



# Addressing **hate speech** **in the media:** the role of regulatory authorities and the judiciary

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

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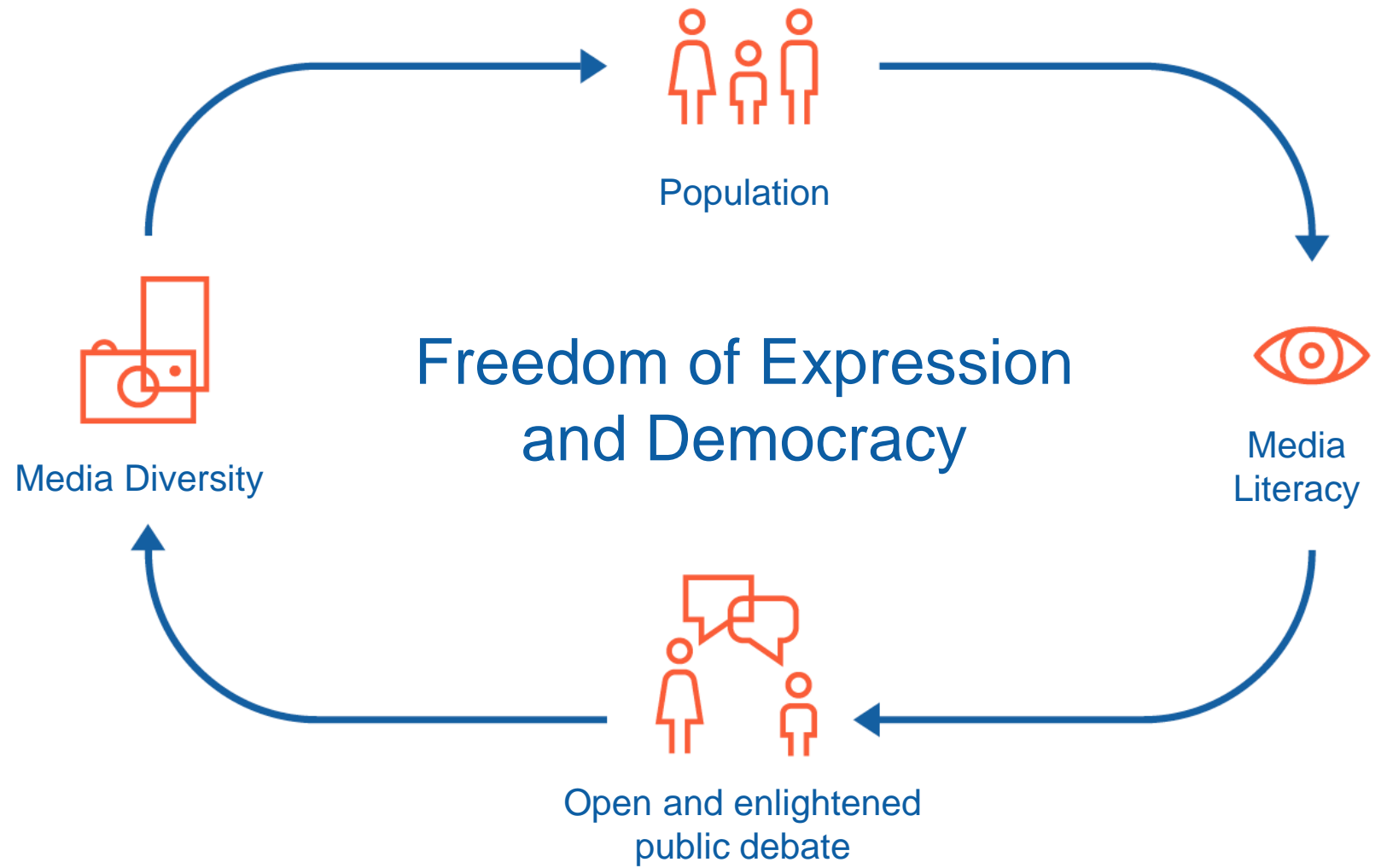
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## Can Media Literacy Combat Hate Speech?

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# Our purpose



# What are we up against?

- Survivors of the terrorist attack on Utøya 22 July 2011 receive threats and hate messages
  - Mostly from men around 50, low income
  - Some regret their hate, others don't
- 82% of parliament politicians experienced unwanted behaviour, threats or hate
- In the population more men (8,4%) than women (5,9%) are targeted
- Women twice as likely (39%) to withdraw from the public debate than men (20%).





# Norwegian legislation and regulation

## Constitution of Norway section 100

- There shall be **freedom of expression**. It is the responsibility of the authorities of the State to create conditions enabling an **open and enlightened public debate**.

## Norwegian Penal Code:

- Hate speech: any person who **with intent or gross negligence publicly makes a discriminatory or hateful statement**. «Statement» includes the use of symbols. Reaction: fine or imprisonment up to one year.

## Self-regulatory mechanisms in the media

- “Editorial Manifesto” - the editor's responsibilities and duties
- The Code of Ethics for the Press

## Proposal for a new media liability act

- Aim to contribute to a sound climate for debate and reduce occurrence of illegal expressions



# Initiatives of the NMA

## Children and media survey

Norway's biggest survey on kids, parents and media usage

- 90% of Norwegian kids own a smart phone and are on social media from the age of 10-11
- 96% boys and 63% girls are gaming
- Social media are their primary source of news (48%)
- 28% have experienced online bullying or negative comments,
- 14% admit to have bullied, 8% have threatened someone



# Initiatives of the NMA

## Survey on fake news (15-18 years)

- 66% claim to see news articles online on a daily or weekly basis that they do not believe to be true.
- Facebook is the primary source of fake news according to young people:
  - # Facebook (64%)
  - # Twitter og YouTube (17%)
  - # Instagram (14%)
- 63% claim to be certain or fairly certain in terms of their own ability to detect whether a news article is fake / untrue.



# Initiatives of the NMA

National campaign with Facebook and Faktisk.no

- 10 practical tips to detect a fake news story
- Reach 3,8 mill users over 18 years and approximately 400 000 under 18 years.
- Quiz “How skilled are you to detect fake news”





# Initiatives of the NMA

New teaching material on fake news and critical thinking

- Target group: 13-16 years (middle school)
- Collaboration between Medietilsynet, Faktisk.no and Norwegian Directorate of Education
- PowerPoint presentation with guidance, films and activities
- Pupils learn:
  - What characterizes fake news
  - The difference between facts and opinions in media
  - Why someone makes and spreads false news
  - What characterizes news media, and which sources to trust





# The way ahead

- Media literacy one of our primary weapons to combat hate speech and its consequences
- We need to know and address:
  - How fertile is the ground for conspiracy theories?
  - How polarized is the political debate?
  - How much do we trust our media?
  - How robust is the population in the face of hate and threats?
  - Which tools do we have to engage, block, report and stop hate speech?
- First step national survey on media literacy



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