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# Youth Seeking for Political Information about the Ethiopian Renaissance Dam Crisis on Social Media and its Relationship to Satisfaction with the Egyptian Government's Performance during the Crisis: A Field study

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## Abstract

The study aimed to assess university students' engagement with political information regarding the Ethiopian Renaissance Dam crisis through social media and its correlation with satisfaction with the governmental performance during the crisis. The researcher utilized a media survey methodology with a sample of 400 Egyptian university students from Cairo University, Al-Azhar University, 6<sup>th</sup> of October University, and the American University in Cairo. Purposive sampling was employed, and data was collected through a questionnaire.

## Key findings of the study include:

- Facebook was the most utilized social media platform by university students for seeking political information about the Ethiopian Renaissance Dam crisis, followed by YouTube and X-platform.
- University students used social media primarily for rapid information access and staying updated on local and international events.
- The official presidential website was the top source for news and political information on the Ethiopian Renaissance Dam crisis, followed by the Cabinet's and Ministry of Foreign Affairs' websites.
- Cognitive impacts included identifying agricultural and electricity generation alternatives in Egypt and understanding the risks posed by the Ethiopian Renaissance Dam.
- Emotional impacts involved feelings of sadness over Egypt's reduced Nile water share and concerns about agricultural and general livelihoods were the most reported.
- Behavioral impacts included supporting peaceful solutions by the Egyptian leadership and creating content related to the Ethiopian Renaissance Dam crisis were also, reported.

**keywords:** Information seeking - Social media platforms - Ethiopian Renaissance Dam crisis - Satisfaction - Governmental performance- University youth.

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