



Social media laws in Dubai



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Photographs

Federal Law No. 5 (the Cyber Crimes Law) states that posting images without permission is an offence. In fact, any use of technology which breaches someone else's privacy comes within the law's influence.

Taking a picture, publishing or displaying an image would be an invasion of someone's privacy (Article 21). Additionally, Federal Law No 3 the UAE's Penal Code) states that it is an offence to publish someone's photograph without their prior consent. This is also protected under Federal Law No. 7 of 2002, the Copyright Law.

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Confidentiality

While invading someone's privacy is liable under both the Cyber Crimes Law and the Penal Code, you are also not allowed to disclose any confidential information that belongs to someone else,.

There are legal implications that could include temporary imprisonment as well as a fine. This would also apply to someone who engages in conversations on social media that would discuss another individual's confidential information.

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Defamation

Defamation comes under the remit of the Penal Code, making it an offence to publish information that exposes another person to contempt or public humiliation.

Additionally, making false accusations that discredits or dishonours another person is a form of defamation. Posting defamatory statements on social media platforms will mean the violation of some interconnected laws in the UAE.

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Morality

The Cyber Crimes Law makes it illegal to use technology for activities which are in any way inconsistent with good conduct and public morals.

To clarify, any behaviours that would come within this section of the law include, but are not limited to, mocking the representatives of the nation, encouraging sinful activity, making lewd remarks against religion, and remarks aimed at influencing children.

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