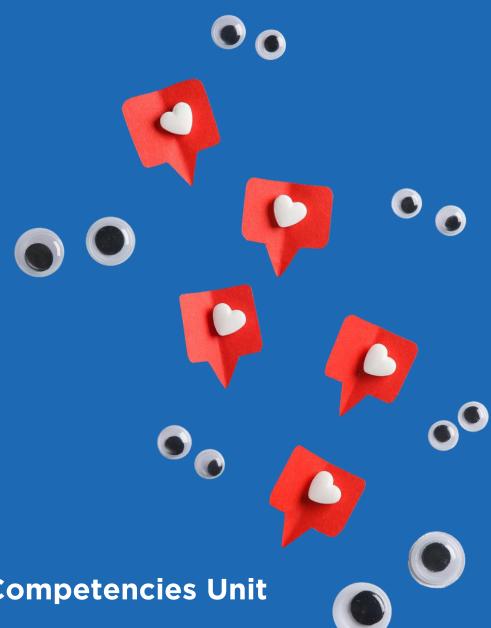


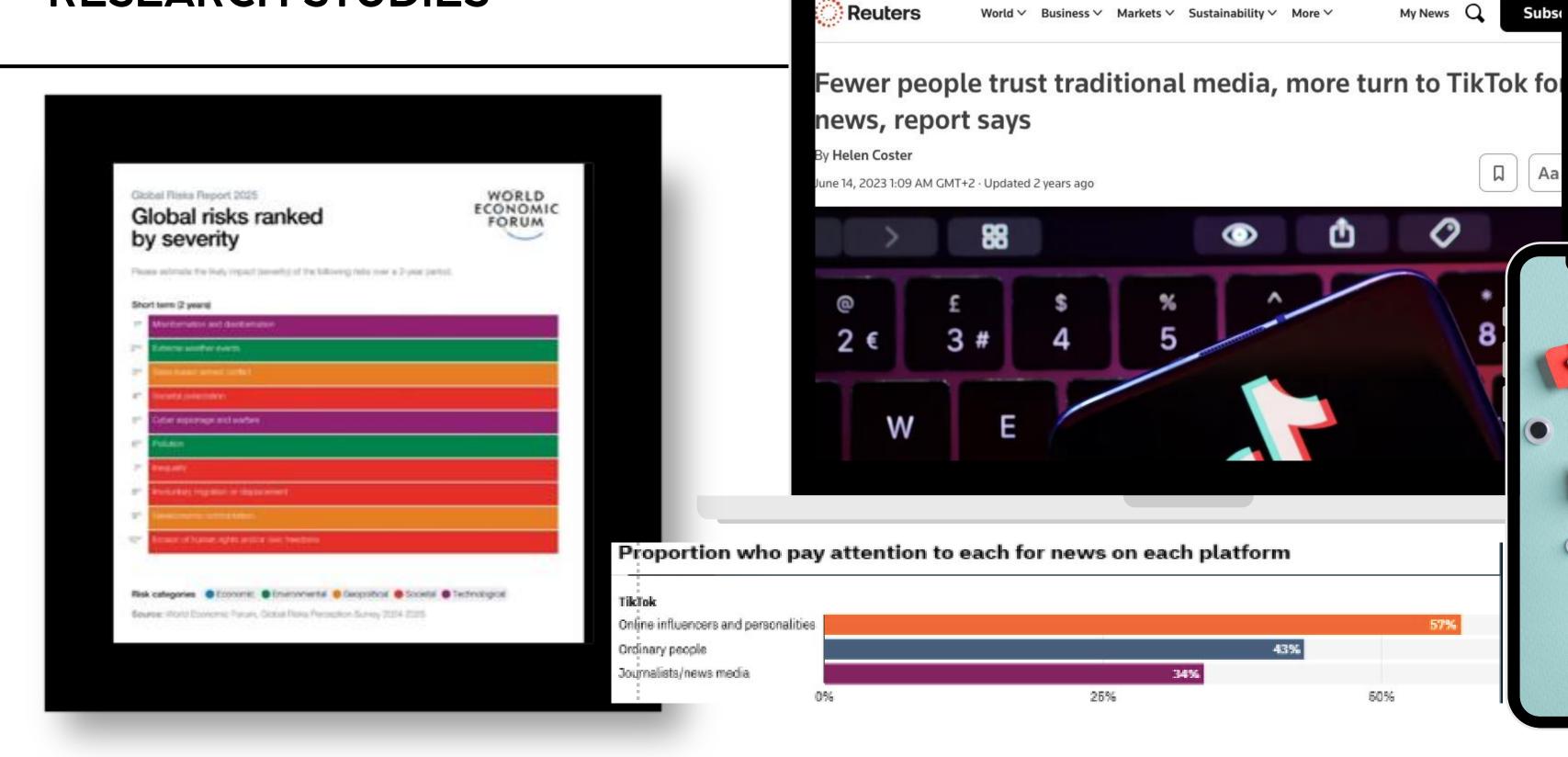
JULIETTE FREYSSON DUGO

DIGITAL CONTENT CREATORS & INFORMATION INTEGRITY



Media and Information Literacy and Digital Competencies Unit

RESEARCH STUDIES



IN THE NEWS



Reuters

Conservative influencer Charlie Kirk shot at Utah university event



Kirk, an activist and the founder of conservative student group Turning Point USA, played a key role in driving youth support for Trump in...



Le Monde.fr

https://www.lemonde.fr > World > 2024 US Elections



CONOCENOS

Harris and Trump prefer influencers and podcasters to ...

19 Oct 2024 — Democratic presidential candidate and US Vice President Kamala Harris at Harry Reid International Airport, Las Vegas, Nevada, October 10, 2024.





Romanian TikTok influencers who helped propel an ultranationalist, pro-Putin candidate to the brink of the presidency have fled the country.

13 Dec 2024



Outrage in Kenya as autopsy reveals a blogger was strangled in police custody

Protests erupted in Nairobi on Monday and Tuesday over the death of Kenyan blogger Albert Ojwang, who was found dead after being in custody...

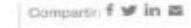




Investigación

How a group of Mexican YouTubers close to President López Obrador disinformed during the pandemic

Por Syndy García, lan Cavazos, Deyra Guerrero, Daniela Mendoza. Debanhi Soto y Patricia Escobar







WHY ARE CONTENT CREATORS RELEVANT TO UNESCO'S WORK?



UNESCO'S MANDATE

Promoting **freedom of expression** and its corollaries,
access to information and
press freedom.



DEFINITION OF JOURNALISM

Shared function "by a wide range of actors, including professional full-time reporters and analysts, as well as bloggers and others who engage in forms of self-publication in print and on the internet"



INTERNATIONAL LAW

Journalism is a function, protected by international law



HOW DO WE DEFINE CONTENT CREATORS?

GENERAL DEFINITION

Digital Content Creators

Individuals who regularly post content online for public consumption and have more than 1,000 followers (nano-influencers)

Examples: Kim Kardashian, Mr. Beast, Squeezie, Léna Situation, Khaby Lame, Chiara Ferragni

SUB CATEGORY

Digital Content Creators engaged in journalistic activities

Creators who produce verified and public-interest content

Examples: Hugo Décrypte, Gaspard G, Dylan Page, V Spehar, Cleo Abrams, Salomé Saqué

Criteria that differentiate them from traditional journalists

- Sources of revenue
- Code of conduct
- Established organization / association
- Relationship with the audience
- Formats of content



GLOBAL STUDY ON CONTENT CREATORS

PARTNER

Social Media Influencers Lab at the Bowling Green State University, United States of America

GEOGRAPHICAL DISTRIBUTION

44 countries + 1 special administrative zone
6 continents
53% from Global South

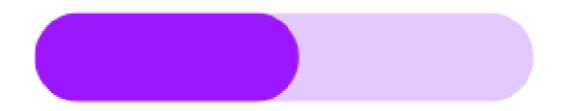
METHODOLOGY

A Global Multi-Lingual Panel Survey of 500 Content Creators with 1000 followers + and 20 in-depth interviews in 8 language regions (AR, CH, ENG, FR, GER, PO, RU, SP)





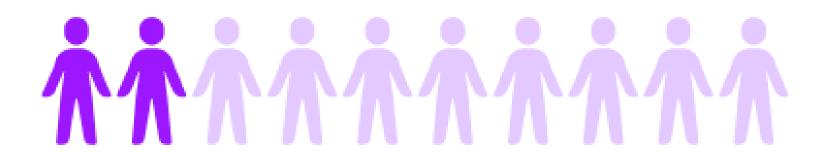




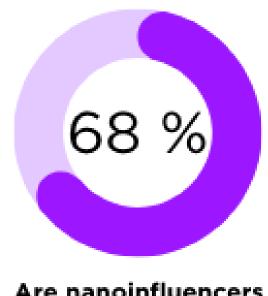
53% are under 35 years old



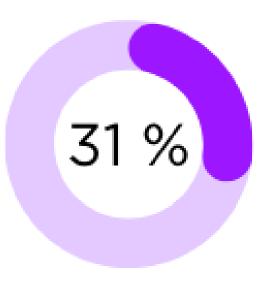
68% have a bachelor degree or more



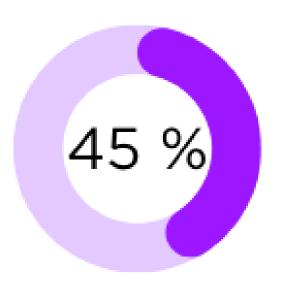
21% have a journalistic background



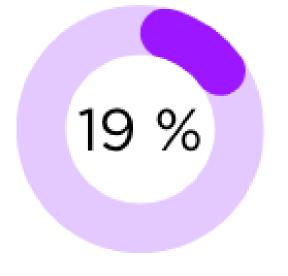




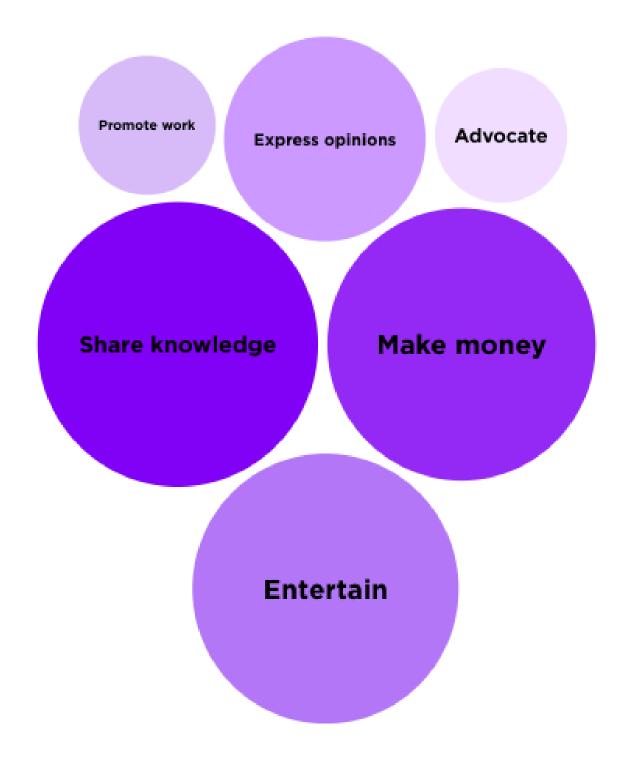
rely on content creation as main source of income



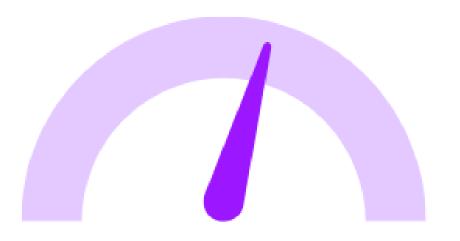
Create content for less than 3 years



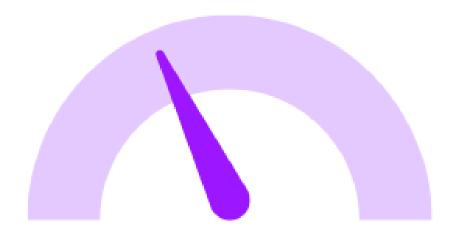
think they are always influential



Primary motivations to create content



58% use their personal experiences as primary sources to create content



36,9% use mainstream media as primary sources to create content



85% aren't members of professional associations



- 42 % use number of likes and views of online content as primary factor to evaluate credibility.
- 62 % do not systematically check accuracy of information before sharing it to their audience.
 - 1/3 know well the laws governing freedom of expression and copyright in their country.
- use personal experience as their primary source to create content and 36,9% use mainstream media.
- have been the target of online hate speech and most of them don't report it to platforms or authorities.
- 74 % are interested in UNESCO's free online course 'How to Be a Trusted Voice Online'.



ONLINE COURSE FOR CONTENT CREATORS

PARTNER

Knight Center for Journalism in the Americas, University of Austin, Texas, United States of America

LANGUAGES

English
French
Portuguese
Spanish

PARTICIPANTS

10,000+ registrationsFrom over 160 countries





1

Creating ethical and reliable content: what can creators and journalists learn from each other

2

Content creators as catalysts for media and information literacy

3

Content reators and the right to freedom of expression

4

Creating content in times of elections, conflicts and crises



GLOBAL MULTISTAKEHOLDER WORKSHOP

DATE & LOCATION

O5 May 2025 in Brussels in the framework of World Press Freedom Day 2025

PARTICIPANTS

Digital content creators & their associations

Media professionals

Media regulators and self-regulators

Advertising self-regulation agency

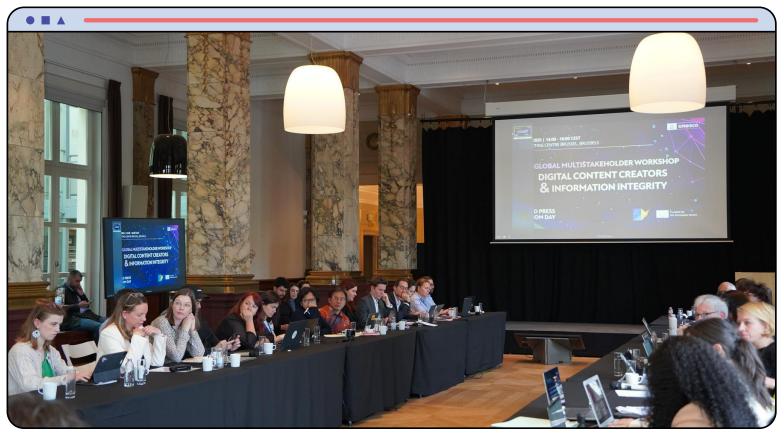
Academics

European Commission

OBJECTIVES

- Exploring the role and commitment of creators in the information ecosystem
- Analyzing audiovisual regulatory frameworks impacting digital content creation
- Advancing the professionalization and recognition of creators
- Fostering dialogue and strengthening multistakeholder collaboration







Juliette Freysson Dugo

Media and Information Literacy and Digital Competencies Unit

j.freysson@unesco.org