

EU CODE OF PRACTICE ON DISINFORMATION 2022

Subscription Document for Science Feedback

Name of the Signatory

Science Feedback

About the Signatory

Science Feedback's (<https://sciencefeedback.co/>) mission is to improve the credibility of online information claiming to be based on science. It operates under the French law on associations (1901 law).

Science Feedback has two main activities : verification of the credibility of content ("fact-checking") and contributing to initiatives aimed at providing citizens with more credible information at scale.

- I. Our verification activities are conducted by an in-house team of scientists in a health- or climate-related discipline, with further input and review from our network of 500 volunteer researchers, working at leading institutions around the world. Science Feedback is an International Fact Checking Network verified signatory.
- II. To scale up the impact of our work, we also partake in initiatives aimed at structuring an ecosystemic response to the problem of disinformation. These efforts include:
 - the development of Open Feedback (<https://open.feedback.org/>), a large-scale repository of verification articles open to other fact-checking organizations. It gathers information about viral misleading claims, where they got published or shared online, as well as links to their reviews. Open Feedback currently has a database of over 42,000 reviews.
 - Participation in projects and discussions at the international (IFCN, GlobalFact), EU (EDMO, European Parliament) and national (French telecommunications regulator, Senate) levels,
 - Publication of research on d/misinformation.

V. Empowering Users

List of adopted commitments and measures		Qualitative reporting elements and service level indicators
<p><u>Commitment 18</u></p> <p>Relevant Signatories commit to minimise the risks of viral propagation of Disinformation by adopting safe design practices as they develop their systems, policies, and features.</p>	<p><u>Measure 18.3</u></p>	<p><u>QRE 18.3.1</u></p>
<p>Provide reasoning for the choice of commitments and measures, as well as future plans (if applicable)</p> <p>Although most of commitment 18 applies only to platforms, other external bodies, including Science Feedback, conduct regular research on the spread of disinformation online, as mentioned in Measure 18.3.</p> <p>We think ensuring a diversity of voices in disinformation research is critical i) to ensure that insights from third parties beyond platforms are integrated at every stage of the discussion on disinformation and ii) to facilitate knowledge-sharing between platforms and third parties.</p>		

VI. Empowering the Research Community

List of adopted commitments and measures		Qualitative reporting elements and service level indicators
<p><u>Commitment 26</u></p> <p>Relevant Signatories commit to provide access, wherever safe and practicable, to continuous, real-time or near real-time, searchable stable access to non-personal data and anonymised, aggregated, or manifestly-made public data for research purposes on Disinformation through automated means such as APIs or other open and accessible technical solutions allowing the analysis of said data</p>	<p><u>Measure 26.1</u></p>	<p><u>QRE 26.1.1</u> <u>SLI 26.1.1</u></p>
<p>Provide reasoning for the choice of commitments and measures, as well as future plans (if applicable)</p> <p>Under its Open Feedback project, Science Feedback collects data on where disinformation gets published on the internet and on the outlets which disseminate it. This information can be of use to researchers. Science Feedback therefore commits to making this data available to the research community.</p>		

VII. Empowering the Fact-checking Community

List of adopted commitments and measures		Qualitative reporting elements and service level indicators
<u>Commitment 31</u> Relevant Signatories commit to integrate, showcase, or otherwise consistently use fact-checkers' work in their platforms' services, processes, and contents; with full coverage of all Member States and languages	<u>Measure 31.3</u>	<u>QRE 31.3.1</u>
	<u>Measure 31.4</u>	<u>QRE 31.4.1</u>
<u>Commitment 33</u> Relevant Signatories (i.e. fact-checking organisations) commit to operate on the basis of strict ethical and transparency rules, and to protect their independence	<u>Measure 33.1</u>	<u>QRE 33.1.1</u> SLI 33.1.1

Provide reasoning for the choice of commitments and measures, as well as future plans (if applicable)

As a verified signatory of the International Fact-checking Network code of principles, Science Feedback is committed to ensuring the highest quality standards in our verification work.

Since we have been developing a large-scale repository of fact checks over the past few years, which is now operational and ready for onboarding of other fact-checkers, we think we are very-well positioned to provide a meaningful contribution to Measure 31.3.

Other commitments under this chapter don't apply to fact-checking organizations so were left out.

VIII. Transparency Center

List of adopted commitments and measures

Qualitative reporting elements and service level indicators

Commitment 34

To ensure transparency and accountability around the implementation of this Code, Relevant Signatories commit to set up and maintain a publicly available common Transparency Centre website.

Measure 34.1

Measure 34.2

Measure 34.3

Measure 34.4

Measure 34.5

<p><u>Commitment 35</u></p> <p>Signatories commit to ensure that the Transparency Centre contains all the relevant information related to the implementation of the Code’s Commitments and Measures and that this information is presented in an easy-to-understand manner, per service, and is easily searchable.</p>	<p><u>Measure 35.1</u> <u>Measure 35.2</u> <u>Measure 35.3</u> <u>Measure 35.4</u> <u>Measure 35.5</u> <u>Measure 35.6</u></p>	
<p><u>Commitment 36</u></p> <p>Signatories commit to updating the relevant information contained in the Transparency Centre in a timely and complete manner.</p>	<p><u>Measure 36.1</u> <u>Measure 36.2</u> <u>Measure 36.3</u></p>	<p><u>QRE 36.1.1</u> <u>QRE 36.1.2</u> <u>SLI 36.1.1</u></p>
<p>Provide reasoning for the choice of commitments and measures, as well as future plans (if applicable)</p> <p>Science Feedback fully recognizes the value of a single point of reference to ensure that the Code of Practice meets its ambitions. We recognize that it needs accurate and up to date data to function properly, and therefore commit to providing it for our organization.</p>		

IX. Permanent Task-Force

List of adopted commitments and measures

Qualitative reporting elements and service level indicators

Commitment 37

Signatories commit to participate in the permanent Task-force. The Task-force includes the Signatories of the Code and representatives from EDMO and ERGA. It is chaired by the European Commission, and includes representatives of the European External Action Service (EEAS). The Task-force can also invite relevant experts as observers to support its work. Decisions of the Task-force are made by consensus

Measure 37.1

Measure 37.2

Measure 37.3

Measure 37.4

Measure 37.5

Measure 37.6

QRE 37.6.1

Provide reasoning for the choice of commitments and measures, as well as future plans (if applicable)

Science Feedback strongly believes that the Code of Practice will be the cornerstone piece of regulation on Disinformation. Therefore, we are fully committed to ensure its proper functioning, including by participating in its governance.

X. Monitoring Framework

List of adopted commitments and measures	Qualitative reporting elements and service level indicators
<p><u>Commitment 38</u></p> <p>The Signatories commit to dedicate adequate financial and human resources and put in place appropriate internal processes to ensure the implementation of their commitments under the Code.</p>	<p><u>QRE 38.1</u></p>
<p><u>Commitment 39</u></p> <p>Signatories commit to provide to the European Commission, within 1 month after the end of the implementation period (6 months after this Code's signature) the baseline reports as set out in the Preamble.</p>	
<p><u>Commitment 40</u></p> <p>Signatories commit to provide to the European Commission, within 1 month after the end of the implementation period (6 months after this Code's signature) the baseline reports as set out in the Preamble.</p>	<p><u>Measure 40.2</u> <u>Measure 40.3</u> <u>Measure 40.4</u> <u>Measure 40.5</u> <u>Measure 40.6</u></p>

<p><u>Commitment 42</u></p> <p>Relevant Signatories commit to provide, in special situations like elections or crisis, upon request of the European Commission, proportionate and appropriate information and data, including ad-hoc specific reports and specific chapters within the regular monitoring, in accordance with the rapid response system established by the Task-force.</p>		
<p><u>Commitment 43</u></p> <p>Signatories commit to produce reports and provide data following the harmonised reporting templates and refined methodology for reporting and data disclosure, as agreed in the Task-force.</p>		
<p>Provide reasoning for the choice of commitments and measures, as well as future plans (if applicable)</p> <p>Science Feedback fully supports the Code's focus on monitoring as a necessary condition for its successful implementation.</p>		

Signature

Emmanuel Vincent
President



Date and place

August 11th, 2022 - Paris