

Sesión Informativa

Jornada Cluster 2 – Proyectos HORIZON

Proyecto DELIAH (Carmelo Moreno)

1 Diciembre 2025

:DELIAH

DEMOCRATIC LITERACY
AND HUMOUR



UNIVERZITA
KOMENSKÉHO
V BRATISLAVE



GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT
GÖTTINGEN



Universidad
del País Vasco

Euskal Herriko
Unibertsitatea



university of
 groningen



GHENT
UNIVERSITY

CARTOON
MOVEMENT



Website: www.deliah.eu

¿Dónde empezó todo?



About ENLIGHT

Study

Teaching & Learning

Research & Innovation

Cities & Communities

European university Network to promote equitable quality of Life, sustainability and Global engagement through Higher education Transformation.

Spanning 10 European countries (Belgium, Estonia, France, Germany, Ireland, Netherlands, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland), our members train over 300,000 learners per year and share a deep commitment to social responsibility.



MEMBERS

¿Dónde empezó todo?



FACULTY OF ARTS AND PHILOSOPHY - RESEARCH PORTAL

RESEARCHERS PROJECTS RESEARCH GROUPS

Home > Projects > HACIDA. Humor and conflict in the digital age

HACIDA. Humor and conflict in the digital age

Website: <https://research.flw.ugent.be/en/projects/hacida-humor-and-conflict-digital-age>

Estudios de Humor y Proyecto HORIZON

Enfoques tradicionales: estudios desde la Lingüística, estudios desde la Psicología, estudios étnico-culturales sobre el rol del humor... visiones positivas del humor y escaso énfasis en la dimensión política.

Recelos y debates en el mundo de los humoristas. La cuestión de la “politización del humor”.

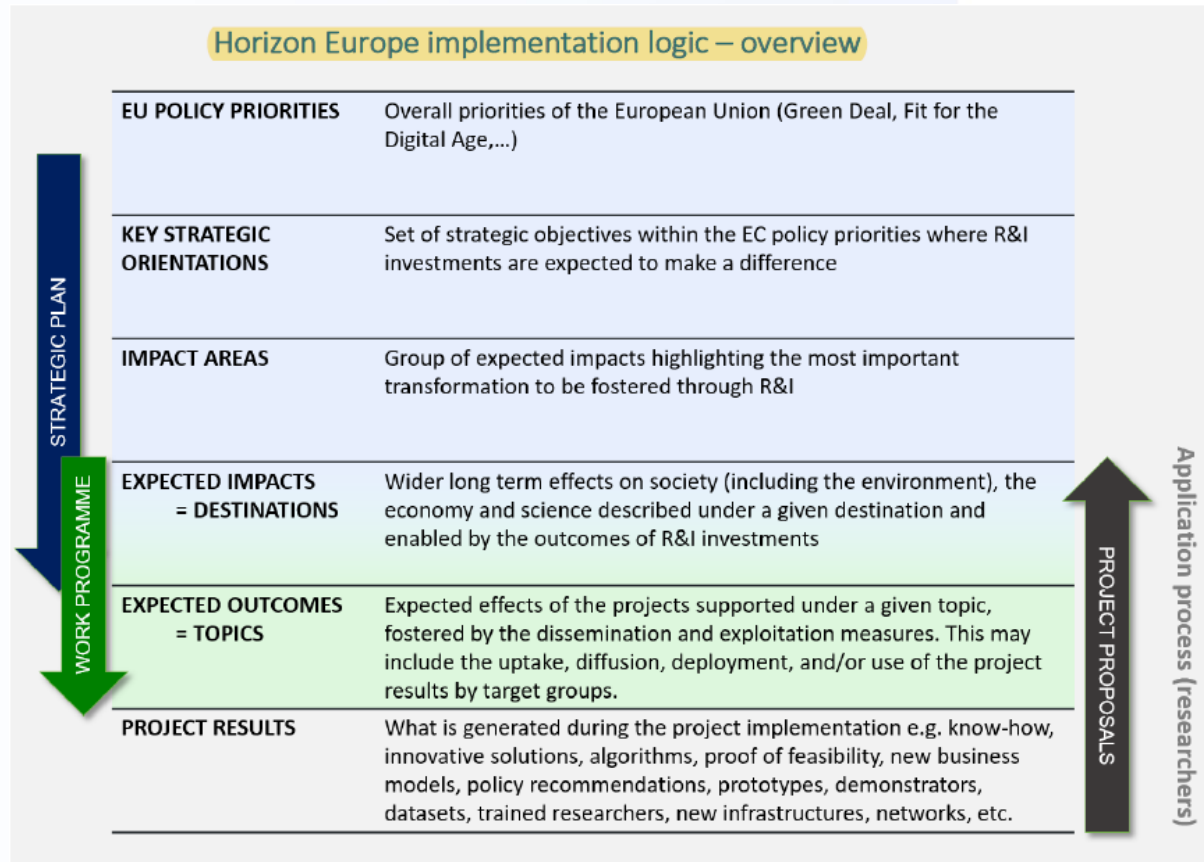
Cambio de paradigma: importancia de la dimensión política del humor, tanto por lo positivo (capacidad de concienciación a través de la alfabetización democrática) como por lo negativo (cámaras de eco, discriminación, discursos de odio).

El día D: ¡¡¡nueve meses antes!!!





El día D: ¡¡¡nueve meses antes!!!





El día D: ¡¡¡nueve meses antes!!!

EU POLICY PRIORITIES 2019 - 2024

1.- A EUROPEAN GREEN DEAL
Striving to be the first climate-neutral continent

2.- A ECONOMY THAT WORKS FOR THE PEOPLE
Working for social fairness and prosperity

3.- A EUROPE FIT FOR THE DIGITAL AGE
Grasping the opportunities from the digital age within safe and ethical boundaries

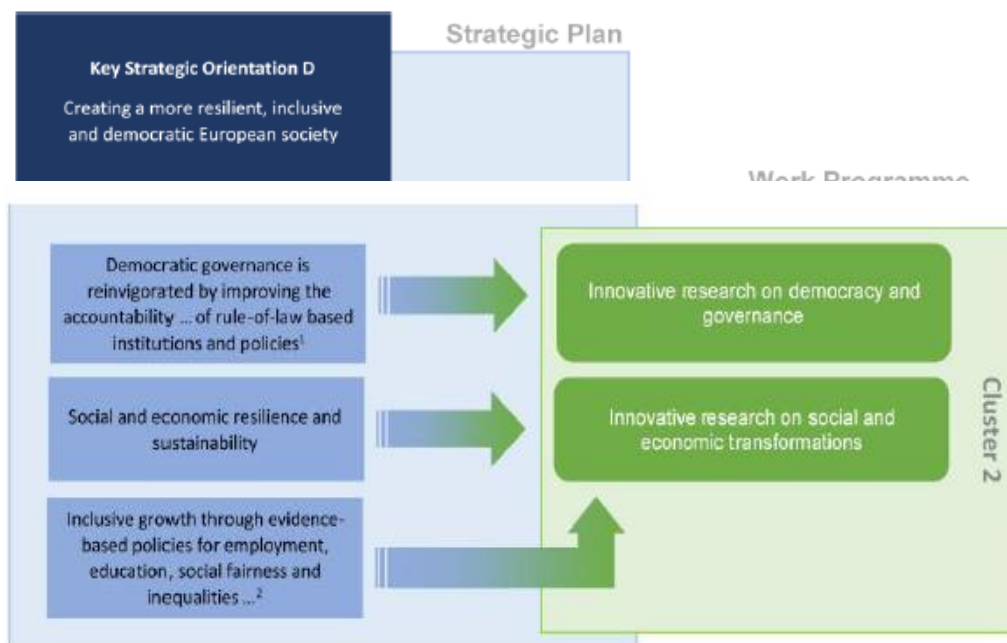
4.- PROMOTING OUR EUROPEAN WAY OF LIFE
Building a Union of equality and diversity, standing up for justice and values

5.- A STRONGER EUROPE IN THE WORLD
Strengthening our unique brand of responsible global leadership

6.- A NEW PUSH FOR EUROPEAN DEMOCRACY
Nurturing, protecting and strengthening our democracy



El día D: ¡¡¡nueve meses antes!!!





El día D: ¡¡¡nueve meses antes!!!

Part A...

- 1 - General information
- 2 - Participants
 - List of participating organisations
 - Organisation data
 - PIC...
 - Departments carrying out the proposed work
 - Links with other participants
 - Main contact person
 - Researchers involved in the proposal **NEW**
 - Role of participating organization in the Project **NEW**
 - List of up to 5 publications, widely-used datasets, software, goods, services,....
 - List of up to most relevant previous projects or activities connected to the subject of this proposal
 - Description of any significant infrastructure and/or any major items of technical equipment...
 - Gender equality plan **NEW**
- 3 - Budget for the proposal
- 4 - Ethics and Security
- 5 - Other questions

Fuente: European Commission. RIA&IA Proposal template



El día D: ¡¡¡nueve meses antes!!!

PART B is divided in three parts, called Excellence, Impact and Implementation. All are interconnected, but it's very important the explanation of a lot of terms and definitions included in all parts.

There's a glossary of definitions in PART B document, organised in alphabetic order (from **Critical Risk** to **Technology Readiness Level**). This glossary is a bit poor and, above all, it is incomplete. I was informed to use a more pragmatic order of the glossary of terms like this one:

OBJECTIVES (including TARGET GROUPS)

RESEARCH OUTPUT

RESULTS

PATHWAY TO IMPACT (including MILESTONES and possible CRITICAL RISKS).

OUTCOMES

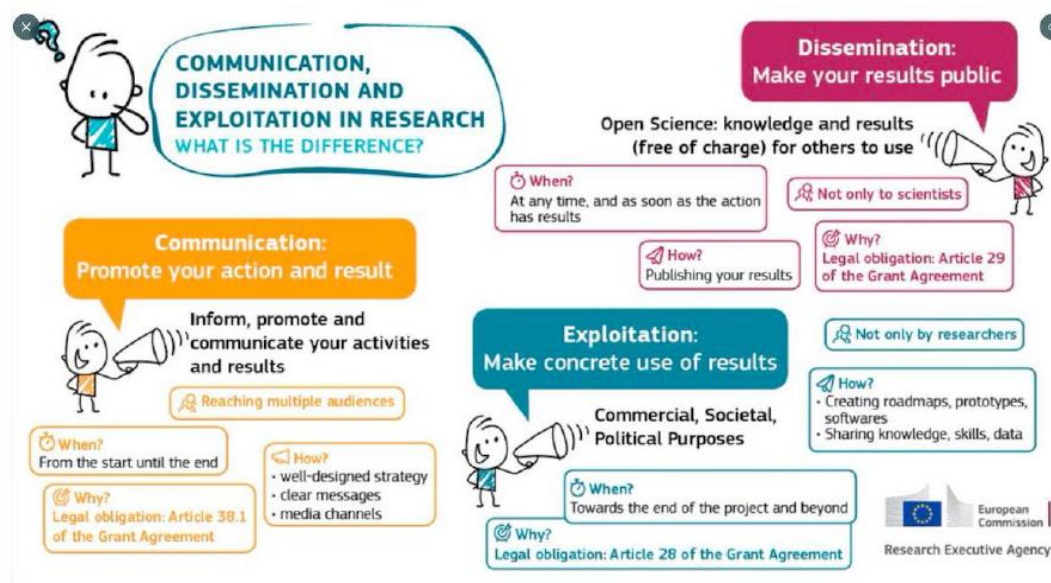
IMPACTS

DISSEMINATION, EXPLOITATION AND COMMUNACATION



El día D: ¡¡¡nueve meses antes!!!

Dissemination & Exploitation of results



Fuente: European Commission



El día D: ¡¡¡nueve meses antes!!!

TRL Y BRL (Business Readiness Level)

0	IDEA Unproven concept, no testing performed
1	BASIC RESEARCH You can describe the need but have no evidence
2	TECHNOLOGY FORMULATION Concept and application formulated
3	TECHNOLOGY VALIDATION You have achieved a proof of the concept
4	SMALL SCALE PROTOTYPE Technology validated in laboratory environment
5	LARGE SCALE PROTOTYPE Technology tested in intended environment
6	PROTOTYPE SYSTEM Tested close to expected performance scenarios
7	DEMONSTRATION SYSTEM In operational environments at pre commercial scale
8	FIRST of a KIND COMMERCIAL SYSTEM All tech & systems ready to support commercial
9	FULL COMMERCIAL APPLICATION Technology available to customers

0	IDEA You perceive a need and something ignites
1	BASIC NEED RESEARCH You can describe the need but have no evidence
2	NEEDS FORMULATION You articulate the need using a customer story
3	NEEDS VALIDATION You have initial offering in "slideware"
4	SMALL SCALE STAKEHOLDERS OFFER Run a first campaign with "friendly" stakeholders
5	LARGE SCALE EARLY ADOPTER OFFER Run a campaign with early adopters
6	PROOF OF TRACTION Sales match the first set of paying customers
7	PROOF OF SATISFACTION First happy customers give evidence of progress
8	PROOF OF SCALABILITY Stable sales pipeline allow revenue projections
9	PROOF OF STABILITY KPIs surpassed and predictable growth



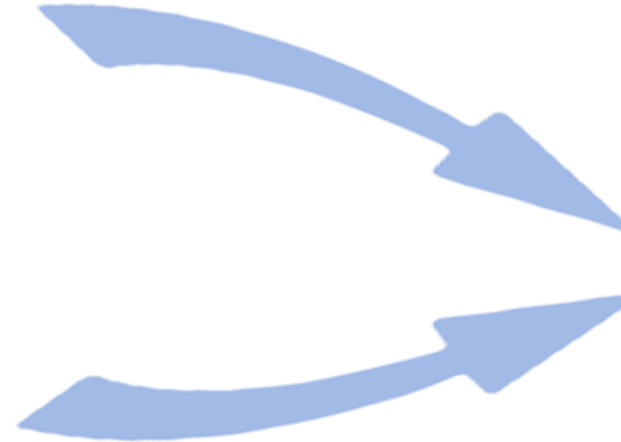
El día D: ¡¡¡nueve meses antes!!!

Technology Readiness Level....

TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL (TRL)								
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Basic Principles Observed	Technology Concept Formulated	Experimental Proof of Concept	Technology Validation in Lab	Tech validated in relevant environment	Demonstrated in relevant environment	S. prototype demo in operat environment	System complete and qualified	Actual system proven in operat environ



Exploring opportunities



Getting a solution

En resumidas cuentas....

WORK PACKAGES (¿Qué queríamos estudiar?)

DELIVERABLES (¿Qué deberíamos entregar?)

MILESTONES (¿Cuánto deberíamos entregar?)

PM (¿Cuánto trabajo nos supone todo esto?)

OBJETIVOS DEL PROYECTO

- (1) To transform existing research on the adverse effects of anti-democratic speech, which is particularly prevalent in 'humorous' forms in online platforms, into actionable policies, toolkits, and educational resources to mitigate the negative consequences of such anti-democratic speech. Such practical approaches will in turn enhance what we call 'democratic literacy': i.e., the capacity among EU citizens and regulators to discern the anti-democratic implications of certain forms of hateful speech or disparaging humour.
- (2) To conduct fundamental research into humorous 'counter-speech,' which will allow DELIAH to develop and promote humour strategies that confront anti-democratic rhetoric, hate speech, and discriminatory content, thus establishing 'best practices' for using humour as a tool to counteract anti-democratic speech and thereby foster broader and more meaningful participation in democratic processes.

WORK PACKAGES (8+2)

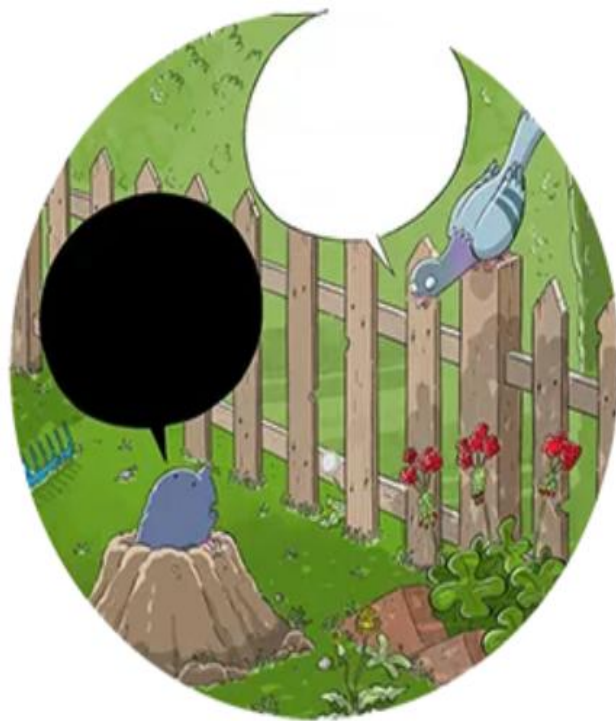


WP 1 – META-ANALYSIS OF HUMOUR PRACTICES AND DEMOCRATIC ATTITUDES IN THE EUROPEAN CONTEXT

Our starting point sounds academic, but our meta-analysis will provide a solid base for the rest of the project. What is already known about the relationship between democracy and humour and how can we build on this?

The outcome will be a public database (mainly aimed at scientists) and a summary report. The report will also serve scientists, but we also plan to make the conclusions accessible in an engaging way for a broader audience.

WORK PACKAGES (8+2)



WP 2 – CONDUCTING FOCUS GROUPS TO DISCOVER DISCOURSES OF AND EVALUATE RESPONSES TO HUMOROUS STIMULI

One way to build upon WP1 will be a hands-on examination of how Europeans in different countries respond to humour. We will set up focus-groups in different countries and show each group the same, or similar (because some humour is often language or country-specific), examples of different types of humour to see how they react, before discussing these examples with them. The resulting report should provide valuable insights into how Europeans look at humour.

WORK PACKAGES (8+2)



WP 3 – DISPARAGING HUMOUR AND DEMOCRACY: BEST PRACTICES FOR FREE SPEECH JURISPRUDENCE AND CONTENT MODERATION

Disparaging humour, meaning humour that mocks and belittles vulnerable individuals and groups, is often at the center of complex legal cases, where judges have to draw a line between safeguarding freedom of expression on the one hand, and countering incitement to discrimination or violence on the other. Besides, social media platforms and content moderators often struggle to find a balanced approach to jokes or memes that might be considered harmful or discriminatory by some users.

How can courts and online platforms ensure that humor (including provocative or potentially offensive jokes) is preserved as a vital component of democratic debate, while at the same time protecting the rights of targeted communities? What options are available to foster democratic participation, beyond the mere decision to remove content or keep it online? In light of both human rights law and humor research, this WP will create a toolkit helping judges and online platforms develop a fair and consistent approach to disputed humorous material.

WORK PACKAGES (8+2)



WP 4 – ANALYSING THE RHETORIC OF FAR-RIGHT: HUMOUR ONLINE AND THE ROLE OF DEMOCRATIC LITERACY

How does the far-right use humour and do they use forms of humour that undermine democracy or that compromise the democratic attitudes of EU citizens? Democratic literacy refers to our overall ability in Europe to recognize threats to democracy. How can we bolster democracy to withstand harmful humour?

This WP will result in a toolkit on how to increase democratic literacy that can be used by educators and by organizations active in the field of democracy and free speech. We'll also write policy recommendations for educators, policymakers and social media companies.

WORK PACKAGES (8+2)



WP 5 – UNDERSTANDING LAUGHTER SCANDALS TO CREATE CONCEPTUAL AND TRANSLATIONAL TOOLS FOR DEMOCRACIES

In recent years, there have been many controversies involving cartoons, satirical writings and other forms of humour. This WP attempts to map what we call *laughter scandals*, both those that take place on a national level and international ones, to see if we can discern common trends among them. In the international context, this WP focuses on how scandals are created when humour gets taken out of its (national) context.

Our findings will be used to create a toolkit for educators and to write a white paper for policy makers on how to address such controversies.

WORK PACKAGES (8+2)



WP 6 – ANALYSING HUMOUR AND FOSTERING DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION IN TIMES OF CONFLICT

Using two case studies, the ongoing war in Ukraine and the formation of a new, populist government in Slovakia following the September 2023 elections, this WP aims to identify strategies of humour in cases where citizens confront political disinformation and anti-democratic propaganda. What role can humour play in enhancing democracy and civic participation?

Our goal is to formulate policy recommendations around humour practices in relation to disinformation, anti-democratic propaganda and civic participation.

WORK PACKAGES (8+2)



WP 7 – ANALYSING GENDER AND STAND-UP COMEDY IN THE 21ST-CENTURY ANGLOPHONE WORLD, ONLINE AND OFFLINE

This WP will research how female and non-cisgender comedians have carved out new spaces for and forms of stand-up comedy in the 21st century, and how this has facilitated humorous forms of informal democratic participation by creating spaces for free and alternative forms of speech, societal critique and self-reflection.

This WP will result in a database of relevant comedians working today (which will be restricted to use by request, due to its sensitive nature), a bibliography of current research into stand-up comedy and gender, and a white paper outlining how such stand-up comedy has contributed to informal kinds of democratic speech and participation.

WORK PACKAGES (8+2)



WP 8 – ANALYSING USES OF 'COUNTER-HUMOUR' IN MEDIA EDUCATION AND ACTIVISM

The online realm is, unfortunately, full of people that threaten, bully and exhibit other forms of toxic behavior. How can we use humour to effectively counter harassment and anti-democratic behaviour in the digital domain?

Our goal is to develop potential humour intervention strategies, with attention to particularly vulnerable social groups (e.g., girls and LGBTQ+ youth), in close collaboration with civil society initiatives and media education organizations.

Primeros resultados....

[Communities](#)
[My dashboard](#)
[Log in](#)
[Sign up](#)

DELIAH
DEMOCRATIC LITERACY
AND HUMOUR

DELIAH - Democratic Literacy and Humour
<https://www.deliah.eu/>
Project
 Ghent University - Faculty of Arts and 7 more organizations
 [New upload](#)

[Records](#)
[Members](#)

3 results found
 Sort by Newest

Versions
☐ View all versions

Access status
☐ Open 3

Resource types
☐ Dataset 2
☐ Publication 1

Subjects
☐ Democracy 3
☐ humour 2
☐ comedy 1
☐ humor 1
☐ stand-up comedy 1

August 29, 2025 (v1)
 Project deliverable
 Open

Meta-analysis of contemporary humour practices and democratic attitudes
 Engelken-Jorge, Marcos ; Moreno, Carmelo
 This document forms part of the Democratic Literacy and Humour (DELIAH) project, which explores the complex and multifaceted role of humour in various artistic expressions, cultural spaces, and both online and offline public fora. The project investigates how humour can act as a tool either to support or undermine democratic participation and processes across Europe. This...
 Part of EU Open Research Repository , DELIAH - Democratic Literacy and Humour
 Uploaded on August 29, 2025

215
 163

August 29, 2025 (v1)
 Dataset
 Open

Working bibliography of scholarship on stand-up comedy
 Kempynck, Amber
 Bibliography of scholarly studies on anglophone stand-up comedy
 Part of DELIAH - Democratic Literacy and Humour
 Uploaded on August 29, 2025

231
 68

June 30, 2025 (1 - Final)
 Dataset
 Open

Humour practices and European attitudes towards democracy - data documentation
 Engelken-Jorge, Marcos ; Moreno, Carmelo ; Castañeda-Zumeta, Aitor ; and 13 others
 This document outlines the scope and key features of the 'Humour Practices and European Attitudes Toward Democracy' dataset, including the procedure followed for its production. The database collects and classifies relevant studies on humour practices, attitudes toward democracy, and modes of civic engagement in the six countries of the DELIAH consortium: Belgium,...
 Part of DELIAH - Democratic Literacy and Humour
 Uploaded on June 30, 2025

119
 141

MUCHAS GRACIAS !!!

carmelo.moreno@ehu.eus