LECTORI SALUTEM!

As is so often the case, this issue of InfTars deals with a variety of diverse topics.

Yahya Aydın investigates the effect of the Covid pandemic on Turkey's university libraries, based on a broad set of samples. He finds that digitalisation effectively equalises these different universities in terms of access to resources, regardless of their history, ranking, structure or the city in which they are physically established.

István Danka and János Tanács investigate another, very different disaster; they study how rule violations that contributed to the Chernobyl nuclear disaster were able to happen. In their unique take, which is based on informal logic, they identify six excuses that could have allowed the operators to rationalise their rule violations. These excuses could have affected how the operators interpreted the applicability of the rules to the situation(s) in which they were involved, leading them to ultimately violate the operational rules. Based on this case they draw theoretical and practical consequences for the future.

Zoltán Gellér, Tanja Jevremov, Karlo Bala, Dubravka Valić Nedeljković and Mirjana Ivanović analyse data on the prior knowledge that freshmen at the Faculty of Philosophy at the University of Novi Sad, Serbia have about basic concepts in computer and information literacy. The results could be used to devise a better way of teaching at university level that takes into account knowledge that students already accumulated during their primary and secondary education. The results reveal significant deficiencies in the subjects in this area; such findings may become the basis for action.

In another Covid-related study, Babar Hussain Shah, Zaheer Khan and Saqib Riaz investigate the influence of mass media and interpersonal communication channels on adoption of preventive measures against the pandemic. The study hypothesises that higher exposure to media content increases interpersonal communication, which, in turn, is positively associated with adoption of preventive behaviour. The study uses a survey to test this hypothesis. The results, when assessed through a Pearson correlation, show a strong association between media exposure and both increased interpersonal communication and increased adoption of Covid prevention measures.

Finally, Ürmösné Gabriella Simon and Endre Nyitrai analyse the phenomena of deepfakes and fake news, together with their linguistic fingerprints, to understand how these may influence the public, including in their decision-making. The study provides an insight into the contributions of linguist and forensic linguist experts to the work of investigative authorities.

The editorial board wishes you a splendid time while reading this issue.

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