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Fact-checkers in Germany and Austria launch alliance against disinformation



Hamburg, Germany (ots) -

It is the largest collaborative project of fact-checkers and scientists in the German-speaking area: On November 1, the German-Austrian Digital Media Observatory (GADMO) will be launched. The goal of the project is the coordinated fight against dis- and misinformation. For the first time, the leading fact-checking organizations in Germany and Austria are working together: Deutsche Presse-Agentur (dpa), Agence France Press (AFP), Austria Presse Agentur (APA) and the independent research network Correctiv. The fact-checkers are cooperating with scientists from TU Dortmund University and the AIT Austrian Institute Of Technology. The Athens Technology Center is the partner in charge of all technological aspects of the project. GADMO is funded by the EU Commission for the first two and a half years.

GADMO pursues among others the following goals:

- Make fact checks more accessible to the public and assemble them in a unified repository.
- Identify disinformation campaigns and investigate them scientifically.
- Promote media literacy in Austria and Germany.

"Disinformation, propaganda and lies are our greatest opponents in the fight for an enlightened society," explains Peter Kropsch, Chairman of the dpa Executive Board. "United we achieve a lot. In the GADMO project, practitioners and researchers work hand in hand across national borders."

The German-Austrian cooperation will be part of the European Digital Media Observatory's network (EDMO). This EU-funded, independent coordinating body was launched in 2020 and is intended to unite the forces of fact-checkers, researchers and other experts from all over Europe in the fight against disinformation. Including GADMO, the network now consists of nine regional centers active in 17 European countries. Further centers will be launched by the beginning of 2023. The project partners will be able to collaborate and conduct joint research across Europe via a common online platform. The EDMO working groups also include social media platforms to promote exchange.

More information on: <https://edmo.eu>

About dpa:

The German Press Agency (dpa) was founded in 1949 and is one of the world's leading independent news agencies. dpa supplies

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Dis- and misinformation campaigns on social networks are a serious danger - fact-checking teams from Germany and Austria will fight them together in the future. Photo: dpa / Christoph Dernbach / Editorial use of this picture is free of charge. Please quote the source: "obs/dpa Deutsche Presse-Agentur GmbH"

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