

# Adding Linguistic Diversity to the Global Discourse Map

Exploring the nature of communication and collaboration in an interdisciplinary project

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## Introduction - The Battle for Truth

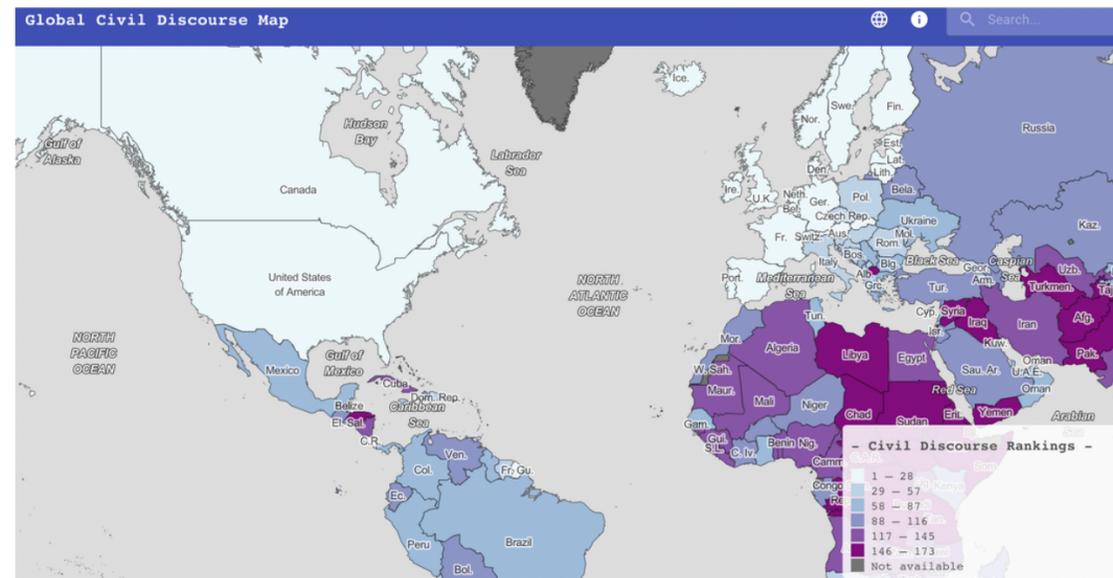
Disinformation is one of the greatest threats to the global community's democratic fabric. This project aims to counter disinformation and encourage civil discourse by creating an interactive world map populated by the stories of international journalists battling fake news.

## Collaboration

This interdisciplinary project involves collaboration between faculty and students in four GVSU programs: Modern Languages and Literatures (FRE and SPA), Multimedia Journalism (CMJ), Computer Science (CIS), and Padnos/Sarosik Center for Civil Discourse. The project was funded by a TIG grant from FTLC.

## Methods

FRE and SPA Students recorded Zoom interviews with international journalists. After the interviews, CMJ students worked with FRE and SPA to edit videos, translate them into English, and create closed captions. CIS students then inserted videos into an [interactive online map](#). Afterward, students were surveyed to gauge their perceptions on the process.



## Acknowledgments

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## Research

Q1: What is the nature of communication and collaboration in this interdisciplinary project from the learners' perspectives? What role does language play in this process?

Q2: How are learner perceptions of civil discourse and misinformation influenced by interviewing journalists with firsthand experience?

## Preliminary Findings

- Most students responded positively to the interdisciplinary and experiential nature of the project.
- The vast majority of FRE students feel this project has deepened their understanding of both the critical role of misinformation in the world and the importance of civil discourse.

## Reflection and Discussion

- Clear communication between the 2 student groups is vital.
- Breakdown in communication leads to rework and frustration.
- Positive outcomes tempered by the need to improve organizational aspects of project.