Initial Plan

"The impact of social media has made in the Arab Springs"

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Credits: 40

Project description

A number of people in the Middle East have disputed their government's competency. As a result this has led to widespread carnage and rioting in an attempt to overthrow various dictatorships and evoke freedom. It is still unclear how such movements amassed such a following in the short space of time. I intend to identify the full extent that social media played in the overthrowing of various governments such as Syria and Egypt. I intend to use systemic approach along with SSM modelling to gain a clear perspective and identify the role that social media played during this period of controversy. I also intend to determine why communities within the Arab springs resorted to using social media at that specific time when the technology has been around years before they decided to use it. I would also like to deduce if the people of the Arab springs intentionally used social media to gain world awareness of their strife of whether it was a by-product of them using it as an organisational tool, thus deriving social media impact in the Arab spring.

Project Aims and Objectives

- The impact that social media had on the governments in the Arab springs
- The impact social media had on the Arab spring in gaining world acknowledgement
- The impact social media had on the people' movement as an organisational tool and how it impacted their movement holistically.

Initial Plan

- Complete initial plan
  - Clearly state notable milestones and displays timescales of deliverables within a Gantt chart

Interim Report

- Identify what is regarded as social media in the Arab spring and find out how it was used
  - Find out why the public resorted to using Facebook at that specific time as a political tool.
- Complete interim Report
  - Collate all relevant data that will be crucial for the progression of the final report
  - Analyse all data sources and not any discrepancies or "holes" and any areas the author did not consider within the report
  - "Ask questions that the author of the data source had not thought of" and "look at the problem from different viewpoints both the governments and the public".
  - Submit findings into a report

Final Report

- Complete final report and answer the question "the impact social media played in the Arab spring"
  - Comment on the impact social media had on both aspects of the Arab spring government and people.
  - Offer opinions and recommendations that countries could use as precautionary measures to prevent a volatile uprising occurring again.
- Understand different viewpoints of the social media impact from different perspectives across the world
- Use system dynamics to simulate the increase in government resistance in relation to the number of facebook users during the uprising period
- Use SSM and conceptual models to depict how the social media presence grew and convey how it increased the Arab spring media presence.
  - Include any other models that seem fitting and aid in solving the "question"
- Conclude whether social media was used for organisational purposes or a tool to increase world media coverage of the situation in the Arab spring. Or state whether the world media presence was an unintentional by-product of using social media as an organisational tool.

Work plan

Milestones

- Complete Initial plan by 23:00, 19/10/2012
- Complete Interim report by 23:00, 14/12/2012
  - Collate all relevant material
  - Analyse all material
  - Submit findings into report form
- Complete Final report by 23:00, 3/5/2013
  - Complete SSM model
  - Complete System dynamics model
  - Come to a conclusion and offer future recommendations