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Answer given by Executive Vice-President Virkkunen
on behalf of the Commission
(27.1.2025)

The European Digital Media Observatory (EDMO)¹ is a key pillar of the strategy to tackle disinformation as announced in the Commission Communication ‘Tackling online disinformation – a European approach’². The way EDMO classifies disinformation is based on the work of independent European fact-checking organisations. Such organisations adhere to the highest ethical and professional standards established by reputable fact-checking networks such as the European Fact-Checking Standards Network (EFCSN)³ or the International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN)⁴.

EDMO is co-financed through the Digital Europe Programme⁵. The work of the hubs is coordinated by a central platform which is managed by the consortium led by the European University Institute.

Elections24Check⁶ is a comprehensive fact-checking database for the 2024 European Parliament elections which is not managed by EDMO. The database was implemented by EFCSN with a coalition of over 40 fact-checking organisations across Europe. Many of those organisations are also part of the EDMO community.

In view of the independence of fact-checking organisations, the Commission neither monitors the Elections24Check network nor how EDMO categorises disinformation.

¹ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/policies/european-digital-media-observatory#:~:text=The%20European%20Digital%20Media%20Observatory%20%28EDMO%29%20is%20a,other%20relevant%20stakeholders%20to%20collaborate%20with%20each%20other>

² <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/HTML/?uri=CELEX:52018DC0236&from=EN>

³ <https://efcsn.com/>

⁴ <https://www.poynter.org/ifcn/>

⁵ <https://digital-strategy.ec.europa.eu/en/activities/digital-programme>

⁶ <https://elections24.efcsn.com/>