

Time for Inspiration: Approaches to Crucial
Issues, Media Meets Literacy Sarajevo

22.9.2017 – Sarajevo

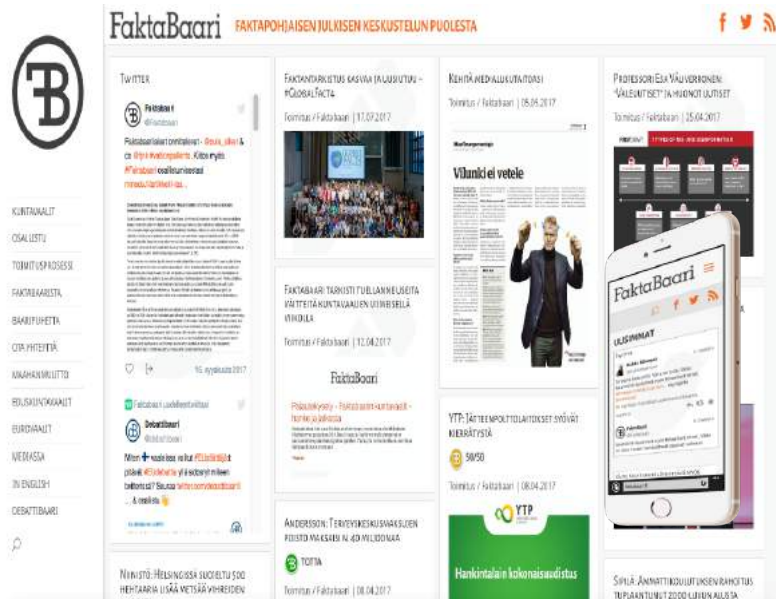
Mikko Salo, Faktabaari

FaktaBaari[®]EDU

Fact-checking as tool to teach critical
medialiteracy **to future voters &**
vaccination against populism

for #MMLS2017 @FactBarEDU





factsmatter FaktaBaari

Fact-checking service for fact-based public election debates since 2014 (against post-truth) www.faktabaari.fi

Enabled by transparency NGO and run primary by volunteers and by empowering crowds → positive deterrent & skills for facts

Member of International Fact-checking network (Transparency code) with special interest on European affairs

Checking the truthfulness of claims, advocating fact-checking approach and promoting medialiteracy





by elections FaktaBaari®

European elections 2014 with **experts**

National elections 2015 by training **journalism students** & extending the concept to European level

Municipal elections 2017 with **crowdfunding** and
with **future voters**

Curriculum and Teaching Critical Skills in
Schools – MIL session

21.9.2017 – Sarajevo

PhD Kari Kivinen

The new Finnish
curriculum &
multiliteracy skills



Helsingin ranskalais-suomalainen koulu
Lycée franco-finlandais d'Helsinki



#medialiteracy with future voters



factsmatter
FaktaBaari[®]EDU

- EDU kick-off thanks to teachers need for new tools for MLL curricula (+catalyzed by Evens Foundation competition)
- Joint approach for critical medialiteracy skills with the objective to test tools and learn debunking disinformation & false claims
- Teachers & fact-checkers empower the future voter to observe media as fact-checker vaccinated for disinformation while gaining knowledge and confidence to engage debates
- Pilots in 2016 Finnish municipal elections now developed for 2018-9 Presidential & European elections
- Open source tool for new Finnish MLL curricula.

Challenge & Idea 2016

FaktaBaari^{EDU} ?+

- **How to provide** the pupils the necessary knowledge, skills and competences as well as self-confidence, so that they could actively and critically take part in the debates and discussions in the future coming communal, presidential and EU elections?
- The basic **idea** of the project is to adapt the proved fact-checking approach and process into the education field linked to the NEW Curriculum of the school in various subjects (mother tongue, history, social studies...)



INTERNATIONAL FACT-CHECKERS' CODE OF PRINCIPLES

FaktaBaari has signed up to [fact-checkers code of transparency principles](#). FaktaBaari is a member of International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN).



FAKTABAARI HANDBOOK

More information especially on the fact-checking process and principles to FaktaBaari partners can be read [here](#) (FaktaBaari handbook).

How to empower students medialiteracy?

1. **Train** basic understanding of
 - the principles of journalism and key concepts on fact-checking (code) and disinformation? (by Faktabaari)
 - Elections: procedure & mandate of elected representants (by teachers)
2. **Empower and exercise:** students fact-checking with some exemplary checks with applying tools (by Faktabaari)
3. **Reward & educate:** discussion in the classroom on their findings (joint)
4. **Encourage to apply** in their media (joint)
 - to share their findings in social media and make "fact-checking" approach their thing – don't get fooled
 - Key decision: to share or not to share in social media?



You do not want to get cheated online, do you?



Check TITLE & pictures.

- Very emotional, topical &
 - “too easy” content?
- Especially If yes, stay alert and continue



Check the STORY

- does it have an author?
 - any sources? any alternative views provided?
- if no, leave it. If yes continue



Towards your OWN judgement

- Why author seeks your attention or action?
 - Check the main claim with source you trust?
- You feel not cheated? **So, go ahead, please, share good content!**





fact-checking method adapted for schools

1. Choose election relevant & documented claim to be fact-checked
2. Identify: who, where, when and what said?
3. Go to primary sources - 2 independent (help from teacher / school librarian) / use tools
4. Write fact-check proposal for review
5. Present written fact-check to your class for judgement ("True, "False" or "50/50")
6. Results can be published (school paper, website, video, FaktabaariEDU blog)
7. Share the fact-check in your social networks – **build trust**

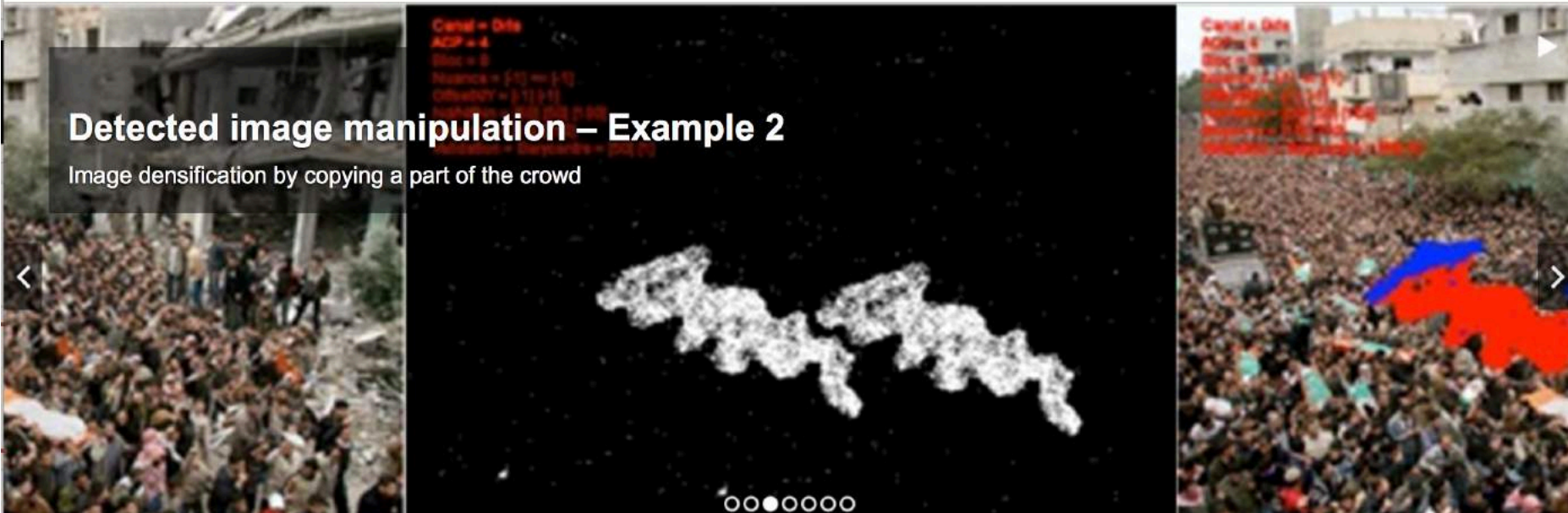


Example of new open-source tools

[Home](#)[News](#)[About InVID](#)[Publicity](#)[Tools and Services](#)[Results](#)

Detected image manipulation – Example 2

Image densification by copying a part of the crowd





Pilot: Municipal elections 2016 – empowering teens with facts and skills for local participation

- **Facts:** 14 years old students received information about adapted Faktabaari fact-checking methods; explored the materials of all the parties of the municipal election;
- **Acts: (1)** practiced question making and answering through a mock-interview panel, (2) Participated in the real election panel with real candidates; (3) Took part in a shadow-election, and (4) practiced fact-checking activities in real life situation!
- **Case:** “City budget was cut to schools during last election term? No.....”yes, we checked”.
- **Importance:** voting age possibly reduced to 16 years in foreseeable future for municipal elections ?



Experiences on Municipal elections 2016

- Students took a real interest in the local election and they learned how the local municipality works.
- They got really active young participants in the local debate.
- They were able to verify themselves if the news/claims were true or not.
- They learned to check the sources and learned where to find help.
- They learned also to adapt the fact checking methods in other areas e.g. to the social media news (Thinking twice before sharing)



Pilot 2: Fact checking Presidential Elections 2018 – focus: disinformation and internet literacy

Questions considered with students

- What are the elections about? And NOT about?
- Why would someone try to fool you?
- Where do you find primary information on candidate statements?
 - Be aware of the social media filter bubble.
 - What can be faked in internet? How one can check it?
 - (tools to be presented incl. verification of images and video)?
- How to seek quality information on themes subject to disinformation?
- How would you choose your candidate? Based on facts and/or feeling?
- Preparation for European Elections 2019



Summary and inspiration for you?

- **Elections** are important opportunities in schools to learn on (1) democracy (2) politics and (3) media with real work links
- Empowering **future voters** is the most sustainable **resilience against post-truth self-realizing prophecy** (also families)
- **Fact-checking** as approach
 - vaccines students against populism and empower their critical thinking without political bias.
 - provides students general tools and skills to survive in the digital environment (incl. social media and visuals) - teaches critical approach to sourcing in internet (internetliteracy)
- **European elections in 2019** unite us with high-probability of mis- and disinformation working mostly for conservative and nationalist biases
 - cooperate with your local fact-checker (@factchecknet)
 - **Join @FactBarEDU** for news on planned EP2019 #medialiteracy campaign for joint European efforts





More information

- FaktaBaari EDU project information
<https://kivinen.wordpress.com/2017/03/20/faktaBaari-edu-medialiteracy-with-future-voters/>
- **FaktaBaari EDU:** www.faktabaari.fi/edu
- International Fact Checking Network
 - <https://www.poynter.org/channels/fact-checking>
 - Find your national Fact-checker
<https://reporterslab.org/fact-checking/>
 - www.factcheckingday.com (2.4.)
- Contact: Mikko Salo & Kari Kivinen
 - Mikko@faktabaari.fi
 - Kari@faktabaari.fi
- **Follow @FactBarEDU**

