

Review of: "Students' perceptions of e-participation in social media, citizen mobilisation and engagement: Evidence from Papua New Guinea, India, and Zimbabwe"

Su Hie Ting¹

¹ Universiti Malaysia Sarawak

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

Review for QEIOS

Title of manuscript: Students' perceptions of e-participation in social media, citizen mobilisation and engagement: Evidence from Papua New Guinea, India, and Zimbabwe

Date of review: 14 July 2023

Review Report

1. Abstract – please include findings on differences in university students' perspectives of social media as a citizen mobilisation and engagement tool for national dialogue in the three countries.
2. Third objective of the study (Offer recommendations on how to promote and enhance the use of social media in a responsible manner for open dialogue) – this should not be included as a research objective because there are no data collected for it. In fact, it is the conclusions from the analysis of data for Objectives 1 and 2. Therefore, it would constitute implications of the study – presented in the conclusion section. I also do not see results for objective 3 in the Results and Discussion section. Recommendations section make reference to Objective 3 – this is not correct. See underlined above. My advice is to delete Objective 3.
3. For clarity of comparison, the author(s) should consider including a table showing the parameters being compared for the three countries. As it is, the similarities and contrasts are not obvious, which is why this does not show up in the abstract. As the manuscript is about the three countries, a proper comparison is essential.
4. "The primary researcher's institution was consulted for ethical approval before the study could be carried out." If ethics approval is given, the reference number for the letter should be included.
5. "The researchers were able to send the surveys to all respondents ...". Please be careful about the use of the word "surveys" because it is not interchangeable with "questionnaires".
6. "In order to guarantee equal participation of the students from the three countries and the selected universities, a sample of 100 participants from each university was selected using a pseudo-random number generator (PRNG) ...". It is not clear from the results whether the sample of 100 participants per university was achieved. Please provide the total number of participants in addition to the % of response rate for each university.

