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Fact checks in a new format - dpa launches international alliance against disinformation about Ukraine



Berlin (ots) -

Propaganda lies, manipulated images and videos - the Russian attack on Ukraine is accompanied by disinformation campaigns. False claims about the war and its consequences make it difficult to find trustworthy information on the Internet.

To counteract this, the German Press Agency (dpa) has launched an international fact-checking alliance. This includes partners from Ukraine (Media Reforms Center), Latvia (Re:Baltica), Lithuania (Delfi Melo Detektorius and InTheBaltic), Poland (Pravda), Romania (Funky Citizens) and Bulgaria (AEJ-Bulgaria).

In a ten-month project, they are jointly producing fact checks on false claims about the Ukraine war. The partners are using a new format developed by dpa: Fact Graphics - fact checks as interactive graphics and animated videos. Thanks to their visual and easy-to-understand presentation, the Fact Graphics address a broad audience and are suitable for social media channels.

"With this project, we want to contribute to curbing disinformation as effectively as possible - particularly in countries that border directly on Russia and Ukraine," says Teresa Dapp, head of dpa's fact-checking team. "The fact graphics are suitable for informing and sensitizing people in large numbers in an easily accessible way."

In June, the international production phase will start, with all partners producing Fact Graphics in multiple languages. The project is supported by the European Media and Information Fund (EMIF).

The Fact Graphics will be made available to dpa customers for free use at www.dpa-shop.com in German and English. In addition, they will be offered as videos on www.dpa-video.com at no cost.

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About dpa:

The German Press Agency (dpa) was founded in 1949 and is one of the world's leading independent news agencies. The organisation supplies media outlets, businesses and other organizations with editorial content, including text, photos, videos, graphics, audio and other formats. As an international agency, dpa reports in seven languages. The company has around 1,000 journalists at some 150 locations in Germany and abroad. Its shareholders consist of around 170 German media companies. Staff work according to the principles outlined in the dpa statute: independently of ideologies, commercial interests and governments. The central editing desk, headed by Editor-in-Chief Sven Gösmann, is located in Berlin. The management team is led by CEO Peter Kropsch and based in Hamburg. The Chairman of the Board is David Brandstätter (Main-Post GmbH, Würzburg).

Internet: www.dpa.com (German, English, Spanish, Arabic)

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