
EUFACHECK NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2020

Christmas time is coming up: a good excuse to be mellow

Together with you, dearest Eufactcheckers, after this horrible year, we try to see the silver lining at the end of the horizon, we feel the wind of change and see the stardust falling at night, covering the earth with hope and new courage and energy. The human race, and especially the EJTA race is so resilient and strong that we can be sure we'll all together find 2021 to a better year, with live contacts, with inspiring conversations, with drinks on warm, sunny terraces, with tears of joy, with all of our friends and colleagues back together again.

But first, we all need and deserve some weeks of peace, rest, sleep and family warmth during the Christmas period. Although I know that most of us have to be creative to make something festive of these dark days in (semi)lockdown, I'm convinced we'll find our strength back while we're just enjoying long walks and simply are being lazy. And after these weeks, we can continue with our fantastic fact-checking project!

Have a great Christmas time and enjoy some beautiful days of peace and rest!

Start production season FIVE: SPRING 2021

The future keeps on looking bright!

In the beginning of November 2020 we started our fourth publication season with new ideas, participants and initiatives and as a result we can now look with pride at many new text publications animated videos.

In February 2021 we'll start publication season FIVE. EJTA members who told us they'd like to join the fact-checking project, will receive a mail with more info. If you didn't inform us about your wish to join and you're interested to participate in spring semester 2021, please send a mail to nadia.vissers@ap.be before 11 January 2021.

Start-up meeting SPRING 2021

We plan a new start-up meeting for all participants in spring semester 2021 on **Monday 18 January 4.30 pm CET** via Teams. You'll receive an invitation in the first week of January 2021.

Eufactcheck is an educational project

In an international educational project, it's only normal there are different ways of coaching students, of building learning curves, of taking different levels of responsibility. But we do think that social media communication and strategic thinking are part of the fact-checking exercises for your students, so do make sure they follow the formats in the Drive for the socials that announce their website publications. We did agree to have ALL publications first in the draft, so that the Production Team (PT) can decide how and when to publish. But please make sure you also upload your social media posts in Slack #socialmedia at the same time, because the PT will only publish with socials present.

New publications and formats

Don't forget to check and follow the new or adjusted formats for fact checks, blog posts, media analyses, cross-national cooperation, socials (FB, TW and Insta) on our Google Drive.

For vlogs, we don't have a well-defined format yet, but you can enjoy nice vlogs on the site via our own Vimeo channel. The PT still needs to spend too much time on chasing participants to use the correct visuals, formats, truth barometers and social media formats. Take pity them and do the work yourself! And please: communicate via Slack.

Cross-referencing

It's great to notice that students who did a fact check are also writing about their findings and the process of fact checking in a related blog post. When this happens, it would be great if you could add a cross-reference under the fact check concerned. You could put under the conclusion and before the reference to your students' names: 'Also have a look at the related blog post [title]'.

Upcoming EJTA events: #EJTALKs and conferences

In corona year 2020 EJTA started with online brunch meetings: #EJTALKs. We had our first successful edition on 13 November during which we shared tips and tricks about teaching journalism in corona times,

#EJTALK2 will take place on **Friday 15 January, 12 am CET** and you can discuss with us about the future of international cooperation via this link: <https://smart.newrow.com/#/room/bum-751> We wish to meet you all there.

For more news on the actual form the Vienna AGM and conference (20 and 21 May 2021) will take, we are counting on some more patience. We hope to give all EJTA-members more info by the end of February 2021.

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