

MIR Lab in Youth Work

European Youth Press
2020-2021

*Course name: Digital
investigations in an era of data-
driven journalism*

Secure your work



Presentation Outline

Offline security

- Digital security
- Sending information
- Social media
- Safe alternatives
- Dos and don'ts



Why secure yourself?

People care!

When working local or global, you may always cross someone's interests:

- Protect yourself
- Your sources
- Your data
- Your colleagues



What security measures are you already taking?

Both online and offline



Offline protection

- Health concerns
- Security concerns
 - Your routine
 - What you hear
 - What you receive
- Common sense
 - Precautions on sharing/talking
 - Safe place to work/interview
 - Know where you're going

Digital investigations in an era of data-driven journalism

Digital Protection

Your Online Hygiene

- Safe communication
- Safe file exchange
- Safe digital presence
- Better apps
- Better digital literacy



Digital investigations in an era of data-driven journalism

Safe communication

1



Password Manager

It is an app creates complex passwords for you and encrypts them

- LastPass; 1Password

2



Two-factor authentication

You get a phone notification when logging into your mail/social platform

- Okta; and for Gmail:

<https://myaccount.google.com/signinop>

3



Encryption

use public and private key

- Mailvelope for Chrome

4



Consider alternatives

Safer email options

- Protonmail
- Thunderbird
- Enigmail



Tell me a secret

I bet Google already knows it



Safe digital presence

1

Search the web

Unsecured (HTTP) vs. secured (HTTPS) version of a website.

- HTTPS Everywhere on Google Chrome/Firefox

2

Cookies & Ads

Cookies track your webpage history.

- Block this with Privacy Badger
- Adblock and uBlock Origin
- Anonymous mode

3

VPN

Virtual Private Network

- encrypts & sends your Internet traffic to a different location (TunmerBear etc.)

4

Tor

a safer alternative to popular search engines

Safer exchange



Messenger App: Signal

Safer than Whatsapp & other messengers

Has special security features



OnionShare

A safer alternative to DropBox

Open-source and free



Jitsi

Safer than Skype & Zoom

Open-source, free, app for bigger calls



If you're on social media

- Do not share anything personal.
- Use from your computer, not phone (no webcam)
- Disable location tracking
- Check your privacy settings
- Examine your digital footprint & request to remove unwanted data.



Is you're using a smartphone



- Consider having one “safe” phone (an iPhone, a feature phone) & a regular one
- Don't use TouchID/FaceID
- Secure your home network
 - better password
 - Disable remote access

Do not do this!



Openly share your data

Google Docs aren't good for
sensitive info

Use strange apps
“Fun” social media apps
collect lots of your info

Trust everyone
Always have your
phone/laptop insight & get a
good password!

Ask for help!



1

Reporters without Borders

International org; helps with offline & online security

- Digital hotline [link](#)

2

The Committee to Protect Journalists

International, defends journalists' rights. [Link](#)

3

Access Now

Global digital rights org

- 24/7 Digital Security Helpline in Nine Languages. [Link](#)

4

Global Investigative Journalism Network (GIJN)

Digital Helpdesk

- [Link](#) and [Connect](#)

Online and Offline:

Stay Safe!
Keep others safe

