

Why the rest of the world shrugged at the Facebook Papers | Rest of World

By Rest of World staff

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When news emerged about a leaked trove of documents about the inner workings of Facebook, known collectively as the Facebook Papers, Colombian journalist José Luis Peñarredonda, the audience editor at the Latin American Center for Journalistic Investigation, reached out to the Twitter hivemind and asked, “Is there something on the #FacebookPapers about Latin America?”

He was met with complete silence.

“I wasn’t really all that surprised,” Peñarredonda told Rest of World. “Ultimately, there was some reaction [to the Facebook Papers] from media specialized in the region or in this sort of subject matter, but, as far as I know, there was no reaction from any regional government authorities to get a sense of how to deal with the issues being revealed.”

The Facebook Papers, which first appeared in the Wall Street Journal and were then disseminated through a consortium originally made up of 18 U.S.-based outlets, offered damning evidence that the company had prioritized resources for Western users and acquiesced to authoritarian regimes.

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