

ERASMUS+ Blended Intensive Program for Students of Journalism and Social Work:

“Trauma-Sensitive Media Work”

Topic:

In this Erasmus+ Blended Intensive Programme, financed by the EU, social work and journalism students from five universities in Sweden, Ireland, Austria and Germany come together. In the course of a short blended and an intense presence period they learn concrete strategies and techniques for ensuring that media coverage not only does not cause further harm to people who have experienced trauma, but can even be a constructive building block in the process of coming to terms with their experiences. In addition to lectures and input from experts in the field, the students also produce a joint practical journalistic audio work that brings them into contact with the topic and also makes the content of the week accessible to a wider audience.

Dates, location, workload:

- Feb./March 2026: 3 preparatory online sessions (90 min each)
- **April 7th-April 11th 2026 (Tuesday-Sat the week before start of lecture time summer semester 2026):** full class days in presence in Mainz
- May/June 2026: 2 wrapping-up online sessions (90 min each)
- Workload: 3 SWS, 4 ECTS
- This BIP is an electorate course, but can be recognized for other classes during the semester, so it can reduce workload in the semester

Overall Goals for the project

- enable journalists to work competently with vulnerable protagonists – and social workers to self-consciously work with media
- Personal growth through **students dialogue, exchange of experiences/perspectives**
- Social workers and journalists as mediators, moderators, facilitators, enabling dialogue through shared perspectives
- Social workers and journalists both **work for a a better democracy**. Improve this by fostering **interdisciplinary understanding as early as possible**

Participants (sending 10-15 students each):

- School of Journalism, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Germany - **hosting of the first BIP 2026**
- Department of Journalism, Dublin City University, Ireland
- Master of Media, Democracy and Human Rights, Linnaeus University, Växjö & Kalmar, Sweden
- Dept. of Social Work, Midsweden University, Östersund, Sweden
- Dept. of Social Work, FH Campus Vienna, Austria

If you are generally interested to participate, please sent an email to katjaschupp@uni-mainz.de now. Based on the number of students interested, information on how to finally enroll to this BIP will be given on the start of the winter semester, October 2025