

## ABSTRACT

Ever since the advent of the world wide web, people have used the medium of internet to publish news content, opinion pieces and articles that can be accessed and consumed by people all around the globe. While such endeavor is necessary in building a healthy environment where open, critical and democratic journalism can thrive, it is not without a doubt that there has been a trend of harmful journalism practices which undermines the spirit of a truly open journalism; mainly through the spread of false stories and the implementation of media censorship.

A blockchain system, through its inherent nature of immutability and distributability, is one such measure that can be applied to combat the issue of censorship and untruthful journalism. The content of this research deals with the application of a blockchain information storage integrated through web-based news-publishing applications which penalizes publishers for the spread of news media detrimental to the spirit of open journalism.

The prototype of the decentralized application is developed using the Ethereum blockchain framework deploying a Solidity-based smart contract on the blockchain network which is connected to a web Javascript framework and cloud-based MongoDB database for off-chain storage.

*Keywords: Blockchain, Ethereum, Smart Contract, Web3 JS, Media Censorship, Internet Hoax*