

# **Impact of the Palestinian Cybercrime Act of 2018 on political content in Facebook: Journalists and bloggers model**

**Prepared by: Areej JamalHsaanSarhana**

**supervision: Dr. Ahmed AboDayya**

## **Abstract**

The study aimed to identify the impact of the Electronic Crimes Law on the interaction with the political publications of activists and media on the Facebook platform. The researcher constructed a questionnaire consisting of two sections. The first section included personal information and data: gender, age, degree, , The number of followers of the personal page, the topics covered, the language of the journalist's personal page, and three questions about the journalist's knowledge of the cybercrime law, the penalties contained therein, and the journalist's support for the law.

The researcher used the quantitative descriptive method. The study sample consisted of 100 journalists and journalists randomly selected from the study community from the governorates of Hebron, Bethlehem and Ramallah, and 76 forms were retrieved from (100) distributed forms.

The study found that the level of impact of the new electronic crimes law on the interaction with the political content in Facebook came to a medium degree, as well as the medium result in the impact of the Electronic Crimes Law on journalists and bloggers on the web pages, and the content published on the web page and interact with the web pages.

The penalties imposed by the law were a deterrent to journalists and bloggers. It also appeared that there was fear of sanctions imposed by law,

which affected the activity of journalists, bloggers and freedom of opinion and expression.

And that the most topics that journalists rely on their personal pages on Facebook are social topics, followed by political topics followed by cultural topics. Journalists and bloggers have self-censorship of what is published because of the Electronic Crimes Law. Publications on the web, and the feeling of journalists and bloggers of the existence of censorship on the content of these pages and its attempt to control the contents published so as to be supportive and not critical of the ruling authority, which clearly refers to the arguments guard theory His father in this area.

Based on the above results, the researcher recommends reviewing the articles contained in the Electronic Crimes Law, which constitute a restriction on the freedom of opinion and expression, and that the Electronic Crimes Law is applied with due regard to the freedom of opinion of journalists provided that the truth is investigated in all that is published on social networking sites, Strengthen the dialogue between the Journalists Syndicate and the official authorities to eliminate journalists' concerns about the loose wording of the law.