



# NEWSLETTER

## APRIL 2021

### Welcome to the third newsletter of the WIRES-CROSSED project!

WIRES-CROSSED project aims to build a community media framework that equips local communities with all the knowledge, skills and competencies to develop, manage and maintain a media service to local residents and will harness the potential of available digital and social media platforms to give a voice back to local communities and to promote community cohesion in tackling the 'fake news' epidemic.

Towards achieving that goal, the project partners have finalized the development of all the intellectual outputs:

- [IO1-Community Audit Toolkit and Report](#)
- [IO2-Community Media Skills Development Resources](#)
- [IO3-Toolkit of Media Moderation Resources](#)
- [IO4-Induction Training for Adult & Community Educators](#)
- [IO5-Online Interactive Learning Portal](#)



### WIRES-CROSSED ONLINE COLLABORATION

The project started in 2019 and the team has pushed forward its implementation despite the coronavirus pandemic. Instead of meeting face-to-face, the consortium's members attended the 3rd and 4th transnational project meeting virtually, during which they had the opportunity to monitor the progress of the project's tasks and take decisions regarding the materialization of the training courses and the development of the intellectual outputs. Special importance was given to the elaboration of the e-learning platform as a mean of promoting project's purpose and achieving its impact on the local communities so as them to be fully equipped with all those competences to fight "Fake News!"



### ACTIVITIES IMPLEMENTED DURING THE 2ND YEAR OF PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

7 national blogs were launched in English, German, Italian, Polish, Croatian, Cypriot and Czech languages, where in total 700 real news blog posts are to be created and uploaded by the end of the project, by the people that are going to be trained on the produced outputs in each partner country.

The 1st Learning, Teaching, Training Activity (LTTA) was implemented online in January 2021, due to Covid pandemic, as a synchronous and asynchronous training,

The Italian responsible partner, Speha Fresia, in cooperation with Dante (Croatia), offered a 4-day training ensuring that adult and community educators are fully versed in the latest techniques used by fake news campaigns;

have a real understanding of how fake news impacts our society; are fully up to date with the opportunities that community media can provide to support safe and equitable communities. Furthermore, participants learned various evaluation techniques that can be applied in WIRES-CROSSED learning provision.

The expected outcomes and impact were to:

- Strengthen their digital competences related to the good information production against the spread of fake news.
- Become aware of the availability of open educational resources targeted to build and reinforce a collaborative environment for the Local Media Teams and the Media Moderation Teams.
- Learn how to apply innovative and flexible methods to engage the community's members in a lifelong learning process embedded in the social life of the community itself.
- Valorise each of the WIRES-CROSSED Intellectual Outputs for their further exploitation in other geographical areas or with other "community" typologies



## WHAT'S NEXT?

- In each partner country three pilot trainings will be held, in order local communities to become digital literate and enhance their skills in producing real news of great quality, in various digital forms.

- The 2nd LTTA is planned to be held in Rijeka, Croatia in June/ July 2021 where the focus will be on sharing experiences and the proposed approaches to be used, managing the moderation of media content, building digital literacy skills of local communities, and establishing a network of community media management teams who together can plan future actions to further develop their community media understanding and infrastructure.
- Partners will host Community Media Summits in each country to introduce the new media infrastructure created to the wider community and encourage residents to complete the media training resources developed to build their media literacy capacity to understand fake news and how to deal with it effectively.
- The Final Conference for the WIRES-CROSSED project will be held in Germany in the last month of the project life-cycle. This event will be used to demonstrate that asset-based community development approaches and participatory action research models are especially relevant methodologies when addressing issues like fake news which impacts whole communities. In addition, during this event all the tools developed to build key digital literacy skills and support communities to take ownership of their own local media to develop a media infrastructure that is both trustworthy and responsive to the needs of local people, will be presented.



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