

**NEWS RELEASE**

**Date: Monday, April 4, 2022**

**Contact:**

Digital Illegal and Harmful Information Response Division (02-2110-1560, 1538)

 **THE FUTURE OF FACT CHECKING AMIDST THE FLOOD OF DISINFORMATION**

*- First day of the '2nd Fact Check Week', Professor Bill Adair of PolitiFact delivers keynote lecture*

*- “Correcting disinformation is everyone's responsibility, all citizens must become fact checkers”*

The '2nd Fact Check Week', co-hosted by the Korea Communications Commission (KCC, Chairman Han Sang-hyuk), the Community Media Foundation and Fact Check Net, kicked off its five-day event with an opening address by KCC Chairman Han Sang-hyuk and keynote lecture by Duke University Professor Bill Adair

In his opening remarks, Chairman Han Sang-hyuk commented, “I hope that the ‘Fact Check Week’, which marks its second year, will help develop the 'power to see the truth’ in our society. Through this event, I look forward to experts from home and abroad forming a consensus on the need to respond to disinformation, and for the event to develop into a forum for international cooperation.”

Professor Bill Adair followed the opening addrees as a keynote speaker. Professor Adair founded PolitiFact, a Pulitzer Prize-winning fact-checking platform, and co-founded the International Fact-Checking Network (IFCN).

In his presentation titled, 'The Future of Fact Checking', Professor Adair first emphasized that the importance of fact checking is being spotlighted as disinformation is rapidly spreading online due to recent changes in the media environment. The number of fact-checking sites worldwide has jumped from only 44 in 2014 to to 353 as of 2021, and the number of fact-checkers in fact-checking organizations is also on the rise, from less than 50 in 2014 to over 300 in 2021.

He emphasized, “The public should no longer remain in the audience. When you see something suspicious, provide it to a fact-checker for verification, and proactively share the information that the fact-checker has corrected on social media." Professor Adair concluded his presentation by emphasizing that it is everyone's responsibility to correct false information, and that all citizens should become fact checkers by searching for content from reliable sources and sharing corrected information.

During the '2nd Fact Check Week', there was a conference on fact checking media platforms and automated fact-checking technology on Tuesday, April 5. The next day there will be presentations on fact-checking cases and educational know-how for youth and teachers, and on the 7th, there will be international seminars related to domestic and overseas fact-checking, which will be available on the Communmity Media Foudnation's YouTube channel, Cheka TV (https://www.youtube.com/c/Checa TV).

 ※ Please refer to the Fact Check Week website (www.factcheckweek.com) or contact the Community Media Foundation's Media Trust Promotion Team (02-6900-8364, factcheck@kcmf.or.kr).

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The Korea Communications Commission