

# Source criticism – Analysing the news flow

The possibility to consume news is today larger than ever before. In the age of digitalisation, we cannot only consume news to a greater extent – we can also comment, debate and spread news. The result of this is, of course, that the amount of information is constantly growing. This also means that source criticism becomes more important than ever. We can see that the algorithms filter what news is presented to us and also that fake news and alternative facts are spreading – often much more than actual correct facts.

In this assignment you will prepare a presentation of how different sources present facts and news.

What is the most debated topic in your country right now? Is it climate changes? Is it migration? Is it the economic situation? Choose one current topic and study the news flow on this specific subject.

- Choose different types of medias for example public service, social media (Instagram, YouTube, Facebook, TikTok etc), newspapers or alternative news providers. Do you get the same news in those different medias?
- How is the topic presented? Is it objective or is it subjective? Is it facts or opinions?
- What differences can you see between the different types of media?
- Which sources are most commonly used to consume news in your country?
  - o Does it differ between the teachers and the students?

**When analysing your source, you can make use of these questions:**

- Who is saying it?
- What is being said?
- Who is the target audience?
- What is the purpose of saying it?
- When is it being said?

(Here you can find a more in-depth description of each question:

<https://lnu.se/en/library/search-and-evaluate/source-criticism2/> )

Based on your results – what challenges do you see? Which skills are most important to face the extensive information flow? What are the consequences for those that don't develop those skills?

You will report your analysis in a presentation that your group will present here in Rättvik.