

# Media literacy and critical thinking for today's classrooms

**12 March 2026, Florence**

This session served as a cornerstone of the festival, exploring how citizens, journalists, and media professionals can foster critical thinking in an information-abundant world. It addressed how to move beyond taking information at face value, navigate the complexities of disinformation, and understand the impact of media on societal values. Participants explored tools to distinguish between verifiable facts and manipulated content, with a focus on ethical media use and the critical role of media literacy as a pillar of democratic participation. The session encouraged a collective conversation on how to build a better-informed future through shared responsibility and active media engagement.

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## Speaker

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# KEY TAKEAWAYS

- Media literacy is a lifelong learning process essential for active democratic participation.
- Critical thinking is a defense against disinformation and a tool for navigating complex media landscapes.
- Shared responsibility between citizens, journalists, and media professionals is needed to sustain an informed public.
- The ability to question sources, identify manipulation, and seek diverse viewpoints is fundamental to media ethics.
- Media literacy initiatives should travel across diverse communities to foster cross-cultural dialogue and local engagement.

## Check the presentation



## The psychological shield workbook

## Role-Play Kit