

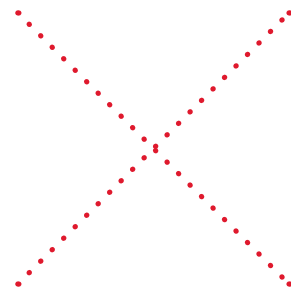
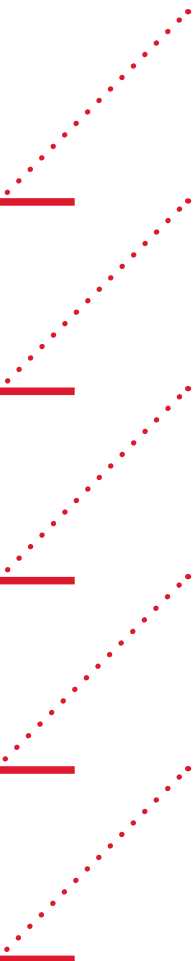
GUIDEBOOK

FACT CHECKING VS. FAKE NEWS

The page features several decorative elements: a series of horizontal white bars of varying lengths on the left side, a diagonal dotted line running from the top left towards the center, and a large dotted 'X' in the lower right quadrant.

Tips, tools and good practices that were developed during the workshop “Fact Check vs Fake News” in Belgrade in September 2019. The workshop took place within the Bosch Alumni Network.

www.boschalumni.net



Bosch **Alumni**
Network

The Bosch Alumni Network is a cooperation between:



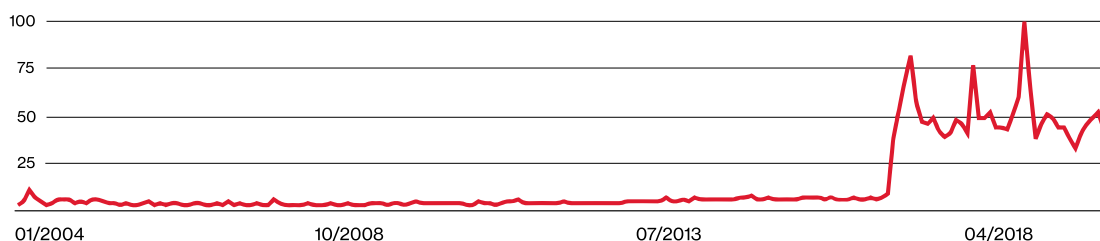
The old new story of misinformation

Fake news is not a new phenomenon - in a recent publication titled [“A Short Guide to the History of ‘Fake News’ and Disinformation”](#), the International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) states one of the first examples of “misinformation, disinformation and propaganda” can be found in the Roman times when Antony met Cleopatra. “Octavian waged a propaganda campaign against Antony that was designed to smear his reputation. This took the form of ‘short, sharp slogans written upon coins in the style of archaic Tweets.’ These slogans painted Antony as a womaniser and a drunk, implying he had become Cleopatra’s puppet, having been corrupted by his affair with her. Octavian became Augustus, the first Roman Emperor and ‘fake news had allowed Octavian to hack the republican system once and for all,’” reports the study.

Things have changed after the invention of the Gutenberg printing press in 1493, but only in the size and the range of misinformation. In its article [“The true history of fake news”](#), The Economist writer Tom Standage mentions that the first occurrence of fake news was reported way back in the 16th and 17th century (and other examples might be found even earlier). “A newsbook published in Catalonia in 1654 reports the discovery of a monster with “goat’s legs, a human body, seven arms and seven heads”; an English pamphlet from 1611 tells of a Dutch woman who lived for 14 years without eating or drinking. So what if they weren’t true? Printers argued, as internet giants do today, that they were merely providing a means of distribution, and were not responsible for ensuring accuracy,” writes Standage.

But today, with the Internet and the rise of social media as a news distribution channel, in an era when the news distribution happens mostly online and everyone has access to tools traditionally

reserved to the media, fake news and disinformation have become an important issue in the society.



A graph showing the interest for the term “Fake news” as recorded from Google between 2004 and 2019.

A report released by the University of Oxford in September 2019, [The Global Disinformation Order](#), noted that computational propaganda – the use of algorithms, automation, and big data to shape public life – “is becoming a pervasive and ubiquitous part of everyday life.” The report found evidence of “organized social media manipulation campaigns” in 70 countries in 2019 (this means that political disinformation campaigns more than doubled in the last two years). Facebook remains “the platform of choice for social media disinformation,” and organised propaganda campaigns were found on the platform in 56 countries, according to the report.

Through social media disinformation campaigns, various actors are leveraging social media to “shape public opinion, set political agendas and propagate ideas,” explains the report. However, it is not just the general public that falls victim to a disinformation campaign. The media that traditionally had the role of acting as gatekeepers for true and verified information nowadays struggle to fight the disinformation. In fast-paced newsrooms of today, while exposed to an interrupted flux of information on the internet, both ‘new’ (digital) and ‘old’ (radio, TV, and print) media journalists sometimes struggle to spot false information. It is even

more difficult to tackle this issue if one is a freelancer without the support and the knowledge available in a (well) staffed newsroom.

On the other hand, over the past years, we have witnessed the rise of media specialised in debunking and fighting fake news. Across the globe, many traditional media outlets have formed special teams dealing only with spotting and exposing misinformation.

Within Bosch Alumni Network, we have decided to seek for advice and expertise of media professionals dealing with fake news, disinformation and information verification. The result was “Fact check vs Fake news”, a three-day workshop on fake-news debunking and fact-checking that took place within the Bosch Alumni Network in Belgrade on September 19-22, 2019. During the event, around twenty journalists and media experts from a dozen different countries discussed the best tools and practises to tackle fake news and perform fact-checking.

This booklet presents tips and tricks we learnt and discussed in the workshop.

7 TYPES OF MIS- AND DISINFORMATION



MISLEADING CONTENT

Misleading use of information to frame an issue or individual



IMPOSTER CONTENT

When genuine sources are impersonated



FABRICATED CONTENT

New content is 100% false, designed to deceive and do harm



FALSE CONNECTION

When headlines, visuals, captions don't support the content



FALSE CONTEXT

When genuine content is shared with false contextual information



MANIPULATED CONTENT

When genuine information or imagery is manipulated to deceive

Claire Wardle, Fake news. It's complicated. February 16,



How to become proficient in fact-checking

Writing a fully fact-checked article is not only good to avoid lawsuits, but also helps to create a relation of trust with the reader. Moreover, fact-checking protects your sources - if you convey somebody's words incorrectly, for instance by changing their quote, you make them say something they did not, which not only damages your credibility, but also your source.

Therefore, fact-checking your information should be a priority in your work. Here is a list of advice and good tips to keep in mind while working as a journalist.

- **1.** Before writing your text, while reporting on the field, ask yourself “how will I prove this piece of information to the fact-checker?” It is important to keep track of your work: record your interviews and conversations, take pictures of the places you visit and geo-tag those photos in order to prove where exactly they were taken, make print screens of the websites you visit (because websites or their content can be deleted) and, more generally, take notes of every step of your research.

- **2.** Be sure of your sources. For every element of your story, make sure you have at least two independent and reliable sources confirming the information. Keep in mind that journalistic articles are in general the worst source, so use them only for research. Always check the primary sources, such as Yellow pages, available public databases, Social Media statements - FOI requests and so on.

- 3. Once the text is written, the fact-checking process kicks in. The fact-checker should be a person that doesn't know the story and that can question your assumptions and information with a fresh pair of eyes. Ask someone to read your text before publishing (if you are working alone).
- 4. At this point, if you are fact-checking someone else's story, take your time, don't rush. Fact-checking takes time, but it is worth double-checking every single piece of information rather than realizing too late that you committed a mistake.
- 5. During this process, keep in mind some useful tools and software available that can help you fact-check your information:
*** check out our table at the end of the document***
- 6. Finally, once the article is published, be as honest and transparent as you can with your readers. That means you shouldn't be ashamed of admitting possible mistakes to the public: add a footnote if the text has been edited, do not remove or change parts without informing your readers. This will create more trust in your work and in journalism in general.



How to debunk fake news:

The best piece of advice is to stay critical! So:

- Recognize the “WOW” effect of the news (if it sounds too good or too crazy to be true, it possibly isn’t true)
- Take off your bias hat

But also:

- + If you have enough time, pick up and check the info, talk with the experts or witnesses
- + Check if the website, article or image have been debunked previously: (for instance on sites such as [Snopes.com](https://snopes.com), [Factcheck.org](https://factcheck.org), [Washington Post Fact Checker](https://www.washingtonpost.com/fact-checker/), [EU vs Disinfo](https://european-council.europa.eu/media/en/press-room/pages/press-room.aspx?pid=45478), [Google Fact Check Explorer](https://www.google.com/factcheck/) and other sites that publish debunked fake news)

If you still don’t know if you are confronted with a fake news article or image, don’t worry, we have you covered!

Here are some further steps:

Check the source of the news

There are different types of fake news sources:

- Satire:** sometimes politicians, celebrities or even reputed media sites copy news from satirical websites, such as The Onion. These can be easily debunked if you take some time to trace the link back to the original website and check if the website publishes satirical news.
- Non-credible or semi-credible websites:** Some of these websites look like legitimate news sources, some of them even publish a mix of real news and fake news (think of Sputnik

websites!) - in this way they build their credibility with topics that are true or partially true, so that fake news items are not so easy to spot.

- c. **Fake fact-checking sites:** that's right, these also exist! Journal Aos Fatos from Portugal, a site that specializes in fake news debunking, got a "mirror" fake news website. It is basically a site that pretends to debunk "fake news", but is actually (re)producing fake news.

In case you come across b) and c) there are several things you can do to verify a website's credibility:

- 1. **Check the website's URL:** there are some websites that imitate more mainstream, well-established media to spread fake news. Sometimes you can easily spot them by checking their URL - fake news site might have a different extension (.org instead of .com or similar) or a letter can be missing. There are also more advanced URL manipulations which make it harder to spot the manipulation - in these cases one uses UNICODE symbols in URL, so that they seem like original letters from more established websites.

- 2. **Check who's behind the website, its credibility and its history**

Here are some tools that can help you verify a website's credibility.

- a. **Who is** - This tool tells you who registered the domain behind the website. You can see if the owner of the website is a company or a private person, where they're based, and you can get more detailed information that could allow you to get directly in touch with them. It is quite easy to check bigger companies, but when it comes to smaller websites sometimes their info will be hidden (in Europe mostly because of GDPR - in that case, you can try to use Who.is in combination with Wayback Machine).
- b. **DNS History** - This tool tells you what changes have been made to a web domain. It functions on a Freemium model (Freemium

model - free to use for a limited number of checks per month)

- c. **Wayback Machine** - You can check historical print screens of the webpage thanks to this tool. In this way, you can see how long the history of the website is, and in which way it has evolved.
- d. **Link Explorer** - Tells you how many sites link to the page you're examining. The number of links can help you get an idea of how credible the source is.
- e. **Fakeskiller.com** - This is a handy Chrome extension. When you install it, and you come across a media publication on Facebook, it will display the info about the website, and tell you how many of their articles got debunked in the past and who did it. This is something that can also indicate how credible a website it.

If you're dealing with Fake News on Twitter, Facebook or other social media, always check the profile of the person and their Internet presence!

Image verification

Of course, one doesn't only deal with text fake news - it has become more and more easy to manipulate photos).

Two things to remember:

Pictures speak louder than words - you can crop photos to manipulate news, and you can also use different pictures to evoke certain emotions

The context of the picture is probably the most important - "don't believe what the caption says"

Here are some tools that can help you establish the veracity of a photo:

- a. **Google Image search** - Tool for reverse image search that allows you to find the same or similar images on the internet.
- b. **EXIF data** - Tool for reading metadata of a photo (additional data about photos, like the info about the time and place when/where the picture was taken). If you are verifying pictures from social media and there is no metadata, it doesn't mean that the picture is manipulated - it means that the platforms are getting rid of metadata because the photos are too big! If you are asking your readers to send you the pictures from an event, for instance, this could be a very useful tool. However, metadata can also be easily tampered with - you can rewrite the metadata and rewrite the time stamp of the photography, so the information on metadata should always be used cautiously.
- c. **InVid** - Tool for analysing pics and videos (also forensic analysis). You can look for inconsistencies in the map of the picture, to check which areas of the picture have been manipulated.
- d. **RevEye Chrome extension** - Tool for reverse image search in multiple search engines.

There has been a rise in completely fabricated photos done thanks to AI technology (a bunch of pictures completely generated by AI can be found here: <https://thispersondoesnotexist.com/>) So far the human faces are the most widespread fakes. If you have a doubt that a photo could be a work of AI, check for inconsistencies such as missing jewellery, asymmetry, different eyes...

There are some signs that show that a photo has been tampered with, such as unnatural patterns, unnatural colours, retouch artefacts (left over regions), crude colour transitions, and implausible scenes.

A special case are the satellite images - you can hide stuff within the image because satellite images have eight superposed layers. The

image doesn't have to be photoshopped, but you can manipulate it by choosing the layer you are presenting.

If there are no visual clues, you can still spot some “invisible clues” by doing image forensics. Visual forensics analyse the device and the source (where does the image come from), identify detection (of the whole image) or manipulation (of certain areas of the image). For instance, in cases of child pornography tracking, when police need to prove that the image was taken with a certain camera, they can identify it by firmware and software as every program and camera has a specific fingerprint. However, forensic analysis can be a long process that requires specific expertise and tools that are often not free (for some of them, check the table at the end of the document).

Video verification

YouTube is the world's largest library of video files. If the video was published on YouTube (or one of the similar platforms), start by checking the history of the video - who published it, what are the related videos this person published, how informative the description of the video/of the profile is, what's their video's or their channel's audience. Also, you can track the social media footprint of the person.

Further verification tools:

- a. **Frame by Frame Chrome extension** - Chrome extension for frame by frame video analysis.
- b. **Watch Frame by Frame** - Online tool for video frame by frame analysis.
- c. **YouTube Data Viewer** - Online tool for finding exact upload time, keyframes and metadata analysis.
- d. **RevEye Chrome extension** (repeated) - Tool for reverse image search of video thumbnails in multiple search engines.
- e. **InVid** (repeated) - Tool for analysing pics and videos (also

forensic analysis), keyframes and thumbnails analysis.

- f. **VLC Media Player** - Software for all video file formats, allows to watch videos in slow motion for all sorts of formats and videos that you don't find online.

Other tools for verification of text, geolocation and time

1. Google translate

Google translation has many more features than simple text to text translation. It allows you to translate in “conversation mode” (you speak in your own language and it translates into the chosen language); it has WORD LENS feature, that allows you to take a picture of a sign or a text in foreign language and get a translation in your desired language; it can also translate HANDWRITING. There is a Chrome translation extension that can be installed to translate whole articles or webpages.

2. Maps

- a. **Google Maps**: Besides serving as a navigator, Google Maps allows you to analyse 3d images from different angles for the biggest cities around the world. **Google Street View** is a Google Maps feature that you get by pressing the “little man” icon (bottom right) and it is good to check what a certain area or a building look like. **Google Earth** is a Chrome version of Google Earth; **Google Earth Pro** is free software to download on your computer.
- b. **Map checking**: This tool is useful to calculate the number of people that are occupying a certain space (great for figuring out how many people showed up at a rally or a protest). It allows you to select an area, calculates the surface of the area and the number of people that can fit within.

- c. **Wikimapia**: It is a Wikipedia for maps, user-generated content.
- d. **Reverse Geocoding** - if you have somebody's geolocation, you put longitude and latitude data in Reverse Geocoding tool to get the exact address (useful with EXIF data).

3. Time and weather

- a. **Time and date**: This simple website shows you what the weather was like on a certain day.
- b. **Wolfram/Alpha**: You can find out what the weather was like on a certain day.
- c. **Suncalc**: Tool that helps verify location and time by showing sun movement and sunlight phases during the given day at the given location.

Other fact-checking and verification other online resources

Online verification course - free training from Google News Initiative

First Draft News - first step for online verification resources

First Draft online verification course - free online verification training

NewsCheck extension - Chrome extension for verifying pictures and videos according to tips from First Draft

Citizen Evidence - authentication techniques for human rights researchers from Amnesty International

Verification Junkie - directory of tools for verifying and fact-checking

Useful tools and sites

(in alphabetical order):

Diffchecker	Diffchecker is a diff tool to compare text differences between two text files
DNS Histor	Tells you what changes have been made to a web domain
EXIF data	Tool for reading image metadata (additional data about photos, like time and place when/where the photo was taken)
Fakeskiller.co	An extension for Facebook that displays the info of the website and tells you how many of site's articles got debunked in the past and by whom
Frame by Frame Chrome extension	Chrome extension for frame by frame video analysis
Google Image search	Tool for reverse image search
Google Street View	Allows you to see what a certain area or a building look like from a human perspective
Image	It's an open source image processing software that can help you find out if a photo has been photoshopped

InVid	Tool for analysing pics and videos (also forensic analysis), keyframes and thumbnails analysis
Link Explore	Tells you how many sites link to the page you're examining
Mapchecking	Calculates how many people can fit in a certain area
Reverse Geocoding	It allows you to get somebody's exact location thanks to longitude and latitude
RevEye Chrome extension	Tool for reverse image search in multiple search engine
Stellarium	Stellarium is a planetarium software that shows exactly what you see when you look up at the stars (on a specific date)
Suncal	Helps you verify location and time by showing sun movement and sunlight phases during the given day at the given location
Time and date	You can check what was the weather like on a certain date
Tineye	TinEye is a reverse image search engine
VLC Media Player	Allows you to watch videos in slow motion for all sorts of formats and videos, offline
Watch Frame by Frame	Online tool for video frame by frame analysis

Wayback Machine	You can check the history of the website, and track the changes that have been made on the website
Who is	Tells you who registered the domain behind a website
Wolfram/Alpha	Helps you find out what the weather was like on a certain day
YouTube Data Viewer	Online tool for finding exact upload time, keyframes and metadata analysis



Workshop

Participants

Davide Banis is a writer, producer, and media researcher. His work can be found at <https://banis.media>

Dalibor Dobrić was born in Osijek, but is living and working in Zagreb for the last almost three decades. He started working as a journalist in 1996, at Croatian radio, Channel 3, and has since worked for Radio 101, Katolički radio, CCN, DW, BBC Croatian Section, NGO Radionet, web news outlet Net.hr of which he was executive editor and editor in chief, before turning to freelancing. He now works for DW Croatian Section, Reorg, Bridgehead Media and many others.

Bhavya Dore is a Mumbai-based freelance journalist writing for various national and international publications. She usually writes about culture, criminal justice and sports. She was a member of the India Germany Media Ambassadors programme 2016 run by the Bosch Foundation and has been the recipient of several other fellowships and awards. Some of her work is collected here: <https://bhavyadore.contently.com/>

Jennifer Eng is an American broadcast journalist and recent Robert Bosch Foundation Fellow based in Berlin, Germany working as a freelance producer for Conflict Zone, the flagship interview program of Germany's international broadcaster Deutsche Welle. Jennifer was previously based in New York City working at Dateline NBC, the prime-time television news magazine program of NBC News, focusing on documentary programs about criminal justice, breaking news, investigative cases, and special reports.

Veronica Frenzel is a freelance journalist based in Berlin. She writes for magazines (STERN, SZ MAGAZIN, BRIGITTE, PLAYBOY etc) as well as for publishing houses, she produces radio features for NDR

and WD and multimedia stories for SPIEGEL. Her main topics is migration and everything related.

Marlene Goetz was born in Germany, grew up and studied in France. Since 2010, she works as a freelance journalist in Berlin, mainly for French media and the German-French TV-channel Arte, as a reporter, TV and cinema producer and stringer for news stories, TV-magazines and documentaries (Arte Journal, Thema, Vox Pop, Regards). She covers a large spectrum of topics, with a preference for human stories with a social dimension, as well as political and environmental-related issues.

Jana Kischkat studied International Relations in Mexico-City, Nizza and Berlin and works as a freelance Journalist and Documentary Movie Maker in Hamburg. She has worked for several German broadcasters such as ARTE, ARD and ZDF.

Nikita Kuzmin has been working as a journalist and editor in RUGRAD.EU (Kaliningrad, Russia) since 2009. He has experience in interaction with journalists and editors both from Russia and abroad. They publish stories on various topics, including violations in the spheres of ecology, corruption, finance, health, and mining of minerals. His special interest is web and data journalism, including European statistics and databases. His personal interests focus on working with the official information sources; also he follows the latest trends in infographics, story mapping, and storytelling. He has vast experience in investigative journalism. In 2012 he started to participate in the SCOOP Russia project. It was a support structure network for investigative journalists in Northwest Russia in cooperation with colleagues from Sweden, Denmark, and Ukraine. From 2014 to 2017 he worked as the project coach and coordinator.

Prathap Nair is an English language independent journalist based in Frankfurt, Germany who writes feature stories on environment, culture, gender, food and travel.

Oleg Oganov is an investigative journalist, the founder and reporter of the Center for Investigative Reporting, based in Mykolaiv, Ukraine. He was specially trained in data journalism and programming. He collaborated in several cross-border projects, covering corruption and labour migration in Ukraine and European countries. He has several awards in National contests in anti-corruption journalistic investigations.

Jorgen Samso is a Belgrade-based journalist currently covering the Balkans for euronews. Recent assignments in Africa for PBS NewsHour, The Lancet and National Geographic. Bylines with Politico Europe, Foreign Policy, CBC, Balkan Investigative Reporting Network (BIRN) and various Danish media outlets. He holds an M.A. in Journalism & International Affairs from Columbia University, New York, and has been in fellowships at The European Journalism Centre (EJC) and The Brown Institute for Media Innovation, a joint collaboration between Columbia and Stanford Universities.

Damir Šimić is a program editor at Aljazeera Balkans, part of the Aljazeera media network. He is working as a program editor at Aljazeera's office in Sarajevo. Previously, he worked at the Public Broadcasting Service of Bosnia and Herzegovina. During his journalistic work, he worked as a reporter, presenter and editor.

Astrid Viciano is a Spanish/German journalist and medical doctor who works for the weekend science section of Süddeutsche Zeitung in Munich, focusing on investigative cross-border projects regarding medical, scientific and social topics. Viciano has previously worked as a staff reporter at Focus, Die Zeit and Stern. From 2012 until 2016, she worked as a freelance reporter from Paris, from 2009 and 2011 she worked from Los Angeles. Since February 2019 she also works as an editor of the German healthnewsreview (www.medien-doktor.de). She has written for German and foreign media, and has published articles in German, English, Dutch and Spanish. Viciano has won several journalism awards, grants, and fellowships.



Trainers

Niccolò Caranti works as an editor and researcher at OBCT since 2018, after the first collaboration in 2017. Previously he has collaborated as an editor with Sanbaradio, the student radio of Trento, and as a photojournalist with Corriere del Trentino, the local edition of Corriere Della Sera. An expert Wikipedian, besides his volunteer work he has collaborated with Wikimedia Italy and Wikimedia Foundation. OBC Transeuropa is a think tank focused on South-East Europe, Turkey and the Caucasus which was launched in the year 2000. Over time, OBC Transeuropa expanded its scope and now reports on the socio-political and cultural developments of six EU member states, of seven countries taking part in the EU Enlargement process, and much of post-communist Europe, which is included in the European Neighborhood Policy (ENP).

Jens Kriese studied biology at the Justus-Liebig-University in Giessen (Germany). “It all started when I was working on an image processing problem. Something was wrong with a figure published in a PhD Thesis”, he remembers. “Even when the image has not tampered various systematic errors and the lack of two calibration steps would have made it possible to derive arbitrary statements - The work was so perfectly done that no one had previously noticed it before. Since then this topic has hooked me,” he says.

Marek Miller is a Teaching Fellow at Google News Lab. He has been working in the media and journalism field for almost 15 years. For a large part of this time, he worked for one of the largest regional publishers in Poland (Polska Press Group) and therefore had a chance to witness Polish newspapers’ digital transformation process from the inside from the very beginning. For many years he’s been cooperating with the Dallas-based media organisation INMA (International News Media Association). He worked for Poland’s audit bureau of circulation (ZKDP) where he organised conferences and workshops for journalists and was the editor-in-chief of a media industry website Prasa.info (not existing now) that was aspiring to

be the leading information source for Polish journalists about the media market. He cooperated with Poland's leading publisher Agora (Gazeta Wyborcza) in organising a number of journalists orientated events in Warsaw. As a media journalist, he contributes to the leading media industry magazine in Poland "Press". In 2017 he was a Coaching and Leadership Fellow at the Poynter's Institute in Florida.

Milica Šarić is working as an investigative journalist and fact-checker since 2012, while she became the editor-in-chief in 2018. She won the Best Young Investigative Journalist 2017, and she was among reporters of CINS investigative team that won the 2017 European Press Prize and the WJP Anthony Lewis Prize for Exceptional Rule of Law Journalism. She has investigated money laundering, botched privatizations, energy issues, private security, financing of political parties and judiciary. As a fact-checker on cross-border projects, she contributed to OCCRP, and as an external associate, she contributes to the International Fact-Checking Network. She led to the creation of the first online game on the topic of corruption in public procurement in Serbia: "The good, the bad, and the corrupt" and participated in the CINS multimedia project "The Truth about 24 Cases".

Marija Vučić works as a journalist for Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Network (KRIK), specifically for KRIK's new website Raskrikavanje.rs. Her main job is to find and debunk fake news in other media articles, but also to follow the money through media sector in Serbia and investigate co-financing of media projects, media ownership, political influence over media etc.



Organisers

Aleksandar Đorđević has been working as a journalist since 2009, mainly covering politics and public finance. He was a local correspondent for the regional website Sumadijapress.co.rs before joining BIRN in February 2012, first as a trainee and later as a correspondent for BIRN Serbia's watchdog website Skockajtebudzet.rs. Ever since, he has mainly worked in the field of data journalism and investigative journalism, specializing in public finance reporting. Aleksandar was awarded the best media report on monitoring of public spending in Serbia organized by United Nations Development Programme. Also, Aleksandar won European Union Investigative Journalism Award year 2016. for the article "Draining the mine and the budget. In addition, Aleksandar has attended many trainings and workshops, including two "training for trainers" – one run by Robert Bosch Stiftung and Thomson Reuters Foundation and another by European Broadcasting Union.

Lucie Menz coordinates the Media Cluster and the Governance Cluster within the Bosch Alumni Network International Alumni Center). She facilitates the thematic and cross-sectoral collaboration between members and co-develops the overall strategy of the Network. Before joining the iac, she was head of press and communication at the Falling Walls Foundation and led various projects for large cultural and political institutions. Lucie holds a Master's degree in International Relations from the Graduate Institute of International Studies (HEI) and LLM in International Humanitarian Law from the Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights.

Jelena Prtorić is a freelance journalist who has reported for a wide variety of publications in English, French, Italian, and her native Croatian. Her bylines have appeared in publications such as Libération, Al Jazeera, Monocle, and the Calvert Journal. Her work focuses on migration, environment, labour rights, culture, urban development and (geo)politics. Jelena also works as a freelance

audio/video producer and graphic novel translator.

Almir Šećkanović is Head of Super Desk for multimedia platforms in Oslobodjenje media group, which include daily newspaper Oslobodjenje, magazine BH Dani, TV station and web sites. Previously Almir worked as Head of News Planning at Aljazeera Balkans, part of Al Jazeera Media Network. During his career as a journalist, Almir has worked on various political and economic stories from Bosnia and Herzegovina and Balkan region, as well as investigating about war crimes happened during the 1990s in that part of Europe.

Giovanni Vale is a freelance journalist based in Zagreb. He works mainly for Italian and French media such as Il Corriere Della Sera, Il Piccolo, Libération, Osservatorio Balcani e Caucaso and the Swiss radio RSI. He deals mainly with politics, environment, travel and history-related topics. He is also the correspondent in Croatia of Reporters Without Borders.



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