

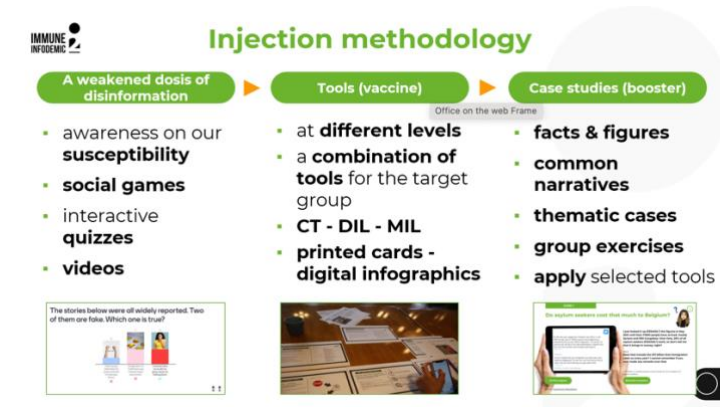
EVENT DESCRIPTION SHEET

PROJECT	
Participant:	101081624 - Beyond the Horizon ISSG (BtH)
PIC number:	904570106
Project name and acronym:	Immunising citizens against dis/misinformation - IMMUNE 2 INFODEMIC

EVENT DESCRIPTION	
Event number:	6
Event name:	Immunise Against Dis-/Misinformation Workshop Series
Type:	Workshop
In situ/online:	in-situ
Location:	Belgium - Leuven and Antwerp
Date(s):	28 Nov 2023, 19 Feb 2024, 22 Feb 2024, 21 Jun 2024
Website(s) (if any):	https://behorizon.org/eventsandactivities/immunise-against-dis-misinformation-workshop-series/
Participants	
Female:	55
Male:	21
Non-binary:	-
From country 1 [Belgium]:	71
From country 2 [Finland]:	1
From country 3 [Spain]:	2
From country 4 [Germany]:	1
From country 5 [Bulgaria]:	1
Total number of participants:	76
From total number of countries:	5
Description	
<p>The Immunisation Workshop Series aimed (as on its name) to help participants build immunity against dis- and misinformation on selected themes by equipping them with easy-to-use tools. To realise this, a model for an immunisation methodology is developed and piloted with different groups and based on the feedback after each session, the content and the methodology has been improved.</p>	

Our immunisation methodology in a workshop setting consists of three steps. Based on the target group's motivation, education level, ages, interest areas the content and the selected tools varied.

- **STEP 1 – Give a weakened dose of disinformation:** The initial aim in this first step is to introduce dis- and misinformation (virus) to participants in a very engaging active way and to show them how they are susceptible to these. Accepting one's own susceptibility is key to go to the next steps. We do it via interesting interactive questions and social games like 2 truth 1 lie. At the end the participants see their weaknesses such as confirmation bias, illusory truth effect, etc.
- **STEP 2 – Give the tools (vaccine):** Second step aims to give useful tools to detect and resist dis- and misinformation. Several useful tools out of a deck of 30 in total are given to the participants with recent examples. The deck includes critical thinking (CT), digital information literacy (DIL) and media information literacy (MIL) tools. Based on the defined topic and level of participants at the workshop, 6-10 selected tools are introduced by showing their application on interesting real examples.
- **STEP 3 – Make case studies on selected topics (booster):** Last step starts with introducing the main facts and figures about the selected topic (elections, health or migration) and common disinformation narratives. Knowing these helps one be more critical and use tools easier. Then participants start self-application of tools mostly in groups on given cases. Each group applies selected tools together on the case and then share their findings with the rest of the group. An exchange of findings increases the learning level within the group.



In total, 4 workshops were organised in Leuven and Antwerp. Each workshop lasted for 1-2 hours. The target groups were found via an open call on social media to universities and organisations who were interested in our topic.

- **Cross Media Students of [Karel de Grote University](#) (28 Nov 2023, Antwerp):** This session was for young college students and focused on critical thinking tools and migration theme. Because of their interest area, a pre-reading material was provided for better understanding the Belgian disinformation landscape. Several viral infodemics happened in Belgium and the legal framework for fighting disinformation were put forward to their attention. A task was also given to all students to select among the given list of migration related dis/misinformation pieces or finding one on their own and to apply a selected tool on it. According to the feedback, critical thinking tools, a methodological approach to biases and fallacies, the case study on a social media post about the cost of asylum seekers were found interesting.
- **Residents at [International House Leuven](#) (19 Feb 2024, Leuven):** The second workshop was organized for residents of Leuven city including different age groups, young and older people. This session focused more on digital literacy and migration/elections theme. Participants with different levels of education from young students to others with PhD was a challenge for the workshop. But fact-checking tools and quiz and conversation on migration facts and biases were found quite interesting.
- **Language teachers of [CLT](#) (22 Feb 2024, Leuven):** This workshop was organized for teachers of different languages. The group was seen as multipliers who can use our tools and methodology with their students. This session focused on a combination of critical thinking and digital literacy tools and migration/elections theme. The participants were more interested in the toolbox and wanted to use them in their classroom activities with adult students. They asked for more tools to learn and apply rather than focusing on the theme.

- **Language enthusiasts at [CLT inspiration day](#) (21 June 2024, Leuven):** The last workshop was given as a part of a bigger event for people interested in languages. The workshop covered also languages' role in fighting against mis/disinformation. As a preparation to this event, BtH wrote a chapter contribution to a book "[In all languages](#)" in Dutch about critical thinking and clear language as an antidote for fake news. The workshop focused on selected Critical Thinking, Media Literacy and Digital Literacy tools and on migration and elections teams. The tools were applied to 6 recent cases together with the participants. The tools were found interesting and useful. All the tools were shared with the participants to be used later in their life.

The workshops were organised with different target groups in different locations. The contents and the applications were improved each time based on the feedback. We included more interactivity, recent and more interesting examples. We provided them with all available tools for sharing with others. One of the immunisation rules is to build herd immunity by sharing the truth and the tools with close friends and the family. Our motto was "***Let's immunise together against infodemics***". Almost all the participants shared that they feel themselves more immunised to mis/disinformation after the workshop. They were told that they will need boosters by time to maintain the immunity against new forms and asked them to follow I2I, new tools and upcoming boosters.