Facultatea de Jurnalism și Științele Comunicării, parteneră în proiectul Erasmus+ *NEWSREEL2 - New Teaching Fields for the Next Generation of Journalists* (2020-2023)

Cod proiect: 2020-1-HU01-KA203-078824, site: https://newsreel.pte.hu/

Cinci facultăți și institute europene din Ungaria, România, Germania, Portugalia și Cehia, alături de un ONG din media lucrează împreună în cadrul proiectului *NEWSREEL2 - New Teaching Fields for the Next Generation of Journalists* (2020-2023) pentru a dezvolta noi abilități în domenii variate și extrem de importante pentru viitorii jurnaliști. Scopul proiectului îl reprezintă îmbunătățirea diverselor aptitudini ale studenților europeni care vor lucra în domeniul comunicării.

Oportunitățile de comunicare digitală ale lumii actuale sunt dezvoltate în cadrul proiectului într-un mod creativ și responsabil pentru creșterea beneficiilor sociale. În acest sens, echipa Facultății de Jurnalism și Științele Comunicării lucrează la două dintre temele proiectului ce au în vedere lupta împotriva dezinformării: *Verifying and analysing fake news* (*Verificarea și analizarea informațiilor false*) și *Debunking disinformation (Demascarea dezinformării)*. În condițiile în care mediul online a devenit din ce în ce mai poluat cu informații false, a crescut și nevoia ca studenții și viitorii jurnaliști să stăpânească cât mai bine instrumentele și mecanismele pentru a putea identifica, verifica și demasca informațiile și opiniile înșelătoare care devin virale și care inundă constant spațiul public. Prin combaterea dezinformării, se dorește crearea și menținerea unui spațiu mediatic mai transparent și mai de încredere pentru publicul local, dar și european.

Proiectul reprezintă o continuare a proiectului Erasmus+ KA2 NEWSREEL - New Skills for the Next Generation of Journalists.

Faculty of Journalism and Communication Sciences, partner in *NEWSREEL2 - New Teaching Fields for the Next Generation of Journalists* Project (2020 – 2023). Project code: 2020-1-HU01-KA203-078824, website: https://newsreel.pte.hu/

Five European faculties and institutes from Hungary, Romania, Germany, Portugal and the Czech Republic, together with a media NGO are working together within the project *NEWSREEL2 - New Teaching Fields for the Next Generation of Journalists* (2020-2023) in order to develop new and extremely important skills for future journalists. The aim of the project is to improve various aptitudes of the European students who will work in the field of communication.

These new competencies are related to the responsible and innovative use of digital communication opportunities for increasing social advantages of the digital era. The project is continuing the first NEWSREEL, an Erasmus+ KA2 project entitled *New Skills for the Next Generation of Journalists*.

Journalists need to be able to utilize digital technologies responsibly and creatively. To counteract the unverified information that impacts the audience's emotions and feelings, they should continue to be dependable and trustworthy sources of news in the midst of the digital chaos. Thus, the team of the Faculty of Journalism and Communication Sciences is working on two of the project's topics that deal with fighting against disinformation: *Verifying and analyzing fake news* and *Debunking disinformation*. As the online environment has become increasingly polluted with false information, the need for students and future journalists to master the tools and mechanisms to identify, verify and debunk misleading information and opinions that go viral and flood the public space has also increased. By fighting disinformation, the aim is to create and maintain a more transparent and reliable media space for the European public.

To achieve these objectives, in the framework of NEWSREEL2, we develop innovative teaching methods and materials for media and journalism students.

The project focuses on nine different professional fields, all very important for the political, social and communication climate that journalists, but also the public all over the world, are experiencing recently:

1. Storytelling in social media - which will help students learn how to present journalistic contents on social media networks;

2. Graphic journalism - which will help students to learn the basic tools and subgenres of comics journalism;

3. Improving democratic sensibility – in order to make students to be aware of their social role and responsibility in a democratic society of the digital age;

4. Covering migration – in order to improve their research and reporting skills, and understanding migration in a global context;

5. Foreign coverage – so that the students would be able to contribute to a more balanced coverage of international topics;

6. Journalism for voice-activated assistants and devices – in order to learn how to use them and see the potential that they can bring to newsrooms;

7. AI and journalism, robot journalism and algorithms – so that students would know how it can be used, and see clearly its potential and threats;

8. Verifying and analysing fake news – in order to be able to identify accuarte and false information or opinion going viral and to verify information with the help of suitable tools and softwares;

9. Debunking disinformation – so that they get solid knowledge regarding the mechanisms used for debunking fake news and disinformation.

Regarding these fields, the methodology used in the project's implementation phase is based on the following 7 steps:

Phase 1: Conducting a research to introduce the current status of the new type of skills and tools of journalism and the needs of the stakeholders;

Phase 2: Developing curricula in order to establish the structure of the e-learning materials and embed these skills and tools into the programmes of journalism studies;

Phase 3: Developing electronic learning materials and teaching methods primarily for blended learning university courses, and organizing a summer school with interactive workshops on the project fields, with the aim students work together on journalistic projects in multinational teams;

Phase 4: Publishing a teaching guide with dedicated chapters to the specific courses, that summarizes the professional and methodological content of the project, and having courses at the participating universities as a pilot teaching activity;

Phase 5: Publishing an online glossary that helps to build a common knowledge base and cover all of our professional fields.

Furthermore, the project aims to facilitate an efficient international cooperation primarily between university-based journalistic ecosystems. Therefore, NEWSREEL2 will be implemented by:

- the Department of Communication and Media Studies at the University of Pécs (as project leader);
- the Erich Brost Institute for International Journalism, an affiliated institute of TU Dortmund;
- the CIES-IUL - Centre for Research and Studies in Sociology at the ISCTE-University Institute of Lisbon;
- the Faculty of Journalism and Mass Communication at the University of Bucharest;
- the Department of Media Studies and Journalism at the Masaryk University;
- Hostwriter, an NGO that helps journalists to collaborate.

All of the developed project materials during NEWSREEL2 are available on the project portal (https://newsreel.pte.hu/). The materials of the NEWSREEL projects altogether will be suitable for implementing a joint educational programme between the partner universities in the near future.