

Abstract

The goal of this project was to produce an application which allows human rights monitors to gather and send reports on human rights abuses without appearing that they are doing so. It allows them to report when they are in danger, so that they may be helped. This needs to be done safely and without alerting the individuals or groups putting them in danger.

It should allow the human rights liaisons to view and query the forms submitted by monitors, supporting them in turning data recorded by monitors on the ground into actionable information that can be used to help people on a larger scale. Additionally it should allow them to view and query the current active monitors and their status, notifying the liaisons should a monitor need help.

In order to achieve the goals laid out above, we created a three part application. This includes: a mobile application for use by the monitors in the field, a web interface for use by the liaisons, and an API for storage and communication between the components.

The mobile application allows monitors to submit forms containing information on human rights abuses and send an SOS signal if they are in danger. This is done under the guise of a simple notes application. This application allows the monitors to covertly use this functionality, in order to keep them safe. It includes the functionality of a regular notes app with the use of keywords allowing the monitor to access the secret functionality.

The web interface allows liaisons to explore and query the forms submitted by the monitors as well as manage the monitors themselves. It provides alerts if a monitor reports they are in danger.