



## CULT Committee Public Hearing on Scientific and Academic Culture to Counter Radicalism and Fake News

Wednesday, 22.11.2017

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The discourse on online disinformation and “fake news” is rather new, as it has entered public and political discourse less than two years ago. I will argue, that we should have addressed this phenomenon earlier but should do so without being alarmistic.

I will briefly talk about what mechanisms are being used by whom and why false stories are being spread to reinforce certain stereotypes or feed into certain fears. As a fact-checker, my role is to find out what is true and what is not and give a bigger picture, if, for example, numbers, quotes or statistics are being taken out of context.

Transparency is key to understand this phenomenon on online disinformation and propaganda as well as finding tools to counter it.

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