faktabaari opted to scale up the outreach effort and organize its CE in EDUCA fair.

Besides general participation in the event and handing out materials, the campaign event was organized as a series of themed discussions during the two-day fair. Teachers and educators were invited to participate in five 45-minute segments and dialogues. After the presentation / dialogue the participants continued with open Q&A sessions and larger discussions, and distribution & presentation of free materials for the teachers to use for in their MIL education. The participants were also invited to test their ability to recognize AI generated content with an AI-to application produced for this event.

In addition to the ongoing programme at our own department, our expert Dr. Kivinen participated in one of the main event discussions to discuss Artificial Intelligence, disinformation and the future of education.

The experts:

- Mr. Kari Kivinen (PhD) is an education outreach expert in EUIPO, and former headmaster of Ecolé Franco-Finlandaise in Helsinki.
- Elina Hämäläinen (PhD) is a researcher in University of Jyväskylä (FIN) specializing in critical thinking education especially in younger students.
- Tiina Härkönen is a senior futures specialist in the Finnish think tank Sitra
- Otto Heinonen is an educator that has been engaging younger audiences in TikTok with the themes of critical media literacy and digital information literacy
- Mikko Salo is the founder and CEO of Faktabaari
- Pipsa Havula is a journalist and professional fact checker who has done extensive work on algorithms and Artificial Intelligence recent years.

**The agenda:**

Friday 26th

**13-13:45: PhD Kari Kivinen and PhD Elina Hämäläinen: Teaching critical thinking and media literacy in a world of disinformation**

Dr. Kivinen and Dr. Hämäläinen discussed wide variety of topics, e.g. both the importance and the difficulty of teaching critical thinking to especially the younger students.

**15.30-16.15: PhD Kari Kivinen and senior specialist Tiina Härkönen (Sitra): Artificial Intelligence and the future of Education.**

Dr. Kivinen and senior specialist Härkönen from Sitra think tank discussed the role of Artificial Intelligence on shaping the information sphere. One key topic in the discussion was the way institutions of education are impacted by the rapid

emergence of generative AI:s and the prospects of new forms of dis/misinformation that open with it.

**18-18.45: PhD Kari Kivinen and Otto Heinonen: Young people, TikTok and media literacy.**

Dr. Kivinen and Mr. Heinonen discussed the impact of algorithms on the spread of disinformation, especially within TikTok. The discussion dealt with peculiarities this media has and the particular media use habits of younger (under 25 yrs) citizens.

Saturday 27th

**11.15-12: PhD Kari Kivinen and Mikko Salo: The end of learning? AI and the future prospects of learning**

Dr Kivinen and Mr. Salo returned to the topic of Artificial Intelligence, and evaluated the impact of gen-AI:s to cognitive resilience and ability to learn. Referring to an article by prof Jevin West, signs of negative impact on learning have already emerged.

**14-14-45: PhD Kari Kivinen and Pipsa Havula: Algorithms, society and education**

Dr. Kivinen and Ms. Havula discussed algorithms and the political aspect of suggestion algorithms. Ms. Havula has researched the algorithmic impact on several levels, and e.g. showed how they're biased towards far right candidates before elections.

**Outcomes & feedback:**

Beyond the signed participants, overall more than 800 and probably more close to 1000 people visited the Faktabaari department to discuss MIL and to take I2I materials (digital or printed) with them. Feedback from the event was gathered mainly verbally during the discussions and in social media. The given feedback from the teachers and educators was positive – more so, rather enthusiastic or even desperate. These themes – MIL, DIL, AI – seem to be overwhelming in their daily lives, and to have at least something readily usable on these themes appears crucially important.