

Mikko SALO is Faktabaari (FactBar) Founder, Finnish transparency NGO chair and LUT University EU Advisor. In 2014 he founded the fact-checking service bringing accuracy to European election debate. Since he has worked with (journalism) schools, media educators, scientists and voluntary crowds for a pedagogical, secure and engaging online fact-checking and debate focused new media concepts. Mikko is a member of the EU's High-Level Expert Group on Fake News and online disinformation whose report "Multi-dimensional approach to online disinformation" triggered also the first online platform code of practice on disinformation. His current fact-checking and digital media literacy efforts link to forthcoming European elections and ways to tackle "information disorders" such as 1) building FactBar EDU to empower educators in voter literacy, while involved in 2) promising European factchecking efforts like #Femfacts -project debunking damaging misrepresentations of women in European news media and 3) several technology solutions. He has a versatile experience on European Affairs in member state and EU-level having served also four EU institutions. He has an interdisciplinary educational background majoring in political sciences.

## FAKTABAARI

Faktabaari is a Finnish factchecking service bringing accuracy to the public election debates. Faktabaari is a non-partisan journalistic service using social media for collecting and distributing factual information with crowds. Faktabaari started by serving facts on common misconceptions on EU and followed the public European election debate during 2014 in order to correct the factual mistakes to support a fact-based and informed public debate.

Faktabaari is run by a transparency NGO called Avoin yhteiskunta ry (Open Society association, Finland) and is managed by a voluntary staff of professional journalists, researchers, EU experts, teachers and technical staff with the help of broader network of topical experts and information and media literacy specialists. The independent international branch (FactBar) is connected to the European debate by co-operating with a network of like-minded partners.

Faktabaari won the award for the Best Journalism Act in the 2014 Finnish Bonnier journalism awards organized in March 2015. The European Public Communication Award 2014 was attributed to Faktabaari at the EuroPCOM 2014 Conference in Brussels.