# Securing the right to quality information. Securing fact-checking

**Barcelona, 19 May, 2023**
CIDOB. Elisabets 12, 08001 Barcelona
*Organised by: CIDOB with the support of the Citizens, Equality, Rights and Values Programme (CERV) of the European Commission*

Disinformation, conspiracy theories, hoaxes, cheap-fakes or deep-fakes; the information pollution evolves and new and stronger strategies are needed to deal with it. Journalists and fact-checkers have to work in a greater complex context, shaped not only by the boundless possibilities of Artificial Intelligence but also strained by political pressure, online harassmet or even judicial persecution.

This is a mutual learning activity on how to reassess the importance of truth and pluralistic environments, but also on how to ensure quality journalism and fact-checkers's guidance and safety.

The aim of this conference is to connect fact-checking organisations, journalists and academia to share experiences and challenges.

**Co-funded by the European Union**

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| 09.00 - 09.15 | **Welcome and Goal of the Dialogue**<br>**Pol Morillas**, Director, CIDOB (Barcelona Centre for International Affairs) |
| 09.15 - 10.45 | **Rebuilding Trust: From Bad Algorithms to Biased Users**<br>*How can information pollution be reduced? How can independent journalism be protected? What are the systemic weaknesses threatening quality journalism in the European Union? What is disinformation and what amplified propaganda?*<br><br>**Eduardo Suárez**, Head of Editorial, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford<br>**Carme Colomina**, Senior Research Fellow on Disinformation, EU and Global Politics, CIDOB<br>**Laura Cervi**, Doctor of Political Sciences and Journalism Professor, UAB<br>**Lorenzo Consoli**, Brussels' correspondent and former president of the Brussels International Press Association<br>**David Block**, ICREA Research Professor, Universitat Pompeu Fabra. Author of *Post-Truth and Political Discourse* |
| *Moderated by* | **Montserrat Rigall**, Artificial Intelligence Researcher, RTVE, and member of the 'IVERES: Identification, Verification and for the detection of false information with AI<br><br>*Followed by a debate between all the speakers and invited guests.* |
| 10.45 – 11.15 | **Coffee break** |

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**11.15 - 12.45**  **Freedom of Speech and Media Freedom: Protection, (Self)Regulation and Pluralism**
*What are the pseudomedia? How are press standards ensured? And how can the freedom of the media be protected? Regulation or self regulation? How to protect fact-checkers from harassment and coordinated attacks? How is the relation of journalists and fact-checkers with tech platforms?*

**Carlos Hernández-Echevarría**, Head of Public Policy and Institutional Development, Maldita.es
**Elda Brogi**, Member of EDMO, European Digital Media Observatory; Professor, EUI Centre for Media Pluralism
**Jorge Tuñón**, Lecturer, University Carlos III of Madrid and Jean Monnet Chair. Author of *Europa frente al Brexit, el populismo y la desinformación*
**Patrícia Ventura Pocino**, PhD in Communication, Ethics and Artificial Intelligence, and Communications Consultant

*Moderated by*  **Lorenzo Marini**, Cofounder, Verificat

*Followed by a debate between all the speakers and invited guests.*

**12.45 – 13.00**  **Final Remarks and Conclusions**
**Carme Colomina**, Senior Research Fellow, CIDOB

**13.00 – 14.30**  **Light lunch**


## List of participants

- **Montserrat Arbós**, Journalist and Professor; Blanquerna Comunication Faculty
- **Carlos Baraibar**, Journalist, Catalunya Ràdio; member of the Platform for Media Education
- **David Block**, ICREA Research Professor, Universitat Pompeu Fabra
- **Enric Borràs**, Journalist, ARA
- **Elda Brogi**, Member of EDMO (European Digital Media Observatory); Professor, EUI Centre for Media Pluralism
- **Nereida Carrillo**, Journalist; Founder, learntocheck.org
- **Laura Cervi**, Professor and Researcher in Political Communication and Media Literacy, UAB
- **Claudio Cesarano**, Program Manager, Tech&Society team, Open Society Foundations
- **Carme Colomina**, Senior Research Fellow on Disinformation, EU and Global Politics, CIDOB
- **Yevhen Fedchenko**, Director, Mohyla School of Journalism, Co-founder/Chief Editor, StopFake.org
- **Carlos Hernández-Echevarría**, Head of Public Policy and Institutional Development, Maldita.es
- **Lorenzo Marini**, Cofounder, Verificat
- **María Victoria Mas**, Lecturer and Researcher on Disinformation, News Consumption Patterns and News Literacy, Universitat Abat Oliba CEU
- **Xavier Mas de Xaxàs**, Diplomatic Correspondent, *La Vanguardia*
- **Pol Morillas**, Director, CIDOB
- **Candela Ollé Castellà**, Professor of Journalism; Director of the university master's degree in Journalism and Digital Communication, UOC
- **Susana Pérez-Soler**, Journalist specialized in digital journalism, web culture and social networks. Founder, Verificat; Professor, Ramon Llull University
- **Carles Planas**, Tech Journalist, *El Periódico*
- **María José Recoder**, Doctor in Communications Sciences – Journalism, UAB. College of Journalists of Catalonia
- **Montserrat Rigall**, Artificial Intelligence Researcher, RTVE
- **José Rodríguez Ramos**, Journalist, Master's degree in International Relations Student, IBEI
- **Héctor Sánchez Margalef**, Researcher, CIDOB
- **Eduardo Suárez**, Head of Editorial, Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism, University of Oxford
- **Jorge Tuñón**, Lecturer, University Carlos III of Madrid; European Commission expert. Author of *Europa frente al Brexit, el populismo y la desinformación*
- **Patrícia Ventura Pocino**, Journalist, Consultant and Lecturer specializing in new media and digital culture. Author of *Algorithms in the newsrooms. Challenges and recommendations for artificial intelligence with the ethical values of journalism*

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