



DISARMING DISINFORMATION
A THREE-YEAR GLOBAL PROGRAM SUPPORTED BY
THE SCRIPPS HOWARD FOUNDATION

The Disarming Disinformation program is an initiative launched by the International Center for Journalists (ICFJ) to combat the spread of mis and disinformation. The program aims to empower journalists and media organizations to effectively report on and counter false narratives by providing training, resources, and tools to identify, verify, and fact-check information and strategies for creating compelling and accurate stories. Although still in its early stages, the program is already making progress toward achieving its goal over its intended three-year timeline.



One of the program's key components is the **"Empowering the Truth"** initiative, a global conference series focused on innovation in tackling disinformation. Led by expert trainers with regional knowledge in Arabic, English, French, Hungarian or Spanish, depending on the region, the conference offers tailored classes on topics such as audio/podcasts, video, content design, strategic communications, and audience engagement.

Participants were encouraged to register for any session regardless of the region they are based.

The first Empowering the Truth initiative recently concluded. Those who participated are now eligible to pitch an idea for a project that has the potential to set the path for amplifying the reach of factual content. The best ideas will receive grants to complete their projects.



Another significant aspect of the program is Disarming Disinformation's first "**Investigathon**," which brings together journalists and media professionals from around the world to investigate and expose disinformation campaigns. The program recently selected 12 journalists to participate in an intensive, four-month training program, which includes attending the Disarming Disinformation

Investigathon event in Austin, Texas, April 11-15, 2023. Investigathon participants will work in teams with the guidance of expert mentors to develop and carry out investigations. The best teams will receive funding to spend two months further investigating their topic, with the help of renowned mentors. By the end of June 2023, their findings will be published by the news outlets that supported their applications.

The Disarming Disinformation program is committed to promoting accuracy and truth in journalism, and the completion of the first "Empowering the Truth" conference is a milestone in its development.