



## The Role of Arabic Platforms for News Verification in Fighting Disinformation: An Analytical Study

**Abdulrahman Al-Shami**, Professor of Broadcast and Digital Journalism at the Department of Mass Communications, Qatar University

This study surveys Arabic platforms for the verification of news and misinformation on social media platforms, and media outlets in general, and examines their efforts and role in fighting this kind of news and information in a way that limits its spread. The study was applied on a sample of three platforms, and analysed all of the material that they verified and published in November and December 2022, the duration of the 2022 World Cup in Qatar.

There were 646 materials published during the study period. The study finds that these platforms are an important and qualitative addition to professional journalistic work and fill a tangible void in refuting false news and misleading information by following up on a regular basis. Sports news and the State of Qatar, which was especially targeted by fake news due to its hosting of the 2022 World Cup, topped the materials verified during the study period. The most prominent media used to spread false materials was video, followed by pictures and news; and the most prominent social media network used to spread false news and misinformation was Facebook, with other networks lagging far behind.