



# What is the IFCN?



- **Full name:** *International Fact-Checking Network*
  - **Host:** It's run by the **Poynter Institute**, a respected journalism school and nonprofit.
  - **Mission:** To set and enforce global standards for professional fact-checking.
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## ✓ What IFCN Certification Means

Fact-checking organizations that want to carry the “**IFCN signatory**” badge must agree to and be audited on a **Code of Principles**:

1. **Non-partisanship & fairness**
2. **Transparency of sources**
3. **Transparency of funding & organization**
4. **Transparency of methodology** (how they check claims)
5. **Commitment to open & honest corrections**

They have to **re-apply every year** and are independently reviewed. If they fail to meet the standards, they can lose their status.

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## Why It Matters

- It's like a “**Good Housekeeping Seal**” for fact-checkers — shows they're accountable.
- Seniors (and all users) can trust that IFCN-verified sites aren't pushing hidden agendas.
- You can use the badge on your handouts as a **credibility signal**:  
“✓IFCN-verified means this fact-checker has passed independent global standards for accuracy and fairness.”

