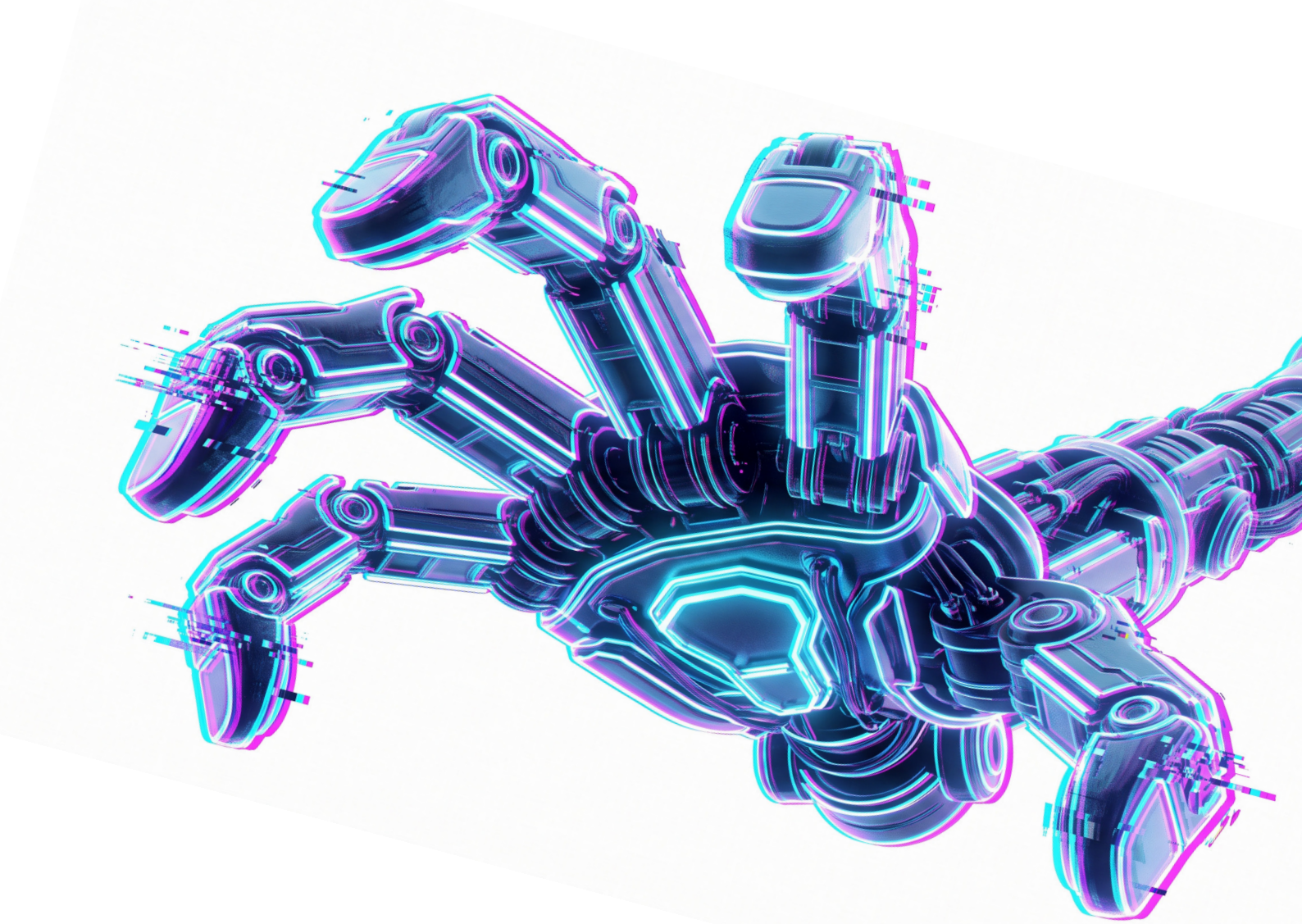
7amleh – The Arab Center for
the Advancement of Social Media

QUARTERLY REPORT



JULY – SEPTEMBER 2026

حملة – المركز العربي
لتطوير الإعلام الاجتماعي
7amleh - The Arab Center for
the Advancement of Social Media

Introduction

This report documents the key trends and patterns of digital violations targeting Palestinians, Palestinian content, and content advocating for Palestinian rights during the period from July to September 2026. It is based on monitoring and documentation data collected by 7amleh – The Arab Center for the Advancement of Social Media through the 7or Digital Rights Violations Observatory. The report comes amid a continuously evolving political and digital context, in which political and on-the-ground developments increasingly intersect with patterns of discourse and interaction across social media platforms.

During the reporting period, 7amleh documented 308 digital violations: 114 cases related to censorship of Palestinian content and accounts, and 194 cases involving the circulation of violent content, incitement, and hate speech. The findings demonstrate that the challenge lies not only in the restrictions imposed by platforms on Palestinian content and accounts, but even more so in the continued, widespread circulation of violent and inciting content, which accounted for roughly 63% of all documented cases this quarter. This raises concerns regarding the consistency and effectiveness of content moderation mechanisms and their ability to provide balanced protection for users.

The data further shows that violations disproportionately affect individuals and personal accounts, who accounted for approximately 91.6% of all documented cases (282 of 308), with activists, journalists, human rights defenders, academics, and content creators among those most affected. This pattern is particularly significant given the increasing reliance of these groups on digital platforms to disseminate information, express their views, document events, and engage with audiences.

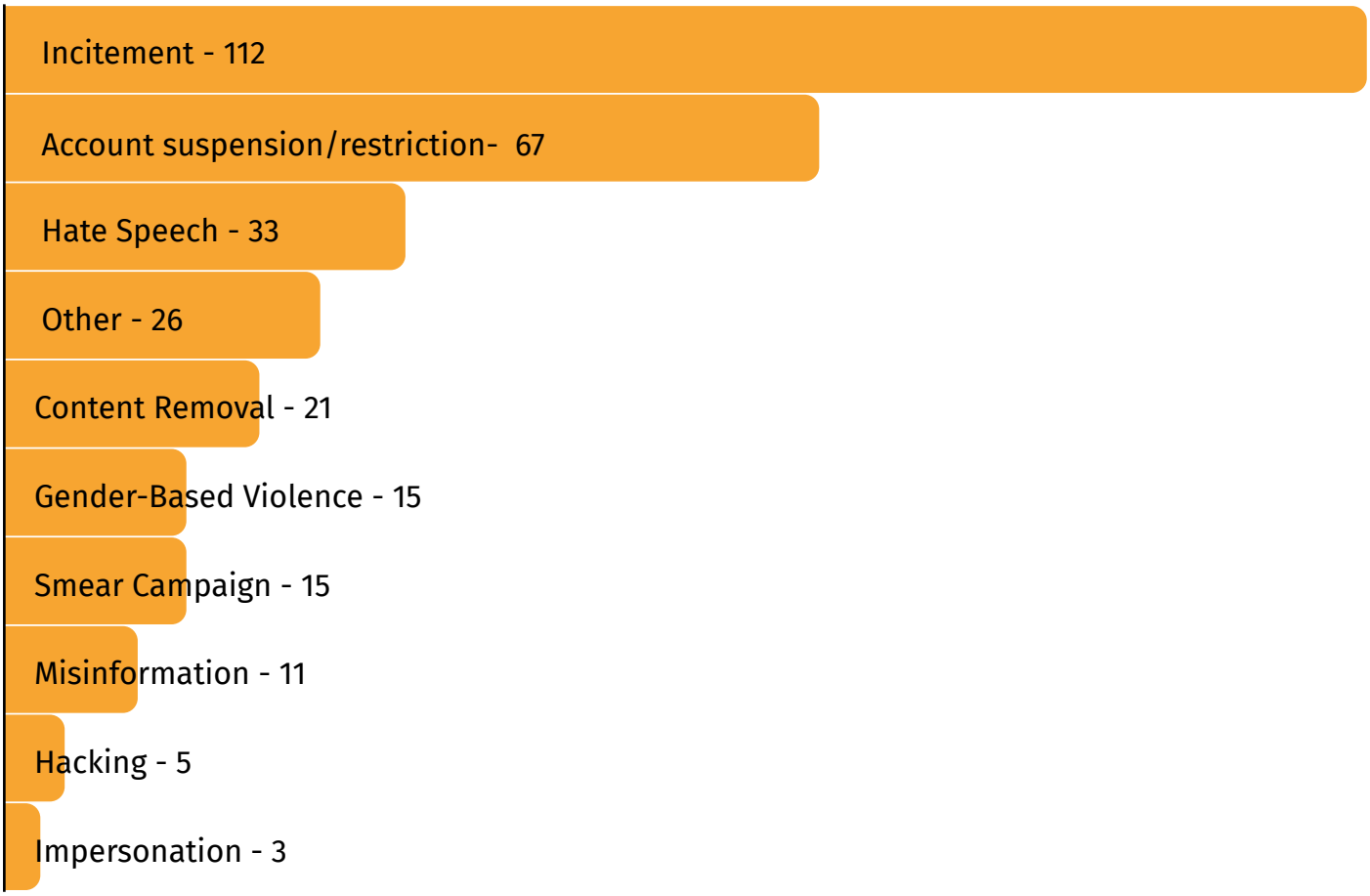
At the platform level, Instagram and Facebook together account for approximately 71% of all documented cases (220 of 308), highlighting the continued need to examine content moderation policies and enforcement practices on the platforms most widely used by Palestinian users. The data also demonstrates the range of enforcement measures applied by platforms, from content removal and account suspension or restriction to reduced reach (shadowbanning) and warnings, which vary in their nature, impact, and degree of transparency for affected users.

At the same time, hate speech, incitement, and violent content remain the largest single component of the documented digital environment during this reporting period, with incitement alone accounting for more than a third of all cases (112 cases). An analysis of the accounts responsible for this content shows that at least 27% of them (53 of 194) use Hebrew names or script, underscoring the gap between the platforms' enforcement against certain forms of Palestinian content and their ability to respond effectively to content targeting Palestinians with hate speech, incitement, or violence - particularly when it is not in English or Arabic.

Violations

Social media platforms continued to impose restrictions on Palestinian content and accounts during the third quarter of 2026. During this period, 7amleh documented 114 censorship-related violations, alongside 194 cases involving the circulation of violent content, incitement, and hate speech, bringing the total number of documented digital violations to 308. This distribution reflects the continued challenges associated with censorship of Palestinian content, alongside the dominance of violent and inciting content as the most prevalent pattern of violation.

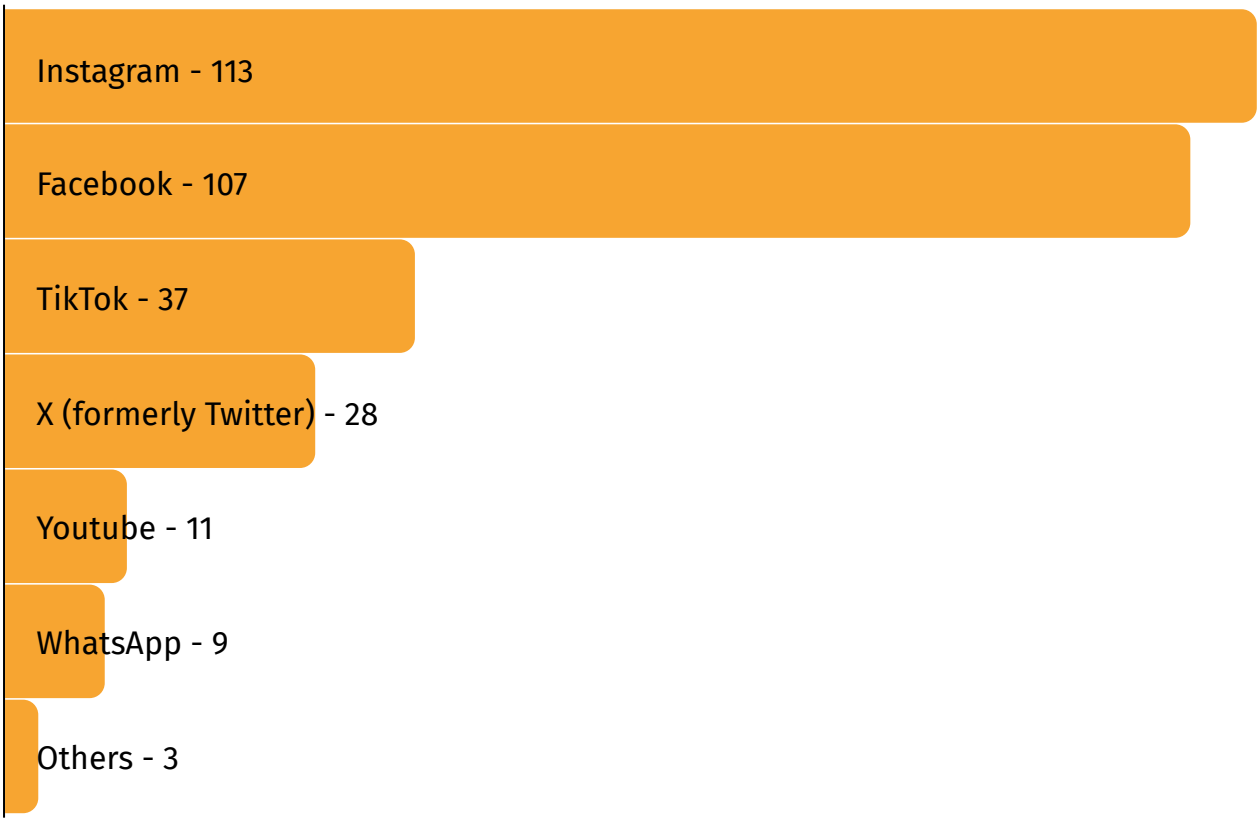
Distribution of violations by type of violation



The data shows that incitement alone accounts for more than a third of all documented violations, followed by account suspension/restriction and hate speech. This points to a continued imbalance between the restrictions imposed on Palestinian content and the response to content targeting Palestinians with hatred and incitement.

Distribution of Violations by Month

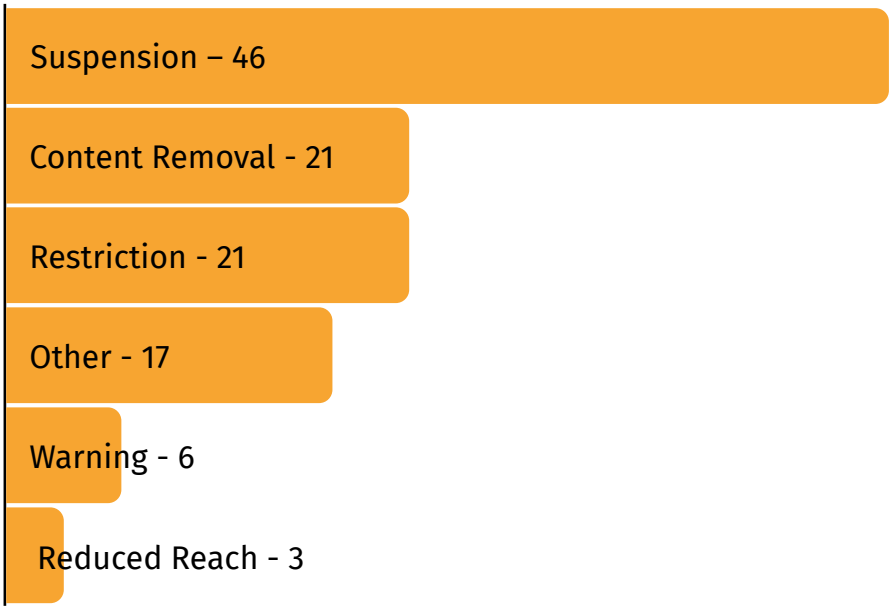
Distribution of Violations by Platform



Most documented cases were concentrated on Instagram and Facebook, which together accounted for approximately 71% of all documented cases, highlighting continued challenges related to content moderation practices on the platforms most widely used by Palestinian users.

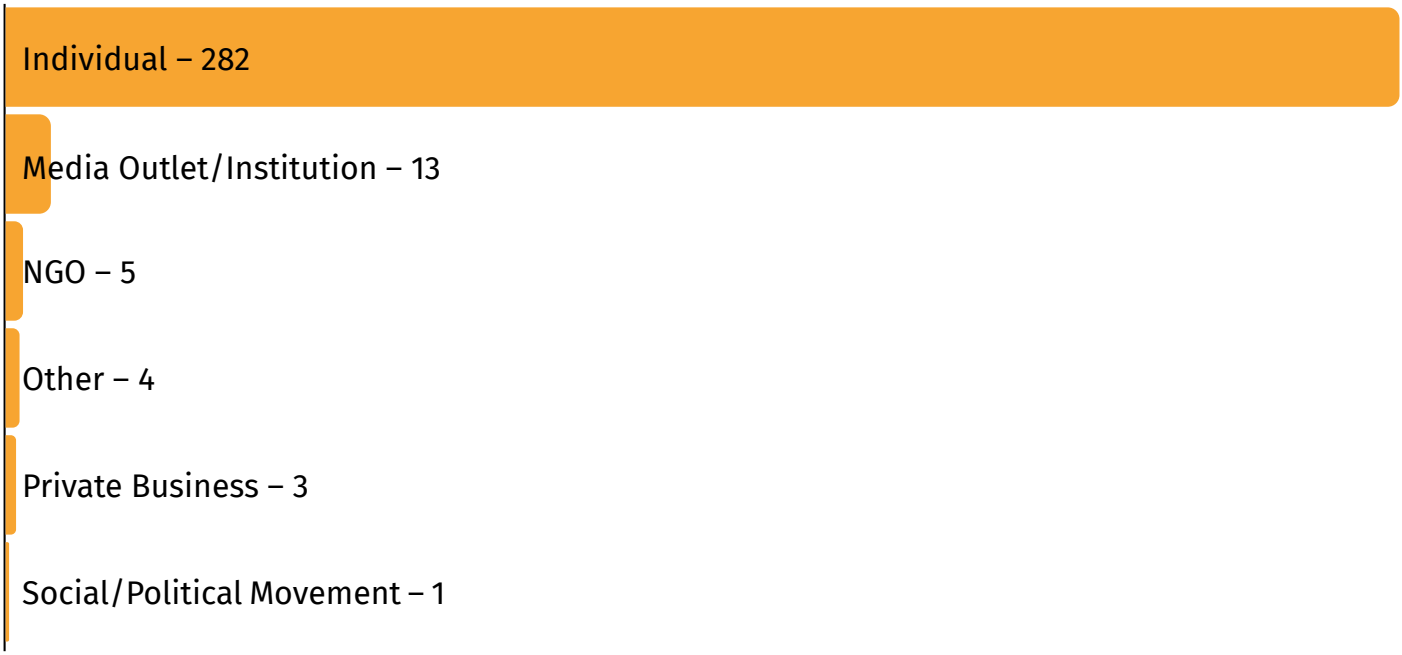
[1] September figures are partial, as documentation covers the period up to the date this report was compiled (September 21, 2026), and does not necessarily reflect the full scale of violations for the month. The relative decline recorded in August compared with July does not necessarily indicate a decline in actual violations, as documentation levels may be influenced by monitoring and reporting patterns and the nature of events during each month.

Distribution of Actions by Type of Censorship



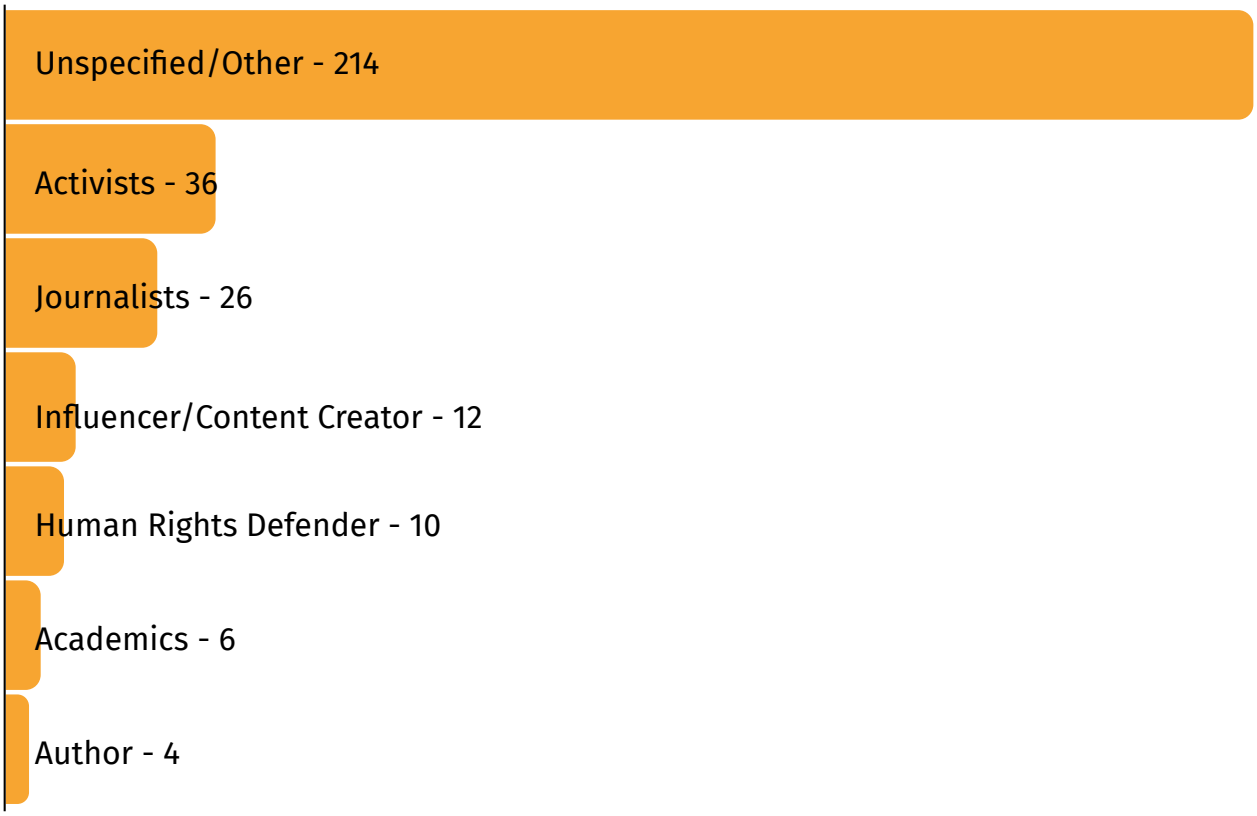
The data shows that account suspension is the most common enforcement measure, followed by content removal and account restriction in roughly comparable numbers. Less visible measures, such as reduced reach, highlight the need for greater transparency regarding their application and available appeal mechanisms.

Distribution of Violations by Category of Affected Entity/Individual



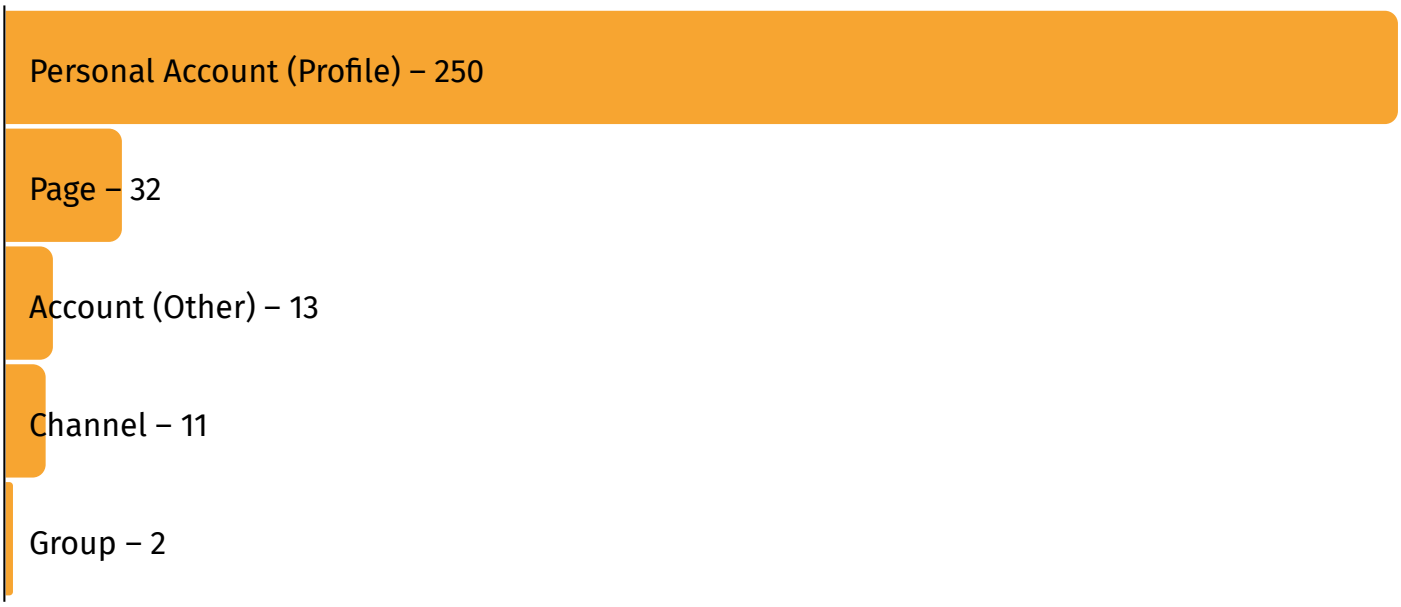
The data indicates that individuals bear the greatest impact of documented digital violations, accounting for more than 91% of all cases, while media outlets, NGOs, and private businesses also continue to be affected, albeit in smaller numbers. This demonstrates the broad impact of platform policies across different actors in the Palestinian digital sphere, with the impact concentrated most heavily on individual users.

Distribution of Violations by Victim Category



The documented cases affect groups that play an active role in the public sphere, including activists, journalists, content creators, human rights defenders, and academics, who were clearly identifiable, even though the large majority of cases were not classified under a specific professional or public category. Targeting these publicly active groups can further restrict access to information and participation in digital public discourse.

Victims by Account Type



The predominance of personal accounts, which made up over 81% of affected accounts, indicates that digital violations primarily affect individual users and their online spaces. Cases involving pages and channels also demonstrate that the impact extends to accounts used to disseminate content and reach wider audiences.

Conclusion

The data from July to September 2026 demonstrates that digital violations affecting Palestinians take multiple forms, combining content and account restrictions (114 cases) with the widespread circulation of violent, inciting, and hateful content (194 cases, or nearly two-thirds of all documented violations). This combination points to an imbalanced digital environment, in which relatively swift and effective restrictions continue to be applied to some Palestinian content and accounts, while violent and inciting content targeting Palestinians - including in Hebrew - remains widely present without a sufficiently effective response from technology companies: no more than 23% of reported harmful-content cases resulted in the actual removal of content.

The data further confirms that individuals bear the greatest burden of these violations (more than 91% of cases), with a particular presence of activists, journalists, human rights defenders, and content creators - the groups most reliant on digital platforms for expression, documentation, and audience engagement.

The findings therefore underscore the importance of greater transparency in content moderation policies, consistent enforcement across different types of content, effective and timely appeal and review mechanisms, and improved responses to inciting and violent content, including in languages and contexts requiring local expertise such as Hebrew. They also highlight the continued importance of independent monitoring and documentation of digital violations as an essential tool for understanding the impact of platform policies, strengthening accountability, and contributing to the development of a more just, safe, and rights-respecting digital environment that protects freedom of expression and the right to access information.

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