Dealing with fake news and conspiracy theories

Tips

Fake news and conspiracy stories spread mainly via social networks and messengers. They are not always directly recognizable as such. It is therefore important to critically review information, not to share it hastily and thus perhaps contribute to the spread of untruths.

Examine headlines critically
False reports often attract attention with lurid headlines that are intended to stimulate emotions. Be careful: If shocking assertions in a headline sound unbelievable, they probably are.

Check the source
What is the source behind the information? Is it trustworthy? You should be especially sceptical if no source is given at all!

Check the facts
Is the information really correct? Has it been reported in other news? In case of doubt you can visit some fact-checking websites.

Make others aware of fake news and conspiracy ideologies
Someone you know shared a hoax or conspiracy theory? Respectfully inform the person about it.

Report problematic content
Problematic content can be reported directly to the online service. - Fake news and conspiracy theories don’t have to remain unaffected.

More information and tips for dealing with conspiracy theories:
klicksafe.de/verschwoerungstheorien