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Power and participatory politics in the digital age : probing the use of new media technologies in railroading political changes in Zimbabwe
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Propositions belonging to the dissertation of Bruce Mutsvairo
Power and participatory politics in the digital age. Probing the use of new media technologies in railroading political changes in Zimbabwe

1

Fear among Zimbabweans is one of the most debilitating factors affecting the possible influence of ICTs on the Zimbabwean democratic space.

2

Propaganda usage mostly in the state controlled press has enabled Mugabe to decidedly prolong his decades-old reign.

3

Zimbabweans are generally sceptical about foreign interference in the quest for seeking solutions to their economic and political challenges.

4

Accessibility to the Internet has vastly improved thanks to the mobile phone revolution. However, dwellers of remote areas are still struggling to gain access, automatically excluding themselves from the technology-enhanced democratic participation.

5

The Zimbabwean Diaspora has and will continue to play a leading role insofar as transmitting anti-Mugabe rhetoric is concerned but that alone is not enough to make the veteran leader relinquish power.

6

Opinion is sharply divided over whether Mugabe was right in launching a land reform exercise which disadvantaged whites and triggered an economic collapse.

7

New media has only had a partial contribution in reinforcing democracy in Zimbabwe.

8

In the long run, digital technologies will play a significant role in sustaining democracy in Zimbabwe.

9

Citizen journalism is viewed with ideological scepticism among Zimbabweans.

10

Despite the Internet significantly empowering Zimbabweans, President Robert Mugabe has maintained his grip on power.