

## 71. Ukrayna-Rusya savařı hakkında internet haberlerinin incelenmesi: Derlem tabanlı eleřtirel söylem çözümlemesi analizi

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### Öz

Tarihsel olarak, eleřtirel söylem analizi terimi uzun zaman boyunca kalıpları detaylı bir şekilde anlamak ve açađa çıkarmak amacıyla dil ve bađlam arasındaki iliřkinin incelemesine atfedilmiřtir. Özgül ve artan bir şekilde önemli bir söylem çözümlemesi türü olarak, haber söylemleri de eleřtirel söylem alanına büyük ölçüde katkı sađlamıřtır Dahası, ayrıntılı analiz okuyuculara bölgesel ve kültürel önyargılar hakkında yüksek farkındalıđa yol ačan bakıř açıları konusunda fikir edinmelerine yardımcı olur. Bahsedilen özellikler dođrultusunda, bu makale süregelen Ukrayna-Rusya savařına bađlı haber söylemlerinin kapsam alanı dahilinde eleřtirel söylem konularına deđinme giriřiminde bulunmuřtur. Yaygın sözcüksel öđeleri incelemek amacıyla dizin ve sıklık tabloları yardımıyla derlem tabanlı nicel bir yaklařım uygulanmıřtır. İki internet haber sitesi arasında istatistiksel olarak önemli bir fark olmamasına rađmen, Rusya'nın aleyhinde sunulan anlatım ve detaylı söylem analizi BBC ve Al Jazeera haber sitelerinin haberleri son derece Ukraynalı bakıř açısından servis etme eđiliminde olduklarını ortaya çıkarmıřtır.

**Anahtar kelimeler:** Eleřtirel söylem çözümlemesi, haber söylemi, Ukrayna-Rusya savařı, bakıř açıları, haber medyası

## Investigation of online news about Ukraine-Russia war: A corpus-based critical discourse analysis

### Abstract

Historically, the term critical discourse analysis has long been attributed to the investigation of relationship between language and context in order to elaborately understand and unveil the patterns. As a specific and increasingly important discourse genre, news discourse has greatly contributed to the field of CDA as well. Furthermore, the in-depth analysis helps readers to gain insight into the point of views, which lead to higher awareness about the regional and cultural biases. In the light of remarked features, this article attempted to address the issues of CDA within the scope of news discourse related to the ongoing Ukraine-Russia war. A corpus-based quantitative approach was implemented for the purpose of examining the common lexical items with the help of the concordances and frequency tables. Even though there was no statistically significant difference between two news websites, the narration presented against Russia and detailed discourse analysis

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revealed that the BBC and Al Jazeera news websites remarkably tend to serve the news from a Ukrainian point of view.

**Keywords:** Critical discourse analysis, news discourse, ukraine-russia war, perspectives, news media

## 1. Introduction

Throughout the centuries, news held a prominent position in societies and the dynamics of the societies have deeply been shaped through the inevitable impact of news, leading to new mainstream movements and rejuvenation of ideas in societies. Therefore, the demonstrations of news with various perspectives are generally conceptualized as key factors in determining both global and local styles of understanding, interpreting about facts, events and groundbreaking historical moments. Given the importance of demonstration, it is also essential to mention that the distribution of news is fundamental and the preferred channels used for spreading news plays a vital role. Accordingly, the term of news values tend to be based on the ethics of journalism and the required framework to access trustworthy latest developments. According to a highly experienced journalist, (J.Sergeant, 2001) in terms of news values, journalists rely on innate tendency rather than a logical way of thinking. In addition, as (O’neill, Harcup, 2009) states, news values are slippery concepts due to their ambiguous, difficult to track structures through which multiple meanings and comments can be established. As a new part of news, online news development accelerated rapidly along with the latest developments in technology and IT system all around the world. Undoubtedly, the concept of online news has seen conflicted with the traditional ways of news representations and distributions. With the intention of discovery and interpretation of news, there appears a key term to shed a light on due to the fact that variations in news lead inevitable complex misconceptions. Leeuwen (2009) mentions that discourse interprets social cognitive structure “that is aimed at providing the interest areas of specific historical and/or social contexts”. Central to the entire discipline of discourse and discourse analysis, since the present study is based on the online news, it is necessary to further investigate the written form of discourse. Basically, written discourse can be conceptualized under the clear definition of transformational flows of information through the assistance of texts and language structures. The necessity to negotiate individual and social variations in writing has grown in importance as a result of the widespread recognition of language diversity and globalization. The fundamental need for analyzing news has been attributed to the area of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), which has created a milestone in analyzing the news. In his review, (van Dijk, 2005) brings a definition to CDA, implying that Critical discourse analysis (CDA) is a type of discourse analytical research that initially studies the way social power mistreatment, supremacy, inequality and discrimination are founded, reproduced, and prevented through text and communication in the social and political contexts. With such objecting research, critical discourse analysts hold a prominent position, and thus aiming at understanding, exposing, and eventually resisting social inequality that is observed within the discourse structure. News discourse is one of main analysis subjects of critical discourse analysis. Readers and writers share a common ground where a high density of information flow by which cohesion, coherence and lexical density can be integrated into a whole part as discrete points. In other words, readers can make estimations based on the opinions implied by the author and grasp the real situation of the events described in the discourse by critical discourse analysis, involving the contextual awareness and language structures. However, far too little attention has been paid to news analysis consisting corpus-based data about specific and historical events that have made deep impacts on the lives of individuals. Corpus-based data paves the way for elaborated observations of linguistics and contextual factors that may be hidden in spontaneous or qualitative evaluations.

Similarly, as (Baker, 2006) states, huge collections of text called corpora are used to represent a particular type of language. Since they are electronic, complex calculations can be performed on them, which can provide insights into language that are difficult to distinguish from the text itself. The central issue of highlighting the contradictions and similarities suffers from inadequate number of studies. As a result of this, the present study aims to examine the ongoing Ukraine-Russia war with the chosen written patterns and understanding the showed tendency towards conflict sides. The damaging effects of Ukraine-Russia war have inevitably felt in many parts of world ranging from economical struggles to the political and logistics with a scarcity in basic goods, energy supplies. To put it simply, the negative results surpass the borders of involve countries and spread to the other nations across Europe, thus making it as a central topic for the entire world due to the ideological and economical role of Europe. With the aim of establishing a ground for the study, two online web sites are selected. Firstly, BBC Worlds News, which is located in UK and broadcasting in English 24 hours a day in many countries across the world, with the intention of reaching billions of people. Secondly, Al Jazeera English, which is originated from Qatar, a middle-eastern country, is chosen. As previously stated, in order to lay a clear foundation about the perceptions of Ukraine-Russia war, sides are selected in a sensitive way to detect opposite point of views due to the fact that these online news websites provide a variety stemming from their geographical locations, integrating the perceptions of West and East, thus creating a sufficient opportunity circle through which we can analyze and interpret the construction of social realities. Therefore, the study attempts to find precise answers to two research questions based on the intention of increasing the awareness about the war's news interpretation and contextual analysis.

RQ1: What are the commonly used lexical formations in the news of BBC and Al Jazeera concerning Ukraine-Russia war?

RQ2: Is there a significant difference between the perspectives of investigated online news sites?

## 2. Literature Review

### 2.1. Critical Discourse Analysis

Critical Discourse analysis (CDA) attempts to investigate the sentences in a specified and detailed way. CDA is considered to be crucial on how discourse structures influence and conjures up mental images. Van Dijk, 1985) concludes that in a broader level, through the lens of people, the importance of information may be influenced through the topics linked to their mental models. Themes, intended meanings, cohesion of the sentences, and preferred usage of linking help to bright the latent information to light. According to (Fairclough, 1989), CDA has addressed the issue of the ideological characteristic discourse, involving the language, social perspectives, structures, supplying the audiences with the straightforward aspects of ongoing events. The importance lies at the heart of gaining neutral point of views, which also lead to developing higher critical thinking skills in individuals.

### 2.2. News Discourse

Due to the variety of news and CDA analyses, from an explanatory point of view, (Drid ,2018) emphasized that considering its effective impact in information spreading, news discourse has captivated the attention of scholars from various disciplines, such as communication theory, semiotics, semantics, sociology, psychology, media studies, linguistics and others. In his study, (van Dijk, 1983) mentioned that news is not solely based on the description of the facts, but on a specific kind that aims

at building the reality with regards to the norms and values of some society. News also indicate that production of so-called redesigned news is part of a complex of professional routines for the management of possible, existing sources, leading to the successive interaction among journalists, and the probable extent of formulations that are created to provide a tricky reality. Accordingly, most of the news is often criticized for misleading the audiences. (Develotte, C., & Rechniewski, E., 2001) also implied that one of the obvious challenges encountered while examining the press and news is reaching to a valid conclusion, since the time-consuming and illusive nature of discourse analysis increases the difficulty level to deal with the detailed analysis of a large number of articles. The interpretation of news texts may appear in a wrong way leading to confusion cycle in terms of the intentions of the writers and readers. However, what diversifies the interpretation considerably stems from the selected discourse, in other words, the language used to express the events happening. (Hosseini, 2016) expressed that people tend to rely on a variety of sources to access news about the world, predominantly about their own surroundings, point of views and perceptions. Considering this type of structure of news, they may take advantage of internal or foreign news, which extend their ideas beyond what already constructed with the existing and consistent ideological around them. For that purpose, to observe the structure of news designing and distributing in-depth, (Foucault, 1971) stated that “in every society production of discourse is somewhat controlled, selected, organized and redistributed by a selected number of procedures whose role to protect off its powers and dangers, to gain expertise over its changing events, to avoid its doubtful, formidable materiality”. The context through which news represented plays a vital role in shaping the nature of news discourse. As conflicts have always been interpreted from a biased point of views, presentations and discourse analyses become more challenging in terms of values, perceptions. In line with this, to demonstrate the importance of social structures, (S. Moscovici, 1977) declared that the function of social representations in creating the knowledge frameworks that guide our interpretation and response to events. In other words, he tries to support the claim that this "knowledge" is not like the rational, ratified world of scientific discourse but rather a common-sense, consensual world into which certain scientific knowledge fragments have infiltrated, though in popularized and deficiently understood forms and mixed with other kinds of knowledge. However, it is important to bear in mind that the tendency showed towards another side may diminish the trustworthiness of a news source.

### 2.3. Ukraine-Russia War

The ongoing Ukraine-Russia war has extremely grasped the attention of the media and inevitably left a considerable impact in each side since the dawn of war. As stated by ( M. Khudaykulova & Yuanqiong & A. Khudaykulova, 2022) military conflicts have had a considerable impact on the regional and global economy, regarding economic, trade and monetary devastation, loss of production and labor capacity, resources and livelihoods. According to (Bin-Nashwan et al., 2022) even though the world was holding to the tiny expectations with the exhausted state of condition at the start of 2022 by taking unsteady steps out of COVID-19 and towards economic recovery the Russia–Ukraine ongoing dispute – began in February 2022 – has deeply traumatized the whole world, leading to the fresh and successive waves of grave humanitarian and economic crisis, which already have had devastating impacts with the pandemic. Moreover, (Jawaid, Gomolka, Timmer, 2022) pointed out that since the dawn of the war, Ukrainian individuals have been undergoing ‘heavy trauma’, which mixed and integrated with different exposures to trauma, commonly in a sequential style. Individuals are gradually exposed to different forms of trauma: fear of death, grief, separation from families, social isolation, social anxiety, sleep disorders and so on. The served captions of the war have been regarded as crucial points to conceptualize the latest news from an unbiased perspective. With the intention of proving the predominant

importance of the organization and structures of news texts, this article aims at using a corpus-based study that can pave the way for exploring the language use in Ukraine war news. The primary focus is on a precise categorization.

### 3. Methodology

#### 3.1. Data Collection

In line with the primary aim of this study, a quantitative corpus-based approach was implemented to see the word density and contextual structures of news. The present corpus-based study consists of the war news of BBC and Al Jazeera English online news website in the last three months of 2022, starting from October, November and lastly December. The news was taken from news websites' special categories that were only based on Russia-Ukraine war developments. BBC News online, which was firstly founded in 1997 and attracted billions of people, was chosen due to the fact that its functionality and supremacy over other western media supplier. According to a research conducted by communication services regulator (Ofcom, 2019), in March 2019, the BBC News website was the most visited news site in the UK, with 64% of the adult online population, which was an astonishing number. Today, it runs 50 foreign offices and recognized as one of the mainstream news website of Western World. The corpus that based on last three months of Ukraine-Russia war in BBC News website includes 62,260 tokens in total, running words in the text. Al Jazeera English, which firstly broadcasted in 2006, holding studios in Doha, London, and Washington D.C. More importantly, it is known to be the first English language based news channel that is based in Middle East. In the study, the reason for the selection of Al Jazeera lies at the heart of the desire to see patterns used in language and point of views from eastern perspectives, when compared to BBC, which is a western foundation. The corpus is based on the last three months of Ukraine-Russia War in Al Jazeera includes 23,748 tokens in total. The selected news was predominantly based on the political context with the aim of showing sides' aggressions, moves, strategies and the gradual changes that can be seen over three months.

#### 3.2 Data Analysis

As software programs primarily used by linguists, WordSmith Tools 8.0 version and AntConc text analysis were implemented in the analysis section of the selected and gathered corpus. The lists and concordances were designed with the alterations. The article such as "the, a, an", pronouns "he, she, it, they" as well as conjunctions "but, also, however" were excluded to ensure that the overview linear of list provides the suitable word contexts. The most common words were analyzed with distribution analysis. In addition to this, frequencies were also taken into account in order to understand the popular expressions that were used during the news collection months. Furthermore, concordances of countries and leaders were elaborately interrogated with the exception of reaching awareness about war, whether the news were narrated from a biased point of view or demonstrated with a sense of international ethics, as previously stated, based on the news values.

### 4. Results

Analyzed with the WordSmith Tool and AntConc programs, statistics were revealed in the light of tables below. First part of results show BBC statistics while second reveals Al Jazeera corpus.

**Table 1** BBC News word list of top 20 including countries, leaders and vocabulary of war context

N	Word	Freq.	%	Dispersion
1	RUSSIA	567	0,91	0,94
2	UKRAINIAN	333	0,53	0,93
3	PRESIDENT	268	0,43	0,96
4	PUTIN	199	0,32	0,89
5	KHERSON	198	0,32	0,63
6	MILITARY	185	0,30	0,87
7	KYIV	172	0,28	0,88
8	UKRAINE'S	162	0,26	0,92
9	NUCLEAR	157	0,25	0,76
10	ZELENSKY	155	0,25	0,85
11	DEFENCE	139	0,22	0,85
12	POWER	135	0,22	0,83
13	TROOPS	127	0,20	0,86
14	MOSCOW	115	0,18	0,90
15	ENERGY	114	0,18	0,86
16	ATTACKS	112	0,18	0,79
17	STRIKES	110	0,18	0,73
18	COUNTRIES	108	0,17	0,88
19	INVASION	107	0,17	0,87
20	WEAPONS	103	0,17	0,80

As shown in Table 1, what can be clearly seen is that Russia's dominance at the top of frequency demonstration, starting with Russia (%0, 91) and holding another position at the 3rd of the list, with the leader of Russia, Vladimir Putin, (%0, 43) .In broad view, the reason lies in the fact that Russia was the side that kicked off the war at the beginning of the period. One of the striking patterns is the unexpected position of a Ukrainian city, named as Kherson, which was an unknown, small city before the war. The dramatic increase stems from the geographical location of the city, since it is regarded as a gateway to Black Sea and Crimea, which is also another strategic area. Additionally, apart from the country, city and leaders names, there appears a specific word that is attributed to the definition of the war, invasion. The concordance of the invasion will be further demonstrated, however, it is notable to highlight the high frequency of invasion, which may point out to hidden perspective of war narrators relied on the tendency showed towards a particular side.

**Table 2** BBC News Top 10 list including the frequently mentioned names related countries

N	Word	Freq.	%	Dispersion
1	UK	84	0,13	0,82
2	IRAN	40	0,06	0,62
3	EUROPE	35	0,06	0,82
4	FRANCE	27	0,04	0,57

5	GERMANY	23	0,04	0,73
6	TURKEY	15	0,02	0,71
7	BELARUS	15	0,02	0,34
8	CHINA	14	0,02	0,53
9	KOREA	12	0,02	0,45
10	INDIA	9	0,01	0,54

The data in table 2 demonstrates that the sequential list of countries with regard to the frequency rates except the conflict sides. With a percentage 0,13, UK, which is also the home of BBC World Services, holds the first position followed by Iran, a country that has always been on controversial side when West and East confronted. The crucial fact to highlight here is that while UK was highly viewed on the side of Ukraine, on the contrary, Iran was criticized for providing drones to Russia before and during the war. Interestingly, European Countries such as France, Germany and Turkey, seemed to be mentioned more commonly when compared to Asian ones, China, Korea and India. However, it should be again noted that the provider of news plays a key role in showing and distribution of the context, which is a fact that can be taken into consideration via dispersion rates in the table, as well.

### Concordances

To begin with, the fact that concordance provides the presentation of selected words or word groups that are expectedly in harmony with appropriate lines is an indispensable reason for selection. What distinguishes the concordance from the general list is the opportunity to see the deeper sides of texts, involving in-depth patterns of words. Undoubtedly, most of corpuses include many different patterns in text. Moreover, large amounts of data has always been tackled with a qualitative insights into which a logical explanation can't be inserted, leading to a confusion in the area where linguists have always found themselves with the exception of further analysis. As a consequence of this, concordance brings sufficient representation regarding the computer-mediated systems, utilizing the most prominent factors of linguistics and lexical awareness. That is, so as to keep the mainstream of text away from a generalized formation, a concordance was needed. In this regard, the word, "Invasion" was chosen because of the vital role it plays in examining the contextual perspectives of BCC News editors. To put it differently, the aim was analyzing the patterns used with the word "Invasion", especially countries that were used after and before the invasion word. Secondly, the "Western" word was chosen due to the proximity of the context, especially for the Ukrainian side but it also describes the way how Russia is treated in the BBC News. The following words shed a light on the contextual difference that can be traced in-depth analysis.

**Concordance 1**

BBC Online News, a set of lines demonstrating contextual invasion usage

renaissance" amid contesting narratives in the wake of Russia's	invasion	of Ukraine in late February. He on Tuesday, where
south-eastern Ukrainian port now occupied by Russia since its	invasion	of Ukraine in February. Investigators and journalists found what
businesses as well as allies of President Putin since the	invasion	of Ukraine in February. Elon Musk has denied reports
and ally, and its territory was used in Moscow's	invasion	of Ukraine in February. As well as China and
said Ukraine was firing missiles at it. Since the Russian	invasion	of Ukraine in February, from Ukraine across Europe, including
Buschmann. Russian President Vladimir Putin - who ordered a full-scale	invasion	of Ukraine on 24 February - and other senior Kremlin officials
came to similar conclusions. Russia - which launched a full-scale	invasion	of Ukraine on 24 February - has made no public comments
carefully chosen for the meeting. Within Russia, opposition to his	invasion	of Ukraine has been growing. Across the country, groups
the special military operation", referring to Moscow's full-scale	invasion	of Ukraine launched on 24 February. The ministry added that
and ally, Alexander Lukashenko in Minsk on Monday. The February	invasion	of Ukraine was launched in part from that country
ranging speech on Thursday, he sought to justify Russia's	invasion	of Ukraine, a move that has left his country
year, falling in February at the start of Russia's	invasion	of Ukraine, but then rising significantly in the following
on the world market. In the wake of Russia's	invasion	of Ukraine, global oil prices soared to more than \$120
the other side. Almost eight months on from Russia's	invasion	of Ukraine, its forces are struggling while Ukraine has
are, and who should be defending them. Since Russia's	invasion	of Ukraine, Moscow's diplomats, who once strode purposefully
Cheaper oil is driving the flow to Asia Following its	invasion	of Ukraine, Russia had fewer buyers for its Ural

As illustrated in Concordance I, it is extremely apparent that the usage of invasion has been conceptualized within a Ukrainian point of view. No data was found to be related with the Russian diplomacy implying that the country has only conducted these operations in favor of its protection, not as an invasion. Obviously, the lexical choice indicates that the recognition of the war was reasonably investigated and demonstrated under the roof of invasion, with the attachment of Russia, which is a term meaning occupying one's land with force or in a way that is opposed to law. Since the dawn of the war, there has been a great deal of debates concerning the territorial issues.

**Concordance 2**

BBC Online News, a set of lines demonstrating contextual Western usage

Left Context	Hit	Right Context
Russia declared it was annexing on Friday. Ukraine and its	Western	allies have dismissed the move as an illegal land-
regions which Moscow declared it was annexing. Ukraine and its	Western	allies have dismissed the move as an illegal land-
war in Ukraine", the US says. The cap, approved by	Western	allies on Friday, is aimed at stopping countries paying
Volodymyr Zelensky has criticised a price cap set by his	Western	allies on Russian oil exports, calling it "weak". The
Ukraine of carrying out the attack. ADVERTISEMENT Meanwhile, Ukraine's	Western	allies continued to harden their stance, with Nato's
Iranian drones breach sanctions The US says it agrees with	Western	allies that Iran's supply of explosive drones to
to retaliate. The UK and US were among Ukraine's	western	allies to condemn the latest strikes, with British Foreign
material and the Russian allegations have been widely rejected by	Western	countries as false. Kyiv warned the claims indicate Moscow
PM has said in her conference speech. Liz Truss criticised	western	countries for allowing themselves to become "dependant" on authoritarian
s explosion on a key bridge linking Russia to Crimea.	Western	countries have already placed widespread sanctions against Russian busine

In concordance II, the appearance of Western word and its sentential position showed the mutual relationship and solidarity towards Ukraine, whether it stems from ideological differences or not. The emphasis laid on a solid foundation with the support of word “Allies” which provides a joint movement against an ideology or military campaign. The “Western” word was used with the intention of providing the ideological sympathy towards Ukraine, accordingly with the support of Europe Union, which has always declared the support for Ukraine. The linguistic power adjustment and strategies strengthen the assumption that the perspectives of the war are being portrayed through the particular designs of Western World. In addition, the leader of Ukrainian side, Zelensky was appearing in most of the context related with the Western world, demonstrating the existence figure of the authoritative leaders through the lens of BBC News. As it appears, the features of news was trying to conjure up a brutal Russia image in the minds of readers through the aggressive, accusing lexical preference towards Russia, ranging from usage of the accusation word with Russia, saying that the country gradually launch several missiles in multiple Ukrainian cities, cutting the electricity, causing a fear of bombs and making individuals’ lives worse day by day.

### Concordance 3

BBC Online News, a set of lines demonstrating contextual Iran usage

drone pilots. Previously, Tehran denied the accusations, but on Saturday	Iran'	s foreign minister said a small number of the
Kremlin, and Moscow also denies using Iranian drones. On Wednesday,	Iran'	s Foreign Minister Hossein Amir-Abdollahian called the accusations "
allies and partners to expose, to deter, and to counter	Iran'	s provision of these weapons," Mr Blinken said. In
US will "pursue all means" to "expose, deter and confront	Iran'	s provision of these munitions against the Ukrainian people",
in Ukraine today are actually dying as a result of	Iran'	s actions." DECEMBER 12 Ukrainian forces have struck a headquarters
and Russia to produce drones would be harmful to Ukraine,	Iran'	s neighbours and the international community. "Russia is seeking
Resolution 2231, the US State Department said. That resolution, linked to	Iran'	s nuclear accord, bars Iranian transfers of certain military
admitted By Elsa Maishman & Sam Hancock BBC News Russia and	Iran'	s relationship has warmed to a fully fledged defence
sanctions The US says it agrees with Western allies that	Iran'	s supply of explosive drones to Russia violates UN
after the attacks on power stations. Western officials have accused	Iran'	of supplying drones to Russia and of providing personnel
of lethal drones, he adds. It comes after Ukraine accused	Iran'	of supplying Russia with "kamikaze" drones used in deadly
Russia would struggle to train them. Ukraine war: Zelensky accuses	Iran'	of lying over Russia support A drone, believed to
in an address on his Telegram channel, President Zelensky accused	Iran'	of lying " even in this confession". The 44-year-old
Iran now Russia's 'top military backer' Ukraine has accused	Iran'	of sending drones to Russia, which the Middle Eastern

As illustrated in Concordance III, Iran, which has long been known as one of the closest allies of Russia, was seen accused of helping to Russia. The frequency of words used after and before Iran was also analyzed with the scope of relation. As it is illustrated, “Iran” words were used supplying drones to although the Iranian officials have always rejected the accusations. In addition, the Ukrainian leader, Zelensky, whose accusations about Russia was taken into account with the extensive emphasis provided through the lens of BBC News. As the term itself, accusations lead the reader to an area in which they find themselves in the shadows of ambiguity and skepticism. With the aim of providing an in-depth analysis, the relation and likelihood scores were demonstrated in the table below.

**Table 3** “Iran” associated with likelihood and frequency effects.

Collocate	Rank	Freq(Scaled)	Likelihood	Effect
supplying	1	160	43.254	5.833
drones	2	910	34.913	3.840
lying	3	70	26.851	6.219
supplied	4	150	20.750	5.119
Russia	5	7340	17.446	1.676

The statistics in the table 3 indicates that as Iran mentioned in the news, also the probability of seeing “Drones” word increases due to the accusations. To simplify, Iran has been regarded as the supplier of Russia when it comes to weapons, thus making Iran as strongly opposition to Ukrainian regime.

## Part II: Al Jazeera Statistics

**Table 4** Al Jazeera word list of top 20 including countries, leaders and vocabulary of war context

N	Word	Freq.	%	Dispersion
1	UKRAINE	437	1,84	0,96
2	RUSSIAN	350	1,47	0,94
3	RUSSIA	341	1,44	0,93
4	UKRAINIAN	226	0,95	0,92
5	WAR	110	0,46	0,93
6	US	107	0,45	0,92
7	FORCES	104	0,44	0,93
8	ZELENSKY	97	0,41	0,82
9	PUTIN	93	0,39	0,87
10	KYIV	92	0,39	0,91
11	KHERSON	91	0,38	0,81
12	NUCLEAR	84	0,35	0,84
13	DEFENCE	81	0,34	0,91
14	MOSCOW	79	0,33	0,83
15	POWER	75	0,32	0,83
16	ATTACKS	71	0,30	0,83
17	MINISTER	61	0,26	0,83
18	VOLODYMYR	56	0,24	0,87
19	ENERGY	50	0,21	0,92
20	MISSILE	48	0,20	0,78

As can be seen in Table 4, Ukraine holds the first position with %1,84 rate, as a sign of specific focus on the country when compared to BBC News which included Russia at the top. In this sense, another difference is the emergence of US at the 6th position with %0,45 rate. Furthermore, as shown in the list of BBC, Kherson was the mostly mentioned city whereas Kyiv, capital of Ukraine, takes the lead ahead of Kherson. The intertextual implications can be made through the lens of list, which shows strategic cities at the top as they are connected to the wires of ongoing conflict mainstreams and play a key role in

maintaining the pace of war, providing mutual opportunities. However, apart from the opportunities, they also pose a danger to the peace talks. Additionally, it is obvious to observe fear of nuclear attacks and energy issues.

**Table 5** Al Jazeera Top 10 list including the frequently mentioned names related countries

N	Word	Freq.	%	Dispersion
1	US	107	0,45	0,92
2	IRAN	21	0,09	0,61
3	EUROPE	20	0,08	0,54
4	GERMANY	18	0,08	0,42
5	BELARUS	15	0,06	0,38
6	BRITAIN	14	0,06	0,32
7	TURKEY	14	0,06	0,28
8	POLAND	13	0,05	0,22
9	FRANCE	10	0,04	0,19
10	ISRAEL	4	0,02	0,08

Apart from the sides of war, the countries that seem in the list symbolize the dominance of US, with %0,45 rate, in the news of Al Jazeera. In line with the list of BBC, Iran holds the second position due to the role it plays as an ally of Russia. Surprisingly, as another ally of Russia, Belarus is in the list holding 5th position. What distinguishes the list lies on the fact that allies of Russia were more apparent. Lastly, a Middle Eastern country, Israel, which has been known for the neutral position since the beginning of the war, can be seen in the list. Given that Al Jazeera is a media foundation whose origins were based on Middle East, the distribution and textual choice were also affected accordingly. It should be noted here that an awareness of the use of initial countries is vital for readers so that the interpretation may be beneficial in terms of the background information of news.

#### Concordance 4

Al Jazeera, a set of lines demonstrating contextual President usage

on Sunday; analysts predicted global wheat prices would leap. • Ukrainian	President	Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Russia was trying to create an
Russian attack was intercepted by air defences in Ukraine. • Ukrainian	President	Volodymyr Zelenskyy said his country would continue exporting grain
on a raised level of alert from Tuesday. NOVEMBER 2 • Ukrainian	President	Volodymyr Zelenskyy said a "reliable and long-term defence"
to the north and east of the strategic city. • Ukrainian	President	Volodymyr Zelenskyy said it was important to stand up
be one of the war's most important battles. • Ukrainian	President	Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the Donetsk region in the east
agness to engage in productive talks, Sullivan said. NOVEMBER 12 • Ukrainian	President	Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Ukrainian troops have entered Kherson city
ation of 200,000 conscripts. OCTOBER 7 • US President Joe Biden says Russian	President	Vladimir Putin's threat to use nuclear weapons is
s of Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries, including Russian	President	Vladimir Putin, are meeting for the CIS summit in
loss of which would be a big setback for Russian	President	Vladimir Putin, who wants to speed up decision-making
ready for talks with its future leader but not with	President	Vladimir Putin. • However, the Ukrainian president has put conditions
old photo of smoke detectors taken in Slovenia. OCTOBER 28 • Russian	President	Vladimir Putin showed no regrets for the war against
Russian yacht berthed in the city t OCTOBER 12 • United States	President	Joe Biden said he doubted whether Russian President Vladimir
Ukraine and urged countries not to recognise the move. • US	President	Joe Biden said he believe that his Russian counterpart
s week have been postponed. NOVEMBER 30 DECEMBER 1 DECEMBER 2 • US	President	Joe Biden said he is ready to meet Russia'

In Concordance 4, one of the sparking features is the inclusion of Joe Biden in the concordance list of mostly repeated presidents. As can be seen in the concordance, declarations of Joe Biden have been kept under the roof of Russian context. Furthermore, US, which is also at the top of the Al Jazeera's list, seemed to have a considerable impact on the side of the channel's website. Also, the name of Zelensky with the "President" tag has seen repeated more than Putin, which also can be investigated through the tendency showed towards Ukraine side, as in line with the mainstream media even though it is news channel who was originally based in Middle East.

**Table 6** "President" associated with likelihood and frequency effect.

Collocate	Rank	Freq(Scaled)	Likelihood	Effect
Volodymyr	1	560	219.185	4.036
Vladimir	2	480	165.373	3.917
Zelensky	3	970	163.582	3.268
Putin	4	930	130.978	3.115
Joe	5	200	87.530	4.148

Apart from the "Volodymyr" and "Vladimir", shown with the lexical choose of corpus program, considering the effects of two leaders, it is illustrated that Zelensky is ahead of Putin with a very little difference. In addition, as previously mentioned, the leader of United States also holds a position. The key point to highlight is that without the leader of US, the interpretation of war can be not possible or conducted through the lens of Al Jazeera.

### Concordance 5

Al Jazeera, a set of lines demonstrating contextual attacks usage

AL JAZEERA ...	affected by rolling power cuts caused by Russia's air	attacks	on the country's electricity infrastructure, according to President
AL JAZEERA ...	only after the completion of an investigation into recent drone	attacks	on the Crimean naval port of Sevastopol. Diplomacy and
AL JAZEERA ...	continued Russian attacks. • Russia on Sunday launched more than 10 rocket	attacks	on the Kupiansk district in the Kharkiv region, shelled
AL JAZEERA ...	calling on residents to evacuate from Kherson amid renewed Russian	attacks	on the southern city. • An Australian man, Sage O'
AL JAZEERA ...	military analyst Oleh Zhdanov said Russian forces launched several failed	attacks	on the town of Soledar, near Bakhmut, and had
AL JAZEERA ...	their security support on helping Ukraine defend against Russia's	attacks	on its energy grid "that President Putin has brutalised". •
AL JAZEERA ...	Minister Denys Shmyhal said Ukraine should prepare for new Russian	attacks	on its energy grid because Moscow wanted Ukrainians to
AL JAZEERA ...	rapid increase in Western military aid to defend against missile	attacks	on its cities. • In an interview with CNN, Biden
AL JAZEERA ...	no evidence of a reduced Ukrainian will to resist, despite	attacks	on its power grid and other critical winter infrastructure. •
AL JAZEERA ...	to penetrate hundreds of kilometres deep into Russian airspace with	attacks	on two Russian air bases. • A drone struck an
AL JAZEERA ...	personnel were killed in what it said were Ukrainian drone	attacks	on two Russian air bases hundreds of kilometres from
AL JAZEERA ...	new ability to penetrate hundreds of kilometres into Russia with	attacks	on two air bases. Diplomacy • US legislators agree to
AL JAZEERA ...	to expand its "hybrid war". OCTOBER 17 • Russian forces launched air	attacks	on Ukraine's capital for the second time in
AL JAZEERA ...	UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Turk said further	attacks	on Ukraine's infrastructure could lead to severe humanitarian
AL JAZEERA ...	state" for taking out energy infrastructure. • The Kremlin said the	attacks	on civilian infrastructure were a result of Ukraine failing
AL JAZEERA ...	Svitlana Onyshchuk said after the latest in a wave of	attacks	on critical infrastructure ahead of winter. • Ukraine will restrict
AL JAZEERA ...	raine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy warned against more potential Russian	attacks	on his country's energy infrastructure. • The mayor of

As illustrated in Concordance 5, "attacks" were commonly found on the Ukrainian side and often shown with the Russian aggression. The lexical choice points out that attacks collocated with "Russian attacks". However, it is an undeniable fact that Ukraine has carried out multiple attacks on the territory of Russia

as well. Interestingly, just two selection based on Russian side conducted by the Ukrainian drones, which probably provided to the country with the assistance of Europe Union and United States of America. Apparently, the attacks on Ukrainian parts, ports and energy infrastructure were demonstrated with an intensive emphasis compared to the statements consisting Russia on the other side. The in-depth analysis of “Attacks” with the concordance lines has contributed to the awareness of one-sided perception, which has often supported Ukrainian side and demonstrated the news accordingly with giving Russia the “bad identity” in the eyes of readers. When considered from an unbiased point of view, it is worth mentioning that the tendency of showing Russia in this respect may stem from the ideological issues of Western media and its cooperators.

## Concordance 6

Al Jazeera, a set of lines demonstrating contextual defence usage

by Russia, Poland's President Andrzej Duda said. • The Russian	defence	ministry denied the reports, describing them as "a deliberate
force with Belarusian troops have arrived in Belarus, Minsk's	defence	ministry has said. Diplomacy • Elon Musk said his rocket
trying to take, President Volodymyr Zelenskyy has said. • Russia's	defence	ministry has named Air Force General Sergei Surovikin as
defence systems have been deployed to Belarus, a senior Belarusian	defence	ministry official said on Sunday. • A top Ukrainian presidential
actions, because the civilian population should not suffer". • Russia's	defence	ministry said "more than 5,000 civilians" are being evacuated from
weapons, although Ukrainian countermeasures have been successful, Britain's	defence	ministry said. • Ukraine said seven vessels sailed from its
units in Ukraine, the Interfax news agency reported. • Russia's	defence	ministry took the rare step of denying allegations that
the shipments offered stability to world food markets. • Turkey's	defence	minister Hulusi Akar told his Russian counterpart Sergei Shoigu
so far, a Russian blockade has not been reimposed. • Turkish	defence	minister Hulusi Akar said he believed grain exports under
the Russian war against Ukraine and its consequences. • Turkey's	Defence	Minister Hulusi Akar said that Russia's war on
Kharkiv because of wet weather and the terrain, Ukraine's	defence	minister Oleksii Reznikov has said. • Russia continues to make
to-Air Missile Systems (NASAMS) and Apside air defence systems,	Defence	Minister Oleksii Reznikov said. • North Korea said it never
troops advanced 7km (4 miles) over the past 24 hours. • Ukraine's	Defence	Minister Oleksii Reznikov said Russia has not started real
sure of, will be our joint victory," he said. • Russian	Defence	Minister Sergei Shoigu held talks with his Belarusian counterpart.
had received as a gift from Ukraine. Russian military • Russian	Defence	Minister Sergei Shoigu inspected troops involved in Moscow's "
Security Council resolution. • US defence secretary Lloyd Austin and Russian	Defence	Minister Sergei Shoigu spoke for the first time since
in international airspace over the Black Sea on September 29, UK	defence	minister Ben Wallace said, in an apparent accident and

Concordance 6, the patterns of countries' defence ministers were revealed. As it appears, the emphasis on the Russia's defence minister is obvious in terms of the presence. Additionally, Turkey's Defence Minister usage is also common with the Ukrainian one. The diplomatic relationships between Qatar and Turkey may be the one of the salient reasons for the appearance of Turkey's defence minister in the Al Jazeera concordance list. Even though Turkey has approached the conflict from a neutral point of view, it is important to consider all of the involved countries since the interpretation of diplomacy is underlying fact of the comprehension regarding the dynamics of the countries and leaders, leading to higher awareness about the conflicts and relations.

## 5. Discussion

Perspectives have always been regarded as the prominent elements that help societies to explore and examine the various viewpoints regarding the attitudes, thoughts, beliefs and perceptions about facts. Considering the fact that the ideological conflicts are highly conceptualized as problems that can be solved through multiple negotiations due to the clarification that implies if a problem has no solution, then it may be not a problem but a fact to be coped over time. The demonstrations of Ukraine-Russia

news were examined accordingly. The overall results signify the unquestionable fact that backup of Western media has spread out the perceptions of Ukrainian side. Indeed, the image of Russia was conjured up with the expectation of serving the so-called image as brutal and war-criminal in the eyes of world. To illustrate the example, Iran, as an Asian country and known as one of the common allies of Russia, were almost equally in the news BBC  $x= 0, 06$  to Al Jazeera  $x= 0, 03$  as percentage statistics revealed. The weapon distribution and trade across countries have also taken into consideration. Originally developed to enhance the efficiency of air and observation supremacy, in addition, as can be observed from the Table 3, Iran has been accused of supplying drones to Russia since the dawn of the war. While the suppliers of Ukraine was emphasized with proud and cherished with the multiple foundations and organizations, however, supplying Russia with any weapons was recognized as an act of jeopardizing the peace of world. The lexical variety of "Invasion" was dominated through the lens of European sides as its extensive emphasis on the Ukrainian portrait. Furthermore, when the news was highlighted and analyzed through a considerably neutral point of view, the accusations directed to Russia was consisting of lexical context such as accusing Russia's leader for being a war criminal and as a country that is intended to oppose the international codes of rules. This sheds a light on the issue that lexical and tense choice were also in favor of Ukraine, mostly using the structures "Russia has been accused of" or "Zelensky has accused Russia of X" and with the more negative emphasis on Russia side. To enhance the reflexivity with regard to provided lexical density and intertextual features, concordances were elaborately selected with sensitivity. However, in the data collected from BBC News, the Russian leader's name was found to be more common when compared to Zelensky, which is also an interesting point. On the contrary, in Al Jazeera News, emphasis on Zelenksy's name was higher than Putin even though the difference was not significant. In consideration of second part related to Al Jazeera News, one of the implications can be made is that the reporters' choice regarding the power-holders of US and its role in determining the diplomacy negotiations between war sides. The consequence of putting US on the edge in news paves the way for the emergence of Joe Biden as an authoritarian figure who leads the Western World rather than the role of Europe Union. Apparently, in Table 6, he was the most popular leader after Zelensky and Putin. It is worth pointing out the remarks made by Biden has always indicated that he stands by Ukraine and thinks that Putin cannot remain in power any longer. To observe the lexical patterns in the concordance 5, it is notable to review the general overview of war. Since the beginning, a great deal of attacks conducted by both sides and although Russia was the side started the war, in other words, invasion, Ukraine has also carried out missile attacks on the territories of Russia. Despite this fact, both in BBC News and Al Jazeera, attacks were revealed within the concept of Russia. Overall, it was found that the statistical and contextual difference between BBC News and Al Jazeera English was not significant. The perspectives were identical in terms of lexical choice, tense distribution in sentences, sentential negations, the places of pronouns, prepositions, which conjure up the discourse patterns that determine the possible implications.

## 6. Conclusion

The paper has given an account of Ukraine-Russia war and its descriptive reflections through the lens of BBC News and Al Jazeera English. In general, this study strengthens the coherent reasons for the widespread lexical usages were examined with the mostly used word lists and concordances providing the distribution and positions of critical words in sentences. The various points of views regarding the Ukraine and Russia sides were investigated with the aim of reaching an overall conclusion about general tendency that is showed in the demonstration of news. Whether it is international or regional, in terms of a war, the approaches showed towards war are principally based on the ideological dimensions on which historical assumptions and perceptions are founded. In the light of these discourse assumptions

and statistics, the following conclusions can be drawn from the present study. Accordingly, through focusing on the in-depth analysis of “news discourse” patterns revealed the differences although there were no significant differences between two news website. Consequently, the analysis of lists and concordances revealed that news about the war, whether in lexical or schematic background implications, there was a strong positive emphasis on the Ukrainian side, stemming from the roots of European support due to the fact that Russia has always been portrayed as a potential threat to whole continent. Without doubt, it has been shown from every perspective that Ukrainians have suffered from the war since the beginning. However, the illustration of news and the used language seemingly attempted to diminish the unpleasant aspects for Ukraine and its society. One of the most striking results in the study may be embedded upon the ideological wars between Europe, US and Russia rather than Ukraine, which has functioned as a bridge throughout centuries. Besides the main countries, countries such as Iran, Belarus and Turkey were among the mostly mentioned ones, thus completing the holistic point of view that is based on an assumption of it is a large-scale war, not just a regional one. Additionally, the sanctions against Russia ranging from restrictions on sports, societies, and economy such as banning Russian banks from UK to the energy sector, restricting the oil and gas imports from Russia were also imposed with the intention of decreasing the Russian aggression and limiting the country’s power. The challenging restrictions have inevitable impacts on not only Russian government but the individuals. A notable example of this, banning Russia from all sport competitions across Europe poses a great danger to the careers of all Russian players. Moreover, as a society who was attempting to adopt the new world order after the end of cold-war , the traumatic feeling of being isolated from other parts of world may have long-lasting impacts on the lives of Russian individuals. These findings contribute in multiple ways to international and regional understanding of the point of views and perspective sides about the ongoing Ukraine-Russia war and provide a basis for. Therefore, the present study has focused on two news web sites and the news in last three months. The issue of investigation linguistic patterns of online news is an intriguing design which could be usefully explored in further research. Furthermore, in order to examine different patterns, the number of investigated news websites may be increased in order to attain wider comprehension. Considering the mentioned facts, future research should be carried out to establish the bigger perceptions with wider sources and interpretations. Consequently, the duration of investigated news can be longer due to the fact that longitudinal data gathering may provide dynamic changes in an ongoing war, which eventually trigger the successive and major changes not only for the sides of war but also for the entire world.

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