

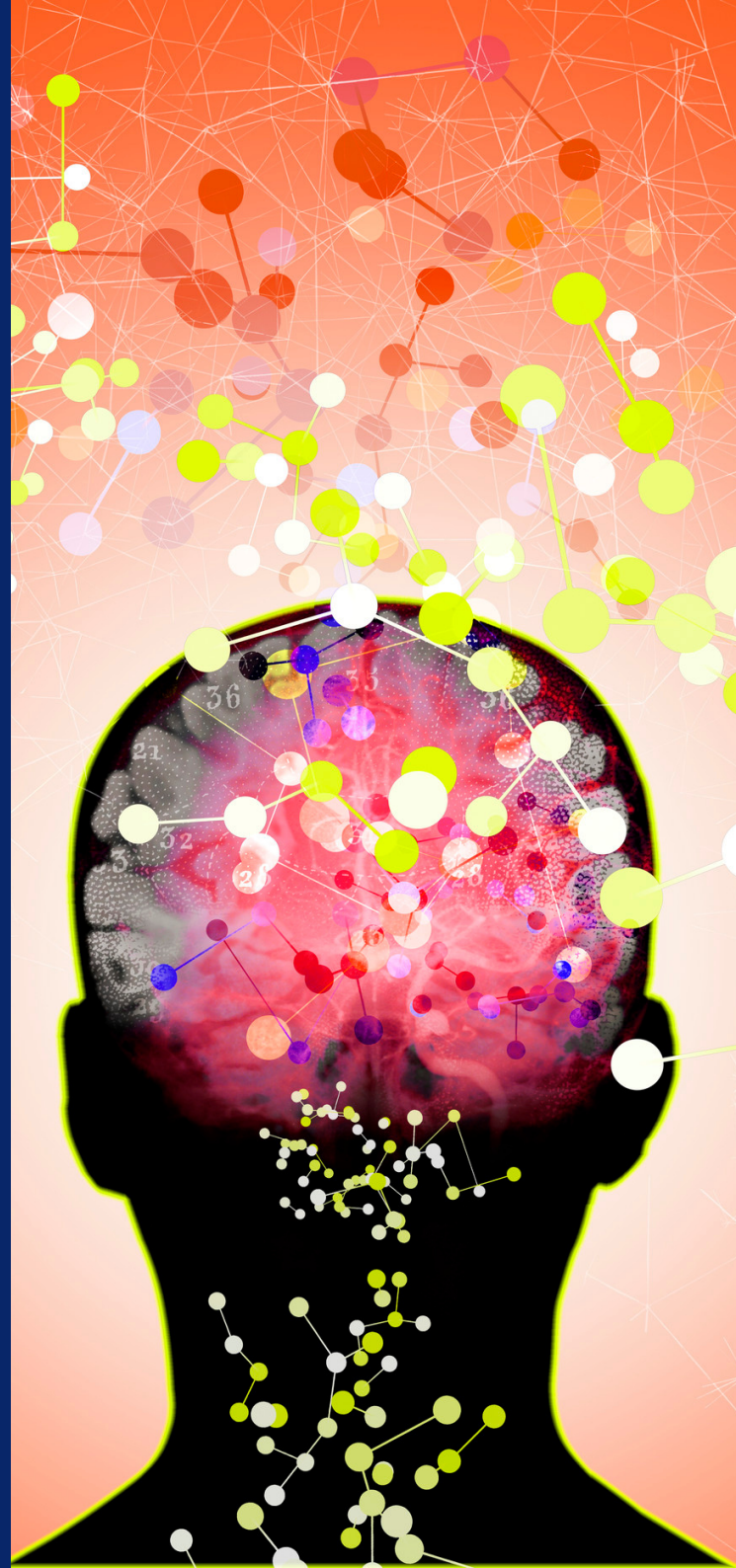


HOW MUCH DOES THE INFORMATION YOU COME ACROSS INFLUENCE YOU?

INSTITUT
FRANÇAIS

Roumanie

vivre
les
cultures



CRITICAL MEDIA CONSUMPTION

This material was created in the Theatre of Diversity project, supported by the French Embassy in Romania and the French Institute in Romania.

This educational tool was developed by A.R.T. Fusion Association, an organization that has as mission creating and offering innovative, participative learning experiences, with the purpose of encouraging responsible contribution citizens' participation to public life. Our wish is that people become engines of change by being more involved in their communities.



AMBASSADE
DE FRANCE
EN ROUMANIE

Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité



WHY SHOULD WE HAVE A CRITICAL THINKING?



What if someone told you that a war broke out in the Middle East, would you believe without checking?

If that is the case, would you believe that because you thought there are regions with armed conflict situations?

**80% OF EUROPEANS
SPEND TIME ONLINE**

**91% OUT OF THE TOTAL
ONLINE ACTIVITY IS
BASED ON SOCIAL
ACTIVITIES**



**THERE ARE 1.65 BILLIONS
FACEBOOK USERS**

But what if someone told you a war broke out in Romania?

Is it harder to believe?

Where do you check first and how do you know for sure that the information is real and accurate?

We are information consumers.

Media presence is everywhere around us. We look at commercials, announcements, news, we read books, listen to radio or watch TV.

But did you ever question the things you see in mass-media? And if so, how can you do this?



HOW MUCH OF AN ISSUE IS THIS AMONG THE YOUTH?

**67% OF THE YOUTH
COME ACROSS FAKE
NEWS AT LEAST ONCE A
WEEK**

SHARE



**43% SHARED AT LEAST
ONCE THIS TYPE OF
NEWS**

Source: UNLOCK



"Someone sent me a link at some point with the title "Masturbation lessons have been introduced for children aged 0-4! Through the newly adopted law!", in the context of the discussion about sex education in schools.

I believe misinformation can be very dangerous and that is saying something about where we are on different levels: legislative, educational and even social.", says a 23 year old girl.



WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO HAVE A CRITICAL THINKING WHEN IT COMES TO MEDIA?

Consumatorii critici de media sunt persoane care, înainte de citi/vizualiza un material informativ, încearcă să înțeleagă paradigma media înainte de a o consuma. Sunt atenți atât la sursă, cât și la conținut.

Iată ce poți face pentru a te asigura că informația pe care o consumi este una care reflectă realitatea:



CHECK THE SOURCE

You can look for information about that certain publication, about their history, mission or you can try to find their contact information.

LOOK FOR THE WHOLE STORY

What is there behind a suggestive title? What is the whole context of the story? What are the causes and the effects of that piece of news?

CHECK THE AUTHOR

Is the author believable? Is he/she a real person with an acknowledged journalistic preparation, experience and expertise?

CHECK THE OTHER SOURCES

It often happens that online articles refer to different other publications. Look into them, see if they can be trusted, if the information is supported by studies or interviews, if what you can find there is indeed supportive of the main article.

IS IT A JOKE?

Sometime we might fall into the trap of giving credibility to some satires or articles that were written with the purpose of amusing the readers. It is best that we check whether the author or publication itself have this type of headings or purposes.

ASK SOMEONE WHO KNOWS

You can always ask an expert in that particular field in order to make sure that the information you saw is indeed on the public/media agenda.



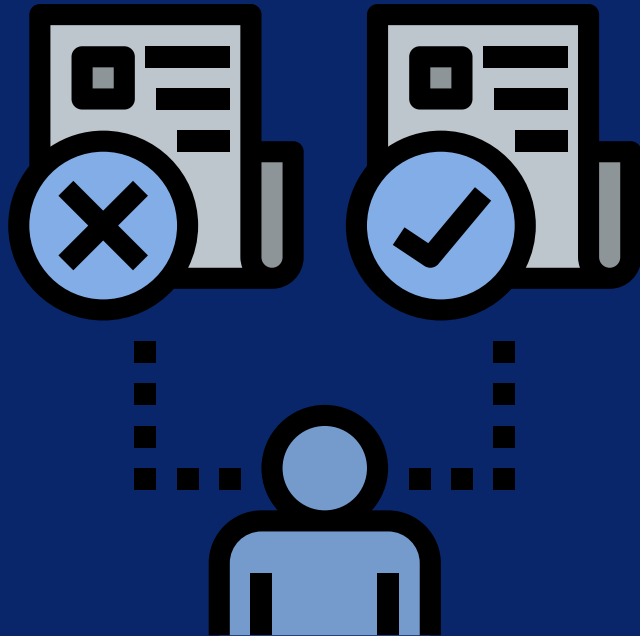
LOOK INTO DIFFERENT OTHER SOURCES

If the subject of the article is real, most of the times, you can find it in several publications. In order to make sure that you have an overview, look into different other sources.



ASK YOURSELF WHAT ARE YOUR PREJUDICES

We all struggle with our personal prejudices. It is important to understand where they come from and to be aware of their presence, in order not to be vulnerable to believe wrong information based on these personal prejudices.



LOOK FOR DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVES

In order to distance ourselves from the unique story's risks, when we are influenced by only one perspective, it is important that we try to understand each argument and counterargument, to follow debates, different sources and different people's opinions.



DO NOT SHARE FAKE NEWS

If you have doubts or if you discover that the publication does not provide accurate information, do not share them with your community.

