

## 3rd Newsletter

### The piloting sessions have been implemented



We are excited to share the latest updates on our Critical Balance project as we reach a significant milestone with our piloting sessions. Our goal has been to engage at least 15 young people, aged 13-29, in each participating country, and we are pleased to report that we've been doing really well to achieve this target.

Each piloting session it has been designed to be a wide-ranging and immersive experience. Participants got a deeper insight into at least four learning activities covering two distinct topics, ensuring a broad and enriching educational encounter. The developed engaging Pop Quiz has also been included in the sessions, which not only reinforced the learning but also added an element of fun and competition.

As an extra activity in Latvia, a different target audience, namely seniors from Aizkraukle senior association, also tested the learning units connected to conspiracy theories, ranking theories and took part in different tasks for identifying disinformation.



### Hear from Our Participants in

#### Sweden

· ChatGPT is not really appreciated by some teachers, but I've heard that it is being used a lot, in school and in workplaces. I think it is a good tool, but of course you need to be cautious when fact checking – is it true or not?

· Conspiracy theories are fun to explore, but scary if some believe in them. COVID-19 (health) for example.

· I can not believe Flat Earthers, and I wonder if they really believe it to be true or just because it is fun.

· It was fun to discuss with other participants, about different topics

· The activities are needed, also for a younger audience. When more young people, even children, are starting to use social media – TikTok, there has to be some better fact checking.

Parents need to be present (needs to know about critical thinking).

· The popquiz was fun!

· It's unbelievable what some can think of. Can get really frightening if you are not critical enough.

· It is amazing what AI is able to generate...even though not knowing the background information can lead to sharing not valid content which is not good. Good to know what to pay attention about AI-generated content.

· Really useful, much appreciated. More of these events, please!

#### Latvia

· I didn't know such conspiracy theories existed

· Personality tests can be found on a number of popular websites, but most of the time they are all designed to attract attention to a particular website rather than to learn something new or useful about yourself

· The tasks included in this project should be in every school.

#### Romania

· The Pop Quiz was a game changer!

· It is a lot of fun to read and evaluate conspiracy theories.

· It is difficult to think critically in many situations, but is a must...



PREVENTING  
YOUNG PEOPLE  
FROM GOING  
DOWN THE  
RABBIT HOLE

read, learn, find,  
fake news, conspiracy  
theories, disinformation,  
critical thinking,  
understanding

### Germany

- *So, I really loved having the chance to investigate various conspiracy claims related to COVID-19. It was really exciting to think critically and check reliable sources to combat disinformation.*
- *I thought it was great that we had the opportunity to take an in-depth look at different conspiracy claims. It was an interesting experience to think critically and look for reliable sources to refute misinformation.*
- *I particularly liked that we had the opportunity to improve our research skills and think critically about different conspiracy claims. It was an educational experience that helped me to analyze sources and distinguish facts from myths.*
- *I particularly liked the fact that we had the opportunity to improve our research skills and engage with different points of view. It was exciting to see how different sources offer different perspectives and how important it is to think critically and check information.*
- *My favorite part was how we really applied our critical thinking skills. It was exciting to see how we analyzed different sources of information and presented our arguments. I found the diversity of viewpoints and the opportunity to discuss different perspectives particularly exciting.*



These positive responses underscore the impact of our piloting sessions and reassure us to continue our efforts in providing high-quality educational experiences even beyond the projects' lifetime.

If you are interested in participating or learning more about our national events, please reach out to our local partners.

**Together, we can make a difference in the educational journeys of young people across Europe.**

**Stay tuned for more, visit our [website](#) and [FB page](#).**



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