

Workshop

“Intercultural dialogue in the infodemic era: *critical thinking against disinformation*”



Living together in a globalized world is only possible with fluid and healthy intercultural dialogue. Nevertheless, disinformation and misinformation, as simple, non-critical and stereotyping information, deepens prejudice and hinders mutual understanding. Knowing how arguments are built and how they can be refuted is essential for increasing resistance to disinformation and misinformation. A deeper understanding of argumentation theory, logic reasoning and problem analysis contributes to critical thinking and can enhance the ability of users to discern between reliable and unreliable information and, by doing this, improve the quality of intercultural dialogue.

This workshop will provide a first encounter with argumentation and logic reasoning that promote critical thinking, an essential skill for identifying and unmounting fake information, online and offline. It will set the link between Global Education Week and the Lisbon Forum 2021, whose topic is “*Intercultural dialogue in the infodemic era: How to effectively use it as a tool to counter misinformation, disinformation and hate speech?*”

Date & Hour: Wednesday, 17 November (16.00-17.30 CET)

Platform: TBD

Duration: 90'

Modality: Online, live-streamed on NSC channels (Facebook)

Facilitator: Anne Valkering (trainer on debating and argumentation, former trainer at [IDEA](#))

Participants : 20 - 30 participants that can be multipliers in their areas.

Profile: Diversity of backgrounds:

- Young learners (15-20 years old)
- Formal educators
- Non-formal educators
- Policy-makers
- Global education workers

Objective:

- Gain knowledge on argumentation and reasoning techniques for identifying disinformation.
- Understand how this can be applied in the online world.
- Discuss on ways to which it can contribute to intercultural dialogue.

Structure:

- **Warm-up exercise (10')**: *Group discussion*: How are intercultural dialogue and critical thinking related? How can we be *better critical thinkers*?
- **Introduction to argumentation theory (10')**: how to build an argument: what are its components and what makes them strong
- **Preparation for exercise 1 and 2 (10')**: participants will prepare an argument for a particular case on a topic related to intercultural dialogue, global inequalities, social sustainability issue. They have to start with true statements and then fabricate deliberately fake ones. They can use examples from social media, posts, fake news, or fabricate something themselves.
- **Exercise 1 (in plenary) (15')**: Some participants present their cases. Participants are asked to identify the true and false one by raising hands. We analyse how you can identify false ones, by

analysing the different elements of the speech: if the premises are correct or not, how could we check them, analysing logic reasoning, etc.

- **Introduction to argumentation theory (15')**: How to rebut arguments: what types of responses exist and how do they contribute to having an open dialogue.
- **Exercise 2 (in plenary) (20')**: A speaker will build two arguments, one true and one false as they had prepared them earlier. The participants are asked to describe how they would challenge the true and the false argument using argumentation theory.
- **Group discussion (10')**: Argumentation theory provides a methodology, but how do we know the truth of premises when we are not part of these realities? How does that affect intercultural dialogue? How can argumentation theory and critical thinking address this issue?



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