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CYSE 201S

Cyber Security Readiness in Iraq

Introduction

The article *"Cyber Security Readiness in Iraq: Role of the Human Rights Activists"* by AbdulAmeer, Saleh, Hussam, and Saeed (2022) was published in the *International Journal of Cyber Criminology*. In this article, the creators push their point of view on how human rights advocates have applied the pressure on Iraq's methods of preparation for multiple cyber attacks. Throughout the whole article, their main driving point is about the laws and politics behind it all, not just the actual technical solutions behind it all.

Relation to Social Science Principals

The topic within this article is related to the ideas of social sciences due to how it views the connection between people, institutions, and the associated government. It basically tells us that the readiness level for cyber threats all depends on multiple factors, such as social structures and involvement of the public, and not just technology.

Research Question and Variables

Within the article itself, it asks the reader the question: What role do human rights activists play in Iraq's cybersecurity readiness? The authors seemingly respond with the idea that when activism is firm and strong, then cybersecurity laws are more balanced and less prone to cause harm to any citizens (AbdulAmeer et al., 2022). The independent variable is how impactful and present the activism of human rights is. The dependent variable is Iraq's overall preparation for the cyber attacks. In the article, there is no stated hypothesis, but a good one I came to conclude based on the authors writing is: If human rights activists are supported, then the laws made for

the cyberspace in Iraq will more than likely be more tolerable and compatible with both all human right standards without suppressing their freedoms.

Data and Relations to Course

The author used multiple references within their review, like legal drafts and media reports.They noticed a repetitive pattern from these sources, like activists pushing for protection of freedom of expression. These issues connect to our course due to the governance and human factors within cybersecurity.

Social Groups and Their Contributions to Society

The studies made within this article point out that the first groups to be affected by strict cyber laws are activists and the voices of minority groups. And without their involvement, the groups face heavier risks of censoring and constant observation. The article shows that including a civil and stable society in cybersecurity debates can make a much stronger and more balanced system of law creation within cyberspace. In the article, it also warns the readers that ignoring such rights may lead to the lack of trust and the threat of harm in the distant future.

Conclusion

The main conclusion and/or message from this article is that cybersecurity is not simply JUST about the technology, but also the basic human rights that are affected by the laws created. Activists play a super important role in the making of the laws that seek to protect our virtual freedoms in the cyberspace.

References

AbdulAmeer, S. A., Saleh, W. R., Hussam, R., & Saeed, I. N. (2022). Cyber security readiness in Iraq: Role of the human rights activists. *International Journal of Cyber Criminology, 16*(1),

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