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# Introduction



The Needs of Critical Thinking (CAT) project was created to address the need to develop key competencies, facilitate functioning in the world and increase safety for old people and adults in the age of information and technology.

It started in 2020 year and is led by The University of Ss Cyril and Methodius (UCM) from Slovakia, in collaboration with partners from the organisations Fundacja Pro Scientia Publica from Poland, NazHayat from Turkey, Právě teď! o.p.s. from Czech Republic, and EduVita from Italy. Each of these organisations has years of experience in adult education projects.

One of the result of the project actions was creating " Critical Thinking development. Collection of Good Practices".

The partners collected the good practices from their organizations or countries for the development of critical thinking in adult learners. The reader will find inspirations or ready-made scenarios to promote the ability of critical thinking of adults and develop their skills and competences during training events, courses and workshops.

The Toolkit covers the topics of: digital dangers, fake news, digital identity, academy of critical thinking, how our brain is misleading us and how not to get fooled.

In this instruction you will find information on what kinds of exercises are included in the collection of best practices, for whom, and what is needed. This good practices collection have been created in the English language.



# Digital Dangers



This activity covers four topics: fake news, the impact on the individual and society, online dangers, and how to appraise information critically. It is dedicated to adult people, parents, and seniors.

The trainer should start from providing information about the aims of this activity, then go to the icebreaker. Make sure that the trainer has all the materials needed for this topic. The topic will take about 4 hours. It contains both theoretical and practical parts. The trainer should provide basic knowledge about the topic.

Evaluation and feedback should be provided. Additional value of this topic is the fact that there is provided a case study that will let the learners realise the importance of knowledge about digital dangers.

## Fake News

This activity is made of two sections. Each of them takes 45 minutes, so it is 90 minutes in total. Fake news is an intergenerational activity that requires the participation of 5 seniors and 5 young. Trainer should remember about the required resources (computer and projector).

The first session is a more theoretical one and should start with the common introduction. This part aims to engage the learners in the discussion on the topic. The most important are tips how to spot fake news.

The second session requires using smartphones/tablets/etc. Learners are given the opportunity to cooperate on finding the truth and then to teach each other.

Trainer should not forget about evaluation and a common discussion.



# The Digital Identity



This practice is made of two sections. Each of them takes 1,5 hour, so it is 3 hours in total. It is dedicated to a group of seniors (about 15 people). This practice requires using additional materials, like: computer Projector, Pens, Paper, Sheets of paper, Marker pens, Presentation Printed sentences from the mini-game, Case study material.

Activity starts with introduction and ice breaker. The key is to let the learners realise that they are the ones who create their social media image. There should be also discuss the digital dangers, fake news, personal branding, digital identity and netiquette.

All of the activities should include both theoretical and practical parts. Trainer should not forget about evaluation and a common discussion.

## Academy of Critical Thinking

Academy of Critical Thinking is an extensive practice that requires a large amount of time, i.e. between one and two days, depending on your ability. The Academy of Critical Thinking is aimed at adults in every age. No additional materials are required.

This practice is aimed on providing adults with the usage of multiple courses, both for firms and individuals, led by experts. These courses have to be focuses on debates, public speaking, problem solving, discussions, and many others.

The main aim of Academy of Critical Thinking is to improve the participants' speaking skills as well as making them more confident in their thinking and to make them feel more secure and comfortable with making decisions.



# How our Brain is Misleading us and How Not Get Fooled



The Practice is dedicated to up to 15 adults with no requirements regarding their age. It should be provided in two sessions (3 hours per session). There are required pens and paper, and knowledge of suggested books and websites (see the Best Practices Collection).

This practice includes exercises covering three topics: describing cognitive tendencies and fast and slow thinking, assessing a factual knowledge test and explaining what critical thinking is. It aims to present mostly psychological aspects and barriers that influence our critical thinking skill. There are also included explanations what critical thinking really is and different exercises.

The key for this practice is to show the learners how they can prevent biases and that they should not be ashamed because everyone unconsciously makes mistakes.



# Project partners



**FMK**

Fakulta masmediálnej komunikácie  
Faculty of Mass Media Communication

The University of Ss Cyril and Methodius (UCM) is one of two public universities with its seat in the city of Trnava. The educational and research is aimed at the area of social, economic, health, natural sciences, humanities, pedagogical and historical sciences

**PSP**

PROSCIENTIAPUBLICA

NGO from Poland. Foundation works from 2010. Its main aim is to support the development of young academics and to foster all educational initiatives in the field of adult education. Undertakes its own scientific and educational projects that build bridges of understanding between generations



NGO from Turkey. A local group with the mission to unite people of various generations and positively impact their lives. One of the nearest places where we can catch up on what you have missed throughout formal education.



Nonprofit organization from Czechia. The organization is dedicated to active seniors, those who apparently do not need anything. Team is specialised in organizing courses for adult learners aged 50+ mainly in cooperation with municipalities or municipal districts.

**EduVita**

NGO dedicated to the promotion of lifelong learning and the development of intergenerational and intercultural relationships. It is an open space for different generations meeting, a cultural and educational centre in Lecce



# Find us and our project



[criticalthinkings.net](http://criticalthinkings.net)



[facebook.com/criticalthinkings](https://facebook.com/criticalthinkings)

**Do you want to take a part in our course?**

**Join here: <https://k12.instructure.com/register>**

**Code: XLFXG4**

**FMK**

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