Worksheet – Privacy and Human Rights in the Digital Era

Target: high school students, 14–16 years old

Total Duration Suggested: 60–70 minutes

Developed competences: critical thinking, digital awareness, civic education

Activity 1 – What's privacy for you?
Duration: 15 minutes
Modality: video viewing + individual reflection + small group discussion

Introductory video: Watch the video from the EDPS (European Data Protection Supervisor):
[The European Data Protection Supervisor](#)

Questions for reflection:
1. What does the right to privacy mean to you?
2. When have you felt observed or monitored online?
3. Why do you think privacy is important in your digital life? Share your answers in small groups (3-4 people) and compare them.

Activity 2 – Let's investigate a privacy violation
Duration: 30 minutes
Modality: group work + oral presentation

Materials to provide (or search for online):
- The Cambridge Analytica and Facebook case: https://www.bbc.com/news/technology-434659

- TikTok and data collection from minors: https://www.npr.org/2024/08/02/nx-s1-5061604/doj-sues-tiktok-for-unlawful-data-collection-from-kids
- Articolo 12 della Dichiarazione Universale dei Diritti Umani: https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights

Group task:
1. Analyse the case (in paper or digital form)
2. Answer together:
   - What was the violation?
   - What personal data was involved?
   - What human rights were compromised?
   - What ethical alternatives existed?
3. Prepare a mini-presentation (max 3 minutes) for the class

Homework (optional)

Comparative analysis of two privacy policies

Choose two apps or social media platforms that you use often (e.g. YouTube, TikTok, Instagram, Telegram, Signal). Look for the privacy policy on the official website or in the app settings.

1. Which aspects of the policy did you find clear or transparent?
2. Where did you find information that was difficult to understand or missing?
3. Which rights do you think are protected in each one?

Tip: You can also consult the official website of the European Data Protection Supervisor: https://www.edps.europa.eu/data-protection_en

Learning Objectives

- Recognise privacy as a human right and individual freedom.
- Develop a critical attitude towards the use of digital technologies.
- Link concepts such as surveillance, consent, freedom and self-determination.
- Empower active digital citizenship.