

Article 2 Review:

Digital Evidence Across the Border

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What is being researched?

The article “SoK: cross-border criminal investigations and digital evidence” has multiple questions being analyzed (Casino et al., 2022). The four main questions examined and summarized were ‘What are the current instruments used for international information sharing?’, ‘What are the challenges in international investigations’, ‘Are the current procedures effective?’, and ‘What strategies could be changed or added to aid in the investigation process?’.

What is the predicted outcome of the research (hypothesis)?

The article hypothesizes that the differences in guidelines for each country could hinder the investigations and pose additional challenges.

What methods were used to answer this question and evaluate the hypothesis?

The many authors of the article did thorough research into the references used by analyzing the contents for relevance to the questions proposed, excluding all non-English papers due to possible mistranslation, and studying the references used for other articles found in the search. Lastly, after narrowing down the possible sources, a complete reading was accessed to see which journals were relevant and which items were the most up-to-date to prevent old or incorrect data from being included.

How were the social science principles used in the research?

In the data analyzed, there are multiple principles used when discussing the findings and the proposed changes. One principle appears on page 14, where the topic of conflicts of interest is discussed. Objectivity is essential for proper and accurate findings. In this specific journal, no potential conflicts of interest arose, making all authors objective in their research (Casino et al., 2022, pg. 14).

Along with objectivity, ethical neutrality is essential and was also followed throughout the discussion of the cross-border examinations without giving one view. While the EU processes were brought up frequently, those views were not presented as clouded judgment, and other countries' instruments were examined and how they could contribute to the EU processes. Lastly, relativism and determinism were used throughout, as they both added to the different questions being analyzed. Cultural differences can determine the thought process of why different policies were implemented originally, but they are all relative to the discussion as they can bring outside thinking that one country may not have considered due to the differences in experiences.

What data was analyzed?

Under the 'Analysis and Reporting' headline on page two, it gives the different types of analysis done to give the multiple authors a basis for their conclusion (Casino et al., 2022, pg. 2). The first type of analysis listed is 'thematic content analysis' where the data was interpreted, analyzed, and identified any patterns that relate to the cross-border digital evidence concept. As mentioned in the 'methods used to evaluate the hypothesis' portion of my review, the authors split the categories to give a more in-depth discussion and understanding while sticking to which would be beneficial to the research needed for the topic being researched. Aside from the literature, the current tools and projects related to this discussion were thoroughly examined. The items defined as tools ranged from software to protocols such as The Convention of Cybercrime. A complete list of the projects analyzed can be found on page 11 (Casino et al., 2022, pg. 11).

How does this topic affect or contribute to marginalized groups and society?

One quote stuck out when contemplating how to answer this question. "Complementary to the tools, a more in-depth focus on the different modes of collaboration-ration among

organizations is critical, since understanding organizational differences and establishing good relationships with policing organizations is critical to enhance the mutual trust (Casino et al., 2022, pg. 7-8).” The authors conducting this research made the topic of international collaboration of collecting virtual evidence. This journal describes many different cultures and approaches from policies all over the world. A marginalized group can range from gender, race, belief, etc. (Kelly, 2023). While the journal did not state a specific marginalized group that would benefit, the overall well-being and safety of everyone is the objective. This article does not discuss helping one specific group and aims to make the tools and policies used in these investigations universal.

What items from this article correlate to class concepts?

This published article describes multiple topics of social sciences such as criminology, psychology, and political science mentioned in modules 4 and 5 slides. The CIA trial can also be applied as the conclusion and information gathered to ensure the availability of evidence, confidentiality, and integrity worldwide as discussed in module 6. However, PowerPoint slides from modules 9 and 10 display the most relation to the topic of this article. Module 9 defines how cultures, values, and cybersecurity all come together. Lastly, module 10 mentions the social dimensions of teamwork, communication, writing skills, critical thinking, and problem-solving. All of these apply to this article as that is exactly what the authors came together to achieve.

Resources

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