



22nd nMEP Graz 2023

26th – 29th January

Committee on Civil Liberties and Civil Rights

Committee issue: The question of online radicalization

On social media networks like YouTube, recommender algorithms are driving users toward more extreme material and lone sources of (false) information in an effort to increase engagement and conversations (filter bubbles). Conspiracy theories and false news have grown in acceptance as a result.

How can the EU stop this trend and support media diversity while defending its political system and democratic institutions? What steps should be implemented to stop the dissemination of false information and conspiracy theories online as well as radicalization?

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Links on the topic:

Far-Right misinformation is thriving on Facebook

<https://www.npr.org/2021/03/06/974394783/far-right-misinformation-is-thriving-on-facebook-a-new-study-shows-just-how-much>

Tackling online disinformation

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/online-disinformation>

Media freedom and pluralism

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/media-freedom>

How is Europol keeping online spaces safe?

<https://www.europol.europa.eu/media-press/newsroom/news/how-europol-keeping-online-spaces-safe>

Fight against online extremism, where is the EU going?

<https://dr2consultants.eu/fight-against-online-extremism-where-is-the-eu-going/>



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Media freedom and pluralism

<https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/media-freedom>

Identifying conspiracy theories

https://ec.europa.eu/info/live-work-travel-eu/coronavirus-response/fighting-disinformation/identifying-conspiracy-theories_en

Europe's new hate speech rules for big social networks

<https://www.technologylawdispatch.com/2021/06/privacy-data-protection/eu-new-hate-speech-rules-for-social-networks-in-the-european-union/>

Disinformation on democratic processes and human rights

[https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2021/653635/EXPO_STU\(2021\)653635_EN.pdf](https://www.europarl.europa.eu/RegData/etudes/STUD/2021/653635/EXPO_STU(2021)653635_EN.pdf)

Fight against terrorism on the internet

<https://www.eu2020.de/eu2020-en/news/pressemitteilungen/fight-terrorism-internet-eu2020/2426232>

Fake news

<https://www.rolandberger.com/en/Insights/Publications/Fake-News-Democracy-and-Disinformation.html>

Hate speech

https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_21_6561

Eu measures already in place to prevent online radicalisation

[Prevention of radicalisation in the EU - Consilium \(europa.eu\)](https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/press/press-releases/2021/01/21-radicalisation/)

Key Terms:

- Fake news
- Extremism (Far right, Jihadism etc.)
- Online terrorists
- Social media algorithms
- Media freedom and pluralism
- Fact checking
- Conspiracy theories

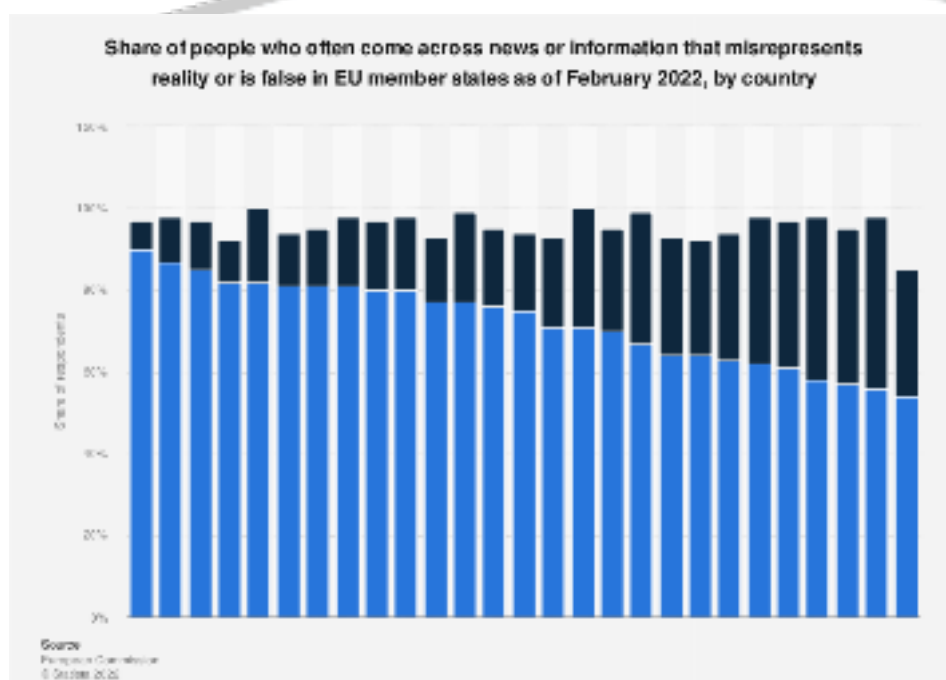


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- Europol
- Terrorist content online
- EU Internet Referral Unit
- Counterterrorism policy
- Foreign disinformation campaigns (Russia, China, Iran, North Korea)
- Algorithms
- Hate speech
- Mistrust in science, politics and journalism

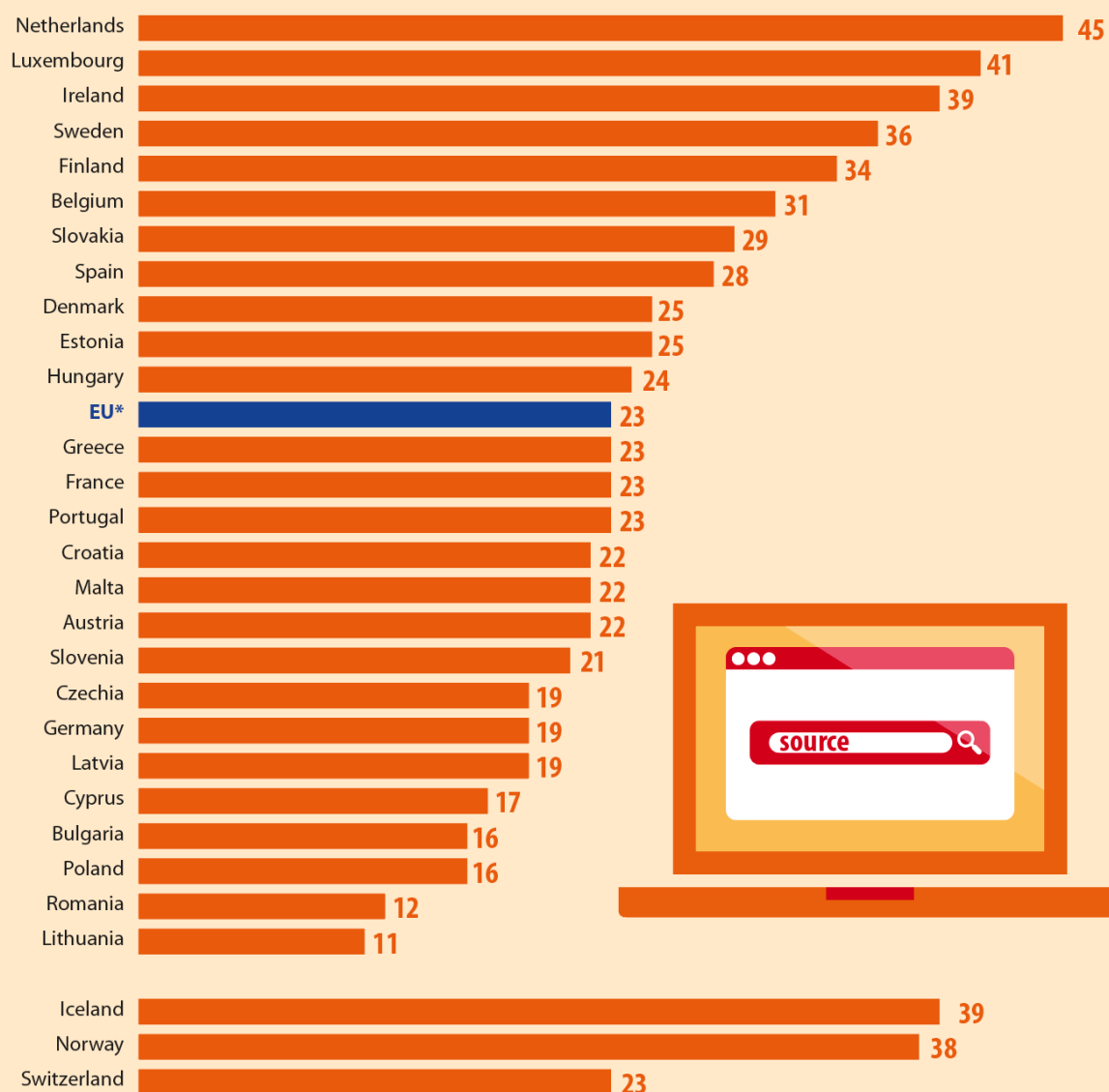
Key data:



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People who verified information found on online news sites or social media in previous 3 months, 2021

(% of individuals aged 16-74)



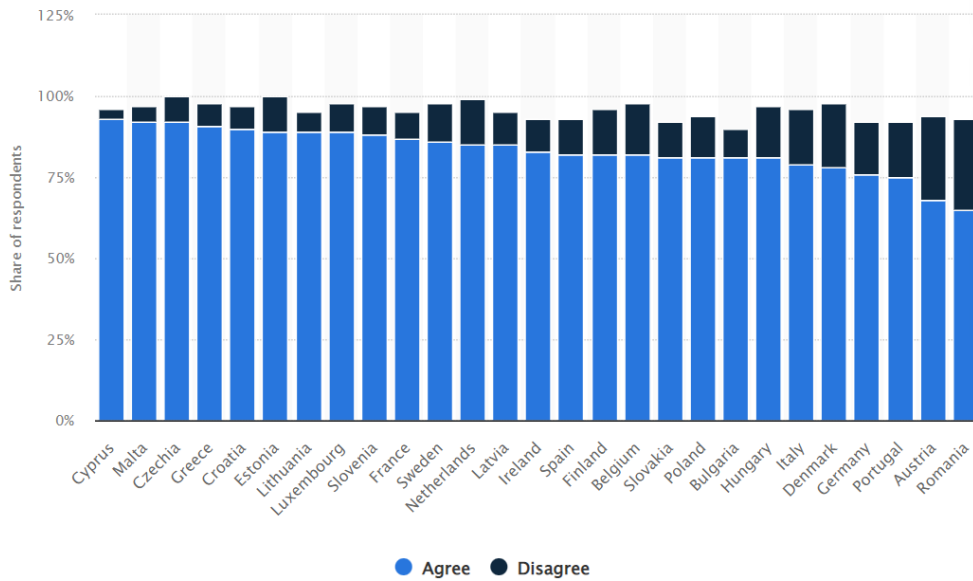
*Italy: data not available. As a result, the EU aggregate has been estimated.



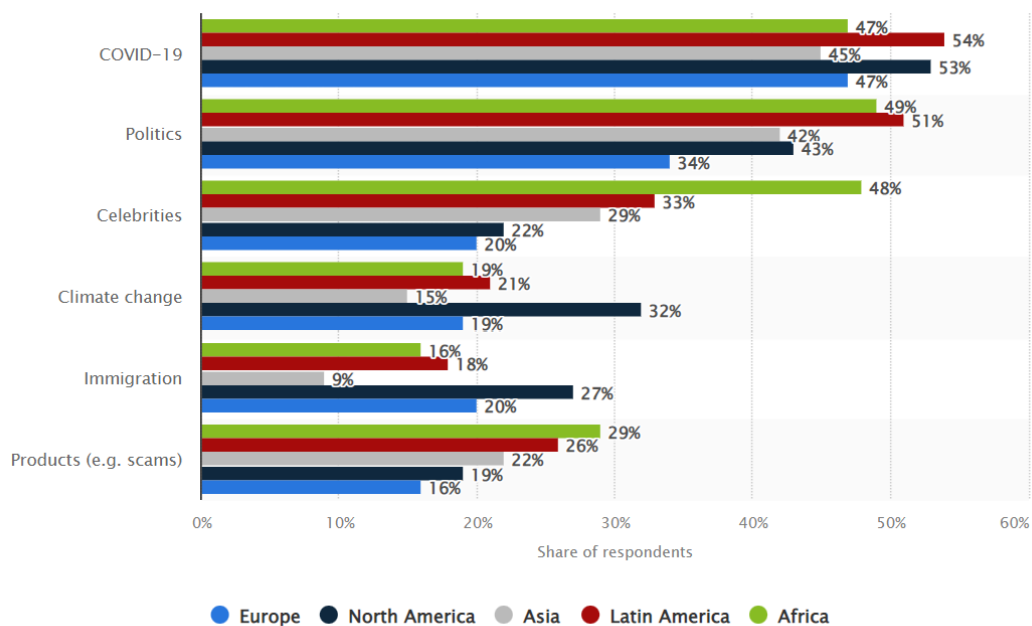
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Attitudes to whether news or information that misrepresents reality or is false is a problem for democracy in EU member states as of February 2022, by country



News consumers who saw false or misleading information about selected topics in the last week worldwide as of February 2022, by region (published on Jun 28, 2022)





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Types of fake news encountered online in Europe as of December 2020

