

Factbar.be

First impressions



ARTESIS PLANTIJN
HOGESCHOOL ANTWERPEN

Heating the engines...

- Meeting with Anna and Mikko
- How does Factbar work?
- Wordpress
- ...



...and take-off

- 49 second year's students
- 12 groups
- Only 4 weeks
- Research course
- 3 credits
- One semester



What did we do?

- Translate Editorial process
- Find our way in Factbar-Wordpress
- Looking for claims ourselves



Calls for claims

The screenshot shows a Citrix Viewer window displaying a Facebook page for 'Den Triangel'. The browser tabs include 'AP START', 'Blackboard Learn', and 'Den Triangel'. The URL is 'https://www.facebook.com/Den-Triangel-50472949930/'. The page header shows the name 'Den Triangel' and a search bar. Below the header are navigation tabs: 'Pagina', 'Berichten', 'Meldingen', 'Statistieken', and 'Publicatietools'. The main content area features a post by 'Wouter Frateur' dated '16 oktober om 11:59'. The post text reads: "Elke dag vertrekt vanuit Antwerpen één migrant vrijwillig terug naar zijn thuisland", zegt Antwerps OCMW-voorzitter Fons Duchateau (N-VA). Zou het? De tweedejaars APJournalistiek houden de volgende jaren deze én andere uitspraken over Europa van politici én journalisten tegen het licht in hun Europese Factbar. En ze hebben jou daarbij nodig. Stel jij je vragen bij cijfers, resultaten van onderzoeken of beweringen van een politicus of journalist? Laat het ons weten. Antwoord ... Lees meer". Below the text is a video player with a large red 'FOUW' (Wrong) overlay. The video title is 'Factcheck: Clinton vs. Trump, juist of fout?' and the description says: 'Tijdens het debat afgelopen nacht werd niet altijd de volledige waarheid verteld. Wij deden een kleine factcheck.' The right sidebar shows a list of contacts, including 'Els Zgrs', 'Jolien Van Staeyen', 'Seppe Slaets', 'Marie VD', 'Luc Verheyen', 'Ruben Van Den Heuvel', 'Pieter Van Laer', 'Jonathan Goris', 'Sigrid Spaas', 'Bart Bergen', 'Lucas Wuyts', 'Evi Maveau', and 'Dieter Meeuwis'. The bottom of the screenshot shows the Windows taskbar with various application icons and the system tray displaying the time '11:42' and date '24/10/2016'.



4 weeks – week 1

- Guest lecture
- Jan Jagers
- Journalist
- Weekly fact check in Knack magazine
 - What is FC?
 - Cases



4 weeks - week 2

- Introduction to Factbar
 - Goal: EU-elections 2019
 - Editorial process
 - Example (Knack and VRT)
- Groups get their claims
- Planning first steps
- Telling their plans



Claims?

- “Every day one migrant is leaving Antwerp and returning voluntarily to his home country”
- “Cutting back nuclear energy will raise the amount of CO₂”
- “Sunglasses need to be replaced every two years”
- “12% of household budget go to food”



4 Weeks – week 3

- Every group reports on actions, calls, research,...
- Other groups listen
- Exchange of ideas (“Call person/institution X?”)
- Exchange of information (“I have an uncle working there!”)



4 Weeks - week 4

- Lesson on 'numberacy'
- Reporting ("My uncle is still working there!")
- Exchanging background information ("I found an interesting article on dealing with statistics")



Information exchange

- Diigo-account
- Excel-file in drive.google
 - Experts / Journalists / Politicians / Public services / Companies
 - Name etc, speciality and 'extra'
 - Students put their contacts in the list



Findings

- Students are enthusiastic
- Finding claims is not easy
- No theme (for now)
- Different level of difficulty
- Different 'speed'
- “I work at Factbar”



Findings 2

- List of institutions/names/...?
- Dealing with surveys and sources requires constant coaching
- Finding their way, being flexible
- Being critical continuously
- Planning strategy
- Number of categories (true-false)



What's next?

- Lesson on dealing with surveys/polls/...
- Reporting in individual groups?
- Start of november
 - Factbar.be
 - First articles published(?)
- Fact checking EU-claims starts



