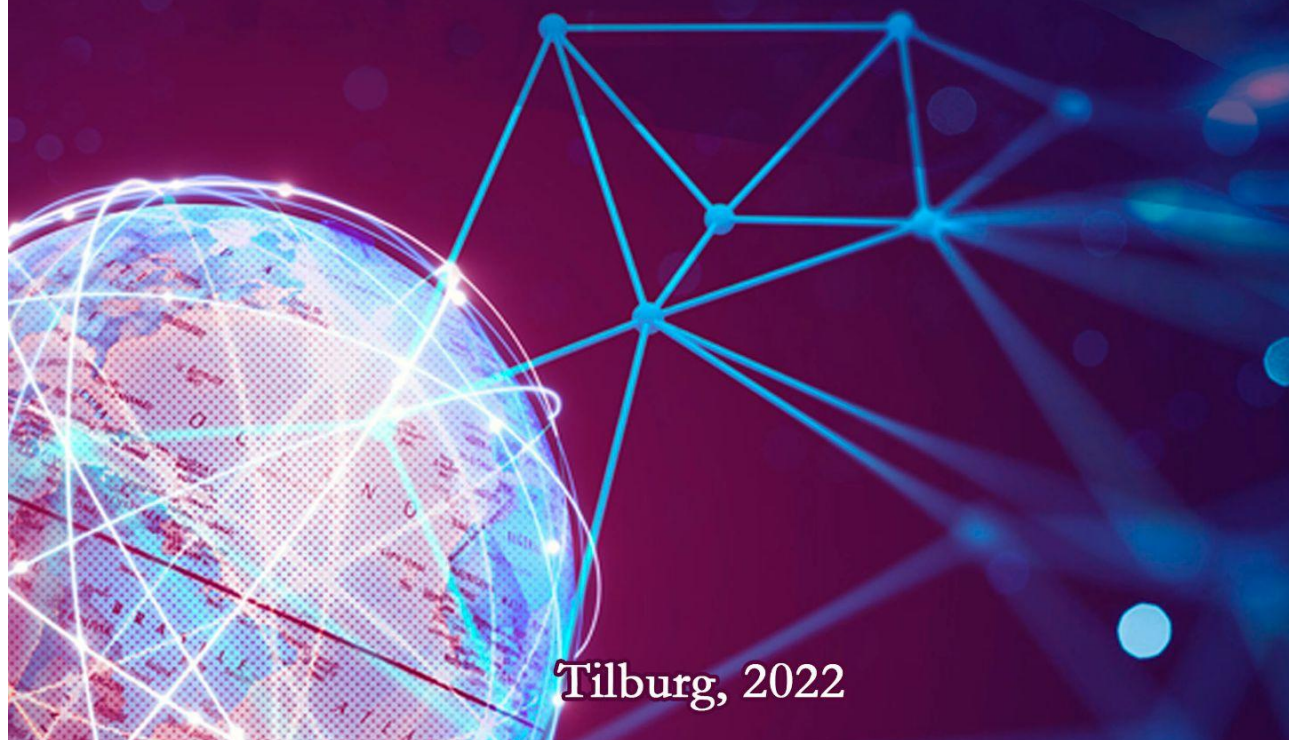The Department of Cognitive Science and Artificial Intelligence,
Tilburg School of Humanities and Digital Sciences

The Laboratory of Mass Communication and Media Education
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National Academy of Educational Sciences of Ukraine

Cyber Socialization in the Conditions of Increased Uncertainty:

Materials of the VIth Inter-Institutional Seminar

Tilburg, 2022

The collection of scientific works is devoted to the issues of cyber socialization of the individual and the problems that arise in the process of socialization in the conditions of the information society. Both positive and negative consequences of the socialization of the individual in the technogenic world are considered. This collection is the result of the work of scientists, teachers, psychologists, specialists in technical and cognitive sciences, students, which analyzes cyber challenges, issues related to cyber socialization and ways to solve them.

The collection is addressed to psychologists, social pedagogues, media psychologists and media pedagogues, journalists, scientists of technical and cognitive specialties, students and teachers of courses in various fields related to the specified topic.

CONTENTS:

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THE CENTER FOR DIGITAL EDUCATION AND MEDIA LITERACY IN MYKOLAIV (UKRAINE): RESPONDING TO THE CHALLENGES OF THE INFORMATION WAR

The rapid development of the world's digital and media technologies, reforms in the field of education in Ukraine, the formation of a new society requires qualitatively new approaches to raising children and the process of improving the qualifications of teachers in various fields. And this is impossible without highly qualified employees capable of mobility, orientation in a complex info-media environment, lifelong learning, those who are able to quickly make adequate decisions. That is why the Mykolaiv In-Service Teachers Training Institute faces new tasks, the fulfillment of which is possible only under the condition of forming a modern informational and educational environment and understanding the level of media culture of teachers of the Mykolaiv region, perception of modern challenges and threats, awareness of the importance of educating a harmonious personality with critical thinking.

The informatization of education caused the active use of information and communication technologies, which had a positive effect on the effectiveness of the educational process at all levels and the formation of a set of competencies.

The objective reality of the modern world indicates the urgency of updating the education system in general and pedagogical technologies and approaches to the formation of digital competence in particular.

The creation and effective functioning of a modern informational and educational environment becomes possible thanks to the implementation of digital information technologies in the field of design, ICT and means of communication. The development of the modern information society puts forward new requirements for the training and retraining of teachers to the world education system.

More than two years have passed since the moment when the world and Ukraine became hostages not only to the coronavirus infection COVID-19, but also to the information pandemic caused by it - the rapid, uncontrolled spread of unverified, undifferentiated information, which creates fear and panic in society and prompts the adoption of rash decisions emotional decisions. In 2021, the Ministry of Digital Transformation of Ukraine published the results of the study "Digital Literacy of the Population of Ukraine", which indicated that the digital skills of 47.8% of Ukrainians are below the "basic level" mark (according to the digital skills assessment methodology used by the European Commission) (Digital literacy of the population of Ukraine: a report based on the results of a national survey, 2021). In the same year, the non-governmental organization "Detector Media" published an analytical report based on the results of a comprehensive study "Media Literacy Index of Ukrainians", according to which 15% of Ukrainians have a low level of media literacy, a third (33%) - below average, 44% - above average and only 8% is high (Media Literacy Index of Ukrainians: analytical report based on the results of a comprehensive study: https://bit.ly/3djdaaU).

Today, Ukraine faced a new challenge - unprovoked large-scale aggression on the part of the Russian Federation, destruction of civilian infrastructure, educational institutions. Mykolaiv and the Mykolaiv region is a front-line area that is under daily Russian rocket fire. The Mykolaiv In-Service Teachers Training Institute did not interrupt the educational process, continued to improve the qualifications of regional teachers, prepare teachers for the New Ukrainian School and implement the new State Standard of Basic Secondary Education in Ukraine, providing informational and psychological support.

The purpose of the article is to find ways to comprehensively solve problems associated with a low level of digital literacy and media culture and to build a model of acquiring knowledge in the specified areas by teachers and other categories of residents of the Mykolaiv region: pensioners, civil servants, people with disabilities, military personnel, entrepreneurs, etc. in conditions real and informational and psychological warfare.

Basic presentation. Back in 2019, the academic council of the Mykolaiv In-Service Teachers Training Institute adopted the concept of an information and educational environment, the purpose of which is to organize practical steps for the development of the institute not only as a regional center for the retraining of teaching staff of the Mykolaiv region, but also as a modern center for the development of digital education, media culture and innovations in the context of the implementation of the "New Ukrainian School" concept (Zaporozhchenko M., 2019).

In December 2021, the first digital education and media literacy center in Ukraine was opened on the basis of the Mykolaiv In-Service Teachers Training Institute (story – https://youtu.be/24e4sORAbEQ), the purpose of which is to increase the level of digital education and media culture of residents of the Mykolaiv Region:

- formation/improvement of knowledge on the basics of computer, information and digital literacy, safe use of digital technologies;

- formation/improvement of digital content creation skills, ability to work with data;

- development of attitudes towards personal and professional self-improvement, positive attitude towards digital transformation, lifelong learning.

The main functions of the Center:

- development training and professional development programs for the formation and development of digital competencies of specialists in various fields of activity;

- introduction of digital and media literacy courses;

- formation of digital culture in educational institutions;

- conducting activities aimed at increasing the level of digital competences of participants in the educational process (leaders, teachers, students, parents, etc.) in accordance with new professional standards;

- provision of methodical support to educational institutions regarding the use of digital laboratories;

- formation of a network of digital mentors, volunteers in institutions of higher and vocational education;

- organizing and conducting training on the development of digital skills of civil servants and officials of regional and local self-government bodies;

- organization of regional digital orientation forums for senior citizens;

- organization of a system of informing about the possibilities of increasing the level of digital literacy:

- creation of a landing page on digital literacy;

- development of an interactive map of digital education. (Zaporozhchenko M., 2022).

Structure of the Center:

• STEM laboratory/training room;

• teleconference hall/training hall;

• Open Media Center;

• workspace.

STEM laboratory/training room of the Center. As part of teacher training courses and the work of the Center, special attention is paid to familiarization with the elements of robotics.

Even if the specifics of the subject are not directly related to coding and robotics, learning elements of robotics in school equips students with important skills such as analytical thinking, programming, teamwork, collective thinking, innovation perception, and more. That is why teachers need to be shown the functions of various robots and their possibilities for the educational process
(Shulyar V., Makhrovska N., Pogromska H., Zaporozhchenko M., 2021).

Video conference hall/training hall. The functional purpose of the audience is to hold video conferences, which provides simultaneous two-way transmission, processing, transformation and presentation of interactive information at a distance in real time using computer hardware and software.

This media tool can be used to hold joint conferences between several institutions, cities, regions, and countries.

Open Media Center. The main goal of the operation of the media center on the basis of The Mykolaiv In-Service Teachers Training Institute is to create conditions for the integration of quality media texts in the process of improving the qualifications of teaching staff of the Mykolaiv region in various fields (language and literature, social science, art, natural science, health care, etc.) and the transfer of an effective toolkit for the formation of the basics of infomedia literacy in the children they teach.

The uniqueness of the equipped media center as a toolkit is that, thanks to it, media texts are created for teachers of various fields from a subject that corresponds to a certain direction of training and performs a number of important functions at once:

- teaching teachers to integrate one or another media text into the content of the lesson so that the learning process is effective and interesting;

- formation of media text analysis skills, maintaining a balance of opinions, using only facts, not judgments, debunking historical myths, stereotypes and modern fakes;

- implementation of educational projects through the creation of multi-disciplinary media texts about world-renowned scientists, writers, athletes, artists, musicians, whom fate somehow connected with the Mykolaiv region, as the implementation of the local lore mission, integration of infomedia literacy with the local lore component of education;

- demonstration of the content creation process and its components in compliance with the principles of academic integrity;

- creation of content that responds to topical issues of various fields: education, inclusion, health, children's safety;

- increasing the level of research competence of teachers and the use of acquired knowledge in the educational process;

- creation of one of the centers of the new informational and educational environment of the institute, which will determine the development of pedagogical education in general.

One of the promising areas of activity of the Center for Digital Education is project-experimental work and cooperation with the mass media on spreading the key principles of media literacy and digital education among the residents of the region.

Since its inception, the center has implemented more than 10 media education projects involving more than 3,000 teachers from the region.

Mykolaiv In-Service Teachers Training Institute cooperates with local media, in particular with the TV channel "Mykolaiv", to effectively cover media education activities and promote infomedia and digital literacy. Employees of the center took part in more than 20 "media-educational" broadcasts (call for broadcasts - https://cutt.ly/5G6vsav).

Since February 24, 2022, the Center has been working continuously in the field of information security of the Mykolaiv region, since the war is being waged on two fronts - real and informational and psychological: the spread of fake reports on the activities of the Ukrainian central and local authorities, discrediting Western partner networks and their support, labeling Ukrainian refugees and immigrants, artificial division of Ukrainian society along regional or linguistic lines. Such messages, unfortunately, are widely distributed in European countries as well, as the Kremlin spends huge amounts of money on "fueling" propaganda in these countries as well. The Center regularly holds webinars and trainings on the topic of information security during the war for teachers and students of the Mykolaiv region. The Center's employees create short educational videos to counter fakes, Russian propaganda, and manipulation so that the residents of front-line Mykolaiv are able to receive verified information, analyze media messages, and keep themselves in psychological balance.

We are also working on the development of new educational programs that include elements of media literacy for teachers of all fields, because critical thinking is a vital skill today.

Conclusions and perspectives of research. Summarizing the above, we believe that the creation of a digital education and media literacy center in combination with project-experimental and image work, the development of new and improvement of existing educational programs with the integration into their content of the skills of critical evaluation of information and digital literacy is the comprehensive solution that offers institute to address issues related to low levels of digital and media literacy. In addition, cooperation with the mass media, participation of the Center's employees in thematic broadcasts will encourage residents of the region to improve their own media hygiene and develop digital skills, which makes everyday life easier, simplifies access to many services, and helps to be protected in the information environment.

Continuation of the implementation of the specified set of measures will contribute to the free access of teachers to digital education tools for the effective formation of knowledge, abilities and skills of the end user of the educational service - the child.

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