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Content originally at <http://reinikainen.co.uk/2009/06/iranelection-cyberwar-guide-for-beginners/>  
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# [#iranelection cyberwar guide for beginners](#)

Posted at June 16, 2009

The purpose of this guide is to help you *participate constructively* in the Iranian election protests through twitter.

1. Do NOT publicise proxy IP's over twitter, and especially not using the #iranelection hashtag. Security forces are monitoring this hashtag, and the moment they identify a proxy IP they will block it in Iran. If you are creating new proxies for the Iranian bloggers, DM them to [@stopAhmadi](#) or [@iran09](#) and they will distributed them discretely to bloggers in Iran.
2. Hashtags, the only two legitimate hashtags being used by bloggers in Iran are #iranelection and #gr88, other hashtag ideas run the risk of diluting the conversation.
3. Keep you bull\$hit filter up! Security forces are now setting up twitter accounts to spread disinformation by posing as Iranian protesters. Please don't retweet impetuously, try to confirm information with reliable sources before retweeting. The legitimate sources are not hard to find and follow.
4. Help cover the bloggers: change your twitter settings so that your location is TEHRAN and your time zone is GMT +3.30. Security forces are hunting for bloggers using location and timezone searches. If we all become 'Iranians' it becomes much harder to find them.
5. Don't blow their cover! If you discover a genuine source, please don't publicise their name or location on a website. These bloggers are in REAL danger. Spread the word discretely through your own networks but don't signpost them to the security forces. People are dying there, for real, please keep that in mind.
6. Denial of Service attacks. If you don't know what you are doing, stay out of this game. Only target those sites the legitimate Iranian bloggers are designating. Be aware that these attacks can have detrimental effects to the network the protesters are relying on. Keep monitoring their traffic to note when you should turn the taps on or off.
7. Do spread the (legitimate) word, it works! When the bloggers asked for twitter maintenance to be postponed using the #nomaintenance tag, it had the desired effect. As long as we spread good information, provide moral support to the protesters, and take our lead from the legitimate bloggers, we can make a constructive contribution.

Please remember that this is about the *future of the Iranian people*, while it might be exciting to get caught up in the flow of participating in a new meme, do not lose sight of what this is really about.

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- [John](#) says:

[June 16, 2009 at 11:20 am](#)

Great blog and very timely advice. Hope you don't mind if I link to it from Facebook etc.

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## About Me

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## Esko Reinikainen

Wales

I'm a public servant, arts administrator, theatre director, and cultural entrepreneur.

I'm currently thinking about knowledge transfer mechanisms in human networks and international cultural collaborations. This blog is a space to gather and share my thoughts on these issues...

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- [#iranelection](#) new hashtag, tehran twitterers now starting to use [#gr88](#) for Green Revolution 1388, ammend your searches [12 hrs ago](#)
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