



FACTSHEET 6

BENEDMO PROJECT RESULTS

Flemish-Dutch collaboration against disinformation, by and for factcheckers, media professionals, scientists and other experts.

THE BENEDMO HUB

In the second half of 2025, the BENEDMO project continued to collaborate, communicate, and activate. A highlight was the **Dutch Journalism Festival**, a new event where BENEDMO moderated a panel called "Ask the Fact-Checker," in which the audience could ask questions about fact-checking. BENEDMO also organised a knowledge session on online intimidation, addressing threats faced by journalists and strategies to protect press freedom and promote responsible media practices.

See [recap](#)

FACT-CHECKING

181 factchecks • **3rd** Factcheck Trendreport published

[July](#) [August](#) [September](#) [October](#) [November](#)



Trendreport Factchecks

In November, we published Trend Report No. 3, presenting the outcomes and background of fact-checks. This report contains an analysis of the fact-checks carried out by BENEDMO's consortium partners Knack, Nieuwscheckers, VRT NWS and Factcheck.Vlaanderen from July 2024 to June 2025. It examines the topics covered, the verdicts reached, and the sources and formats of the information that was verified.

See [Trend report](#)



Factchecking Deep Dive

BENEDMO partners Nieuwscheckers and Beeld & Geluid are part of the research project Factcheck Connect. In this project, so-called Factchecking Deep Dives are conducted, where over a period of five months, five societal topics are examined in detail. During these intensive research periods, collaboration with social organizations is central, aiming to make factchecks better aligned with real-world issues and thus increase their impact.

See the first [Deep Dive on Migration](#)

MEDIA LITERACY

LessonUp on Media Literacy & AI

Building on the VRT Edubox on Artificial Intelligence (AI), BENEDMO, coordinated by Sound & Vision, has developed a lesson on Media Literacy & AI for upper secondary education. In this lesson, students explore the rapid development of AI and its impact on the information landscape and our media consumption. The lesson includes class discussions, assignments, and relevant clips from the Sound & Vision archive.

Find the LessonUp [here](#)

Recap Media Literacy activities

In December, we delivered a new report in which we reflected on the media literacy activities carried out between July 2024 and December 2025. These activities resulted f.e. in reaching over 110,000 pupils and students through new educational tools and supporting more than 100 professionals working with vulnerable groups.

Find the deliverable [here](#)



TECHNOLOGICAL TOOLS

In November, BENEDMO consortium partner Bellingcat published an in-depth investigation into the "russification" of Mariupol, documenting how Russia is demolishing Ukrainian homes and rapidly constructing new apartment blocks in the occupied city, erasing Ukrainian heritage and displacing residents. In a blog published on [the BENEDMO website](#), Bellingcat Investigative Technologist Miguel Ramalho explained the open-source methods used, such as geolocation and satellite analysis, and highlighted BENEDMO's support in structuring the research and exploring techniques such as 3D modelling.

RESEARCH & POLICY

DUTCH FACT-CHECKING LANDSCAPE

In collaboration with BENEDMO, Sound & Vision conducted a study as part of the research project Factcheck Connect into the diversity and complexity of fact-checking in the Dutch media landscape. The study shows that fact-checking is an indispensable component of reliable information provision, but that the practice in the Netherlands is fragmented and vulnerable. Based on the findings, several recommendations are made to increase the impact of fact-checking, such as investing in knowledge exchange between newsrooms and fact-checkers.

You can find the report [here](#).

DUTCH GENERAL ELECTIONS

During the Dutch elections last October, consortium partner Nieuwscheckers' (fact-checkers from Leiden University) newsletters offered a concise look at different topics that were widely discussed in the run-up to the elections and how they were covered across various media outlets. BENEDMO produced English translations for broader dissemination and published these in four parts on the BENEDMO website.

Read newsletters [here](#).

ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

- White paper on structural indicators
- Misogynistic memes and cartoons (data study)
- How do factcheckers and journalists navigate disinformation in times of GenAI? (survey)
- Effectiveness of labelling in countering AI generated visual disinformation (experiment)

NETWORK

- 7** new network members
- 2nd** participant council gathering
- 79** professionals attending the BENEDMO Conference

Conference Mis(sing) information

On 5 December, the [third BENEDMO conference](#) took place in Antwerp. This time, the theme was digital inclusion and the (lack of) access to reliable information. The afternoon began with three keynote presentations on the digitalisation of society and the importance of personalised news. Afterwards, participants split up into two parallel sessions: one on barriers in the fight against disinformation, and one on supporting frontline professionals who work with (non-native-language) low-literacy groups.

UPCOMING EVENTS



- Feb 5** [Kennissessie Netwerk Mediawijsheid](#)
- Feb 25 & 26** [BENEDMO Training: Coding for Digital Investigations](#)