Streaming live starting June 10th @ https://ooni.org/youtube

Streaming live from June 10th @ https://ooni.org/youtube

0 Internet Measurement  $\mathbf{O}$ Village 2020 #imv2020 Join us for a deep dive with an exciting schedule! **OONI** https://ooni.org/imv2020



# **Measuring Internet Censorship**



Maria Xynou, 10th June 2020 Internet Measurement Village 2020



#### Επιχειρήσατε πρόσβαση σε ιστότοπο μέσω του οποίου παρέχονται μη αδειοδοτημένες υπηρεσίες τυχερών παιγνίων.

Σύμφωνα με τον νόμο, οι πάροχοι υπηρεσιών διαδικτύου είναι υποχρεωμένοι να μην επιτρέπουν την πρόσβαση σε ιστοτόπους μη αδειοδοτημένων παρόχων τυχερών παιγνίων, οι οποίοι αναφέρονται στον οικείο κατάλογο (Blacklist) που τηρεί η Ε.Ε.Ε.Π.

Επισημαίνεται ότι η συμμετοχή σε τυχερά παίγνια, τα οποία διοργανώνονται χωρίς άδεια από την Ελληνική Δημοκρατία, επισύρει αυστηρές διοικητικές και ποινικές κυρώσεις.



#### **Access Restricted**





Based on Regulation of the Minister of Communication and Information No. 19 of 2014

#### $\leftrightarrow$ $\rightarrow$ X (i) www.therealcuba.com

- It's harder to notice the blocking of less popular sites & services
- Internet censorship often differs from network to network within a country
- Most censorship techniques are quite subtle
- Cases of over-blocking and collateral damage
- The fact that a site or service is inaccessible *doesn't* necessarily mean that it's blocked by your Internet Service Provider (ISP)

## Why measure internet censorship?

Free software project aimed at empowering decentralized efforts in increasing transparency of **internet censorship** around the world.

https://ooni.org/

Since 2012, the OONI community has collected millions of network measurements from *more than 200 countries*, shedding light on many cases of internet censorship around the world.

OONI: Open Observatory of Network Interference







#### https://ooni.org/install/

# **OONI Probe**



Blocking of instant messaging apps



Blocking of censorship circumvention tools

Measurement of network speed & performance

#### **OONI Probe Tests**

https://ooni.org/nettest/



### Web Connectivity

- **Global list**: Internationally relevant websites
- **Country-specific lists**: Websites that are relevant to a specific country
- How to contribute to test lists: <u>https://ooni.org/get-involved/contribute-test-lists/</u>
- Citizen Lab GitHub repo: <u>https://github.com/citizenlab/test-lists</u>

Citizen Lab test lists: Websites tested by OONI Probe

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### **OONI Probe mobile app**

Tested	Blocked	Working 2	
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Psiphon Test	~	>	
Tor Test	~	>	
II Probe			

### **OONI Probe desktop app**

- **OONI Probe is not a privacy tool.** Anyone monitoring your internet activity (e.g. ISP) will know that you are running OONI Probe.
- Types of tested URLs include provocative or objectionable sites (e.g. pornography).
- By default, OONI measurements are openly published.

https://ooni.org/about/risks/



#### Contribute to test lists





#### https://ooni.org/about/data-policy/

# Choices you can make





### **Choose which websites to test**



Let's fight internet censorship together!

#### Test Name

#### Internet Censorship

Web Connectivity Check if websites are blocked. Learn how this test works here

#### **Speed & Performance**

- O NDT Speed Test
- O DASH Video Streaming

#### Middleboxes

- O HTTP Invalid Request Line
- O HTTP Header Field Manipulation.

#### What you can do

Generate a link and share it with your friends and contacts around the world. Encourage them to run OONI Probe to test the sites of your choice!

#### URLS



#### https://run.ooni.io

### **Coordinate OONI Probe testing**







#### Share this URL with your friends

https://run.ooni.io/nettest?tn=web\_connectivity&ta=%7B%22urls%22%3A%5B%

#### Or embed this code on your website

/\* For a simple button \*/ <a href='https://run.ooni.io/nettest? tn=web\_connectivity&ta=%7B%22urls%22%3A%5B%22http%3A%2F%2F%22% ~ 5D%7D&mv=1.2.0' class='ooni-run-button'>Run OON!!</a>

DONE

GENERATE

**OONI Run** 

https://run.ooni.io



#### **Thematic OONI Probe testing**

Social media, news websites, and VPNs often get blocked during political events (such as elections or protests) around the world.

To support **rapid response** to emergent censorship events, we share the following OONI Run buttons to enable the testing of specific types of websites.

- 1. Install the OONI Probe mobile app: Android, iOS, F-Droid
- 2. Tap the buttons below & open them with your OONI Probe mobile app (not with a browser)
- 3. Tap Run

Note: These tests require turning off VPNs.

SOCIAL MEDIA (39 URLS) NEWS MEDIA (47 URLS) VPNS (21 URLS) WIKIPEDIA (28 U	JRLS)
HUMAN RIGHTS (27 URLS)     ENVIRONMENT (20 URLS)     LGBTQI (26 URLS)     LGBTQI (60	DO URLS)
REPRODUCTION RIGHTS (4 URLS)     COVID-19 (25 URLS)	https://ooni.org/get-involved/run/

### **OONI Run buttons**



### **OONI Explorer**

https://explorer.ooni.org/

- **Normal.** When everything is OK (e.g. tested website is accessible).
- **Anomalous.** Signal that something is wrong (we should check the measurement data more carefully). Anomalous measurements MIGHT contain evidence of censorship, but not necessarily (i.e. false positives).
- **Confirmed blocked.** We only **confirm the blocking of a website** when we detect a **block page**.

# Interpreting the data



### Example block page (from Indonesia)

#### 😵 OONI | Explorer

🚱 OONI | Explorer



#### **OONI Explorer Search Tool**

#### SOONI | Explorer

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Country						
Iran	•	ir 🚇	AS 44244	2019-09-10	Web Connectivity	http://www.muhammadanism.com/ Confirmed
ASN e.g. AS30722		ir 💩	AS 44244	2019-09-09	Web Connectivity	http://www.hemid.com/ Confirmed
From	Until	ir 💩	AS 44244	2019-09-09	Web Connectivity	http://ayatesheytani.blogdrive.c/ Confirmed
Test Name	2019-09-10	ir 🔹	AS 44244	2019-09-09	Web Connectivity	http://www.sobhiran.com/
Any	v	ir 🔹	AS 44244	2019-09-09	Web Connectivity	http://www.akhbar-rooz.com/ Confirmed
Domain e.g. twitter.com		ir 🔹	AS 44244	2019-09-09	Web Connectivity	http://mihan.net/
Status O All Results		ir 💩	AS 44244	2019-09-09	Web Connectivity	http://www.webwarper.net/
<ul><li>Confirmed</li><li>Anomalies</li></ul>		ir 🔹	AS 44244	2019-09-09	Web Connectivity	http://kodoiin.blogspot.com/ Confirmed
Filter Results		IR 👲	AS 44244	2019-09-09	Web Connectivity	http://www.bahmanagha.blogspot.c/ Confirmed

### **OONI Explorer: Confirmed blocked**



#### Welcome to the OONI API

Dynamically updated every day, the OONI API enables researchers and data scientists to analyze all data collected from OONI Probes around the world.

Download and search OONI Probe network measurements.

As the OONI API is not designed for batch consumption of OONI data, please use it for a modest request rate. If you are interested in analyzing OONI data in batch, please look into setting up an OONI PostgreSQL MetaDB instance or fetching the whole OONI dataset from the ooni-data Amazon S3 bucket. If in doubt contact the OONI team.

**READ THE API DOCS** 



https://api.ooni.io

- OONI PostgreSQL Metadb
- ooni-data Amazon S3 bucket

https://ooni.org/data/

### **Batch data analysis**

- **Evidence** of censorship events
- **Transparency** of information controls
- Allows researchers to conduct independent studies & to explore other research questions
- Allows the public to **verify OONI findings**
- Archive the Internet

https://ooni.org/data/



- Burundi. Social media blocked amid 2020 general election.
- **Venezuela.** Blocking of Wikipedia & social media amid presidential crisis.
- **Zimbabwe.** Social media blocked amid 2019 fuel protests.
- **Iran.** Blocking of Telegram, Instagram, and Tor during 2018 anti-government protests.
- **Spain.** Blocking of sites related to the Catalan referendum.

## **Politically-motivated cases**

- **Malaysia.** Blocking of media websites reporting on the 1MDB scandal.
- **Egypt.** Hundreds of media websites blocked.
- Myanmar. "Fake news" websites blocked amid COVID-19 pandemic.

## Media censorship

- Indonesia. Blocking of LGBTQI sites.
- **Iran.** Blocking of women's rights sites, Kurdish sites, LGBTQI sites, Baha'i sites.
- **Pakistan.** Blocking of Baluch and Hazara sites.
- Nigeria. Blocking of Biafra sites.

# Blocking of minority group sites

- **Ethiopia.** Used to block numerous media websites, political opposition sites, and circumvention tool sites => Most were unblocked in 2018 as part of political reforms => But access to social media was blocked again in 2019.
- **Cuba.** Used to primarily serve blank block pages, only blocking the HTTP version of websites. Now they censor access to sites that support HTTPS by means of IP blocking.

# **Censorship changes**

- Run OONI Probe: <u>https://ooni.org/install/</u>
- Contribute to test lists: <u>https://ooni.org/get-involved/contribute-test-lists/</u>
- Translate the OONI Probe apps: <u>https://www.transifex.com/otf/ooniprobe/</u>
- Analyze OONI data: <a href="https://ooni.org/data/">https://ooni.org/data/</a>
- Join community discussions: <a href="https://slack.ooni.org/">https://slack.ooni.org/</a>

### **Get Involved!**



contact@openobservatory.org





