

DEFENDING EU DEMOCRACY



PRIMING POLITICIANS FOR POST-TRUTH

1



- Provide Members of the European Parliament with a **toolkit** on how to detect and **respond to post-truth tropes** like the undermining of science and the use of intense emotional appeals.
- The toolkit should include a **manual** with **responses** to post-truth claims.
- It should be developed **in collaboration with civil society organisations, think tanks, and academia**.
- It can be designed as an **online self-study module** or as an **in-person course**.
- It should be offered **at least once a year**.

2

COUNTERING FOREIGN INTERFERENCE

- The European External Action Service (EEAS) should develop its **digital diplomacy capabilities** by launching **training programmes** to enhance its employees' communications skills and by becoming **the leading force** shaping the information space.
- The EU should think more creatively about its responses to foreign manipulation of information, applying **economic, diplomatic and cyber tools** against states and agencies using foreign information manipulation.
- The EEAS and the European Commission should **provide citizens with a clear definition of foreign interference** and its effects on societies.

3 INCREASING VISIBILITY AND COORDINATION

- The EU's **existing regulatory tools**, such as the Digital Services Act and the European Media Freedom Act, must be **effectively implemented and assessed**.
- The EU should prioritise standing up for democracy through **political discourse and fostering an informed public**.
- The EU should create **a body which coordinates the whole strategy to fight disinformation**, across Member States and among institutions.
- The EU should foster **multi-stakeholder collaboration** in the fight against post-truth politics, favouring a diversity of input.



This infographic is based on the following RECLAIM policy briefs:

- *Priming Politicians for Post-Truth* by Ole Frahm with Karolina Czerska-Shaw and Maciej Stepka
- *Countering FIMI through Digital Diplomacy in Europe* by Jonáš Syrovátka
- *EU Defence of Democracy* by Luis Bouza and Elena García-Gutián