

6. Media Framing on the Palestine-Israel Conflict

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Media Framing on the Palestine-Israel Conflict

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Abstract

The media is a medium for acquiring information, presenting factual information, data accuracy, and holding the responsibilities of news writers and media ethics. With the media's significant role in constructing information and news, the media should be unbiased. However, the media has its pattern of publishing news, such as the conflict between Israel and Palestine. These contrasts can be seen from the various framing between one media and another, such as the different points of view of news writing, the title, and the images displayed. The purpose of this study is to examine how the media reconstructs the reality of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The mass media studied were kompas.com and republika.co.id. The research method uses qualitative research with framing analysis of William A. Gamson and Andre Modigliani. Utilizing framing analyst William A. Gamson, the reality emerges in device framing devices and reasoning devices. The results showed that republika.co.id highlighted the news of the United Nations Security Council, which failed to handle the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and tried to raise the image of Palestine, which desperately needed international support. Meanwhile, kompas.com reported on the conflict more neutrally, reporting the United Nations Security Council's exertions to stop the conflict.

Keywords: Media Framing, Palestine-Israel Conflict, Republika.co.id, kompas.com

Introduction

The mass media represents the renewal of the social subsystem formed to meet the public's need for information. Mass media can influence and change people's thoughts and perceptions. Society needs accurate mass media publications, up-to-date, beneficial, and responsible for a better social life. (Wahid, 2016).

In essence, the media must be neutral and maintain their ideology because the mass media is a system of beliefs and values of representation in a media. Vivian (2008)

explains that the media is a neutral medium in conveying information or messages. However, at present, mass media observers are concerned about information bias.

The Palestinian-Israeli conflict is one piece of overcrowded information that gets wide public attention. The conflict resulted from the UN's decision to divide the Palestinian territories into Israeli Jews and Palestinian Arabs. Thus, causing protests from both parties who feel dissatisfied. This decision causes a prolonged conflict (Elvira, 2013). The Palestinian-Israeli conflict itself

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seems to be eternal. The suspected cause is the lack of international law enforcement in providing sanctions for countries that violate the provisions of international law. The conflict has violated applicable humanitarian law, and war crimes committed by Israel should be immediately followed up by international law.

The conflict between Palestine and Israel is never stopped topic discussed by the mass media, both print and electronic media. The conflict between the two countries is one of the exciting factors for news coverage. The discussion of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has a broad spectrum because the conflict between the two countries is more comprehensive than territorial boundaries, but more extensively, involving religion and ideology.

The bad news is good news. Conflict is one of the news values used by the mass media. The conflict will increasingly attract the interest of the reader. Mass media is a business to make a profit, so the mass media should represent attractive news to the public, including conflict news (Biagi, 2010).

In Indonesia, *kompas.com* and *republika.co.id* is the online media platforms that netizens access the most and significantly influence readers' opinions. Apart from broad reach, *kompas.com* and *republika.co.id* have various economic, political, and ideological interests. Therefore, it is interesting to examine how the news about the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is displayed in the two media with different background, aim, and scope. Each media has its way of displaying news according to its principles, ideology, and interests. This difference can be detected from the different framing between one media and the different points of view on news writing

style, title writing, and the images displayed. Based on this background, this study aims to analyze the framing of the Palestinian and Israeli conflicts on the *kompas.com* and *republika.co.id* media.

Method

This research is qualitative research using the framing analysis of William A Gamson and Andre Modigliani to connect the discourse in two different media regarding an event. Gamson sees media discourse as consisting of several packages through the construction of a phenomena/occurrence. In this study, two framing devices are used, explicitly framing devices and reasoning devices. Framing devices analyze metaphors (Metaphors) of interesting, contrasting, prominent phrases in a discourse (Catchphrase), linking frames with examples, descriptions that clarify the frame (Exemplar), depicting an issue. Connotative (Depiction) and images, supporting graphics (Visual image). Reasoning devices analyze causality or cause and effect (Roots), the basic premise (Appeals to principle), and the consequences obtained from the frame (Consequences). The framing device aims to examine the framing on *republika.co.id* and *kompas.com* detailly regarding the Palestine-Israel conflict for the period 17-18 May 2021.

Result

This study analyzes the two most popular online media in Indonesia, *republika.co.id* and *kompas.com*, which present news framing of the Palestine-Israel conflict for 17-18 May 2021. The list of Palestine-Israel conflict content news as the research focus is presented in Tables 1 to 3 below:

Table 1.

Reporting on the Palestine-Israel Conflict for 17-18 May 2021 by *republika.co.id* and *kompas.com*.

Date	<i>republika.co.id</i>	<i>kompas.com</i>
May 17, 2021	Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OKI) State: United Nations Security Council Has Failed to Protect Palestine	United Nations Security Council Has Not to Take Action Yet Regarding Palestine-Israel Conflict
May 18, 2021	Palestine Urges United Nations to Stop Israel's Crimes against Children	Israel-Palestine Today: The Worst Attack on Gaza, United Nations Security Council Holds Emergency Meeting

Source: Researcher Processed Data, 2021

Table 1 explains that on May 17, 2021, *Republika.co.id* presented news about "State of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation: The United Nations Security Council has failed to protect Palestine." Meanwhile, *kompas.com* presented news that "the UN Security Council has not taken any action regarding the Palestinian-Israeli conflict." On May 18,

2021, *republika.co.id* reported again that "Palestine Urges the United Nations to Stop Israel's Crimes against Children." Meanwhile, *kompas.com* reported that "Israel-Palestine Today: The Worst Attack on Gaza, the United Nations Security Council held an Emergency Meeting."

Table 2. Framing Differences in News Edition May 17, 2021, *Republika.co.id* and *kompas.com*

Online Media	<i>republika.co.id</i>	<i>kompas.com</i>
Frame	UN Security Council Has Failed to Protect Palestine	UN Security Council Has not to Take Action Yet
Metaphors	The sentence "failed to protect Palestine" symbolizes that the United Nations has failed to control Israeli attacks in the Palestinian Gaza Strip as the person in charge of international security.	Not taking action yet means that the United Nations as the person in charge of international security, is still silent and has not taken decisive action to stop the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, which has caused many deaths, especially Palestinians.
Catchphrases	Failing to protect Palestine in the headline by emphasizing the word "fail," which indicates that the United Nations Security Council is incompetent to resolve the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.	Not taking action yet in the headline, "action" confirms that the United Nations Security Council is still silent and allows the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, which has caused many deaths.
Exemplar	<i>republika.co.id</i> stated that the Organization of Islamic Cooperation considers the United Nations Security Council to have failed to assume its responsibility to stop the Israeli aggression in Gaza.	<i>kompas.com</i> stated that the delegates who attended the United Nations Security Council meeting regretted the deaths of civilians and material losses, but the United Nations Security Council was still incapable of taking any action.

Depiction	The Organization of Islamic Cooperation made exertions by holding an extraordinary meeting of the United Nations Organization of Islamic Cooperation to protect the Palestinian people.	The United Nations Security Council made exertions by holding a meeting to discuss the escalation of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The Chinese ambassador presiding over the meeting will continue to communicate with all United Nations Security Council members to take fast and unified action.
Visual Images	Image of a retaliatory rocket that launched from Gaza to Israel.	Image of a virtual meeting of the United Nations Security Council discussing the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.
Roots	Israel's pounding of Palestinian Gaza has killed 197 people. Seventeen people were killed in the west line as Palestinians protested against Israel. Some Palestinians died because of protesting against Israel, so Israel killed them.	During the United Nations Security Council meeting, it was explained that the Palestinian and Israeli diplomats who were invited to the meeting attacked each other. The United Nations Security Council had to communicate with other members to make decisions with one vote quickly. So due to mutual attacks between diplomats, the United Nations Security Council has not yet decided on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.
Appeals to Principles	The Organization of Islamic Cooperation explained that the Al-Aqsa Mosque is a red line for Muslims so that its security and stability must be maintained.	The United Nations Security Council as the person in charge of international security and peace must immediately take action in dealing with the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, which has caused many deaths.
Consequences	As an organization of Islamic cooperation, OKI urges the United Nations Security Council to protect Muslims in Gaza, Palestine, who are increasingly becoming victims of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.	As a result of the United Nations Security Council has not taken action, the victims of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict are increasing.

Source: Researcher Processed Data, 2021

Table 2 explains that republika.co.id's reporting on May 17, 2021, through the framing and reasoning stages, emphasized reporting on the failure of the United Nations Security Council to control the conflict, resulting in many casualties. The Organization of Islamic Cooperation held an extraordinary meeting of foreign ministers of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation's members and asked the United Nations to protect Palestinians.

Meanwhile, kompas.com reporting through framing analysis and reasoning emphasizes writing on the United Nations Security Council conference to discuss the escalation of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. The United Nations was responsible for international security is even silent and has not taken decisive action to stop the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, which has caused many deaths.

Table 3. Differences in Framing in the News Edition 18 May 2021 ³ republika.co.id and kompas.com

Online Media ³	republika.co.id	kompas.com
Frame	Palestine urges United Nations to stop Israeli crimes against children.	The Worst Attack on Gaza, United Nations Security Council Emergency Meeting
Metaphors	The sentence "urgent" symbolizes that there have been many deaths from Palestinian civilians, including children and material damage. Children in Palestine have no shelter from Israeli attacks.	The sentence "emergency" symbolizes that Israel's attacks have caused many civilian deaths in Palestine and material damage that the United Nations Security Council must take action immediately.
Catchphrases	Palestine urged the United Nations in the news headlines, emphasizing the word "urgent," which indicates that Palestine needs international assistance to deal with attacks from Israel that have claimed many Palestinian civilian lives.	"The United Nations Security Council emergency meeting." By emphasizing the word "emergency," the title shows that the Israeli attack on Palestine is getting more severe and causing more deaths. The Palestinian-Israeli conflict is on the rise.
Exemplaar	republika.co.id stated that Palestine, through Foreign Minister Riyad Al-Maliki, urged the United Nations to stop Israel's crimes against Palestinian children because of the enormous number of children who died in Palestine	kompas.com stated that the United Nations Security Council held an emergency meeting to end the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, which has claimed many lives, mainly Palestinian civilians.
Depiction	Palestine assembled exertions by sending diplomacy to Foreign Minister Riyad Al-Maliki at the United Nations Security Council meeting and urging the United Nations to stop Israel's crimes against children.	The United Nations Security Council assembled exertions by holding an emergency meeting to stop the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, which has claimed many lives.
Visual Images	Image of Palestinian children feeling the adverse effect of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.	Image of the explosion that lit up the night sky in Gaza due to the bombardment of weapons from Israel.
Roots	The recent conflict in Gaza has escalated after the Palestinians promised to avenge the Israeli attacks on Al-Aqsa Mosque and Sheikh Jarrah. So the cause of the escalating conflict between the two countries is the Palestinian promise to retaliate against Israel.	The Israeli airstrikes pounding Gaza since May 10 came after the ruling Hamas fired a barrage of rockets following Israeli-Palestinian clashes in East Jerusalem. So the cause of increased Israeli attacks due to Palestinians firing rockets at Israel.
Appeals to Principles	The Organization of Islamic Cooperation explains that the Al-Aqsa Mosque is a red line for Muslims, so United Nations should defend the security and stability of the mosque.	The United Nations Security Council was responsible for international peace and security, strives to take immediate action to resolve the Palestinian-Israeli conflict

Consequences	Palestine urges United Nations Security Council to stop crimes against Palestinian children victims of Israeli attacks.	As a result of the increasing number of Palestinian-Israeli conflicts, the United Nations Security Council held an emergency meeting to stop the conflict.
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Source: Researcher Processed Data, 2021

Table 3 explains that *republika.co.id*'s reporting on May 18, 2021, through the stages of framing and reasoning, emphasizes that Palestine provokes the United Nations to stop Israel's crimes against children due to many casualties from Palestinian children. Reporting with visual images of Palestinian children feeling the adverse effect of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict supports the framing of *Republika.co.id*. Meanwhile, *kompas.com* reporting through framing analysis and reasoning, explained that the United Nations Security Council held an emergency meeting due to Israeli attacks on Palestine, causing many Palestinian civilian deaths and causing extensive damage. The United Nations Security Council should take an immediate step. In its reporting, *kompas.com* used a visual image of an explosion that lit up the night sky in Gaza, Palestine, to strengthen the perception and framing that Gaza Palestine was in an emergency condition and needed immediate solving.

Discussion

Mass media plays a significant role in constructing information or news publications. Mass media is needed as a medium to acquire information, current factual information, data accuracy, accountability from news writers, and media ethics. No element of interest or power reduces the accuracy of the news. However, with various underlying reasons, both technically, economically, and ideologically, the mass media often present

the reality of the news regulated to reduce the accuracy of news (Siswanti, 2019).

The research results on *republika.co.id* and *kompas.com* in the comparable date period showed that both media described their point of view and presented the news with their respective framing of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

The media can display news with subjective views and objectives related to political and economic interests (Biagi, 2010). The quality of media coverage that contains conflicts between two or more parties can lead to two possibilities: expanding the escalation of the conflict and helping to resolve the conflict. The mass media are expected to reveal news based on aspects of the situation and the root of the problem to enhance the situation (Siebert, 1986).

The news presentation by the two most popular online media in Indonesia represents that the conflict between Palestine and Israel is a severe problem and should be resolved by the international organization, specifically the United Nations Security Council. The two media both desired to highlight that the Palestinian-Israeli conflict continues to escalate. However, the United Nations Security Council as the person in charge of international security has not taken decisive action to resolve the conflict so that the dead victim continues to grow.

republika.co.id tends to frame the news by highlighting the United Nations Security Council's failure to protect Palestine. The word

"failed" used by Republika.co.id explained that the United Nations Security Council, which had the responsibility for international security, had failed and could not resolve the conflict. Israeli attacks on Palestinian Gaza have killed 197 people. Seventeen people were killed in the West Line because Palestinians protested against Israel.

Information packaged by republika.co.id is clarified with visual images in the form of rocket attacks hitting Palestine. The conclusion is that republika.co.id describes more support for Palestine. This image raises the perception that republika.co.id, the national media, supports Palestine in the conflict. republika.co.id aim to raise the image of Palestine, which is in dire need of international support. This framing results from the mass media's role as an industry that pays attention to the satisfaction of its audience (Hamad, 2004). republika.co.id also has a political interest to get more support from its community, especially the Muslim community, to increase its media revenue. The attitude shown by republika.co.id follows Mc Quail's theory that the media will construct news according to the dominant class, the audience.

Meanwhile, kompas.com, with the United Nations Security Council's news frame, has not taken action on the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. kompas.com emphasized the news frame of the United Nations Security Council meeting to discuss the Palestinian-Israeli conflict despite not taking significant action, so the victims' death persisted in increasing. kompas.com emphasizes its role as a neutral mass media, framing the news by informing the development of the conflict and the steps of the United Nations Security Council in overcoming the Palestinian-Israeli conflict

without siding with one of the parties. This framing is supported by a visual image of the United Nations Security Council's visual meeting discussing the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

Conclusion

News of the Palestinian and Israeli conflicts are international news that is packaged and framed differently by republika.co.id and kompas.com. The characteristics of the media influence its framing. The reality of occurrences is framed in the framing device and reasoning device. republika.co.id highlighted the news that the United Nations Security Council failed to deal with the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and tried to raise the image of Palestine, which desperately needs international support. Meanwhile, kompas.com reported the conflict neutrally.

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