This brochure has been created and prepared for you by 30 young people who gathered for a youth exchange in Lisbon, Portugal for 7 days. The participants were people from Macedonia, Scotland, Estonia, Italy, Poland and Portugal. The aim of the exchange was to discuss media and politics, critical thinking and youth participation. We found that the only way to combat the post-truth political era is to work on developing the critical and analytical thinking skills within society. This workshop has been lovingly created and will be delivered all over Europe by the participants.

PARTNER ORGANISATIONS:

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TRATWA
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youth & the post-truth era

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SPOT THE LIE

Overview: Participants read 5 different news articles and try to detect fake news.

Objectives: To raise awareness of post-truth media. To improve critical thinking.

Time: 5' for preparation, 25' for activity, 10' for debriefing

Group size: 7-10 people

Material needed: 5 boxes, 5 short articles for each group, 10 small pieces of paper for each person (2 different colors for true / false)

Instructions: 1. Split into groups of 7-10 people to read the short articles.
2. After reading articles each person votes individually if each article was true or false by placing the correct paper into the corresponding box.
3. Evaluate the voting results, reveal the which articles were true and which were false.

Debriefing: What made you believe in the validity of the information? Can you give any other examples of fake news that you have encountered in your life? How do you inform yourself? Do you fact-check information? Do you check the sources of information?

DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

Overview: Participants get the same set of facts and then write short articles based on them.

Objectives: To show that the same facts can be presented from different perspectives.

Time: 5' for preparation, 30' for writing, 15' for sharing, 10' for debriefing

Group size: 4-5 people

Material needed: color pens and pencils, paper, 1 handout per group with the following facts: There are 208 students in Spin elementary school. 195 of them were fully vaccinated against measles. 13 of them were not. Last month, 35 of the students got sick – they all had measles. 27 of the sick kids were fully vaccinated, and 8 of them were not vaccinated.

Instructions: 1. Split into groups.
2. Each group writes an article with title and photo (drawing) based on the facts.
3. Groups share articles in plenary.

Debriefing: Did you target your article to a specific group of readers? Why? How come you all had the same instructions but wrote completely different articles?

FIGHTING FOR TRUTH

Overview: Brainstorming for ideas and creative solutions to fight the post-truth in our lives.

Objectives: To give people knowledge and motivation to take action against the ideologies and methods of a post-truth society.

Time: 5' for preparation, 25' for brainstorming, 10' for sharing, 10' for debriefing

Group size: 5 people

Material needed: paper, pens, pencils, markers, other arts&crafts materials optional

Instructions: 1. Split into groups.
2. Each group comes up with creative solutions to fight for truth. These can be posters, ad campaigns, Facebook groups and pages, songs, poetry, etc.
3. Groups share their ideas in plenary.

Debriefing: How did the creative process go? Did you enjoy it? How feasible is it to implement your solution? Can you make it happen yourself? What other measures can be taken within the general society to fight the post-truth and its influence on our lives and politics?