

An Editorial Comment

Welcome to the eleventh issue of *The Journal of Middle East Media*.

In this issue, the English-language section includes two articles. In the first article, Stephanie Davison of the University of Southern Mississippi interviewed individuals living in Arab Spring countries during conflict with their governments about their use of social media during civil unrest and about risk in relation to social media use. Results indicate that social media was used to document and organize the protests, to motivate people to take action, and that individuals took risks by joining the movements.

In the second article, Robert Meeds of Qatar University analyzed changes in media consumption patterns for trusted news sources over a three-year period among Qatari Nationals and expatriate residents living in Qatar. Results show that television remains the strong favorite for local news and international news for both Qatari Nationals and expatriate residents, but that reliance on television is declining, especially for international news.

The English section also includes two reviews. The first review is for the book titled: *Media Law in the United Arab Emirates*. This book, which was authored by Matt Duffy and reviewed by Naila Hamdy of the American University in Cairo, provides an insight into the media landscapes, sources of media law, journalism freedoms and journalism culture in the United Arab Emirates.

The second review is for the dictionary titled: *The Unified Dictionary of Information Terms (English-French-Arabic)*. The dictionary, which is compiled by Ahmed Hidass and reviewed by Leonard Teel of Georgia State University, aims to facilitate communication among the community of scholars and teachers in French, Arabic and English.

As for the Arabic section, it includes one article and two book reviews. In the article, Mamdouh Shatla and Hanan Kamel of Kafr Al Sheikh University in Egypt studied the usage of social networks and its impact on political participation in the 2014 Egyptian presidential election among a sample of Egyptian university students. The results showed that political gratification and monitoring of the electoral process and related discussion were the most

important gratifications mentioned by Egyptian youth. Also a positive correlation between perception of the importance of social media role in the presidential elections and gratifications gained from usage of social media was found.

The Arabic section also includes a book review of a recently published Arabic book entitled: Digital Arab Media and the Current Challenges, which was authored by Essam Soliman Al Mousa and reviewed by Yusra Khaled Ibrahim The book discussed the rapid changes in Arab media resulted from the new communication technologies. The book discusses the challenges the Arab media encounters such as “citizen journalism” and how it correlates to freedom of expression and democracy in the Arab world.

The Arabic section includes another review of a book titled: Administrative Organization of the Egyptian Satellite Channels, which was authored by by Yomna Atef and reviewed by Abdel-Reheem Darweesh. The book discussed the importance of studying the administrative strategies of the TV satellite channels and how it might help to regulate the work and put objective criteria of employment, training and evaluation to achieve the highest levels of media professional performance currently and in the future.

We hope that the readers will enjoy this issue, and we would like to thank all the JMEM editorial board for their continuous support and encouragement.

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