



# News know-it-alls

## Students as fact checkers

ECSA conference, Vienna, April 4th 2024

# *News know-it-alls*

# *NieuwsWijsNeuzen*

Nieuws.Wijs.Neuzen

# What? Why?

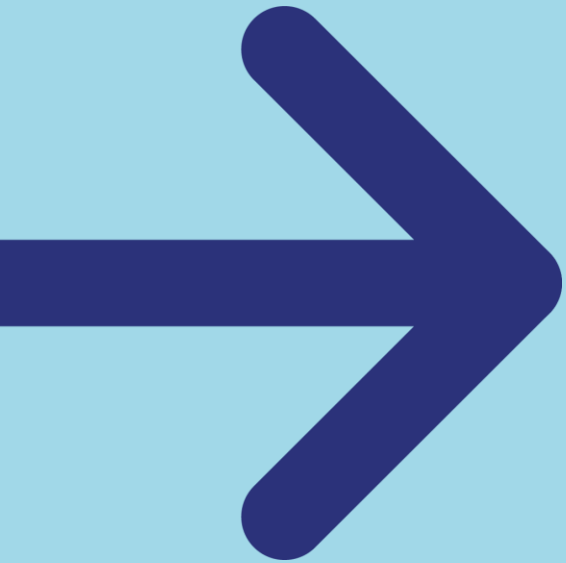


Aim: Making children (8-12y.) more resilient against disinformation

Need: Few materials for children in primary education (smartphones first)

Funding: Flemish government (Dutch-speaking part of Belgium)

# Who?



Research groups



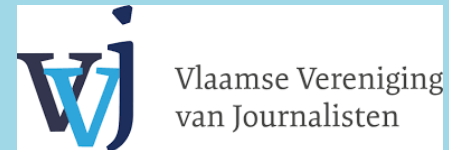
Knowledge institutions



News literacy field



News media sector



Development partners



# Deliverables



*For journalists:*

**(1) A child policy guide** with recommendations for responsible reporting around disinformation tailored to children



*For children and educators:*

**(2) Educational materials**

Critical thinking

Reliable journalism & debunking disinformation

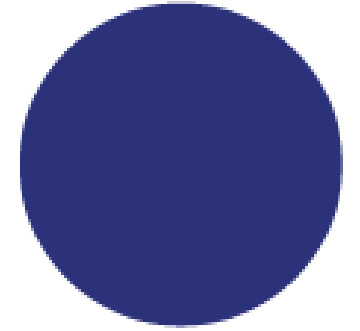


*For journalists, children and researchers:*

**(3) A factcheckpoint** on social media to which children can send questions about news items



# Research phase



## Part One: Focus groups with children

- How do children encounter news?
- How do children encounter false information?
- How do children deal with false information?

## Part Two: Interviews with youth journalists, teachers, and experts

- What are effective methods for making children resilient to false information?



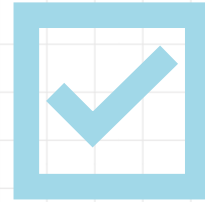
# Disinformation factcheckpoint



# How?



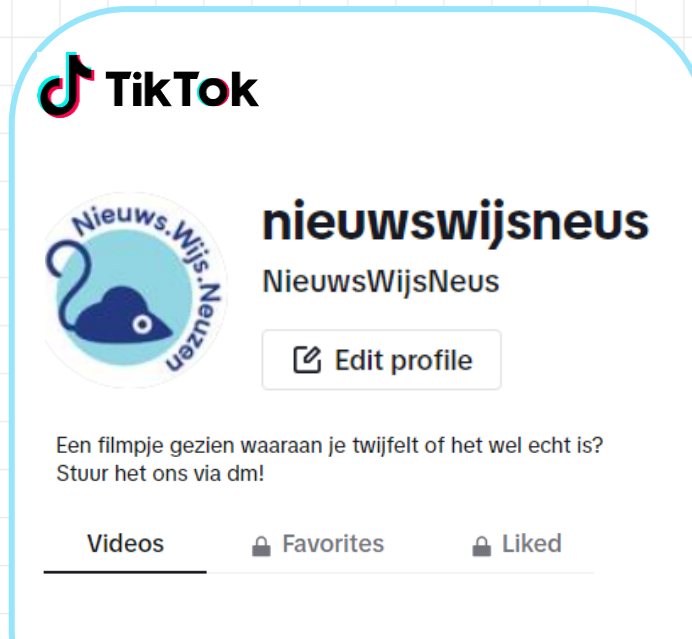
Dubious post  
on TikTok



Claim fact  
checked



Explanation  
in TikTok  
video



# ● Focus on fact checking claims

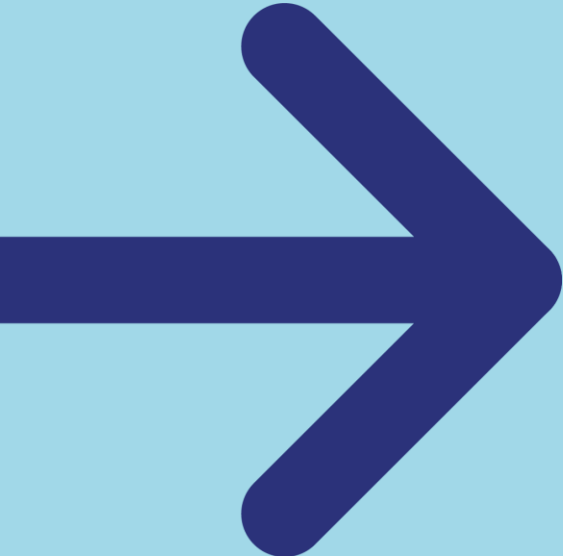

- **Students** as fact checkers
- Focus on **transparency of process**
  - Factchecking 'in layers'
  - Developing protocol 'How to factcheck?'
  - Inspire other interested citizens to factcheck via protocol

## How?





Results in **lessons learned** and **recommendations** aimed at **other actors** working on this topic

- 
- How can we involve young children in fighting against fake news on social media by flagging dubious posts?
  - How can we involve the broader public in fact checking posts in a qualitative way via a validated protocol?
- 

# ● Contact News know-it-alls

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