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## **Coverage Framing of Arab Affairs in Oriented Channels Websites in Arabic: Comparative Analytical Study of Bbc And Dw News Websites**

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### **Abstract**

The aim of this study is to find out the most important topics covered by the Arabic-language news websites about Arab affairs, and the media sources that these websites rely on for its news and coverage. The study attempts to identify the nature of media framing that the websites use when dealing with Arab affairs. The survey method was used and the study also used the comparative analysis method to identify similarities and differences in the coverage. Three months were selected from year of (2017) as a sample. The number of news stories analyzed was (1200) news stories. The study reached a number of results, most notably:

- International news agencies came in the forefront of the press sources with (51.4%) followed by private sources (26.3%).
- The press report came in the first rank of the press patterns which was used in coverage of Arab Affairs (44.8%) followed by news (43.8%).
- Conflict frame was superior to the other frame types with (43.9%), followed by the responsibility frame (41.6%).

**Keywords:** News coverage, Media Frames, Arab Affairs, websites, oriented channels.

### **Introduction**

Over the last five years Arab region has suffered from many crises, conflicts and disturbances. It has also been a copious of wars, armed conflict and the increasing suffering of peoples, Whether in the Arab region, such as Syria, Iraq, Yemen, Palestine and elsewhere, or at the regional level, such as the conflicts between Iran and Turkey or Iran and Saudi Arabia. This is made Arab region is full of events and unique daily news.

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The abundance and intensity of events in the Arab region was created a fierce competition between many foreign countries which seek to attract the attention and guidance of Arab public opinion according to its policy and in order to serve its objectives, Which led to establishment of satellite channels speaking in Arabic that Stretching from China eastward to the United States of America westward which's oriented to the Arab audience.

The political and economic importance of the Arab states has made a small country such as Denmark think of establishing an Arabic-speaking channel which broadcasts 24 hours a day many of the programs viewing options for the Arab viewer. These channels have contributed to breaking the monopoly of Arabic channels related Arab issues, International satellite channels have strengthened their presence and influence in public opinion through dialogue programs and the simulation of the broadcasts of Arab channels, especially the news (Sayed, 2013, p. 81).

Since the Arabic-speaking Western media have begun to carry out their activities and directing their messages, they contribute to Arab public opinion shaping according to what their owners want, the limits of Arabic media in many aspects help the western channel in their mission, which allows these channels to influence the Arab audience in one way or another.

And if the Arab media messages are over-exaggerating and falsifying the facts, It is matched by a professionally crafted message and quiet texts, and organized news details and analytical readings through advanced scientific techniques reaching the Arab audience via foreign air, making them attractive and thus become the recipient's attention (addaly, 2012, p. 1).

### **Purpose of Study**

Political conflicts, security tensions, and civil and sectarian wars in the Arab region have attracted the attention of international public opinion, that's making it a rich material for their media, with large coverage and analysis for the Arab Affairs.

Accordingly, this is study seeks to examine how Arabic-speaking satellite channels news websites covered Arab issues, and the study also search to find out how different between the editorial policy of Britain and Germany about the Arab affairs through their media.

### **Importance of the Study**

The study is important for several reasons, firstly the lack of local and Arabic studies in the media library that dealt the German DW channel news site, the Arab library lacks to some extent the studies of the German news websites.

Secondly, this study sought to know the difference between the German policy and the British policy towards the issues of the Arab region and to determine the coverage nature of each.

Finally, the study is meant the frameworks of Arab security and political issues coverage, and to know which ones are most interested in the international media.

## Literature Review

The researchers surveyed previous researches and studies which related to currently study, and they were able to mention the following studies:

- 1- **Cozma & Kozman study. (2018). The Syrian crisis in US and Lebanese newspapers: A cross-national analysis. International Communication Gazette.** this comparative content analysis explores how elite newspapers in the United States and Lebanon covered the international reaction to Syria's use of chemical weapons against its own citizens in August 2013. The analysis addresses the overlap between media and politics from a dual perspective: how news media in different countries frame international political crises and how the underlying political and media systems lead to similarities and variations. The comparison found that Lebanese newspapers dedicated four times as many stories to the crisis, but coverage in both countries relied heavily on officials and the conflict frame. When present, bias in Lebanese newspapers aligned with the partisan ownership of the news outlets, but their reportage was more thematic than U.S. coverage.
- 2- **Weisman study (2017). Just Coverage and the Path to Peace: Reporting Operation Protective Edge in Haaretz, BBC Online, and the New York Times.** The study pertains to media coverage of Israel/Palestine, with emphasis on The New York Times, Israeli publication Haaretz, and BBC Online coverage of the conflict in Gaza during the summer of 2014. The study delve quantitatively into the material which was studied, utilizing measures of bias, as well as indicators of peace journalism to accomplish the objective of thoroughly analyzing the 351 news stories sampled from the three publications at hand. The study was employed eleven variables; six pertaining to news bias and five operationalized indicators of peace journalism. Also the study was argued that peace journalism is a partial yet powerful remedy for biased coverage. Although it is considered to be a form of advocacy journalism, it can when translated onto the pages of conventional news outlets, shed objective light on even the direst and most intractable shades of conflict. The study found that The New York Times and BBC Online favored Palestinians in headlines and photographs, likely

due to the dramatic devastation wrought upon Gaza. Haaretz was found to be more evenhanded, likely due to its market of Israelis and Jews throughout the world. BBC Online and Haaretz both relied heavily on official (military and government sources), while The New York Times relied on experts. Measures of peace journalism were varied among the variables being analyzed.

- 3- **Alshathry study (2015). A comparative framing analysis of ISIL in the online coverage of CNN and Al-Jazeera.** This study is a content analysis of how CNN and Al-Jazeera framed ISIL in their online news coverage from June to October 2014. A total of 154 stories were analyzed in order to determine the differences in the news framing and sourcing of ISIL (also known as ISIS). The websites' original languages were used, respectively English (CNN) and Arabic (Al-Jazeera). The study found that CNN and Al-Jazeera relied heavily on episodic coverage. Also, the conflict frame dominated CNN coverage while Al-Jazeera used more responsibility and economic-consequences framing. Regarding sources, the study found that CNN cited more U.S. officials while Al-Jazeera relied more on other media.
- 4- **Abdul-Nabi study. Based on the peace journalism model: Analysis of Al-Jazeera's coverage of Bahrain's uprising and Syria's chemical attack.** This study seeks to analyze Al Jazeera coverage on the basis of the Peace Journalism Model (PJM). The study also aimed to determine whether the channel is used to promote the foreign policy of Qatar and the GCC countries during the Bahrain uprising and Al-Gouta attack. The study was based on the survey method. The sample of the study consisted of (10) news stories from the Al Jazeera Arabic website and (10) news stories from the Al Jazeera English website, from March 14, 2011 to March 31, 2011. The results showed that both channels (100%) reported that Al-Jazeera was used as propaganda. Claims and accusations from both sides were transmitted without an informal presentation, based on the analysis of military and chemical weapons experts. The results also showed that the coverage was framed within the framework of "Shiite Protesters". The results confirmed the convergence between the two sites (Al Jazeera Arabic) and (Al Jazeera English) interest in the subjects of the study.
- 5- **Bruce study (2014). Framing Arab Spring Conflict: A Visual Analysis of Coverage on Five Transnational Arab News Channel.** Which guided by framing theory, a quantitative content analysis was conducted on news programming from five transnational satellite news channels that broadcast to/from the Arab world—Al Jazeera, Al Jazeera English, Al Arabiya, Alhurra, and BBC Arabic. The project examined if differences exist

between the networks, and between two dimensions of network taxonomy—western and liberal commercial—in how Arab Spring news selection and content was visually framed. A systematic comparative analysis was conducted on visual coverage of the civil unrest in Tunisia, Algeria, Yemen, Egypt, Libya, and Syria. Three entire newscasts from each network airing between December, 2010 and June, 2011, were analyzed. The data from 1,951 shots reveal both similarities and differences in how the networks utilized the human interest and political frames in their Arab Spring coverage. Results revealed no difference in the application of the human interest frame between western and liberal networks. However, the comparison between the individual networks revealed that Alhurra invoked the political frame more often than Al Jazeera and BBC Arabic.

**6- Auter, Shamy, Mills And Elmasry study(2013). Al-Jazeera and Al-Arabiya framing of the Israel–Palestine conflict during war and calm periods.** This framing study compares Al-Jazeera and Al-Arabiya coverage of the Israel–Palestine conflict during the 2008/2009 Gaza conflict and one year later, during a period of calm. Findings suggest that both networks used framing mechanisms to highlight Palestinian perspectives over Israeli ones and frame Palestinians as victims of Israeli aggression. The networks regularly described Palestinian casualties and showed images of Palestinian grief, provided more voice to Palestinian sources, and personalized Palestinian deaths.

**7- Fahmy study (2011). Al-Jazeera vs. Al-Jazeera: A comparison of the network's English and Arabic online coverage of the US/Al Qaeda conflict.** In light of US criticism that Al-Jazeera network is biased in its coverage against the United States by aiding the terrorist cause and the fact that most of the accusations of bias continue to be based on the claim that Arab media such as Al-Jazeera Arabic include the language of terror organizations, while its English-language counterpart, Al-Jazeera English, is being cleansed by changes and omissions, this research sought to investigate whether these claims could be validated. Examining online coverage of the US/Al Qaeda conflict in the Arabic-language Al-Jazeera website, these claims were measured against online coverage of the conflict in the English-language Al-Jazeera website. By content analyzing prominence of news stories (frequency and placement), use of sources and tone of coverage, the research demonstrates a significant difference regarding the placement of news stories between the English- and Arabic-language Al-Jazeera websites, but no further differences were found. The overwhelming majority of attributed sources were from the United States and its allies. Furthermore, results revealed Al-Jazeera websites did not shy away from negative

coverage regarding all those involved in the conflict. By and large in a highly competitive media environment, our findings suggest that in reporting the US/Al Qaeda conflict Al-Jazeera websites did not provide different perspectives of the war to Arabic- and English-language online users.

**8- Dimitrova & Connolly (2007) study. A tale of two wars: Framing analysis of online news sites in coalition countries and the Arab world during the Iraq war.** This study used quantitative content analysis to explore the websites of prestige news media in the United States and the United Kingdom, as well as Egypt and Qatar, examining both the frames used by news media in their coverage of the conflict, as well as the voices heard—and unheard—throughout the coverage. The analysis showed that the “tale of war” was constructed differently by the different international media. Arab online news media were more likely to use the military conflict and violence of war frame, whereas Coalition media emphasized the rebuilding of Iraq frame. Differences in the tone of coverage and the use of sources across the four news media were also found.

#### **Distinguishes this Study from Previous Studies.**

The study was distinguished from previous studies as follows:

- The subjects of previous studies varied between the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, the Arab Spring and the Syrian crisis, but the current study focused on the subject of all Arab affairs.
- Also the present study is distinguished from all previous studies by selecting distinct analytical categories from other studies, such as the type of coverage and the nature of the framing.

#### **Theoretical Framework**

**The theoretical framework of the study based on framing theory**, which has experienced a rapid development since the mid-1960s, when it emerged in the field of sociology. Framing has become a multidisciplinary paradigm that allows the holistic study of media effects on individuals and audiences. Far from being exclusively located in the sender of information, framing is located in four elements of the communication process: the sender, the receiver, the (informative) message and culture (Ardèvol-Abreu, p423, 2015).

This classification allows for the specification of three branches of framing research as Scheufele mention, p403,2004):

- (1) The communicator approach either concentrates on journalists' cognitions or on media coverage. A sub-field within this approach, which we will call

cognition studies, (is concerned with journalistic frames, that is, journalists' cognitions as criteria of news production. and how they are presented as media frames in news reporting. merely trace structures of coverage, that is, media frames.

- (2) The public discourse or social movement approach has a macro focus. Here, studies examine which political actors can launch their frames in the media. Media, in this context, are seen as 'carriers' for the frames of others and media content serves as an indicator for the examination of discourse.
- (3) The media effects approach. Studies examine how media framing influences schemata, attitudes, emotions and decisions of media recipients, that is, media users. Thus, this approach goes beyond the level of mere cognition.

To be able to identify framing in the news, (Entman, 1991) identifies five popular ways for framing news stories:

- **Conflict** – **conflict** between parties can be prioritized, as opposed to the actual decision made.
- **Human Interest/Personalization** – presenting a story with human face, personality is promoted over more important aspects.
- **Consequence** – consequences can be wide ranging. Pursuing a policy may be unwise in terms of unity within a party or coalition or in terms of the status of a nation globally.
- **Morality** – media coverage can often moralize, sometimes due to the indiscretions of political actors; or alternative, policies can be seen as morally questionable. E.g. Michael Moore's editorializing of the US Patriot Act, worldwide critique of US foreign policy all takes a moral tone
- **Responsibility** – attributing responsibility, either for a cause or a solution. In the wake of Asian Tsunami one frame was "global responsibility" for find solutions as well as blaming the lack of preparedness on the local governments.

#### **Nature of Frames**

- a) **Specific** – For instance, reporting the Asian Tsunami was linked to consequences, how many further deaths there could be if aid was not received, and issues of responsibility.
- b) **Generic** – For example, conflict and the game of politics as opposed to frames of values.

**The researchers applied this theory by Customize two categories they are:**

1. Frames nature.
2. Frames types.



## Research Questions

The study seeks to answer the following questions:

- 1- What are the topics of Arab affairs in the online coverage of oriented channels websites? And Are there any statistically significant differences in this category between the sites analyzed?
- 2- What are the sources of Arab affairs topics in the online coverage of oriented channels websites? And Are there any statistically significant differences in this category between the sites analyzed?
- 3- What are the types of stories of Arab affairs in the online coverage of oriented channels websites? And Are there any statistically significant differences in this category between the sites analyzed?
- 4- What are the types of coverage of Arab affairs in the online coverage of oriented channels websites? And Are there any statistically significant differences in this category between the sites analyzed?
- 5- What is the size of interest of Arab affairs topics in the online coverage of oriented channels websites? And Are there any statistically significant differences in this category between the sites analyzed?
- 6- What are the frames natures of Arab affairs topics in the online coverage of oriented channels websites? And Are there any statistically significant differences in this category between the sites analyzed?
- 7- What are the frames types of Arab affairs topics in the online coverage of oriented channels websites? And Are there any statistically significant differences in this category between the sites analyzed?

## Methodology

This study used content analysis to examine BBC and DW covering of Arab affairs during 2017, Content analysis defined by (Holsti, 1969, p14) that “any technique for making inferences by objectively and systematically identifying specified characteristics of messages”.

### - Sample

The researchers chose BBC and DW websites as a representative of the news sites of the oriented channels by using the purposive sample. The researchers justify the reason for choosing these two sites because each website represents a different editorial policy, that German policy is more sympathetic and consistent with the events and issues of the Arab region. This was manifested by Germany's interest in the issue of the Syrian refugees and its great interest in providing much assistance to the Arab countries that witnessed

conflicts, In contrast Britain, which is similar in its policy with the United States' offensive policy.

#### **- Time Frame of Study**

The time frame of study was a year of 2017, by using the two-stage stratified sample method, the year (2017) was divided into three groups, each group containing (4) months, and the researchers chose one month from each group by lot method, as it show in table 1:

**Table (1):** size of sample.

Group	Sample	Sample size	
		BBC	DW
<b>Group(1) Jan,Feb,mar,Apr</b>	March	158	219
<b>Group (2)May,Jun,Jul,Aug</b>	July	214	276
<b>Group(3)Sept,Oct,Nov,Dec</b>	November	98	235
<b>Total</b>		470	730

We noticed from the previous table there were (1200) stories from (3) months selection from year of (2017) in BBC and DW websites, and there were (470) stories from BBC website, (730) stories from DW website.

#### **Validity and Reliability**

##### **- Validity**

The researchers presented the study tool to 3specialists arbitrators in academic affairs and they have expertise in the scientific research field, that would observations make the tool is applicable and measurement commensurate with the nature of the research.

##### **- Reliability**

To verify the reliability of the study, two colleagues from mass communication Faculty at Yarmouk University were assigned to re-analyze 10% of the study sample, applying Holsti equation wasachieved (87%), which is an acceptable percentage indicating that the study tool is applicable to the research objectives.

#### **Data Analysis**

By using SPSS program, the following statistical measures were applied:

- Percentage and Frequencies.
- Chi square test ( $\chi^2$ ),to find statistical differences between the analyzed websites in the categories.

### Findings and Discussions

The results showed that the total of news stories that covering the Arab affairs in the BBC and DW websites in 2017 was 1200, there were 470 from BBC website and 730 DW website, It is noted that there is a clear and significant difference in the interest degree of oriented websites that analyzed about Arab issues, The German website is more interested in political and security Arab affairs, perhaps due to Germany's foreign policy toward the Arab region, and shows interest and assistance to the Arab countries, especially their great attention to the Syrian crisis And the issue of Syrian refugees in particular.

#### -The Topics of Arab Affairs in the Online Coverage of Oriented Channels Websites.

**Table (2):** topics by oriented websites.

#	Topics	BBC		DW		Total	
1	The Israeli-Palestinian conflict	11	2.3%	7	1	18	<b>1.5</b>
2	Sectarian and civil conflicts	52	11.1%	83	11.4	135	<b>11.3</b>
3	Terrorist attacks in Jordan	7	1.5%	27	3.7	34	<b>2.8</b>
4	Conflicts in Libya	13	2.8%	82	11.2	95	<b>7.9</b>
5	Refugee crisis	43	9.1%	93	12.7	136	<b>11.3</b>
6	Conflicts and wars in Syria	45	9.6%	104	14.2	149	<b>12.4</b>
7	Iraq affairs	43	9.1%	81	11.1	124	<b>10.3</b>
8	Yemen affairs	11	2.3%	24	3.3	35	<b>2.9</b>
9	Activities of Terrorist Organizations	49	10.4%	99	13.6	148	<b>12.3</b>
10	Political conflict in Saudi Arabia	82	17.4%	46	6.3	128	<b>10.7</b>
11	Gulf affairs	93	19.8%	53	7.3	146	<b>12.2</b>
12	Lebanon affairs	13	%2.8	4	0.5	17	<b>1.4</b>
13	Sudan affairs	4	%0.9	17	2.3	21	<b>1.8</b>
14	The security and political situation in Egypt	3	%0.6	10	1.4	13	<b>1.1</b>
15	Others	1	%0.2	0	0	1	<b>0.08</b>
<b>Total</b>		470	100%	730	100	1200	<b>100</b>
<b>=(25.070).sig = Chi<sup>2</sup>(00.000)</b>							

The data in Table 2 shows the oriented websites presented during the Arab issues coverage 14 topics which addressed various aspects of security and political issues in the Arab region. It is noted that some of the topics achieved concern by the analyzed websites, while others achieved little concern.

The top topics were covering by the BBC and DW sites at the general total were: "Conflict and War in Syria" (12.4%), which indicates the Syrian crisis is ranked firstly in the international media agenda.

The activities of terrorist organizations ranked secondly (12.3%), because the activities of terrorist organizations expanded significantly in the Arab region and the Middle East region. They became the international public opinion regarding the actions carried out in different regions and countries, Followed by the Gulf affair with 12.2% in the third rank.

The fourth rank was occupied by the Syrian refugee crisis with 11.2%, followed by sectarian and civil conflicts by 11.3% Fifth place. It indicates the international media concerns the issue related to sectarian and civil conflicts that broke out in a number of countries such as Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Yemen and others.

The topics: Yemen affair, the terrorist attacks in Jordan, the Sudan affair, Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Lebanon issue, the security and political situation in Egypt didn't achieve a high degree of importance so it ranked late, And none of them exceeded 5%.

For each site, The data in Table (2) indicates that the Gulf affair ranked first in the BBC website by 19.8%, Followed by the political conflict in Saudi Arabia ranked second with (17.4%), followed by sectarian conflicts (11.1%) in third place.

As for the activities of terrorist organizations, they ranked fourth (10.4%), followed by conflicts and wars in Syria 9.6%.

The "Iraqi issue" and "the crisis of the Syrian refugees" are ranked sixth, with 9.1% each.

Table (2) shows that there are statistically significant differences in the topics category because the statistical significance level is 0.000 and the value of chi square = (25.070). Thus, it is statistically significant at (0.05).

The differences in the following subcategories:

- Conflicts and wars in Syria, its favor to DW website, because it is the highest frequency.

- The activities of terrorist organizations, its favor to DW website, because it is the highest frequency.
- The gulf affair, its favor to the BBC website, because it is the highest frequency.
- Sectarian and civil conflicts, its favor to DW website, because it is the highest frequency.
- The Syrian refugees' crisis, its favor to DW website, because it is the highest frequency.

## 2- The Sources of Arab Affairs Topics in the Online Coverage of Oriented Channels Websites.

**Table (3):** sources by oriented websites.

sources	BBC		DW		Total	
	F	%	F	%	F	%
International news agencies	189	40.2	428	58.6	617	<b>51.4</b>
Self-sources	162	34.5	153	21	315	<b>26.3</b>
Agencies +self-sources	110	23.4	146	20	256	<b>21.3</b>
Foreign newspapers	9	1.9	3	0.4	12	<b>1</b>
Arab newspapers	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
Arab News Agencies	0	0	0	0	0	<b>0</b>
<b>Total</b>	470	100	730	100	1200	<b>100</b>
<b>= (2.667).sig= Chi<sup>2</sup>(0.102)</b>						

Table (3) shows that the analyzed websites relied on a number of sources while covering Arab issues, it relied on its sources (reporter, correspondents, writers of articles), international news agencies, and foreign newspapers. The results show that the websites depended from sources more than others uneven manner.

The international news agencies came in the forefront of these sources, with a total of (617) times, representing (51.4%).

which indicates The international news agencies played a great role in providing the media with information and important news about hot issues in the Arab region, So the adoption of the analyzed websites Significantly on these agencies.

As for self-sources, it ranked second with a total of (3159) times (26.3%), followed by self-sources + Agencies in third ranked with 21.3%.

The results also indicate that foreign newspapers occupied the fourth ranked with (1%). Arab newspapers and Arab news agencies did not achieve any frequencies.

As for the press sources used in each site, the results show that the international news agencies topped in the BBC website with a total of (189) and percentage (40.1%), then the self-sources ranked second with (34.5%), The sources of the site + agencies ranked third with (23.4%) while foreign newspapers ranked last (1.9%).

As for a DW website, the international news agencies remained top by 58.6%, Followed by self-sources in the second ranked (21%), then self-sources + agencies in the third ranked with (20%), Arab newspapers and Arab news agencies did not achieve any frequencies.

Table (3) shows that there are no statistically significant differences at the level of (0.05) in the sources category with  $\chi^2$  value = (2.667), and statistically significant at (0.102).

### 3- Press Types of Arab Affairs Topics in the Online Coverage of Oriented Channels Websites.

**Table (4):** Press types by oriented websites.

Press types	BBC		DW		Total	
	F	%	F	%	F	%
Report	197	41.9	341	46.7	538	<b>44.8</b>
News	215	45.7	311	42.6	526	<b>43.8</b>
Article	49	10.4	63	8.6	112	<b>9.3</b>
Interview	9	1.9	12	1.7	21	<b>1.8</b>
Investigation	0	0	3	0.4	3	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Total</b>	470	100	730	100	1200	<b>100</b>
<b>= (36.465). SIG= <math>\chi^2</math>(0.05)</b>						

Table (4) shows that websites used some press types more than other. They relied on the reports, news, article, investigation and interviews with varying degrees.

The report came at the forefront of these types, reaching (538) times (44.8%), and it can be explained that the oriented websites give the issues of the Arab region a great importance by presenting the details extensively, which is came as report form.

The news ranked second with a total of (526), (43.8%). The article ranked third with a total of 112 times, which represented 9.3%. The interview came in the fourth ranked by (1.8%), And the Investigation ranked fifth (0.3%).

As for the press sources used in each website, the results of this study indicate that the news was ranked first on the BBC channel site with a total of (215) with (45.7%), followed by the report (41.9%), And the article ranked third with (10.4%), The other types came late mattresses in the list, none of it exceeded 2%.

In the DW websites, the report ranked first with (46.7%), followed by news in the second with (42.6%), while the article remained stable in ranked third by (8.6%), The other types came late mattresses in the list, none of it exceeded 5%.

Table (4) shows that there are statistically significant differences at (0.05) in the press types category, where the differences in the report category were it in favor of the DW site because it is has a highest frequency.

#### 4- Types of Coverage of Arab Affairs Topics in the Online Coverage of Oriented Channels Websites.

Table (5) types of coverage by oriented websites

Types of coverage	BBC		DW		Total	
	F	%	F	%	F	%
Aggressive coverage (offensive)	159	33.8	49	6.7	208	<b>17.3</b>
Biased coverage	157	33.4	14	1.9	171	<b>14.3</b>
Neutral coverage (objective)	154	32.8	667	91.4	821	<b>68.4</b>
<b>Total</b>	470	100	730	100	1200	<b>100</b>
<b>= (34.991a). SIG= Chi<sup>2</sup>(000.0)</b>						

Table (5) shows the types of coverage of oriented websites channels for Arab issues and events. The data in the previous table show that 3 types of coverage were used during their coverage of events with varying degrees.

The overall level neutral coverage (objective) ranked first with (68.4%), Which indicates that the sites analyzed away from the tendency and bias in the selection and presentation the news and information, and give an integrated picture of the balance about truth without distortion.

It Followed by aggressive (offensive) coverage with a total (208), by (17.3%), it may be due to different relations and attitudes between countries toward these issues, while the third ranked and final is a biased coverage with 14.3%.

For each site, the table data indicates that aggressive (offensive) coverage topped in the BBC website with a total of 159 times and 33.8%. Indicating that the BBC was not objective in its presentation the topics and events about Arab affairs, But provided information and news by a personal, wrong and misleading.

The biased coverage ranked second by 33.4%, and lastly was neutral coverage with 32.8%.

As regards to the DW website, the results show that the neutral coverage ranked first by 91.4%. Indicating that the German website was more objective in its presentation of the events in the Arab region and presented the truth in all its details to the audience, Followed by aggressive (offensive) coverage in ranked second by (6.7%), The latter rank was occupied by biased coverage (1.9%).

The results indicated that there were statistically significant differences in the types of coverage, where the statistical significance was (0.000), and the value of the  $\chi^2 = 34.991$ , the differences in the neutral (objective) coverage in favor of the German DW channel site because it is the highest frequency.

##### 5- Size of Interest of Arab Affairs Topics in the Online Coverage of Oriented Channels Websites.

**Table (6):** size of interest by oriented websites.

size of interest	BBC		DW		Total	
	F	%	F	%	F	%
Less than 250 words	218	46.4	174	23.8	392	<b>32.6</b>
From 250 - 500 words	204	43.4	363	49.7	567	<b>47.3</b>
More than 500 words	48	10.2	193	26.4	241	<b>20.1</b>
<b>Total</b>	470	100	730	100	1200	<b>100</b>
<b>Chi<sup>2</sup> = (43.763).sig=((0.02</b>						

Table (6) shows the size of interest in the BBC and DW websites about Arab region. The category of (250 words - 500 words) was ranked first by 47.3%. Which indicates the size interest of Arab affairs were average by the sites analyzed, the category (less than 250 words) ranked second by (32.6%), while the category (more than 500 words) took the last ranked by 20.1%.

The result is logical and harmonious with the findings of the study about the types of press, that report ranked first, and the news ranked second.

For each site, the results indicate that a category (less than 250 words) topped the BBC website by (46.4%), Followed by the category (from 250 to 500



words) in ranked second by (43.4%), and the last category came (more than 500 words) by (10.2%).

Regarding to the DW website the results show that the category (from 250 to 500 words) topped the first (49.7%), Followed by the category of (more than 500 words) (26.4%), while the last ranked category (less than 250 words) by (23.8).

The results indicated that there were statistically significant differences in the category of (size of interest), where the significance at (0.05), and the differences in the category (250-500 words) for the German DW channel site.

#### 6- Nature of Frames of Arab Affairs Topics in the Online Coverage of Oriented Channels Websites.

**Table (7):** nature of frames by oriented websites.

Nature of frames	BBC		DW		Total	
	F	%	F	%	F	%
Specific frame	214	45.5	378	51.8	592	<b>49.3</b>
Generic frame	256	54.5	352	48.2	608	<b>50.7</b>
<b>Total</b>	470	100	730	100	1200	<b>100</b>
<b>= (1.286).sig= Chi<sup>2</sup>(0.257)</b>						

Table (7) shows the nature of the news coverage frameworks for Arab affairs used by the BBC and DW websites, which came in two forms, the specific frame and the generic frame, the oriented websites using these frames with varying degrees.

At the total level, the generic frame ranked first by (50.7%), followed by specific frame by (49.3%), this result indicates that the oriented website presented the events and issues of the Arab region in general and abstract context.

For each site, the results show that the generic frame ranked first on the BBC website by (54.5%), ranked second and final is the specific frame with (45.5%).

Regarding to the DW website note that the specific ranked first by (51.8%), and the generic frame ranked last by (48.2%).

The results confirm that there are no statistically significant differences in the nature of frames category. The statistical significance (0.277) and the chi square value = (1.286). This is not significant at 0.05.

**7- Types of Frames of Arab Affairs Topics in the Online Coverage of Oriented Channels Websites.****Table (8):** Types of frames by oriented websites.

Types of frames	BBC		DW		Total	
	F	%	F	%	F	%
Responsibility frame	195	41.5	304	41.6	499	<b>41.6</b>
Conflict frame	238	50.6	289	39.7	527	<b>43.9</b>
Strategy frame	0	0	2	0.3	2	<b>0.2</b>
Economic Results Frame	0	0	4	0.5	4	<b>0.3</b>
humanitarian interest frame	14	3	78	10.7	92	<b>7.7</b>
ethical principles frame	23	4.9	53	7.3	76	<b>6.3</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>470</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>1000</b>	<b>1200</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>(0.001) sig.= (11.842) Chi<sup>2</sup></b>						

Table 8 shows the types of frames used in the BBC and DW sites covering of Arab affairs. It is clear from data in the previous table that these frames were used in varying percentages between each site.

At the total level, Table 8 shows that the conflict frame superiority on types of frames list by 43.9.

The previous result is logical because the nature of the issues and topics analyzed, that political and security issues are the conflicts and crises and relations tense, which led to the conflict frame ranked first. Followed by the responsibility frame with (41.6%). The third place was occupied by humanitarian interest by (7.7%), Which was related to Syrian crisis and Syrian refugees crisis. Some stories dealt these issues within a humanitarian frame that highlights the suffering of the Syrian or Iraqi people in their crisis.

As for the ethical principles frame came in fourth place by 6.3%. The final rank was taken by the strategic frame by 1% only.

For each site, it was found that the conflict frame ranked first on the BBC website by 50.6%, which indicates that the BBC provided most of the information and news of Arab issues in the conflicts and wars context.

The second place was occupied by responsibility frame by 41.5%, and the ethical principles ranked third with (4.9%), and humanitarian interest by (3%).

As for the DW website, it was found that the responsibility frame came first and surpassed the rest of the frames with the highest frequency (325) and 44.5%. This means that the Deutsche Fillet website provided events and information within the responsibility context. This may be due to Germany's policy towards the Arab countries, especially the countries where there are conflicts and wars, such as Syria.

The second rank was the conflict frame by (36.7%), the third rank was occupied by humanitarian concerns by (10.7), The ethical principles frame came in fourth rank by (7.3%), And the economic and strategic frames have not achieve much attention from the analyzed sites, where only 1% for both of them.

The results of the previous table show that there were statistically significant differences in the category of media types, where the level of significance was (0.001), which indicates that there are differences in this category. For the DW channel site, because it is the highest frequency.

### Conclusion

The most important results of the study are:

- 1- The BBC and DW website focused on conflicts and wars in Syria and the activities of terrorist organizations more than others in their covering of Arab issues.
- The conflicts and wars in Syria ranked first in the German DW website, while it is ranked fourth in the BBC website, and the results show that the German website surpassed the BBC website in highlighting conflicts and wars in Syria and pay more concerns to them.
- 2- The BBC and DW websites were largely based on international news agencies in their covering of Arab issues. They ranked first in the total; the two websites are equal in their reliance on international news agencies, ranking first in each.
- 3-The report has been heavily used in the BBC and DW websites during its covering of Arab issues, followed by the news, which was used by well by analyzed websites compared to other press types. The results show DW website exceed to use report, Ranked first, while second in the BBC.
- 4- The use of the neutral coverage (objective) by the websites involved in the analysis. The results show the German DW website is superior to neutral coverage, and ranked third in the BBC website.
- 5-The results indicated the size of interest of the websites analyzed about Arab issues was average. The category (250-500 words) ranked firstly in the total.

However, the results show the superiority of the German DW website, while it is ranked secondly in the BBC website.

- 6- The analyzed websites use the generic frame during their covering of Arab affairs, where it is ranked firstly on the overall total, but the BBC has outperformed ranking first in it, while second in the German DW website.
- 7- The websites be careful to present their news within the conflict frame, it ranked first in the total, but the BBC has outperformed were it ranked firstly, while it came second in the DW website.

### **Recommendations**

Based on the findings of the study, the researcher recommends the following:

- 1- More Focus on the Palestinian issue by the international media. As the conflict and wars in the Arab countries and the Middle East are growing, the Palestinian issue is clearly absent from the media, especially the international media. The issue of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is no longer as interesting as before.
- 2- Intense attention to the issue of sectarian conflicts, which have become widespread in a number of countries such as Lebanon, Iraq and Syria, and threaten the security and stability of other countries.
- 3-focuson the Arab sources in matters related to the Arab issue, since these issues are occurring in the Arab countries, so be careful to invitation the international media to follow Arab sources regarding these events.
- 4- More interest to the article, especially in matters related to crises, wars and conflicts, in order to highlight the views, attitudes and deep analyzes relevant to the topic.
- 5- To raise the framework of ethical principles and humanitarian concerns more in the issues related to crises, wars and conflicts in the Arab region, especially in some of the countries that suffered from the blockade and which resulted in moral and humanitarian tragedies, such as Syria, Iraq and Lebanon.
- 6- Conducting specialized studies in the international media speech that oriented by the Western countries to the Arab region, to know the trends of these countries of the issues raised in the Arab region.

## أطر المعالجة الإخبارية للشؤون العربية في المواقع الإلكترونية للقنوات الأجنبية الموجهة: دراسة تحليلية مقارنة لموقعي BBC و DW الألمانية

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### ملخص

هدفت هذه الدراسة إلى معرفة أهم الموضوعات التي تناولتها المواقع الإخبارية الناطقة باللغة العربية فيما يخص الشؤون العربية، والمصادر الإعلامية التي استندت إليها في هذه المعالجة، وسعت الدراسة إلى تعرف طبيعة الأطر الإعلامية التي تناولتها المواقع المبحوثة في معالجتها للشؤون العربية، وتم الاعتماد على المنهج المسحي (الذي تم من خلاله استخدام أسلوب تحليل المضمون)، والمقارن لمعرفة أوجه الشبه والاختلاف في معالجة كل من الموقعين، كما تم استخدام أسلوب العينة الطبقية لاختيار (3) أشهر من عام (2017) إذ بلغ عدد المواد الإعلامية المحللة (1200) مادة إخبارية. وتوصلت الدراسة إلى عدد من النتائج أبرزها:

- جاءت وكالات الأنباء العالمية في مقدمة المصادر الصحفية التي اعتمدت عليها المواقع المتناولة بالتحليل في معالجتها للموضوعات المتعلقة بالشؤون العربية، بنسبة (51.4%)، أما مصادر المواقع الخاصة فقد احتلت المرتبة الثانية، بنسبة (26.3%).
  - جاء التقرير الصحفي في مقدمة الأنماط الصحفية المستخدمة أثناء معالجة المواقع للموضوعات المتعلقة بالشؤون العربية، بنسبة (44.8%)، واحتل الخبر الصحفي المرتبة الثانية بنسبة (43.8%).
  - تفوق إطار الصراع على بقية أنواع الأطر الإعلامية أثناء معالجة المواقع المتناولة بالتحليل للموضوعات المتعلقة بالشؤون العربية، فقد شكل ما نسبته (43.9%)، تلاه في المرتبة الثانية إطار المسؤولية بنسبة (41.6%).
- الكلمات المفتاحية:** المعالجة الإخبارية، الأطر الإعلامية، الشؤون العربية، المواقع الإلكترونية، القنوات الأجنبية الموجهة.

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Alawneh and Al-Zou'bi

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