

THE ROLE OF SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORMS IN COMBATING PALESTINIAN CONTENT AND VIOLATIONS AGAINST JOURNALISTS

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ABSTRACT

This scientific paper aims to monitor the role of the various social media platforms "Facebook", "Twitter", "Instagram", "TikTok" and "WhatsApp" in combating Palestinian content and restricting and banning the accounts of Palestinian journalists and activists, and the accounts of press institutions across various platforms, which gave birth to The researcher has the idea of monitoring this restriction for scientific reasons and also to suspend the researcher's account more than once in the context of their fight against journalistic content, and after continuous communication with a number of NGOs specialized in monitoring and the Palestinian Journalists Syndicate, the researcher came up with a number of statistics that continued for more than 6 months.

I. INTRODUCTION

The traditional and new media have played an important role, with their content to the public, in communicating images, facts, knowledge and cultures that are produced and directed in studios or public places, making the world coherent in many phenomena in an attempt to facilitate communication and interdependence between groups of society, to increase its growth and development. Through cultural, knowledge, commercial, tourism and industrial cooperation and exchange, and we cannot acknowledge that these media are included in their positive supportive framework for freedoms and cultures, considering that these new media may be a repressive style for one group of society and not others, these media are a double-edged sword that may have The great impact of suppressing the opinions and content of a marginalized group of society, or that may reach a people, by restricting the publication and presentation of content that may be opposed to a party, or able to expose crimes against a people, which is what happens with Palestinian journalists and their content in publishing the practices of the side. The Israelis have both been involved in the ongoing wars on the Gaza Strip for more than 14 years, in which thousands of Palestinians were killed and dozens were wounded by shelling on the heads of civilians, which prompted hundreds of newspapers Yin and activists sought to expose these crimes through social media platforms, which in their view were the easiest way to present these videos, photos or sounds to the world in an attempt to publicize these violations against a defenseless people.

We cannot overlook that the "Arab Spring revolutions" were triggered by the Facebook platform, in which Tunisians found a haven to express their positions under the rule of former President "Ben Ali", which made it difficult to restrict them compared to the traditional media. This spark led to a response .The new traditional media had an impact on the process of transformation and its transition to the field, which resulted in the overthrow of the regime, due to its ability to reach millions of audiences from the same country or seven continents.

These platforms combine audio, image, video and direct broadcasting, which made it easy to deliver these contents beyond the seven continents of the world, but the policy of these networks was preventing the achievement of these desired goals "considering that the digital space is a free space for expressing opinions and positions and exposing practices inhumane in an attempt to shed light on it to improve it", but what was facing Palestinian content was the repression, deletion, restriction and deprivation of some of the characteristics offered by these platforms, such as: restricting access and preventing advertising and direct broadcasting, which made dozens of journalists defraud these platforms by making some Commas in words that restrict accounts, such as: martyr, war, Gaza, aggression, resistance, missiles and other words.

The restriction may sometimes reach the accounts of a number of cartoonists and artists in solidarity with the Palestinian cause, which made the Facebook platform come under harsh criticism in the 2021 war on the Gaza

Strip, which made thousands of citizens of different peoples evaluate it on the google play platform and the App Store with less franchises in an attempt to pressure them not to restrict Palestinian content.

Undoubtedly, these practices and restrictions are not limited to closing accounts, restricting content or deleting accounts. Rather, Meta Company has signed partnerships with Israel to pressure the Palestinians and restrict their content through Meta's algorithms and various platforms, and even reached arrests against journalists by the forces. The Israelis, against the background of their publications on various platforms under the pretext of "incitement" or house arrest for months, while preventing them from using technical means, which was met with various campaigns across communication platforms, including: (Digital Justice) and the aim of which is to try to do justice to Palestinian content, not restrict it and fight it.

II. RESULTS

The results were as follows:

1) Since the beginning of 2022, this digital authority has practiced more than 933 violations, and the occupation has benefited from it and from its bias towards it, which means that the Department of Social Access and major companies in the digital field have absolute and dominant authority over the level of practices and behavior and affects the freedom of expression of citizens and determines the side they are biased towards Without professional standards in an attempt to assassinate the Palestinian voice.

2) The researcher found more than 425 violations of Palestinian content in the first half of 2022, and more than 350 violations of Palestinian content last August, distributed between 40 violations via Twitter, 53 via Instagram, 232 via Facebook, 4 via YouTube, and 9 through TikTok, 12 via WhatsApp, and more than 260 digital violations against Palestinian journalists last August, which shows a remarkable development in combating this content, whether in the escalation in the Palestinian territories or the rise of martyrs or incursions against the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque, which is considered a symbol and status religious for Muslims.

3) The researcher concluded that 72% of journalists and activists have been subjected to violations, restrictions and bans; Because they published words related to the Palestinian cause, including: martyr, resistance, war, escalation, storming, aggression, injured and wounded, and other words that the algorithms of these accounts monitor as incitement to violence and praising it, while Israel arrested 146 Palestinians in the first half of this year against the background of their Facebook posts, which It considers it a threat to security and peace, as she put it.

4) The researcher concluded that Palestinian women were not isolated from these violations that Palestinians are subjected to, as they were exposed to violence in the digital space by 11% via WhatsApp, 16% via Instagram, 43% via Facebook, 6% via e-mail, and 24% via other platforms 1 in 5 women are exposed to digital violence "deletion or closing of their accounts", and 54.2% of Palestinian women were subjected to online violence in 2021, 70% of Arab human rights defenders reported feeling insecure in the digital world This indicates that she did not find a space to express her opinions and positions in these platforms and her ability to communicate with her audience, as she is facing digital violence that she did not witness in traditional media, as she is subjected to arrest and harassment; They were charged with incitement in connection with their journalistic work.

5) The researcher concluded that more than 17 journalists were subjected to digital violations against Palestinian content during the month of July of this year, and 63 digital violations of the right to Palestinian content, as dozens of accounts received a number of reports due to violations of content policies that caused restrictions on publishing, access, bans and deletion of accounts in a manner Permanent, including 50 violations via Facebook, 5 via TikTok, 3 via Instagram, 3 via YouTube represent the deletion of Palestinian channels, and 2 via Twitter, which clearly shows that Facebook is in the first place in the suppression of Palestinian content, contrary to its claim that it is the free space for expression about opinion.

6) The researcher concluded that on August 9 and 10 of this year, 307 violations of Palestinian content related to the Israeli attacks in the city of Nablus, which witnesses confrontations between Palestinians and the occupation forces, were documented, including 243 violations via Facebook and Instagram, 62 via Twitter and 2 via TikTok, where There were more than 130 violations of Palestinian content in September 2022, including 93 violations represented in the complete deletion of accounts and pages, which constitutes a serious challenge

to freedoms of expression, limitation and suppression of Palestinian content, which it justifies as a resumption of the principle of repression of violence, which according to the description used by Palestinian journalists in their publications and their stories across different platforms.

Monitoring found that the violations in the current month of September via the Facebook platform amounted to 91 violations between deleting a post or restricting access, preventing publication and preventing the use of some features such as: live broadcasts, advertisements, participation in groups for a certain period of time, and account deletion completely, in addition to 20 violations via WhatsApp, which included the deletion of the numbers of Palestinian journalists and officials, in addition to 11 violations via the Instagram platform, 4 violations on the TikTok platform, 2 violations via tension and 2 violations on the YouTube platform.

III. CONCLUSION

The researcher concluded that what the social media companies are doing is suppressing Palestinian content without a convincing justification. These justifications, in which they double-deal with Palestinian and Israeli content, while listening to the Israeli settlers publish everything that justifies the killing or oppression of Palestinians or the demolition of the blessed Al-Aqsa Mosque and building Solomon's Temple on its ruins, which is evident in the statements of a number of Israeli Knesset members who justify the killing of Arabs, while social media companies do not take any measures against this content, which explicitly says, "There is a gift from God for those who kill an Arab," which no company has taken against him. Dead or other withheld, restricted or attended as it happens with Palestinians and journalists in particular.

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