

PRESS RELEASE

EU-Funded Project “HATE-LESS” Launches to Tackle Hate Speech and Disinformation Through Media Literacy

Luxembourg, 08.10.2025. The Erasmus+ project “HATE-LESS: Harnessing Awareness to End Hate Speech and Disinformation for a More Diverse Youth using Media Literacy and Technology” has launched across six EU countries. The initiative equips educators, youth workers, and young people with innovative tools to strengthen media literacy, counter online hate, and promote ethical communication and civic participation.



Coordinated by European Youth4Media Network e. V. (EY4Media, Germany), the project consortium is preparing to release the HATE-LESS Methodological Guidelines and the HATE-LESS Practical Toolkit, designed to help educators and youth organizations translate complex media issues into accessible and engaging learning activities. The guidelines provide a structured approach for integrating media literacy and anti-hate-speech education into youth work with an innovative approach.

The accompanying toolkit presents interactive exercises and creative methods for hands-on learning, offering adaptable resources that can be used in schools, NGOs and community projects. The toolkit consists of six chapters, each developed by one of the project partners to reflect diverse educational perspectives: *Participatory Approaches in Youth Work* (EY4Media); *Why Deconstructing Hate Speech and Disinformation Matter* (Evolutionary Archetypes Consulting); *How to Do Participatory Research with Youth* (WAVES); *Innovative Practices and Digital Tools* (MITRA FRANCE); *Technical Guide for the Creation of a*

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Participatory Video (FSLuxembourg); and *Facilitating Learning: From Guidelines to Training* (Eesti People to People).

The toolkit was successfully tested during an international training of trainers in Tallinn, Estonia, in September 2025, where youth workers from all partner countries experimented with the materials and shared recommendations for their refinement. The testing confirmed the project’s potential to strengthen critical thinking, empathy, and inclusive dialogue among young learners.

“HATE-LESS goes beyond awareness-raising, it provides educators and young people with practical tools to act, create, and respond ethically in the online world,” said Dr. Wolfgang Ressmann, project coordinator and chairman of the European Youth4Media Network e. V. (Germany).

“For FSLuxembourg, this project reinforces our commitment to responsible communication and inclusion. Media literacy is a civic competence - it defines how young people understand their role in society and the values they choose to promote,” added Tatev Margaryan, President of FSLuxembourg.

“Participatory videos created during this project by young people will make their ideas, their views on wellbeing offline and online and hope for a better future more visible”, said Ruta Pels, Eesti People to People president (Estonia).

“Media literacy matters now more than ever for young Europeans, who increasingly get their news from social media feeds shaped by algorithms rather than accuracy. As misinformation spreads faster and more creatively online, young people need the tools to question what they see, spot manipulation, and make sense of the digital noise around them. Our project is helping youth develop these critical skills through engaging, relatable, multilingual content created with them, not just for them. This is crucial for protecting open democratic debate, countering polarisation, and shaping a healthier, more reliable digital space for everyone”, said Paul Smulski, Mitra France NGO president.

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Erasmus+ KA2 projshowcasesect “HATE-LESS: Harnessing Awareness to End Hate Speech and Disinformation for a More Diverse Youth using Media Literacy and Technology”

“We must not just condemn the darkness of hate speech; we must choose to illuminate it. The true adversary is not the hateful voice, but the uneducated ear. Our duty is to ask: not what will stop the mouth from speaking, but what will empower the mind from listening. Only by scaling the light of verified, accessible knowledge can we eliminate the shadows of ignorance where hate is born”, states Nektar Baziotis, CTO of EA Consulting in Spain

The final versions of the guidelines and toolkit will be publicly available by the end of year 2025 through open platforms and partner networks. HATE-LESS invites youth organizations, educators, and young people to take part in its upcoming workshops and dissemination activities in the participating countries. By building a community of informed and responsible media users, the project contributes to creating safer and more inclusive online environments across Europe.

For updates, publications, and opportunities to participate, visit the project’s [Linktree hub](#).

Media Department of FSLuxembourg
contact@fslux.lu

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