

Narrative discourse of the Israel-Palestine issue in the framework of political communication: A comparative study of *Kompas.id* and *BBC* media

Ariandi Putra*

Universitas Indonesia, Jakarta, Indonesia & Universitas Nasional, Jakarta, Indonesia

Abstract

The Israel-Palestine conflict remains one of the most persistent and contentious geopolitical issues in the Middle East, with no clear resolution in sight. As a result, the conflict has become a focal point for media coverage, with various outlets striving to present objective and neutral reporting. However, it is important to recognize that the media is not free from bias, as each outlet carries its own perspective shaped by political, cultural, and economic factors. This study aims to investigate how *Kompas.id* and *BBC News* report on the Israel-Palestine conflict, particularly focusing on the events that occurred in October and November. By employing a critical content analysis approach, the study examines several articles published by both *Kompas.id* and *BBC*. The findings indicate that while both media outlets cover the same conflict, they offer differing perspectives and agendas. These differences may lead to varying interpretations of the conflict among readers, potentially influencing public opinion and fostering bias toward one side. The analysis highlights the role of media in shaping political narratives and the importance of critical media consumption. To gain a more well-rounded understanding of the conflict, it is essential for readers to consult diverse sources, including those with contrasting viewpoints.

Abstrak

Konflik Israel-Palestina masih menjadi salah satu masalah geopolitik yang paling persisten dan kontroversial di Timur Tengah, dan belum ada penyelesaian yang jelas. Akibatnya, konflik tersebut menjadi titik fokus pemberitaan media, dan berbagai media berupaya menyajikan pemberitaan yang obyektif dan netral. Namun, penting untuk menyadari bahwa media tidak bebas dari bias, karena setiap media mempunyai perspektifnya sendiri yang dibentuk oleh faktor politik, budaya, dan ekonomi. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui bagaimana *Kompas.id* dan *BBC News* memberitakan konflik

Keywords:

Israel-Palestine; *BBC*; *Kompas.id*; content analysis

Article History:

Received: 22 Jul 2024

Revised: 09 Aug 2024

Accepted: 21 Dec 2024

Published: 27 Dec 2024

How to cite:

Ariandi, P. (2024). Narrative discourse of the Israel-Palestine issue in the framework of political communication: A comparative study of *Kompas.id* and *BBC* media. *Islamic Communication Journal*, 9 (2), 325-340. <https://doi.org/10.21580/icj.2024.9.2.25845>.

*Corresponding author:

Ariandi Putra, email: ariandiputra@civitas.unas.ac.id. Universitas Nasional, Jl. Sawo Manila No.61, RT.14/RW.7, Pejaten Bar., Ps. Minggu, Kota Jakarta Selatan, Daerah Khusus Ibukota Jakarta 12520.

Israel-Palestina, khususnya dengan fokus pada peristiwa yang terjadi pada bulan Oktober dan November. Dengan menggunakan pendekatan analisis konten kritis, penelitian ini mengkaji beberapa artikel yang diterbitkan oleh *Kompas.id* dan *BBC*. Temuan ini menunjukkan bahwa meskipun kedua media tersebut meliput konflik yang sama, keduanya menawarkan perspektif dan agenda yang berbeda. Perbedaan-perbedaan ini dapat menyebabkan beragamnya penafsiran konflik di kalangan pembaca, sehingga berpotensi mempengaruhi opini publik dan menumbuhkan bias ke satu pihak. Analisis ini menyoroti peran media dalam membentuk narasi politik dan pentingnya konsumsi media yang kritis. Untuk mendapatkan pemahaman yang lebih menyeluruh mengenai konflik ini, penting bagi pembaca untuk berkonsultasi dengan berbagai sumber, termasuk sumber-sumber yang memiliki sudut pandang berbeda.

Copyright © 2024 Islamic Communication Journal.



This work is licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution-NonCommercial-ShareAlike 4.0 International License.

INTRODUCTION

Palestine and Israel have a long history spanning centuries. From an identity perspective, Dwiastuti (2020) found that Israel believes that the land occupied by the Palestinian people is its right that has been entrusted for a long time. In addition, Israel is also identical to Zionism, whose values conflict with the Palestinian people as part of the Arab nation. Adem (2019) said that apart from borders and territory, politics, race, and religion play significant roles in the conflict. In addition, history is a strong influence that shapes and justifies the conflict between the two countries.

In short, the conflict between the two countries has been going on for a long time, with peaks of tension that often trigger international attention (Muqsith et al., 2021). In recent months, the war has heated up again, even resulting in a lot of casualties. Quoting Reuters, the Palestinian health authority said that Israeli ground and air attacks on Gaza had killed more than 38,000 people, mostly civilians. It forced most of the 2.3 million residents in the enclave to flee their homes (Reuters, 2024).

The escalating war in Gaza has invited several responses from the global community. Many have shown their solidarity with Palestine – especially Muslims. Even in the United States (US), many students from Yale University, Columbia University, the University of Connecticut, Princeton University, Harvard University, and several other campuses have demonstrated for the US to stop supporting Israel (The Associated Press, 2024). This response shows how the global community does not want this war to continue, especially since there are no signs of it ending. The media spotlight has also not escaped attention. Quite a few say that the international media are more biased towards Israel. Research from the Center for Media Monitoring found that during the period 7

October – 7 November 2023, most TV channels overwhelmingly promoted "Israel's right" to defend itself, overshadowing Palestinian rights by a ratio of 5 to 1 (Center for Media Monitoring, 2023). Previous research concerning the framing of the Israel-Hamas prisoner exchange found that one of the US media, Fox, supported the Israeli government's position (Karniel et al., 2017).

Furthermore, when covering the 2021 Gaza war, Fox legitimized Israel's military actions and portrayed Hamas as a terror force that disrupted the lives of Israelis wreaked havoc and fueled anti-Jewish sentiment in the US (Damanhoury & Saleh, 2024a). During the 2016 knife intifada phenomenon, western media were more empathetic towards Israelis, who were portrayed as victims, while Palestinians were framed as terrorists or anti-Semites (Attar & King, 2023). Therefore, this study will examine how the narrative war between the media. This study will focus on how the media narrates the Palestine-Israel War throughout December 2023. The reason why the research analysis began when Israel attacked Rafah is because the Rafah border is the only way in and out of the Gaza Strip for the community, which is now also the only crossing point for humanitarian aid (BBC, 2023). When Israel attacked Rafah, netizens on social media flocked to declare their solidarity by sending All Eyes on Rafah posters. Thus, at this moment, it is important to examine how the media frames this phenomenon.

To the author, research on Israel and Palestine is quite adequate, with various perspectives and phenomena studied. Some have studied the 2018 Gaza protests from an ethnocentric perspective (Doufesh & Briel, 2021). The latest research discusses how the Western media framed the Gaza War (Attar & King, 2023; Damanhoury & Saleh, 2024a; Karniel et al., 2017). Meanwhile, there is research that focuses on how online media in Indonesia reported the Israel-Palestine War (Ramadani et al. et al., 2024).

This research offers several new contributions to studying media narratives in the Palestine-Israel War. First, by focusing on news since the Israeli attack on Rafah, this study will provide a very up-to-date picture of how the media reported the War. Second, this study will use content analysis methods to identify key themes, biases, and narrative patterns in the coverage of the two media. Third, this study will also explore the implications of these narratives for public perception and international policy.

The Palestine-Israel War often receives attention from many media for political and humanitarian reasons. There are many points of view from the media in reporting the Palestine-Israel War, thus encouraging the public to give birth to certain opinions. This is inevitable because the media has its framing to display certain perspectives, ranging from the perspective of war journalism (Bhowmik & Fisher, 2023), the mistakes

of one party (Friedman & Herfroy-Mischler, 2020), to politics and religion (Lopatin et al., 2017).

From the many framings, various analyses emerged as to whether the media has a certain bias. Many studies have revealed biases that the media presents, such as demand where readers look for news that aligns with their thoughts and ideological and political factors (Eveland & Shah, 2003; Gentzkow & Shapiro, 2010). According to Baron (2006), media bias has two effects: (1) rational individuals are more skeptical of potentially biased news and thus rely less on it in their decision-making. This skepticism reduces demand and causes news organizations to charge lower prices for their publications the greater the bias they tolerate. Thus, low-quality news has a lower price; (2) bias makes certain stories more likely to occur than others. Given their personal information, journalists may be biased towards their stories if their career prospects can be improved by being published on the front page. News organizations can control bias by limiting the latitude given to journalists. However, giving latitude and tolerating bias can increase profits if it allows journalists to be hired at lower wages.

These biases are quite thick when talking about the Israeli-Palestinian War. Moreover, we can see the War from various perspectives. On the one hand, the Israeli-Palestinian War can be categorized as a political war, where there is a clash of interests and beliefs from both parties that are inherent in their respective political cultures (Dwiastuti, 2021). When we include the element of emotion, it will be seen that this War also ignites emotions because historical and cultural factors are involved. Although still complex, emotions can empower individuals to unite and recognize the humanity of others while seeking meaningful change, not only in the Middle East but throughout the world (Gold, 2015).

As a result, it is very important to analyze this media bias to recognize the tendency of media partisanship regarding this War. Studies related to this news coverage often find a bias towards certain groups. For example, a comprehensive study by (Han and Rane, 2011) revealed that the public in Australia believes that the Australian media is inconsistent in its framing, which was initially quite closely identified with the Palestinian narrative of concern for human rights and universal values. Meanwhile, Tasseron (2023) argued that the media in South Africa defended Palestine due to geographical proximity, thus increasing the number of media that voiced the Palestinian issue amidst the flood of Western media that sided with Israel.

The media in the Western world have mixed views on this War (Putra, 2023). British and especially German newspapers showed significant anti-Israel bias, while the results for the United States were mixed (Neureiter, 2017). When speaking specifically, the *BBC* media presented the War as a military peace effort by Israel, while Al-Jazeera

emphasized the impact of Israeli military activities on the Palestinian people (Sarwar et al., 2023). By comparing the narratives of two media with significant influence and a broad global audience, this study will better understand how the media can shape public opinion and influence the dynamics of War.

METHODS

This study uses a qualitative approach, especially in terms of content analysis. Qualitative content analysis is a method for analyzing qualitative data that focuses on the subject and context and emphasizes variation, such as similarities in text and differences between parts of the text (Graneheim et al., 2017). The nature of qualitative content analysis covers these issues by providing a systematic approach to finding meaning in textual data, both on the surface and implied behind it (Kleinheksel et al., 2020). Qualitative content analysis examines the relationship between text and its possible meanings for audiences, recognizing that media texts are polysemous, for example, open to many meanings for different readers and trying to determine the possible meanings of the text for the audience (Macnamara, 2005). The author will analyze content from foreign media, the *BBC*, and domestic media, namely *Kompas.id*. The reason for choosing these two media is that the *BBC* is one of the most trusted media by the British people based on the 2023 YouGov survey. The *BBC* also has a global reach, including in Indonesia. Meanwhile, *Kompas.id* is one of the most trusted media by the Indonesian people. These considerations are why the author chose these two media as the analysis material.

Then, related to the news analysis period, the author will analyze three news items that are significant to the Israel-Palestine war: news dated October 7, 2023, October 17, 2023, and November 15, 2023. The author chose these three news items because this phenomenon significantly influences the development of Israel-Palestine. As a result, the author will examine how *Kompas.id* and *BBC* cover these three significant news items and analyze the narratives and sentiments of the two media.

These three news items will be critically analyzed. The results include word choice, framing, sources of information, how news affects readers' perceptions, and social, political, and cultural contexts that may affect the presentation of news (Ramadani, Kurniawan, et al., 2024). As a result, the analysis will produce a comprehensive picture of news coverage in *Kompas* and *BBC*.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Early news framing of Hamas attacks on October 7 2023

The war between Palestine (Hamas) and Israel has been going on for a long time. Many narratives have developed about the War; some say it is a religious conflict, a humanitarian crisis, a geopolitical conflict, and so on. Israel and Palestine - or, in this case, Hamas - are fighting over territorial legitimacy. They are fighting over sovereign supremacy. Each country feels entitled to the territory and tries to maintain it no matter what. Daoudi and Barakat also describe this accurately:

"Historically, this War began with the statement: 'This land is mine', and since then the dispute has focused on the question: 'Who does this land belong to?' This question is constructed based on the War itself, namely, 'This land belongs to one party and not the other!'" (Daoudi & Barakat, 2013)"

The War between the two countries continues to this day. A rather interesting period occurred in October 2023 – until November 2023. On October 7, Hamas attacked Israel and killed 1,139 people (Al Jazeera, 2023). Hamas explained that the attack was a 'necessary step' to crush the Israeli attack. The Hamas attack also made the world's eyes (again) turn to the Gaza area.

The attack also did not escape media coverage. The media have their views on the conflict between the two countries. Various factors influence why some media support Israel more or vice versa, ranging from ideology to economics, politics, and affiliation with certain actors. These factors shape the perception and pattern of media reporting so that readers get various perspectives on this issue.

These factors influenced the reporting of *Kompas.id* with the *BBC*. At the time of the incident, *Kompas.id* and the *BBC* reported from different perspectives. *Kompas.id* published one of the news items related to the attack with the title "How Hamas Breaks into Israel?" Meanwhile, *BBC* chose a rather futuristic perspective, writing a news article titled "Hamas attack shocks Israel, but what comes next?"

These two news articles have different narratives. *Kompas.id* focuses more on Hamas' mechanism in breaking into Israel. *Kompas.id* describes the picture on the ground about how Hamas used motorbikes to attack Israeli bases. In addition, *Kompas.id* also discusses the failure of Israeli intelligence to prevent this Hamas attack by quoting leading experts.

BBC News emphasized the Israeli perspective when the attack occurred. They interviewed an Israeli civilian to describe the horror of the Hamas attack. There is an interesting quote from *BBC* News that is written like this: *"Many Israelis have expressed*

shock that the Israeli security forces did not come more quickly to help them. Meanwhile, footage shared on Hamas channels showed that soldiers in Israeli army posts and a tank had been captured or killed (Knell, 2023)." This quote indirectly tries to direct public sentiment to empathize with Israeli society after the Hamas attack.

In other words, *Kompas.id* and *BBC* are very different. Indirectly, there is a bias between *Kompas.id* and *BBC* media. *Kompas.id* - although more neutral - corners Israel by showing that Israel failed to prevent this despite having well-trained intelligence. On the other hand, the *BBC* explores human interest stories from the perspective of Israeli society, so the *BBC* media plays an emotional aspect that makes the public empathize with Israel.

These differences are very common, but they can show which media are pro-Palestine and pro-Israel. The media wants to present a certain framing and agenda to the public. This is similar to the results of research related to YouTube publications about the Israeli-Palestinian War in that the empirical and instinctive methods used to frame information in YouTube videos follow the narrative supported by the uploader (Evans, 2016). In addition, the news is supported by text and visuals that reinforce each other. Although the textual mode maintains the framing of the original event, the visual level intensifies the framing strategy it has adopted since the escalation of the War began (Jungblut & Zakareviciute, 2019).

News from the *BBC* and *Kompas.id* media have agendas and framing to present to the public. *BBC* has a human-interest formula supported by visuals and tries to create empathy for its readers. *BBC* wants to show that the Hamas attacks have had a major impact on Israeli society. Meanwhile, *Kompas.id* is more neutral but slightly exposes Israel's failure to prevent the Hamas attacks. *Kompas.id* quotes experts to make its delivery more credible.

News framing on the explosion issue at Al-Ahli Al-Arabi Baptist Hospital

On October 17, 2023, an incident shook the Arab world. The Al-Ahli Al Arabi Baptist Hospital, funded by the Anglican church, was destroyed by a rocket attack. Many described the incident with bitter horror. A doctor said that 80% of the hospital's infrastructure had been destroyed, and 1,000 people were killed or injured. Israel and Hamas also accused each other of who was to blame.

Regarding this news, both the *BBC* and *Kompas.id* media showed neutrality. They did not tend to blame one party because there was no clear source of information. On the *BBC*, this media quoted sources from Hamas and Israel in a balanced manner, illustrating that the situation in the hospital needed perspectives from both parties. The *BBC*

immediately showed its uniqueness by exploring the perspective of doctors at the hospital and quoting opinions from the International Red Cross. This shows an awareness of not interpreting this news as a political stance of the media. The *BBC* realizes that victims of bombings in hospitals are not suitable for political news reporting.

On the other hand, *Kompas.id*'s intention in publishing the news was to describe the response of Israel, Hamas, and several state actors who condemned this incident, such as the Jordanian Foreign Minister, the Head of the European Union, the Head of the African Union, and the President of France. As a result, *Kompas.id* quoted the actors to describe their response to the attack on the hospital. In addition, *Kompas.id* also describes the situation in society after the war, which creates a sense of empathy and bitterness for its readers. In short, *Kompas.id* and *BBC* take a neutral and objective point of view. Both media do not want to lead opinions about who is to blame. Implicitly, *BBC* and *Kompas*. would view this phenomenon as a humanitarian crisis that needs to be prevented immediately. This humanitarian framing leads readers to feel concerned and empathetic towards the situation there, regardless of who the perpetrators of the rocket shooting at the hospital are. *Kompas.id* and *BBC* include various perspectives so that the public can judge this phenomenon. The position of *Kompas.id* and *BBC* in this news is as a mouthpiece for humanity for people around the world. This position is understandable because the bombing of the hospital is a humanitarian tragedy that must be reported from a neutral point of view.

Framing Israel attacks Al-Shifa Hospital

On November 15, the Israeli armed forces attacked the Al-Shifa hospital. The justification for the attack was that Hamas used the Al-Shifa hospital as a military headquarters. Hamas also claimed that the Israeli attack was given the green light by the United States (US), which is a close ally of Israel. With this blessing, Israeli troops stormed the Al-Shifa hospital. Hamas considered Israel and US President Joe Biden responsible for the attack.

This case is interesting because *Kompas.id* and *BBC* have different perspectives. *Kompas.id* contains more statements that are pro-Hamas. *Kompas.id* tends to be critical of Israel's actions. The use of the word "assault" and the focus on the impact of the attack on civilians indicate a tendency to view this event as a human rights violation. The narrative of this news focuses on the suffering of Palestinian civilians due to the Israeli attack. The focus is on the loss of life, damage to infrastructure, and difficulty in accessing health services. Most of the *Kompas.id* news quotes come from Palestinian officials, eyewitnesses, and humanitarian organizations. This strengthens the narrative that the Israeli attack was an unjustifiable act. The agenda-setting of this news is to raise

awareness among readers about the human rights violations committed by Israel and to encourage support for the Palestinian struggle.

Meanwhile, the *BBC* news framing is more neutral. Although reporting the attack, the *BBC* also includes views from the Israeli side justifying their actions. This provides a more balanced picture but still highlights the humanitarian impact of the attack. The *BBC* narrative is broader, covering the background of the Israeli-Palestinian War, claims by both sides and international diplomatic efforts to defuse tensions. The *BBC* News includes quotes from various sources, including Israeli and Palestinian officials and third parties such as the UN. This provides a more complete picture of the various perspectives related to this event.

These two news stories provide different perspectives on the Israeli attack on Al-Shifa Hospital. *Kompas.id* tends to take a critical position towards Israel, while the *BBC* tries to provide a more neutral picture. It is important to read various news sources to gain a more comprehensive understanding of an event.

Discussion

The perspectives between *Kompas.id* and *BBC* can be understood due to geographic, demographic, and cultural influences. However, a better explanation for the observed pattern is that Western media benefit from increased accessibility of sources in Israel and Palestine, including their domestic media coverage (Muqsith et al., 2024). At the same time, Western media still construct their frames to fit their unique and culturally specific news narratives, selecting local sources that support their specific perspectives (Baden & Tenenboim-Weinblatt, 2017).

Therefore, an analysis of *Kompas.id* and *BBC* coverage of the Israel-Hamas War reveals differences in framing, narrative, and bias carried by the two media. Both media play an important role in shaping public perception regarding this highly sensitive War. Media framing and agenda-setting in narrative warfare greatly influence how audiences receive and interpret information (Putra & Irwansyah, 2020).

Visually, *Kompas.id* chooses photos that show the bitterness of the situation faced by the Palestinian people. *Kompas.id* shows photos of how the Palestinian people suffered as a result of the Israel-Palestine War. *Kompas*. I'd like a response that is pro-Palestine. For example, visuals of the ruins of houses in Palestine invite empathy and also public anger towards the state of Israel. This visual emotionally impacts readers, especially in Indonesia, where solidarity with Palestine is very strong. Such photos or videos can emphasize the suffering of the Palestinian people, strengthening the message of humanity.

The language used by *Kompas.id* often highlights the impact of War on civilians. Phrases such as "brutal" or "war" indicate a more critical viewpoint towards Israel. On the other hand, Hamas is often depicted as a fighter or group that represents the struggle of the Palestinian people. This choice of words reflects *Kompas.id*'s tendency to present Palestine as a victim.

One interesting point is the use of the words "war" and "conflict." *Kompas.id* more often uses the word "war" to describe the phenomena occurring in Palestine. Meanwhile, the *BBC* media uses a more refined word, "conflict." The difference in the use of this word shows the tendency and position of the two media in describing the conflict. The word "war" shows that what is happening in Gaza is not a small conflict but is already on the scale of War. On the other hand, the word "conflict" means that what happened in Gaza was just a dispute.

In terms of framing, *Kompas.id* tends to use a critical approach towards Israel, focusing on the impact of Israeli attacks on Palestinian civilians. The factors that cause *Kompas.id* to be more inclined to attack Israel can be seen from its religious and historical background. The majority of the Palestinian population is Muslim, and almost the majority of the Indonesian population is Muslim. This religious similarity encourages Indonesia to show its solidarity with Palestine, which, on November 5, 2023, held a demonstration to defend Palestine, which was attended by hundreds of thousands of people, including Indonesian officials (Sakti, 2023).

In addition to religious similarities, Palestine is also one of the countries that recognized Indonesia's independence during the independence period. Not only that, Djuyandi et al. (2021) revealed that at that time, Palestine also had a great influence on Arab countries, which made them support Indonesia's independence. Therefore, there is a kind of "moral obligation" that Indonesia needs to do to support Palestinian independence.

Cultural and historical ties influence media coverage in Indonesia on the Israel-Palestine issue, from narrative and framing to agenda-setting (Muqsith, 2022). *Kompas.id* is more inclined towards efforts to raise public awareness about the suffering of Palestinians and the violations committed by Israel. This trend is also seen in many media in Indonesia, where the focus is on Palestine as the victim (Ramadani, Kurniawan, et al., 2024; Suwarno & Sahayu, 2020; Ukk & Bui, 2019). Again, historical and cultural factors play a role here, so the media in Indonesia often voice support for Palestine.

For example, in articles dated October 7, 2023, and November 15, 2023, *Kompas.id* tends to support Palestine and emphasizes the Palestinian perspective. The narrative that is raised emphasizes more on aspects of human rights violations committed by Israel. The use of terms such as "brutal attacks" and "human rights violations" reflects the media's

tendency to position Palestine as a helpless victim in the face of Israel's superior military power. *Kompas.id* more often quotes Palestinian officials, eyewitnesses, and representatives of humanitarian organizations. This supports the media's narrative that focuses on the suffering of Palestinian civilians and human rights violations committed by Israel.

Something different is seen in the *BBC*. As one of the most well-known international media, *BBC* reporting provides more space for the growth of positive narratives about Israel (Hashish et al., 2023; L. Thomas, 2011; R. et al., 2012). As a result, when talking about War, the *BBC* is likely to tend to side with Israel. However, an interesting fact is that the *BBC* received 1,500 complaints from two opposing parties, with an equal number (Topping & Davies, 2023).

This phenomenon is interesting because it shows two things. First, there is the potential that the *BBC* is trying to cover in a balanced way so that the news becomes more objective. This is a good effort made by the *BBC* to be more balanced and accurate. Second, the criticism from two parties with the same number shows that the *BBC* still has room to improve its objectivity on the Palestine-Israel issue. The two conflicting parties have not fully accepted the messages and perspectives conveyed by the *BBC* through its articles.

However, the *BBC* tries to present informative and objective news. This statement was validated when the *BBC* issued an article entitled Hospital blast in Gaza City kills hundreds - health officials. The article is informative and contains two statements from opposing parties. Thus, the audience who reads it understands the phenomenon of the hospital explosion in Gaza more comprehensively. Many perspectives are included in the article.

Two other articles, namely " Hamas attack shocks Israel, but what comes next?" and "Al-Shifa: What we know about Israel's raid on Gaza's main hospital," are more directed at supporting Israel. This can be seen from the news title, the chosen perspective, and the source of the quote. Although the *BBC* quotes perspectives from various other sources, the absence of perspectives and quotes from the Palestinian side makes the news seem to support Israel.

This statement is supported by a recent study examining broadcast news posts on Instagram by the *BBC*, Fox News, CNN, Sky News, and MSNBC. The results of the study showed that these media outlets preferred Israeli and pro-Israeli sources over Palestinian and pro-Palestinian sources, highlighted Israeli victims while ignoring Palestinian victims, and framed Israeli violence as self-defense while framing Palestinian violence as aggression (Elmasry, 2024). Specifically, in a study comparing Al-Jazeera and

Fox News coverage of the 2021 Gaza War, Fox legitimized Israel's military actions and portrayed Hamas as a terror force that disrupted the lives of Israeli citizens while wreaking havoc and fueling anti-Jewish sentiment in the US (Damanhoury & Saleh, 2024).

The differences between *Kompas.id* and *BBC* reflect how media with different audiences can form different perceptions regarding the same War. *Kompas.id*, which focuses more on Indonesian audiences, tends to provide more pro-Palestinian coverage, while *BBC*, which has a global audience, tries to present a more balanced narrative. Both media play an important role in this narrative War, where they convey facts and frame those facts in a way that can influence public opinion.

Regarding framing, *Kompas.id* focuses more on Palestinian suffering and human rights violations. Meanwhile, *BBC* has a broader framing scope, especially in the historical and political aspects. In the international context, attention to Palestine is still less strong, in contrast to the pro-Israel bias that still often dominates. This makes it difficult for pro-Palestinian views to gain attention in the West.

CONCLUSION

This study reveals differences in framing, agenda-setting, and choice of citation sources in the coverage of the Israel-Hamas War on *Kompas.id* and *BBC*. This study can be the basis for conducting further studies on how the media influences the audience's perspective on the Israel-Palestine War. Moreover, *Kompas.id* and *BBC* are two large media outlets. Focusing on visual analysis and its impact on readers can also be an interesting area of research.

Kompas.id tends to be critical of Israel, focusing on the suffering of Palestinians and human rights violations. At the same time, *BBC* displays a neutral approach that gives space to the views of both parties and international diplomacy. *Kompas.id* highlights Israel's failure to protect civilians and the destructive impact of their attacks. At the same time, *BBC* - despite its efforts to be neutral - tends to provide more space for Israel's positive narrative by presenting Israel's justification and the general humanitarian impact. This difference shows how the media forms different narratives depending on the audience and agenda.

BBC and *Kompas.id* have different framing and angles based on religion, history, and ideology. Palestine's contribution and religious closeness make *Kompas.id* more pro-Palestine. Meanwhile, *BBC* is more supportive of Israel due to ideological proximity, despite its efforts to be neutral. The implication is that this news affects the reader's understanding of the war. On the other hand, to understand the War more comprehensively, readers can read and examine articles that contain various perspectives. Regardless of the differences in framing between the two media, the media

has an important role in promoting peace and stability. The media can provide a space for dialogue that facilitates conversations that can encourage the creation of peaceful solutions, not just strengthen polarization.

REFERENCES

- Adem, S. H., & Adem, S. H. (2019). Historical and political background of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. *Palestine and the International Criminal Court*, 11-48.
- Al Jazeera. (2023, October 7). Hamas says October 7 attack was a 'necessary step', admits to 'some faults.' <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/1/21/hamas-says-october-7-attack-was-a-necessary-step-admits-to-some-faults>.
- Attar, D., & King, G. (2023). Media framing of the Intifada of the Knives. *Media, War & Conflict*, 16(4), 563–581. <https://doi.org/10.1177/17506352221149554>.
- Aulia, L. (2023, November 15). Israel serbu Rumah Sakit Al-Shifa. *Kompas.id*. <https://www.kompas.id/baca/internasional/2023/11/15/israel-serbu-rumah-sakit-al-shifa>.
- Baden, C., & Tenenboim-Weinblatt, K. (2017). Convergent news? A longitudinal study of similarity and dissimilarity in the domestic and global coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. *Journal of Communication*, 67(1), 1–25. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jcom.12272>.
- Baron, D. P. (2005). Persistent media bias. *Journal of Public Economics*, 90(1–2), 1–36. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jpubeco.2004.10.006>.
- Bhowmik, S., & Fisher, J. (2023). Framing the Israel-Palestine conflict 2021: Investigation of CNN's coverage from a peace journalism perspective. *Media, Culture & Society*, 45(5), 1019–1035. <https://doi.org/10.1177/01634437231154766>.
- Damanhoury, K. El, & Saleh, F. (2024). Mediated clash of civilizations: Examining the proximity-visual framing nexus in Al Jazeera Arabic and Fox News' coverage of the 2021 Gaza War. *Digital Journalism*, 1–23. <https://doi.org/10.1080/21670811.2024.2332614>.
- Daoudi, M. S. D., & Barakat, Z. M. (2013). Israelis and Palestinians: Contested narratives. *Israel Studies*, 18(2), 53–69. <https://doi.org/10.2979/israelstudies.18.2.53>.
- Doufesh, B., & Briel, H. (2021). A multimodal framing analysis of the 2018 Gaza protests in the times of Israel and Al Jazeera (September 30, 2021). *International Journal of Communication 2021*, Available at SSRN: <https://ssrn.com/abstract=3934684>. *International Journal of Communication*, 15, 4230–4251.

- Dwiastuti, I. (2021). The roots of Israel-Palestine conflict: A political culture analysis. *AEGIS: Journal of International Relations*, 4(2). <https://doi.org/10.33021/aegis.v4i2.796>.
- Elmasry, M. H. (2024). Images of the Israel-Gaza war on Instagram: A content analysis of Western broadcast news posts. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*. <https://doi.org/10.1177/10776990241287155>
- Evans, M. (2016). Information dissemination in new media: YouTube and the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. *Media, War & Conflict*, 9(3), 325–343. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1750635216643113>.
- Eveland, W. P., & Shah, D. V. (2003). The impact of individual and interpersonal factors on perceived news media bias. *Political Psychology*, 24(1), 101–117. <https://doi.org/10.1111/0162-895X.00318>.
- Friedman, E., & Herfroy-Mischler, A. (2020). The media framing of blame agency in asymmetric conflict: Who is blaming whom for the 2014 Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations failure? *Journalism Studies*, 21(13), 1873–1892. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1461670X.2020.1797526>.
- Gentzkow, M., & Shapiro, J. M. (2010). What drives media slant? Evidence from U.S. *Daily Newspapers*. *Econometrica*, 78(1), 35–71. <https://doi.org/10.3982/ECTA7195>.
- Gold, D. (2015). The politics of emotion: A case study of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. *Israel Studies Review*, 30(2). <https://doi.org/10.3167/isr.2015.300207>.
- Graneheim, U. H., Lindgren, B.-M., & Lundman, B. (2017). Methodological challenges in qualitative content analysis: A discussion paper. *Nurse Education Today*, 56, 29–34. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nedt.2017.06.002>.
- Gritten, B. D. (2023, October 18). *Hospital blast in Gaza City kills hundreds - health officials*. <https://www.BBC.com/news/world-middle-east-67140250>.
- Han, E., & Rane, H. (2011). Australian press and public opinion on the Israel-Palestine conflict. *Media International Australia*, 141(1), 58–69. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1329878X1114100108>
- Hancock, B. S. (2023, November 15). *Al-Shifa: What we know about Israel's raid on Gaza's main hospital*. <https://www.BBC.com/news/world-middle-east-67424064>
- Hashish, Y. Y. A., Ismail, A. A., & Abusaada, H. A. (2023). BBC coverage of the aggression on Gaza 2021: Critical discourse analysis of Arabic and English versions. *Komunikator*, 15(1), 54–67. <https://doi.org/10.18196/Jim.18508>.
- Jungblut, M., & Zakareviciute, I. (2019). Do pictures tell a different story? A multimodal frame analysis of the 2014 Israel-Gaza conflict. *Journalism Practice*, 13(2), 206–228. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17512786.2017.1412804>.

- Karniel, Y., Lavie-Dinur, A., & Samuel Azran, T. (2017). Professional or personal framing? International media coverage of the Israel– Hamas prisoner exchange deal. *Media, War & Conflict*, 10(1), 105–124. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1750635216658717>.
- Kleinheksel, A. J., Rockich-Winston, N., Tawfik, H., & Wyatt, T. R. (2020). Demystifying content analysis. *American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education*, 84(1), 7113. <https://doi.org/10.5688/ajpe7113>.
- Knell, Y. (2023, October 7). Hamas attack shocks Israel, but what comes next? <https://www.BBC.Com/News/World-Middle-East-67043563>.
- Lopatin, E., Samuel-Azran, T., & Galily, Y. (2017). A clash-of-civilizations prism in German media? Documenting a shift from political to religious framing of the Israeli– Palestinian conflict. *Communication and the Public*, 2(1), 19–34. <https://doi.org/10.1177/2057047316689795>.
- Macnamara, J. R. (2005). Media content analysis: Its uses, benefits and best practice methodology. *Asia Pacific Public Relations Journal*, 6(1), 1–34.
- Muhammad, M. (2023, October 8). Bagaimana Hamas membobol Israel? *Kompas.id*. <https://www.kompas.id/baca/internasional/2023/10/08/bagaimana-hamas-membobol-israel>.
- Muqsith, M. A., Kuswanti, A., Pratomo, R. R., & Muzykant, V. L. (2021). Trump's Twitter propaganda during COVID-19. *Journal The Messenger*, 13(3), 223–237.
- Muqsith, M. A. (2022). *Pesan politik di media sosial Twitter*. Jakad Media Publishing.
- Muqsith, M. A., Pratomo, R. R., & Muzykant, V. L. (2024). Indonesian agenda: Fake news about Russia's special military operation on social media in Indonesia. *Vestnik RUDN. International Relations*, 24(2), 239–251.
- Neureiter, M. (2017). Sources of media bias in coverage of the Israeli– Palestinian conflict: the 2010 Gaza flotilla raid in German, British, and US newspapers. *Israel Affairs*, 23(1), 66–86. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13537121.2016.1244381>.
- Putra, A. (2023). Peran buzzer politik dalam dinamika jelang pemilu tahun 2024. *Salam: Jurnal Sosial dan Budaya Syar-i*, 10(4), 1143–1158.
- Putra, A., & Irwansyah, I. (2020). Orkestrasi buzzer melalui media sosial microblogging dalam kampanye penanganan virus COVID-19. *Jurnal Riset Komunikasi*, 3(2), 269–289.
- Ramadani, Mutiara. S., Khaerudin Kurniawan, & Ahmad Fuadin. (2024). Menguak bias media dalam pemberitaan perang Israel-Palestina: Sebuah analisis konten kritis. *Jurnal Onoma: Pendidikan, Bahasa, dan Sastra*, 10(1), 887–905. <https://doi.org/10.30605/onoma.v10i1.3392>.

- Ramadani, Mutiara. S., Kurniawan, K., & Fuadin, A. (2024). Menguak bias media dalam pemberitaan perang Israel-Palestina: Sebuah analisis konten kritis. *Jurnal Onoma: Pendidikan, Bahasa, dan Sastra*, 10(1), 887–905. <https://doi.org/10.30605/onoma.v10i1.3392>.
- Sakti, R. E. (2023, November 7). Gelombang demonstrasi dunia dan upaya mewujudkan perdamaian di Gaza. *Kompas.id*. <https://www.kompas.id/baca/riset/2023/11/08/gelombang-demonstrasi-dunia-dan-upaya-mewujudkan-perdamaian-gaza>.
- Sarwar, H., Malhi, A. T., & Naz, I. (2023). Representation of Israel and Palestine issue in international media: An analysis of *BBC* and *Al-Jazeera* coverage in 2022. *Annals of Human and Social Science*, 4(3), 375–381.
- Sarwindaningrum, I. (2023, October 18). Serangan atas RS Al-Ahli, Israel, Hamas dan Jihad Islam saling tuding. *Kompas.id*. <https://www.kompas.id/baca/internasional/2023/10/18/israel-hamas-dan-jihad-islam-saling-tuding-serangan-mematikan-ke-rs-gaza>.
- Suwarno, S., & Sahayu, W. (2020). Palestine and Israel representation in the national and international news media: A critical discourse study. *Jurnal Humaniora*, 32(3), 217. <https://doi.org/10.22146/jh.52911>.
- Tasseron, M. (2023). Reporting under the microscope in Israel-Palestine and South Africa. *Journalism Practice*, 17(5), 970–990. <https://doi.org/10.1080/17512786.2021.1966643>.
- Thomas, L. (2011). Reconstructions of “reality”? The coverage of the Gaza withdrawal in the British media. *Journalism Studies*, 12(4), 522–538. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1461670X.2011.571818>.
- Thomas, R. J., & Hindman, E. B. (2012). ‘People will die because of the *BBC*’: British newspaper reaction to the *BBC* Gaza appeal decision. *Journalism*, 13(5), 572–588. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1464884911431539>.
- Topping, A., & Davies, C. (2023, October 16). *BBC* gets 1,500 complaints over Israel-Hamas coverage, split 50-50 on each side. *The Guardian*. <https://www.theguardian.com/media/2023/oct/16/BBC-gets-1500-complaints-over-israel-hamas-coverage-split-50-50-on-each-side>.
- Ukk, I. T. I., & Bui, D. A. L. (2019). How Indonesian’s online news papers report the conflict between Palestine and Israel—A case of *Republika.co.id* and *Kompas.com*. *Open Journal of Social Sciences*, 07(05), 290–331. <https://doi.org/10.4236/jss.2019.75025>.