

# digitol

Generations United Combating Fake News \_



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

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## INTRO

The purpose of DIGITOL is to promote EU common values, such as solidarity and diversity, by developing and delivering innovative digital literacy training with younger trainers and older learners.

The project aims to make the Internet accessible and more respectful for all. DIGITOL will contribute to combating discrimination within the EU that are driven by xenophobia, populism, and homophobia by gathering younger and older people around the challenge to identify and contain fake news and online hate speech.

Erasmus+: Support for Policy Reform and Online Linguistic Support.  
Grant Agreement Nr. 612208-EPP-1-2019-1-IT-EPPKA3-IPI-SOC-IN



# PARTNERS



**German Lab Partner:**  
Pro Arbeit



**Network Partner:**  
AGE Platform Europe

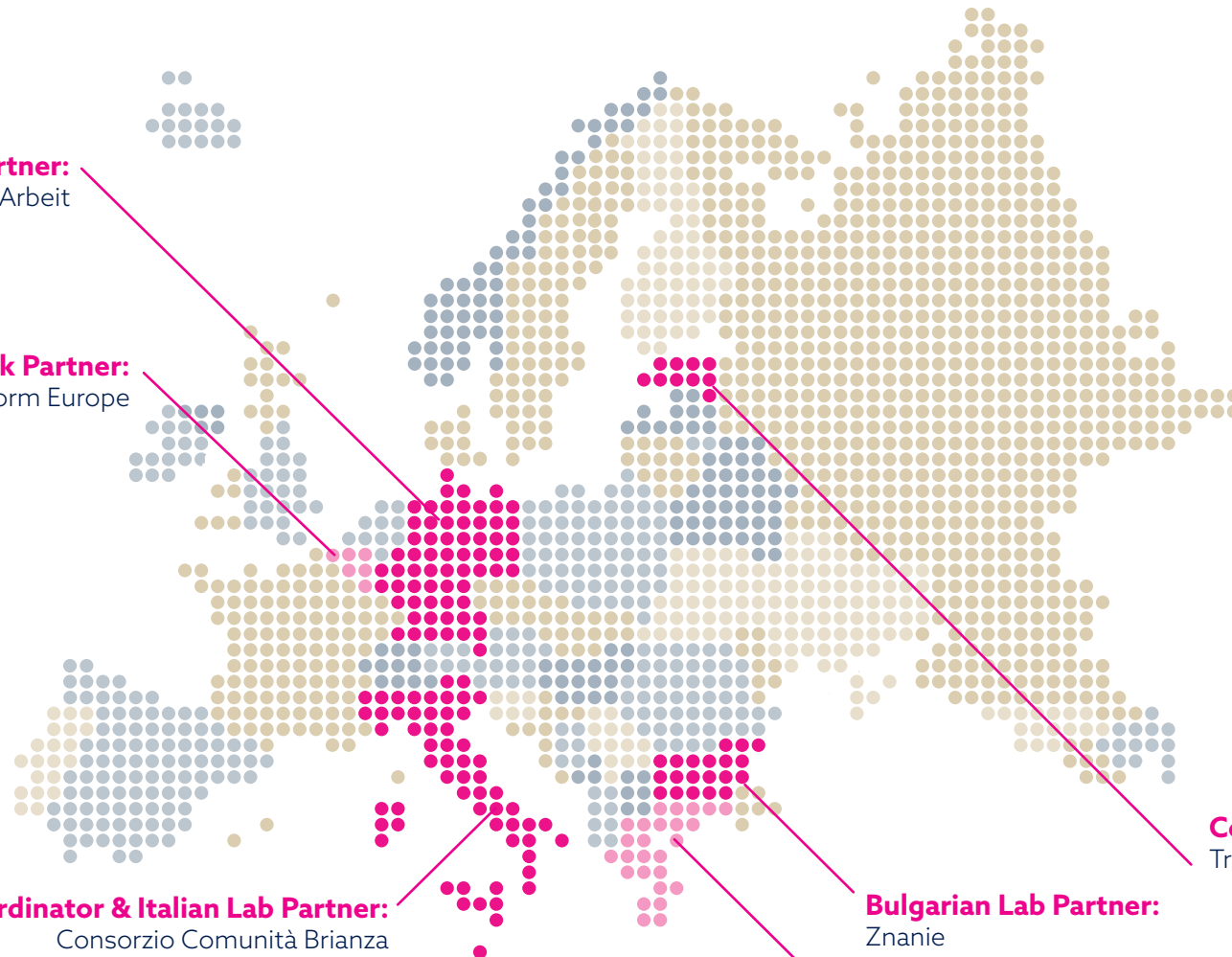


**Project Coordinator & Italian Lab Partner:**  
Consorzio Comunità Brianza

**Greek Lab Partner:**  
50 Plus Hellas

**Bulgarian Lab Partner:**  
Znanie

**Communication Partner:**  
Tree Agency



## BACKGROUND

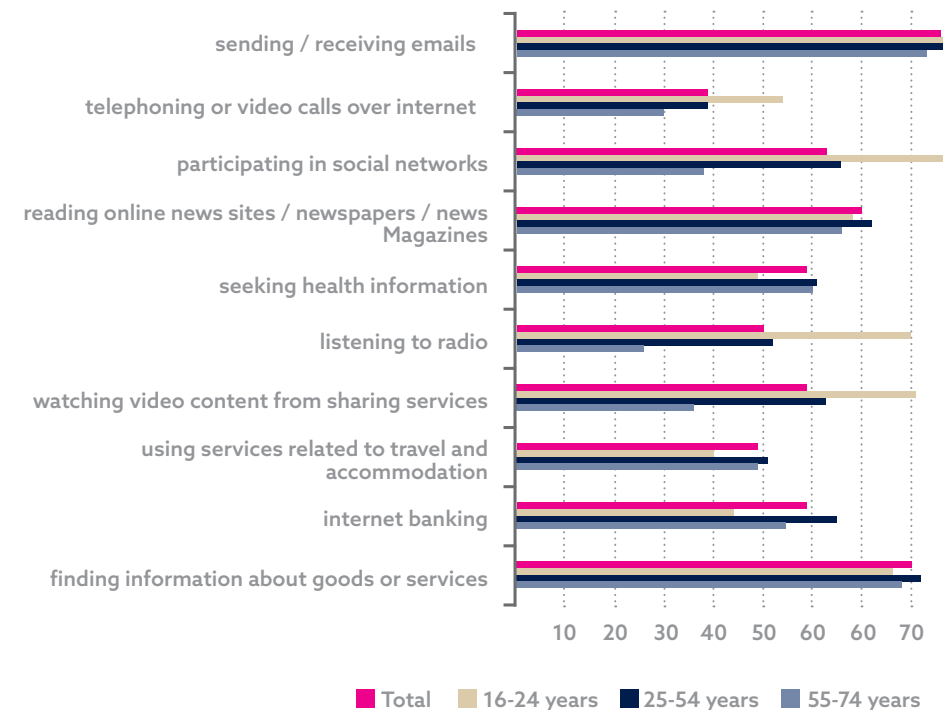
Our digitised environments rely increasingly on the Internet to inform, communicate, shop, but also access services such as banking, tele-health services, governmental and administrative services, etc. Yet, despite older Europeans (55+) growingly using the Internet, their presence online remains low in comparison to other age groups.

Although efforts to support the digital inclusion of older adults should not rest in intensity, we believe the challenges of today's Internet and the rapid development of fake news in the last decade require a renewal of how to approach digital literacy.

Developing digital literacy skills should expand beyond the acquisition of basic capacities in operating computers, tablets, and other smart devices into developing media literacy, critical thinking, and a proficiency to identify reliable online information.

The latter necessity gains prominence since fake news tend to hamper the public debate on topics of immense political importance, such as: climate change, displaced populations, social inclusion, fight against poverty, tolerance to diversity, and many more.

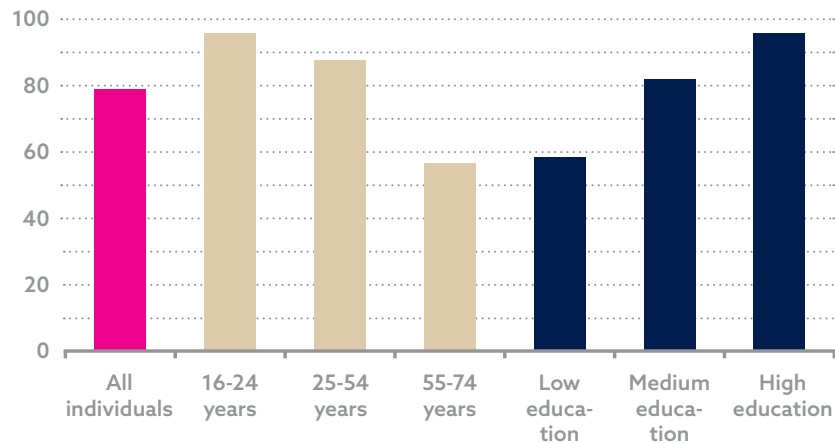
INTERNET ACTIVITIES IN THE PAST THREE MONTHS (%)



Data: EU-28, 2016  
Source: Eurostat

# BACKGROUND

**INDIVIDUALS WHO USED THE INTERNET ON AVERAGE AT LEAST ONCE A WEEK (%)**












Data: EU-28, 2016  
Source: Eurostat

**HOW OFTEN DO YOU COME ACROSS NEWS OR INFORMATION THAT YOU BELIEVE MISREPRESENT REALITY OR IS EVEN FALSE? (%)**

	Everyday or almost everyday	At least once a week	Several times a month	Seldom or never	Don't know	Total 'At least once a week'
<b>AGE</b>						
15-24	39	38	10	13	0	77
25-39	41	33	13	12	1	74
40-54	37	31	12	17	3	68
55+	34	27	12	21	6	61
<b>FREQUENCY OF ONLINE SOCIAL MEDIA USE</b>						
Every day or almost everyday	43	32	11	12	2	75
At least once a week	32	38	12	16	2	70
Several times a month	31	28	23	15	3	59
Seldom or never	31	26	13	24	6	57

Data: EU-28, 2018  
Source: TNS Political & Social

# APPROACH & ACTIONS

	PHASE 1: ANALYSE	PHASE 2: EMPOWER	PHASE 3: ENGAGE
1	 <p><b>Surveys</b> sourcing knowledge on seniors' digital literacy and active citizenship in Bulgaria, Germany, Greece, and Italy.</p>	 <p><b>Develop the DIGITOL Digital Academy</b>, a content-aware &amp; multifunctional tool allowing users to access data, training materials and the other interactive educational tools.</p>	 <p><b>Engage with local communities</b> to promote the importance of digital skills and the relevance of active engagement and participation for enhancing social cohesion of communities and cities.</p>
2	 <p><b>Interviews of experts</b> providing qualitative insights on the current initiatives to combat fake news, develop digital literacy and critical thinking, as well as support older persons to engage online.</p>	 <p><b>Engage 10 young people</b> (aged 18-30) in Bulgaria, Germany, Greece and Italy who will participate in the 30-hours train-the-trainers programme, focused on combating fake news and polarisation.</p>	 <p><b>Human Libraries</b> – people who experienced prejudice, social exclusion or stigma, will share episodes of their life they wish to talk about. Participants-readers will listen and ask questions to challenge their own prejudices.</p>
3	 <p><b>Focus Groups</b> with local stakeholders and seniors discussing the data collection findings.</p>	 <p><b>Engage 25 older adults</b> (55+) to participate in the DIGITOL 60 h capacity building programme to gain theoretical and practical knowledge of the digital world and find solutions with young people to fight fake news.</p>	 <p><b>DIGITOL Festivals</b> will blend together traditional and innovative actions, including public workshops on controversial topics run in partnership with schools and non-formal training providers.</p>

# TIMELINE

Global timeline: 15 January 2020 to 15 January 2022 (M1-M25)

(M means Month)





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