## Media and Information Literacy - MIL FactBaredu

Global Fact7 VIRTUAL global fact7.com

29.6.2020 PhD Kari Kivinen

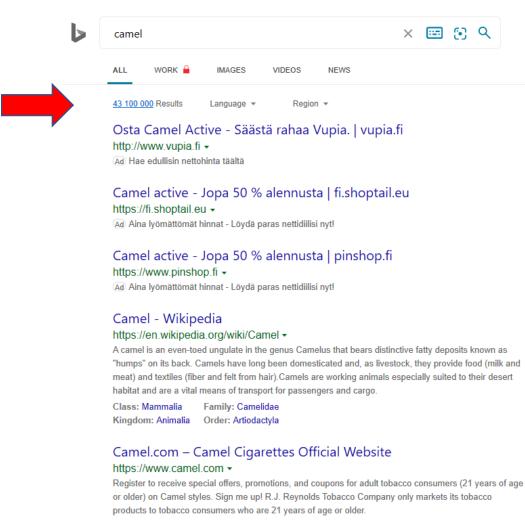
## B FactBaredu

The FactBarEDU project brings together fact-checking experts, journalists, media specialists and pedagogues to create information literacy tools:

- 1. to support teachers in dealing with social media issues in the classroom context ;
- 2. to empower students with critical thinking and information literacy skills to resist mis- and disinformation
- 3. to activate students to verify their social media content

## From library instruction to information literacy





#### Amazon price tracker, Amazon price ... - camelcamelcamel.com https://camelcamelcamel.com -

camelcamel: Amazon price tracker, Amazon price history charts, ... Welcome to camel camel camel, a free Amazon price tracker! Our free Amazon price tracker monitors millions of products and alerts you when prices drop, helping you decide when to buy. We help you save money.

## Information literacy

Information literacy can be defined as a set of skills and abilities which everyone needs to undertake information-related tasks; how to discover, access, interpret, analyse, manage, create, communicate, store and share information.

- is the ability to think critically and make balanced judgements about any information we find and use - whether or not materials under analysis are valid, accurate, acceptable, reliable, appropriate, useful and/or persuasive.
- empowers us as citizens to reach and express informed views and to engage fully with society

"Every citizen is a creator of information/knowledge and has a message.

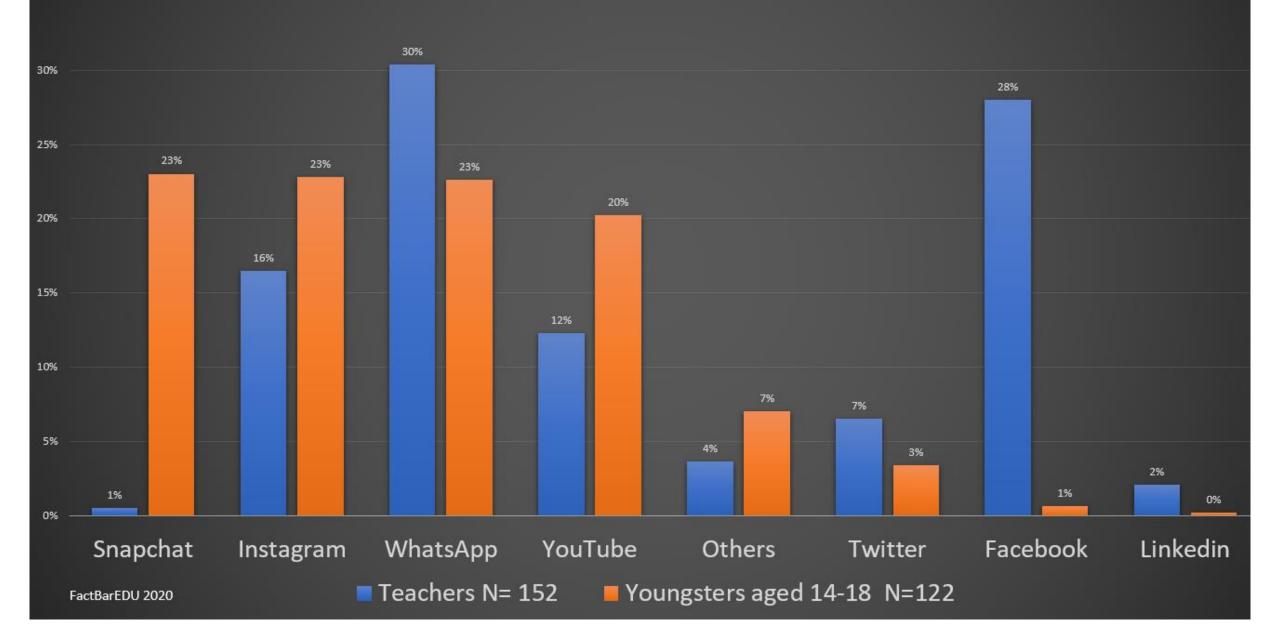
They must be empowered to access new information/knowledge and to express themselves. MIL is for all – women and men equally – and a nexus of human rights."

UNESCO 2<sup>nd</sup> MIL law

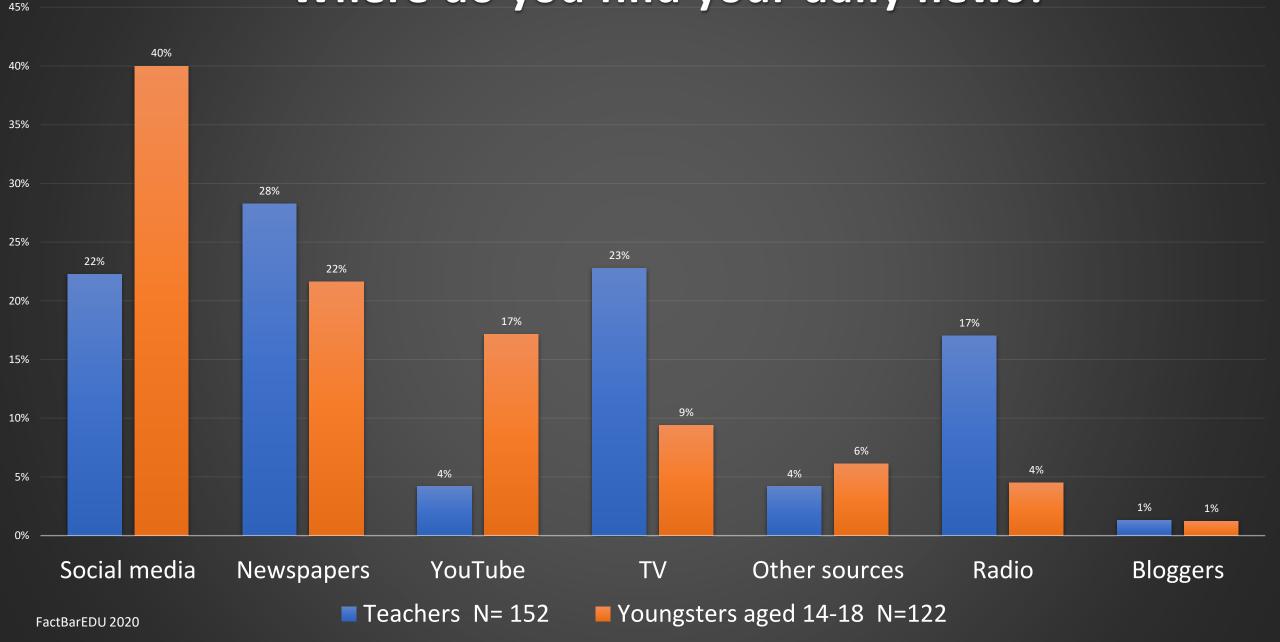
See e.g. Information literacy group: https://infolit.org.uk/ILdefinitionCILIP2018.pdf

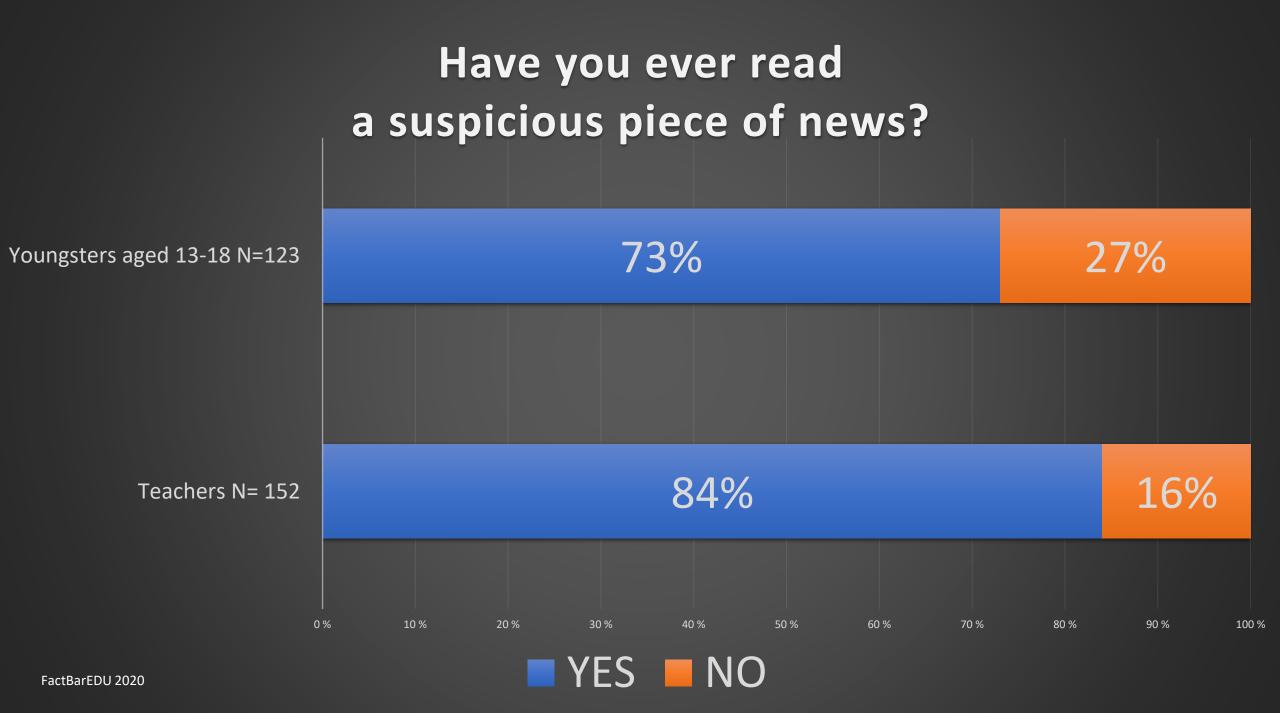
### Which social media platforms do you use daily?

35%



### Where do you find your daily news?





## Teaching critical thinking skills objectives

Students learn argumentation and debating skills and they learn

- to use analytical and critical thinking in practice.
- to search data and evaluate media sources independently
- to clarify unclear information and to compare mutually opposed claims about reality and defer to their own judgment when evaluating contradictions



### True or not-checklist

It would be good to ask certain questions before liking or sharing a suspicious piece of news:

- Who is the author ?
  - · Can you find a name or reliable web address ?
- To whom it is made for?
  - Where has it been published first and to which target audience?
- What does it really say?
  - Is it an advertisement, a piece of news or opinion of someone?
- Why is it made?
  - To whom it is targeted. How did you get it?
- On what information it is based?
  - Can you find references?
- Are pictures authentic?
  - · Is there a real link between the title, photo and text?
  - Would it be wise to check the origin of the photo/video?



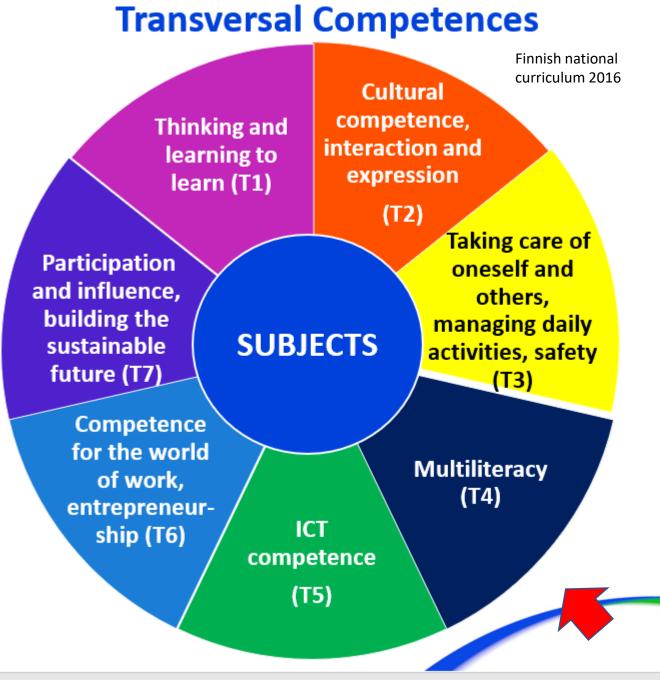
## B FactBar EDU

FactBarEDU statements:

- 1. Media and information literacy should be included in the national curriculum.
- 2. Teachers should be trained, and they should have tools and methods to deal with information disorder.
- 3. Schools should provide students with media and information literacy skills
- 4. The interaction between journalists, media experts and schools is warmly recommended.

## 1) National curricului

- Media and information literacy should be included in the national curriculum.
  - That is the most effective and systematic way to guarantee, that teachers will deal with the matter at the school level.
  - In Finland the media and information literacy competences are well presented in the national curriculum as well as the development of critical thinking and active citizenship.
  - If this is not the case one can explore alternative possibilities to introduce MIL in teaching.



## 2) Teacher training

- Teachers should be trained, and they should have tools and methods to deal with information disorder.
  - According to our experience, teachers need in-service training to deal with the increase in the quantity of information and diversification of the variety of sources.
  - Besides, the media landscape is reshaping constantly and it has become more and more difficult to distinguish information from disinformation.



## Informaatiolukutaito-opas



https://faktabaari.fi/assets/Informaatiolukutaitoopas Faktabaari EDU.pdf

## 3) Promoting critical thinking skills

 Schools should provide students with media and information literacy skills so that they would be able to make their decisions based on facts - not on disinformation or mal-information.



### **INFODEMIC**

With the COVID-19 pandemic, a huge amount of right and wrong information has spread to the world. This flood of information is called infodemic. Due to the excessive amount of information, it is difficult for people to find reliable information when needed.

Fact checkers around the world have struggled to combat misinformation. The #CoronaVirusFacts Alliance database already contains over 5,000 coronavirus fact scans.

When you come across a suspicious message or claim, stop for a moment to reflect

- Who is the writer?
  - Is he an expert in the field? Where is it published?
- Why is it done?
  - Does somebody want to influence you in some way?
- What information is it based on?
  - Are there references to sources and sources of information?
  - Can you verify the message information from a trusted source?

You can easily check from the International Fact-Check Databank to see if the same claim has already been factchecked: <u>https://www.poynter.org/ifcn-covid-19-</u> <u>misinformation/</u>

## 4) Interaction with experts

- The interaction between journalists, media experts and schools is warmly recommended.
  - The basic idea of the Faktabaari EDU project was to adapt the proved fact-checking methods used by professional fact-checkers into the education field.
  - We have organized plenty of workshops, webinars, school visits, etc. to scale up the best practice tools for a larger public.



#### The upside

How Finland starts its fight against fake news in primary schools

Country on frontline of information war teaches everyone from school pupils to politicians how to spot slippery information

#### Jon Henley in Helsinki

y @jonhenley

Wed 29 Jan 2020 12.16 GMT

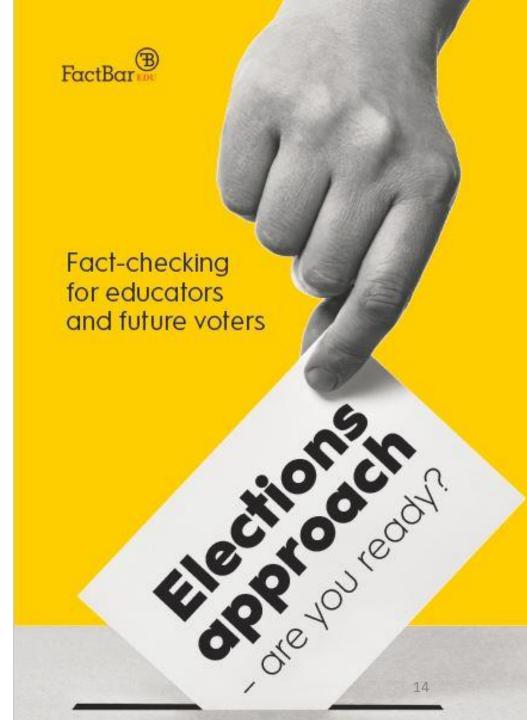
F) 🕑 🖾

You can start when children are very young, said Kari Kivinen. In fact, you should: "Fairytales work well. Take the wily fox who always cheats the other animals with his sly words. That's not a bad metaphor for a certain kind of politician, is it?"

With democracies around the world threatened by the seemingly unstoppable onslaught of false information, Finland - recently rated Europe's most resistant nation to fake news - takes the fight seriously enough to teach it in primary school.

## Voter literacy

- Faktabaari has co-created with teachers a simplified version of its fact-checking methodology for educators in 2019.
- It encourages critical thinking and participation for fact-based public debate and to resist disinformation.
- The method is compatible with IFCN code and "information disorder" vocabulary and ideally adaptable.
- It brings fact-checking and media literacy communities together for apparent synergies.
- The toolkit for educators include examples to inspire, create and share new lesson plans.
- <u>https://faktabaari.fi/assets/FactBar\_EDU\_Fact-</u> <u>checking\_for\_educators\_and\_future\_voters\_13112018.pdf</u>





### When is there a reason to suspect disinformation?



- The message is repeated very often
- There are striking pictures in the message
- The message seeks to elicit a strong emotional response
- The message has strong story elements
- The sources of the message are strange or extraordinary (eg page metadata leads to a different country than the content of the message suggests)
- Search engines find the same or almost the same message, but with a much older date
- Images related to the message can be found on the web in other contexts with reverse image search
- The person spreading the message is spreading other suspicious content

**Dis-information** is false information which is knowingly shared to cause harm.



#### Information disorder



**Mis-information-** false information is shared, but no harm is meant.



**Dis-information** - false information is knowingly shared to cause harm.

#### Mal-information - genuine

information is shared to cause harm, often by moving information designed to stay private into the public sphere.

The foregoing categorisation is not exhaustive but it is a more analytical and to the purpose than the somewhat harmful 'fake news' tag. The widespread use of this tag usually sparks needless distrust even towards responsible, fact-based journalism.



## How to check the authenticity of the images!

Pictures and videos are now easy to edit and modify

- Often, image editing is harmless and useful for improving image quality.
- By trimming and editing images and videos, it is also possible to convey distorted information and to be used in misleading contexts.
- Social media nowadays often encounters images that are linked to a click title and texts that have nothing to do with the image.
- Various tools have been developed to verify the origin, authenticity, and use of images and videos

#### GOOGLE reverse image search- https://google.com

 In the top right corner of your browser, select Google Image Search and enter any image or image link in the search box. Google's algorithms quickly search for the context in which the image was used and suggest similar images.

#### YANDEX - https://yandex.com/images/

 A Russian site that allows you to find faces, places and objects in addition to similar images..

#### BING https://images.bing.com

A specialty of BING is the visual search feature. Below the image you
want to search, you can narrow down what you are looking for in the
image. This is especially useful if the image contains a lot of "useless"
information for the search.

INVID - https://www.invid-project.eu/tools-and-services/invidverification-plugin/

 INVID, a French company, provides tools for verifying images and videos. Invid's tools work especially on YouTube, Facebook and Twitter. The InVID verification plugin downloadable to the browser is particularly effective.

## **ACT** Journal on Information Disorder is out soon!



https://www.teachingcitizenship.org.uk/journals Issue 51



### **Information Disorder:**

Teaching critical media literacy and citizenship in a digital age



#### In this edition:

Acquiries of

Expert briefings on digital media and citizenship, teacher case studies of what works, practical ideas and resources for improving practice. Plus reviews and networking opportunities.



# (B) FactBaredu

www.faktabaari.fi