

Press Release

Thursday, March 3rd 2022

Athens Technology Center supports Disinformation Observatories in Luxemburg, Belgium, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and **Poland**

As part of a European network of regional hubs, and in coordination with the European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO), two new multinational disinformation observatories were launched in Belgium (EDMO BELUX) and the Czech Republic (CEDMO), aiming to identify, research and prioritize the most critical sources and causes of information disorders in the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland, and the greater Belux area.

As an active partner of the European Commission's action plan to fight disinformation, ATC will provide all the appropriate tools to enable the fact-checking efforts of each Observatory. In fact, all parties have been given access to the **Truly Media platform** for the analysis and especially the verification of digital content, including in-depth twitter user profiling features

ATC is also responsible for the design and development of the hubs' websites (in 4 languages for CEDMO, 5 for EDMO BELUX). Last but not least, ATC will set up the CEDMO hub's repository, which will serve as a central data storage of all outcomes created by the hub's members.

These two hubs will bring together fact-checkers, media literacy experts, and academic researchers to fight disinformation, and will be linked to the European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO), which was launched last year by the European Union. In specific:

- **CEDMO'**s goal is interdisciplinary research into disinformation, including its detection using the elements of AI, strengthening digital and media literacy and the development of factchecking platforms. It is also the first step in developing a European Centre of Excellence in
- EDMO BELUX conducts OSINT (open source intelligence) investigations on disinformation campaigns, develops and implements media literacy activities and delivers annual crosscommunity audience studies on impact of disinformation campaigns, as well as annual assessments of the effectiveness of platform responses to disinformation.

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Notes to editors

About Athens Technology Center (ATC)

Athens Technology Center (ATC) designs, develops and supports innovative technology solutions for news agencies and news organizations globally for over 30 years.

Truly Media is a collaborative platform for collecting, organizing and assessing the reliability of information residing in the social media, co-developed by ATC (Greece) and Deutsche Welle (Germany). The platform is used by the <u>European Science-Media Hub</u>, by the members of the <u>European Observatory against Disinformation</u>, the <u>European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO)</u>, while also being trusted by organizations such as DW, <u>Zweites Deutsches Fernsehen (ZDF)</u>, <u>FactCheck Mongolia</u>, <u>Amnesty International</u>, Reuters, and the Human Rights Center (University of California, Berkeley). Moreover, Truly Media has been exploited by a vast network of journalists and fact-checkers in Myanmar and Georgia.

TruthNest is ATC's proprietary Twitter analytics tool, supporting the identification of true influencers while also helping with the detection of trolls and bots via enhanced profiling of active Twitter accounts. TruthNest web app provides Open Data statistical analysis, resulting in a variety of KPIs related to the activity, the network, and the influence of Twitter accounts. Last but not least, TruthNest has also won the **Public Vote Award** (Software of the year) at Innovation Radar Competition (run by the European Commission).

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