



TOL Information Verification Course:
Tools and Tactics for Identifying Fake News and Propaganda

First Workshop: Prague, 13-14 February 2017
Venue: Charles University, Smetanovo nabrezi 6, Praha 1 (Room 115)

Program:

DAY I.

9:00 **Registration**

9:30 **Opening remarks (TOL + U.S. Embassy)**

10:15-12:15 **Panel discussion**

Before getting into an initial review of verification tools, an opening panel discussion will review the common characteristics and tactics of propaganda and disinformation campaigns, as well as the motivations of those involved in its dissemination. Panelists will also review some specific cases in the Czech Republic and abroad.

Panelists:

Ondrej Soukup, journalist, Hospodarske noviny

Jaroslav Shimov, journalist, RFE/RL

Jaroslav Valuch, project leader at Press Start

Facilitator: Pavlína Kvapilova, media consultant and former head of new media, Czech TV.

12:30 Lunch

13:30 Workshop with Alastair Reid, former managing editor of First Draft (PART I)

Introduction to the topic

Different types and sources of misinformation

15:00 Coffee break

15:15 Workshop with Alastair (PART II)

Introduction on how to debunk stories and how to get set up to monitor how stories spread
Discussion

17:00 End

DAY II.

9:30 Workshop with Alastair (PART III)

A guide to the different tools and techniques used to identify misinformation, including:
Finding the original version of a picture or video

11:00 Coffee break

11:30 Workshop with Alastair (PART IV)

Investigating a source
Geolocation
Questioning the time and date
Understanding shadows

12:30 Lunch

13:30 Workshop with Alastair (PART V)

Best practice in debunking and communicating the truth around misinformation
Tracing the sources of misinformation

15:00 Coffee break

15:15 Workshop with Alastair (PART VI)

Investigating websites, networks and individuals distributing fake news stories

16:30 End

Speaker bios

Pavčina Kvapilová is an independent consultant, producer, and presenter. Among many other activities, Pavčina is running her own multimedia project called Elegantní Česko (Elegant Czechs). The aim is to revive the best of what the country and its people once knew. She is the former director of the New Media division at Czech Television (the public broadcaster) and also served as head of special coverage at the all-news channel CT24 and participated widely in the creation of innovative programs such as the interactive prime-time show Hyde Park CT24. Pavčina was Czech Radio's correspondent in Brussels (2003-2005).

Alastair Reid is a journalist specializing in social media newsgathering and digital verification. Until recently he was managing editor of First Draft, an international non-

profit organization that trains news organizations and journalists in navigating online news. Before that he was editor of Journalism.co.uk, Europe's leading publication on developments in digital journalism.

Jaroslav Shimov has been a journalist with RFE/RL's Russian Service, based in Prague, since 1999. He specializes in Russian foreign policy, Central and Eastern European politics and history, and Russian relations in the region. Shimov was born in Belarus and studied history and journalism at Moscow State University. He has published three books on the history of the Habsburg Empire and its successor states.

Ondřej Soukup has spent his entire professional life dealing with the states of the former Soviet Union, be it in the academic sphere, in the non-governmental sector, or as a journalist. He now works as an editor of the foreign section of Hospodářské noviny, the Czech Republic's leading business daily. He previously worked as the newspaper's Moscow correspondent.

Jaroslav Valuch is project leader at Press Start, a new global crowdfunding platform developed by TOL for journalists in countries where the press cannot work freely. Jaroslav is an expert in media literacy, social media activism, and communication with crisis-affected populations, having worked with dozens of organizations and civic initiatives in Europe, the Middle East, and Southeast Asia. He joined the Budapest Centre for Mass Atrocities Prevention as a senior researcher and recently led a nationwide communications campaign focused on raising awareness about, monitoring, and mapping hate-motivated violence and hate speech, a program organized by the Office of the Government.