

Selective List of Counter-Disinformation Units (CDUs)*

The following is a selective list of analytical units and organisations that aim to research and combat disinformation. With the constant growth of such units, it is necessarily far from exhaustive. The categorisation it uses is primarily for convenience purposes and is based on the organisations' self-descriptions and a quick analysis of their websites. The boundary between the outlined categories is often blurred. Some organisations could be assigned to several different categories. For instance, certain NGOs and independent organisations have close relations with governments and intergovernmental organisations or were even established by or in close collaboration with these. Other independent organisations are based within government departments. If funding is considered, the picture is even more complicated, with many units receiving support from a complex and unstable mix of state and non-state sources. The list does not include dedicated fact-checking organisations and projects (of which there are hundreds), even though some of the units listed below include fact-checking exercises among their activities.

For comparison with our list see also the list of fact-checkers and organisations monitoring and combatting disinformation compiled by Upgrade Democracy project: <https://upgradedemocracy.de/en/global-overview-good-practices-to-counter-disinformation/>

The most comprehensive interactive list of fact-checkers is maintained by the Reporters' Lab at Duke University's Sanford School of Public Policy: <https://reporterslab.org/fact-checking/#>

*One of the outputs of the research undertaken within our project is a scholarly critique of common CDU practices and methods. See <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09502386.2024.2384942?src=#abstract>

Government- Sponsored and/or Affiliated Counter-Disinformation Units or Departments (Partially) Focusing on Combatting Disinformation

Africa Center for Strategic Studies (within US Department of Defense), USA - <https://africacenter.org/>

The European Centre of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats (Hybrid CoE), Finland/EU - <https://www.hybridcoe.fi/>

Center for Countering Disinformation, Ukraine - <https://cpd.gov.ua/en/>

Counter-Disinformation Unit (CDU), UK - <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/fact-sheet-on-the-cdu-and-rru>

East Stratcom Taskforce – EuvsDisinfo, Belgium/EU - <https://euvsdisinfo.eu/about/>

Global Engagement Center at US Department of State, USA - <https://www.state.gov/bureaus-offices/under-secretary-for-public-diplomacy-and-public-affairs/global-engagement-center/>

Institute for Strategic Research at the Military School, France - <https://www.irsem.fr/en/>

National Security Online Information Team (NSOIT), UK - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-security-online-information-team-privacy-notice/national-security-online-information-team-privacy-notice>

Viginum Agency (The official French state counter-disinformation unit), France

Thinks Tanks, NGOs and Units (Partially) Devoted to Researching, Monitoring, and Countering Disinformation

Africa Digital Democracy Laboratory, International - <https://disinfo.africa/>

Alliance4Europe, EU - <https://alliance4europe.eu/>

Atlantic Council's Digital Forensic Research Lab (DFRLab), USA - <https://www.atlanticcouncil.org/programs/digital-forensic-research-lab/>

Balkan Free Media Initiative (BFMI), International - <https://www.balkanfreemedia.org/>

Build Up, USA - <https://howtobuildup.org/>

CeMAS, Germany/EU - <https://cemas.io/en/>

Center for Countering Digital Hate, USA - <https://counterhate.com/>

Centre for Information Resilience, UK - <https://www.info-res.org/>

Check My Ads Institute, USA - <https://checkmyads.org/>

Climate Action Against Disinformation (CAAD), International - <https://caad.info/>

Czech Elves, Czech Republic - <https://cesti-elfove.cz/>

Debunk.org – Disinformation Analysis Center, International - <https://www.debunk.org/about>

Digital Society Project, International - <https://digitalsocietyproject.org/the-project/>

DISARM Foundation, UK - <https://www.disarm.foundation/>

Disinfo Radar, Germany/EU - <https://disinforadar.com/>

DisinfoWatch, Canada - <https://disinfowatch.org/>

EU Disinfo Lab, Belgium/EU - <https://www.disinfo.eu/>

Global Disinformation Index, International - <https://www.disinformationindex.org/>

Institute for Strategic Dialogue, UK/International - <https://www.isdglobal.org/about/>

Lviv Media Forum, Ukraine - <https://lvivmediaforum.com/en>

Observacom, Uruguay/Latin America - <https://www.observacom.org/>

OSINT for Ukraine, International - <https://osintforukraine.com/>

Public Good Projects, USA - <https://www.publicgoodprojects.org/>

Qurium, Sweden/EU - <https://www.qurium.org/>

RAND, International - <https://www.rand.org/>

Reset, International - <https://www.reset.tech/>

TrustLab, USA - <https://www.trustlab.com/>

Watchdog, Sri Lanka - <https://watchdog.team/>

University-based Units (Partially) Devoted to Researching, Monitoring, and Countering Disinformation

European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO), Italy/EU - <https://edmo.eu/>

Information Future Labs, USA - <https://sites.brown.edu/informationfutures/>

Institute for Security and Technology at Imperial College London, UK - <https://www.imperial.ac.uk/security-institute/>

Oxford Internet Institute, UK - <https://www.oii.ox.ac.uk/>

Corporate Disinformation-Focused Initiatives, Primarily Based Around the Use of Specific IT Tools

Bot Sentinel, USA - <https://botsentinel.com/>

Edelman Counter Disinformation Unit, USA - <https://www.edelman.com/expertise/crisis-reputation-risk/counter-disinformation-unit>

Gerulata, Slovakia/EU - <https://www.gerulata.com/>

Graphika, USA - <https://www.graphika.com/>

Insikt Group at Recorded Future, USA/International - <https://www.recordedfuture.com/research/insikt-group>

Logically, UK - <https://logically.ai/>

Meedan, USA - <https://meedan.com/>

Newsguard, USA - <https://www.newsguardtech.com/about-newsguard/>

Sensika, International - <https://sensika.com/use-cases/disinformation-tracking-and-analysis/>

Zinc Network, UK - <https://zincnetwork.com/>