

# What do people want? Views on platforms and the digital public sphere in eight countries | Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism

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The purpose of this report is to analyse the role of digital platforms in contemporary media environments, including public perception of the benefits and problems they bring, especially when it comes to news and information about politics.

Overall, we find evidence for what we call 'platform ambivalence'. This refers to the fact that many people use platforms for news and information about politics, while also remaining sceptical of the information they see there, and concerned about misinformation, bias, privacy, freedom of expression, and tech power. At the same time, people also appreciate the wider societal and personal benefits, such as easy access to information and staying connected with friends and family.

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