

**Discourse Analysis of Ukraine War News Coverage:
The Case of AP vs. TASS**

ABSTRACT

This study investigates news coverage on Ukraine-Russia crisis reported by two prominent international news agencies, the Associated Press (AP) and the Russian news agency TASS. Based on assumption that news is ideology ridden and that news agency with different ideology produces different news coverage, the purpose of this study is to uncover the bias and ideology in news discourse. 127 news coverages are collected between February 24th, 2022 to September 22nd, 2022. 60 coverages are collected from Associated Press (AP), and 67 coverages are collected from Russia news agency TASS.

The main framework of this study is based on Halliday's Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), as it emphasizes on the function of language in society. Since this research focuses on how the world is discursively represented and how the news discourse presents the agency's idea about the war, analysis on transitivity system is employed since it aims to unravel the ideational metafunction of language. The system interprets how language presents the experience through a manageable collection of process types namely: material processes, mental processes, relational processes, behavioral processes, verbal processes and existential processes. All the coverages collected as data are analyzed by the system of transitivity and divided into six processes. The findings showed that, according to AP, the use of material processes is highly dominant among all the six processes,

since in its presented clauses Russia portrayed as an actor performing actions, by using verbs: bombard, shell, attack etc., to the goal in the clauses, Ukraine. Whereas, TASS news coverages employed verbal processes as a prominence by presenting Russia as a sayer expressing the verbiages to the receivers, media outlets. The frequent use of material processes and verbal processes by the selected news agencies reflected the bias, stance, and ideology embedded in news coverages. For instance: in AP coverages, Ukraine is mentioned as an object in clauses or the victim of the action of Russia. On the other hand, according TASS coverages, in the clauses used material process verbs, Ukraine is mentioned as a subject while Russia serves as the object.

In conclusion, this study demonstrates the significance of transitivity analysis as a valuable instrument for analyzing news discourse. Moreover, it contributes to a broader understanding of the mechanism by which media outlets could sway the public opinion and influence mindset of individual.