

# Misinformation, Disinformation, and the AI Revolution - Implications for Trust, Democracy and the Rule of Law

[The Full Fact 2025 report](#) highlights a global crisis in information integrity, driven by the proliferation of false and misleading content and accelerated by generative AI. These developments pose serious risks to public trust, democratic processes and the rule of law.

**Misinformation and Disinformation:** False narratives—both accidental and deliberate—are fuelling public confusion, polarisation and, in some cases, civil unrest. Coordinated disinformation campaigns, including foreign interference, are undermining electoral integrity and institutional credibility.

**AI-Driven Threats:** Generative AI enables the rapid creation of deepfakes, synthetic media and automated propaganda. These technologies blur the line between truth and fiction, eroding trust and complicating legal and democratic accountability.

## **Impact on Trust, Democracy and Law:**

- Trust in media, institutions and evidence is declining.
- Democratic processes are vulnerable to manipulation and delegitimisation.
- Legal systems face challenges in authenticating digital evidence and balancing free speech with harm prevention.

## **Strategic Implications and action**

**Governance:** Urgent need for targeted regulation, transparency requirements and international cooperation to counter AI-enabled disinformation.

**Technology:** Investment in AI tools for detection, verification and content monitoring is essential.

**Education:** Media literacy and public awareness campaigns are critical to building societal resilience.

**Legal Preparedness:** Courts and regulators must adapt to emerging threats, including deepfake evidence and AI-generated fraud.

## **Further reading:**

Full Fact's research: <https://fullfact.org/policy/research/>

World Economic Forum: <https://www.weforum.org/stories/2025/02/truth-at-risk-defending-facts-in-the-intelligent-age-ebu-chief/>

United Nations Development Coordination Office: <https://un-dco.org/stories/disinformation-global-risk-so-why-are-we-still-treating-it-tech-problem>

Nature <https://www.nature.com/articles/d41586-024-01587-3>

Full Fact (AI and Regulation): <https://fullfact.org/policy/reports/full-fact-report-2024/>

Full Fact – Framework for Information Incidents: <https://fullfact.org/policy/incidentframework/>