

Theuse of Digital Sources in Algerian Media –An Analytical Study of the opinions of Daily Print Press Editors in Chef.

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Abstract:

This study investigates the evolving role of digital sources in the journalistic practices of editors-in-chief working in Algerian daily newspapers. In light of the rapid technological transformations shaping the global media landscape, the research seeks to understand how these changes are influencing editorial routines, particularly regarding news sourcing and verification. The central research problem revolves around identifying the degree to which editors-in-chief integrate digital tools and platforms into their workflow and whether this reliance reflects a broader shift in professional norms and editorial decision-making. To address this issue, the study employed a quantitative approach through a structured questionnaire distributed to a purposive sample of 71 editors-in-chief across various national dailies. The scientific relevance of this inquiry lies in its contribution to understanding the intersection between digital innovation and traditional journalistic authority in the Algerian media context.

Keywords: Editor-in-chief; digital sources; information gathering; print journalism; journalism work.

ملخص: تبحث هذه الدراسة في الدور المتطور للمصادر الرقمية في الممارسات الصحفية لرؤساء تحرير الصحف اليومية الجزائرية. وفي ظل التحولات التكنولوجية المتسارعة التي يشهدها المشهد الإعلامي العالمي، تهدف الدراسة إلى فهم الكيفية التي تؤثر بها هذه التغيرات على الروتين التحريري، لا سيما فيما يتعلق بجمع المعلومات والتحقق منها. وتتمثل الإشكالية المركزية في تحديد مدى إدماج رؤساء التحرير للأدوات والمنصات الرقمية ضمن سير عملهم المهني، وما إذا كان هذا الاعتماد يعكس تحولاً أوسع في المعايير المهنية واتخاذ القرارات التحريرية. وللإجابة على هذه الإشكالية، اعتمدت الدراسة على منهج كمي من خلال استبيان موجه إلى عينة قصدية تضم 71 رئيس تحرير في مختلف الصحف الوطنية اليومية. وتكمن الأهمية العلمية لهذا البحث في مساهمته في فهم التداخل بين الابتكار الرقمي والسلطة الصحفية التقليدية في السياق الإعلامي الجزائري.

الكلمات المفتاحية: رؤساء التحرير، المصادر الرقمية، المعلومات الصحفية، العمل الصحفي، الصحافة المكتوبة

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1.INTRODUCTION:

Technology has emerged as an unprecedented phenomenon, experiencing widespread diffusion since the 1990s and driving a paradigm shift in the field of media and communication (Castells, 1996). The rapid expansion of the internet on a global scale has substantiated discussions surrounding the 'global village' hypothesis, a concept extensively examined by researchers, including Marshall McLuhan and Manuel Castells, who both explored the profound effects of communication technologies on global interconnectedness

This digital transformation has been propelled by the accelerated evolution of internet-based technologies, which have introduced sophisticated and multifaceted communication tools. These advancements have facilitated unprecedented levels of social convergence, interactivity, and the exchange of ideas, knowledge, and information across diverse communities. (McLuhan, 1964)

Consequently, internet users are increasingly able to access an extensive repository of digital content, fostering an environment highly conducive to the dissemination of information and the acquisition of knowledge. This phenomenon has been extensively analyzed by scholars such as Marshall McLuhan and Manuel Castells, who have emphasized the pivotal role of communication technologies in facilitating new forms of social and cognitive integration. In particular, Castells (1996) conceptualizes the internet as a central infrastructure within the emerging network society, while McLuhan (1964) foresaw the internet is potential to transform global communication patterns into a "global village." Contemporary research continues to affirm that the internet operates as a fundamental medium, enabling dynamic interaction and engagement across digitally mediated environments, where technology acts as a critical enabler of human connectivity and collective knowledge production. (GlobalVillage: Media's influence on global communication, 2024)

Algerian journalism has undergone substantial transformations over the past two decades, primarily driven by the rapid advancements in information and communication technologies. Scholars such as Castells (1996) have emphasized the profound impact of digitalization on global media structures, an evolution that has significantly influenced the Algerian media landscape as well. The emergence of digital sources has become a crucial element in the processes of newsgathering and dissemination, leading to a comprehensive reconfiguration of traditional journalistic practices. Consequently, the widespread adoption of digital technologies has posed considerable challenges for traditional Algerian newspapers, compelling them to adapt to fundamental shifts in the collection, production, and presentation of news and information

Modern technology, particularly the internet and social media, have introduced new patterns for the delivery of news, enabling faster and more interactive access to information. This digital transformation has compelled print journalism to adjust by integrating digital sources into their established list of approved references.

It can be said that the need for reliable information sources constitutes a fundamental stage in fulfilling the journalistic mission of any media institution. In light of the continuous evolution of information and communication technologies, this study seeks to identify the extent to which Algerian print journalism relies on digital media sources to meet its professional information needs. This investigation is motivated by the growing integration of digital tools into news production processes. To achieve this, the study observes the operational reality of print journalism and analyzes its

underlying mechanisms. This leads us to the following research question:

To what extent do editors in chief of Algerian daily newspapers rely on digital sources in their journalistic work?

In the context of this study, which aims to examine the modern media sources relied upon by the Algerian print press, a set of guiding hypotheses has been formulated. These hypotheses are intended to explore the role and impact of digital sources on contemporary journalistic practices within the print media sector in Algeria. Through this exploratory approach, each hypothesis will be systematically tested.

- **Hypothesis 1:** The Algerian print press relies on a diverse range of digital sources for newsgathering and event coverage.
- **Hypothesis 2:** Journalists in the Algerian print media sector significantly utilize Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) tools in the process of collecting journalistic information.
- **Hypothesis 3:** The integration of digital sources contributes to enhancing the quality and accuracy of journalistic content in Algerian print journalism.
- **Hypothesis 4:** There exists a complementary relationship between digital and traditional sources in the information-gathering practices of Algerian print journalists.

2. The Concept and Tools of Modern Journalistic information sources:

News sources, in the broadest sense of the word, refer to the individuals, institutions and various media outlets from which a media organization obtains its news. Different news sources serve as the essential foundation and critical pillar of the news story and its significance. The diversity and variety of sources and tools from which a newspaper gathers its news lead to the diversity and variety of the (The Art of News Reporting Dar Al Shourouk , 2008) .news

Zakaria Imad defines modern journalistic sources as "platforms and tools that utilize internet technology and digital communication to gather, produce, and disseminate news and media content. These sources include websites, social media networks, blogs, and podcasts". (Zakaria , 2020)

Heshamat Qasim defines modern media sources as "a collection of sources that rely on contemporary information technologies, consisting of three fundamental components: electronic computers, which offer vast storage capacity and high-speed processing and retrieval; long-distance communication technologies, which facilitate overcoming geographical barriers; and microforms in all their variants, whether film-based or optical, which provide efficient document storage while ensuring ease of access, reproduction, and retrieval." (Qasim, 1993)

- **Internet:** The internet is considered a primary source in modern journalism, as it allows journalists to access news websites, blogs, and digital media platforms that provide continuous, real-time news. These sites offer ongoing coverage of current events and allow users to interact through comments and sharing, enhancing direct engagement with the audience. (Ball, 2007)

- **Social Media:** Social Media platforms such as Facebook, X, Instagram, and TikTok have become significant sources for news, offering real-time updates from users or media accounts. Journalists rely on these platforms to gather field information, audience opinions, and as a tool to communicate quickly with followers. (Abed, 2012)
- **Mobile News:** With the rise of smartphones, news apps and mobile-friendly websites have become an integral part of contemporary journalism. These tools provide quick and instant access to constantly updated news, making journalism more interactive and personalized based on the reader's interests. (Burum, Ivo & Quinn, 2016)
- **Podcast:** podcasts have become an important media tool in modern journalism, offering audio programs that cover various topics, including news and analysis. Listeners can follow the news while on the go, offering flexible access to information, and encouraging journalists to deliver in-depth content on diverse subjects. (Berry , 2006)
- **Digital Video (You tube...):** Digital video platforms such as YouTube represent a modern source for news and media content. Journalists use these platforms to broadcast live events and produce video reports that highlight different aspects of the story. This method provides the audience with a rich, direct experience through interactive or recorded videos. (Wilding, Fray, & and others, 2018)
- **Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Data Analysis:** AI and data analysis techniques are increasingly used in journalism to extract patterns from large amounts of data. Journalists use AI to analyze data and deliver faster, more accurate reports, helping discover trends and emerging topics. (Baoutelman, 2024)
- **Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) :** Publicly available online sources (OSINT) are powerful tools in investigative journalism. Journalists use these sources to gather valuable information that aids in investigations and news analysis. These sources include images, video, government data, and verified internet news. (Singh & Sinha, 2024)

The importance of these sources lies in their ability to enable journalists to access vast amounts of information from around the world in a short time. They also allow for fact checking, identifying patterns and trends, and conducting in-depth investigative journalism. In addition, interactive digital tools help present content in an engaging way that makes it easier for the audience to understand, thereby reinforcing the journalist's role as a reliable source of accurate and professionally processed information.

3.:Characteristics of Modern Journalistic Sour:

Modern Journalistic sources have several characteristics that make them more effective and influential in the digital age. These characteristics include:

- **Speed and Immediacy:** These sources provide news and information in real-time, allowing audiences to follow events as they happen.

- **Interactivity:** They enable audiences to engage with content through comments, likes, shares, and polls, enhancing communication between journalists and the public.
- **Diversity and Variety:** They offer a wide range of perspectives and sources, allowing users to access news from different angles.
- **Wide Accessibility:** With the internet and mobile apps, anyone can access news and media content anytime and from anywhere.
- **Personalization:** Users can customize content based on their interests, with AI algorithms displaying relevant news tailored to their preference.
- **Decentralization:** News is no longer limited to traditional media institutions, individuals, bloggers, and influencers can now report and analyze events.
- **Ease of Production and Publishing:** Anyone with a smartphone or computer can easily create and publish media content online. These sources have become an essential part of the modern media industry, as audiences rely on them to quickly and diversely obtain news and information. (Borum & Quinn, 2016)

Statistics on Internet and Social Media Usage in Algeria:

According to the Digital 2024 report by DataReportal, Algeria has experienced significant growth in both internet and social media usage at the beginning of 2024. As of January 2024, the number of internet users in the country reached 33.49 million, accounting for 72.9% of the total population. This represents an increase of 1.4 million users compared to January 2023, when there were 32.09 million users. These figures demonstrate a steady growth in internet penetration, highlighting the growing importance of digital connectivity in the country.

Similarly, the number of active social media users also saw considerable growth. By January 2024, 24.85 million Algerians were using social media, representing 54.1% of the population. This shows an increase of 0.9 million users from January 2023, when there were 23.95 million social media users.

Among the most popular platforms, Facebook remained the leading one with 24.85 million users, covering 54.1% of the population. YouTube followed closely with 22.80 million users, representing 68.1% of internet users. Instagram also had a notable user base, with 8.4 million users, covering 25.5% of the population, while Snapchat had 7.5 million users, and TikTok continued to grow, reaching 17.42 million users, representing 52.0% of internet users.

These statistics underscore the expanding digital landscape in Algeria, with increasing engagement in both internet usage and social media platforms. The growth in the number of users across these platforms reflects the increasing role of digital tools in communication, entertainment, and professional interactions.

For journalists, these trends are particularly significant. The rise in internet penetration and the dominance of social media platforms are reshaping how journalists access information, interact with audiences, and distribute content. With the growing digital engagement, journalists can now gather real-time information from diverse sources, track public sentiment, and distribute news quickly and efficiently across platforms. These digital tools have become essential for modern journalistic

practices in Algeria, enhancing how journalists report, interact with their audience, and present news in an interactive and accessible way. (DataReportal, 2024)

1.The Nature of the use of Digital information sources in Algerian Daily Newspapers :

Based on this, we selected editors-in-chief of Algerian newspapers as our research sample, considering their crucial role in determining and utilizing media information sources with precision. As the primary actors in shaping the media message, they have the expertise to decide which sources are most reliable and relevant for the news cycle. Given their responsibilities, editors-in-chief possess a unique understanding of the evolving media landscape, particularly in relation to digital sources. Accordingly, we distributed 130 questionnaires to this group, of which 71 were retrieved and analyzed using the Statistical Package for the Social Sciences (SPSS) software. This methodological choice allows for an in-depth examination of how key media decision-makers in Algeria engage with contemporary sources of information in the digital age .

Table 1. The distribution of the sample members according to the age variable

Age	Frequency	Percentage %
Under 25 years	13	18.3
26-35 years	16	22.5
36-45 years	21	29.6
46 years	21	29.6
Total	71	100

Source: Table produced by the researcher.

Table (01) shows the distribution of the sample according to the age variable. The age groups of 36 to 45 years and 46 years and older each account for an equal proportion of 29.6%, followed by the 26 to 35 years age group, which represents 22.5%. The under 25 year's group accounts for 18.3%. These findings indicate that the majority of the sample falls within the 36 years and older age range.

It is worth noting that this distribution reflects various factors related to age, which may directly influence the editors' reliance on digital sources in their journalistic work. Editors in older age groups may be more cautious about using digital technologies compared to younger generations, which requires a deeper understanding of how these tools are employed in journalistic practices. Therefore, these age groups, which make up a significant portion of the sample, may influence how they assess and rely on digital sources for newsgathering.

Table 2. The distribution of the sample members according to the professional experience variable.

professional experience	Frequency	Percentage %
Less than 1 year	6	8.5
2-5 years	9	12.7
6-10 years	9	12.7
11-15 years	16	22.5
more than 16 years	31	43.7
Total	71	100

Source: Table produced by the researcher.

The above table indicates the distribution of the sample members according to the professional experience variable. It shows that the largest proportion, 43.7%, corresponds to individuals with more

than 16 years of experience, followed by 22.5% for those with 11 to 15 years. Meanwhile, 12.7% of respondents reported having 2 to 5 years and 6 to 10 years of experience respectively, while only 8.5% had less than 1 year of professional experience. These findings reveal that the majority of the respondents are seasoned media professionals with significant experience in the field. This high level of professional expertise reinforces the reliability of the data collected, as it suggests that the participants are well positioned to evaluate and report on the extent to which digital sources are used in journalistic work—thereby providing informed insights closely aligned with the study’s central question.

Table 3. The distribution of the sample members according to the educational level variable.

Educational level	Frequency	Percentage %
Bachelor's degree	37	51.1
Master's degree	27	38
Postgraduate studies	7	9.9
Total	71	100

Source: Table produced by the researcher.

The table above illustrates the distribution of the sample members based on their educational level. The highest proportion, 51.1%, corresponds to individuals holding a Bachelor's degree, followed by 38.0% with a Master's degree, and 9.9% with postgraduate studies. These findings indicate that the majority of the study sample holds a Bachelor's degree, suggesting that undergraduate education represents the predominant academic qualification among media professionals in the study.

This distribution also explains the high level of academic qualification among the study participants, reflecting the importance of academic credentials in the media field, especially in leadership roles like editor-in-chief. Such positions require advanced research and cognitive skills that contribute to making informed editorial decisions, thereby enhancing the quality of media content.

Given the significant proportion of respondents with higher education qualifications, it can be inferred that this group is likely to have a greater capacity to embrace and effectively utilize digital tools and sources in their journalistic work, thus ensuring that their editorial practices are up to date with the demands of modern media.

Table 4. Dependence of Respondents on the Internet as a primary source of journalistic Information

Internet	Frequency	Percentage %
Always	45	63.4
Sometimes	25	35.2
Rarely	1	1.4
Total	71	100

Source: Table produced by the researcher.

Table (04) indicates that the majority of the study sample—63.4%—relies on the Internet as a primary source of journalistic information. In contrast, 35.2% of respondents do not use the Internet for gathering news, while 1.4% report using it rarely. These findings highlight the Internet's role as a fundamental and indispensable tool for journalistic work. Its capacity to provide instant access to vast and diverse sources of information allows journalists to monitor events in real time across multiple platforms such as news websites and social media, without needing to be physically present at the scene. This not only enhances the speed and breadth of news coverage but also underscores the transformative impact of digital tools on newsgathering and media content production in the modern era.

Table 5. Digital sources used by journalists of the surveyed Newspaper to gather journalistic information

Digital Sources Used by the Newspaper	Frequency	Percentage %
Search Engines (e.g., Google)	65	25.2
Digital News Websites	55	21.3
Social Media Platforms	48	18.6
Electronic Databases (e.g., Statista, Data.gov)	37	14.3
Mobile Applications (e.g., Flipboard, Google News)	28	10.9
Artificial Intelligence Programs	16	6.2
OSINT Tools (e.g., Maltego, Shodan)	9	3.5
Total	258	100

Source: Table produced by the researcher.

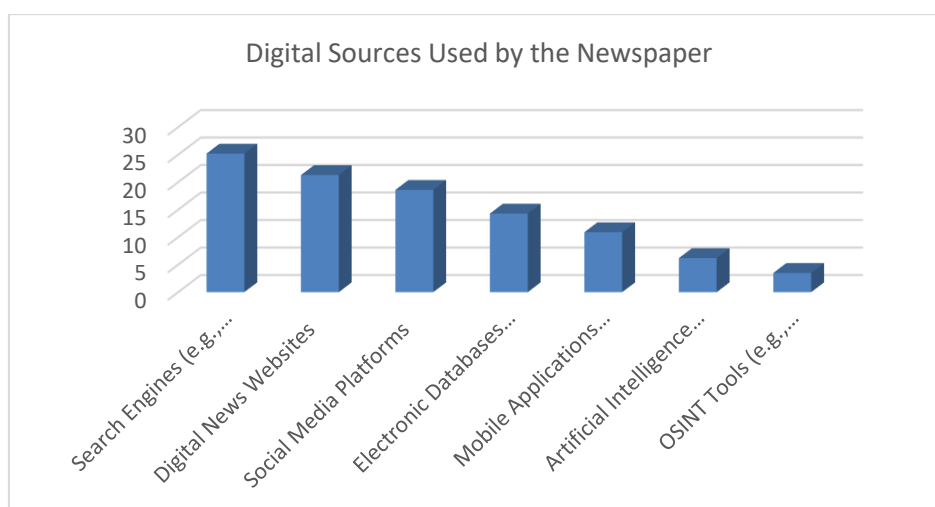
Table (05) illustrates the ranking of digital sources utilized by Algerian newspapers for journalistic information gathering. Search engines (e.g., Google) rank first, accounting for 25.2% of the responses, followed by digital news websites at 21.3%. Social media platforms occupy the third position with 18.6%,

while electronic databases (e.g., Statista, Data.gov) rank fourth with 14.3%. Smartphone applications (e.g., Flipboard, Google News) follow in fifth place with 10.9%. Artificial intelligence tools come next with 6.2%, and finally, OSINT tools (e.g., Maltego, Shodan) are the least utilized, comprising only 3.5% of the total.

These findings reveal that Algerian print journalism draws upon a wide array of digital sources, leveraging their accessibility and diversity in daily professional routines. This trend underscores the sector's ongoing shift toward a digitally integrated media environment, emphasizing the growing significance of digital tools and platforms in contemporary news production. For instance, journalists in newspapers like *El Khabar* and *El Watan* frequently rely on **Google** and **Facebook** to follow breaking news, public reactions, and official statements, especially during political developments or social protests. Additionally, platforms like **YouTube** are used for extracting visual content for verification, while some editorial teams also turn to

open data platforms and AI-supported tools for investigative reporting. These practices clearly demonstrate that digital technology is not only important but vital and decisive in empowering journalism

to deliver accurate, well-researched, and timely news. (The information provided in this example is derived from the research questionnaire distributed to the study participants)



Source: Graphic produced by the researcher.

Table 6. Social media platforms most used by your Newspaper

Social Media Platforms	Frequency	Percentage %
Facebook	55	38.7
X (formerly Twitter)	40	28.2
Instagram	19	13.4
TikTok	16	11.3
Other (please specify)	12	8.5
Total	142	100

Source: Table produced by the researcher

The table above illustrates the distribution of social media usage among the surveyed sample. The results reveal that Facebook is the most widely used platform, with 38.7% of respondents utilizing it, making it the leading social network in terms of usage compared to other social media platforms. This is not surprising, as Facebook is the world's largest social network by number of users, with over

3.07 billion active users monthly as of 2025. Facebook's widespread use is indicative of its importance as a primary source for news, information, and interaction, serving as a tool for rapidly disseminating information and engaging with a vast audience. Journalists particularly value Facebook for its news groups and pages that assist in gathering information and interacting with the public.

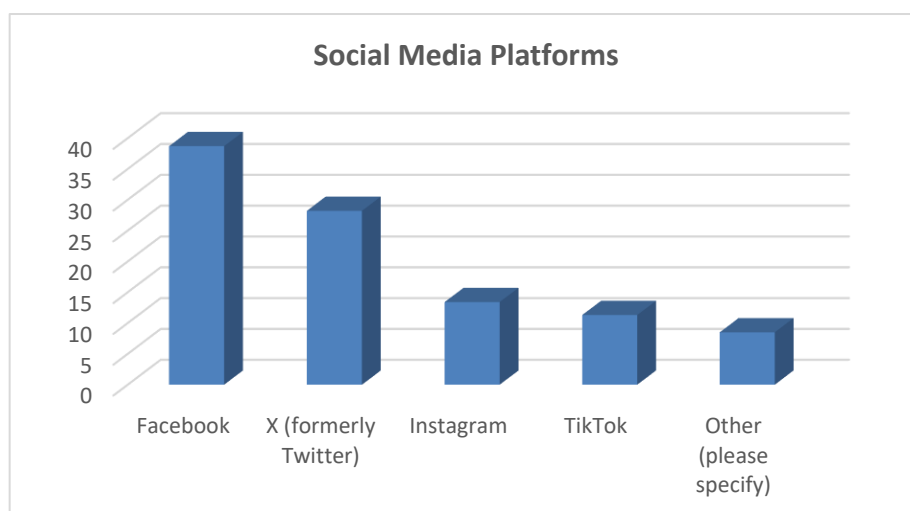
The second most used platform is X (formerly Twitter), with 28.2% of respondents using it. This underscores its significance for journalists in accessing breaking news and engaging directly with sources and experts. Although its usage is lower than Facebook, X remains vital for real-time updates on political and social events, with media institutions and public figures using it for official announcements and quick analyses.

Instagram, with 13.4%, reflects the growing emphasis on visual content in digital journalism, as visual storytelling has become increasingly essential for engaging audiences. TikTok follows with 11.3%, highlighting its rising role as a news platform, particularly among younger audiences. TikTok's interactive and fast-paced format is well suited for sharing real-time news, appealing to modern journalistic needs.

Additionally, 8.5% of respondents chose "Other," indicating reliance on alternative platforms such as LinkedIn or Telegram. These platforms offer specialized content, with LinkedIn being used for professional economic analyses and Telegram providing an alternative channel for news, especially in regions with media restrictions.

These findings reveal that Algerian journalists do not rely on a single social media platform but instead adopt multiple sources based on the nature of their work and professional requirements. The diversity in platform usage emphasizes the significant role that digital technology plays in news production, as each platform serves a specific function in accessing, processing, and distributing information. The growing reliance on visual and real-time content, particularly through platforms like

Facebook, X, Instagram, and TikTok, demonstrates the central role of digital technologies in shaping the future of journalism. The expanding use of these platforms confirms the critical importance of digital tools in modern journalistic practices, as they allow for a broader reach and more effective engagement with audiences. This transformation underscores the necessity for journalists to adapt and effectively utilize these digital platforms in their daily practices.



Source: Graphic produced by the researcher.

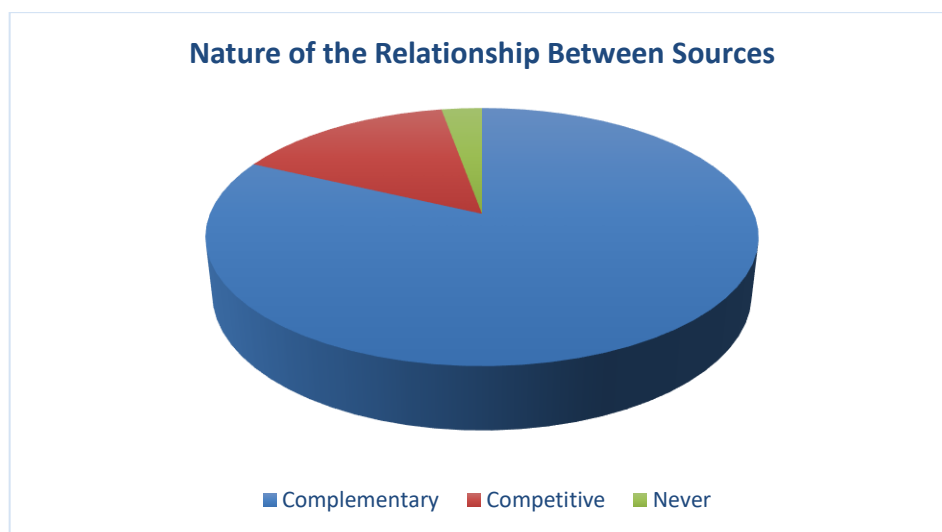
Table 7. The Nature of the Relationship between Traditional and Digital Sources from the Perspective of Editors-in-Chief of Algerian Daily Newspapers

Nature of the Relationship Between Sources	Frequency	Percentage %
Complementary	58	81.7
Competitive	11	15.1
Never	2	2.8
Total	71	100

Source: Table produced by the researcher

The data presented in the table above indicate that the majority of respondents believe the relationship between traditional sources (such as news agencies, correspondents, etc.) and digital sources (such as social media platforms, news websites, etc.) is complementary. A significant 81.7% of the surveyed sample expressed this view. In contrast, 15.5% of respondents considered the relationship between these sources to be competitive—an admittedly small proportion relative to the overall sample of journalists. Meanwhile, 2.8% of the respondents believed there is no relationship between traditional and digital sources at all.

These results can be interpreted to suggest that most editors-in-chief of Algerian newspapers perceive traditional sources as not conflicting with digital ones, but rather complementing them in enhancing journalistic work. This reflects a gradual shift toward adopting a hybrid model that combines both digital and traditional tools in journalistic practice. Such integration contributes to improving the credibility and quality of information, while also benefiting from the speed and reach offered by digital sources.



Source: Graphic produced by the researcher.

1. Discussion of Findings in Light of the Research Hypotheses

This study has yielded a set of findings that align closely with the four research hypotheses, offering insights into the evolving nature of information sourcing in Algerian print journalism. Each hypothesis is discussed below in light of the survey results and existing academic literature.

Hypothesis 1: The Algerian print press relies on a diverse range of digital sources for newsgathering and event coverage.

The findings strongly support this hypothesis. As evidenced by Table 5, Algerian newspapers rely on various digital sources, including search engines (25.2%), digital news websites (21.3%), social media platforms (18.6%), electronic databases (14.3%), as well as smartphone applications, artificial intelligence tools, and OSINT technologies. This diversity of sources underscores a broad integration of digital ecosystems into journalistic workflows, signifying a paradigm shift in how information is accessed and processed.

This result is crucial in the context of the study's central problem: analyzing the transformation of information sources in Algerian journalism under the influence of new communication technologies. The data clearly illustrates a transition from traditional to digital-centric practices, reflecting global trends in digital journalism and enhancing responsiveness to real-time events.

Hypothesis 2: Journalists in the Algerian print media sector significantly utilize Open Source Intelligence (OSINT) tools in the process of collecting journalistic information.

The data partially contradicts this hypothesis. According to Table 5, the use of OSINT tools (e.g., Maltego, Shodan) among Algerian journalists remains limited at just 3.5%, making it one of the least utilized categories among digital sources. This indicates that OSINT has not yet gained widespread adoption in Algerian journalistic routines.

The limited use of OSINT tools highlights a significant gap in digital investigative capabilities. Globally, OSINT has become an essential component of modern journalism, particularly in investigative reporting, as emphasized by Michael Bazzell (2021) in his authoritative work *OSINT Techniques*. The discrepancy between international practices and the Algerian context suggests a pressing need to develop journalists' digital competencies, especially in leveraging open-source data for verification and investigative purposes.

Hypothesis 3: The integration of digital sources contributes to enhancing the quality and accuracy of journalistic content in Algerian print journalism.

This hypothesis is well supported by the findings. A significant proportion of respondents (34.76%) believe that content produced using smartphones is of higher quality compared to traditional tools, while 48.5% reported no difference in quality. Furthermore, over 45% of editors-in-chief acknowledged that digital sources significantly accelerate information-gathering processes, with an additional 30% noting moderate improvements.

These results underscore the role of digital tools in enhancing journalistic output, particularly in terms of speed and efficiency, which are essential for real-time reporting. The reliance on mobile journalism (65.56%) and preference for video content (45.21%) over written text (9.87%) further reflects a

strategic shift towards multimedia storytelling. These developments resonate with contemporary academic perspectives that link digital convergence with increased journalistic effectiveness, particularly in dynamic media environments.

Hypothesis 4: There exists a complementary relationship between digital and traditional sources in the information-gathering practices of Algerian print journalists.

The findings robustly affirm this hypothesis. An overwhelming majority (81.7%) of editors-in-chief consider the relationship between digital and traditional sources to be complementary, while only 15.5% perceive it as competitive, and a mere 2.8% view it as reciprocal. This dominant view reflects a nuanced understanding of the media landscape, where traditional and digital tools coexist to fulfill different roles within the editorial process.

This perception aligns with the findings of Bouhouali (2020) in his study on the interplay between classical and new media in Algeria. He argues that the relationship is more integrative than antagonistic, and that Algerian media institutions must adapt to the new information consumption

habits of audiences. This integrative approach not only reflects media convergence but also suggests an adaptive media ecosystem that values both credibility and innovation. (Bouhouali, 2020/2021)

2. CONCLUSION:

In conclusion, the study reveals that digital sources play an increasingly important role in Algerian media, with editors-in-chief maintaining a balanced approach that combines digital innovation with reliable traditional sources. the preference for a complementary relationship between digital and traditional sources reflects a commitment to enhancing the accuracy and quality of media content. However, the limited and inconsistent use of digital verification tools indicates a need for greater awareness and training to improve fact-checking practices.

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