

Research Issues

RSC811-Assignment 10

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Research Title : العنوان

Title: *Importance of Cybersecurity in the Higher Education Sector (2022)*

Author: Kamal Aldin Yousif Yaseen, University of Nizwa

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The study does not clearly define variables (independent, dependent, mediating, or moderating).

The nature of the paper is more of a review article rather than an empirical research study with measurable variables.

Clarity of Application Field: Yes, the field of application is clearly specified: institutions of higher education.

Introduction : المقدمة

- The introduction clearly emphasizes the importance of digital transformation and its associated risks.
- However, it does **not precisely define study variables** in a scientific manner, since it mainly presents an overview of the problem rather than variables for hypothesis testing.

Problem Statement : مشكلة الدراسة

- The study **does not frame the problem** as a main research question or sub-questions.
- However, the author highlights the general gap: a lack of cybersecurity awareness and poor security practices in higher education.
- The paper **does not systematically refer** to gaps in previous studies as a foundation for the problem statement.

Significance of the Study : أهمية الدراسة :

- The study discusses **theoretical importance** by emphasizing cybersecurity's role in protecting academic institutions.
- Practical importance** is acknowledged by suggesting policies and training initiatives that institutions can apply.
- The expected contribution is **raising awareness and encouraging institutions to develop stronger cybersecurity practices**.

أهداف الدراسة : Objectives of the Study

- The study's objectives include:
 - Highlighting the importance of cybersecurity.
 - Presenting threats facing higher education institutions.
 - Recommending best practices for cybersecurity enhancement.
- These objectives are **realistic and achievable**, considering the descriptive and review-based nature of the paper.

Concepts and Definitions : مفاهيم وتعريفات الدراسة

- Key concepts such as "Cybersecurity," "Cyber threats," and "Security Policies" are **defined in simple terms**.
- However, the paper **does not establish strong theoretical relationships** between concepts.
- No sub-dimensions for variables are introduced since it is not an empirical study.

الدراسات السابقة: Literature review

- The paper **mentions** prior research related to cybersecurity risks in education, internet safety, cyberattacks, online privacy, and students' awareness.
- Citations cover various fields like online learning behavior, ethical concerns with online systems, and parental cybersecurity awareness.
- Main References** were from journals like *International Journal of Information and Education Technology*, *Interactive Technology and Smart Education*, and conference proceedings.

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Hypotheses : فرضيات الدراسة

- **No explicit hypotheses** (main or sub-hypotheses) are presented.
- The paper's style is descriptive, aimed at raising awareness rather than testing hypotheses.

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Study Model : نموذج الدراسة

- There is **no theoretical model or conceptual framework** presented.
- Relationships between concepts are implied but **not formally modeled or illustrated**.

Methodology and Statistical Analysis: منهجية الدراسة و التحليل الاحصائي

Methodology and Statistical Analysis

•Methodology:

- A review-based analytical approach.

•Data Sources:

- Secondary sources (previous studies from 2018 to 2022).

•Population and Sample:

- Not applicable (no empirical data collection).

•Statistical Methods:

- No statistical analysis was conducted.

Discussion of Results and Recommendations : مناقشة النتائج والتوصيات

- The study discusses the finding that higher education is among the most targeted sectors for cyberattacks.
- Results **agree with existing literature**, particularly regarding vulnerability to social engineering and ransomware.
- The study's **objectives were largely achieved**: raising awareness and providing actionable recommendations.
- Recommendations are **practical and applicable**, including:
 - Establishing strong security policies.
 - Improving cybersecurity awareness programs.
 - Deploying technical protection tools like firewalls and IDS/IPS systems.
- The study **does not explicitly suggest directions for future research**, but further empirical studies could be derived based on the issues raised.

Overall Assessments :

Overall Conclusion:

- The paper is **interesting and valuable** in the context of cybersecurity in higher education.
- It is **more of a review article** (descriptive) than an empirical research study.
- It serves as a **good starting point for future, deeper, and more structured research**.

Article link :

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Kamal-Aldin-Yaseen/publication/366969828_Importance_of_Cybersecurity_in_The_Higher_Education_Sector_2022/