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Tajiks Renew Facebook Ban

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DUSHANBE, Tajikistan — Tajikistan has blocked social media website Facebook for the third time in 12 months.

Also blocked Thursday was the U.S Congress-funded Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty's Tajik language service.

Internet service providers said they were dening access to the websites at the request of the communications authorities.

Tajikistan has low levels of Internet penetration, but Internet regulation in the authoritarian country is nonetheless expected to be strict ahead of November's presidential election.

Emomali Rakhmon has ruled the impoverished country for two decades and is expected to easily retain power, but officials remain nervous of any signs of opposition to the government.

(AP)

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