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Media & Mass Communication

English Researches:

- *Associate Prof. Dr. Layla Hasan Al Saqer - Bahrain University*
The Role of Innovation Social Media Strategies in Supporting Small Businesses during the COVID-19 Pandemic: A Case Study 7
- *Associate Prof. Dr. Iman Mohamed Mohamed Zahra - Cairo University*
PR goes to War: Warfare Tactics Utilized Amidst Russia Ukraine Conflict 25
- *Dr. Nesrin Nader El-Sherbini - MSA University*
Strategic Digital Content Marketing: The PESO Model in Practice 59

Abstracts of Arabic Researches:


- *Prof. Dr. Rizk Saad Abd EL Moaty - Misr International University*
Trends of International Press Media on Social Networking Sites towards Development Initiatives in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Egypt: A Comparative Study 87
- *Prof. Dr. Abdulmalek Aldanani - Liwa College - Abu Dhabi*
Dr. Amor Ben Amor - Liwa College - Abu Dhabi
Dr. Khalid Abd Allah Ahmed Dirar - Liwa College - Abu Dhabi
The Uses of the ChatGPT Application in The Field of Media: Exploratory Study 88
- *Associate Prof. Dr. Elsayed Abdelrahman Ali Abdelrahman - Suez University*
The Reality of Specialized Media: Locally and Globally 89
- *Dr. Moeen Fathy Mahmoud Koa - Quds University*
Hala Hashim Abo Hasan - An-Najah National University
The Role of Arab Media, Digital Security Media in Educating the Public in the Arab World About Cryptocurrency Crimes 90
- *Dr. Doaa Mohamed Fawzy - Minia University*
The Role of The Artificial Intelligence Applications on Influencing the Purchasing Decisions: A Field Study on a Sample of Electronic Shoppers 92

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The Role of Arab Media, Digital Security Media in Educating the Public in the Arab World About Cryptocurrency Crimes

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Abstract

This study aimed to evaluate the role of the Arab media, digital security media in raising public awareness in the Arab world about cryptocurrency crimes and to show the extent to which these crucial groups contribute to immunizing the Arab Public against these crimes according to the theories of social responsibility and inoculation. The study relied on an exploratory sequential mixed-methods design, which begins first with the exploration and analysis of quantitative data, and then uses the results in a qualitative next stage; Thus, the study relied on the methodological triangulation, relying on the questionnaire tool to investigate the opinions of a sample of the Arab Public (1305 respondents) about their knowledge of digital currency crimes, their exposure to awareness messages about these crimes, and the organized interviews with a sample of the Arab Public who filled out the questionnaire (10% from the size of the original sample) to ascertain the nature of the message they were exposed to. In addition, other interviews with Arab experts, academics, and specialists (20 experts) after presenting the questionnaire results to them to come up with a set of necessary interventions to educate the Arab Public about cryptocurrency crimes. Finally, the study employed content analysis to analyze a sample of digital security media pages on Facebook (10 pages) to show the extent of their contribution to the Public Awareness of cryptocurrency crimes and to identify the most critical persuasive methods used in the awareness message according to Aristotle's rhetorical triangle.

The study showed that although more than 35% of the study sample held graduate degrees between master's and doctorate and 42% of the bachelor's degrees, the vast majority (64%) did not have any information about cryptocurrency crimes. The results also showed that the vast majority of respondents did not receive any education or raising awareness messages about these crimes from traditional or electronic media, digital security media, or Arab influencers alike, which indicates the failure of these parties in social

responsibility in the cryptocurrency crimes. The content analysis results also showed that the digital security media did not address the issue of digital currencies in its general landscape or the crimes resulting from them.

In light of these results, the study came out with a set of recommendations, including, for example, but not limited to, the need for a decision at the level of the Arab Interior Ministers Council to direct the security media in Arab countries to carry out awareness campaigns regarding cryptocurrency crimes. The study also recommended that the Association of Arab Universities' secretariat urge Arab academic institutions to hold scientific conferences related to digital currencies and related offenses. A review of the literature and previous studies showed the Arab Library's lack of such vital studies.

Keywords: Cryptocurrency crimes, Arab Media, Security Media, Social Media Platforms.