Module 3 - TweetDeck for fact-checkers

[00:00:02] Hello, hello! Here we are again to discuss some tools that help us fact-check hot topics, hard news. The tool I want to show you today is Tweetdeck. It's free of charge, and it works for those who have a Twitter account, you connect through your account—whether a personal or corporate account—so let's take a look and see how we can use it to fact-check something that is being talked about right now, we want to check if it is real if it's happening today.

I'll share my screen again, as I did on the last video, and we'll look at how Tweetdeck works.

[00:00:49] I'll show you my own Tweetdeck. I'll move this over here. Please pay special attention to these columns. Tweetdeck is divided into columns, and here we can search what we want. Let's say there's been a shooting. Let's pretend we received a picture of a shooting, and someone said it took place at the main square in a big city somewhere. So I'll type the word "shooting," and on the last column, you can see here, all tweets containing the word shooting will automatically show here. Not much is showing in this column, so I think no shootings are happening now as I am recording this video. Let's type the word "shots" because that's something someone might type. So we have shooting and shots; we can also search for "gunfire." Gunfire. These are words people might use if they were tweeting about it. It's interesting to see that we can filter, enhance the quality of the information if we choose, for example, a specific location. Let's type, for example, Buenos Aires in Argentina. So we will now see, on the last column, tweets from Buenos Aires, Argentina, a 20-kilometer range containing the word gunfire. And that's great to see that there is nothing. If you look at this section, the word "shots" has no filter, and it is updating quite often.

[00:02:46] Okay, let's now pretend that the event didn't happen in Spanish-speaking countries. O Portuguese speaking...let's pretend someone said a bomb went off in New York

So we can also search for "bomb" in English and open another column. And probably, if there is a bomb in New York, this column would be bam, bam, bam, updating quickly because we know people are curious. Before running for shelter or protecting themselves from a bear or an avalanche, they will take a picture and post it on social media. So this is a very helpful search. So let's pretend that there actually is a bomb in New York, so I can contact—let's wait for it to stop—I can contact Void Gazing and try to talk to this persona, I can DM them or ask them to send pictures or for them to become our eyes and ears in this part of the planet.

[00:03:55] So it is very useful to fact-check using Twitter. And this, of course, is useful not just for fact-checking but for journalism in general, because we have access to news and learn what is going on.

[00:04:09] We will look at more tools in the next video. See you.