

EJTA PARTICIPES IN NEW EUROPEAN PROJECT

Under the coordination of The Institute of Journalism in Dortmund, EJTA is cooperating in the creation of an online course on EU cohesion policy. The project is funded by the European Commission with one million euros and is entitled "Covering Cohesion Policy in Europe - Training MOOC for European Journalism Students" (COPE). All universities that train journalists at Bachelor level will have access to the teaching material in the future. The special feature: in addition to English, the course content will also be offered in the respective national language. The project was launched in January at the kick-off event in the Erich Brost House in Dortmund.

COPE aims to provide teaching content on covering EU cohesion policy - policies designed to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the European Union. Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) is what a course of this size is called. The project partners are jointly creating such an online course with 14 modules in English, which will then be translated into the national languages of the European Union. In early 2024, the online course will be tested by journalism students at all 27 universities involved in the project. Most of these journalism institutes are a member of EJTA.

EJTA coordinates the input of 27 European Journalism schools and provides a module on factchecking.

Apart from coordinating the participation of so-called roll-out partners (by EJTA Director Nadia Vissers), EJTA will help develop an important module on factchecking, based on its experiences and the educational materials of EUfactcheck.eu. Responsible for this is Carien Touwen, project manager of EUfactcheck:

"With EUfactcheck we want our students and our public to grow a deeper insight and interest in democratic processes, both on national and European level. With supporting students to learn how to factcheck cohesion policy issues, we wish to motivate fact-based debate in the EU and to stimulate media and information literacy."

Florin Rugina from the EU Commission added at the project launch: "The idea of cohesion policy is to help the less developed regions of Europe in particular to develop and create jobs, for example."

By providing all participants with the same teaching material, the project aims to train expert journalists across regions in all countries.

Project partners

The project consortium consists of researchers and trainers from TU Dortmund University, AP Hogeschool Antwerp in Belgium, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki in Greece, University of Wrocław in Poland, University of Porto in Portugal, Babeş-Bolyai University in Romania, as well as the European Journalism Training Association (EJTA) and the non-governmental organization Arena for Journalism in Europe.

More info: director@ejta.eu