



## The impact of blogs on Algerian readers' views regarding their country's foreign policy

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### **Abstract:**

*The enlargement of digital blogs in Algeria has reshaped how citizens interact with politics, tradition, and identity.*

*Blogs provide platforms for expression out of traditional media constraints, allowing participatory conversation, however, also fostering polarization and misinformation.*

*This observe examines blog readership in Algeria, based on a field survey that included various age groups from young people to older citizens, as well as readers from public and private corporations.*

*Outcomes of other studies screen that whilst blogs enhance civic awareness and self-expression amongst readers, their unregulated nature exposes readers to biased discourse and emotional manipulation.*

*It is worth noting that the research focused on blogs in general, not on one or two specific blogs, but rather on reading, influence, and being influenced.*

*Therefore, the fundamental question was whether the reading of this or that blog, as a behavior, might lead to the formation of public opinion that could align with Algerian foreign policy or the opposite.*

*Here, we would like to mention some of the most followed blogs among Algerians, such as Algérie Part, ObservAlgérie, and even French-language blogs, as those of the French newspaper Mediapart.*

**Keywords:** *Weblogs, opinions, digital communication, foreign policy*

## **L'influence des blogs sur l'opinion des lecteurs algériens concernant la politique étrangère de leur pays »**

### **Résumé :**

*L'essor des blogs numériques en Algérie a profondément modifié la manière dont les citoyens interagissent avec la politique, les traditions et l'identité.*

*Les blogs offrent des plateformes d'expression affranchies des contraintes des médias traditionnels, favorisant les échanges participatifs, mais aussi la polarisation et la désinformation.*

*Cette étude examine la lecture des blogs en Algérie, à partir d'une enquête de terrain menée auprès de différentes tranches d'âge, des jeunes aux personnes âgées, ainsi que de lecteurs issus des secteurs public et privé.*

*Les résultats d'autres études montrent que si les blogs renforcent la conscience civique et l'expression personnelle des lecteurs, leur absence de régulation les expose à des discours biaisés et à la manipulation émotionnelle.*

*Il est important de noter que cette recherche porte sur les blogs en général, et non sur un ou deux blogs spécifiques, mais plutôt sur la lecture, l'influence et le fait d'être influencé.*

*La question fondamentale était donc de savoir si la lecture de tel ou tel blog, en tant que comportement, pouvait contribuer à la formation d'une opinion publique alignée sur la politique étrangère algérienne ou, au contraire, contraire à celle-ci. Nous souhaitons ici mentionner quelques-uns des blogs les plus suivis par les Algériens, tels qu'Algérie Part, Observe Algérie, et même des blogs francophones, comme celui du journal français Mediapart.*

**Mots-clés :** Blogs, opinions, communication numérique, politique étrangère



## **Introduction:**

Over the beyond decade, Algeria has seen constant increase in digital communications sectors challenging the dominance of nation-controlled media.

Algeria was home to 25.6 million social media user identities in January 2025, equating to 54.2 percent of the total population (Datareportal 2025).

With Internet penetration exceed 76.9%, Algerians are increasingly rely upon online systems for records, communication and activism. Among those, digital blogs – impartial online journals – have emerged as crucial tools for opinion formation and political commentary.

Unlike everyday newspapers, which are problem to regulatory restrictions, blogs provide unfiltered and on the spot communiqué. They create interactive ecosystems in which people can read, comment and proportion memories about countrywide troubles together with unemployment, migration or diplomatic tensions (such between Algeria and France 2024- 2025).

These virtual conversations shape thoughts about governance, identification and social duty.

### ***Global context***

Globally, the knowledge of blogs evolved from seeing them as online diaries (Rebecca Blood, 2002) to recognizing them as motors of citizen journalism (Axel Bruns, 2008).

Studies have proven that readers perceive blogs as extra authentic and interactive than traditional media, fostering better engagement (Andreas Kaplan & Michael Haenlein, 2010).

Research indicates that these digital platforms (Among them are blogs) significantly influence people, particularly in areas of cultural identity, social values, and political engagement.

The conclusion reached by these studies is that digital platforms enhance political engagement and contribute to collective action in shaping public opinion. However, our study will focus on the impact of reading blogs on Algerians' opinions about their country's foreign policy.

### *The Algerian digital sphere*

In Algeria, the rise of impartial on-line structures commenced after 2010, following, the so called the Arab spring, (Which shook several Arab countries, starting with the eastern neighbor Tunisia, passing through the southern neighbor).

On the eve of the next decade, Blogs became stores for opportunity voices excluded from mainstream media, mainly during the 2019 Hirak protest movement.

Platforms together with El Watan Blogs, Algérie Part, and even Le Club de Mediapart (French blog space frequently used by Algerians living abroad, but also those living in Algeria.) became hubs for socio-political debate.

While direct data on weblog engagement in Algeria is limited, overall trends indicate that social media and video-based content platforms have largely supplanted traditional blogging for individual expression and mass consumption.

### *Problem:*

In the context of digital transformation and the declining agree with in traditional media among Algerian audiences, blogs have emerged as an alternative platform for



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expression, debate, and the dissemination of various viewpoints. However, the quantity to which those blogs certainly have an effect on public opinion or form character attitudes remains uncertain.

Do blogs in Algeria feature as powerful tools for opinion formation and political recognition, or are they simply highbrow spaces for discussion amongst constrained, knowledgeable circles without large impact on public attitudes?

This study therefore seeks to understand the nature of the relationship between blog content and audience behavior in Algeria, focusing on the level and forms of influence that blogs may exert on readers' opinions, values, and perceptions of national and international issues.

### ***Research Questions:***

1. To what extent do Algerian blogs influence readers' opinions and attitudes, particularly regarding foreign policy?
2. What are the main motivations that drive Algerian audiences to follow blogs instead of traditional media?
3. How do demographic factors affect the way readers interact with blog content?
4. What is the nature of the relationship between the time spent on blog reading and the degree of opinion change or engagement?
5. Do blogs serve as platforms for persuasion and opinion change, or primarily as spaces for information exchange and critical reflection?

## **1. Methodology:**

This study relied on a subject survey wherein a questionnaire become dispensed to a medium-sized studies populace (300) consisting of ordinary citizens, employees, students, and public and private zone employees at universities (students and professors), from numerous towns across Algeria (differences in vicinity of residence or province had been now not taken into account in this take a look at).

The survey became conducted the use of a random sampling approach, ensuring that the members had been selected objectively without previous focused on of any precise demographic or expert institution.

This randomization helped decrease bias and more desirable the credibility of the findings, taking into account a more balanced representation of opinions regarding the have an impact on of blogs in Algeria.

## **2. Results and Discussion**

The results of the survey reveal a set of significant quantitative indicators that illustrate the nature of the relationship between Algerian audiences and blog content.

When asked whether following blogs had changed their stance toward Algeria's foreign policy, the responses were quite decisive: 84.6% of participants stated that they did not change their opinion, while only 15.4% reported that they did.

This large discrepancy demonstrates a strong resistance to influence in matters of national and sovereign importance, indicating that, despite their diversity and boldness, blogs



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remain limited in their ability to reshape deeply rooted political attitudes.

This suggests that Algerian readers tend to perceive blogs more as platforms for discussion and reflection than as persuasive instruments in areas tied to national identity and diplomacy.

However, the limited direct influence of blogs does not imply an absence of intellectual or informational impact. When examining the main motives for following blogs, 42.9% of respondents reported doing so to “gain exposure to diverse viewpoints,” followed by 28.6% who sought “accurate information,” and 25% who followed blogs because of “low trust in traditional media”.

This distribution shows that blogs in Algeria fill an evident informational gap left by mainstream media, offering a dual function: they serve as both a free space for open opinion exchange and as an alternative source of credible information.

If we combine those seeking diversity and those distrusting traditional media, nearly 67.9% of respondents follow blogs primarily to access pluralistic discourse, which positions blogs more as forums for knowledge exchange than as direct agents of persuasion.

Regarding time spent weekly on following blogs, 82.1% of responders.

## Conclusion

Nevertheless, blogs have a measurable oblique affect via increasing highbrow horizons and enhancing crucial wondering. They encourage verification of information, foster a lifestyle of assessment, and promote open discussion beyond authentic narratives. Algerian readers do no longer reject their effect; as a substitute, they have interaction with blogs as complementary media that increase the informational panorama and allow freer expression. This form of have an impact on – subtle, accumulative, and reflective – may additionally ultimately show extra sustainable than direct persuasion, because it shapes the cognitive frameworks through which individuals interpret events and guidelines.

In end, the facts show that blogs still occupy a transitional function between an elite intellectual space and a broader public conversation platform. Their impact stays slight in quantitative phrases but profound in qualitative dimensions, mainly in fostering critical consciousness and public dialogue. For blogs to conform into a more potent pressure in shaping public opinion, they could want to reach broader social companies and adopt more dynamic, handy codecs without compromising analytical intensity. In their current shape, they represent an essential yet understated pillar of Algeria's rising virtual public sphere – a space in which civic recognition is nurtured greater via reflection than persuasion.

Blogs have an oblique influence through expanding intellectual horizons and enhancing crucial thinking. They inspire verification of information, foster a subculture of



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assessment, and promote open dialogue past legit narratives.

Algerian weblog readers do no longer reject their impact; as a substitute, they have interaction with blogs as complementary media that improve the informational landscape and permit freer expression. This shape of have an effect on – diffused, accumulative, and reflective – may in the end show more sustainable than direct persuasion, because it shapes the cognitive frameworks via which individuals interpret activities and guidelines.

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