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STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION, TRAINING AND YOUTH
Funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

Formation of Critical Thinking and Media Literacy as Protection Against Media Manipulation, Misinformation and Fake News

Project Nr. 2022-1-BG01-KA220-HED-000086047

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Project Manager: Reni Radkova Buneva

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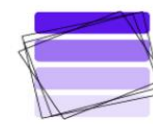
PARTNERS



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- **BULGARIA**, St. Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia, FMI
 - **GERMANY**, Fachhochschule des Mittelstandes (FHM) GMBH –
University of Applied science
 - **ITALY**, Link Campus University, LCU Roma, Italy
 - **POLAND**, WYZSZA SZKOŁA INFORMATYKI I ZARZADZANIA
Z SIEDZIBA W RZESZOWIE



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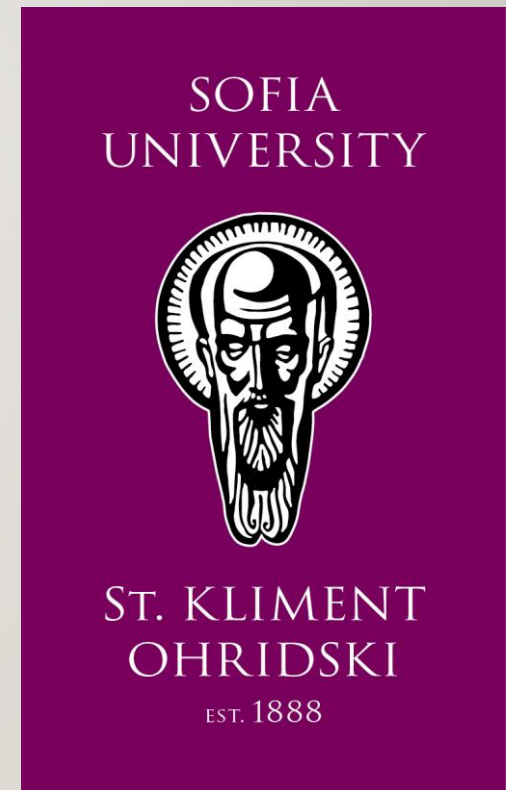
CT&ML
CRITICAL THINKING
MEDIA LITERACY

PARTNERS' TEAMS

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PARTNERS' TEAMS



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PARTNERS' TEAMS

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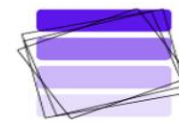
- Marianna Gevorski
- Kaja Brickbedde
- Maike Probst-Klosterkamp
- Johem Dickel
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Staatlich anerkannte, private
**Fachhochschule des
Mittelstands (FHM)**



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CT & ML
CRITICAL THINKING MEDIA LITERACY

WHAT WERE THE TARGET GROUPS OF THE PROJECT?

- The project will focus on the needs of two target groups:
- **university students**, who are young people, excellent at using social media and most likely search their news through online sources, as well as rely heavily on mobile devices for their interpersonal communications. They tend to be smartphone users who get news alerts on their mobiles. Almost half of those receiving alerts click to read the news instantly. Thus, they need to develop resistance to and independence from insinuations which are generated in social media.
- **university educators**, who are experts in their professional areas but need to implement teaching critical thinking and media literacy skills in their subjects. The profiles of the partner institutions belong to ICT, Economics, Media/Communication, Digital Business, International and Political Relations.

WHAT DID WE ACCOMPLISH?

- Accomplished the goal of equipping university students with critical thinking skills for their academic pursuits, personal growth, and future careers.
- Improved educators' ability to integrate critical thinking into their teaching practices.
- Helped students develop media literacy skills, enabling them to analyze and evaluate information effectively.
- Enhanced the intercultural competencies of project participants, promoting better understanding across cultures.
- Strengthened participants' English language skills for more effective communication.
- Facilitated the exchange of cultural knowledge between partner institutions.
- Bolstered the institutions' European dimension in education, fostering greater international collaboration.

WHAT DID WE PRODUCE?



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- 1) **Project result 1:** An Open Virtual Platform with free access which will offer study materials, drills, interactive exercises, quizzes
 - 2) **Project result 2:** A syllabus and study materials based on the systematic and general teaching model for critical thinking, for a university course *Critical Thinking and Media Literacy*
 - 3) **Project result 3:** A systematic and general teaching manual for critical thinking for university lecturers
 - 4.) **Project result 4:** A Critical Thinking and Media Literacy compendium



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PROJECT COMMITTEES

- **Education and Training Committee** – 1 representative per partner
- **Quality Assurance Committee** – 1 representative per partner
- **Dissemination Committee** - 1 representative per partner

TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT MEETINGS:



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- 1) Kick-off, January 2023 - launch the project, hosted by Sofia University.
- 2) 2nd meeting, Italy, June 2023, hosted by LINK CAMPUS UNIVERSITY.
- 3) 3rd meeting, November 2023, hosted by FACHHOCHSCHULE DES MITTELSTANDES (FHM) GMBH – UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCE.
- 4) Final meeting, Poland, June 2024, hosted by WYZSZA SZKOLA INFORMATYKI I ZARZADZANIA Z SIEDZIBA W RZESZOWIE.



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LEARNING, TEACHING, TRAINING ACTIVITIES

- Learning mobilities
- 1) Training for university educators on the Open Virtual Platform - June 2023, Italy
- 2) Training for university educators on the syllabus Critical Thinking and Media Literacy - November 2023, Germany
- 3) Pilot course for students in Critical Thinking and Media Literacy - June 2024, Poland



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OVP (OPEN VIRTUAL PLATFORM)

- The first goal was the Open Virtual Platform, and it was to develop and provide the specific software tools and virtual work-space (intranet and extranet) that was crucial for the success of the project and the sustainability of the initiative. The Platform is the virtual place where all the materials of the course are published so that a wider audience can have access.
- The Open Virtual Platform includes:
 - 1) e-learning resources (presentations, tests, etc.),
 - 2) evaluation e-forms (to provide the feed-back of people that assisted at training courses, for the overall knowledge evaluation to evaluate individually the needs of a participant, etc.).

TEACHERS MANUAL



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- The teachers manual provides:
- 1) a description of the methodological approach to be applied in the course,
- 2) clear instructions, practical advice, hints, etc.,
- 3) suggested lesson plans.



THE COURSE OF CRITICAL THINKING AND MEDIA LITERACY:

The course of Critical Thinking and Media Literacy is focused on the following aspects:

- 1) The development of ICT suggests a wide variety of information online. This requires a new approach to processing, judging and trusting this bundle of information. Understanding the students' needs now and in the future means knowing the current trends of implanting fake news and developing skills and senses to differentiate between fake and real.
- 2) A preliminary questionnaire was prepared to provide appropriate input information for the analysis. It is planned to get feedback from at least 30 university students from each partner's institution.
- 3) A new study programme and study materials were developed to fully meet the augmented needs of critical thinking and media literacy. The study materials were interactively prepared in order to match the learning habits of the students. Digitalization of the study content was helpful for distance learning as well.
- 4) The elaborated study materials were tested for their applicability during the pilot of the course.



CRITICAL THINKING AND MEDIA LITERACY COMPENDIUM

- The *Critical Thinking and Media Literacy Compendium* on protection against media manipulation, misinformation and fake news.
- 1) Concise and detailed information about theoretical and practical knowledge.
- 2) Case studies, articles, topics for discussion, etc.
- 3) Published in digital format.



PROJECT LINKS:

1. Project website: <https://learn.ctml.eu/>
2. Open Virtual Platform: <https://learn.ctml.eu/>
3. Critical Thinking and Media Literacy Course:
<https://learn.ctml.eu/course/index.php?categoryid=5>
4. Teachers Manual:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/1DoowoAD3skx2r65OsnqEYQukAk8hLCxp>
6. CT&ML Compendium:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/2/folders/1DoowoAD3skx2r65OsnqEYQukAk8hLCxp>
https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/about-eacea/visual-identity-and-logos-eacea/erasmus-visual-identity-and-logos_en

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!



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