



# Journalistic Philosophy: The Struggle for Truth in the Digital Age

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**Abstract:** This article on journalistic philosophy; struggles in the search for truth in the digital era. examines the various challenges faced in the search for truth amid the rapid development of information and communication technology. This article aims to highlight significant changes in the way information is produced, disseminated, and consumed, which affect the truth and reliability of information in the digital era. The method of this article uses a qualitative method, the type of article is library research, a conceptual analysis approach, by identifying key concepts such as truth, justification and challenges in seeking truth in the digital era. Data sources were obtained from various literature sources related to journalistic philosophy. The results show that this article emphasizes the important role of responsible journalism in maintaining the truth and reliability of information in the digital era. By integrating the principles of journalistic philosophy and theories of truth, journalists can more effectively face the challenges of the digital era and contribute to creating a more informed and critical society.

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## INTRODUCTION

Jawa Pos senior journalist Dahlan Iskan, in an oration that was also written in an article published on Disway.id on Tuesday, July 04, 2023, revealed a concept he called "New Truth". According to Dahlan Iskan, this new truth is different from traditional truth because it is no longer based on facts. In the new truth, facts no longer reflect the truth. Dahlan pointed out that when debating on social media by presenting facts, it would be futile. Because, according to him, facts are no longer part of the truth, because the new truth comes from what is called "Perception". Perception is the basis of the new truth, where perception itself is formed by framing. At the end of his explanation, Dahlan Iskan then asked, what is the use of universities if the truth can be sought through framing.

This concept refers to the idea that today, truth is no longer something absolute, but rather relative because it is influenced by individual interpretations, perceptions, and viewpoints. Truth is an essential concept in human life, whether in scientific, journalistic or everyday contexts. In scientific research, truth is the main foundation because the discovery of true knowledge signifies the success of science itself. Similarly, in journalism, truth is the main pillar in carrying out its functions and responsibilities to provide accurate and reliable information to the public. Truth is usually defined as the conformity between statements or judgments and facts or reality (Sudiby, 2004). However, truth is not an easy concept to define absolutely and is often a source of debate in various disciplines.

Thomas Aquinas, an Italian philosopher, defined truth as "the equation of reason with reality," describing the close relationship between human thought and objective reality. Truth can be divided into different types based on the context and aspects being analyzed (Mulyana, 2000). Pranarka, for example, distinguishes truth into three main types: epistemological, ontological, and

semantic. Epistemological truth relates to human knowledge about a particular object, ontological truth refers to the conformity of the object to its nature, and semantic truth relates to the accuracy of statements or language (Kusumohamidjojo, 2023).

In addition, it is important to understand the difference between "truth", "justification" and "ke-betul-an". In Indonesian, truth is opposite to lie, justification is opposite to denial, while ke-betul-an is opposite to fallacy. This shows that truth does not always refer to metaphysical properties, but also about conformity or incompatibility with everyday reality. In journalism, truthfulness is very important because the information conveyed must be precise and not misleading.

In an effort to understand and establish truth, various criteria have been proposed by philosophers and scientists. Jujun Suriasumantri identified four main criteria of truth: coherence, correspondence, pragmatic, and formal. These criteria provide a framework for assessing the accuracy and validity of statements based on internal consistency, conformity to reality, practical utility, and logical or mathematical structure. In journalism, the correspondence and pragmatic criteria are often the main focus because the news presented must fit the facts and be useful to society.

Epistemic justification is an important aspect in understanding how beliefs can qualify as true knowledge. Several justification theories such as foundationalism, coherentism, infinitism, foundherentism, evidentialism, reliabilism, and fallibilism offer various approaches to assessing and justifying beliefs. In the journalistic context, evidentialism is particularly relevant because journalists must base their reports on clear and verifiable evidence.

The study of journalistic philosophy has been carried out by many previous studies, including by (Roni Subhan, 2024), Roni explained that language as a means of communication is the most effective way to convey thoughts, intentions and goals to the people we communicate with. Language as a means of communication has the main function of language is that communication is the delivery of messages or meanings by one person to another. The function of language as a means of human communication includes five basic functions, namely the function of expression, information function, exploration function, persuasion function and entertainment function. Humans have a very broad realm of life, so it is not uncommon if we talk about the function of language is also very much depending on the situation and where the language is used. Humans need language as a means of communication. Language as a means of communication plays a very important role in human life because with language humans can interact and talk about anything. Based on the way of presentation, language can be divided into two means, namely means with written and spoken language, whether spoken language or written language, one of its functions is to communicate so that it affects social interaction in society can be established. Communication in everyday life is very important. Humans cannot avoid various forms of communication because with communication humans can build the relationships they need as social beings. Another study was conducted by (Algooth Putranto, 2022), which explained that mechanical robots still need humans, journalists and computer scientists unless one day robots become smarter to take the initiative to find news, check with source callers, compile logic, then write news automatically. Society is a collection of people who are founded, united, develop, decline and die based on their belief system. Beliefs come from experience. Experience requires prior beliefs and reasons to be assimilated, and reasons require shaping experience. Beliefs, reasons and experiences are interrelated. The context is dynamic and is shaped based on beliefs, reasons and experiences from beliefs. This condition can explain why a product has different values, even though it is a similar product.

From the aforementioned research, the Gap analysis of this article is to provide a comprehensive view of the concept of truth, including refuting what Dahlan Iskan claims as a new truth, and concluding that what is said to be "new truth" is closer to "justification". In various contexts, including journalistic philosophy, this shows the complexity and dynamics in human efforts to understand and establish what is considered true. This process is an ongoing endeavor and involves various complementary theoretical approaches, especially in carrying out the moral and ethical

responsibilities of journalism to present accurate and objective information to the public. So what is the role of truth in science and journalism, what is the difference between truth, justification and truthfulness, and how journalistic philosophy is applied in the digital era are the things we will discuss in this article.

## **METHODS**

The method of this article uses a qualitative method, the type of article is library research (literature review), the approach used is descriptive normative. In writing an article about the challenges of seeking truth in the digital era related to truth theory and journalistic philosophy, the author uses a comprehensive and structured writing method, namely by taking a conceptual analysis approach, by identifying key concepts such as truth, justification and challenges in seeking truth in the digital era. In addition, the author also uses a descriptive approach, by explaining in detail the phenomenon of the challenge of seeking truth in the digital era, as well as relevant theories of truth and journalistic philosophy, as well as concrete data and examples to support the analysis. The combination of these methods is applied in the hope of compiling a coherent, comprehensive and in-depth article on the challenges of seeking truth in the digital age, while linking it to theories of truth and journalistic philosophy. Data sources were obtained from various literature sources related to journalistic philosophy.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Truth and Justification in Science**

Science is a field that fundamentally seeks to discover truth. Every scientific research begins with a hypothesis that must be tested through experimentation, observation, and data analysis. Truth in this context means the conformity between the theory or hypothesis and the empirical data obtained.

Science has several basic principles related to truth, including: *Verification* is the process of confirming that research results can be replicated and validated by other researchers. *Falsification* is a concept introduced by Karl Popper, stating that a hypothesis or theory must be testable and proven false if it is not true. *Objectivity* is the behavior of the researcher must keep their research free from personal bias and subjectivity.

In practice, scientists use the scientific method which involves several steps such as observation, hypothesis formulation, hypothesis testing through experiments, data analysis, and finally drawing conclusions. If the hypothesis is consistent with existing data, it can be accepted as scientific truth. However, this truth is temporary because it is always open to revision or replacement by new findings.

### **Truth and Justification in Journalism**

Journalism, as a profession that plays an important role in providing information to the public, has a deep commitment to the truth. Truth is not only the goal, but also the main foundation that sustains the professional integrity of journalists and public trust in the media. Without truth, journalism loses its essence, becomes just a narrative without meaning, and the public loses the foundation to form a proper understanding of the world around them.

In carrying out their duties, journalists are responsible for reporting events with accuracy and integrity. They have a moral and ethical responsibility to provide truthful and reliable information to the public. Therefore, truth is not just an aspiration, but an obligation that must be upheld in every published report.

One of the key principles that journalism is based on is verification. Verification is a crucial process in ensuring that all reported facts have been checked and verified from reliable sources. Journalists must ensure the validity of information before distributing it to the public, because a mistake in verification can result in the dissemination of false and harmful information.

Besides verification, balance is also a very important principle in journalism. Providing views from multiple angles is a way to avoid bias and provide a complete and fair picture of an event. By

paying attention to diverse viewpoints, journalists can ensure that the information presented is not affected by subjective tendencies that can undermine the objectivity of the report.

The principle of accountability is equally important. A journalist must be responsible for what they report. They must be ready to correct mistakes if proven wrong. Accountability is a mirror of a journalist's integrity. By admitting and correcting mistakes, a journalist shows their commitment to the truth and credibility of the information they convey to the public.

However, in the rapidly evolving digital age, the challenge of maintaining the truth has become even greater. Technology has accelerated the flow of information, allowing anyone to easily spread news without adequate verification. The pressure to be the first to report the news has also increased, causing some journalists to rush to present information without doing enough verification. This is exacerbated by the proliferation of fake news that quickly spreads and is difficult to tackle.

Therefore, journalists must be more careful and thorough in facing this challenge. They must strengthen the basic principles of journalism, such as verification, balance and accountability, as a guide in presenting information to the public. Verification is becoming increasingly important in an era where information can be easily produced and disseminated by anyone. Journalists must ensure that every reported fact has been verified from reliable sources before the information is presented to the public.

Balance is also key in facing the challenges of information overload. By providing views from multiple angles, journalists can help the public to gain a more comprehensive understanding of an event. This can also help in avoiding bias that may appear in the news.

Accountability remains an indispensable principle. A journalist must be ready to take responsibility for any information they convey. If mistakes are made, they must be willing to admit and correct them. This is not only a moral obligation, but also an important step in maintaining professional integrity and public trust in the media.

In addition to strengthening the principles of journalism, journalists also need to improve public media literacy. Good media education can help people to be more critical in assessing the information they receive. They can be trained to identify fake news and understand the importance of verification in filtering the right information.

In addition, cooperation between media institutions, governments and technology platforms is also needed to address the issue of fake news. Joint efforts in providing guidelines and standards to identify and counter fake news can help reduce its negative impact on society.

Truth in journalism is not only an ethical obligation, but also the foundation that ensures that the public can access accurate and trustworthy information. Without truth, journalism loses its essence and society loses the foundation to form a proper understanding of the world around it. Therefore, maintaining truth in journalism should remain a top priority for every journalist and media institution.

Justification in journalism is closely related to ethics. Journalists must adhere to a journalistic code of ethics that governs their professional behavior, including respecting privacy, avoiding plagiarism, and not disseminating misleading information. Good news should be balanced, making room for multiple perspectives without showing favoritism. This helps maintain fairness and provide a complete picture to the audience. In addition, journalists should consider the public interest in every coverage, ensuring that the news presented has high information value and is relevant to people's lives. Personal integrity must also be maintained, by not engaging in practices that could damage their reputation or the institutions they work for, such as accepting bribes or manipulating information.

However, applying truth and justification in journalism is not easy. Journalists often face pressure from various parties such as governments, companies, or certain groups that seek to influence the content of the news. With the development of technology and social media, the pressure to deliver news quickly often comes at the expense of a thorough verification process. Another major challenge is distinguishing between true and false information in the digital

information age that is full of disinformation and misinformation. In some cases, journalists also face physical or legal threats when covering sensitive or controversial issues.

However, there are great opportunities to improve truth and justification in journalism. The use of technology and data analysis can help journalists gather and verify information more efficiently and accurately. Increased education and training for journalists on ethics, investigations, and reporting techniques can improve the standards of truth and justification in the profession. Collaboration between journalists, news organizations, and fact verification agencies can also strengthen efforts to fight disinformation and improve news accuracy. In addition, raising public awareness about the importance of truth and ethics in journalism can create greater support for journalists committed to these principles.

Truthfulness and justification are two key pillars in journalism that maintain the integrity and credibility of the profession. By upholding these two principles, journalists can fulfill their responsibility to the public and contribute to a better and more informed society. The challenges can be overcome with a commitment to ethics, the use of technology, continuous education, and cross-sector collaboration.

### **Definition of Truth According to Thomas Aquinas and Pranarka**

Thomas Aquinas, a medieval philosopher and theologian, defined truth as "the equation of reason with reality" (*adaequatio intellectus et rei*). According to Aquinas, truth occurs when our minds capture reality as it really is. If our knowledge corresponds to the object we know, then it is truth.

From the author's investigation, Aquinas distinguishes between several types of truth, namely: *Logical Truth*, is the relationship between thought and reality, where a proposition is true if it corresponds to reality. *Metaphysical Truth*, the correspondence between the object and its essence, meaning that everything is true insofar as it exists and acts according to its nature. *Moral Truth*, is the conformity between one's actions and reason or moral law.

Truth for Aquinas lies not only in the conformity of propositions to reality, but also includes moral and ontological dimensions (Bruno, 2012).

### **Definition of Truth According to Pranarka**

Pranarka outlines three types of truth that highlight different aspects of this concept. *First*, Epistemological Truth: relates to human knowledge of known objects. It is the congruence between knowledge and existing objects. *Second*, Ontological Truth: relates to the conformity of the object to its nature or essence. The object is true if it conforms to its nature. *Third*, Semantic Truth: relates to the accuracy of language or statements in describing a thing. A statement is true if it corresponds to the meaning intended by the words used.

Examples given by Pranarka to explain the different types of truth include: Epistemological Truth: The hunter's mistake of mistaking his friend for a wolf. Ontological Truth: A broken clock that shows the wrong time. Semantic Truth: A lie in a statement. This distinction helps in understanding how truth can be assessed from different perspectives, both in science and in everyday life.

### **The difference between Truth, Justification and Authenticity**

In Indonesian, the distinction between truth, justification and correctness is often not so clear in everyday use, but has important implications in philosophical and practical contexts. Truth is conformity to objective reality or facts. It is a broader concept and includes various dimensions such as epistemological, ontological, and semantic truth. Meanwhile, justification is a process that involves the validation or verification of a claim or statement to ensure that it is based on sufficient evidence and can be accounted for. Authenticity is conformity to rules, norms, or facts in a particular context.

In the digital age, where technology allows people to experience many things virtually, there is a great danger that knowledge that is true virtually is taken to be true in reality as well. The problem is caused by the fact that virtual technology allows for the "creation" of various virtual realities,

which do not exist in the real world. It is therefore argued that a system may exhibit coherence when it is not actually true that there is coherence. Coherence has come to be regarded as a way of explaining truth values in knowledge while avoiding belief in knowledge that may be false in any way (Suriasumantri, 2005). (Suriasumantri, 2005).

The notion of coherence thus runs the risk of accepting a situation in which everyone is treated unjustly as just (the negation principle). In logic this way of thinking is called a circular argument; Ell: *hýsteron próteron* | □ *στερονπρότερον*) which is logical, complete, and coherent, but nonetheless untrue, precisely because an unjust treatment does not become just merely because it is common, as John Rawls (American, 1921-2002) once put it "In the framework of coherentism, if injustice is experienced by everyone, such a situation is treated as just as well". Justness is more specific and practical, often related to accuracy in a particular situation.

### **Implementation in Journalism**

In journalism, understanding this distinction is crucial to maintaining accuracy and integrity in reporting. Truth in journalism journalists should strive to report the overall truth, providing a complete and thorough picture of an event. This includes verifying information from multiple sources and presenting a balanced view. Meanwhile, justification plays an important role in ensuring that the information presented to the public is accurate and trustworthy. Journalists must have a moral and ethical responsibility to ensure that their reports are based on solid evidence and a rigorous verification process. Factuality means that the details reported must be precise and accurate. For example, facts such as names, dates, places and numbers must be thoroughly checked and verified.

Errors in verisimilitude can undermine the credibility of the report and mislead the public, while failure to present the whole truth can lead to bias and distortion in the public's understanding of the reported issue. (Kusumohamidjojo, 2023).

### **Criteria of Truth According to Jujun Suriasumantri**

Jujun Suriasumantri, an Indonesian philosopher and social scientist, identified four main criteria for assessing truth. *First*, the coherence criterion: coherence refers to internal consistency within a knowledge system. A statement is considered true if it is consistent with other statements that are also considered true within a knowledge system. This is important in maintaining logical integrity and conceptual integrity. For example, if in a story it is mentioned that horses are in the palace courtyard, then if it is later mentioned that there are deer in the same courtyard, there must be a consistent explanation for the change to maintain coherent truth. Coherence is particularly relevant in fields such as mathematics and logic, where truth is determined by internal consistency within a system of axioms and theorems.

*Second*, the correspondence criterion: correspondence refers to the fit between a statement and the reality it refers to. This is the most traditional criterion of truth and is often used in science and journalism to ensure the accuracy of reports. For example, the statement "The capital of Indonesia is Bandung" is not true because it does not correspond to the fact that the capital of Indonesia is Jakarta. This criterion is very important in journalism because journalists must ensure that all reported facts match the reality. The verification process is a key step in fulfilling this correspondence criterion.

*Third*, the pragmatic criterion: pragmatism measures truth based on its practical benefits and functionality in real life. A statement or theory is considered true if it is useful and practically applicable. For example, the understanding of tuberculosis changed after Robert Koch's discovery of the bacteria, which allowed for more effective treatment, demonstrating the pragmatic truth of the discovery. In journalism, pragmatic truth means that the information should be useful to readers and have a positive impact on their decision-making. For example, information about preventing natural disasters should be accurate and useful so that people can take appropriate action.

*Fourth*, the consensus criterion: the consensus criterion refers to the agreement among a group of people or scientific community that a statement or theory is true. This is usually achieved through a rigorous process of discussion, debate and testing. For example, the scientific view on climate change has become a widely accepted truth after much research, discussion and consensus among scientists. In journalism, the consensus criterion can be defined as a shared agreement on the standards and ethics of correct news reporting, such as the importance of verification of sources and giving a fair chance to different views in news reports.

### **The Challenge of Seeking Truth in the Digital Age**

Seeking truth in the digital age is a complex and challenging task. Technology has revolutionized the way we access, disseminate and consume information. While technology has given us tremendous ease in obtaining information, it has also brought a new set of challenges in truth-seeking. These challenges include the proliferation of information and disinformation, speed and pressure in reporting, the influence of algorithms and filter bubbles, invasion of privacy, and visual manipulation with deepfake technology. By applying the principles of journalistic philosophy—such as verification, responsibility, pluralism, and ethics—journalists can more effectively navigate these challenges.

Journalists must remain committed to the principles of truth and justice to ensure that the information provided to the public is accurate, reliable and balanced. Through collaborative and sustained efforts, the challenges of seeking the truth can be overcome (Kusumohamidjojo, 2023).

The digital age has changed the way we access, disseminate and consume information. Every individual can now become an information producer, creating a huge volume of information that is difficult for ordinary users to filter. This phenomenon has led to the serious problem of disinformation, which is information that is deliberately falsified to mislead. Social media platforms accelerate and expand the spread of information, including disinformation, very effectively.

Disinformation poses a real threat to the truth because it is spread quickly and widely, especially on social media platforms. Well-crafted disinformation often appears coherent with a particular worldview despite being inaccurate. This disinformation often makes use of coherence theory, which emphasizes that a statement is considered true if it is consistent with existing knowledge systems. The challenge is to ensure that the information we find actually corresponds to the facts, in accordance with correspondence theory, which states that truth is the correspondence between a statement and objective reality.

The principles of verification and accuracy in journalism are essential to counter disinformation. Journalists have a moral responsibility to ensure that any information they present has gone through a rigorous verification process. This requires thorough fact-checking and reliable sources. However, in the digital age, where speed often takes precedence, these principles become even more crucial.

Speed is one of the hallmarks of digital journalism. News must be delivered quickly to stay relevant and grab the audience's attention. However, the pressure to be first often comes at the expense of information quality and accuracy. Inadequate verification processes can lead to the dissemination of false or incomplete information.

The theory of pragmatism teaches that truth is what is useful in practice. In digital journalism, speed in reporting may be pragmatic to attract readers and maintain relevance, but it does not necessarily guarantee the truthfulness of information. Practicality must be balanced with the need for accuracy and reliability of information. Journalistic philosophy teaches that the responsibility to convey the truth must overcome the pressure for speed. Journalistic ethics require journalists to prioritize accuracy and integrity of information.

### **Bubble Algorithm and Filter**

Digital platforms use algorithms to curate the content users see based on their preferences and behaviors. These algorithms often create a "filter bubble" where users only see information that matches their views, which deprives them of different perspectives and reinforces existing biases.

Pluralism theory emphasizes the importance of multiple perspectives in understanding the truth, and objectivity in news reporting is important to provide a well-rounded picture. Filter bubbles created by algorithms go against the principles of pluralism and objectivity, as they limit users' exposure to different perspectives.

In journalistic philosophy, pluralism and objectivity are fundamental principles. Journalists should strive to present information from multiple sources and viewpoints to ensure that audiences get balanced and unbiased information. Fighting the filter bubble means journalists must actively seek out and present different perspectives to encourage a broader and more balanced understanding.

### **Privacy and Sensationalism**

Digital media often exploit personal information and create sensationalized content to attract attention. The desire for clicks and engagement often leads to violations of individual privacy and the production of sensationalized news that can be misleading or harmful. Honesty theory in the context of truth emphasizes the importance of moral integrity in presenting information. Sensational news that sacrifices privacy or the truth to gain attention violates the principles of honesty and integrity. The truth should be conveyed in a way that respects both the news subject and the audience.

Journalistic ethics require journalists to respect individual privacy and consider the social impact of their reporting. Journalists must balance the public's need for information with the individual's right to privacy and dignity. It is the social responsibility of journalists to ensure that news is not only accurate but also delivered in an ethical and responsible manner.

### **Deepfake Technology and Visual Manipulation**

Deepfake technology enables the creation of highly realistic fake videos and images. This poses new challenges in ensuring the authenticity of visual information consumed by the public. Visual manipulation can be used to spread disinformation and deceive audiences in a very convincing way. In the context of visuals, truth theory demands rigorous verification to ensure that the images and videos presented are authentic and not manipulated. Honesty in visual reporting is crucial to maintaining public trust in the media.

Journalistic philosophy emphasizes the importance of visual verification and transparency. Journalists must use sophisticated verification tools and techniques to detect visual manipulation. They must also be transparent in explaining the verification process to the public to build trust. This includes including metadata, sources, and context that support the authenticity of the visuals presented.

### **Overcoming the Truth Challenge in the Digital Age**

Facing the challenge of truth in the digital era requires a comprehensive approach, involving various actors and strategies. Digital literacy education is an important step in addressing this challenge. People must be taught how to identify credible information, understand bias, and use verification tools to confirm the authenticity of information.

### **Digital Literacy Education**

Digital literacy education aims to provide people with the necessary skills to access, analyze and critically evaluate information. Digital literacy includes an understanding of how information is generated, disseminated and consumed in the digital age. This includes recognizing bias, propaganda and disinformation, as well as the ability to use verification tools to check the authenticity of information. Digital literacy also teaches users to understand how algorithms work and how they affect the information we see.

### **Regulation and Policy**

Appropriate regulations are needed to address the spread of disinformation and protect individual privacy. The government and relevant agencies should work together to create policies that regulate the spread of digital information and ensure that social media platforms are

responsible for the content they host. Regulations can include enforcement of journalistic ethical standards, privacy protection, and measures to identify and remove disinformation. Policies should also ensure transparency in the operation of algorithms and how content is curated on digital platforms.

### **Verification Technology**

The development of more advanced verification technologies can help address the challenges of disinformation and visual manipulation. Better automated and manual verification tools can be used by journalists and the public to ensure the authenticity of information before sharing it. Technologies such as metadata analysis, source checking, and deepfake detection tools can help in visual verification. The use of blockchain technology can also be applied to ensure integrity and transparency in information dissemination.

### **Algorithm Transparency**

Digital platforms should be more transparent in explaining how their algorithms work and how content is curated. This transparency is important to reduce the filter bubble effect and ensure that users get more diverse and balanced information. Platforms should give users more control over the algorithms that curate their content and provide options to view content from different perspectives.

### **Collaboration and Continuous Learning**

Collaboration between journalists, media, government and society is key to overcoming the challenges of truth-seeking in the digital age. Continuous learning and adaptation to new technologies and emerging ethical challenges are important to ensure that journalism remains relevant and trustworthy. This includes collaborative efforts to develop new ethical standards, share best practices, and invest in verification technologies. Continuing education and training for journalists is also important to ensure they are prepared for the challenges of the digital age.

With this comprehensive approach, we can address the challenges of truth in the digital age and ensure that information delivered to the public is accurate, trustworthy and balanced. Journalists must remain committed to the principles of truth and justice, while adopting new technologies and practices to meet evolving challenges. Through collaborative and sustained efforts, we can build a healthier and more trustworthy information ecosystem in the digital age.

The article entitled "Journalistic Philosophy; Struggles in the Search for Truth in the Digital Age" outlines the various challenges faced in the search for truth amid the rapid development of information and communication technology. The digital age brings significant changes in the way information is produced, disseminated and consumed, which has an impact on the truth and reliability of information. Some of the main points highlighted in this article are:

#### 1. Complexity of Truth Definition

Truth in scientific and journalistic contexts does not have a single and uniform definition. Theories of truth such as coherence, correspondence, pragmatic, and formal offer various perspectives in assessing the truthfulness of information. Each theory has strengths and weaknesses that affect the way we understand and interpret truth.

#### 2. Challenges of the Digital Age

The ease of access and distribution of information in the digital age has given rise to new challenges such as the spread of disinformation, fake news, and algorithm bias. The speed and volume of information circulating often blurs the line between fact and opinion, making it difficult to verify and validate the truth.

#### 3. The Role of Journalistic Philosophy

Journalistic philosophy plays an important role in formulating the ethical and epistemological principles underlying journalistic practice. These principles help journalists to stick to standards of professionalism, integrity and accuracy in the face of commercial and political pressures in the digital age.

#### 4. Sustainability Criteria Correctness

In the journalistic context, the criteria of truth proposed by Jujun Suriasumantri - namely coherence, correspondence, pragmatic and formal - remain relevant and can be adapted to assess digital information. Journalists need to develop critical and analytical skills to apply these criteria in daily practice. So that the so-called new truth does not need to happen, and restore the essence of truth as a match between the theory or hypothesis and the empirical data obtained.

5. Digital Literacy Education: The public needs to be equipped with adequate digital literacy to be able to criticize and evaluate the information received. Digital literacy includes the ability to recognize disinformation, understand media bias, and use reliable sources of information.
6. Multidisciplinary Collaboration: Truth-seeking in the digital age requires collaboration between various disciplines such as philosophy, communication, sociology, and information technology. An interdisciplinary approach can provide more comprehensive insights in addressing the challenges.

New theories of truth that do not rely on facts and are shaped by perception and framing lead to a form of justification that is more subjective than objective. In this context, truth is no longer seen as absolute or based on empirical evidence, but rather as a construction influenced by the way information is presented and perceived by individuals or groups. Perception refers to the way individuals interpret information based on their experiences, beliefs and social context, while framing is the way information is presented that can influence how it is understood and interpreted.

Thus, truth becomes relative and depends on an individual's or group's point of view. This blurs the line between truth and opinion, so that what is considered true by one party may be considered false by another. The main focus shifts from seeking objective truth to justifying certain views or actions (Asnawi, 2024). This justification is often driven by personal or group interests, not by verifiable facts. In this environment, truth becomes a tool to legitimize beliefs or actions, not to discover objective reality.

The social implications of this change are significant. Polarization in society increases as each group holds their own "truth" that is not based on objective facts. This results in difficulties in reaching consensus or shared understanding on important issues, as each side may have a different version of the truth. As truth becomes fragmented and relative, and it is more difficult to reach agreement based on shared facts, society splinters into opposing groups with their own narratives and beliefs.

In situations like this, constructive dialog becomes difficult due to differences in perception and framing. Each side may feel that its point of view is the most correct, while the other side is wrong. This creates an environment where the debate is no longer about finding the best solution based on evidence, but about defending each other's positions based on different perceptions and framings (Asnawi., 2024). In the long run, this can undermine social order as it hampers people's ability to work together and solve common problems.

## CONCLUSION

To conclude, the new theory of truth that does not rely on facts and is shaped by perception and framing is more of a justification influenced by individual and group subjectivity. This poses a great challenge to society in seeking objective and evidence-based truth. Overcoming this requires a concerted effort from individuals, institutions and technology to promote critical literacy, transparency and accountability. Only then can we ensure that the truth we hold is one that can be tested and verified, rather than a justification influenced by perception and framing. Overall, maintaining reliable truth in modern society is a complex challenge that requires the cooperation of various parties. With a holistic and committed approach to promoting media and critical literacy, as well as transparency and accountability from all parties involved in the presentation and dissemination of information, we can build a firmer foundation for truth and integrity in society. This is an important step towards a more just, informed and inclusive society in the future. This article emphasizes the important role of responsible journalism in maintaining truth and reliability of information in the digital age. By integrating the principles of journalistic philosophy and

theories of truth, journalists can face the challenges of the digital age more effectively and continue to contribute to creating a more informed and critical society.

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