

- [Home](#)
- [COVID-19](#)
- ▼ [National](#)
 - [Nay Pyi Taw](#)
 - [Yangon](#)
 - [Mandalay & Upper Myanmar](#)
 - [Week in Review](#)
 - [In Pictures](#)
- ▼ [Elections](#)
 - [Election 2020](#)
 - [By Election 2017](#)
 - [Election 2015](#)
 - [By Elections Special](#)
- ▼ [Business](#)
 - [Property News](#)
- [World](#)
- ▼ [Focus](#)
 - [SME Focus](#)
 - [Environment](#)
 - [Women](#)
 - [Technology](#)
 - [Asean Focus](#)
 - [Chats with the Chief](#)
 - [Happy 20th Anniversary](#)
 - [Opinion](#)
- ▼ [Lifestyle](#)
 - [Top 10](#)
 - [Restaurant Review](#)
 - [Travel](#)
- ▼ [The Metro](#)
 - [Movie Time](#)
 - [Property Watch](#)
 - [What's On in Yangon!](#)
- ▼ [Sports](#)
 - [SEA Games 2019](#)
 - [ONE Championship](#)
 - [Martial Arts](#)
- [Sponsored](#)
- ▼ [Jobs](#)
 - [Jobs in Myanmar](#)
 - [Myanmar Times Jobs](#)
 - [Career Advice](#)

[Subscribe](#)

—

- [English](#)
- [Myanmar](#)

HEARTBEAT OF THE NATION

MYANMAR TIMES

1. [Home](#)
2. » [Technology](#)
3. » As elections near, Facebook works to regain public trust

As elections near, Facebook works to regain public trust

As elections near, Facebook works to regain public trust

[Saw Yi Nanda](#) 23 Jan 2020



Rafael Frankel, Facebook's director of Public Policy for Southeast Asia, Emerging Countries: "Myanmar is trying to enter the digital age, so it is very important to create a safe and meaningful online experience." Photo - Soha.vn

As elections near, Facebook works to regain public trust

Myanmar will hold general elections this year, and social media is expected to play a big part in disseminating news and information on their process and progress. More than 21 million of Myanmar's 50 million people are Facebook users.

But Facebook hasn't had a good record when it comes to news on elections. US special prosecutor Robert Mueller's report into suspected Russian meddling in the 2016 presidential election found that Russian agents had used Facebook to spread divisive messages, including false news reports, to help elect Donald Trump and harm his opponent Hillary Clinton.

Facebook was plunged into crisis nearly two years ago by revelations that British political consultancy Cambridge Analytica had used US election ads.

Facebook's public affairs chief Nick Clegg said at a technology conference in Munich on Monday that it will do a better job than it did four years ago of preventing bad actors from using its platform to manipulate this year's US presidential election.

The world's largest social media network had taken effective action to reduce the spread of fake news, Clegg said, and most extremist political content was now being detected before it comes to public notice.

"We are getting better and better at protecting elections from foreign interference," he told the conference.

In a recent interview, Rafael Frankel, Facebook's director of Public Policy for Southeast Asia, Emerging Countries, spoke about what the company is doing to ensure the fairness of the 2020 elections, as well as dos and don'ts for online users in Myanmar.

What is Facebook's stance in Myanmar?

Facebook is a global company that is trying to make people in the world more connected. However, every country has its own culture, history and challenges.

Myanmar is among the countries for which Facebook made many investments in manpower, allied organisations and technology last year. We employed more local people who have good language skills, regional knowledge, and can investigate the difficulties that need to be solved in Myanmar.

As a result, we got some improvement in Myanmar in 2019.

Facebook is important in the daily lives of Myanmar people. They use our platform in many ways to share their ideas and publicise their businesses.

Do Facebook's community standards vary with the country?

Facebook’s role as a convenient place to talk is very important. We focus on eliminating abuses on the platform, so social standards are set to roughly know what is allowed and what is not allowed. We aim to create a space for everyone to express their ideas freely. Basic principles are usage, trust, safety, and focusing on the privacy and dignity of others.

Facebook principles are not without reason. We take time to debate and set those policies, including biweekly global meetings to consider standards to change.

How important is Myanmar to Facebook?

Facebook focuses not only on Myanmar but on our community around the world. Myanmar is trying to enter the digital age.

Thus it is very important to create a safe and meaningful online experience. This is an important year for Myanmar. We will try to make the platform safe before and after the election.

How is Facebook preparing for the elections?

Many investments have been made. From policy and technology products to teams that manage communication between the public and many groups in our company, we’re working to make sure the election is fair.

To learn how Facebook can support those working to ensure a fair election in Myanmar, we have held meetings with local civil society organisations, the Union Election Commission and other concerned agencies, the diplomatic corps, and international election institutions.

Such meetings are really important for us. I believe such cooperation will make sure that Facebook can be a useful forum for positive political talk.

We have told these partners what is generally allowed and not allowed on the platform, including our social standards, security technology tools, and safety systems.

What are you doing to educate Facebook users in Myanmar?

To improve digital and media understanding, creating the necessary resources is important in Myanmar, so we are cooperating on digital education courses and discussions with local and foreign organisations. Digital education is a long-term investment that will continue after the election.

Will Facebook open a branch office in Myanmar?

Having a branch office in Myanmar wouldn’t show our commitment. Although we are connected and cooperating with countries around the world, we don’t have branches everywhere. We do have groups working on technical engineering, policy, and management in support of Myanmar’s long-term development.

Why does Facebook suspend or remove accounts for violation of its community standards?

Facebook uses reports from other users, local language content inspectors, and AI technology to identify violations of its community standards, including hate speech.

To find and deal with abuses, we have a dedicated team for Myanmar. We have assigned more people to work in Myanmar and introduced policies to prevent the spread of fake news that has a potential to cause harm.

To identify content that violates Facebook’s community standards, we have also made technological upgrades.

Among them is an international group comprised of 15,000 topic checkers fluent in 50 languages. Over 100 people can check texts written in Myanmar.

We check all complaints made through our platform from around the world. Those who break our community standards will be immediately removed from the platform, regardless of where they are.

We regularly review our decisions so that we can identify wrong ones. By doing this, we can find harmful texts that we failed to take action against, learn from experience, and minimise mistakes.

What are Facebook’s future plans in Myanmar?

We’ll try to improve the security of our community. We’ll provide more digital awareness programmes in cooperation with our partner for the 2020 general election. – *Translated*

Tags:

[Read More](#) ▾



It's a cloud-native world. **Test accordingly.**

Deliver cloud-based apps with confidence.

[Learn more](#)

You May Like

Sponsored Links

เธอขายเตียงนอนของลูกสาว แต่คนที่ซื้อไปกลับพบเรื่องที่น่าประหลาดใจ!

The Travel Breeze

Krung Thep Maha Nakhon Bangkok - prices for unsold SUVs might surprise you

Crossover Luxury Suv | Sponsored Listings

หญิงขรวัย 96 ปี ขายบ้าน ผู้ซื้อเห็นข้างในและแทบไม่เชื่อสายตาตัวเอง

The Family Breeze

Chatuchak - Online Jobs in the USA May Pay More Than You Think

Online Jobs

[Click Here](#)

by Taboola

More In [Technology](#)