



# FACTSHEET

# BENEDMO PROJECT RESULTS

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

## THE BENEDMO HUB

In the global fight against disinformation, international cooperation is crucial. Recently, BENEDMO partner KU Leuven was interviewed by United Nations Western Europe regarding the state of information integrity. The interview highlights the strength of the EDMO network. Read the full interview [here](#). BENEDMO partner UvA attended the "Eetmaal van de Communicatiewetenschap", where they presented the new study "On the same page? Experts are mostly, but not always aligned about disinformation in times of generative AI".

The [aftermovie](#) of the BENEDMO conference in December is now live!

## FACT-CHECKING

99 factchecks • 5th Fact-checking investigation running

- [January](#)
- [February](#)
- [March](#)



**LGBTQI+ factcheck campaign**  
In the first quarter, the fifth fact-checking investigation was launched, this time focusing on the theme of LGBTQI+. Different BENEDMO partners are working on research that will lead to publications in the upcoming months. A [knowledge event](#) will take place on April 14th where preliminary research results will be presented, experiences and insights regarding LGBTQI+ disinformation will be shared in smaller groups during roundtable sessions, and a panel will discuss the topic.



**Factchecking Deep Dive**  
BENEDMO partners Nieuwscheckers and Beeld & Geluid are part of the research project Factcheck Connect. In this project (made possible by additional Dutch funding to expand BENEDMO's efforts) 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 [Deep Dives](#) on Migration & Climate change

## MEDIA LITERACY

### Media Literacy Event and Campaign report

In January the media literacy partners published a retrospective on BENEDMO's Media Literacy activities that took place between July 2024 and the end of 2025. We reflect on the impact these activities achieved, such as the target groups we successfully reached. Additionally, we are looking ahead to 2026, where we will refine and test five tools specifically designed for socially vulnerable target groups.

[Find the full report here](#)

### Media Literacy Repository Update

BENEDMO has updated the previously compiled Media Literacy Repository. This overview offers a broad selection of highly practical materials that media literacy professionals can implement directly into their programs on news and media literacy. The list is expanded with interventions that address current themes such as AI and polarization, such as from the [VISA VIS project](#) that Mediawijs is involved in.

[Find the repository here](#)



## TECHNOLOGICAL TOOLS

The BENEDMO training 'Coding for Digital Investigations' took place on February 25th and 26th. Under the guidance of Miguel Ramalho, Investigative Technologist for Bellingcat, journalists, fact-checkers, and other digital investigators participated in an interactive two-day workshop where they discovered free command line tools and learned to write code with the support of Large Language Models.

## RESEARCH & POLICY

### WHITEPAPER ON STRUCTURAL INDICATORS

Part of BENEDMO's research focuses on platform accountability under the Code of Practice on Disinformation and the extent to which platforms live up to their commitments to mitigate disinformation and their services. In the newest whitepaper, UvA and Textgain combine a review of platform self-reports, a review of the academic literature and a large-scale automated analysis of 72,000 Dutch-language social media posts.

One of the main recommendations is that false or harmful narratives should be integrated as a structural indicator in platform transparency reporting.

Read the full Whitepaper [here](#).

### RESEARCH NOTE IN HKS MISINFORMATION REVIEW

BENEDMO surveyed disinformation experts across the wider EDMO network, in which we examined how academics, fact-checkers, and journalists who inform disinformation policy perceive the growing influence of generative AI on their work, the risks they associate with it, and who they believe should be held accountable. The findings resulted in an article that has now been published in the Harvard Kennedy School Misinformation Review.

Read the full article [here](#).

### ONGOING RESEARCH PROJECTS

- ✦ Misogynistic memes and cartoons (data study)
- ✦ How can foreign correspondents and editors best use their skills and detection tools to spot and verify (dis)information coming from abroad?
- ✦ Effectiveness of labelling in countering AI generated visual disinformation (experiment)

## NETWORK ACTIVITIES

Bellingcat's training was attended by **27** professionals and journalists. Another network activity that took place in Q1 was a workshop about using Open Data, in which **16** journalists participated.

### Open Data Workshop

On January 21st, BENEDMO partner ANP hosted a workshop titled 'Finding & Assessing Open Data.' The goal of the workshop was to teach journalists where to find open data and how to determine whether the information is reliable. Interactive gaming elements, such as the "Great Open Data Bingo Game," were used to test whether the participants retained the knowledge. Participants also learned the criteria used by the ANP data desk to assess the reliability of open data through their so-called 'traffic light system.' The workshop was well-received and will be held again this fall.

>> Read the full recap [here](#).

## UPCOMING EVENTS



- April 14** [Knowledge event on LGBTQI+ disinformation](#)
- May 11** [Mediawijsheid Kennisdag 2026](#)