LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND SOCIAL MEDIA
(DURING THE METU EVENTS ANKARA MAYOR’S EXAMPLE)
Adnan SÖYLEMEZ
soylemez@selcuk.edu.tr

The planned project was initiated by the Ankara Metropolitan Municipality to build a road between Anatolia Boulevard and the Konya Highway to help relieve traffic in the city. A group of students at Middle East Technical University (ODTÜ) in Ankara are continuing a protest against a construction project of the Ankara Municipality. The protesters at ODTÜ have been on guard duty to prevent the felling of trees on the campus for three days, saying they are not going to give up their protest until the municipality cancels its plan to build the highway. Local residents have criticized the municipality for building the road and claim that the project will be disruptive to the neighborhood. Ankara Mayor Melih Gökçek, argues that the new road will relieve the traffic on Eskişehir Road. Ankara Mayor, Twitter social media platform was used as continuously active during the event. In this study, while the mayor's events Twitter use local services, and local citizen-state relations will be discussed in terms of the concept of democracy.

Keywords: local government, social media, Ankara mayor, ODTÜ,