

Forum : Liberté d'expression**Thématique : Comment garantir un accès à l'information fiable à la génération Z tout en la protégeant contre les dangers des médias ?**

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Situation familiale ☒ Marié/en couple ☐ Célibataire ☐ Avec enfants, si oui combien _____	Niveau d'étude ☐ Primaire ☐ Secondaire ☒ Universitaire
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1. De quelle manière êtes-vous concernée par le sujet ?

As a journalist for a daily newspaper in Poland, it is my job and responsibility to make sure the public is aware of what is really going on around us, specializing in cartoons makes this job feels meaningful, but the reality is much further from that. In today's world, generation Z gets a large portion of their news from fast moving social media platforms like Instagram and TikTok, where fake news spreads faster than any algorithm can regulate. The problem with this is that people can become very vulnerable to believing things they see when crafted with effort, leading to a lot of misinformation and confusion. Media is becoming a threat to the survival of print and quality information as algorithms, built with billions of dollars of investment, are designed to keep people scrolling rather than informed.

Another issue with reality is that it is almost ALWAYS twisted and manipulated in the news all in hopes of control. As someone who has been in the information field for over a decade, I know what it's like to know the truth and something that is shallow and reformed. The disappointing reality is that media is not independent of the state, and the government has a large impact on what is spread to the public. In my country, Poland's public broadcaster TVP became a clear example of this in 2015, turning into a tool of government influence rather than a neutral source of news for years. Information that is published currently rarely has pure intentions of informing but rather hidden intentions such as manipulating public opinion, click baiting for attention or even for simply misleading people. We can conclude by simply paying attention to detail, signs like the loss of nuance, lack of diverse opinion and outrageous headlines with no real value.

The sad truth is that as a person working in medias, I feel almost responsible for this, according to Article 19 of the UDHR, freedom of expression is a human right, everyone should have access to trustworthy information. As a cartoonist, I spend hours on the job delivering a powerful message that holds value to all generations, symbols and deep meaning are all behind every piece of art, one of the few ways to deliver a message shaped more by the artist's conscience than an editorial line. Cartoonists risk their lives to deliver such messages, and they are often left unseen or misinterpreted due to media. I believe that it is completely unfair to society and cannot be left aside, information is right for everyone.

2. Que proposez-vous à votre échelle ?

On a personal level, I stopped waiting for the young generations to start discovering cartoons and have instead grown my personal brand to their platforms such as TikTok and Instagram where I post meaningful information. I am against the use of such apps being promoted to young audiences, it must be regulated with much more awareness with age restrictions and time restrictions being a must. Most teens are being shown a feed that is too personalized and addictive making the information consumed much less valuable most of the time. I have accepted that it is not my duty to stop social media or regulate it so I followed my audience and plan to target my content towards youngsters, so at least with all the brain rot they consume, they will hopefully come across something of value to them.

Secondly, I propose the strong encouragement or proper education on journalism. At schools, media should be studied and promoted for youngsters to grow interests in such subjects. As the younger generations get older, they must be able to know what is happening in the world around them as it is their future that is concerned. Learning about public opinion and simple things such as cartoons on the news can help them develop a deeper understanding and thinking capacity to interpret public information.

Thirdly, I want to install full protection for journalists globally. To this day journalists suffer from job insecurity and often get punished by simply just exercising their freedom of speech. Defamation and SLAPP lawsuits completely ruin a journalist's career leaving them bankrupt when all they were doing was their job, sadly this is not even the worst part. According to the CPJ, 2024 was the deadliest year for journalists in CPJ history; almost 70% killed by Israel. In Poland, this is less of the problem, as we rank as one of the highest countries with low crime rate in Europe. On the other hand, globally this is unacceptable, journalists must have the same job security and safety as any normal job.

Lastly, given what has happened with the TVP (national television) in my country Poland, I demand stronger international protection for media independence. An international organization that guarantees independence and protection of information independence guaranteeing proper freedom of expression and non-bias information. Currently, many countries struggle with who runs the news, for example, in France, only 11 billionaires own 80% of the daily news, 60% of the television audience and half of the radio audience. This is unacceptable and shows how people are hungry for power and control, along with the state, the wealthy must not be able to manipulate information.

<https://www.radiofrance.fr/franceinter/podcasts/d-ou-ca-sort/d-ou-ca-sort-du-jeudi-25-mai-2023-5514000>

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-35257105>

<https://cpj.org/special-reports/2024-is-deadliest-year-for-journalists-in-cpj-history-almost-70-percent-killed-by-israel/>