

INFORMATION AND CONSENT SHEET
INTERNET ACCESS RESTRICTIONS DUE TO EMBARGO SANCTIONS USER STUDY
HUM00212130

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You are invited to participate in a research study named “The Inequity In Access To Internet Content Due To Server-Side Blocking And Embargo Sanctions”. After reading all of the information in this consent form, you may choose to participate in our **survey on Qualtrics**.

Benefits of the research: With this survey, we are trying to understand how embargo sanctions on different countries affect access to the Internet for users in that country. Anecdotal evidence and [previous studies](#) have shown that many online services, particularly ones that are located or hosted in the United States, tend to restrict access to users from certain regions. In this study, we are broadly interested in studying whether online services restrict access to users from countries under strict embargo sanctions and how this affects the users.

Risks and discomforts: The survey asks users to list and categorize the services, applications, websites that are inaccessible within your country. We ask users what they see when they usually try to access such services, and understand how the accessibility of these services affect their day-to-day life. We also ask users if and how they bypass such restrictions, and what alternative technologies they use in place of the inaccessible service. We do not ask for any personal information that may connect their identity to their response. Our demographics section is limited to age range, country of residence, and their occupation.

Compensation: To keep participants anonymous, we are not offering any compensation in return for your participation in the survey. Participating in this study is completely voluntary. Even if you decide to participate now, you may change your mind and stop at any time. However, once submitted, you will be unable to withdraw your response. You may choose not to answer any optional questions for any reason. All demographics questions have a “prefer not to disclose” option. We will protect the confidentiality of your responses by strict identity and access management.

If you have questions about this research study, please contact Prof. Roya Ensafi, Assistant Professor, University of Michigan: ensafi@umich.edu.