

Monday,
May 2, 2022

127 HOURS

OUR UNOFFICIAL STUDENT NEWSPAPER


Fake
News
Edition

By Yoana Georgieva

FAKE NEWS

Fake news is a very big and ever growing problem these days. The worst thing is that no one knows how to deal with it. What we need to do is just be careful not to think that everything we see on the internet is true, because it is not. We should not jump to hasty conclusions and accusations.

Whenever possible we should read information from proven information portals or wait for official statements from the institutions or people involved. We all need to be watchful and improve our media literacy and critical thinking skills. The Internet is one of the scariest things invented by man and we must not forget it. Ever.

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Fake photo by digital artist Irina Georgieva

Graffiti Vandalism at 127th School in Sofia!

Real or fake? Act of vandalism or protest? Have the taggers been identified? Our reporters from the 11v and 11g came back with very different stories - check them out on p. 2-3!

Graffiti Scandal

The latest updates

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Yoana Georgieva

Fake News

(Continued from front page)

Many people have become expert economists, politicians and military strategists, and even Alexander the Great would envy them. It is funny now, but due to the absolute misinformation about the war, it led to mass delusion and great panic. In these extremely scary times for everyone, misinformation is unacceptable. People have experienced too much, let them at least be informed about the things that are happening to them. Imagine how much power just two words have. The words fake news managed to hide a whole war from the population of the largest country in the world. Because of these two words, about 140 million people still believe that the attack on Ukraine was a "military operation".

And people are not to blame for their ignorance. It's just that there is still no established method by which you can

IN BRIEF ○○○○

News Literacy Project

Misinformation

Misinformation thrives on social media where anyone can share almost anything they choose, and attention spans are short. Here's a quick guide to help you understand what misinformation is and how to recognize it.

Why do people share misinformation?

Many people share misinformation unknowingly and sometimes with good or altruistic intentions — whether to articulate their perspectives, warn others away from danger or join others in trying to make sense of the world around them.

But some research suggests that some people also knowingly share things they suspect are false — whether to damage "the other side" in a political debate, get social media likes and shares, or conform to their ideological identities.

Bad actors — such as hyperpartisans, trolls and even foreign agents — create and share disinformation to cause divisions and confusion, to promote political interests and points of view or for financial gain.

Watch out! While the emotions most often elicited by mis- and disinformation are fear, anger and outrage, more agreeable emotions like curiosity and hope are also used to bypass our cognitive defenses.

Mis- and disinformation are fundamentally exploitative in nature, often targeting our most deeply held values and beliefs to elicit a strong emotional reaction that overrides our more rational thought processes.

Misinformation: Information that is misleading, erroneous or false. Misinformation is generally shared — and sometimes created — by people who are unaware that it's inaccurate. This is the best term to use when the intent of the creator or sharer is unknown.

VERSUS

Disinformation: A subset of misinformation that is deliberately created or shared with the intention to misinform and mislead others, usually to achieve a desired ideological, political or financial result.

Remember: The intent behind the creation or amplification of false information is often impossible to determine.

Red flags WATCH OUT!

If you see these common misinformation themes and "rumor cues," proceed with caution:

Phrases

- "Let that sink in"
- "The media won't report this"
- "Make this go viral"
- "Do your own research"
- "There are no coincidences"

Patterns

- Manipulated text on signs or t-shirts
- "Doctored" "amazing" nature or space photos
- Photos of protests and crowds
- Screenshots of articles with no links

Types

Misinformation can be categorized based on what makes it false or misleading. The following five types are commonly found online:

False context
An image, video, quote or other piece of content is presented in a new, false context that changes its meaning.

Imposter content
Content — such as a fake tweet from a public figure, or a fake ad — that falsely uses a well-known name, brand or logo to fool people into believing that it is authentic.

Fabricated content
Misinformation that is entirely made up, such as computer-generated imagery or entirely fictional reports presented as "news."

Manipulated content
Photos, videos, graphics and other types of content that have been "doctored" in some way, such as having one or more elements artificially added or removed.

Stolen satire
A specific type of "false context" misinformation in which all or part of a piece of satire is presented as authentic.

Your best defenses

1. Checking out unfamiliar people and sources
2. Glancing through social media comments for replies that call a post into question
3. A quick internet search using key terms from a questionable post

Key resources

- ["Misinformation" lesson](#) from NLP's Checkology® virtual classroom
- NLP's weekly email newsletters: [The Sift](#) (for educators) and [Get Smart About News](#) (for non-educators)
- NLP's [Viral Rumor Rundown](#) blog
- [Fact Check](#) website
- [The Media Manipulation Casebook](#)

Source: checkology.org

find out if the news appearing on your screen are some great nonsense or the truth itself. False information was used as an excuse for things that really happened but were covered up under that term, and this is not the first time this has been done.

Many people hide their mistakes and "wash their hands" of the problem using the "fake news" label. What happens is that when the truth comes out, it is often denied with the help of false information, and this is quite confusing because you literally don't know who to trust.



Dimitar A.

Oldest School in Sofia Vandalized

This morning, at around 5 AM, a crime was reported which was committed in the area of 127 High School.

The police report says that a group of 5 masked men wearing black clothes were seen on the cameras.

There is one suspect as his face wasn't hidden properly with a mask. He's a student in the school. Currently he's being held at a police station in Sofia.

Antoaneta & Sylvia Tagger's Identity Revealed

On the night of April 25-26th, a boy from the capital's school 127 SU, in protest against the principal of the same school, painted graffiti on the façade of the building.

The boy was recognized thanks to the cameras at the entrance. His name is Antoan Dimitrov, a year 11 student.

Antoan has been missing for two days and the police are looking for him. He is sure to be punished and expelled.

Nicole V.

Principal Vows to Seek Punishment and Compensation

On the 17th of April, a group of teenagers painted the whole building of 127 Secondary School with graffiti.

The Principal has reported them to the police and threatened to sue them. He said: *"In my opinion, it's a mindless and irresponsible act and shows lack of manners and conscience. I don't think they are so young, they're supposed to be mature, so I'll do whatever it takes to make them pay for what they did!"*

The police have started an investigation and are trying to discover the identities of the teenagers because they were wearing masks.





The Young Generation Just Wanna Be Heard!

Violeta

The protest against the pressure that the school system is exerting on the students made them finally unite and start to fight for their rights.

Yesterday, after classes, all the students from 127 SU met in the school yard and painted graffiti messages to the Government that is not listening to their needs.

One of the graffiti said: “If you don’t take action, this is gonna be just the first step! Don’t mess with the young!”

We are waiting for the answer from the higher power.

To be continued

Angie & Veli

Justice or Vandalism

On the 29th of March, late at night, students painted their school with graffiti as an act of protest because the schoolboard has decided not to help Ukrainian refugees.

The students were provoked by the Principal, who plays the Russian national anthem every day, and there are Russian flags throughout the school.

The Russian Connection

Alex Zhelev

Yesterday late at night the 127 SU was painted all over with graffiti. This is the oldest school in Sofia. It was founded 180 years ago.

Police says that this ugly “artwork” was done by Russians. They were immigrants coming from the USA. They were kicked out by the US government because of the same thing. Two months ago they painted the whole Statue of Liberty with graffiti.

The graffiti artists say they’ve done it because they think the school principal has close links to the US President, Joe Biden. Their act was meant as a provocation to send a message to the US government. They posted all this on Twitter right after the vandalism.

“The ugly graffiti defile and disfigure our school”

Police are still searching for them. Students and staff are very angry. They are trying to help find these people and want to make them erase all of it because they say “the graffiti defile and disfigure our school”.

The investigation is still in progress.





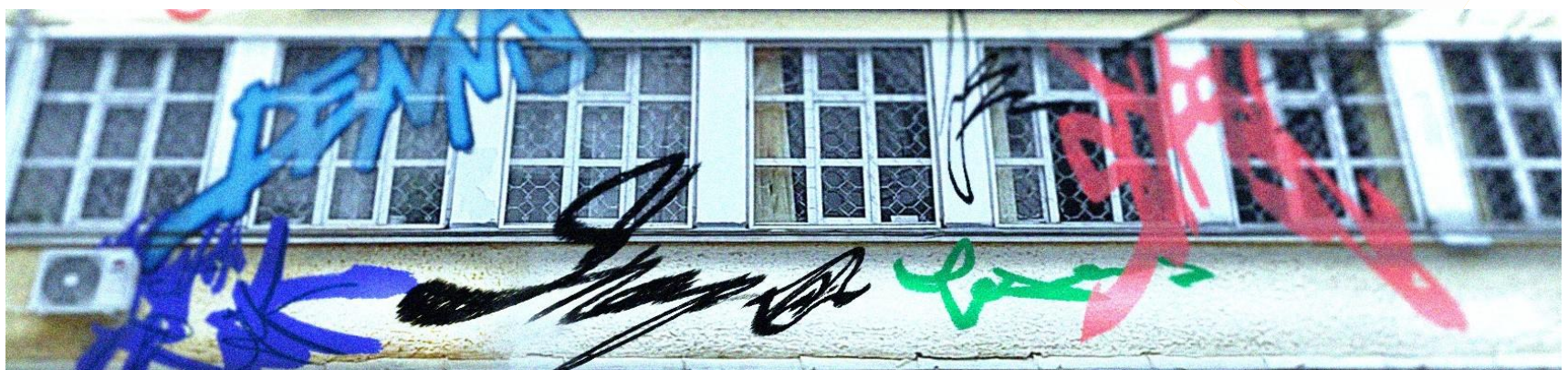
PROTEST AGAINST DEPRIVATION OF INDIVIDUALITY

By Sandrina

On April 15th the building of 127 SU “Ivan N. Denkoglu” was painted all over with graffiti but the interesting fact was that this was not a student crime but a teacher protest.

Teachers said that this act of vandalism was aimed against the Principal’s policy depriving students of individuality.

The brave act achieved success. The Principal decided to encourage the students and the teachers and give them the freedom to paint together the entire building. Everyone can paint whatever they want provided that it is related to school.



Cleaning Ladies Demand More Money

Adriana H.

Yesterday at 8 AM there was a shocking discovery at the metropolitan school 127, “Ivan N. Denkoglu”. Coming to school in the morning, students and teachers saw the whole front of the building painted with graffiti.

The police were on the scene almost immediately and interrogations began.

Eventually, the police came to an incredible revelation. The cleaners of the school had done this because they are unhappy with their salaries and wanted to protest.

Nikola

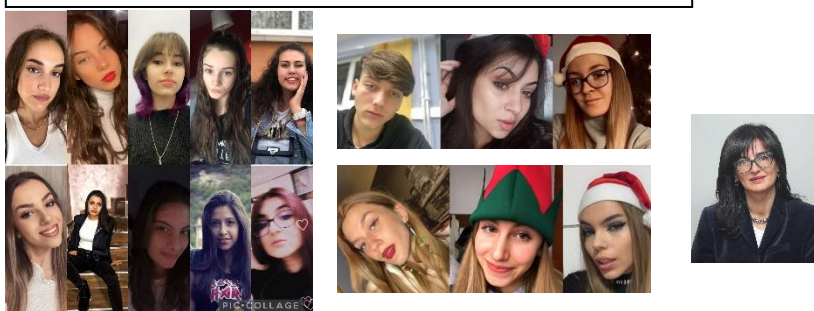
Let the Children Sleep!

On the early morning of Wednesday, the 13th of April, every student and teacher saw that the front of our beloved school was covered by graffiti. The Principal tried to check the security cameras but they were damaged, too. Then he called the police and they found that some first graders had come during the night with their moms and had vandalized the school.

The group admitted their guilt and explained they did it because there wasn’t any afternoon nap time like in kindergarten.

By noon the news was all over the media and the whole country knew what had happened. The President said this was one of the worst acts of vandalism he had ever seen.

The 127 Hours Team



Thank you to all our contributors from the 11v and 11g and we’ll be back in September with our next issue: “Let’s Make Our School a Better Place”

