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## Social Media and Political Participation; Meta-analysis of Political Participation of Social Media Users

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### Extended Abstract

This research aimed at analyzing research on "social media and political participation" in two levels of external and internal research, first of all, to examine the strengths and weaknesses of these studies and then compare them. In this meta-analysis, 17 research (9 external and 8 internal) were studied in three theoretical sections (4 criteria), a method (10 criteria) and a cognitive (2) criterion. The meta-analysis shows that the most important strengths of research, the diversity of theoretical approaches, the use of the integrated theoretical framework, the diversity of the statistical society, the variety of sample selection methods, the use of various statistical tests, and, at the same time, with high statistical power, attention The level of micro analysis, diversity in the social media, and attention to the various impacts in the results section And the weaknesses of the researches, the use of some unrelated theoretical approaches and approaches in theoretical foundations, the weak use of the theoretical frameworks defined in the analysis of the findings, the inability to explain the dimensions of political participation in the theoretical discussions, the overcoming of the proof paradigm And the method of scrolling, the inability to use qualitative and combination methods, the lack of consideration of tool validity, the lack of use of statistical tests to determine the normality of the sample size for measuring parametric tests, the disability in indexing From political participation in the questionnaire and achieving contradictory results in the discussion of the type of effect.

*Keywords:* social media, political participation, theoretical, user

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## INTRODUCTION

The Internet presence in recent decades has made fundamental changes in various areas. One of these areas is political participation. Along with the citizen's use of social media for political participation, several studies have also grown in scientific centers. Several interdisciplinary research in the field of political science, social sciences, communications and new media was conducted on the subject of political participation. But the study of these researches in various scientific disciplines shows that the theoretical, methodological and theoretical approaches are divergent and in some cases contradictory in these studies. This study seeks to study this research with a meta-analysis approach.

## PURPOSE

A meta-analysis of research related to virtual political participation with a theoretical approach, methodology and conclusions.

## METHODOLOGY

The method of this research is meta-analysis. In this research, meta-analysis was conducted in three areas of theory with four criteria, a research method with ten criteria and a research result with two criteria. Theoretical criteria are theoretical and theoretical approaches, theoretical framework, the reasons for using the theoretical framework and the expertise of researchers (the tradition of researchers). At the methodological level of the criteria, the methodology paradigm, the research method used, the statistical population, the volume and method of sampling, the data collection tool, the data, the statistical test, validity and reliability, social media, dimensions and indicators Participation is political. Also, in the level of the criteria of the criteria, the categorization of the results, the amount and type of effect and the degree of homogeneity. In total, based on the above criteria, out of 17 extramural articles, 9 articles have been selected from among 13 internal articles. Eight articles have been selected.

## RESULTS

Regarding the criteria for theoretical approaches and theories used in foreign research, it can be stated that in almost all researches, theories related to the independent variable of research (use or influence of social media) cannot be seen, and the axis Theoretical approaches and theoretical foundations of research are about the dependent variable (political participation and virtual political participation). In choosing theories related to the discussion of political participation and virtual participation, it must be acknowledged that the views have been properly and appropriately chosen, so that precisely among these theoretical approaches and theoretical foundations, the theoretical framework of the research

has been chosen. In the context of the theoretical framework, all of its foreign-based research is based on one or more of the three optimistic approaches represented by the Mobilization theory, pessimistic with the representation of the theory of replacement and strengthening, and the combined approach with the complementary theory representation. Regarding the criterion of tradition and the expertise of researchers, it can be stated that in the investigated research, the diversity of the field of study and interested in the various fields of social sciences and communication is seen and the subject of social media and political participation as an interdisciplinary field Was investigated Regarding the criterion of methodological paradigm, the dominant methodological paradigm in external and internal research with the positivist paradigm and the dominant method of research is the survey method. In external research, the statistical population was a priority for students and then for young. In domestic research, the priority was the population of statistical research of citizens, then students, of young people. Regarding the criteria for collecting instruments in internal and external research, the priority of all research was the questionnaire. In external research, the use of social media was more emphasized on the use of online and virtual questionnaires and in the internal research of written questionnaire and face to face. The findings of the six researches show the strong influence of the use of social media on political participation.

### DISCUSSION

Strengths in the methodology section, the diversity of the statistical society, the variety of sample selection practices, the high sample size, the use of various statistical tests, attention to the level of micro analysis, diversity in social media. Strengths in the result area are due to the various effects of the media on political participation. The weak points of the research in the theoretical part, the use of some unrelated theoretical approaches in theoretical foundations is a poor use of the theoretical frameworks identified in the analysis. Weaknesses, in the methodology section, overcome the paradigm of positivism and scrutiny, the inability to use qualitative methods, the weakness in measuring instrument validity, the inability to achieve specific indicators of political participation. In the cognitive section of meta-analysis, it has been shown that the impact of social media on political participation emphasizes the vast majority of research on impact.

### CONCLUSION

Next researchers in the theoretical part, in addition to using theories related to political participation, also consider the theoretical discussion of the use of social media. Use the theoretical framework of the hybrid framework. Explain the reasons for using theories as a research framework. In the method section, in addition to the quantitative method, we use qualitative methods (integrated approach). In selecting



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the sampling method in the survey method, be sure to try to choose the probabilistic methods. In the section, the results will be explained and discussed with the theoretical framework and the research literature.

### **NOVELTY**

Using the meta-analysis method for research on social media and political participation. Also, comparing foreign research with the interior (Iran). And the use of three theoretical approaches, methodology and outcome simultaneously. The scientific application of this research is the proper conduct of subsequent research in the theory, research method and the analysis of the results. Regarding authenticity, all articles are also available on reputable scientific sites.



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