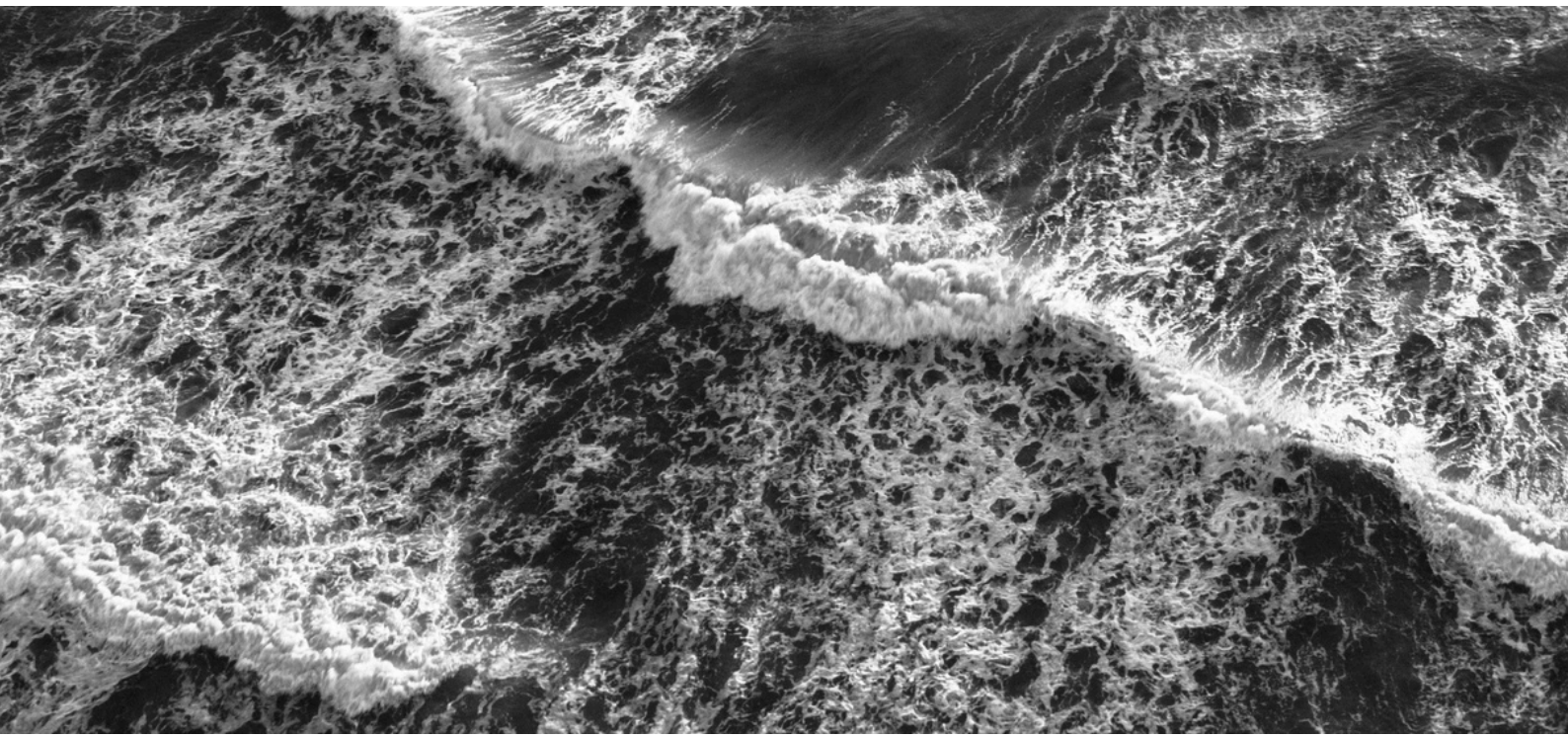


Meet the changingTIDE Changemakers



TEPSA trans-european policy studies association

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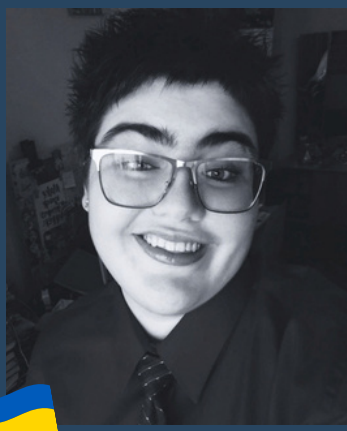
Marko Kralj



Marko is a Master's student at the University of Zagreb, specialising in Television Journalism. Throughout his studies, he has gained valuable experience working in several newsrooms across Croatia. Currently, he works as a student teaching assistant at Televizija Student, the television station of the Faculty of Political Science. He is passionate about sports and aspires to build a career as a sports journalist, combining his enthusiasm for sports with his dedication to quality journalism.

Adeliia Voloshyna

Adeliia is a Master's student in Public Communication and International Relations from Borys Grinchenko Kyiv Metropolitan University, Ukraine. She has done this semester in Croatia as an Erasmus+ student at the University of Zagreb, Faculty of Political Science. Her interest lies with studying modern digital propaganda, focusing specifically on Russian propaganda, Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference (FIMI) and psyop.



Daniel Ceci



Daniel is a geography student based in Zagreb. He holds a BSc in Geography from the Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb and is currently pursuing a MSc at the same institution. His academic interests span historical, urban, cultural, and political geography, as well as migration research. Daniel has participated in various courses and events focused on urban mobility, city development, and democratic processes. Through work on his Master's thesis on foreign workers, Daniel has developed a particular interest in how disinformation influences social processes, especially within migration discourse.

Paula Pavičić Perez



Paula is a Croatian-Spanish graduate in International Relations and History from the University of Leicester, and is currently completing a Master's degree in Geopolitics and Strategic Studies at Universidad Carlos III de Madrid. She has gained experience at the Embassy of Spain in Croatia and the Institute for Development and International Relations, working on European affairs, policy research, public communication, and geopolitical analysis. Her interests include disinformation, EU enlargement, the Western Balkans, migration, human rights, and the role of young people in strengthening democratic resilience.

Dion Istrefi

Dion is a student in the Individualised Studies Program at RIT Kosovo and a youth activist who has been involved in community work since the age of 15. His work focuses on peacebuilding, media literacy, democratic participation, and creating meaningful opportunities for young people to engage in their communities. Through local initiatives, regional and international programmes, and research on disinformation, he works to empower young people to become informed and active citizens while promoting dialogue, cooperation, and understanding across communities.



Leona Schenke



Leona is 22 years old and originally from Germany. She lives in Vienna, studying Political Science and Mass Media and Communication Science as her Bachelor's. She is currently interning at the Austrian Society for Foreign Policy and the United Nations and this fall will work as a tutor leading two seminars on online radicalisation and teaching the scientific method. She is especially interested in topics where politics and media meet, e.g. online extremism, propaganda, and radicalisation. She is currently writing her Bachelor's thesis on the positive reception of the Tradwife trend as a soft entry point for right-wing talking points.

Luise Krüger



Luise is 23 years old and has been living in Vienna for three years now. She is currently finishing her Bachelor's Degree in Political Science at the University of Vienna and is planning to start her Master's Programme in International Business Administration. Her interests lie within international politics and human rights, specifically women's rights on a global scale. She focused on this area with her Bachelor's thesis on the feminist framing of female soldiers in the Israel Defence Force. Additionally she is interested in the growing hostility against women and other minorities, due to influences on e.g. social media, with a focus on the role of Artificial Intelligence. She also volunteers at an organisation by helping refugees practise German.

Elia Malovcic

Elia is a Bachelor's student in Political Science and International Legal Studies at the University of Vienna. His academic interests focus on international relations, particularly Central and Eastern Europe and China, as well as international political economy and international, digital, and European Union law. Beyond these areas, he is particularly interested in democratic backsliding and autocratisation, political theory, disinformation, and right-wing extremism, as well as their broader impact on democratic societies. Alongside his studies, he works as a swimming coach in Vienna. Swimming has been a major part of Elia's life since the age of six. His other hobbies include reading and playing musical instruments.



Pedro Azevedo



Pedro holds a Bachelor's Degree in International Relations from the School of Economics, Management and Political Science of the University of Minho. He combines a robust theoretical foundation with practical experience in civic engagement, having served as vice-president of his course's Student Association and as an EU Careers Student Ambassador. With a strong background in diplomatic simulations and institutional communication, Pedro is preparing to further his studies with a Master's Degree specialising in International Politics and Diplomacy. His research interests lie at the intersection of European geopolitics and international security, with a particular focus on EU foreign policy, integration processes, and the resilience of democratic systems against disinformation. He is driven by a deep commitment to sustainable global governance and aspires to enter the Diplomatic Service.

Bruno Oliveira



Bruno is a Master's student in International Governance and Diplomacy at Sciences Po and holds a Bachelor's degree in Political Science and International Relations from NOVA University Lisbon. He has also published articles on EU politics and external relations, with research interests in European affairs, Portuguese foreign policy and Latin American studies.

Isabel Lima

Isabel is a Cape Verdean journalism graduate based in Portugal. She completed an internship at Lusa, Portugal's News Agency, working on fact-checking, and she currently works as a journalist for a magazine. She has a strong interest in disinformation and media literacy, and she is keen to contribute and learn more in these areas.



Ana Sofia Ferreira



Ana Sofia is a History undergraduate at the University of Porto and president of the Board of the Academia de Política Apartidária (APA), a non-partisan youth organisation based at the Faculty of Economics. Through APA, she leads initiatives promoting political literacy, democratic participation and civic engagement among young people, mainly across the Porto Metropolitan Area, including the flagship project "Politica-te".

Chloe Carey



Chloe is 25 years old and from County Kerry, Ireland. She did a Bachelor's of Arts with a major in sociology and minor in criminology, and completed her Master's in Human Rights and Criminal Justice. Currently, she works as a youth information officer for Kerry Community Youth Service where she both provides and contextualises accessible and accurate information for young people on topics such as rights, employment, education, inclusion, alcohol and drug misuse and more. Additionally, herself and her father, who is a community development worker, have developed a media literacy project to deliver in secondary schools across County Kerry. She has a particular interest in how lack of digital and media literacy can further perpetuate inequalities for minorities by spreading impactful misinformation.

Melania Toczko

Melania is a 26-year-old Polish-American dual national based in Kraków, Poland. She holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communication and Media Studies from DePaul University and a Master of Arts in International Security and Development from Jagiellonian University. She also completed the Academy of Young Diplomats program organised by the European Academy of Diplomacy, with a concentration in International Security. After several years working in public relations across the Chicagoland area, Melania developed an interest in digital democracy and countering disinformation following the spread of anti-Western narratives on social media after Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine in 2022. In 2024, she interned at the Kościuszko Institute, one of Poland's leading cybersecurity think tanks, before later working as an OSINT analyst at Alice, an artificial intelligence safety company, during the 2025 Polish presidential election.

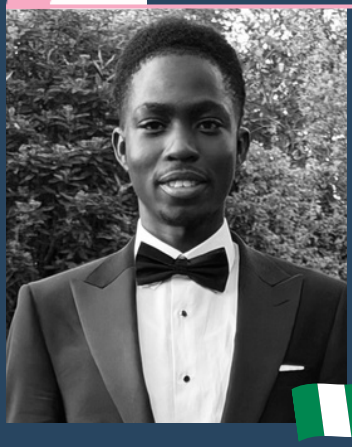


Euan Smith



Euan is 18 years old and based in Dublin. He is academically focused on Cybersecurity & Digital Forensics. Having developed code for backend features for EDMO's website, alongside various projects for them he conducts his own independent research e.g. RadicalMap, a tool for mapping how extremist content spreads and normalises on short-form media content. He has also conducted a controlled experiment tracking how algorithms push accounts towards more extreme content over time. Euan has also lectured on radical media and algorithmic amplification to Politics and Society students in Harold's Cross Secondary School. Euan sees psychology, philosophy, politics and law as an interwoven eco-system and is excited to be part of the Changemakers program.

Perfect Bamidele



Perfect is a 22 years old tech and cybersecurity enthusiast based in Ireland with a keen interest in grassroots political representation, democratic processes, and decentralised governance. Passionate about the intersection of technology and civic engagement, Perfect is committed to exploring innovative solutions for more inclusive and transparent leadership structures.

Thea Pali

Thea Pali's background is in international security and political philosophy, with a particular focus on disinformation, cognitive warfare, and ideological biases. She recently completed an MSc in Security Studies at University College London, where her research examined how Russian disinformation targeting European audiences exploits cognitive vulnerabilities. She is particularly interested in turning research on cognitive manipulation into practical approaches that strengthen media literacy and societal resilience to foreign interference.



Georgijs Kartašovs



Georgijs Kartašovs studied History at the University of Latvia, where he developed an interest in European political history, international relations, and the Baltic Sea region, and continued his studies at the University of Helsinki in the Master's Programme in European and Nordic Studies. During his first year, he participated in a blended mobility programme at the Tallinn University focused on the Baltic Sea region and regional cooperation, and attended a summer school on diplomacy at Sciences Po in Paris. He is currently developing his Master's thesis on Russian disinformation campaigns targeting the Baltic States, with a particular focus on narratives surrounding drone incidents in the Baltic States. He is currently completing a traineeship at the Embassy of Latvia in Brussels.

Karl-Heikki Jõks



Karl-Heikki Jõks is a second year International Relation student at Tartu University and a member of the Estonian Council on Foreign Relations. He studied Political Science in the United States at Stony Brook University, graduating with Cum Laude Honors in 2025. He has previously interned in both Estonia and the United States, and contributed to Baltic security in Washington D.C. as the Project Coordinator for the Baltic advocacy organization "Joint Baltic American National Committee" (JBANC).

Grete Põder

Grete Põder is a master's student at the University of Tartu, studying International Relations and Regional Studies with a focus on EU-Russia relations. She has worked extensively on the dissemination of disinformation, with a specific focus on the hostile activities of Russia. For her bachelor's thesis, she analysed how Russia uses historical arguments in its propaganda to undermine the sovereignty of the Baltic States. Among other international organisations, she has worked for a Georgian non-profit organisation, Myth Detector that promotes media literacy in Georgia and combats false information. Her other academic interests also include conflict management and peace-building efforts with a specific interest on the situation in the Western Balkans.

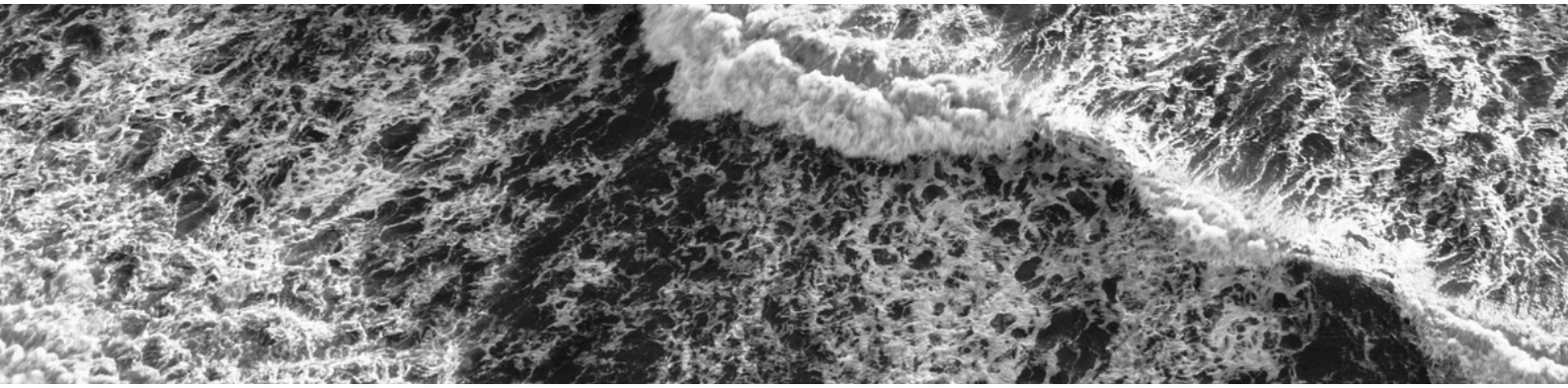




About changingTIDE

ChangingTIDE aims to address the democratic threat of disinformation by combining awareness-raising, media literacy education, youth empowerment and participatory dialogue. The project equips participants with the skills necessary to critically analyse and evaluate media while fostering inclusive exchanges between citizens, experts and policy-makers on disinformation challenges.

ChangingTIDE places a strong emphasis on youth empowerment, supporting young people to develop critical thinking, media literacy and civic engagement, and enabling them to act as multipliers within their communities. Through training, peer learning and participatory formats, the project seeks to build long-term democratic resilience and social cohesion, while addressing the different ways in which disinformation manifests across national and local contexts in the EU.



TEPSA trans-european policy studies association

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