

# Safeguarding democracy through advancing information integrity

Iceland  
Liechtenstein  
Norway grants grants

2021 - 2028



Across Europe, the exponential rise in disinformation and information manipulation is challenging the foundations of democracy, the rule of law and human rights. Fuelled by geopolitical tensions, interference from authoritarian actors, and rapidly evolving technologies, these threats exploit the vulnerabilities of open societies.

## A values-based approach

The EU has adopted a whole-of-government approach, combining tools such as the East StratCom Task Force and the European Digital Media Observatory with landmark regulations like the Digital Services Act (2023), the AI Act (2024), and the European Media Freedom Act (2025). These efforts aim to hold platforms accountable, empower users, and build societal resilience.

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway, through the EEA and Norway Grants, offer a unique, values-based financial mechanism rooted in European solidarity. The Grants

support European efforts to enhance information integrity as part of the core priority area “Democracy, the rule of law and human rights”. The approach is grounded in key democratic and human rights principles: Every person must have equal access to reliable information, be protected from harmful content, and be able to participate meaningfully in shaping the information landscape. The Grants promote transparency, equality and non-discrimination, accountability, and access to trustworthy information, especially for those most vulnerable to manipulation and exclusion.

## Building democratic resilience

The Grants’ efforts aim to span the entire information chain:



Promoting information integrity and addressing threats posed by disinformation and information manipulation through contributing to supporting **government reforms** in the area.



Promoting **ethical use of technology**, responsible AI, and regulatory alignment with EU policies.



Supporting **independent media**, fact-checking networks and public sector digital literacy.



Embedding **critical thinking** in schools, adult education and cultural projects, especially in underserved regions.



Countering disinformation targeting specific issues and groups such as **elections, minorities, climate action and public health**.



Strengthening **societal resilience** to disinformation and information manipulation.

## Partnerships are key to the EEA and Norway Grants

The Grants promote information integrity through fostering partnerships and coordinated action at four levels:

- ✓ **International partnerships** with organisations such as the Council of Europe, the OECD and the EU Fundamental Rights Agency to develop shared responses and information integrity, including through strengthening democratic resilience.
- ✓ **Partnerships with national governments** that embed information integrity across programmes in areas such as local development, disaster prevention and preparedness, culture, education and research.
- ✓ **Bilateral partnerships** to support mutual exchange of expertise and experiences and bilateral initiatives within and beyond nationally managed programmes and projects.
- ✓ **Partnership with civil society organisations** through the EEA Civil Society Fund, enabling them to act as watchdogs, fact-checkers, educators and policy advocates, fostering grassroots resilience, strengthening pluralistic media and civic engagement.

These channels reinforce each other to create a more secure, informed, and inclusive information ecosystem.

## Support by country 2021-2028



## About the EEA and Norway Grants

Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway provide funding to:

- Reduce social and economic inequalities in Europe
- Strengthen bilateral relations

Thematic priorities:

- European green transition
- Democracy, the rule of law and human rights
- Social inclusion and resilience
- Gender equality is a cross-cutting priority

15 Beneficiary States



Programme areas and funds for the EEA and Norway Grants 2021-2028

