

Nilesat The Egyptian Satellite Company.  
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Dear Sir/Madam,

My name is Ron Deibert, and I am professor of Political Science and Director of the Citizen Lab at the University of Toronto.

I am writing to ask for your clarification regarding media reports that your company have dropped three Yemeni TV channels from your satellite packages which serve the Middle East and North Africa.

We are interested in learning about the Yemeni state-run channel which, according to media reports, you stopped broadcasting in March 2015 after it fell under the control of the rebel group known as the Houthis. [1]. Media reports also say that in May 2015 your company dropped the Houthi-owned channel Al-Masirah, [2] and Yemeni TV channel Yemen Today, which is reportedly link to former president Ali Abdullah Saleh. [3]

We are writing a report about information control in Yemen in which we examine the different forms and measures taken by the different political and armed sides in the context of the ongoing military conflict in Yemen.

We will highly appreciate if you can provide us with the following information, which if you agree, we will publish as part of our report:

- Did Nilesat drop the above-mentioned TV channels from its services?
- If yes, at whose requests, and which regulatory framework is used to answer the requests?
- In general, how does Nilesat determine if a request to remove a TV channel should be honored? Do you have guidelines that you can share with us?

Best,

Ron Deibert

- [1] <http://www.yementimes.com/en/1871/news/5009/Deadly-strikes-hit-Yemen-for-fourth-night.htm>
- [2] <http://hournews.net/news-42761.htm>
- [3] <http://bit.ly/1jl7Z8H>

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