

## *Call for Papers*

### **Social Media in Public Sector: A Middle Eastern Perspective**

A special issue of *Journal of Contemporary Eastern Asia (JCEA)*

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#### **Key Dates**

Extended Abstract Submission: 30 August, 2013

Full Paper Submissions: 30 October, 2013

First Review Due: 30 December, 2013

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#### **Introduction**

Social media is becoming an integral part of life in contemporary society and has changed the creation, sharing, and consumption of information. There are countless stories related to the role of social media in the contemporary society either in the entertainment industries where it propelled Psy (a Korean rapper) to worldwide fame through the spread of his “Gangnam Style” YouTube video or its role in political landscape commonly called as the “Arab Spring” or “Facebook revolution.”

Social media consists of a variety of tools and technologies that includes collaborative projects (e.g., [Wikipedia](#) and [wiki-spaces](#)), Blogs (e.g., [WordPress](#)) and micro-blogs (e.g., [Twitter](#)), content communities (e.g., [YouTube](#)), social networks or social networking sites (e.g., Facebook and Cyworld), folksonomies or tagging (e.g., delicious), virtual game worlds (e.g., [World of Warcraft](#)), virtual social worlds (e.g., [Second Life](#)), and all other internet-based platforms that facilitate the creation & exchange of UGC (Khan & Swar, 2013).

Due to its inherited characteristic (i.e., openness, participation, and sharing) social media seems to be an emerging medium for interaction between governments, government & citizens, and other governmental agencies & businesses (Sandoval-Almazan and Gil-Garcia, 2012). Government that is driven by social media is called Government 2.0 (Eggers, 2005), collaborative government (McGuire, 2006; Chun et al., 2012), do-it-yourself government (Dunleavy and Margetts, 2010), government as a platform (O'Reilly, 2010), Open Government (Patrice, 2010), Social Government (Khan et al., 2013, 2012), or we-Government (Linders, 2012).

While the literature on social media in public sector is emerging, limited attention has been paid to the social media dynamics in the Middle Eastern region. Leveraging social media in public sphere in the Middle Eastern countries requires a deep understanding of the unique economic, social, political, and cultural values. The special issue of JCEA aims to

investigate and understand these unique aspects of social media in public sector in the Middle Eastern region. All lenses of inquiry, including strategic, organizational, behavioural, legal, economic, and technical are encouraged. Areas to address include, but are not limited to, those listed below:

- Social media in public sphere: government 2.0, e-democracy, e-participation, and e-politics
- The role of social media in social change and collective action
- Social media for public sector information dissemination and knowledge sharing
- Social media for mass collaboration and crowdsourcing
- Social media for development
- Social media adoption/diffusion and use behavior
- Social media governance and policy
- Legal considerations and risks of using social media
- Social media as a disaster management tool
- Social media for transparency, openness, and sharing
- Risk and benefits associated with social media
- Role of social media in development
- Social media for community building

The above areas are just indicative and this special issue would welcome papers discussing other topics relevant to social media in public sector in the Middle Eastern region.

### **Submission Guidelines**

Original manuscripts should be prepared according to the JCEA author guidelines available at: [http://eastasia.yu.ac.kr/documents/call\\_for\\_papers.html](http://eastasia.yu.ac.kr/documents/call_for_papers.html)

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### **About JCEA**

JCEA is a refereed biannual e-publication devoted to the study of current political, social and economic trends in East and Southeast Asia. JCEA also accepts studies related to Internet research, Triple Helix, social network analysis, and cyber communication. The editors welcome manuscripts based on original research or significant re-examination of existing literature. For more details please visit the Journal website: <http://eastasia.yu.ac.kr/>

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