



INTERNATIONAL DOCTORAL  
SCHOOL OF THE USC

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PhD Thesis

THE ARAB AND EUROPEAN  
DIGITAL NATIVE MEDIA  
COVERAGE ABOUT EACH  
OTHER. ANALYSIS OF MEDIA  
IN SEVERAL Countries: Spain,  
Portugal, France And Lebanon,  
Iraq, And Saudi Arabia

Santiago de Compostela, 2022







# DOCTORAL THESIS

**THE ARAB AND EUROPEAN DIGITAL NATIVE  
MEDIA COVERAGE ABOUT EACH OTHER.  
ANALYSIS OF MEDIA IN SEVERAL  
COUNTRIES: SPAIN, PORTUGAL, FRANCE  
AND LEBANON, IRAQ AND SAUDI ARABIA**

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ESCUELA DE DOCTORADO INTERNACIONAL DE LA UNIVERSIDAD  
DE SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

PROGRAMA DE DOCTORADO EN COMUNICACIÓN E INFORMACIÓN  
CONTEMPORÁNEA

SANTIAGO DE COMPOSTELA

2022





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Título de la tesis: **THE ARAB AND EUROPEAN DIGITAL NATIVE MEDIA COVERAGE ABOUT EACH OTHER. ANALYSIS OF MEDIA IN SEVERAL COUNTRIES: SPAIN, PORTUGAL, FRANCE AND LEBANON, IRAQ AND SAUDI ARABIA**

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INFORMA:

Que la presente tesis, se corresponde con el trabajo realizado por D/Dña **Mushira Nasr Allah Salem Alzyod**, bajo mi dirección/tutorización, y autorizo su presentación, considerando que reúne los requisitos exigidos en el Reglamento de Estudios de Doctorado de la USC, y que como director/tutor de esta no incurre en las causas de abstención establecidas en la Ley 40/2015.

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

As the Palestinian poet, fadwa touqan said about her life, "a mountainous journey, a difficult journey." The three years I spent preparing for my thesis was not a difficult journey, but it is the previous stages and experiences that I successfully overcame.

I am proud of myself, the girl from a village who was pushed by the life of herding sheep and farming to dream of something bigger. I never stopped writing dates for my academic stages and was absolutely confident that I would reach the Ph.D.

The trip over the past years would not have been possible without the support of my supervisor, Berta Garcia Orosa, and her observations and words of encouragement that she has always given me, during these years, and provided a lot of her very valuable scientific knowledge and experience, and it has been a great honor to work with you. I extend my sincere thanks and gratitude for all the support, advice, and encouragement during our work together.

Thank the University of Santiago de Compostela and its professors in general and the faculty of information and communications in particular for their tireless work to provide all knowledge, experience, and assistance, they made the past three years full of knowledge.

I would to extend my thanks and gratitude to University of Beira Interior in Portugal and Professor João Canavilhas for the valuable opportunity to have an invaluable knowledge experience, which was a qualitative addition on a personal and cognitive level.

Also, I want to thank my loving family for their unconditional support, and their belief in me and my ability to accomplish. I thank

my mother and father for their endless prayers, support and love despite the distances. I thank my brother, my lover, and my friend mjhem, who believed in me and took care of the expenses of my studies and never hesitated to provide support and assistance to me. "mjhem...Without you, I wouldn't be here now." I thank also my brother Mansour, who has a keen mind, transformed my life from a girl milking sheep to a journalist, and today I go on a new journey. I thank my brothers Abdalsalam, Abdalhakim, Majd, Rakan and my sisters Afaf, Sawsan, Nawara, and Raya.

I must thank the beautiful city Santiago de Compostela, you were my safe haven, and you were the reason for my development intellectually and spiritually, you were a unique experience in my life that I will never forget.

"Alhamdulillah"



## **EXTENDED SUMMARY**

This dissertation examines Arab and European digital native media coverage of issues related to the Arab world and Europe in 2020, twenty years after the events of 9/11, when the world witnessed many events that posed new challenges (political, economic, social, and media), including terrorist acts and large immigration movements from the Arab world to Europe, the Arab Spring and large demonstrations that swept the world. This situation in 2016 was accompanied by the election of Donald Trump as president of the United States and his failure in 2020, in addition to the controversies over foreign (in this case Russian) interference in election campaigns through the use of Artificial Intelligence. At the same time, the digital media were expanding with innovations that, at times, the proposed new management of information on world events and, therefore, modified the relationship between communication and power.

The thesis analyses media coverage in the two worlds from various formal and content aspects. The main objective is to analyze the image of Arabs in the European media and the image of Europeans in the Arab media. Media agendas, language, hate speech, stereotypical images of the other, as well as the importance of news, sources of information, and actors outside journalism who control their work are some of the categories studied. Methodological triangulation is used, combining literature review, content analysis, and in-depth interviews. We have worked with six digital native media, representing a sample from Europe and the Arab world (Spain, France, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, and Iraq).

The study explores these six digital native media, news related to the Arab world and Europe specifically in a time period that came after years of campaigning against racism, hate speech, stereotypes, and fake news, and emphasizes the need for impartiality, honesty, and professionalism in reporting, following the return of bloody terrorist

events to Europe at the end of 2020, a difficult year for the whole world with the spread of the Covid-19 virus, which led to exceptional and unprecedented measures of closures and curfews for months, economic and human losses of almost 1.5 million people.

First, the theoretical framework reviews previous studies similar to the thesis, innovations in digital journalism, and the influence of COVID 19, as well as focusing on the theoretical perspective used.

The thesis aims to do this by employing a wide range of scientific studies that analyze the media, social networks, and the dissemination of hate speech, racism, and stereotypes. It shows that the media and social networks were affected by the political, economic, and social changes that took place after 9/11, the Arab Spring, and the terrorist events in Europe. One of these is the attack on Charlie Hebdo magazine, where the debate on cartoons in France has returned to the return of bloody terrorist events in Europe in the late 2020s, years after the incident.

Readings from the theoretical framework showed that the media contribute to shaping the culture of societies and that there is confusion between Arab and Muslim in general, as Western media present news without distinguishing between these two concepts. The researchers considered that media coverage can enhance the formation of stereotypes, hatred, and racism to those who considered "others". This negative discourse intensifies after every terrorist event in Europe, in addition increase with the use of social networks -where the identity of the perpetrators is sometimes hidden-. The scientific literature stresses that there is no specific definition of hate speech, and the regulation of this discourse is complex because it sometimes raises the specter of the restriction of freedoms, in particular freedom of opinion and expression. The researchers also found that hate speech and racism have negative psychological and moral effects, which are offset by the lack of legal treatments for fear of the impact of these

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<sup>1</sup> In the morning of January 7, 2015, two brothers opened fire at the headquarters of Charlie Hebdo magazine on journalists and cartoonists, killing twelve people, including the editor, and seriously injuring four others (Miró Llinares, 2016 p.99)

laws. The theoretical framework also showed aspects of stereotypes and hate speech in Arab, Western, and European media in general. Jack Shaheen is considered to be one of the first to present studies and analyses of the image of Arabs in American media, films, comics, and novels, starting in 1983. In his studies, he found that the image of Arabs is distorted and stereotyped, linked to desert, wealth, violence, and aggression towards women and that this image became linked to terrorism after the events of 9/11.

Stereotyping, hate speech, and racism, according to studies, are not only directed at Arabs and Muslims but also at minorities such as blacks, Asians, Latinos, gays, women, and Jews. The image of Europe and the US as the 'West' in the Arab world is also stereotyped and linked to the political role played by these countries, their foreign policy, and their interference in political events and conflicts in the Arab world and Islamic countries. The image of Arabs is also linked to the Middle East, conflicts, wars, and oil, as it is a political, economic, and military image. As for the image of Europe for Arabs, it is linked to the continent that emerged from two world wars and formed a strong economic, political, and security union. However, the policy of this union toward the Arabs and their problems was conservative, and it failed to export its democratic experience to the Arab world despite the strategic importance of the Arab region to Europe. Arab writers also see Europe as having failed on a number of Arab dossiers, such as the Palestinian issue, the Arab spring, and the major changes that took place in Arab countries after 2011.

In Arab countries suffering from conflict and war, such as Syria, Lebanon, Iraq, Yemen, and Libya, the media are part of the dissemination of hate speech, not against the West or Europe, but against minorities, sects, and refugees within the country itself. Moreover, there are no clear and specific laws that hold this discourse accountable, and it is feared that the authorities use them to persecute activists, limit freedoms, and abuse laws, especially after the Arab Spring. The theoretical framework also discussed the great development that occurred in the media during the last twenty years and the technical development that affected the media and the role of

the journalist, in addition to the impact of the Corona pandemic on the media and the spread of hate speech.

The theoretical framework also analyzed the two communication science theories that guided the thesis, namely media framing and agenda-setting, as the researchers consider the two theories to be complementary to each other in measuring the work of the media and media coverage and the impact of the media on the public.

Due to the great leap that occurred in the world of media and social media during the last twenty years, we discuss in the theoretical framework the most prominent applications that emerged during that period, in addition to analyzing the six news sites in terms of design and the most prominent services provided to readers as well as the audience of these sites through social media. Also, because the year whose news was analyzed witnessed a global epidemic that claimed millions of lives, and life stopped for months, and media coverage changed, as will be seen in the theoretical framework and subsequent empirical study.

Among the methodologies used was content analysis of six digital native media (Eldiario from Spain, Mediapart from France, Observador from Portugal, Elaph from London-based Saudi Arabia, Elnashra from Lebanon, and Baghdadtoday from Iraq). Data were collected throughout 2020, from 01/01/2020 to 30/12/2020, and analyzed quantitatively and qualitatively. Different variables were used: type, sources, and size, stereotypes, hate speech, tone, and topics, among others.

In-depth interview methodology was also used. Interviews were scheduled with the directors and editors-in-chief of all the media, although the pandemic made it difficult to conduct them. Open-ended questions were asked related to press coverage, news sources and their types, the agendas that control the work of these sites, media coverage and the spread of stereotypical discourse and hate, and the impact of technological development and the COVID 19 epidemic on the work of the media in Europe and the Arab world.

The study found that, in the topics that were published, political news dominated in the six digital native media with 74%, health news was second with 12% of the total news published, economics news accounted for 6%, and sports and miscellaneous news were equal with 4% of the total news published. Political news in Arab digital native media accounted for 65% of all news, while in European digital native media it accounted for 84% of all news. News about the Middle East was the most prominent in all six digital native media, as the percentage of news about the Middle East in Arab digital native media was 54% of all political news, followed by news referring to Europe with 27%, and news about terrorism ranked third with 12%. As for the European digital native media, the share of Middle East news was 42% of the total political news, followed by news referring to Europe with 20%, and news about migrants ranked third with 19% of the total political news. As for the size of the news items, they ranged from medium (5 to 9 paragraphs) to short (one paragraph to 4 paragraphs), with medium news items in the three Arab digital native media being the most prominent with 60% of the total number of news items, while short news items in the three European digital native media were the most prominent with 43%. In terms of news trends, positive/neutral news was the most prominent, accounting for 83% of the total news in the Arab digital native media, 16% somewhat neutral and 1% non-neutral/negative. In European digital native media, the percentage of neutral/positive news reached 80% of total news, 19% somewhat neutral, and 1% non-neutral/negative. In terms of news sources in the six digital native media, news without a clear source in Arab digital native media was the most prominent with 25% of the total news, press releases constituted the second source with 20%, while news agencies were the third source with 19% and the work of correspondents with 13%. For European digital native media, the most prominent news source was news agencies with 70%, correspondents' work as the second source with 11%, other media sources with 9%, and press releases with 4%.

Arab and European digital media did not provide news coverage of each other through a particularly stereotypical or hateful discourse,

and reliance on news agencies as a news source and adherence to the official form could be one of the reasons.

The spread of the Covid-19 epidemic during 2020 may have an indirect effect on the language of this coverage, as the six digital native media primarily transmit official press releases, especially with life somewhat disrupted, also global political activity did not have the same strength compared to the years before the epidemic because all countries focused in 2020 on local and health issues first, plus the activity of terrorist groups and wars around the world stopped during the epidemic, meaning that coverage that could provoke hate speech or stereotypes has stopped.

In the Arab media, the stereotypical image is not directed at Europeans, but at Arabs themselves and focuses on the Middle East and conflicts in that part of the world. In contrast to the European media, which focused on the Middle East, terrorist organizations, and statements by European officials on peace processes and the search for solutions to conflict in these regions.

Also, from interviews with Arab journalists, we discovered that political, economic, and sometimes military agendas control journalistic work, which means that these agendas exist in other Arab countries and control the work of the Arab media in general, and cannot be ignored by media institutions and their employees, or they will be subject to legal action according to the interviewees. In addition to referring to the changes in the journalist's work with the huge technical development that occurred in the world, specifically in the field of media, and the impact of the Covid-19 epidemic on the work of the media and its coverage, clarifying the reasons for relying on news agencies as the main source of news. They also show the differences between the work of Arab and European media, where the journalist in Europe enjoys the freedom of work and monitoring, unlike the Arab journalist. The Arab experts also referred to the image that Arab and Western media convey about each other, considering that the Western media present Arabs in a stereotypical and sometimes

oversized way, while the Arab media do not present Europe and Europeans in the same image and way.

The importance of the study lies in the comparison and analysis of Arab and European digital native media from various aspects, in addition the importance of analyzing the discourse carried out by these media during a major health crisis that hit the world the Covid-19 epidemic, and twenty years after the events of September, which, according to previous studies, led to the spread of a discourse of hatred and racism towards the other increased by the advent of social networks. In addition, the study compares six Arab and European digital native media to learn about the language of the media during crises, where media discourse is of great importance and of great impact on the world because the media becomes the main means of accessing news reliably and from reliable sources and verifying the credibility of the news in contrast to the possibility of manipulation and fabrication of news and images and videos on social networks.

Due to the importance of media discourse and news coverage, it is important to analyze this discourse towards the other and the image in which the news is conveyed, whether negative or positive. Whether it reinforces stereotypes and hate speech, or whether it conveys events as they are to readers and followers, as well as what are the most salient aspects that Arab and Western media focus on when covering events in both worlds and the idea that is reinforced about the Arab world and Europe, may be an indication of media coverage of other peoples and countries.

Future studies may consider expanding research on digital native media in both worlds (Arab and European), especially with the development of communication and media technology. Also, it would be interesting to broaden the topics to examine live podcasting, videos, or images, also, audience opinions and reactions to digital native media news posted on social networks, especially with the possibility of hiding identity or creating accounts with fake names and data. Finally, it could be interesting to examine media coverage in digital native media during diplomatic crises or war.





## RESUMEN EXTENDIDO

Esta disertación examina la cobertura de los medios de comunicación nativos digitales árabes y europeos sobre temas relacionados con el mundo árabe y Europa en 2020, veinte años después de los acontecimientos del 11 de septiembre, cuando el mundo fue testigo de muchos eventos que plantearon nuevos desafíos (políticos, económicos, sociales y mediáticos), incluidos los actos terroristas y los grandes movimientos de inmigración del mundo árabe a Europa, la Primavera Árabe y las grandes manifestaciones que recorrieron el mundo. Esta situación en 2016 vino acompañada de la elección de Donald Trump como presidente de Estados Unidos y su fracaso en 2020, además de las polémicas por la injerencia extranjera (en este caso rusa) en las campañas electorales a través del uso de Inteligencia Artificial. Paralelamente, los medios de comunicación digitales se expandían con innovaciones que, en ocasiones, proponían una nueva gestión de la información sobre acontecimientos mundiales y, por lo tanto, modificaban la relación entre comunicación y poder.

La tesis analiza la cobertura de los medios de comunicación en los dos mundos desde varios aspectos formales y de contenido. El objetivo principal es analizar la imagen de los árabes en los medios de comunicación europeos y la imagen de los europeos en los medios de comunicación árabes. Las agendas mediáticas, el lenguaje, el discurso de odio, las imágenes estereotipadas hacia el otro, además de la importancia de las noticias, las fuentes de información y los actores externos al periodismo que controlan su trabajo son algunas de las categorías estudiadas. Se utiliza la triangulación metodológica combinando la revisión bibliográfica, el análisis de contenido y las entrevistas en profundidad. Se ha trabajado con seis medios nativos digitales, que representan una muestra de Europa y del mundo árabe (de España, Francia, Portugal, Arabia Saudí, Líbano e Irak).

El estudio explora en estos seis medios nativos digitales, las noticias relacionadas con el mundo árabe y Europa específicamente en un período de tiempo que llegó después de años de campañas de lucha contra el racismo, el discurso de odio, los estereotipos y las noticias falsas, y hace hincapié en la necesidad de imparcialidad, honestidad y profesionalidad a la hora de informar, tras el regreso de los sangrientos sucesos terroristas a Europa a finales de 2020, un año difícil para todo el mundo con la propagación del virus Covid-19, que provocó medidas excepcionales y sin precedentes de cierres y toques de queda durante meses, pérdidas económicas y humanas de casi un millón y medio de personas.

En primer lugar, el marco teórico hace un recorrido por los estudios anteriores similares a la tesis, por las innovaciones del periodismo digital y la influencia del COVID 19, además de centrar la perspectiva teórica que se utiliza.

El estudio pretende cumplir su cometido empleando una amplia gama de estudios científicos que analizan los medios de comunicación, las redes sociales y la difusión de discursos de odio, racismo y estereotipos. Muestra que los medios de comunicación y las redes sociales se vieron afectados por los cambios políticos, económicos y sociales que tuvieron lugar tras el 11-S, la Primavera Árabe y los acontecimientos terroristas en Europa. Uno de ellos es el ataque a la revista Charlie Hebdo, donde el debate sobre los dibujos en Francia ha vuelto a la vuelta de los sangrientos eventos terroristas en Europa a finales de 2020, años después del incidente.

Las lecturas del marco teórico mostraron que los medios de comunicación contribuyen a moldear la cultura de las sociedades y que existe una confusión entre lo árabe y lo musulmán en general, ya que los medios occidentales presentan las noticias sin distinguir entre estos dos conceptos. Los investigadores consideraron que la cobertura de los medios de comunicación puede potenciar para la formación de estereotipos, odio y racismo hacia los considerados “otros”. Este discurso negativo se intensifica después de cada acontecimiento terrorista en Europa, además de incrementarse con el uso de las redes

socials donde la identidad de los autores es, en ocasiones, ocultada- La literatura científica incide en que no existe una definición específica del discurso del odio, y la regulación de este discurso es compleja porque suscita, en ocasiones el fantasma de la una restricción de las libertades, concretamente de la libertad de opinión y de expresión. Los investigadores también constataron que el discurso del odio y el racismo tienen efectos psicológicos y morales negativos, que se ven compensados por la falta de tratamientos legales por miedo al impacto de estas leyes. El marco teórico también mostró aspectos de los estereotipos y el discurso del odio en los medios de comunicación árabes, occidentales y europeos en general. Jack Shaheen está considerado como uno de los primeros en presentar estudios y análisis sobre la imagen de los árabes en los medios de comunicación estadounidenses, películas, cómics y novelas, a partir de 1983. En sus estudios descubrió que la imagen de los árabes está distorsionada y estereotipada, vinculada al desierto, la riqueza, la violencia y la agresión a las mujeres, y que esta imagen pasó a estar vinculada al terrorismo tras los acontecimientos del 11 de septiembre.

El estereotipo, la incitación al odio y el racismo, según los estudios, no sólo se dirigen a los árabes y musulmanes, sino también a las minorías como los negros, asiáticos, latinos, gays, mujeres y judíos. La imagen de Europa y Estados Unidos como "Occidente" en el mundo árabe también es objeto de estereotipos y está vinculada al papel político que desempeñan estos países, a su política exterior y a su injerencia en los acontecimientos y conflictos políticos del mundo árabe y de los países islámicos. La imagen de los árabes también está vinculada a Oriente Medio, los conflictos, las guerras y el petróleo, ya que es una imagen política, económica y militar. En cuanto a la imagen de Europa para los árabes, está vinculada al continente que salió de dos guerras mundiales y formó una fuerte unión económica, política y de seguridad. Sin embargo, la política de esta unión hacia los árabes y sus problemas fue conservadora, y no consiguió exportar su experiencia democrática al mundo árabe a pesar de la importancia estratégica de la región árabe para Europa. Los escritores árabes también ven que Europa ha fracasado en varios expedientes árabes,

como la cuestión palestina, la primavera árabe y los grandes cambios que se produjeron en los países árabes después de 2011.

En los países árabes que sufren conflictos y guerras, como Siria, Líbano, Irak, Yemen y Libia, los medios de comunicación forman parte de la difusión del discurso del odio, no contra Occidente o Europa, sino contra las minorías, las sectas y los refugiados dentro del propio país. Además, no existen leyes claras y específicas que responsabilicen a este discurso, y se teme que las autoridades las utilicen para perseguir a los activistas, limitar las libertades y abusar de las leyes, especialmente después de la Primavera Árabe. El marco teórico también discutió el gran desarrollo que se produjo en los medios de comunicación durante los últimos veinte años y el desarrollo técnico que afectó a los medios de comunicación y el papel del periodista, además del impacto de la pandemia de Corona en los medios de comunicación y la difusión del discurso de odio.

En el marco teórico también se analizaron las dos teorías de las ciencias de la comunicación por las que se guio la tesis, a saber, el encuadre de los medios y la fijación de la agenda, ya que los investigadores consideran que ambas teorías son complementarias entre sí al medir el trabajo de los medios y la cobertura mediática y el impacto de los medios en el público.

Debido al gran salto que se produjo en el mundo de los medios de comunicación y de los medios sociales durante los últimos veinte años, discutimos en el marco teórico las aplicaciones más destacadas que surgieron durante ese período, además de analizar los seis sitios de noticias en términos de diseño y los servicios más destacados que se proporcionan a los lectores así como a la audiencia de estos sitios a través de los medios sociales. Asimismo, debido a que el año cuyas noticias se analizaron fue testigo de una epidemia mundial que se cobró millones de vidas, y detuvo la vida durante meses y la cobertura de los medios de comunicación cambió como se observará en el marco teórico y en el estudio empírico posterior.

Entre las metodologías utilizadas, está el análisis de contenido de seis medios nativos digitales (Eldiario de España, Mediapart de Francia,

Observador de Portugal, Elaph de Arabia Saudita con sede en Londres, Elnashra de Líbano, y Baghdadtoday de Irak). Los datos se recogieron a lo largo de todo el año 2020, desde el 01/01/2020 hasta el 30/12/2020, y se analizaron cuantitativa y cualitativamente. Se utilizaron diferentes variables: tipo, fuentes y tamaño, estereotipos, discurso de odio, tono, temas, entre otros.

También se utilizó la metodología de la entrevista en profundidad. Se programaron entrevistas con los directores y redactores jefe de todos los medios aunque la pandemia dificultó su realización. Se formularon preguntas abiertas relacionadas con la cobertura de la prensa, las fuentes de noticias y sus tipos, las agendas que controlan el trabajo de estos sitios, la cobertura de los medios de comunicación y la difusión del discurso estereotipado y el odio, y el impacto del desarrollo tecnológico y la epidemia del COVID 19 en el trabajo de los medios de comunicación en Europa y el mundo árabe.

El estudio encontró que, en los temas que se publicaron, las noticias políticas dominaron en los seis medios nativos digitales con un 74%, las noticias de salud fueron las segundas con un 12% del total de noticias publicadas, las noticias de economía supusieron un 6% y las de deporte y misceláneas fueron iguales con un 4% del total de noticias. Las noticias políticas en los medios nativos digitales árabes fueron el 65% de todas las noticias, mientras que en los medios nativos digitales europeos fueron el 84% de todas las noticias. Las noticias sobre Oriente Medio fueron las más destacadas en los seis medios nativos digitales, ya que el porcentaje de noticias sobre Oriente Medio en los medios nativos digitales árabes fue del 54% del total de noticias políticas, seguido de las noticias que hacían referencia a Europa con un 27%, y las noticias sobre terrorismo ocuparon el tercer lugar con un 12%. En cuanto a los medios nativos digitales europeos, el porcentaje de las noticias sobre Oriente Medio fue del 42% del total de las noticias políticas, seguido de las noticias que hacían referencia a Europa con un 20%, y las noticias sobre inmigrantes ocuparon el tercer lugar con un 19% del total de las noticias políticas. En cuanto al tamaño de las noticias, oscilaron entre las medianas (de 5 a 9 párrafos) y las cortas (de un párrafo a 4

párrafos), siendo las medianas en los tres medios nativos digitales árabes las más destacadas con un 60% del total de noticias, mientras que las cortas en los tres medios nativos digitales europeos fueron las más destacadas con un 43%. En cuanto a la tendencia de las noticias, las noticias positivas/neutrales fueron las más destacadas, ya que representaron el 83% del total de noticias en los medios nativos digitales árabes, el 16% algo neutral y el 1% no neutrales/negativas. En los medios nativos digitales europeos, el porcentaje de noticias neutras/positivas alcanzó el 80% del total de noticias, el 19% algo neutra y el 1% no neutras/negativas. En cuanto a las fuentes de las noticias en los seis medios nativos digitales, las noticias sin una fuente clara en los medios nativos digitales árabes fueron las más destacadas con un 25% del total de noticias, los comunicados de prensa constituyeron la segunda fuente con un 20%, mientras que las agencias de noticias fueron la tercera fuente con un 19% y el trabajo de los corresponsales un 13%. En cuanto a los medios nativos digitales europeos, la fuente de noticias más destacada fueron las agencias de noticias con un 70%, el trabajo de los corresponsales como segunda fuente con un 11%, otras fuentes de medios con un 9% y los comunicados de prensa con un 4%.

Los medios digitales árabes y europeos no proporcionaron cobertura de noticias sobre el otro a través de un discurso especialmente estereotipado o de odio, y la confianza en las agencias de noticias como fuente de noticias y la adhesión a la forma oficial podría ser uno de los motivos.

La propagación de la epidemia de Covid-19 durante el año 2020 puede tener un efecto indirecto en el lenguaje de esta cobertura, ya que los seis medios nativos digitales transmiten fundamentalmente notas de prensa oficiales, especialmente con la vida algo interrumpida, también la actividad política global no tuvo la misma fuerza en comparación con los años anteriores a la epidemia porque todos los países se centraron en 2020 en cuestiones locales y de salud en primer lugar, además de que la actividad de los grupos de terrorismo y las guerras en todo el mundo se detuvo durante la epidemia, lo que

significa que la cobertura que podría provocar el discurso de odio o estereotipos se ha detenido.

En los medios de comunicación árabes, la imagen estereotipada no se dirige a los europeos, sino a los propios árabes y se centra en Oriente Medio y en los conflictos que se producen en esa zona del mundo. Al contrario que los medios de comunicación europeos, que se centran en Oriente Medio, las organizaciones terroristas y las declaraciones de funcionarios europeos sobre los procesos de paz y la búsqueda de soluciones al conflicto en estas regiones.

Asimismo, a partir de las entrevistas a periodistas árabes, descubrimos que las agendas políticas, económicas y, en ocasiones, militares, controlan el trabajo periodístico, lo que significa que estas agendas existen en otros países árabes y controlan el trabajo de los medios de comunicación árabes en general, y no pueden ser obviadas por las instituciones mediáticas y sus empleados, o serán objeto de acciones legales según confirman los entrevistados. Además de referirse a los cambios en el trabajo del periodista con el enorme desarrollo técnico que se produjo en el mundo, concretamente en el campo de los medios de comunicación, y el impacto de la epidemia de Covid-19 en el trabajo de los medios de comunicación y en la cobertura de estos y aclaran las razones para depender de las agencias de noticias como fuente principal de noticias. También muestran las diferencias entre el trabajo de los medios de comunicación árabes y europeos, donde el periodista en Europa goza de libertad de trabajo y de seguimiento, a diferencia del periodista árabe. Los expertos árabes también se refirieron a la imagen que transmiten los medios de comunicación árabes y occidentales sobre el otro, considerando que los medios de comunicación occidentales presentan a los árabes de forma estereotipada y, a veces, sobredimensionada, mientras que los medios de comunicación árabes no presentan a Europa y a los europeos con la misma imagen y forma.

La importancia del estudio radica en la comparación y análisis de los medios de comunicación nativos digitales árabes y europeos desde varios aspectos, además de analizar el discurso llevado a cabo por

estos medios durante una gran crisis sanitaria que azotó al mundo la epidemia del Covid-19, y veinte años después de los sucesos de septiembre, que, según estudios anteriores, provocó la difusión de un discurso de odio y racismo hacia el otro aumentado por la llegada de las redes sociales. Además, el estudio compara seis medios de comunicación nativos digitales árabes y europeos para conocer el lenguaje de los medios de comunicación durante las crisis, donde el discurso mediático es de gran importancia y de gran impacto en el mundo porque los medios de comunicación se convierten en el principal medio para acceder a las noticias de forma fiable y de fuentes confiables y verificar la credibilidad de las noticias en contraste con la posibilidad de manipulación y fabricación de noticias e imágenes y vídeos en las redes sociales.

Debido a la importancia del discurso de los medios de comunicación y de la cobertura de las noticias, surge la relevancia de analizar este discurso hacia el otro y la imagen en la que se transmite la noticia, ya sea negativa o positiva. Si refuerza los estereotipos y el discurso del odio, o si transmite los acontecimientos tal y como son a los lectores y seguidores, además de conocer cuáles son los aspectos más destacados en los que se centran los medios de comunicación árabes y occidentales a la hora de cubrir los acontecimientos de ambos mundos y la idea que se refuerza sobre el mundo árabe y Europa, pudiendo ser esto un indicio de la cobertura mediática sobre otros pueblos y países.

Los estudios futuros pueden considerar la ampliación de la investigación sobre los medios de comunicación nativos digitales en ambos mundos (árabe y europeo), especialmente con el desarrollo de la tecnología de la comunicación y los medios. Además, sería interesante ampliar los temas para examinar el podcasting en directo, los vídeos o las imágenes. También, las opiniones y reacciones de la audiencia a las noticias de los medios nativos digitales que se publican en las redes sociales, especialmente con la posibilidad de ocultar la identidad o crear cuentas con nombres y datos falsos. Finalmente, podría ser interesante el examen de la cobertura mediática en los medios nativos digitales durante las crisis diplomáticas o la guerra.



## RESUMO AMPLIADO

Esta tese analiza a cobertura dos medios dixitais nativos árabes e europeos sobre cuestións relacionadas co mundo árabe e con Europa en 2020, vinte anos despois dos acontecementos do 11-S, cando o mundo foi testemuña de moitos eventos que supuxeron novos desafíos (políticos, económicos, sociais e medios), incluíndo os actos terroristas e os grandes movementos de inmigración do mundo árabe a Europa, a Primavera Árabe e as grandes manifestacións que percorreron o mundo. Esta situación en 2016 veu acompañada da elección de Donald Trump como presidente dos Estados Unidos e o seu fracaso en 2020, ademais das polémicas pola inxerencia estranxeira (neste caso rusa) nas campañas electorais mediante o uso da Intelixencia Artificial. Ao mesmo tempo, os medios dixitais expandíronse con innovacións que, en ocasións, propoñían unha nova xestión da información sobre os acontecementos mundiais e, polo tanto, modificaban a relación entre comunicación e poder.

A tese analiza a cobertura dos medios nos dous mundos desde diversos aspectos formais e de contido. O obxectivo principal é analizar a imaxe dos árabes nos medios europeos e a imaxe dos europeos nos medios árabes. As axendas mediáticas, a linguaxe, os discursos de odio, as imaxes estereotipadas do outro, ademais da importancia das noticias, das fontes de información e dos actores externos ao xornalismo que controlan o seu traballo son algunhas das categorías estudadas. Emprégase a triangulación metodolóxica, que combina revisión bibliográfica, análise de contido e entrevistas en profundidade. Traballamos con seis medios dixitais nativos, que representan unha mostra de Europa e do mundo árabe (de España, Francia, Portugal, Arabia Saudita, Líbano e Iraq).

O estudo explora nestes seis medios dixitais nativos, as noticias relacionadas co mundo árabe e con Europa concretamente nun período de tempo que chegou despois de anos de campañas contra o racismo, os discursos de odio, os estereotipos e as noticias falsas. A investigación subliña a necesidade de imparcialidade, honestidade e

profesionalidade na profesión, tras o regreso de sangrentos sucesos terroristas a Europa a finais de 2020, un ano difícil para o mundo enteiro coa propagación do virus Covid-19, que provocou durante meses medidas excepcionais e sen precedentes de peches e toques de queda, perdas económicas e humanas de case millón e medio de persoas.

En primeiro lugar, o marco teórico fai un percorrido polas investigacións realizadas previamente sobre o mesmo obxecto de estudo e explica a perspectiva teórica adoptada. Revisáronse os estudos.

científicos sobre medios de comunicación dixitais, redes sociais e a difusión do discurso de odio, o racismo e os estereotipos. Estes ítems non se analizan illados senón que se viron afectados polos cambios políticos, económicos e sociais que se produciron despois do 11-S, a Primavera Árabe e os feitos terroristas en Europa. Un dos máis relevantes foi o atentado contra a revista Charlie Hebdo, onde o debate sobre os debuxos en Francia volveu á quenda dos sangrentos sucesos terroristas en Europa a finais de 2020, anos despois do incidente.

As lecturas do marco teórico demostraron que os medios de comunicación contribúen a conformar a cultura das sociedades e que existe confusión entre o árabe e o musulmán en xeral, xa que os medios occidentais presentan as noticias sen distinguir entre estes dous conceptos. Os investigadores consideraron que a cobertura mediática pode favorecer a formación de estereotipos, odio e racismo cara aos considerados "outros". Este discurso negativo intensifícase despois de cada suceso terrorista en Europa, ademais de aumentar co uso das redes sociais onde o discurso é, as veces, anónimo. A literatura científica subliña que non existe unha definición específica de discurso de odio, e a regulación deste discurso é complexa porque en ocasións suscita a pantasma dunha restrición das liberdades, concretamente da liberdade de opinión e expresión. Os investigadores tamén descubriron que o discurso de odio e o racismo teñen efectos psicolóxicos e morais negativos, que se ven compensados pola falta de tratamento legal por temor ao impacto destas normas. O marco teórico tamén permitiu

detectar estudos de caso sobre estereotipos e discursos de odio nos medios árabes e occidentais. Jack Shaheen é considerado un dos primeiros en presentar análises sobre a imaxe dos árabes nos medios, películas, cómics e novelas estadounidenses en 1983?. Nos seus estudos descubriu que a imaxe dos árabes está distorsionada e estereotipada, ligada ao deserto, riqueza, violencia e agresións contra as mulleres, e que esta imaxe quedou vinculada ao terrorismo tras os feitos do 11 de setembro.

Os estereotipos, o discurso de odio e o racismo, segundo os estudos, non só apuntan a árabes e musulmáns, senón tamén a minorías como negros, asiáticos, latinos, gais, mulleres e xudeus. A imaxe de Europa e Estados Unidos como "Occidente" no mundo árabe é tamén obxecto de estereotipos e está ligada ao papel político que desempeñan estes países, á súa política exterior e á súa inxerencia nos acontecementos e conflitos políticos do mundo árabe.. A imaxe dos árabes tamén está ligada a Oriente Medio, aos conflitos, ás guerras e ao petróleo, xa que é unha imaxe política, económica e militar. En canto á imaxe de Europa para os árabes, está vencellada ao continente xurdido de dúas guerras mundiais e que formou unha forte unión económica, política e de seguridade. Porén, a política desta unión cara aos árabes e os seus problemas foi conservadora, e non logrou exportar a súa experiencia democrática ao mundo árabe a pesar da importancia estratéxica da rexión árabe para Europa. Os escritores árabes tamén ven que Europa fracasou en varios asuntos árabes, como a cuestión palestina, a Primavera Árabe e os grandes cambios que tiveron lugar nos países árabes despois de 2011.

Nos países árabes que sofren conflitos e guerras, como Siria, Líbano, Iraq, Iemen e Libia, os medios forman parte da difusión do discurso do odio, non contra Occidente ou Europa, senón contra as minorías, seitas e refuxiados dentro do seu propio país. . Ademais, non existen normas nítidas e específicas que responsabilicen este discurso e témesse que as autoridades as empreguen para perseguir a activistas ou limitar as liberdades , sobre todo despois da Primavera Árabe. No marco teórico tamén se abordou o gran desenvolvemento que se produciu nos medios durante os últimos vinte anos e o desenvolvemento técnico que afectou

aos medios e ao papel do xornalista, ademais do impacto da pandemia do COVID nos medios de comunicación e a difusión do discurso do odio.

Tomáronse como referencia dúas teorías das Ciencias da Comunicación: o framing e a agenda setting, xa que os investigadores consideran que ambas teorías son complementarias entre si.

Debido ao gran salto que se deu no mundo dos medios de comunicación e das redes sociais durante os últimos vinte anos, comentamos no marco teórico as aplicacións máis destacadas que xurdiron nese período, ademais de analizar os seis sitios de noticias en termos de deseño e os servizos máis destacados que se prestan tanto aos lectores como á audiencia destes sitios a través das redes sociais. Tamén se estuda a influencia do COVID 19.

Entre as metodoloxías empregadas destaca a análise de contido de seis medios dixitais nativos (*Eldiario de España*, *Mediapart de Francia*, *Observer de Portugal*, *Elaph de Arabia Saudita con sede en Londres*, *Elnashra de Líbano* e *Baghdadtoday de Iraq*). Os datos foron recollidos ao longo do ano 2020, dende o 01/01/2020 ata o 30/12/2020, e foron analizados de forma cuantitativa e cualitativa. Utilizáronse diferentes variables: tipo, tipo de letra e tamaño, estereotipos, discurso de odio, ton, temática, entre outras.

Tamén se aplicou a metodoloxía da entrevista en profundidade. Programáronse entrevistas cos directores e redactores xefes de todos os medios, aínda que a pandemia dificultou a súa realización. Deseñouse un guión con preguntas abertas e pechadas relacionadas coa cobertura da prensa, as fontes de noticias e os seus tipos, as axendas que controlan o traballo destes sitios, a cobertura mediática e a difusión de discursos estereotipados e de odio, e o impacto do desenvolvemento tecnolóxico e da epidemia de COVID-19 no traballo da medios de comunicación en Europa e no mundo árabe.

O estudo comprobou que, nos temas que se publicaron, as noticias políticas dominaron nos seis medios nativos dixitais cun 74%, as sanitarias foron as segundas cun 12% do total de noticias publicadas, as

económicas representaron un 6% e as deportivas o mesmo co 4% do total de noticias. As noticias políticas nos medios nativos dixitais árabes foron o 65% de todas as noticias, mentres que nos medios nativos dixitais europeos foron o 84% de todas as noticias. As noticias sobre Oriente Medio foron as máis destacadas nos seis medios nativos dixitais, xa que a porcentaxe de noticias sobre Oriente Medio nos medios nativos dixitais árabes foi do 54% do total de noticias políticas, seguidas das noticias que se referían a Europa cun 27% e as noticias sobre terrorismo ocuparon o terceiro lugar cun 12%. En canto aos medios nativos dixitais europeos, a porcentaxe de noticias sobre Oriente Medio foi do 42% do total de noticias políticas, seguidas das noticias que se referían a Europa cun 20%, e as noticias sobre inmigrantes ocuparon o terceiro lugar cun 19% do total de noticias políticas. En canto ao tamaño das noticias, oscilaron entre medianas (de 5 a 9 parágrafos) e curtas (de un parágrafo a 4 parágrafos), sendo os medios dos tres medios nativos dixitais árabes os máis destacados cun 60% do totalmentres que as curtas dos tres medios nativos dixitais europeos foron as máis destacadas cun 43%. En canto á tendencia das noticias, as noticias positivas/neutrais foron as máis destacadas, representando o 83 % do total de noticias dos medios nativos dixitais árabes, o 16 % algo neutro e o 1 % non neutral/negativo. Nos medios dixitais europeos nativos, a porcentaxe de noticias neutras/positivas alcanzou o 80% do total de noticias, o 19% algo neutro e o 1% non neutro/negativo. En canto ás fontes das noticias nos seis medios nativos dixitais, as noticias sen fonte clara nos medios nativos dixitais árabes foron as máis destacadas cun 25% do total de noticias, as notas de prensa constituíron a segunda fonte cun 20%, mentres que as axencias de noticias foron a terceira fonte cun 19% e o traballo dos correspondentes un 13%. En canto aos medios nativos dixitais europeos, a fonte de noticias máis destacada foron as axencias de noticias cun 70%, o traballo dos correspondentes como segunda fonte cun 11%, outros medios cun 9% e as notas de prensa cun 4%.

Os medios dixitais árabes e europeos non proporcionaron cobertura informativa uns sobre os outros a través de discursos especialmente estereotipados ou de odio, e a dependencia das axencias de noticias

como fonte de noticias e a adhesión ao formulario oficial podería ser un dos motivos.

A propagación da epidemia de Covid-19 durante o ano 2020 pode ter un efecto indirecto na cobertura, xa que os seis medios dixitais nativos transmiten principalmente notas de prensa oficiais, sobre todo coa vida algo interrompida, tamén coa actividade política. A economía mundial non ten a mesma forza en comparación cos anos anteriores á epidemia porque todos os países se centraron en 2020 en cuestións locais e sanitarias, ademais da actividade dos grupos terroristas e as guerras en todo o mundo detidas durante a epidemia, é dicir, unha cobertura que podería provocar discursos de odio ou os estereotipos detivéronse.

Nos medios árabes, a imaxe estereotipada non vai dirixida aos europeos, senón aos propios árabes e céntrase en Oriente Medio e nos conflitos que teñen lugar nesa parte do mundo. Ao contrario dos medios europeos, que se centraron en Oriente Medio, organizacións terroristas e declaracións de responsables europeos sobre procesos de paz e busca de solucións ao conflito nestas rexións.

Ademais, a partir de entrevistas con xornalistas árabes, descubrimos que as axendas políticas, económicas e ás veces militares controlan o traballo xornalístico. Achegaron análises relevantes sobre os cambios no traballo do xornalista co enorme desenvolvemento técnico que se produciu no mundo, concretamente no ámbito dos medios, e ao impacto da epidemia de Covid-19.. Tamén mostran as diferenzas entre o traballo dos medios árabes e os europeos, onde o xornalista en Europa goza de liberdade de traballo e vixilancia, a diferenza do xornalista árabe. Os expertos árabes tamén se referiron á imaxe que se transmiten os medios árabes e occidentais entre si, ao considerar que os medios occidentais retratan aos árabes de forma estereotipada e ás veces esaxerada, mentres que os medios árabes non presentan a Europa e aos europeos na mesma imaxe.

A importancia do estudo radica na comparación e análise dos medios nativos dixitais árabes e europeos desde diversos aspectos, ademais de analizar o discurso levado a cabo por estes medios durante unha importante crise sanitaria que azoutou o mundo coa epidemia de

Covid-19 e vinte anos despois dos feitos de setembro que, segundo estudos previos, provocaron a difusión do discurso de odio e o racismo cara ao outro, acrecentado pola chegada das redes sociais. Ademais, o estudo compara seis medios nativos dixitais árabes e europeos para comprender a linguaxe dos medios durante as crises, onde o discurso mediático é de gran importancia e de gran impacto no mundo porque os medios se converten no principal medio para acceder ás noticias de forma fiable e verificar a credibilidade das noticias en contraste coa posibilidade de manipulación e fabricación de noticias e imaxes e vídeos nas redes sociais.

Pola importancia do discurso dos medios de comunicación e da cobertura da noticia, xorde a relevancia de analizar este discurso cara ao outro e a imaxe na que se transmite a noticia, sexa negativa ou positiva. Se reforza estereotipos e discursos de odio, ou se transmite os acontecementos tal e como son aos lectores e seguidores, ademais de saber cales son os aspectos máis destacados nos que se centran os medios árabes e occidentais á hora de cubrir os acontecementos de ambos mundos e a idea. que se reforza sobre o mundo árabe e Europa, isto pode ser un indicio da cobertura mediática doutros pobos e países.

Os estudos futuros poden considerar ampliar a investigación sobre medios nativos dixitais en ambos os mundos (árabe e europeo), especialmente co desenvolvemento dos medios e tecnoloxía da comunicación. Ademais, sería interesante ampliar os temas para examinar podcasting en directo, vídeos ou imaxes. Así mesmo, as opinións e reaccións da audiencia ante as noticias dos medios nativos dixitais que se publican nas redes sociais, sobre todo coa posibilidade de ocultar a identidade ou crear contas con nomes e datos falsos. Finalmente, podería ser interesante examinar a cobertura mediática nos medios nativos dixitais durante as crises diplomáticas ou as guerras.





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## CHAPTER ONE

### Introduction

During the past twenty years, the world has witnessed many transformations and changes at the political, social, economic, and technical levels (Dagher, 2012). Where media products according to Santos et al. (2022) are considered a tool for citizens to learn about various topics, as they are unable to reach large areas in the social reality, and because the media plays a major role in communicating news and information. In this chapter, we focus on the most prominent events that the world has witnessed in the past twenty years and have had a great impact on several levels, including the language and discourse used by the media and the public alike.

In the following, we review the most prominent events during the past twenty years, during a successive timeline, starting with the events of September 2001. As this attack was followed by a war in Afghanistan and Iraq, US presidential elections, revolutions in Arab countries, the fall of regimes, global economic crises, terrorist incidents in European countries, wars in Arab countries Syria, Iraq, Libya, Yemen, the rise of terrorist organizations and the elimination of some of them and killing Its leaders, in addition to a huge leap in the world of technology and communication with the rise of social networking sites, to the spread of epidemics that infected millions and led to the death of millions of people. This has raised the number of issues affecting the world and brings back again racism, hate speech, and stereotypes in new forms.

After the September 11th, 2001 attack, the so-called global war against terrorism emerged, and this led to foreign intervention in

Afghanistan in late 2001 and Iraq in 2003 (Kadhim, 2018). The September attacks prompted the United States of America to pursue national security interests in Afghanistan, which turned into the longest American war that lasted for decades Goodson (2015). This American presence has continued since December 7, 2001 and the defeat of the Taliban, and it remained for 20 years until August 31, 2021 Popescu (2021). In Iraq, the United States and its allies attacked Iraq in March 2003, and it was quickly occupied, with President Bush declaring in May 2003 that the mission was over (Popescu, 2021).

After Iraq and Afghanistan wars, some Arab countries faced the problem of exercising governance and establishing political stability, and some of them lived in a vicious state of unexpected crises due to the events of the Arab Spring, or what was called “popular revolutions” that began in late 2010 and 2011 in Tunisia, Egypt, Libya, Syria, and Yemen (Kadhim, 2018). The Arab world has also witnessed wars with the Israeli side; the July war (harb tammuz) with the Lebanese Hezbollah (Calculli, 2017; Rey-García et al., 2020). And Gaza war in 2008 (Vicente et al. 2010), and another war from June 29, 2014, until August 31, 2014 (Manor & Crilley, 2018; Zipris et al., 2019).

Since 2015, Yemen has witnessed a civil war and an unparalleled humanitarian crisis, and the situation in Yemen is considered one of the greatest humanitarian disasters of the twenty-first century (Edwards, 2019).

According to Seabrook (2009), the 2008 US presidential election was one of the most important elections in the history of the United States of America, after Americans elected for the first time in history a candidate of African descent.

On May 2, 2011, Obama administration announced the killing of al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden at his home in Pakistan, and on December 28, 2014, announced the end of the war in Afghanistan without withdrawing US forces (Popescu, 2021).

Europe witnessed several terrorist attacks, including bombings of the transport system in Madrid and London. On March 11, 2004, terrorist acts targeted a commuter train in Madrid, killing 191 people and wounding 1755 people (Kollias et al., 2011). On July 7, 2005, the morning public transport system in London was targeted, killing 52 people, in addition to the terrorists, and wounding 700 people (Kollias et al., 2011). Paris also witnessed a bloody attack on the satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo in January 2015, which led to the killing of 12 cartoonists and magazine employees (Połowska-Kimunguyi & Gillespie, 2016). Paris was subjected again to the most deadly attack on November 13, 2015, in which 130 people were killed in six different places (Zoli & Williams, 2021).

In February and March of 2014, Ukraine was invaded by a series of events that eventually led to the incorporation of Crimea into Russian territory (Marxsen, 2014).

Europe also faced the migrant crisis in 2015 when the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees estimated that more than a million people crossed to Europe by sea, and at least 3,700 people drowned, and the majority of migrants were from ten countries, including Syria, Iraq, and Afghanistan (Anderson, 2017).

In Iraq and Syria, in 2013, ISIS emerged under the name of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant. The announcement came on October 15, following a meeting of a group of armed factions in Iraq, and Al-Baghdadi was chosen as its leader (Shehabat & Mitew, 2018). Other organizations were also established as a result of the Syrian crisis at the end of 2011, such as jabhat Al-Nusra (Shehabat & Mitew, 2018). In Nigeria, Boko Haram emerged as a violent rebel group known as the Ahl al-Sunnah, Preaching and Jihad group, and then the West Africa Province of ISIS (Iyekekpola, 2020). The organization was known at the national level in 2009 and was classified in 2015 as the most dangerous terrorist group in the world (Iyekekpola, 2020).

On March 15, 2019, the Australian Brendon Tarrant committed a mass murder of 51 Muslims in two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand,

where he used social media platforms to promote his activism worldwide (Battersby & Ball, 2019).

Economically, the world faced the global economic crisis in 2007, as interbank borrowing froze around the world and unrestricted global financial flows collapsed between 2007-2009 (Pettifor, 2017). the value of mortgage-related securities plummeted in the late summer of 2008, spreading throughout the global financial system (Kotz, 2008). On June 23, 2016, over 17 million Britons voted to end their relationship with the European Union and leave the European Union (Pettifor 2017). Britain's decision to leave the European Union and elect Trump were shocking decisions in 2016 and among the most turbulent in modern political history Rosenberg and Boyle (2019).

In 2015, the Obama administration reached a settlement of the Iranian nuclear issue and signed the Iranian nuclear agreement, but during the era of US President Donald Trump, sanctions were imposed on Iran in 2017 and 2018, and in May 2018, the United States withdrew from the Iranian nuclear agreement, and after Biden took power It became clear that his policy is balanced between hard and soft and is reflected in Iran and the Iranian nuclear issue (Wang & Hu, 2022).

New media also emerged as a new concept that represents dynamic media that combines text, image and sound and enabling the public to interact with what is published on it, and social networks such as Facebook and Twitter are considered among the most important tools of new media (AlKhudari, 2016).

Technically, Facebook was founded as a social networking website in 2004 and has become one of the world's leading social networking sites (White, 2008). In October 2006, Twitter, one of the most popular micro-blogging platforms was launched, , allowing users to describe their situations with short posts (Java et al., 2007). In June 2007, Steve Jobs launched iPhone, which revolutionized the mobile phone market (Yoffie & Slind, 2008). YouTube, which was launched in 2005 as a hobbyist site, became the third most popular online destination in the world, and the largest provider of video content as well as a major

platform for disseminating multimedia information (Wattenhofer et al., 2012).

These large and rapid changes may also be a reason for the spread and complexity of epidemics, as Bedford et al., (2019) considered that changes in the environment, climate, travel and health systems, as well as demographic transitions and political instability affect the dynamics of infectious diseases, making epidemics more complex and difficult to contain.

During the twenty years, the world witnessed a number of epidemics at the health level. The world is currently witnessing Covid-19, where more than 4 million people have died, and we are approaching 200 million infections (Cohen, 2021). After an outbreak of pneumonia of unknown origin was announced in December 2019 in Wuhan, China, and the World Health Organization declared on March 12, 2020, that the virus had turned into a pandemic (Ciotti et al., 2020). According to the American Johns Hopkins University website, the number of infections, as of the day it was viewed on February 17, 2022, has reached more than 418 million injuries and nearly 6 million deaths around the world, and more than 342 million people have recovered, with more than 10 billion doses of the Corona vaccine have been distributed. Oxford University statistics (our world in data) also stated that more than 4 billion people received two doses of the vaccine, and the proportion of the vaccinated population around the world reached 54.9%.

Prior to that the Ebola epidemic began in west Africa in 2013, and the outbreak lasted until November 2015, infecting more than 28 thousand people and killing 11 thousand people (Moon et al., 2015).

The beginning of 2020 witnessed the assassination of Qassem Soleimani, commander of the Quds Force, one of the elite units of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps, at Baghdad International Airport, with an American airstrike (Binkaya, 2020).

In his book clash of civilizations, Huntington (1999) expressed that the peoples of the post-Cold War world were not different from

ideological, political or economic "They are cultural<sup>2</sup> and attempting to answer: Who are we?

These changes over the past twenty years may be similar to after the Cold War, as Huntington (1999) saw:

*The moment of euphoria at the end of the Cold War generated an illusion of harmony, which was soon revealed to be exactly that. The world became different in the early 1970s, but not necessarily more peaceful. Change was inevitable; progress was not.*<sup>3</sup>

What Huntington talks about is the development of the world and its change in various stages throughout history from tribal wars, piracy, and gangs to international and global wars, first, second and cold, after which a world emerged looking for a specific form of order, and all this accompanied the development and change of tools, including the media, and how it dealt with issues and developments from A multipolar world into a world with two poles to a world with one pole, and the terminology changed with it, as the term "the West" was used more in contrast to the absence of the ideological term "the free world" (Huntington, (1999).

### **1.1.The 9/11: The Beginning**

This event was a "gift" to the most severe and oppressive elements on all sides, with fear, shock, terror, the desire for revenge, and the emergence and development of counter currents, a new type of war emerged, according to Chomsky, (2002)<sup>4</sup>:

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<sup>3</sup> Clash of Civilizations (p.52)

<sup>4</sup> 9-11 (p.18)

<sup>3</sup> Clash of Civilizations (p.39)



*The cannons are now pointed in a different direction, which is something completely new in the history of the West and its branches*

However, the French philosopher Jacques Derrida, in his interview with Borradori (2003), doubted whether 9/11 could be considered without precedent, an unforeseeable or a singular event<sup>5</sup>.

However, what happened to the media after September 11 was not an entirely positive thing. Robinson (2019) has found, by analyzing Fröhlich's project<sup>6</sup> to explore media dynamics through the conflicts of Syria, Israel-Palestine, Burundi, Macedonia, and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), where governments and powerful actors have tremendous influence over journalists and the media., This has impact on the quality of press reportage during times of conflict and war. (Robinson, 2019).

Robinson (2019) also found in Palmer's analysis<sup>7</sup> correspondent's failure was evident in the news coverage of the wars with the assertion that economic pressures and technical progress have imposed great pressures on journalists and have had repercussions against their work.

This failure appears, according to Palmer's when the killing of journalists in large newspapers was used to promote the narrative of the war on terror. In return, there was no talk about the killing of Afghan and Iraqi journalists at the hands of the American army (Robinson, 2019).

Robinson (2019) criticized the simplification of conflicts in a way that cannot be recognized, and Western war correspondents are hero-worshipped, with the failure of journalists repeatedly to maintain a

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<sup>5</sup> What happened in the September 11 "event"? jacques derrida (p.60)

<sup>6</sup> Fröhlich's, EU-funded research project, INFOCORE, explores media dynamics across five different conflicts included an analysis of British, French, and German news media coverage (p.558)

<sup>7</sup> Palmer's War Correspondents since 9/11 offers a focused discussion, based on interviews and critical discourse analysis, about a series of examples in which journalists have themselves become victims of war (p.560)

critical distance from those who promote war. And he asserts that there is an ethical question about holding media organizations accountable for all these documented failures, and the "professional" press must be subjected to investigation, verification, and accountability regarding their reports about the war.

According to Chomsky (2002), the free American media differs from the media in the Middle East, because it is difficult to compare media controlled by institutions (industrial, commercial, political) and media controlled by governments. After all, this media is considered "evil", but this is no longer the status of the media in the Arab world, where there are television channels and news sites supported by multiple countries that broadcast the speech that suits them in exchange for criticism and attack on Arab regimes that disagree with them, Mohammad (2019) found that the Arab audience is not satisfied with the reality of Arab television for many reasons like make the public ignorant and non-neutrality and professionalism in some news programs, and the politicization of the media message.

Through the media coverage of the Iranian hostage crisis<sup>8</sup> and the western media coverage of the Islam Said (2006), found that the traditional image of Arabs in the western mind related to Islam and the oil:

*Since the end of the eighteenth century, at least, and up to the present day, modern Western responses to Islam have been dominated by a pattern of thinking that has been radically simplified. We can still call it Orientalist thinking.*<sup>9</sup>

This thinking according to said characterized by mass polarization that divides the world into two unequal parts, the largest part that is backward is the East, and the other part, "our world," is the West.

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<sup>8</sup> On November 4, 1979, Iranian students seized the United States embassy in Tehran. The Iranians held the American diplomats hostage for 444 days until 1981 (Covering Islam p.46-p.73)

<sup>9</sup> Covering Islam (p.70)

This coverage similar to 9/11 event media coverage when Chomsky explains it that:

*The major media and the intellectual class in general, have always closed ranks in support of force in times of crisis, and try to mobilize people for the same cause.*<sup>10</sup>

This is what Herbert Gans found in his book "Deciding What's News" that it is journalists and news agencies who decide what should be photographed.<sup>11</sup>

This coverage of the Arab and Islamic world maybe it comes according to Huntington's<sup>12</sup> vision, that Scholars analyzed the world in two terms the Orient and the Occident, North, and South, and Muslims have traditionally divided the world into the abode of peace and the abode of war. And American scholars divided the world after the Cold War into "zones of peace" that included the West and Japan and "zones of turmoil" that included the rest of the world.

The media according to Coleman and Ross (2012), is not only a transmitter of messages but rather contributes significantly and fundamentally to the formation of the social, moral, and sentimental conditions for receiving messages.

Through various examples focusing on the British media, Coleman and Ross (2012) explained how to control media content and messages intended to be conveyed to the public, whether listeners or viewers.

Most sections of the news media refrain from covering protest political views in any form other than negative terms, and journalists confuse the words "protest" and "terrorism," according to Coleman and Ross (2012).

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<sup>10</sup> 9-11 (p.23)

<sup>11</sup> Covering Islam (p.139-p.140)

<sup>12</sup> Clash of Civilizations (p.53)

But what is the role of the public in that? The audience of the twenty-first century sees himself more than any other audience throughout history Coleman and Ross, (2012). Also, they see themselves in polls on public issues, radio, and television programs they are live Coleman and Ross, (2012). And in realistic dramas and see themselves every Saturday but cannot control their image (Coleman & Ross, 2012).

This audience has become a driver through social media, and Coleman and Ross (2012) expect that the emergence of new and digital media will be a big step towards democracy, far from the restrictions of traditional media, because it opens spaces for the public to interact and express, regardless of their position, social background, or way of expression.

From critics point of view, the media has recently become characterized by cynicism and does not recognize the principle of the full truth, which is what made critics describe it as not recognizing values, ethics, and irresponsibility (Coleman & Ross, 2012). Furthermore, the marginalization approach is followed, whereby some groups, such as Islamic groups, feel that the media ignores them, and any mention of them is distorted (Coleman & Ross, 2012).

The September 11th event and the war on terror had an impact on the media coverage of Christian minorities in Pakistan (Z. S. Ahmed & Zahoor, 2020). The researchers discussed the effects of this war through critical discourse analysis in 2000 and 2001 following the abolition of the constitution in 1999 and the military rule under Pervez Musharraf. The media coverage decreased the dehumanization of Christians before and after September 11th, as Christians were described before this event as dangerous and a threat to the Islamic community, but this event has global dynamics and had negative effects on the relations between Muslims and Christianity (Z. S. Ahmed & Zahoor, 2020).

In order to gain legitimacy from the West, Musharraf exploited the terrorist events by claiming to protect the Christian minority and taking measures against religious fundamentalists, which made Pakistan under the influence of American policy Z. S. Ahmed and

Zahoor, (2020). This was accompanied by an increase in the image of Christians in the newspapers as victims of terrorism and giving them a humane character, but the press coverage and reports against minorities in The internal pages did not stop, in addition to the difference between the reports published in English on Urdu due to the quality of the readership inside and outside (Z. S. Ahmed & Zahoor, 2020).

The propaganda of the war on terror in the media and drama was a necessity after the events of September 11 as positive propaganda, but Alsultany (2012) considered that this propaganda contributed to the formation of racism, even if it did not intend to. Before 9/11, the Arabs in the American media and drama were sheiks, rich, harem dancers, and oppressed of women, and the Western man was the only savior for these regions (Alsultany, 2012). And this Arab became a terrorist after the events of September 11th. Many events contributed to drawing this picture, including the Munich Olympics in 1972, the 1973 Arab oil embargo, and the hostage crisis in Iran, which Edward Said dealt with extensively within his book *Covering Islam* so that the September events come and draw the features of a new phase (Alsultany, 2012).

When the public's attention is focused on a particular issue that means a decline in interest in another issue, as the number of issues that the public opinion cares about at any point in time is between three or four on average (McCombs et al., 2012).

Is public opinion, however, being manipulated? Holiday (2012) explained the size of the manipulation he had done through blogs and disinformation campaigns through them, where the world is intertwined and interconnected in blogging, and it is possible to publish any misleading information and amplify the stories that lead to tragic behaviors, such as burning the Qur'an by terry Jones in 2011<sup>13</sup>,

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<sup>13</sup> Terry Jones, a pastor who burning of the Qur'an in March 2011 after running offensive billboards in front of his church. After he announced that he planned to stage burning of the Qur'an. This story was picked up by the media which led CNN to invite Jones to appear on the network (p.25)

where the story turned from a small blog to a riot that resulted from About 27 people were killed in Afghanistan. Holiday described the media as a group of animals running in a herd where it takes one command to start the stampede.

According to Holiday (2012), who details manipulation, misinformation, and deception in the web world, specifically blogging, the fastest thing that spreads on the Internet is anger, as opposed to sadness, which reduces social participation. This manipulation, which began as a game enjoyed by Holiday, has turned with the presence of other players into something difficult to distinguish and everyone has become a victim with a heavy cost.

Anger has a greater impact on public opinion than other emotions, resulting in stereotypes and hate speech and racism. Lippmann (1998) considered that stereotypes may be the core of our traditions and defense of our status and a form of perception imposes a certain character on our data, these images are not neutral, but rather that the stereotypes Stereotyping is fraught with feelings.

However, not everything that a person knows may be true, or not everything that is reality may be considered reality, according to Farah, (2014). And Wittgenstein expressed this by saying that we can only know the world in which we live by the words we know (Farah, 2014). But is it possible that the views of Sigmund Freud, Gustav Le Bon, and Edward Burns contributed to controlling public opinion? This contributed to controlling the opinions of the public and directing them via traditional and technical media and social media. One of the most prominent views of Burns, the founder of the science of public relations, was that if the mechanism that drives masses is understood, it is possible to control their behavior without knowing (Farah, 2014).

Farah (2014) believes that what the media system is doing is displaying a complete pattern of life through films, songs, and advertisements, and later on, the person connected to the Internet has become a consumer only who is affected by what is presented to him, which enables the media to establish a stereotype about the other and to provide the opportunity to broadcast hate speech and racism. Farah

(2014) adds through the views of Harbert Marcuse, that societies must possess intellectual freedom and break the restrictions that control them through the means of mass communication. Dr. Bahaa El-Din Farid's opinion may be close to the current reality, as it seems that human beings throughout their history are searching for a parallel world in which they express what they cannot express in their real world, which means to Farah (2014) that today's society is a hypothetical, unreal society.

According to the statistics of Eurostat 2018, over the decade until 2017, the percentage of Internet users increased significantly, as the number of users in 28 countries in the European Union more than doubled from 42% to 85% (Sakr & Steemers, 2019).

John Zaller's (RAS) model is one of the most comprehensive frameworks for clarifying the relationship of news media and political trends, where the other is affected by the information he receives and the degree to which he accepts it and the influence of the media increases in times of crisis due to the increased interest in news. According to Maxwell McCombs, Lance Holbert and Spiro Kiousis (2012), there is a significant evidence that the news media raises public awareness among the masses on several important issues.

Maxwell McCombs, Lance Holbert and Spiro Kiousis (2012) add that the emergence of digital media raised questions about making citizens appropriately aware of major topical issues, as this media occupies an infinite space and needs to be filled with specific content.

But new media industries may give people what they want even if the long-term consequences are negative, which is what we currently see in the dispute over Internet content and hate speech, so as these industries mature, they become more responsible and ready to censor controversial content (Baran & Davis, 2018).

The project Media, Conflict and Democratisation (MeCoDEM) investigates the role of media and communication in processes of regime transformation from authoritarian rule to a more democratic order. Katrin Voltmer argues that the media cannot be adequately

understood in isolation from one another. Rather, it should be viewed as an arena for public communication in which there are many actors, and each one provides explanations and results for conflicts (Voltmer et al. 2019).

Chadwick and Stromer-Galley (2016) believes that social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Templates, Snapchat, and mobile phone images) are essential elements in the American elections, where electoral politics have witnessed transformations to attract the public through digital media.

Unlike other media, the Internet provides an opportunity for the public to interact with news makers and producers and with each other (Shoemaker & Vos, 2019).

Shoemaker & Vos (2019) rejects what some say about the death of the gatekeeper theory with the existence of the Internet, arguing that the interaction that takes place makes the public gatekeepers, and the information is spread through the media accounts and the personal accounts of bloggers and their employees.

In a book review when the news was good, Gleason (2010) believes that news work is in the midst of a radical transformation stemming from the disruptive effects of digital technology and the Internet, even the definition of news is in flux. Also, understanding news requires an educated media audience. Terhi Rantanen the author of the book believes that as a result of the development of the Internet, the differences between events and news, between information and news, and between news and comment, have disappeared (Gleason, 2010).

Also, in a review of the book "Gatekeepers", Johnson (2009) believes that the authors of the book have changed the fundamentals of maintaining the portal and the Internet has allowed people more control to bypass traditional gates to access information such as government reports. The gatekeepers have transformed in the 21st century as information no longer passes only through source and media channels, but also through audience channels (Johnson, 2009).



Social media platforms are fertile ground for inflammatory political disinformation as people are increasingly concerned about fake news and other misinformation, and these concerns emerged in India and America after low-quality news spread widely before the 2016 US presidential election, creating fears that the news could lead False to mislead people (Guess et al., 2020). The widespread use of smart phones in India has created a fertile environment for rumors and misinformation, and their spread through What's App has led to violence and hate and has become a source of concern before the Indian general elections in 2019 (Guess et al., 2020).

In a campaign to eradicate digital media literacy in the two countries to distinguish between false and mainstream news, Guess et al. (2020) found that the lack of media literacy was important in why people believed the wrong information they encountered online. Despite the need to develop the work of these campaigns, their impact is modest and did not destroy the belief in false news headlines (Guess et al., 2020).



## CHAPTER TWO

### Theoretical framework

In this chapter, we review the literature review of studies and research related to the image of Arabs and Europeans in media. The chapter includes the stereotyped, hate speech, and racism, and these subjects are linked to several sub-points: monitoring hate speech in Europe, new racism, the role of political parties, the impact of hate speech, discourse directed at immigrants and refugees and hate speech in the Arab world. The chapter also reviews the era of digital media and its impact, the COVID -19 epidemic and its impact on the media, because the year 2020 is being studied is the same year that witnessed the spread of the epidemic around the world, and finally, the theories that have been illuminated in the thesis.

### 2.1. Literature review

In his book "Orientalism" Said (2008) describes the relationship between Arab and European (east and west) as a fundamental relationship on the political, cultural, and religious grounds, a relationship between a strong partner and a weak partner. The Oriental is irrational, depraved (fallen), childlike, different; thus the European is rational, virtuous, mature, normal. According to Sharabi (1984), western imperialism affected after 1918 the psyche of the new generation of Arab youth and also led to a feeling of inferiority and suppression.

As we mentioned in the introduction, in the 20th century, we witnessed a lot of events and one of the most powerful ones was 11

September 2001. This was followed by a large number of major events and crises in the Arab world and Europe and affected the media coverage. In Arab spring in 2011, the media has been changed and social media took a big space in the media field Nocetti (2019).

Since the Second World War, the media has become a public opinion-making tool and participates in determining political decisions in favor of the dominant parties, rather than becoming a tool for expressing a public opinion Dagher (2012).

In terms of media influence, Al-Nuwaihi (2014) considered the media is more like a major university open to its daily curricula renewed and changing with conditions and events, this media in both sides Arab and Western had a role in shaping the culture of society, Especially after the technological development in communication information and direct satellite broadcasting. And the spread of the Internet, mobile communications, and digital media has led to the development of an interactive communication network that connects the local to the global at the same time, so those in power are trying to assert their dominance in the field of communications and the media is used to achieve this control Castells (2007).

### **2.1.1. The stereotype about Arabs and Europeans in media**

According to Harper's Dictionary of Modern Thought, New York 1977, a stereotype is defined as an oversimplified image of a particular group by large numbers of people (Gumpert & Cathcart, 1983). But in the modern age, there is a gap between what exists and the impression we keep (Gumpert & Cathcart, 1983). Also, the definition of a stereotype as a mental image or belief of social groups has been questioned (Kurcz, 1998).

Also, Oxford English Dictionary defines it (Bordalo et al., 2016):

*A widely held but persistent and overly simplified image or idea of a particular type of person or thing*

These stereotypes cover ethnic groups, political groups: demographic or gender groups such as Asians being good at math, Republicans being rich, or women being bad at math (Bordalo et al., 2016). Stereotypes are an important part of the discourse as well as the information production system of European digital media (Gallur Santorum & García Orosa, 2016).

The concept of stereotype can be indicated by Vicente et al. (2010) study also, which analyzed the entire press production of six major Spanish periodicals on the image people have of the Arab and Islamic world that comes from stories in the media.

Vicente et al. (2010) considered that the Western media contributed greatly and played an important role in the formation of a stereotyped image of the Islamic world based on distortions and clichés. Abdalrahman, (2020) define the stereotype as the limited perception that a person keeps in his mind about a person or a matter, and people get to know each other with simple fixed perceptions about them.

And our attitudes towards others are affected by the media image presented by the media, and the editorial and production staffs are human beings who have attitudes, values, emotions and stereotypical attitudes that affect what they see and what they choose and share with the public (Gumpert & Cathcart, 1983).

So, the fear of Islam and Muslims produces a negative image about Arabs and the Arab world, especially when most writing about Arabs confusion between Arabs and Muslims Hamada (2001). But the truth is not all Arabs are Muslims, John Morreall and Sonn (2017) clear that:

*In fact, the overwhelming majority of Muslims are not Arabs; Islam is the second-largest religion in the world. Where the number of Muslims is about 1.6 billion people or 23% of the global population, and there are 22 Arabic speaking countries, but they constitute less than 20% of Muslims in the world, the overwhelming majority of Muslims are not Arabs*

And the events of September 2001 added distortions to the image of Arabs after linking Islam with terrorism and the fear of Islam, Muslims and Arabs prevailed (Moneim, 2016). GUEDES et al. (2011) agrees that peoples of Arab origin are at the fore in Western newspapers, and the fundamentalists' use of violence reveals the manipulation of Western media because the Arab is a citizen who wants to show that Islam is part of the world, not a suicide bomber. 2001 marked a profound mark in US history, and the attack contributed to the poor impression of Arabs in the West (GUEDES et al., 2011).

In most North American and European countries, the Muslim/Arab conflation is stigmatized (Bartkoski et al., 2018). Also the stereotypes and prejudices associated follow the individuals even if they are members of one group Muslims or Arab (Bartkoski et al., 2018). that's why it is imperative for researchers to clear the distinctions and distinguish between Muslims and Arabs separately because they might have different stereotypes that lead to different reasons for discrimination (Bartkoski et al., 2018). Belkhiri and Haroun (2019) searched how the Western media strategies in distorting the other, and found that Western media presented the Arabs through stereotype and distortion and linking them to backwardness and terrorism.

*"Unlike the rest of the world, Arabs absorb the crime of mother's breast"* Louassini (2002) describes the image of Arabs in western media. Adds *"the western media sell the Arab as they are commodity" for historical reasons* because the western public opinion carries Specific ideological convictions it's difficult to separate it (Louassini, 2002).

Semaan (2014) claims that scientific and academic research on Arab Americans began in 1923, and Jack Shaheen is the best-known scholar addressing the Arab stereotyped image start from 1983 through analysis Arab images in films, novels, cartoons, comics, and newspapers (Semaan, 2014).

Stereotype against Arabs appears in Shaheen (2003), Shaheen (1994), Shaheen (1985), he found after analyzed Hollywood movies,

## CHAPTER TWO

American Comic Books and the media coverage of the Middle East, how they vilify a people especially Arab and represented them as fanatics, brutal, uncivilized and others crazy about money. Shaheen (1985) mentioned how this affects the American public opinion about Arabs and Foreign policy formulation.

This image about Arabs in comics and cartoons in America according to Stockton (1994), is not isolated from cultural roots and ancient conflicts.

In his book "Covering Islam" and after analyzing the news coverage of the hostage crisis in 8 newspapers, three news networks, two magazines, and a radio station, Edward Said found that over the course of weeks, the image of Islam in the media reveals a lot not only about Islam but also the cultural institutions and political approaches in the media. Since the media are companies that seek profit, they are interested in promoting a certain image and advance it on others (Said, 2006).

The media coverage of the hostage crisis presented an old stereotype of Islam that did not change in history books, comics, cartoons, films, and series. Rather, they are suppliers of oil, terrorists, and later considered them as bloodthirsty mobs (Said, 2006).

In the Western media, Ridouani (2011) sheds lights on how the Arabs and Muslims are represented in the Western arts, and found that Western media reports maintain a constant distorted image of Arabs and Muslims, create inaccurate preconceptions about the principles of Islam, term fundamentalism and Arabs costumes, bearded Muslims, even "terrorism" as a word used with reservation when dealing with individuals who are not Arabs.

Naved Bakali (2013) reviewed Evelyn Alsultany's book "the Arabs and Muslims in the Media: Race and representation after 9/11" and cleared that in the decade after the terror attacks there have been a plethora of representations of Muslims in the media, the vast majority considers them as terrorists. Alsultany observed that:

*Hate crimes, workplace discrimination, bias incidents, and airline discrimination targeting Arab and Muslim Americans increased exponentially*

And found that:

*Articulation of racism in government, media, and civic discourses has become more varied, subtle, and diffuse*

Sheikh et al. (1996) analyzed stories published in four newspapers: The Times of London, The Los Angeles Times, The New York Times, and The Detroit Free Press, found the results supported their expectations that Media coverage of Muslims was mainly international in nature and came after particular events.

After analyzed New York Times articles Sweeney and Opatow (2013) found the most prevalent theme in the majority of articles connect Islam to terrorism, headscarves, Muslims, barbaric images, religious extremism, collective guilt, the meaning of Islam, Jihad, radicalism, and suspicion.

The majority of articles used pejorative terms (e.g. fundamentalist, militant) to describe Muslim group's question after Islamic Community Center in 2009–2010 controversy about the Park51 where World Trade Center Towers after they destroyed in September 2001. This conflict about resist build mosque construction in the USA and Europe reveals interconnections between 9/11 and Islamophobia (Sweeney & Opatow, 2013).

Ibrahim (2009) found that even researchers accused American media is favoritism when coverage of the middle east conflicts in 20th-Century after "conducting electronic and manual searches for



academic books and journal articles, as well as non-academic research reports authored by members of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)". By analyzing 52 studies and their methodologies and theoretical frameworks in the time frame from 1 January 1900 to 31 December 1999, Ibrahim (2009) found that:

*The Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) spoke on hate crimes detail the potential impact of derogatory media representation on Arab and Muslim communities all over the US*

Added:

*The Research investigating the effects of derogatory media coverage needs to continue*

Because the:

*Negative depictions of Arabs in American media could have global consequences as well*

In literature, Plays, folk literature, and movies, Delgado and Stefancic (1992) provide the racist stereotype towards minorities in the United States of America blacks, Indians, Asians and Mexicans which developed and improved slightly according to specific circumstances.

They provide an explanation based on historical evidence of how racism continues and how the terminology of free expression and expression made cure racism very difficult, and in some cases, it makes matters worse, besides the influence of the free market particularly in the field of filmmaking (Delgado & Stefancic, 1992).

on other hand, Tessler (2003) analyzed data from nine Arab countries after September, 2001, about Arab and Muslim political attitudes, found that Arab and Muslims had negative images of the United States not coming from religion but from the political position of the United States. After this event also Diamond (2002) analyzed political cartoon in eight Arabic and Islamic newspapers, and found that anti-Semitism is abundant in these cartoons, and there is a stereotype about the United States of America because of its foreign policy. In online

journalism Galal et al. (2008) analyzed 1624 from 8 online news websites to study "The image of the United States portrayed in Arab world online journalism" and found that 1346 story is negative.

Rolando et al. (2015) emphasized that the mass media is among the strongest providers of an image with common meanings, as the print press and newspapers on the Internet contribute to the restoration of the old stereotype.

Rolando et al. (2015) discusses the stereotype broadcast about drinking alcohol and linking it to gender in Italy, where traditional media reinforced the image of female alcohol consumption and issued a harsher judgment than male behavior. In the new technical media, two thousand clips were analyzed on YouTube of drunk people, published in 2012, and the researcher found that these videos reinforce negative stereotypes, link them to women, and reproduce the same image produced by traditional media and are more dangerous because they have lasting and uncontrolled effects, and women become vulnerable to verbal violence In the comments to these sections (Rolando et al., 2015).

### **2.1.2. In Arabic media**

European-Arab relations are also affected by the political events that afflict the world. Khader (2016) traces the stages that the relationship between Europe and the Arab world has gone through since the 1957 Rome Agreement. Khader (2016) believes that Europe, after its exit from two world wars and the formation of a strong union, prides itself on being a normative and civil power, but its policy towards the Arab world tends to be conservative more than its tendency to make changes.

From his point of view, Khader (2016) presented a reasonable treatment of Arab-European relations, and this treatment targets several parties, including journalists, because he believes that the inaccurate and biased media coverage of European-Arab relations

raises concerns because it is characterized by underestimation, urgency in preparing reports, inaccuracy in transmitting information, and even ignorance.

Europe has failed to export its security model based on democracy and market economy, and it has also failed to achieve and advance peace in the Arab region (Khader, 2016). In addition, its role in promoting democracy in Arab countries, especially after the Arab Spring, where the reaction was quick and encouraging but devoid of any strategic depth or far-sighted vision (Khader, 2016).

Khader (2016) believes that the European Union is a devoted follower of the United States of America and a secondary partner in the peace process, and it has failed to show the spirit of leadership in the Middle East. Adds:

*Many Europeans consider the Arab world at best an oil well or a huge market, and at worst a dangerous environment full of turmoil<sup>14</sup>.*

Therefore, Europe's policies since the 1957 Rome Agreement have been aimed at access to oil and market penetration, in addition to security concerns, and these policies have been seeking the same goals for 65 years with different names (Khader, (2016).

In Arab world media, Al-Jayashi (2020) discussed the trends of the Arab media towards extremism, specifically the events of the two mosques in New Zealand 2019, by analyzing 3 Arab newspapers. Al-Jayashi (2020) found that the three newspapers described social media as an incubator for feelings of extremism and violence. The three newspapers also accused the international intelligence services of causing the two mosque incidents and that terrorism is a Western industry, in addition to blaming the extreme right for violence against Muslims because of their incendiary woodwork (Al-Jayashi, 2020).

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<sup>14</sup> Europe and the Arab World: A Critical Vision of European Policy from 1957 to 2014 (p.19)

Dajani and Donohue (1973) analyzed six Arab newspapers representing a geographical and ideological distribution to find out the foreign news coverage in Arab newspapers, and found that the United States of America obtained the largest news coverage. Most of the news in these newspapers is 50% politics, the United States first, then China, Britain, the Eastern Socialist Bloc, and in last place France (Dajani & Donohue, 1973).

Coverage varies from newspaper to newspaper and is related to the foreign relations of each country (Dajani & Donohue, 1973). Saudi Arabia, for example, focuses on US news and ignores Russian news, while the Syrian press focuses on news of socialist countries (Dajani & Donohue, 1973). The news coverage also depends on criteria, including the position of the foreign country on the Arab-Israeli problem, so the news of the United States of America in Lebanon was negative and the Syrian press was more negative, whilst the news of Russia - pro-Arab- in Lebanon was neutral and in Saudi Arabia the coverage of politics was neutral and the variety was negative, the news of France It was neutral while Britain's news was negative, except for the Kuwaiti press that presented it in a neutral way (Dajani & Donohue, 1973).

Foreign news in 1983 in the Jordanian press was founded by El Sarayrah, (1986), focusing on the news of the third world countries - Arab countries - more than the developed countries. The regions ranked fourth, the Middle East, Africa, the United States, and Western Europe (El Sarayrah, 1986). El Sarayrah (1986) justified this because Jordan is an Arab country, and the Middle East was witnessing the Lebanese civil war, Israel's occupation of Lebanon, the Palestinian crisis, and the war between Iraq and Iran.

After the US war on Iraq in 2003, Falah et al. (2006) analyzed 65 Arab newspapers from 17 Arab countries, including Iraq, in addition to the Iraqi News Agency. The Iraqi press was preoccupied with preparations for the war and considered the war unjust and the US administration an aggressor (Falah et al., (2006). It also focused on the countries that opposed the war, with extensive reports on the Iraqi

home front (Falah et al., (2006). The Arab press, particularly in the countries neighboring Iraq, focused on the contacts between the United States and these countries, and the visits of politicians and diplomats, which localized these news (Falah et al., (2006).

Falah et al. (2006) considered that the Arab region was involved in a network of relations with the United States of America, and this enabled Washington to exploit it to its advantage, and since most Arab newspapers are subject to government control, they represent the regime's view of American interventions and refrain from publishing opposition opinions. On the contrary, political cartoons were the best way for Arab newspapers to express their protest against the war (Falah et al., 2006).

By distributing 110 questionnaires to students of Iraqi colleges of Baghdad, Abd-alrahman (2020) united that a large percentage of young people bear a negative image of the United States of America, despite the positive image presented by the Iraqi or Arab media, where young people see that the United States serves the hotbeds of terrorism in the region. Abd-alrahman (2020) believes that the image of the United States on satellite channels contributes greatly to the mental image of the distant other, and the image of the other represents a relative standard that may begin with a mental level with an idea, view or collective awareness, and the image of the other may include deep, ethnic, political, national and cultural values.

After the September attack, the Arab news websites presented a negative image of the United States of America without clear differences between the press and radio websites and the websites of Arab news agencies, where violent political and military news dominated the news of the United States (AbdulGhani, 2003). Also, the image of the United States of America in Arab websites news did not reach the level of the image of the enemy (AbdulGhani, 2003). Journalists also distinguish between US policy and the American people (Pintak & Ginges, 2008).

Furthermore, the issue of cartoons about the Prophet Muhammad was addressed by Arab newspapers using comments or a negative

evaluation method, and most of the texts contained Arab and Islamic quotes that give an indication of the affiliation of these newspapers (Hakam, 2009). The 19 newspapers chose articles that did not require editing and bear an Arab-Islamic alignment, and the selection of texts bearing hostility to the Arab and Islamic world was avoided (Hakam, 2009). The selected European texts can also be softened or edited to be compatible with the Arab and Islamic ideologies (Hakam, 2009).

The Arab media, according to Dagher (2012), is divided over the relationship with the other, between media that defend modernity, media that pacify the other in the name of the regimes, independent media that try to defend Arab and Islamic identity, secular media, media against the American conspiracy, and media that defend extremism from within and espouse open media. By analyzing four Arab newspapers on issues of tolerance and dialogue with the other, Dagher (2012) found that the features of the image of the other are negative and aggressive, as the Arab newspapers were interested in the Arab domain by 40%, then the international 33%, and the local 27%, and found that what hinders tolerance in the Arab media discourse is negative stereotypes, contempt for others and discrimination (Dagher, 2012).

This stereotype about Arabs and Muslims even European and united state related to some **political parties and political issues**, for example Arab-Israeli conflict. Rugh (2007) analyzed the Arabic media from the political system side and found they have 3 types of media: the first is controlled by the political system, and this media cannot critic political power; the second is national media, which is not controlled by a political system but through people allies to the system, and the third can criticize the political system owned by privet sector. This control to the media means the political system also control the image in media and what they want to say.

Douai (2019) discusses the Policies that affected on the Arab Media in the Post-truth Era, and The digital revolution that affected the information and media system at various levels (local, national, and global), and the Appearance of “post-truth” as the international word

of the year in 2016, which was defined by Oxford Dictionaries, “growing distrust of facts offered by the establishment.” with examples happened in 2016 like Brexit of the United Kingdom, election Donald Trump, the social media has been used as a disruptive political tool to defraud the media (Douai, 2019). This “post-truth era” exposes deep structural flaws in our existing information ecosystem and doubt on the values of public service journalism exacerbates the problem of fake news (Douai, 2019). In the Arab world, the freedom of media Controlled by some authorities and this causes stereotypes (Douai, 2019).

After analyzing the structure of Arab media in general and the Gulf in particular Ortega-Pérez (2019) found in her thesis that the Arab media exists within the global media structure but there is a clear discrepancy in the global presence due to political, social, religious, and economic contexts that make up the media landscape.

Also, the Arab media according to Ortega-Pérez (2019) has the ability to provide information according to the needs of those who own it and not according to the needs of citizens, especially with the presence of shareholders and members of the boards of directors or owners of the media linked to politicians, leaders, ruling families, and clerics, and this come despite the apparent abandonment of Arab countries from their control over the media and with the development of communication technologies And oil revenues and the change of ownership of the media, but in-depth the Arab media work not changed.

### **2.1.3. In European and western media**

In European media, (Vicente et al., 2010) analyzed 6 Spanish national journals (El País, El Mundo, ABC, La Vanguardia, El Periódico de Catalunya and La Razón) during 2008, to look for any reference to Muslims and the Arab presence. The authors considered that their study was comprehensive and unprecedented in the specialized

scientific literature and combined content analysis and analysis of press discourses.

Vicente et al. (2010) emphasized that since the September 11th attacks in New York, as well as the attacks in Madrid and London, the relations between the Islamic and Western worlds have taken center stage in the political problem, the media, and public opinion. They found that the Western media contributed greatly to the formation of a stereotyped image of the Islamic world, is an image based on distortion and clichés (Vicente et al., 2010).

Soukah (2017) monitored the image of the young Arab refugee in the German magazine *Der Spiegel* between 2015-2016, adding to it other journalistic models from Germany, Austria and France. Soukah (2017) found that there are three trends that constitute the first media discourse a stage that goes along with popular sympathy, then a stage of intimidation by young Arab refugees and the third is a utilitarian stage. The last stage indicates that there is a demographic and economic benefit for young asylum seekers. These three trends are based on the ideology of the European self-glorification, which sheltered the weak, backward one (Soukah, 2017).

Soukah (2017) also found that the media's view of the refugee is not different from the stereotypical image of the immigrant who preceded him in settling in European lands, where he is seen as backward and different from the European human being, and this image remained attached to him even after he passed the stage of asylum.

In Spain as well, Corrales (2004) noted that there was a conflict in the Spanish imagination between morphophobia and Islamophobia, which resulted in the negative image of Muslims in general and Moroccans in particular. Corrales (2004) presented an explanation and a historical account of the Arab-Islamic presence in Spain in the fifteenth and sixteenth centuries, and the hostility and clash between the Ottomans Empire and the Spaniards in the sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries, and the resulting transformations of thousands of Christians and Muslims into the rank of slaves.



Corrales (2004) presented a historical account of Spain's relations with Morocco and the Ottoman Empire to clarify that the Spanish position on Moroccans in particular, Muslims and Arabs in general has historical links. Corrales (2004) assumed that the vast majority of the populations reluctantly accept the values of solidarity and tolerance. It was also noted that the Spanish society was divided regarding the treatment of immigrants, and that there was great sympathy with the Palestinian cause and did not accept the 1991 Gulf War or the Spanish support for the US army in the Iraq war in 2003 (Corrales, 2004).

Regarding the image of Arabs in the minds of Western image makers who are the correspondents, technicians, columnists, writers and editors in Europe and America, Hamada (2001) found that Arabs were portrayed before the establishment of Israel from the perspective of camels, dancing girls, and pyramids, and after the Arab-Israeli conflict, Arabs were seen as backward and extremists. Those image makers are responsible for the compilation and production of writing and editing the content of Western newspapers and magazines Hamada (2001).

Hamada (2001) found that the negative image of Arabs dominance the western image makers and consideration of Arabs as fundamentalists, aggressive and anti-western and this image feeds the negative image of Arabs in the western media, Where the Western media is relied on as a source of information about Arabs, while the influence of books and references came in second place.

This image of Arabs and Muslims in the minds of Western image makers according to Hamada (2001) remained the same, they were biased while presenting a false and distorted image, which resulted in the formation of international public opinion towards Arab and Islamic issues and the formation of anti-Arab and anti-Muslim policies.

Aday et al. (2005) Analyzed 1820 story from the Coverage of the Iraq War in 2003 published in 5 TV networks in the United States (CNN, NBC, CBC, ABC, FOX news channel, and Aljazeera from Arab channels). The coverage was balanced in Aljazeera and the American

networks more than FOX which supported the American-led war effort (Aday et al. 2005). But even when the coverage in general, was good, American channels ignored the voices opposing the war, while Aljazeera was focusing on protests and diplomatic efforts (Aday et al. 2005).

According to Mousa (1987) after analyzed the New York Times for 33 years, the image of Arabs in the American press is linked to the conflict in the Middle East, and later was linked to global oil supplies and price increases, as Arabs were ignored before 1948. Mousa (1987) explained that studying and analysis of the image explain the internal dynamics of the media institutions, and that the selection of materials published in a newspaper determines how the images are formed and which ones will be emphasized, and found that the analysis of the prestigious press as a source of public opinion helps explain the impact of coverage on the Arab image and if it allows the formation of a conscious and balanced image of the Arabs.

While the image of Arabs in general is within political contexts, but the image of individuals is at the level of social and religious contexts linked to the image of the sheikh surrounded by women Mousa (1987). The study showed that half of the topics that were published were related to the conflict and the emphasis was increased in the years 1944 and 1947.

Mousa (1987) explained that the newspaper relied on (French, British and Jewish) sources for news and did not rely on Arab sources, which reflects an imbalance in the reports and gives a picture of part of the Arabs, but not all of them, and confines Arab life to political, economic and military contexts, which creates a more strict and rigid image that closely resembles Stereotype. This unbalanced coverage according to the study contributed to spreading misunderstandings about Arabs, creating stereotypes that distorted the Arab image as a whole.

The image of the Arabs as the study indicate developed between the First World War and the Great Arab Revolt and the late 1940s (the First Arab-Israeli War), the first image was unromantic and then

turned to talk only about politics and wars, and Arab activities were distorted because they were transmitted through unsympathetic eyes, which created distortions and misconceptions and inaccuracies

In his book *World Orders Old And New*, Chomsky (2007) says that the allegations made by American newspaper editors during the Gulf War, that President Bush paved the world public opinion before his war against Iraq in January 1999 were full of falsehoods, so world public opinion was nothing but the American public opinion. Chomsky cites several examples that have shown hostility to Arabs in the American and Israeli newspapers, in an article published Ha'aretz columnist Ari Shavit:

*we believe with absolute certitude that now, with the White House and Senate in our hands along with the Pentagon and the New York Times, the lives [of Arabs] do not count as much as our own*

In Book Review Neumann (2015) presents *Transforming Media Coverage of Violent Conflicts the New Face of War*, the article talks about who covered the war transformed especially with increase the terrorist attacks. The book takes 10 years for the writers to finish, they said that three categories lost part of their importance and influence because of the new rules govern the media, and they are news editors, political and military elites, also the peace press was absent (Neumann, (2015).

In the public opinion field, (McCombs et al., 2012), in their book, talk about the news and public opinion, they said that Media organizations are commercial entities that earn money to survive, and thus can affect the media content by advertisers and consumers. Also, the believers of the control theory consider that media organizations have an interest in maintaining this situation. That's why in the last decades, European countries try to reach the Arab audience and they launched channels in many languages including Arabic (McCombs et al., 2012). One of these channels, France 24, explains the role of the channel in French cultural diplomacy directed to the Arab world Boukhari (2018). And the channel came as part of the project of late President Jacques

Chirac, who wanted to launch French international news channel to convey the French vision of events and repel the impact of CNN and Aljazeera (Boukhari, 2018). The channel came within the frame of news competition after the war in Iraq, where France was against the war, but this position remained Dimmed, in the presence of channels monopolized information during the war (Boukhari, 2018).

In the Arab world and globally the Arab-Israel conflict one of the most issues the politicians did not solve (Brieger, 2010). And media is part of this conflict, Brieger (2010) Explained that

*One of the characteristics of this conflict is the media and propaganda battle. Each term is part of a dialectical game that seeks to impose definitions on the mass media. It is not easy to choose a path that tries not to get caught up in mere propaganda from one side or the other*

And when the Arab-Israeli conflict meets with the events of September 11, the media coverage becomes more biased for one party at the expense of another (Obermann & Dijkink, 2008). Obermann and Dijkink (2008) discussed reframing international conflict after 9/11, by analyzing the pre-9/11 news that started on 7 March 2001 in four quality dailies in the Netherlands, the study starts with the new Israeli government on that day and ended when the government left on 30th October 2002. The study found that the perception of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in the Dutch press was changed that occurred after September 11, 2001, Israel is pictured less as the aggressor and more often as the victim, in addition, there is at least a shift from a negative focus on Israel to a more or less equal distribution of criticism over both parties, particularly if one accounts for the facts in the political arena. The possible sources of changes observed in news reports to the notorious events were actual developments in the conflict arena (the Middle East), political events elsewhere in the world, including Netherlands, that affect the perception of the conflict, and changes in the editorial policy or staffs of newspapers analyzed (Obermann & Dijkink, 2008). Between the October 1973 Arab-Israeli war and the June 1982 Israeli invasion of Lebanon, Sandra Whitehead (1987)

found the diversified portrayal of Arabs in *The Economist* in 1973 than in 1982 after analyzed Arab Portrayals in two weekly news magazines in the United States and England *Time* and *The Economist*. There is an ideological link between the cultural-political-economic factors of the two nations and the portrayal of Arabs in their media, this result is related to the British historical role as a colonizer, and the American and British dependency on Arab oil (Sandra Whitehead, 1987).

Just as wars and conflicts dominate media coverage, peace treaties have the same control, Morsy (1986) shows this through a comparison for unfavorable portrayals of Arabs, and took Egypt as an example of how the U.S media deal with Arab during the Energy Crisis 1973-74 and 1978-79, and how it changed after Camp David Peace Treaty by Sadat regime. The media during the U.S. Energy Crisis made Arabs as enemies because of the oil embargo and its high prices, the Arabs became regular features of the U.S. media as villains who threaten the American way of life (Morsy, 1986). And because The degree of bias in covering Arab world news changes according to US foreign policy the media coverage changed after Camp David Peace Treaty In the major American television networks, the Egyptian regime became a partner of the United States of America after the agreement, and its leadership appeared positively (Morsy, 1986).

Sadat became the face of news magazines and selected “Man of the Year” by *Time* magazine (Morsy, 1986). Also, everything related to Egypt became famous, the image of Egyptian women was modified in the American mass media and presented them as westernized and liberated (Morsy, 1986).

Noakes and Wilkins (2002) found that the news of the Palestinian movement shifted in US news after analyzed recognition and framing of Palestinian issues between 1984 and 1998 by the *New York Times* and the Associated Press wire service. The US news media gave big attention to the Palestinian news in the 80s with the negative image most of the time, but it was short-lived where the both news media reduced their coverage of Palestinian issues by 1990, this was linked

to the US government because this weak coverage ended suddenly in 1993, the year of sign Oslo Accords Noakes & Wilkins (2002).

#### **2.1.4. Hate speech, racism against Arabs and European in media**

In the first place, one of the researchers' problems was the lack of a unified definition of hate speech (Georgiou & Zaborowski, 2017; Nielsen, 2002; Kuş, 2016; Slagle, 2009; Shepherd et al., 2015; Barlow & Awan, 2016; Boeckmann & Turpin-Petrosino, 2002; Farkas et al., 2018; Herrera, 2014; Lillian, 2007), especially with social media because it is difficult to distinguish ridicule, criticism, and hatred in some cases.

Identifying toxic language is a difficult task because it depends on the social context in which it was said (Sap et al., 2019). Also, current methods of detecting toxic language have racial biases and the text alone does not define it (Sap et al., 2019).

Koncavar (2013) considered that hate speech can be described as racism, religious discrimination, xenophobia, and homophobia. It is an emotional discourse that many may claim that they can define its concept, but the criteria for doing so are often elusive and contradictory (Article19, 2015). This discourse has ideological functions to the extent that its true meanings are not recognized and prevents democratic solutions from being found (Koncavar, 2013). This multifaceted discourse can attribute false assumptions to a religion, hateful facts about a religious community (Aguilera-Carnerero & Azeez, 2016). Also a particular statement may or may not be considered hate speech, depending on the person's cultural background and personal feelings (Ross et al., 2016). To narrow hate speech, the methods are similar in that they leave a large space for personal interpretation, because there may be differences in what is considered offensive (Ross et al., 2016). Therefore, it should be avoided easily defining expression as hate speech because its use may lead to negative consequences and may be misused to justify restrictions on the right to expression (Article19, 2015). Also there is

some advocate alternative concepts such as “dangerous speech” or “fear speech” in a way similar to avoiding the decisions of the Human Rights Council using the term Hate speech” and replacing it with formulas such as “intolerance, negative stereotyping, stigma or discrimination” (Article19, 2015).

### **2.1.5. Hate speech in Europe and western world**

The refugee crisis in 2015 showed that the media played role in framing refugees (Georgiou & Zaborowski, 2017). Georgiou and Zaborowski (2017) found that Press coverage promoted hate speech and hostility towards migrants and refugees, considered their arrival to European shores in 2015 as a crisis for Europe, and seen them as vulnerable or as dangerous without giving them any opportunities to speak about their experiences and suffering. These results came after analyzing 1200 articles in European influential press in eight member states of the council of Europe, and two major Arabic-language newspapers through three events, the Hungarian barrier along the border with Serbia, Alan Kurdi’s images, and Paris terrorist attacks (Georgiou & Zaborowski, 2017).

Also, social media showed new levels of hate speech in "the digital hate discourse" (Kuş, 2016). Kuş (2016) analyzed hate speech in the comments on the BBC world's Facebook page about refugees and the sentiment of these comments, which shows a type of hate speech like describing refugees as illegal immigrants, economic migrants, and Jihadist invaders. The study considered that hate speech has destructive effects on the social and human sense, and more than 7000 comments scanned from 300 pages to BBC World Service's Facebook fan pages showed 4 types of digital hate speech against Syrian refugees, hateful discourse with territorial advantage, security-oriented, economy-oriented and religious belief-oriented hate speech (Kuş, 2016). The study found that social networking may become a platform for the spread of hate speech, in addition to the emergence of a clash of civilizations in the form of digital hate speech.

Shepherd et al. (2015) highlighted the "Histories of Hating" in a roundtable through dialogue between digital culture scholars and discussed the seemingly increased presence of hating and hate speech online because of a campaign called Gamer Gate, which carried hate speech and aimed at women in video games.

Shepherd et al. (2015) focused on the ontological status of social media as the primary mode through which hate is currently expressed and found that define and historicize hate online is complicated, also the moral underpinnings need for new approaches.

And, advised to move from descriptive and explanatory accounts of hate online to a historical research agenda to intervene in unsafe spaces of social media (Shepherd et al., 2015) because hate may wears Several different cloaks online, including humor, play, with another form of hate speech that is being studied and criticized is "anti-Semitism".

Islamophobia began to spread in 1996 after the Runnymede Trust established the commission on British Muslims, and the image of Islamophobia was manifested in two ways (fear of individual Islam and institutional Islam) (Aguilera-Carnerero & Azeez, 2016).

Aguilera-Carnerero and Azeez (2016) agrees with others that there is no specific definition of hate speech where hate speech is multi-faceted, and it may attribute false assumptions to religion, or attribute hateful facts to a religious gathering, or ridicule traditions and practices, or verbal abuse and threat, also the most used channel for expressing Islamophobia has changed at the present time, and become the social media where hate speech is multi-faceted, and it may attribute false assumptions to religion, or attribute hateful facts to a religious gathering, or ridicule traditions and practices, or verbal abuse and threat, also the most used channel for expressing Islamophobia has changed at the present time, and become the social media (Aguilera-Carnerero & Azeez, 2016). After analyzing 10,000 tweets on the hashtag #Jihad, the researchers found an increase in the discourse on social media, and the concept of Jihad is linked to violence and war, and Islam is portrayed as being at war with the



west, even the discourse on the Internet about jihad is not written by the Arabs themselves, but by people who have prejudices against Islam.

Aguilera-Carnerero and Azeez (2016) explained that the concept of Jihad, for example, is closely related to violence and war and it was portrayed as a "holy war" in the post-9/11 era, an idea that has stuck until these days. Also, western media reports about Muslims and Islam are similar and tend to be negative and linked to extreme violence and terrorism where Muslims are portrayed as supporters of terrorism, violent towards minorities and women, against secularism and hostile to other religions, in addition to the general fear of Muslim immigrants (Aguilera-Carnerero and Azeez, 2016).

The main problem, in Aguilera-Carnerero & Azeez's view (2016), is that the media attribute their own definitions to the meanings of words such as Jihad, and the main western media have played a role in ensuring that the definition of "Jihad" becomes a distortion of Islam as a religion and its followers are "violent, unstable" as the word "Jihad" is associated with violence and acts committed by various terrorist groups. Also there is a difference between new and old media in the context of creating and presenting media content, new media redefines the concept of media content and has the speed of delivering content to users (Koncavar, 2013).

After Paris attacks in 2015 on the responsible and workers in the satirical French weekly Charlie Hebdo, Miró Llinares (2016) considered that the source of concern now is Web 2. Where the Internet facilitated reaching people, fostered violence, hate speech, and became a tool in the hands of Jihadist terrorist groups. Social media sites: Facebook and Twitter, became worrisome for the same reasons and the interaction of these people with each other (Miró Llinares, 2016). By collecting 250,000 tweets that were published in Spanish, and after a screening process, they reached a final sample of 4,838 tweets showed that category with the highest representation is that of attacks against collective sensitivity, the second grouping of messages is that of incitement to discrimination, the second categories

lead by hate speech. Miró Llinares (2016) assumed that the results of the study could be circulated on other social networking sites, because if short tweets on Twitter carry hate speech and violence, then long posts on Facebook carried more than that but also does not have scientific evidence that the Internet has caused increased violent communication and hate speech.

Also after Charlie Hebdo attack in 2015, and Paris attacks in November 13 (13-N), Barbero and Sánchez-García (2018) analyzed 217 opinion articles (52 articles in ABC, 34 in El País after Charlie Hebdo attack, and 79 articles in "ABC" and 52 in "El País after" (13-N)). The opinion articles categories into three points: Orientalist arguments, clashes of civilizations, and Islamophobic arguments. They found there are speeches of an Islamophobic character that have roots in the theory of the clash of civilizations and the Orientalist discourses of colonialism, and newspapers show a predominant discourse linking Islam and terrorism. And the Islamophobic speeches appear more on "ABC" than in "El País" (Barbero & Sánchez-García, 2018).

Tomlins (2015) studied the national debate in Canada after the publication of the Danish cartoons that were deemed offensive to the feelings of millions of Muslims around the world and the benefit of Section 13 of the hate speech regulations in the Canadian Human Rights Act. This debate according to the study led to the abolition of the Hate Act in 2012, and this decision was the first legal action in Canada regarding blasphemy cases since 1935-2006.

In Canada, the media and the Broadcasting Corporation refrained from publishing the Danish cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad, but a small magazine published the cartoons, which resulted in a lengthy trial that gained media attention, this was followed by the Canadian Human Rights Committee's discussion of Section 13 of the Human Rights Act, which was established to deal with extremist groups that adopt hate speech over the phone and entered into force in 1977, but after the events of September 2001, the section was amended and

other means of communication were added, mainly the Internet (Tomlins, 2015).

Because the Canadian Constitution of 1982 regards any restriction of speech of any kind, whether repugnant or not, as a violation of the constitution, and the definition of hate speech in and of itself is problematic, as a result, concerns emerged from Section 13, such as fears of a media shutdown (Tomlins, 2015).

From their experience, Barlow and Awan (2016) show hate speech and abuse against oppressed groups and against Academics who searched for "women and individuals of Muslim faith, experienced online".

Although there is no single definition of hate speech, there are common characteristics like insulting, incites violence, and discrimination against specific groups, this is reinforced with the ability to anonymize social media (Barlow & Awan, 2016). They found that Islamophobia in Britain increased dramatically, specifically on social media, also women and children were exposed more than men to violence via the Internet from accusations, verbal abuse, threats, or sexual fantasies.

Barlow and Awan (2016) share their personal experience of hate speech because of their work as researchers, one of them, through her Twitter account, where she was subjected to abuse because of her feminist views, threats of rape, and abuse of her physical appearance, the second researcher was subjected to threats and abuse, including the threat of death because of her background as a Muslim, and the researcher has suffered from the negative impact of this on her personal life and her family.

in Hungary, Boromisza-Habashi (2011) found out that the discussion about the agenda of hate speech and anti-racism indirectly highlights the inverse nature of those who clash around it, after analyzed three types of data: 17 broadcast episodes featuring discussions of "hate speech" in Hungarian, 487 articles from the Hungarian print media, and 8 semi-structured, face-to-face interviews with participants of

Hungarian political life in time period between January 2004 and May 2007.

The findings explained that opposing racism carries a racist and hate speech, and the debate over anti-racism has also faced innovative ways to undermine it, resulting in surrender and the impossibility of continuing the debate on racism (Boromisza-Habashi, 2011).

After the murder of Drummer Lee Rigby in London in 2013, Burnap and Williams (2015) studied the spread of hate speech on Twitter by collecting information during two weeks after the crime. They aimed to test the learning machine to distinguish between tweets carrying hate speech or racism against race or religion, whereby classifications were derived to distinguish the content of tweets, and seek to develop a technical mechanism to define cyber hate speech, which contributes to the drafting of legislation and policies through which it can determine the spread of this speech.

Burnap and Williams (2015) considered that social networking sites provide a database for decision-makers concerning hate speech, specifically after the terrorist events that witness an increase in this speech, and reporting this form of crime to the police does not happen much. So they built a model to classify data according to a coding system in digital social research to understand social interactions, and built an automated educational chapter to distinguish responses, and were then applied to all data collected; among 450,000 tweets a sample of 2000 tweets was taken (Burnap & Williams, 2015).

The results of the classifications were positive and gave promising results in identifying the false negatives, and showed that cyber carry hateful and insulting words directed at specific groups, and some hostile content does not carry hateful words, which means they need to do more to define what hate speech is (Burnap & Williams, 2015). The sample was 450 thousand tweets, only 11% of which were considered hate speech. That's why they don't generalize the results because it is an individual case but other researchers can use the same method on other individual cases (Burnap & Williams, 2015).

Calvert (1997) provides an approach to hate speech and the harm it causes through communication scholar James Carey's (1989) models. And asks: "what can the theory of communication offer about hate speech?" Assume that courts and legislative bodies should be aware of communication models, because communication theory may help courts, researchers, and jurists to better understanding hate speech.

With submission to the transmission and ritual communication models, Calvert (1997) deals with the harm caused by hate speech, which is psychological and mental, that is not recognized by the courts, that only recognizes the clear physical harm. Also, race theorists consider that the discourse directed towards minorities is intended to maintain power over minorities and determine who they are and how others think about them (Calvert, (1997).

After mention models on the hostile environment and how the judiciary deals with it, such as the work environment, the woman's exposure to verbal harassment, and the anti-racism environment that promotes unequal treatment with minorities (Calvert, 1997). The researcher found that using the ritual model is not effective in determining legal responsibility, specifically when considering a particular case of hate speech that causes harm, because it is a complex model on the issue of responsibility. Despite this, it does provide courts and legislative bodies with a framework to understand hate speech and the harm it causes, but communication theories cannot solve complex legal problems (Calvert, 1997).

To show the importance of social media in converting regular daily speeches into strong political messages, and how these speeches threaten aims of these political groups Chilwa (2018) analyzed "Media and online discourses produced by the Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB), a Nigerian separatist/secessionist group that seeks a referendum for the independence of the Igbo ethnic group of Nigeria".

Chilwa (2018) made a five-category critical analysis of 75 'press release' or 'world press release' on the IPOB website, 15 articles from four Nigerian online newspapers, and one mainstream newspaper (online version), and 250 posts and tweets were obtained from both

the IPOB Facebook and Twitter page totaling 500 samples, in time period January 2016 and October 2017 during the crisis.

Later in 2013, the separatist group IPOB appeared; they adopt radical and aggressive speech in their campaigns via the Internet, as well as heading to armed conflict against Nigerian authorities which used violence in suppressing the members of the group from killing and torture, and considered them as a terrorist group (Chiluwa, 2018).

After a presented number of models on group's speech, the counter-discourse, contents of linguistic violence and hate speech, Chiluwa (2018) found group speech affected the support was provided to them and does not served their goals, and led to the emergence of another separatist group against them. This indicates that hate speech, even if it is the result of political goals some people seen right, does not serve groups that embrace it because it alienates the people from it and loses much of its support (Chiluwa, 2018).

And how social media users impose on organizing speech and creating a virtual identity in the virtual community? Chua (2009) conducted an in-depth and exploratory analysis four virtual communities that are Soc.Culture.Jewish (SCJ), Soc.Culture.Jewish.Moderated (SCJM), Soc.Culture.Singapore (SCS), and Soc.Culture.Singapore.Moderated (SCSM). Some of these societies succeeded in managing their forums, while others failed, this success and failure were evaluated through three factors: member comments, number of posts, and responses (Chua, 2009).

The study indicates that the regulate speech of the virtual community was necessary in some cases, one of the virtual communities succeeded in managing speech while another failed (Chua, 2009). This success requires the presence of an adversarial collective identity and the presence of a target collective identity, and this imposes conditions on these communities and the nature of speech in them (Chua, 2009). Just as these virtual communities were moving away from talking about controversial issues, this does not mean that there are no other hostile virtual communities and broadcast hate speech towards others (Chua, 2009).

Also in homophobic discourse, Draper and Lotz (2012) analyzed FX series "Rescue Me" by use working through is an ideological strategy, they found that the importance of the strategy of "working through" in "Rescue Me", not the result, but rather negotiating on the ground with ideological transformation and how they work during the transition.

Draper and Lotz (2012) discussed how to "Rescue Me" worked through the identity of homosexuals in the first three seasons, and considered the series challenge ideological assessments by adopting new hybrid novels, story-telling techniques, and characterization patterns, and showed the need to make scholars and media scholars studying representations and discourses "of the increasing complexity of some television storytelling" of social issues, also proposed using "working through" as a new textual strategy for television criticism (Draper & Lotz, 2012).

Evolvi (2017) discusses hate speech towards Muslims on Twitter after the British referendum on European Union membership "Brexit" in 2016. Evolvi (2017) suggests understanding group polarization on Twitter as antagonist confrontations that exclude the claims of part of the population. Evolvi (2017) found after analyzing 2005 tweet, written by 1789 users in Brexit hashtag between 23 June 2016 – the date of the referendum – and 30 June, that UK exit from European Union contributed to the emergence of Islamophobic discourses, "the majority of tweets 1328 frame Islam negatively, 362 tweets frame positively, and 315 tweets are neutral".

Islamophobic tweets frame Muslims as foreigners different from white British, reveals a gender dimension, and frame Islam as a misogynistic religion (Evolvi, 2017). And in a minority case, the hashtag #Brexitis was used to counteract Islamophobic discourses (Evolvi, 2017).

Also, social media can be a space for fake propaganda; Farkas et al. (2018) studied Facebook pages in Denmark created for political advertising purposes, the user's identity is hidden, and it mimics the opponent's identity to provoke aggressive reactions. The 11 cloaked Facebook pages claimed to be administered by radical Islamists living in Denmark disguised as radical Islamic pages, which provoked

hostile racist responses to Muslims in particular, immigrants and refugees in general (Farkas et al., 2018).

Farkas et al. (2018) faced the difficulty of tracking cloaked pages because they do not remain for long periods, as well as verifying the identities of those responsible for these pages, they concluded that the cloaked pages were created by the same person or group, and found that the mechanism to create a page on Facebook allows hiding the identity of those responsible for it and controlling the content. This mechanism support cloaked Facebook pages to publish hostile comments, posting offensive images, drawings, and extremist phrases against Danish society, and inciting anti-Muslim hostility (Farkas et al., 2018). The reaction to these pages came with the spread of hate speech and hostility towards Muslims and refugees in Denmark; also a counter page was created to show the falsehood of these pages and proved successful in eliminating the hostile pages (Farkas et al., 2018).

George (2014) Drawing on legal discourse, suggest a framework and language for journalists to use when dealing with hate speech issues, due to the dilemma that results from the struggle between freedom of expression and respect for religious identity. Because a journalist needs to assert freedom of expression without being an unintended facilitator to hate speech campaigns against a specific class (George, 2014).

Also, journalists followed many international events that increased hate speech and attacks on religious freedoms this made the journalists face a key analytical challenge to "Distinguishing between hate speech and hate spin" (George, 2014). Therefore, journalists must defend freedom of expression and not abandon their social responsibility and address the dynamism of hate speech, without neglecting the role of ethical codes of conduct for media institutions and guiding journalists (George, 2014). Besides, it is dangerous to accept the justification for hate speech that it contributes to democratic debate and social rendering because hate crime sometimes comes as a reaction and retaliation to hate speech (George, 2014).



Handler (1992) explained that since the late 70s, the alternative western vision of society has disappeared, leaving the field in front of liberal capitalism, which lacking a global vision will lead to structural racism, by raising a question about the value of postmodernism for transformative politics, and discusses the concept of postmodernism, changes that have occurred for the struggle and worker's movements through stories of old protests in the 50s and 60s and new social movements related to "feminism" laws, race, color, and gender.

Harlow (2015) pointed out that racist discourse developed with the development of technology and the Internet because users can hide their identity and show racism in comments on stories published in newspapers. by analyzed articles and comments published in 24 American newspapers in 8 states, the study found that readers write racist comments and stereotypes about race even if this not mention in the article or news story, and the most exposed group are the Latinos (Harlow, 2015). These racist comments lead some newspapers to stopped comments on stories and news related to crime, Muslims, suicide, and homosexuals, while other newspapers asked readers to comment using their accounts on the communication sites to end the unknown comments (Harlow, 2015).

Awan (2016) analyzed 100 Facebook pages, posts, and comments, and 550 results were collected after 4 main events:

*The Rotherham abuse scandal in the UK, the beheading of journalists James Foley, Steven Sotloff and the humanitarian worker David Haines and Alan Henning by the group (ISIS), the Trojan horse scandal and the Woolwich attacks in 2013*

Awan (2016) found that 494 of collected comments and publications carry hate speech, incitement to violence and physical threats outside the Internet and considered them:

*"Murderers, rapists, torturers and sexual predators" Even Muslim women considered "part of the 'Islamic problem'"*

Also, the individuals and far-right groups contributed to igniting religious and ethnic tensions (Awan, 2016). And believes that freedom of expression is used to direct hate speech and thus create an intolerant society.

As we indicated earlier, hate speech is not limited to Muslims or Latinos, but other groups are exposed to it, such as same-sex marriage. Jowett (2017) discussed reactions after the British government's decision in 2013 to allow same-sex marriage in the marriage law as a matter of equality where the opponents were accused of homophobia.

By analyzing 3000 opened articles and comments in British press coverage of same-sex marriage, Jowett (2017) found that denial of homophobia was an important feature in the articles expressing opposition to this marriage, as well as interest in the concept of homosexuality and considers themselves from a third party that reflects this view. With reference that defense of non-racism carries with it a racist discourse (Jowett, 2017).

After the southern borders were closed in Germany, Kreis (2017) analyzed 100 tweets published in 2016 in hashtag #refugees not welcome, explored how the hashtag had been used to spread negative sentiments and ideologies towards refugees and migrants in Europe. Kreis (2017) found that tweets in the hashtag carried negative descriptions of immigrants and refugees such as terrorists, invaders, criminals, and that they are different from "us", with criticizing those who try to help refugees and describing them as "these", and Europe is for Europeans of "white" ethnicity and the others should be deported.

Feminism had suffered from hate speech, Lillian (2007) assumed that sexist discourse is another type of hate speech, after analyzed sexual discourse written by Canadian author William D. Gairdner as a were representative of 'mainstream' sexist discourse. Lillian (2007) found that Gairdner distorted feminism/women through various methods such as his lexical options, linking feminism to cancer, using humiliating images and ridicule, and depicting them in animal terms instead of providing processors of ideas. And indicate that discourse

analysts or feminist linguists were unable to consider sexual speech as hate speech (Lillian, 2007).

By adopting the criteria for race, ethnicity, nationality, national origin, religion, sexual orientation, and gender in defining hate speech, Lillian (2007) also found that Gairdner speech can be considered hate speech, and thus sexual speech is generally considered hate speech.

McDevitt et al. (2002) found that sometimes hate crimes were committed for the sake of the thrill or excitement of the act and that the majority of those who committed it was youth, who expressed their feeling of boredom and looked for fun and went to specific places to choose their Targets, whether homosexual, black or Latino, or committed for purpose of defense (From the neighborhood). That's what McDevitt et al. (2002) found after research on hate crime perpetrators and their motivations through analyzing 169 police files in the American state of Boston.

With relied on the definition of Federal investigations office (FBI) to hate crime, McDevitt et al. (2002) pointed out that the victims feared to report hate crimes to the police because of their fear of police officers.

Comments on YouTube, the site that specializes in video content, reflect racism and hate speech after Murthy and Sharma (2018) analyzed comments on 5 videos to musical group Das Racist. With difficulty to track down the perpetrators of hate speech, especially with users using pseudonyms and fake accounts, Murthy and Sharma (2018) collected 7224 comments on the five videos and found that there are a racist speech and hostility, considered that distinguishing between different kinds of "hate" is the challenge from analyzing YouTube comments.

Merrill and Åkerlund (2018) reached a concluded that Facebook postponed responsibility for combating racist discourse, provides an environment for racist networking, and encourages racist opinions to master their means of expressing them. This result came after analyzed discussions on immigration in a Swedish group on Facebook

entitled "Stand up for Sweden", which has 220,000 subscribers had been described as the largest hate group in the country (Merrill & Åkerlund, 2018).

These discussions are largely found in the rhetoric of the Sweden Democrats (SD), the country's largest far-right political party (Merrill & Åkerlund, 2018). Therefore, Merrill and Åkerlund (2018) demanded that Facebook develops functions in its platform that allow content to be reviewed and removed.

even in forums; Sobkowicz and Sobkowicz (2010) analyzed the number of sections and networks in one of the most popular Internet forums in Poland in political, mathematical and scientific fields, political section had more interaction with an aggressive language more than the sports and science sections.

On the ground and outside the Internet and social media, Nielsen (2002) searches for racist and sexist remarks in public places in northern California by choosing field sites that are characterized by ethnic and economic diversity in three societies.

After visiting these sites at different times to record observations and selected randomly 100 participants, Nielsen (2002) emphasized that they had been subjected to a racist and hate speech, women were subjected to sexual prejudice, offensive comments and a repetition of the sexual hate speech, and their response to this speech was silence, fear and a sense of threat because the response has many consequences. While other people were subjected to hate speech related to race and racism, their reaction was also to ignore it despite feeling fear and anger (Nielsen, 2002).

Three media outlets (IlGiornale.it, Repubblica.it and Avvenire) represent the right-wing parties, the left-wing parties, and the catholic area. Palazzetti et al. (2017) analyzed hate speech against refugees, migrants, and asylum seekers.

By using the Council of Europe definition of hate speech, the report deals with the rise of hate speech in the Italian media and Internet,

specifically against refugees and migrants, and considered the media contributed to creating a negative image of refugees as enemies and use of stereotypes and non-discrimination between terrorists and refugees (Palazzetti et al., 2017). This speech increased because of the lack of legal controls and supervision on social media, but the Italian government was confronted that with issuing a law in 2017 to combat cyber bullying and hate speech (Palazzetti et al., 2017).

McNamee et al. (2010) examined 21 hate groups' sites in the US state of Texas out of 55 sites, and found that education is the most important category in group messages, as the groups consider themselves educational institutions for others. These messages also encourage participation and belonging to the group, in addition to invoking divine excellence and condemning external groups and organizations (McNamee et al., 2010).

Although the messages are harmless on the surface, they considered that it constitutes a state of motivation against others and carries an exclusionary discourse, and create a group with special ideas and identity that may transform or result in harmful behaviors (McNamee et al., 2010).

Slagle (2009) provides a historical analysis of the opinions and arguments that defend classic freedom of expression and opinions that hate speech considered a major defect in this freedom and assume that the emergence of the Internet was a reason for increasing hate speech and increasing the concern of opponents this speech. The opinions that dealt with freedom of expression completely they considered that restricting hate speech is a restriction of freedom of expression will lead to unintended consequences such as harming minorities, they called for tolerance of this speech on the pretext that the speech does not cause harm to people (Slagle, 2009).

Slagle (2009) tends toward the liberal model by considering racism and anti-Semitism ideologies are doubtful in western society, and words are not weapons, that the existence of some opinions contributes to the complex debate that pushes society forward and that removing these views hinders the debate and slows down society.

The new social movements according to Handler (1992), emphasize solidarity and joint struggle and reject the hegemony of the bourgeoisie and liberal and Marxist traditions, also emphasize popular democracy and envisions a better society. But these movements lack several elements that enable them to develop an institutional form or produce strength or a vision that fulfills their demands, as well as it did not result in comprehensive transformations but it is difficult to predict the future of postmodernism, as it is not based on any old movements or trends, intellectual and political trends (Handler, 1992).

In a book "The Content and Context of Hate Speech: Rethinking Regulation and Responses", Neier (2014) reviews the articles in the book assembled by Michael Herz, Professor of Law at Cardozo Law School in New York, and Peter Molnar, Senior Research Fellow at Central European University in Budapest.

The essays agreed that hate speech is one of the greatest difficulties of our time and must be faced, but Ban it legally was the most prominent point discussed by the scholars in the book, as they were divided between criminalizing speech or not criminalizing it and considered imposing a block on hate speech causes harm to freedom of expression compared to the minimal harm to hate speech, as it opens doors to restrictions on speech (Neier, 2014).

Racial classification of human beings is an integral part of racial ideas which assume that people are classified into natural ethnic groups (Entman & Rojecki, 2001), and this race is a legitimate basis for the discriminatory distribution of valuable resources according Entman and Rojecki (2001), as the stereotype is not an easy habit to fall into, but rather it is a natural way of thinking. The media is an exception, and despite their opposition to racism, some methods can preserve the foundations of hostility and reinforce tendencies towards biased thinking (Entman & Rojecki, 2001). This race in America, according to Entman and Rojecki (2001), is highly politicized, and it is not surprising that these workers made a decision influenced by organized political pressure.

Alsultany (2012), in her analysis of American dramas at prime time, made it clear that there is a positive image versus a negative one as a kind of balance between the two images, but the good image is conditional on emotions and loyalty to the American nation, and this combination of the two images created a new type of racism. Despite the use of strategies in drama by writers, television and movie producers, on the ground, Arabs and Muslims were arrested and deported or detained without legal procedures (Alsultany, 2012).

One of the issues that emerged years ago was the Danish cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad, which angered the Arabs and Muslims against the media that published the cartoons (Hussain, 2007). Hussain (2007) raised questions about freedom of the media, expression, and respect for religious sensibilities. Hussain (2007) found that European media did not paint Jesus in the same way they do with Prophet Mohammed, which is considered as double standers and this fueled the problem without a real debate about it.

By analyzing 13,000 tweets (19600 in English and 6600 in Spanish) Bauwelinck et al. (2019) found that discovering hate speech against women and immigrants in micro-blogging texts poses a challenge. The anonymity of the user on social media makes them more dangerous and harmful ) (Bauwelinck et al., 2019).

The focus on hate speech comes for several reasons (Fortuna & Nunes, 2018), European commission directives, unavailable automatic technologies, lack of data on hate speech, elimination of hate speech, and quality of service. Fortuna and Nunes (2018) admit that defining hate speech is a complicated matter, so they put their definition:

*Hate speech is language that attacks or diminishes, that incites violence or hate against groups, based on specific characteristics such as physical appearance, religion, descent, national or ethnic origin, sexual orientation, gender identity or other, and it can occur with different linguistic styles, even in subtle forms or when humour is used.*

Fortuna and Nunes (2018) agreed that anonymity on the Internet has strengthened and increased hate speech and studies focus on social media sites significantly, as Twitter and the English language receive the largest share of research on hate speech in general, some of which focus on racism. Fortuna and Nunes (2018) hypothesized that some studies concluded that hate speech is often used in known stereotypes.

And it seems that understanding the latest technology in the field of automatic detection of hate speech is a difficult task, in addition to the presence of few quotes in the papers that are found and the data in them are not available for comparison and this affects searches (Fortuna & Nunes, 2018).

Also, Arab and Islamic cinema may be placed in stereotypes resulting from the place of its issuance and production, and for this reason, Ben Labidi (2019) called to not classify Arab and Islamic cinematic products in religious terms, but rather to ensure the enormous diversity of their origins, global and local inspirations, and their audiences after analyzing cinematic works it was produced by Arab and Muslim filmmakers and directors from multiple geographic regions, (Iran, India, Pakistan, Palestine, and Turkey), to highlight the cultural shifts and artistic creativity with the rise of Islamophobia (Ben Labidi, 2019). These works show that they deal with complex issues (political, social, and historical) dominated by the Palestinian cause (Ben Labidi, 2019).

**In monitoring hate speech and hate crimes in Europe**, the European Union, through a Prism Project (2015), involving 5 countries (France, Italy, Romania, Spain, and Britain), in which researchers clarified the texts on hate speech in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICPPR) 1966, (art. 20, Para. 2) and (art. 19, Para. 3), and the definition of the council 1997 in Europe, and the adoption of the Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime.

The European Union reaffirmed the trend against hate speech in 2015 by Timmermans, the first Vice-President of the European Commission, stressing that there is a need to take a look at new areas



that spread hate speech, mainly on the Internet, and suggested drafting legislation that could interfere when things get out of control (Prism Project, 2015).

With the call for states to criminalize hate speech, an initial definition of hate speech has been adopted as a distortion of the reputation of a social group and incitement to hostility, violence, and discrimination against that group and threatening its rights, whether they are ethnic, religious or national (Prism Project, 2015).

The report considers that racism is a deep and complex problem, and it is one of the main pests facing the international community and which is re-emerging in bloody fashion, and therefore migrations and refugee flows lead to new waves of racism in the countries to which they go especially Europe, and hate speech on social media is an obstacle to overcoming racism.

Despite these calls and articles in international covenants, the report made it clear that there is a lack of agreement between the European Union countries in drafting a specific definition of hate speech, with the exception of two countries (Croatia and the Netherlands), and there is no national database on hate crimes, which is reflected in the resources allocated to dealing with this speech and the crimes associated with it. Besides, organizing hate speech in cyberspace is a complex task (Prism Project, 2015).

In Spain, Article 510, Paragraph 3 of the "Criminal Code" deals with hate speech and it entered into force in 2015, when hate cases are reported directly to the judiciary (Prism Project, 2015). While in France, French constitution enshrines general principles on the rights of individuals and the existence of laws that provide a legal framework to address discrimination, judges have not issued strict verdicts on hate crimes against a strong civil society in this area. France is criticized for its fight against hate speech because the laws that combat hate speech allow only certain expressions that make fun of religions to be punished, and the same treatment is not applied to phrases that ridicule other religions, such as the content of Charlie Hebdo magazine (Prism Project, 2015).

The forms of reporting hate crimes to the police vary between calling by phone or in person, as well as communicating via the Internet (Prism Project, 2015). However, the lack of confidence in law enforcement due to the authorities' and citizens' lack of the necessary awareness of hate crimes and issues constitutes an obstacle to these notifications (Prism Project, 2015).

In Italy, according to Prism Project (2015), Italian law does not include a specific constitutional provision for hate speech, and there is indirect protection against this phenomenon in other legal provisions, and there are no provisions of the Italian penal code that criminalize racism except for Article 415, which criminalizes incitement to social hatred and in the Italian civil law, where Racism is treated as an aggravating circumstance for committing any crime.

But in Britain, legal articles related to discrimination, equality, freedoms, combating terrorism, and crime are satisfied (Prism Project, 2015). Hate speech over the Internet was not considered a separate crime, while this aspect deals with the Communications Law 2001, considering that most crimes can be committed online as they are committed in the physical field (Prism Project, 2015).

Brown (2018) mentioned that one of the advantages of hate speech on the Internet is that an identity is not revealed, as the Internet does not force people to reveal their identities as this feature allows freedom of expression and this makes hate speech on the Internet different from reality. Anonymity allows saying what these people thought without fear of unwanted interaction or encourages them to say odious things. Anonymity also leads to the liberation of victims of hate speech and the involvement of others in their defense in addition, the advantage of disappearing and communicating with people who are similar intellectually distant geographically (Brown, 2018).

Hate speech online according to the author is "momentary and immediate", which differs from printed publications, phone messages, billboards, newspaper articles, and magazines, therefore, the Internet encourages hate speech that is spontaneous and unfiltered. As for the damage resulting from this speech, it is different from the effect of

hate speech away from the Internet because this speech in Internet stays on these sites and pages.

As for how to organize speech on the Internet, Brown (2018) considered that Internet companies are better than governments in developing and regulating the use of the Internet, and stresses that the state has a greater role in regulating the Internet. Therefore, traditional media companies are distinguished from Internet companies that they have a regulatory framework related to the content being broadcast, which leads to changing the content before broadcasting, and traditional media companies and Internet companies serve different functions and purposes.

Jakubowicz (2017) confirms that right-wing groups found on social media the opportunity to appear and find new followers and make a new impact.

Jakubowicz (2017) traced a group of Internet trolls in Australia called (The Dingoes) that established in mid-2016 means of communication to test alt right - an indicator to describe a group of news and billboards that are not prevalent on the Internet - to penetrate the Australian Internet world through a multi-platform attack on Jews, indigenous people, Muslims, Africans and multiculturalism . So alt right is associated with the white community of leaders in America and was considered a malicious and effective movement linked to each other (Jakubowicz, 2017).

Jakubowicz (2017) considered that the political, economic and social crises around the world have fueled an explosion in racial demagoguery since at least 2010. Also, colonial regimes left inequality in previous empires unresolved and this is what gave birth to racism and the impossibility of equality between ethnic groups.

Jakubowicz (2017) affirms that anonymity on the Internet is the biggest weapon for the perpetrator of the hate crime, and suggests confronting this discourse via the Internet through governments, civil society organizations, and religious institutions of all sects.

By analyzing local news in Los Angeles, Dixon (2017) found that blacks and Hispanics are more likely to appear as suspects when compared to officers, and blacks are overrepresented as perpetrators, whites as victims, and Latinos are underrepresented in all kinds of crime, and Muslims are portrayed as terrorists in news programs compared to FBI numbers Federal Authority on Terrorism.

The effect of this TV news comes because watching it may lead to creating a cognitive link between blacks and crime and reinforce the white scheme that they are officers and victims, and the Biased news coverage activates racial stereotypes, this stereotype is not limited to news coverage in traditional media, but rather has moved to the Internet, and news websites and news outlets have reformulated African Americans as poor, Muslims are terrorists, and Latinos are illegal immigrants (Dixon, 2017). Online news is much like traditional news because journalists publish news online for mass distribution, and the people process news online in a way that promotes profiling (Dixon, 2017). Also, Selective exposure according to the study an integral part of our interactions with digital media because consumption of Internet news began with a click of a web engine or a familiar click on certain sources.

According to three studies published in Soral et al. (2018), representative eye surveys and an experimental study conducted in Poland confirmed that the harmful effects of exposure to hate speech increases sensitivity to these expressions and increases prejudice outside the expressed group, and exposure to racial insults reduces sympathy for victims of verbal violence (Soral et al., 2018). In addition, the environment has a fundamental role in shaping aggression and prejudice at an intergroup level (Soral et al., 2018).

Researchers also talked about **a new form of racism** that appeared with social media (Teo, 2000; Cisneros & Nakayama, 2015; Easey & Augoustinos, 2010; Anagnostopoulos, Everett, Carey, 2013, and they focused their studies on Twitter and Facebook because of the number of users of this site, (Awan, 2016; Kreis, 2017; Evolvi, 2017; Kuş, 2016; Chua, 2009; Burnap, Williams, 2015; Cisneros &

Nakayama, 2015; Linares, 2016; Merrill & Åkerlund, 2018, and some of them analyzed online campaigns, (Archakis, Lampropoulou, Tsakona, 2017), games (Shepherd, Harvey, Jordan, Srauy, Miltner, 2015), series (Draper & Lotz, 2012) and videos on YouTube (Murthy, Sharma, 2019), the researchers criticized the procedures followed by these sites in protecting others from hate speech and racism.

Teo (2000) discussed new racism through news reports relating to a Vietnamese gang in Australia published in two Australian newspapers "Morning Herald" and "The Daily Telegraph".

This racism is not the racism of the sort that is overt, it's "new racism" and people who practice this racism deny that they are (Teo, 2000). The study analyzed the speech of two newspapers, which are the most prevalent in Australian Sydney, towards the Asians, particularly the Vietnamese migrants living in Sydney, and chose to focus on this issue by analyzing news related to a Vietnamese gang that was in Sydney and one of their leaders was killed. The study found that the headlines and leads in two newspapers gave a generalization that allows journalists to publish information without explanations to readers, which creates a stereotype of a societal group, As well as the patterns of quotation controlled by gatekeepers, where the focus is on the opinions of those in power and influence, but ordinary people and minorities are excluded, and it is a powerful tool for manipulating the perception of readers. This new racism towards minorities is not practiced directly, and you can find the news packaged as a story rather than a report, through specific methods and specific terms (Teo, 2000). The economy also has a role in controlling the media by the owners and controllers of the media industry which most of them are white, so the media discourse is commensurate with what they require (Teo, 2000).

Against Polls which say the US youth are more racially diverse and more tolerant, Anagnostopoulos et al. (2013) recent researches said there is a 'new racism' discourse among them. It also examined the discursive strategies US youth employ as they talked about contemporary race and racism during a discussion they held in their

high school English classroom about Harper Lee's (1960) novel: *To Kill a Mockingbird* (TKAM) in nine schools across the USA.

After collecting 70 student interviews, 9 teacher interviews, and approximately 50 hours of classroom observation, the study found that white students "employed several strategies associated with the new racism, including racial reversals, mitigation, and trivialization". And black students "asserted the existence of shared symbols and the effects of the historical wounds of slavery on both black and white Americans' psyches to highlight the persistence of racial inequality and injustice" (Anagnostopoulos et al., 2013).

Anagnostopoulos et al. (2013) agreed that hidden identities on social media contributed to an increase in hate speech and racism (Farkas, Schou, Neumayer, 2018; (Murthy & Sharma, 2019); Merrill & Åkerlund, 2018), due to the inability to pursue this person and his ability to cancel the account without any consequences.

Archakis et al. (2018) pick up racism in an online campaign launched by the Greek branch of the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) after analyzed 3 clips uploaded on YouTube published online between September and November 2014.

By using humor the campaign aims to dissolve the disclaimer "I'm not racist but..." but they fall in racism and defeat the purpose of it, because of "the representation of immigrant characters and voices" they summarize the content of these clips: "We stigmatize racism and racists, but we expect immigrants to assimilate to our language and culture" (Archakis et al., 2018).

Cisneros and Nakayama (2015) argue that social media had created an atmosphere to express racism, after controversy over racist tweets about the first Indian American Miss America, Nina Davuluri, and these tweets brought a new form of old racism transformed under the name "color-blindness".

The tweets attacked Miss America because of her origins, some said she is Arab, which means victory of al-Qaeda and not respect the

victims of September 11, while others expressed their shock at the representation of a woman of Indian origin to "America" and consider it as a threat to the American identity, some considered her choice was a response to racism (Cisneros & Nakayama, 2015).

Cisneros and Nakayama (2015) claim that:

*Controversies over racist speech on social media have become a recognized and recurring cultural phenomenon*

This phenomenon of racist has not received explicit scholarly attention and reaffirms that anonymity on social media contributed to racism (Cisneros & Nakayama, 2015).

In Australia; political rhetoric and political elites generated "new racism" towards African refugees, specifically Sudanese refugees, after Hanson-Easey and Augoustinos (2010) analyzed 7 interviews with Australian Minister Kevin Andrews in 2007 when the Australian government's decided to reduce the size of African refugee quotas from coming to and resettlement to Australia.

The minister used the descriptive category "Sudanese" which increased public racial connotations and justified the government's decision of the refugees' inability to integrate (Hanson-Easey & Augoustinos (2010).

The study found that discourse linking denying refugees access to Australia with factors such as race and culture and using it as a justification for the policy of reducing the number of African refugees is a speech is essentially a racist.

In Kenya, violent incidents on the background of racism in the 2007 elections caused the deaths of 1,200 people and the displacement of 350,000 people due to the presence of 42 tribes (Kimotho & Nyaga, 2016), as race is permeated in all aspects of life and is clearly in politics due to the politicization of race to hold public office, and the various media In elections it is used in a manner that leads to ethnic competition and hatred (Kimotho & Nyaga, 2016).

However, this differed in the 2013 elections, where no violent incidents were reported (Kimotho & Nyaga, 2016). Rather, the elections witnessed a change in the tools of the battle to become social media platforms the place of war of words, specifically Facebook (Kimotho & Nyaga, 2016). The results showed that Twitter and Facebook are the two main platforms for expressing hate in which everyone can express their opinion without regulation or restrictions, as well as the spread of citizen journalism.

The study defined digital hate speech as any use of electronic communication technology to spread messages or information that incites hate. People on ethnic groups contribute to the formation of beliefs and perceptions about ethnic groups and how they are viewed (Kimotho & Nyaga, 2016).

In his studies about denying racism, T. Van Dijk (1992) explains that accusations and suspicions of bias and direct and indirect racist attitudes maybe denied by resorting to justifications, such as justifying political discourse about immigration and restricting it to saving refugees a bad situation or avoiding more unemployment, or justifications such as blaming the victim if she did not get a better education and was involved in crime. Also denying racism in the press comes from the journalist's assumption that his group and state are tolerant towards minorities or immigrants, and therefore positive self-presentation is a step in justifying and denying accusations of racism (T. Van Dijk, 1992).

T. Van Dijk (1992) considered that:

*Many forms of racism denial are routine movements in preserving social face so that group members can come to terms with their own prejudices*

In a study that included media coverage in the 1980s, T. A. van Dijk (1991) found that the relationship between the media and ethnic minorities and immigrants is not ambiguous and has become more intelligent, considering the press to be the main "enemy" of blacks and minorities as a representative of the white power structure.



In the parts and details of the news, T. A. van Dijk (1991) made it clear that news headlines cannot be overlooked because they are not random labels and have an indicative role and cognitive consequences, as well as quotations as interpretations or subjective opinions about current news events, and they have many functions that make news reports more convincing. The study also found that minorities are quoted less, even if there are experts among them, and if their opinions are cited, they are in marginal and safe issues, while the authorities, such as the police and politicians, are the main speakers and they determine ethnic parity or biased speakers are chosen or express the position of the newspaper.

T. A. van Dijk (1991) considered that the media in general and the press in particular are able to define the public debate and convey basic contents that affect people's social knowledge.

Political parties, like stereotypes, have a role in making hate speech. Ben-David and Matamoros-Fernández, (2016) examined Facebook ages of seven extreme-right political parties in Spain (España 2000 and PxC, MSR and AES, FE-La Falange, Nudo Patriota Español (NPe), DN.6 and PP) in time period between 2009 and 2013. Ben-David and Matamoros-Fernández (2016) "Brings together the rise in the popularity of social media with the rise in the popularity of political extremism", and Spain as a case study to this type of speech. The study analyzed 272 images and 306 links because they took the most engagement (number of likes, shares, and comments received). The result of negative targeting was in 9 categories (Anti-immigration, Antiestablishment, Anti-ETA, Antileftm, Antiseparatism, Party general information, Religious symbolism / Catholic values, Spanish nationalism and Fascist symbolism/Francoist nostalgia).

The immigration category was related to words such as ilegales (illegals), islamistas (Islamists), amenazan (to threaten), and trabajan (to work), and in most cases, anger was mainly expressed against Moroccans, Islamists, and Black people (Ben-David & Matamoros-Fernández, 2016).

Immigration in Europe became a rich topic for the political parties and they made programs how to deal with immigrants especially Arabs and Muslims (Muhammad, 2019). Muhammad (2019) takes France as a case study from 1984 until 2017, to discuss the Rise of Extremist Right Parties in Europe. And found the French far-right parties portray immigrants as a threat to the French national identity, a major source of Retro, unemployment, crime, and inhumanity, for example when Jean-Marie Le Pen the leader of the French National Front Party aimed to expel 23 million foreigners residing in France. After that his daughter Marie Le Pen considered in 2017 that French nationality must be "either hereditary or due" but the illegal immigrants, Muhammad (2019):

*There is no reason for them to stay in France because these people violated the law since they set foot on French soil*

Freedom Party in Austria and his leader, Dr. Jörg Haider in his election campaign (2001) brought according to Wodak (2002), anti-Semitic expressions to the fore and used old stereotypes as political weapons, especially that anti-Semitism was banned in official contexts after 1945 in Austria when the war ended.

By analyzed two speeches to Jörg Haider in his election campaign, Wodak (2002) provided a survey of a number of characteristic quotations, which illustrate the anti-Semitic discourse and found that anti-Semitic rhetoric was justified and that abuse, insult is "legitimate criticism" and this makes it acceptable, but according to the definition of criticism, this argument collapses because criticism does not mean mistreatment or defamation, and free expression does not tolerate criticism (Wodak, 2002).

Some right-wing parties in Europe reinforce hate speech; Cammaerts (2009) analyzed discourses of the North Belgian extreme right after 3 crimes that happened in 2006 which produced public debate and racist discourse, and asked questions if racism is a democratic right? Or freedom of expression includes opinions against democratic values?

Cammaerts, (2009) discusses the importance of the Internet as a general field of discussion and the controversy of freedom of expression that is used as a justification for hate speech, this prompted many countries to impose laws fighting hate speech.

After analyzed 3 right-wing extremist letters in 2006 published online in a blog to US organization called Stormfront – the Dutch-speaking part, which is implicitly supported by the second largest political party, Cammaerts (2009) found that radical and marginalized groups found a space on the Internet to broadcast their ideas, this prompted the Belgian politicians to demanded government income against hate speech, and found that democracy may lose if it escalates Racist forces, as well as restricting Internet freedom, which may prevent those who express their opinion far away from hate speech (Cammaerts, 2009).

Herrera (2014) clarified that fears increased in Switzerland with the increase in the parliamentary representation of one of the political parties (Union démocratique du center / Schweizerische Volkspartei (UDC / SVP) known for their racist campaigns and programs that carry a hate speech towards foreigners and immigrants, which is contrary to the criminal law that punishes those who incite discrimination and violence. by mentioned several events that took place in Switzerland reflected that fear such as the confiscation of propaganda materials for the PKK, initiatives for naturalization in front of people in Zurich, naturalization in the municipality of Emmen, naturalization, and the Islamic hijab, and the famous minarets issue (Herrera, 2014).

This led to the creation of a specialized group under the leadership of the Federal Police, the amendment of the Criminal Code in 2009, and training police officers, judges, and prosecutors in the field of human rights and combating racism Herrera, (2014). The study demanded the necessity of protecting freedom of expression, society, and minorities in it by defining what is hate speech, discrimination, violence, and distinguish the campaigns that call for this.

Yamaguchi (2013) discusses the emergence of hate speech in Japan, by the Action Conservatives Movement (ACM), which has used the Internet very actively to spread its messages to the public against minorities, particularly Koreans.

ACM considered the first anti-foreign hate movement in Japan their slogans carried a hate speech and linked these ideas to the new right-wing (Yamaguchi, 2013). As that activists of this movement have turned away from demonstrations and the Internet and went to support political candidates "right-wing" or to run for political positions themselves (Yamaguchi, 2013).

In Europe, with the diffusion of populism in public debates in western European media, Rooduijn (2014) focuses on the success of populist parties and if affect the degree of populism in public debates in the media and found after analyzed opinion articles in 15 newspapers in 5 western European countries: France, Germany, Italy, the Netherlands, and the United Kingdom that the populist message transcended the arena of party politics and become more prevalent than before in general public debates in the media in the last two decades. Also, the role of the gatekeepers in providing a stage for the populist message, and the gatekeepers of tabloid media differ from gatekeepers of elite media (Rooduijn, 2014).

In social identity theory, Rivenburgh (2000) searches about the utility of this theory to the understanding of ethnocentrism as an enduring news value. After analyzed three national newspapers, La Prensa (Argentina), The New York Times (United States), and Berlingske Tidende (Denmark), the results reveal that all three newspapers are more likely to engage in news treatments that reflect favorably upon the national self and protect national identity (Rivenburgh, 2000). This can be considered as a factor for publishing news to support national identity and defense it which maybe carry stereotype for another community (Rivenburgh, 2000).

**Effect of hate speech:** In some articles, researchers discussed the impact of hate speech and racism on the Internet (Boeckmann & Turpin-Petrosino, 2002; leets, 2001; Waldron, 2012; Calvert, 1997;

Tsesis, 2002), which does not leave physical traces but psychological and moral effects, and this is what has caused the emergence of a conflict between criminalizing hate speech and not criminalizing it (Slagle, 2009; Waldron, 2012; leets, 2001; George, 2014; Handler, 1992, Neier, 2014; Noorloos, 2011), by linking it to freedom of expression and thought and protecting others from harm.

Hate speech is not restricted only to Arabs and Muslims; it is also exposed to other minorities, religions, and some groups of society, such as Jews (anti-Semitism) and homosexuals (anti-gay). Leets (2002) asked 120 university students about how they feel to be a target of hate speech? To gain a more complete picture of how hate speech is received. It appears that short- and long-term consequences of hate speech might be similar in form but not in intensity the "participants attributed hate comments to two primary motives, ignorance and repressed hostility", and the main problem behind that is individual prejudice, educational and psychological problems, ignorance (Leets, 2002). However, the treatment of this discourse varies from place to place for example in a country like the United States, maybe there is no chance to legal sanctions will be imposed against hate speech, but can find restorative justice intervention programs to repair the harm (Leets, 2002).

Boeckmann and Turpin-Petrosino (2002) focused on hate crime harm and how society chooses to respond to it through eight articles and present victim's views. the influence of hate speech and hate crime on them, and confirmed that hate speech is related to civil rights, some writers describe it as a form of terrorism and explained the measures that must be taken to address this matter socially and legally (Boeckmann & Turpin-Petrosino, 2002).

The study called to understand the perpetrators of these crimes and their motives and who they are. in addition, hate groups and their role in the spread of hate crime, and reform policies related to victims of hate crimes because they found that victims of these crimes do not play a sufficient role in support by reporting on what they are experiencing (Boeckmann & Turpin-Petrosino, 2002).

Tsesis (2002) argues that hate speech is dangerous when it poses an immediate threat of harm, and when it is systematically developed over time to become part of a culturally acceptable dialogue that promotes persecution of minorities. And uses historical evidence of the role that racist discourse played in violating human rights such as: the Holocaust, slavery in America, Indian removal, and the current slavery in Mauritania (Tsesis, 2002).

Waldron (2012) asked about the harm from hate speech and who we want to protect, is it the dignity or protection from the crime itself? And considered that the goal of the laws against hate speech is to prevent people from offending because protecting people from attacking their dignity indirectly protects their feelings (Waldron, 2012):

*Persons and peoples have to be free to address the deep questions raised by religion the best way they can*

The debate on religious matters is hate speech, but rather what happens after that and addressing this debate is what needs reconsideration (Waldron, 2012).

And it discusses the politics of identity and its control over people, where it is considered that the needs of people and their preferences for religion are among the individual interests that must be protected and no one should be required to waive the demands of worship, in addition to that (Waldron, 2012):

*The only way in which we could secure compossibility of individual rights and not be offended would be by suppressing any religious speaking, thinking, or consideration in public*

Leets (2001) found that the harmful effects of racist speech cannot be repaired; also, legal remedies are unable to comprehend the harmful nature of speech, which may result in isolation, decreased self-esteem, and inferiority. Even when the theory of social identity is a strong and appropriate basis for understanding racial speech, but the dynamics of social identity cannot alone calculate the level of damage resulting

from the racist discourse (Leets, (2001). That's why there is a necessity of providing a space for legal accountability or compensation for victims of hate speech or providing restorative justice, an alternative to legal and punitive action, considering that compensation for victims and building relationships between groups is more productive (Leets, 2001).

Appel and Weber (2017) found that the stereotype threat theory indicates that negative stereotyping and the devaluation of content in the media impair the cognitive and educational achievement of members of negatively photographed groups such as Latinos and women, while those who are not photographed are not negatively affected.

Despite analyzing the content over decades and how it portrayed women, immigrants, ethnic groups and the elderly, and despite the change in this portrayal, the disparity still exists (Appel & Weber, 2017). Latin's are underrepresented on American television channels, and the Latin lover is portrayed as a clown and an unintelligent and lazy person, while African Americans are portrayed as criminals (Appel & Weber, 2017).

Al-Hassan and Al-Dossari (2019) believes that the hateful and hostile content that is spread through social networks has the potential to cause harm and suffering on an individual basis and lead to tension and social unrest outside the cyberspace.

**Refugees and immigrants**, also they are part of the Arab image in Europe and the entire world, some countries consider them a big problem but other countries help them as a humanity issue.

Esipova et al. (2015) asking for, How the World Views Migration? the survey interview more than 183,000 adults across 140 countries between 2012 and 2014.

They found that's in a major region of the world – exception of Europe – people are more likely to want immigration levels in their countries

to either stay at the present level or to increase, rather than to decrease (Esipova et al., 2015).

The study is useful to know how the countries shaping political attitudes to face immigrants and this may affect the media coverage (Esipova et al., 2015).

Through the Spanish case, Saux (2007) discuss the relation between immigration and terrorism by taken Spain after the terrorist attack on September 11<sup>th</sup> and Madrid, also the laws related to illegal immigration. Saux (2007) confirmed that the laws, in general, do not distinguish between Arab and non-Arab, even though terrorism is linked to Arabs and Muslims. As a case study, Spain was suffering from internal terrorism and deal with the issue differently from Europe and America because of ETA, even with that 51% of Spanish considered international terrorism more dangerous than the organization, also in 2007 21% of Spanish people considered Islamic terrorism is more dangerous than ETA (Saux, 2007). The study found after analyzed Spanish newspapers the media linked immigration to terrorism and increasing the absence of security and used vocabulary about it like "waves cannot stop" and "floods" (Saux, 2007).

Some studies focus on minorities living in Europe, Georgiou, (2013) argues about the (Diaspora in the digital era) by choosing Arabs in Europe in 3 cites (London, Madrid, Nicosia) and discusses how the new social media give them space to speak up and express their feelings. Georgiou, (2013) analyzed through 18 focus group interviews conducted in London, Madrid, and Nicosia in 2009-10 and also in Amsterdam, Berlin, Paris, and Stockholm what the groups think about the media and if it represents them or not, related to them or not, speak their languages or not.

Karim (1998) also talked about the Diaspora groups that formed in the countries of the world and preserved their style, language, and heritage, by Diaspora group's use of technology to spread entertainment and news and to maintain links between its members. Also, The appearance and spread of media and entertainment channels



for ethnic minorities, versus failure of national channels to attract them (Karim, 1998)

Media coverage may not be biased or negative, but it may ignore minorities and immigrants and not convey their voices and exclude them, Sakr (2008) mentioned two studies shown this act. First one in 1999 by the body that regulates French broadcasting found people of Moroccan origin shown "nearly nonexistent" on French TV" or as ordinary members of French society (Sakr, 2008) and the Second, the Nuremberg Society for Consumer Research reported in the mid-2000s that German TV channels saw little reason to target Turkish-speakers because these viewers were estimated to spend half their television time watching Turkish satellite channels. The author found Even European mainstream national media, when dealing with migration issues rarely acknowledge the extent to which conflicts in Arab countries have triggered migration or the role that former colonial powers have played in those conflicts or in providing financial or military support for authoritarian regimes. That's why, to bridge the gap in representation of immigrants of Arab origin on national television the government in Germany, France, and United Kingdom had devoted national resources to generating television news programming in Arabic directed at Arab viewers (Sakr, 2008).

By initially addresses the applications for asylum in Germany in 2015, specifically for Berlin, Borkert et al. (2018) worked to show the importance of digital literacy between refugees who entered Europe in 2015. Borkert et al. (2018) aimed to change the perception of refugees as passive victims of events by showing their ability to use information and communication technology to reach Europe. The study discussed the importance of modern communication applications in assisting refugees to reach the services they need such as translation, shelter, and medical/legal aid, but this is a double-edged sword that may be used to track and monitor them.

After surveyed 83 Arab refugees in two centers in Berlin, based on research conducted in (Zaatari) camp in Jordan, and conduct a questionnaire in English consisting of 30 questions, 24 closed

questions and 6 open questions, Borkert et al. (2018) found that migrants are digital agents who exchange information with each other with a high degree of awareness of the information they receive, and considering all refugees as negative victims who flee misery without anything is the wrong thing.

Abreu et al. (2003) found that their study agrees with previous studies that considered Asian immigrants a yellow threat to American interests, after examining the stereotypical image of Americans of Asian origin after the emergence of studies on stereotypes towards black Americans. Abreu et al. (2003) used yellow peril as a negative description while modeling minority as a positive description, as 69 college students were quickly presented stereotypical words related to yellow to Asian Americans, and the participants read a short story, to see if the old stereotype toward Asians affected the social impressions of university students.

However, these news that are circulating on social media and that provoke hate speech and stereotypes may be false and rumors, and these rumors are divided into two types: old rumors that have been circulating for a long time, and emerging rumors that appear during urgent news (Zubiaga et al., 2018). Also social networking sites are considered a source for searching for rumors because the user base is huge and easy to share rumors, making it fertile ground for rumors (Borkert et al., 2018). As for the relationship of these rumors with the media, it was found that news organizations tend to support rumors in the early stages and issue a correction statement later when needed (Zubiaga et al., 2018).

But Contrary to rumors, hoaxes, and "fake" false news is always wrong and can be considered as a kind of misinformation (Zubiaga et al., 2018).

Verification of rumors comes second after the need to publish for many news organizations (Zubiaga et al., 2016). In a study of 38 reputable news organizations, they found that news organizations seek to publish data on good bases, but it proves that it is information that has not been verified and leads to false rumors, and this comes due to

the pressure to produce something in the face of the abundance of information and the presence of the number of nearly identical stories among news organizations.

Zubiaga et al. (2016) agrees with Zubiaga et al. (2018) that news organizations tend to support rumors, regardless of whether they confirm or ultimately refute them.

The report of the Council of Europe 2017, Wardle and Derakhshan (2017) considered that the most successful content is content that plays on people's feelings and encourages feelings of anger or fear. Wardle and Derakhshan (2017) does not differ from the researchers who preceded them, that the size of the complexity and pollution of information in the world of digital communication represents an unprecedented challenge in light of the high popularity of social networking sites as sources of news, which led to the decline of the role of local newspapers in the largest democracies of the world (America, Canada, Britain), and research has also found that people who have more extreme political views tend to deal with a smaller number of people (Wardle & Derakhshan, 2017).

Chetty and Alathur (2018) considered that hate speech and terrorism are activities that are closely related together, where terrorist attacks stimulate the production of hate speech on social media such as Twitter. Chetty and Alathur (2018) described:

*Speech is a non-intuitive tool for communicating ideas, beliefs, feelings, and any other form of information from one person to another*

Freedom of expression may be one of the reasons for the occurrence of hate speech (Chetty & Alathur, 2018). That's why hate speech must be considered a descendant of freedom of expression, and hate speech has become used to gain immediate popularity without effort (Chetty & Alathur, 2018).

The authors also considered that violence against women and girls because of their identity is a gendered hate speech, a kind of social shame that aims to disrespect women and provoke fear.

A glimpse into the global south reveals a long-standing concern about the dangers of unbridled speech in situations where it can provoke ethnic and religious conflict, mass violence and social unrest such as Ethiopia 2016, Myanmar 2019, Chile 2019 and Sri Lanka 2016 (Udupa & Pohjonen, 2019).

Hate speech is not limited to ordinary comments, but even fun and humor may be an introduction to hate speech and abuse and all these cases illustrate the slippery ground between humor and abuse (Udupa & Pohjonen, 2019).

In digital environments, fun stimulates the collective pleasures of identity that can mitigate the risks and responsibility of right-wing movements where text type and vitality contribute to understanding what is or is not acceptable discourse (Udupa & Pohjonen, 2019).

In any case, digital media have evolved into vital forums for political participation, McGranahan found in 2019 that Trump's lies are a form of extremist rhetoric that generates not only political anger but also “affiliative truths” that lead to forms of social community and work (Udupa & Pohjonen, 2019).

Williams et al. (2020) uses computational criminology and links it with crime data, census data and Twitter data to create a temporal and spatial link between hate speech online and crimes committed on the basis of race and religion in London for a period of 8 months.

The authors pointed out that hate crimes in Britain increased dramatically in 2018/2019, as the largest number of hate crimes were recorded in the history of the England and Wales police, and the data of the Ministry of the Interior 2018 showed that 1605 hate crimes were marked as crimes online between the years 2017 and 2018 data from the Royal Public Prosecution Office also showed that in 2017/2018 there were 435 cases of online hate.

Social media such as Facebook, Twitter and YouTube have been accused of protecting extremist right-wing pages because they generate media income due to the large number of followers (Williams et al., 2020). Social media has also been implicated in the extremist terrorist attack in Christchurch, New Zealand in 2019, where the terrorist, who is hungry to use social media, chose Facebook for a live broadcast of the attack, and despite the suspension of the broadcast, it was deleted, but it was re-uploaded more than a million times on Facebook, YouTube, Instagram and Twitter, and it remained easy to access throughout the 24 hours of the attack (Williams et al., 2020).

The study found that there is a correlation and a positive relationship between unemployment rates and all hate crimes (ethnic and religious). The results also showed that hate speech via the Internet against race and religion is positively related to all crimes of an ethnic and religious nature that are not connected to the Internet. However, Williams et al. (2020) considered that it is unlikely that hate speech is a direct cause of hate crimes outside the Internet, and it is likely that social media will be part of the equation, in addition to other factors such as the local level, demographic composition and environmental level.

In an article that interviewed 101 individuals from indigenous and minority ethnic communities in Australia about their experiences with hate speech, the majority of interviewees reported that they had been personally targeted or knew others who had been targeted with hate speech (Gelber & McNamara, 2016). These accidents occurred in multiple places such as school, university, work, street, transportation, or while engaging in a sporting activity and others (Gelber & McNamara, 2016).

These people reported the range of negative emotional and physical consequences of the hate speech they were exposed to, sometimes the experience of being deeply hurt a kind of existential pain (Gelber & McNamara, 2016). In the media, the interviewees emphasized that the media can be useful and improve the image of their society, but the

negative image of the media causes harm, annoyance and hatred in the general community, exclusion, silencing and fear (Gelber & McNamara, 2016). Muslims and Afghans are portrayed in the media as terrorists, and certain nationalities are accused if the perpetrator is from the Middle East, while Jews are portrayed in some media as evil (Gelber & McNamara, 2016).

In America, the report about hate and extremism in the US and internationally stated that hate crimes rose by 9% in 2018, the highest level in a decade (Levin & Nakashima, 2019). The motive behind these crimes varies, but anti-blacks are the most common, in addition to Jews, whites, homosexuals and Muslims. According to the report, these crimes are linked to specific events such as terrorist attacks, elections or political events (Levin & Nakashima, 2019).

The study found by analyzing the 4chan website in July 2019 that bigoted and sexist insults have increased by 40% since 2015 and that bigotry and hate speech are also rampant. Nearly 20 million visitors visit this site per month compared to major news sites (Levin & Nakashima, 2019).

September 2001 was the worst month in which hate crimes and anti-Muslims and Arabs occurred, and crimes returned to the rise, according to FBI records, after the San Bernardo attack on December 2, 2015, and according to the report, it is the deadliest after September 11, and December 2015 is considered the third worst month for hate crimes against Muslims, these crimes rose to 67% (Levin & Nakashima, 2019).

The report revealed an increase in anti-Semitic crimes in Europe and America, as well as an increase in hate crimes in western Europe in recent years due to divisions over nationalism, immigration and extreme right-wing parties (Levin & Nakashima, 2019).

Of the 19 EU member states that publish data on registered hate crimes, only 15 separate this data by motives of bias (Salaverría, 2020). It is well established by FRI surveys and other research that the majority of hate crimes go unreported to the police (Salaverría, 2020).

Criminal victimization surveys indicate that even in countries where police record relatively large numbers of hate crimes, there is a significant under-reporting by victims (Salaverría, 2020).

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, Antonio Guterres, considered that brutal crimes do not occur without reasons, and one of the most prominent of these reasons is the spread of hate speech, which is messages in public discourse and the media, and this speech spreads hostility and encourages people to commit violence against local communities (United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, 2017). In societies experiencing tensions as a result of political or security disturbances or other forms of instability, hate speech in public discourse and media messages is one of the causes of violence and, consequently, genocide because it spreads hostility and encourages the population to commit acts of violence against specific communities (United Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, 2017).

Amnesty International's report for the year 2020/2021 on the state of human rights in the world stated that the general landscape of the world was in chaos, and the measures taken to address the Corona epidemic during the year 2020 had a devastating impact on the lives of millions of people, and these measures exacerbated violations and inequality and some of these The violations have roots in discrimination related to race and gender (Amnesty International, 2021).

### **2.1.6. Hate speech in Arab world**

The Arab world is not an exception to the spread of hate speech and racism, especially since many Arab countries are experiencing turmoil, wars and conflicts such as Lebanon, Iraq, Yemen, Syria and Libya. Internal disturbances, internal fighting, refugee situations and displacement increase hate speech and racism, as mentioned by Antonio Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations (United

Nations Office on Genocide Prevention and the Responsibility to Protect, 2017).

Lebanon is facing a struggle with hate speech within the society itself and a struggle for freedom of expression, specifically after the Arab Spring (Mendel et al., 2018; Touma & Zaghbour, 2020; Mikhael, 2018; Sadaka et al. 2015; Aljazeera Media Institute, 2019). Despite the lack of clarity of hate speech in the Jordanian media, this did not prevent the presence of some cases specifically against Syrian refugees (Mendel et al., 2018; Aljazeera Media Institute, 2019). Hate speech in Iraq is between the same community of sects, politicians and minorities, and the Iraqi media contributes greatly to the spread of hate speech (Iraqi media house, 2018 ; Mena media monitoring, 2020).

Egypt, Tunisia, Algeria, Libya and Morocco have political conflicts, in addition to religious ones, highlighting hate speech against social groups (Mendel et al. 2018; Mena media monitoring, 2020). While the hate speech in Saudi Arabia is concentrated against the Shiites, and this discourse is spearheaded by clerics and some politicians Human Rights Watch, (2017).

Legally, there are no direct laws that combat hate speech or set a specific definition for it, but other laws are adapted to confront hate speech, and these laws may be used to combat freedom of opinion and expression under the pretext of fighting terrorism and extremism, in refusal to criticize the policies of the regimes and governments in these countries (Zakaria, 2017; Hassine, 2016; Mazoz, 2016).

In the Arab world, Alshalan and Al-Khalifa (2020) considered that the research that examines the problem of hate speech in the Arabic language is limited and this attributed to the existence of challenges that complicate the task of detecting hate speech, most notably the complexities of the Arabic language on multiple levels, such as dictation and dictionaries, in addition to the diversity of dialects, as they do not differ from one country to another, but differ in the same country. Therefore inferring hate speech is still a difficult phenomenon and is highly context dependent (Alshalan & Al-Khalifa,



2020). Sabah (2016) also considered that there are difficulties in defining hate speech because there are types of speeches that fall within the framework of public debate that should not be restricted.

Twitter in the Arab region is considered one of the most popular platforms and has revolutionized the way people communicate and share opinions, but it has been increasingly exploited to spread offensive and hateful content Alshalan & Al-Khalifa, (2020). Also, Sabah (2016) contemporary media has become platforms for spreading hate speech.

The media may work in two directions, either to promote knowledge and acceptance of diversity, or to be a tool of discrimination and exclusion, and may amount to incitement to violence, due to its immediacy, global scope and ease of use (Sabah, 2016).

Sabah (2016) linked the spread of hate speech in the media to the absence and lack of clarity of legislation on hate speech and the dissemination of negative stereotypes about minorities, in addition to the lack of great potential for minorities to access the media, but the legislations to combat hate speech use varying and inconsistent terms with Article 20 of the "International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights", also the more the definition of hate speech in national laws increases, the more arbitrarily these laws are applied.

Legally, the Arab Charter on Human Rights issued by the Council of the League of Arab States in 2004 emphasized in Article Two the non-discrimination on the grounds of race, color, gender and other reasons that lead to inflaming feelings of hatred among individuals, the charter also stressed in the second paragraph of the same article that the signatories to the charter must take the necessary measures to ensure effective equality and protection from all forms of discrimination, In addition to protecting minorities and enabling them to enjoy their rights, because detracting from them leads to racial discrimination and hate speech (Zakaria, 2017).

Among the Arab legislation on discrimination is UAE Legislation No. 2 of 2015 on discrimination and hate speech, this legislation defined

hate speech as every word and deed that would provoke discord and strife or discrimination between individuals and groups, also the legislator stressed that hatred directed at religions is punishable (Zakaria, 2017).

And because hate speech and discrimination against others lead to revenge, bloodshed and chaos, this is what prompted the United Nations to adopt conferences against hate and discrimination in light of the shortcomings of international legislation in this aspect, also, the absence of an agreement at the international level to combat intolerance and hate speech resulted in the issuance of the UAE Declaration in February 2017, to eliminate all forms of extremism, discrimination and incitement to national, religious and racial hatred (Zakaria, 2017).

In a report that tracks the state of freedom of expression in four Arab countries (Egypt, Tunisia, Jordan and Saudi Arabia), specifically after the Arab Spring and the emergence of ISIS, the report follows how these four countries interacted with the events and responded to them in creating laws to combat terrorism and religious fundamentalism on the Internet ostensibly, but they were exploited to stifle dissent and criminalize those who criticize governments, as such criticism threatens their legitimacy (Hassine, 2016).

The report tracked targeting of those who write their opinion online since 2011 and found that Jordan and Saudi Arabia use anti-terrorism laws to prosecute online activists, while Egypt uses a new law issued in 2014, while Tunisia relies on old laws, and the four countries meet in prosecution and imprisonment people who express their opinions online.

The report considered that the Arab world lacks terminology related to national security laws, such as cybercrime and cyber terrorism, and the laws related to the Internet in the Arab world are considered laws against certain types of online discourse. And also found that the regional approach to addressing Internet freedom issues in the Middle East and North Africa no longer exists, but rather that each country has a different social, political context and institutional history that

affects the use of laws. Where anti-terror laws are used to arrest the opposition and shut down any unwanted speech (Hassine, 2016).

Another report on hate speech and racism in the southern Mediterranean region, the report confirmed that the countries of the southern Mediterranean have witnessed an unprecedented degree of authorities' control of the media, and the Arab revolutions have affected the Arab Spring by giving new freedoms to the media (Mendel et al., 2018).

The report stated that studies indicate the spread of racist content in the southern Mediterranean media, and journalists find themselves in a battle of hatred and racism, and in some cases they have become victims and perpetrators of incitement.

The report focuses on Algeria, Egypt, Lebanon, Jordan, Morocco, Palestine and Tunisia. In **Algeria**, the report indicates that the struggle of the media profession against hate speech is a source of concern. The media reported that the content of newspapers has become increasingly exciting and the press resorted to dazzling to sell more copies while avoiding criticism of the authority. Some media outlets also used racist descriptions against certain groups such as African immigrants and Chinese workers, and increased hate speech against secularists, liberals and Islamists alike. The dispute between Algeria and Morocco over western Sahara caused the spread of hate speech in all Algerian and Moroccan media (Mendel et al., 2018).

In **Egypt**, media sector was affecting the region and changed after the revolution of January 25, 2011, with the flourishing of the media, this was accompanied by general chaos, and hate speech of a political, religious, ethnic and xenophobic nature began to increase in the national media, and hate speech against political groups and figures, religious minorities and foreign forces flourished.

**Jordan**, during a specialized conference on hate speech in Amman 2014, media professionals confirmed that the refugee crisis was the biggest issue in Jordan, and the media did not engage in any racist, inciting or hate speech against them.

In **Lebanon**, media reflects the historical conflict in the country, pluralistic religious identities, and the interference of religion and politics in the media. Syria's interference in political life and the Palestinian and Syrian refugee crises affected the media, whose coverage of news is affected by dependence on political loyalty, and coverage of refugee issues has turned from a humanitarian nature to an aggressive one.

Civil society organizations in Algeria, Egypt, Jordan and Morocco are working to add legislation, laws and initiatives to combat hate speech, while in Lebanon, despite this, the country lacks an effective mechanism to hold the media accountable (Mendel et al., 2018).

As for **Morocco**, despite the stability and the absence of a significant impact of the Arab Spring, this did not prevent the confrontation of hate speech; one of the most important of these challenges is the increase in immigrants and refugees. Social issues are also reflected in hate speech in the media, such as religion, violence against women and discrimination against persons with disabilities.

In **Palestine**, which is experiencing an ongoing conflict, wars and actual occupation - as described in the report- but there are efforts to set standards for the journalism profession, enhance journalism ethics, and combat hate speech in the media. In return, Israel accused the media of inciting hate speech and violence and closed dozens of media outlets and arrested journalists on accusation of speech the hatred (Mendel et al., 2018).

**Tunisia**, which led the process of democratic transition after it was the cradle of the Arab Spring, was the adoption of legislative and regulatory texts to consecrate freedom of the media, despite that there were fears of hate speech. The head of the Union of Tunisian Journalists, Neji Bghouri, said:

*Tunisians believe that the media have become tools for settling accounts, defamation, transmitting false information and spreading violence and hate speech*

A survey of 19 newspapers and digital media in 2016 showed that many Tunisian newspapers contributed to the spread of hatred and violence (Mendel et al., 2018).

The report found that regulation in the southern Mediterranean countries is weak, despite the presence of positive trends in legislation in Tunisia and Morocco, while the code of conduct is absent from these countries, with the exception of Palestine.

One of the reasons that led to confusion in understanding a number of concepts, including the comparison between hate speech and incitement, is the absence of clear definitions of exceptions to freedom of expression, and this was reflected in human rights attitudes towards speeches that result in violations of other rights and freedoms, as well as restrictions on freedom of expression (Mazoz, 2016).

Political differences may lead to impartial media coverage, as happened in the Gulf political crisis between the Arab Gulf states and Qatar, where the qatari news coverage of the Saudi decision to allow women to drive between 2017-2018 was subjective, despite the lack of objectivity in most of the reports that dealt with this decision; it was free from hate speech and stereotypes about Saudi women (Salameh, 2020).

Again in Lebanon, most of the reports focus on freedom of expression and violations against activists and ordinary citizens for simply criticizing a cleric or politics and the intertwined racism and hate speech (Touma & Zaghbour, 2020). The report considered that freedom of expression declined in Lebanon during 2019 after journalists, activists and citizens were interrogated and arrested because of their opinions.

The report explain that with the decline in freedom of expression in Arab countries after the Arab Spring, arrests and interrogations increased in Lebanon after 2017, and complaints were submitted by political and religious figures, which reflects that the authority does not want criticism, and work is being done to put obstacles in the way of implementing laws related to freedom of opinion and expression.

The report questions the work of the office of "Information Crimes and Intellectual Property", which was established in 2006 because it is allowed to penetrate digital spaces and violate freedom of expression, and the office uses coercive measures during detention operations, including the person signing a pledge not to write on a specific topic or about a specific person. The matter does not stop there, but some political and religious figures exert great pressures that reach to control the judiciary and influence its decisions, and the response of some judges to these demands also threatens the independence of the judiciary (Touma & Zaghbour, 2020).

As for hate speech on social media in Lebanon, this speech has been defined as a form of extremist, biased and punishable expression that targets a person or a group of society because of their beliefs, gender, race or religion (Mikhael, 2018). This discourse leads to an escalation of violence, fueling conflict, and creates an environment conducive to discrimination and racism (Mikhael, 2018).

According to the report hate speech on social networking sites in Lebanon is mostly issued by personal accounts, followed by journalists and then politicians, and distributed between Facebook and Twitter, the incitement to violence topped the most types of hate speech that was published in the wake of events that occurred during 2018 in Lebanon (Mikhael, 2018). In addition, insults were directed at specific people or groups. In this speech, images, scenes and phrases were used that symbolize sectarian violence, the Lebanese civil war, and massacres that occurred for sectarian and religious reasons, they also used modified pictures that include offensive descriptions of people or groups that strip them of their human characteristics. Among the videos that were monitored is a video of the Progressive Socialist Party filled with expressions of incitement, violence and incitement to violence (Mikhael, 2018).

A 2015 study conducted by Maharat Foundation on the Lebanese media and the practice of religious incitement, found that religious discourse is strongly present and hate speech increases when conflicts escalate (Sadaka et al., 2015). The study that was conducted after the

signing of the media honor code in 2013 and analyzed 10 newspapers, 7 television stations, 8 radio stations, and 5 electronic news websites, and found that the media has a discourse of incitement and mobilization against the opponent's media tools, meaning that the media fights with the media. The study did not record any direct religious incitement, but rather accusatory speeches with political and sectarian dimensions appeared (Sadaka et al., 2015).

It is noted that the Arab political and media discourse frequently uses adjectives whose roots are taken from animals and the earth or wind and rain, and they reflect a defect in the animal or a problem or a moral or sexual characteristic, and the formula "enemy" in the Arab context is used between political parties and used as divisions that instill a culture of hostility and hatred in Arab societies (Mena media monitoring, 2020).

With the expansion of the culture of death and "takfir"<sup>15</sup> through the emergence of a large part of the Islamists in the eighties of the last century calling for Jihad against the ignorance of the Islamic community, this increased the spread of the language of hatred, Atonement "takfir" and apostasy, and the media became promoting these cultures in a show manner that is not different from the promotion of sports and cultural products (Mena media monitoring, 2020).

The journalists justify their resort to using the dictionary of hate in their writings by saying that they are against the symbols and leaders of Islamic or obscurantist and fascist currents, which can be considered as confronting fascism with fascist methods and tools (Mena media monitoring, 2020). Hate media is characterized by propaganda, misinformation, racism, extremism, spreading lies, fabricating and exaggerating differences. It is also noted that the Arab media contribute to awakening and producing feelings of racism, tribalism, regionalism and religious and political extremism among large groups of the public (Mena media monitoring, 2020).

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<sup>15</sup> Takfir is a theological declaration that a Muslim has become an apostate or a person is an infidel or an act or idea constitutes disbelief in Islam (Hassan, 2017)

The spread of new media outlets has increased the spread of hatred, and media work has become affected by it in one way or another, especially with the dominance of excitement and propaganda tendencies, this despite the numerous charters and ethical codes for the journalism profession, this did not require respect for professional ethics for economic, political and legal reasons (Mena media monitoring, 2020).

In a guide book by Aljazeera media institution hate speech in the media, the guide considered that hate speech first appeared in the media in 1989 in the United States to include problems related to harmful racist discourse. The report emphasized that hate speech is different from speech of discrimination, as hate speech requires intent to hate a specific group, while discrimination can appear in press stories without the journalist or media organization being aware of it (Aljazeera Media Institute, 2019).

The guide book clarifies a number of forms of bias, including contextual bias, when the voice of a particular political, social or religious trend emerges in the news at the expense of other currents and trends. While the journalist practices hate speech when he frames people or groups in a news story based on their identity, and distorts them negatively with the intention of spreading hatred towards them and this may not be directly, but may be within the general context in which the journalistic material came (Aljazeera Media Institute, 2019).

One of the cases of discrimination in the media mentioned in the report is the Rwandan civil war. In the Arab world, the issues of Syrian refugees were in Jordan and Lebanon, where the media contributed to creating a negative image towards them within those societies, and the emergence of a hostile tendency. These conflicts were more visible in Lebanon and developed into cases of violence (Aljazeera Media Institute, 2019). It is also noted in **Libya** that the media are biased towards the warring parties by adopting sources for each party and using terminology that demonizes the other.



In **Iraq**, the Iraqi Media House<sup>16</sup> issued a report entitled Knights of Hate, in which 955 episodes of talk shows were monitored on 15 satellite stations broadcasting from Iraq and abroad. After that, the House issued a dictionary of hate, the first of its kind in Iraq, in which the content of the Iraqi media that incites hatred was monitored (Iraqi media house, 2018). The media in Iraq according to the report constituted a contributing factor in spreading hate speech in the absence of any legal system or professional charters.

Hate speech in Iraq is directed in more than one direction against ideas, religion, sects and ideologies, to the extent that this discourse has penetrated the Iraqi popular language with the intent of insulting, sarcasm and humiliation (Iraqi media house, 2018). The report concluded that most of the terminology of hatred derives its roots from extremist religious jurisprudence, partial rulings, or religious rulings of unknown origin, and spreads due to the adoption of religious, social or political figures and their communication to public opinion.

It is clear from the report that hate terms were produced for the first time by clerics, politicians or public figures through talk shows on local Arab and Iraqi satellite channels. The use of this language and terminology increases in conjunction with political crises and security incidents and continues for weeks (Iraqi media house, 2018). Among these terms: Sons of pleasure is used to offend the Shiite sect, Sunnis are mercenaries, Sunnis are ISIS, Persian slaves, and the Kurds are traitors, the Kurds are the thieves of Iraq, the Kurds are the cancer of Iraq, the Shiites are not Muslims. Many of the terms that describe political and social life are full of hatred and contempt for the other, and are used by local media and satellite TV guests (Iraqi media house, 2018).

The Iraqi House, in its thirty-fourth report, also monitored how Iraq deals with homosexuality issues by monitoring and analyzing more

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<sup>16</sup> The Iraqi Media House is an independent Iraqi institution established by a group of Iraqi journalists, academics and lawmakers. was launched on 1st of January, 2015 through the publication of a series of 40 reports and three languages (Arabic, English and Kurdish) (p.7)

than 40 media outlets, including television channels, newspapers, agencies and news sites. The report found that the media played a role in inciting hatred against homosexuals and contributed to the production of direct violence that led to cases of kidnapping, killing and torture. The media used terms related to homosexuality as derogatory tools and they were linked to secularism, atheism and prostitution. The media adopted direct incitement against them in media programs and coverage, which negatively affected public opinion (Iraqi media house, 2018).

In a Human Rights Watch report on hate speech in **Saudi Arabia**, the report focused on the hate speech practiced by "Sunni" clerics against the Shiite sect, where they are described as "Al rafidha"<sup>17</sup> and demeaning their beliefs (Human Rights Watch, 2017). A member of the Council of Senior Scholars in Saudi Arabia described the Shiites as the brothers of the devils, and the former Grand Mufti of Saudi Arabia, Abdulaziz bin Baz, who died in 1999, condemned the Shiites in his fatwa's. In addition, some use the language of conspiracy when arguing about the Shiites, as they are described as the fifth queue of Iran, and the Shiites are subjected to discriminatory treatment and arbitrary criminalization of their religious practices if they go to the judiciary (Human Rights Watch, 2017).

Human Rights Watch studies have found that Saudi government officials and institutions incite hatred and discrimination against Shiites. Among these issues, which the report monitored, was the publication in 2015 of the governor of the Saudi Qassim region - a member of the royal family - an opinion article in the Saudi newspaper Al-Jazirah, in which he described the Shiites as a hideous opponent of "Salafi"<sup>18</sup> ideologies - supported by the state - and one of

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<sup>17</sup> Rafidha :is a term that broadly refers to Shī'i Muslims (p.34)

<sup>18</sup> Salafism refers to a movement within Sunni Islam that developed in Arabia in the first half of the 18th century and advocated a return to the traditions of the "devout ancestors" (p.1)

the Shiite sects described them as the most dangerous manifestations of polytheism that Muhammad bin AbdulWahab<sup>19</sup>.

The report monitored tweets by clerics and academics, followed by millions on social media, carrying hate speech and anti-Shia terminology, in addition to school curricula carrying anti-Shia rhetoric. And considered that this anti-Shia rhetoric has serious consequences, as armed groups such as ISIS or Al-Qaeda use it as a justification for targeting Shiite civilians (Human Rights Watch, 2017).

The spread of hate through the media is affected by several factors, most notably the absence or lack of clarity of legislation to combat hate speech, the negative portrayal of minorities, and the emergence of extremist and populist movements (Izsák, 2015).

### 2.2. Digital media era

During the past twenty years, the world witnessed a great development in the field of communications and the technical aspect. And throughout history, communications and information have been essential sources of power and strength for control and social change, because the main battle that societies fight is the battle of the minds (Castells, 2007). The Internet is more than just a news media or tool, the Internet creates virtual countries through the great information and interaction it provides (Seib, 2003). By using the Internet and social media, as previous studies indicated, hate speech spreads towards the other, and it is difficult to know who is issuing this speech because of the ability to hide the identity of the user (Kuş, 2016; Shepherd et al., 2015; Aguilera-Carnerero & Azeez, 2016; Miró Llinares, 2016; Barlow & Awan, 2016; Burnap & Williams, 2015; Chiluwa, 2018;

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<sup>19</sup> Muhammad bin Abd al-Wahhab was a religious leader related to the Al Saud family, in 1744, he agreed with the Saudi rulers to expand their political rule in return for giving them religious legitimacy integral. The Al Saud family in exchange granting Abd al-Wahhab freedom to “purify” the inhabitants of what he saw as centuries of corrupt practices and to return them to the path of what he claimed to be “true” Islam (p.1 –p.11)

Chua, 2009; Evolvi, 2017; Farkas et al. 2018; Awan, 2016; Kreis, 2017; Murthy & Sharma, 2018; Sobkowicz & Sobkowicz, 2010; Palazzetti et al. 2017; McNamee et al. 2010; Bauwelinck et al. 2019; Archakis et al. 2018; Cisneros & Nakayama, 2015; Kimotho & Nyaga, 2016; Ben-David & Matamoros-Fernández, 2016).

At the beginning of 2021, *Digital 2021: global overview* report mentions that close to half a billion new social media users are had been registered (Kemp 2021). The report showed that technology became the main part of people's lives over the past year.

The report showed that:

*the global 'State of Digital' in January 2021: the world's population stood at 7.83 billion, 5.22 billion people use a mobile phone today, equating to 66.6 percent of the world's total population. 4.66 billion People around the world use the Internet in January 2021, up by 316 million (7.3 percent) since this time last year. 4.20 billion Social media users around the world. This figure has grown by 490 million over the past 12 months; the number of social media users is now equivalent to more than 53 percent of the world's total population*

In social media:

*On average, more than 1.3 million new users joined social media every day during 2020, equating to roughly 15½ new users every single second.*

According to the report, a person spends 2 hours and 25 minutes on social media each day and spends almost 7 hours per day using the Internet across all devices. Those two-thirds of the world's total population use a mobile phone today, which means "Mobiles became the 'first' screen" (Kemp, 2021).

The information revolution that the world is experiencing at the present time represents one of the most important stages of major historical development in human history (M. Mustafa & Musa, 2018). This information revolution has brought about major changes in the

media industry and patterns of information consumption, production, dissemination and sharing of its contents (M. Mustafa & Musa, 2018).

Analyses in the media environment show that the shape of the upcoming press will be sculpted from its multi-cultural, practice and forms, as we will have a diverse press that is produced and consumed in different types of networks (Ruotsalainen, 2018).

The year 2019 marked the twenty-fifth anniversary of the emergence of the first media on the World Wide Web (Salaverría, 2019). More than two decades after the emergence of digital media, a name has not been settled among researchers, and the definition lacks agreed forms, the term "digital journalism" is considered the most popular among professionals in most countries of the world, and academics choose the name depending on the situation and the country (Salaverría, 2019).

Electronic media has demonstrated a unique ability to attract audiences different from newspaper, radio and television audiences, young and old, while traditional media increasingly attract older people (Salaverría, 2019).

Over the past twenty-five years, researchers have faced the challenge of exploring the growth of digital news media, in addition to devising and applying appropriate tools and methods for studies from methodologies, because they did not witness a significant development in terms of how they are applied to non-digital media (Salaverría, 2019).

Also Since the mid-nineties digital technologies have continuously rocked the journalism industry through professional innovations and change in the habit of consuming media, and over the past two decades, a complex online media market with new rules and processes has formed, and With the gaining momentum at the turn of the century, online media gradually displaced traditional media from their previous supremacy (Harlow & Salaverría, 2016).

News values research ignored the analysis of all digital native news websites, which are news outlets that originated online and did not originate from the legacy of offline media (Canter, 2018). These researches focused on old media and a range of media platforms, including online platforms (Canter, 2018). Canter (2018) considered that the vacuum of empirical data in this field indicates an elitist attitude towards authentic digital news organizations, which means that their content does not deserve academic investigation because it does not produce real news

Cunningham and Craig (2016) pointed out that we are witnessing the rise of emerging media that represents the ownership of non-traditional media and the creation of content that challenges the concept of media globalization.

The field of digital media has also increased over the past two decades, thanks to the development of devices and their often cheap prices, the improvement of communications, and the presence of a wide range of products and services (López-García et al. 2019).

Digital-native news sites in Latin America are changing the region industry, and digital news organizations are growing in importance in terms of their scope, these sites have challenged the local news industry by addressing topics marginalized by the mainstream media, these emerging forms of news media created their own audience base inside and outside their country (Joyce & Harlow, 2020).

The author indicates that new technologies have contributed to creating these news organizations in an unconstrained environment. Also, the presence of the common Spanish language among Latin American countries and the public contributed to its spread in Latin America (Joyce & Harlow, 2020).

The researcher focused in his 2006 study on websites and social media in Mexico, Guatemala, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Venezuela and Peru. These sites receive funding and grants from international institutions and avoid government advertising.

Respondents to a questionnaire distributed in 19 Latin countries indicated that the Digital-native media dealt in depth with topics that the mainstream media did not care about Joyce and Harlow, (2020). The respondents also highlighted the belief in the professionalism, objectivity and credibility of the original digital sites, in addition to the use of advanced and innovative technologies that are not available in traditional media Joyce and Harlow, (2020).

One of the most distinctive features of Digital-native media is the participatory nature of media (García-Orosa et al., 2020). These sites connect with their audience by launching initiatives such as celebrating a thematic Sunday, meeting with partners, or adopting live web-discussions from a newsroom such as Media part (García-Orosa et al., 2020). These sites have also given users the ability to contribute to research and press production by giving evidence, sending leaks, or suggesting corrections through mail, e-mail, or web communication (García-Orosa et al., 2020).

These details create a social space with the most loyal audience, journalists and other entities, in addition to creating multimedia and mixing text with audio and video, (García-Orosa et al., 2020). García-Orosa et al., (2020) found that digital local media appear in response to the needs of the market, in society, and in journalism models, as these sites were established by journalists with experience in the journalism profession.

Also the results of the Harlow and Salaverría's study (2016), showed that the most influential authentic sites on the Internet are trying to renew the old traditional patterns of journalism and aim to change society, and act as alternatives to the mainstream media even if these sites do not specify that they are alternatives.

Most media outlets share common features such as the use of digital technologies or new business models and the renewal of classic forms of journalism, and they are distinguished by their different degrees of political activity (Harlow & Salaverría, 2016).

But author highlight that in Latin America, the birth of online-native news sites does not mean that it will provide an alternative to traditional journalistic practices and the goals of mainstream media because this birth is accompanied by barriers such as access to the population, where 49% of the population has access to the Internet (Harlow & Salaverría, 2016).

To understand authentic digital-native media in Latin America, Harlow (2021) stated that alternative media is defined as "non-commercial, unprofessional, and underfunded outlets, that provide counter-hegemonic options to the mainstream commercial media". Although the original sites on the Internet are proud of their distinction from the mainstream press, and they refuse to consider themselves "alternative", because they came from an alternative press that played a historical and military role, and was the voice of dissidents, fighters and opponents of the right-wing domination of much of Latin America in the eighties .

(Harlow, 2021) explained that rapid technological changes and the resulting economic crises increase the complexity of the news media landscape, which opens the stage for digital-native media to redefine the alternative and dominant journalism in Latin America. Readers also see that independent digital-native media differ from mainstream media because they use more innovative technology (Harlow, (2021). Readers also appreciate media outlets that take a stand on injustice and corruption and participate in community activism and protests and these sites also facilitate exchange with others and make them feel part of society (Harlow, 2021).

Nieman Lab at Harvard University published in 2010, predictions about journalism and digital media experts for the year 2011, and these predictions, according to Ruotsalainen, (2018), were varied and rich in qualitative terms but lacked structure and focus.

Nieman Lab experts believe that forms of media will vary, as will the expected developments in podcasts and videos, and the dismantling of traditional articles to be adapted to mobile devices. The forms and style of journalism will differ, which means that the skills of



journalists will be diversified as well. In addition to this, the media environment diversified into smaller and more closed mass platforms, the researchers expect, according to the article, to increase the content of specialized press and increase the spread of media materials produced by medium and small media organizations (Ruotsalainen, 2018).

Predictions expect an increase in the possibility of subscriptions and paid memberships to obtain media content, which is accompanied by an increase in revenue. Media institutions have reaped revenues from subscriptions that are higher than advertisements, and revenues are expected to increase through audio stories, serious journalism, exclusive reports, innovative mobile phone advertisements, and others (Ruotsalainen, 2018). Media institutions will seek to establish more active and innovative relationships with other multiple platforms to publish on them, and all these developments and strive to win over the public will be directed at enhancing focus on quality, moving away from filling, focus, specialization, and verifying the validity of information further (Ruotsalainen, 2018).

It is also expected to increase the use of artificial intelligence in journalism, specifically in checking content, machine vision, hearing, processing wrong information, natural language, and verifying facts, and this means that the journalist must know what artificial intelligence is, what it is capable of, and how to develop websites and platforms, especially with expectations that one machine will create a story and send it to a second machine to customize the story and publish it (Ruotsalainen, 2018).

It is necessary to acknowledge, as Mensing, (2017) says, that the entire local and global media system is moving into the digital world, from mass media to networked media systems, and from strong advertising support to financial instability, between free and restricted in laws, policies and ethical standards. These sweeping changes have significant and widespread impacts on companies, non-profits, and the public media (Mensing, 2017).

Reuters Foundation digital news report in 2018, was based on a survey that included more than 74,000 people in 37 markets covers 25 European countries, 6 in Asia and 4 in Latin America, the United States of America, and Canada (Newman et al., 2018).

The report expects podcasts to become more popular in the world (Newman et al., 2018). In addition to noting the decrease in Facebook consumption compared to the increase in the use of alternative platforms such as WhatsApp, Instagram, and Snapchat (Newman et al., 2018). As the vast majority of respondents, 65% prefer to access the news through a side door instead of going to the site or a news application, 53% prefer to access news through search engines, social media, or news aggregators (Newman et al., 2018).

In 2019, the Reuters Foundation based in its digital news report, on a survey of more than 75,000 people in 38 markets, covering 24 European countries, 7 in Asia, and 4 in Latin America, the United States of America, and Canada, the report included South Africa For the first time (Newman et al., 2019).

Newman et al. (2019) found that despite the efforts being made in the news industry, paid subscriptions are witnessing a slight increase, whether through subscription, membership, or donation. Where the majority in some countries prefer to spend their limited budgets on entertainment such as Netflix and Spotify instead of news because in the eyes of many people it is a routine work (Newman et al., 2019).

With the influx of media users on websites and digital platforms and interact with the press via the Internet, we are still far from finding sustainable digital media models.

In the Arab world, Maharat Foundation made a study about the reality of digital media startups in 2019 in three countries (Lebanon, Jordan, and Morocco). It found that the emerging media companies, in the three countries share the same difficulties, which are continuity, financing, and creating content that may face many obstacles due to media laws, governments, the taboos of society, and the lack of expert people.

Lebanon, is one of the capitals of thriving digital innovation in the Middle East, as it hosts 13% of the total investors in the Middle East and North Africa (Maharat Foundation, 2019). However, the Lebanese media suffers unstoppable crises, that are not new and the reform attempts in the seventies and eighties were unsuccessful (Maharat Foundation, 2019). With the digital revolution and the financial crisis many media institutions closed (Maharat Foundation, 2019). In return, new models and media institutions have been established via the Internet and have reached a wide audience base, but they are still below expectations and sometimes go through disappointments, and they also face challenges, most notably the lack of technical talent, the political environment and the lack of access to customers in the local, regional and global markets (Maharat Foundation, 2019).

The number of media sites in Lebanon registered with the National Media Council is 372 (Maharat Foundation, 2019). Some of them are closed and others operate with rudimentary technologies and with the same traditional economic, administrative and editorial model of media institutions (Maharat Foundation, 2019). Also, media companies emerging in Lebanon are not many, as they face great difficulties and challenges, according to Maharat Foundation (2019), the most prominent of which is the lack of a material return, and the type of content that affects readership and innovation.

According the informe these challenges are the same that face startups in general: the instability of material income, long working hours and great responsibility, the presence of local, Arab and international competitors, political instability, lack of experience in the labor market.

Morocco has witnessed a qualitative leap in the use of the Internet, and the latest statistics came in January 2019 to show that 22 million Moroccans use the Internet, 86% of who are active on web pages daily. With this turnout, the media market also witnessed an increase in Moroccan media projects, as 892 media projects were registered, according to a statement by the Ministry of Communications in April 2019. These new projects correspond to traditional projects

monopolized by the state or the royal family (Maharat Foundation, 2019).

These emerging enterprises face multiple economic, technological, and legal challenges, and the same problem in Lebanon is that these projects face a problem in content, as 80% of the institutions use the Arabic language and 20% use the French language, in addition to a tendency to use the vernacular local dialect according to the same report.

In Jordan also, number of media websites licensed with the Media Commission until 2019 reached 137 sites, 36 satellite stations, and 39 radio stations (Maharat Foundation, 2019). Most of these institutions did not go outside the framework of traditional media in terms of form and content.

Emerging media facing the funding challenge and the challenge of finding people with skill and innovation in producing content also the difficulty of obtaining information, these media projects have been affected by international conditions, economic, social, and political changes in Jordan, regional turmoil, and conflicts (Maharat Foundation, 2019).

In the Arab world, it can be admitted that the new media contributed to the production of what might be called the new Arab media (ZRAN, 2017). This is evident on several levels: institutional, sociological and technological, whereby many Arab countries no longer adhere to ministries of information, but have been replaced by higher bodies for communication and information (ZRAN, 2017).

ZRAN (2017) considered that the relationship between the new media and the Arab media has resulted in a number of transformations. The new media has the victory of the sociological reference over the technical background, also the new media opens the intellectual space for the formation of a new Arab media characterized by the presence of the individual and the weakness of the institution, and it produces new citizenship and new interaction with issues of public affairs (ZRAN, 2017).

### 2.2.1. Digital native media

The thesis deals with its analysis of the digital native media in Europe and the Arab world. Although the naming of digital native media does not exist in the Arab media as a name, it does exist in the practical media field as online news websites as the Arabic scholars study. Ismail (2020) pointed out that the Arab media has witnessed in the past two decades great transformations in the field of communication that have produced new media patterns, most notably the so-called "electronic journalism" or "online journalism." The definitions of electronic journalism included "Websites that do not have a printed paper version" (Ismail, 2020). And mentioned by (Al-Faisal, 2021; Al-Fatlawi, 2016; Kchour & Bachir, 2014; Al-Nasser & Kamel, 2020). Also, Husni and Al-Timimi (2018) used the terms new media, digital media, and digital newspapers via the web and pointed out that Arab research and studies on digital or new media are few in libraries and periodicals. Alshehri and Gunter (2002) used terms Arab electronic newspapers, Arab online newspapers.

Studies, scientific articles, and researchers have defined the digital native media as the media that originated in the digital age, but began to grow since the nineties (Thomas & Cushion, 2019). It's a media company that grew up entirely on the Internet (Wu, 2016), and are based on a digital presence and has no association with an old news organization (Buschow, 2020). They are classified as start-ups or pure players and have evolved over recent decades into a variety of organizations (Thomas & Cushion, 2019). Whereas directors of local native online news companies in Colombia define their entrepreneurial organizations as creative laboratories that use digital technology to defend journalistic principles and produce editorial innovations to ensure a better future for journalism (García-Perdomo & Magaña, 2020). The expansion of social media platforms in western countries has led to the growth of the audience for digital authentic media rapidly, which reflects a greater impact than it was in the 1990s (Thomas & Cushion, 2019).

In recent years, scholars and practitioners of journalism have begun to distinguish between older, branded digital publications and newer online publications (Salaverría, 2020). These new news sites came after many traditional news organizations were affected by the economic recession and struggled to survive in light of the decline in revenues and the downsizing of newsrooms and the number of journalists (Wu, 2016). It also came as a result of the profound transformations brought about by the communication ecosystem in the journalistic work and the media, which emerged as digital media that do not follow the logic of traditional media (Rodríguez-Hidalgo et al. 2020).

García-Orosa et al. (2020) see that the emergence of digital native media has come as a response to the needs of different types in market, community, and journalism models. In Spain, for example, news organizations have grown since the mid-nineties, and their biggest expansion was during the recession (2008-2014), when the traditional media faced the consequences of this economic crisis (Negredo et al., 2020). These local online media are created by experienced journalists and those who have had a career in traditional media, which differ from traditional in terms of the value they provide to society as a more audience-focused approach to journalism is introduced (García-Orosa et al., 2020). Wu (2016) has considered that with the passage of time, the public has increasingly learned to consume news online, especially from social networking sites "Facebook and Twitter." These companies that have been grown and emerged completely online differ from traditional companies in many ways, the most important of which is the expansion of growth and profits (Wu, 2016).

Also, the social and economic reality in recent years has led to a series of changes in the media and has developed into new organizational, production and distribution models (Rey & García, 2017). Bruno & Nielsen (2012) in Oxford's Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism report, focused on journalistic online start-ups which are doing something recognizable as professional journalism by creating continuous content focused on timely and accessible information done

by people full-time and not funded by outside groups. The report adds that a generation of start-ups found the opportunity to challenge incumbents in the industry and establish their presence in the media markets with the economic troubles of the newspaper industry, which led to the layoffs of many experienced journalists (Bruno & Nielsen, 2012). Rey and García (2017) considered that these media outlets were born because they seek greater diversity and freedom of information, whether in terms of geographical area, editorial models, specialization or language. In addition, these online news sites operate in a more competitive environment than traditional newspapers (Burggraaff & Trilling, 2020). Also digital native media has the ability to develop an alternative agenda to the old media (Thomas & Cushion, 2019).

### **2.3. Covid-19 and media coverage**

The beginning was in the Chinese city of Wuhan, when the National Notifiable Disease Reporting System (NNDRS) reported cases of COVID-19 in December 2019 (World Health Organization, 2021). Then, on January 30, 2020, the World Health Organization declared that the outbreak of COVID-19 had become a public health emergency of concern. On March 4, 2020, 77 countries recorded cases of COVID-19 (WHO, 2020). On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared that the COVID-19 virus transformed into a pandemic (Villena-Alarcón & Caballero-Galeote, 2020).

The COVID-19 outbreak has caused widespread disruptions to personal, social, and economic life Ziems et al., (2020). Also, the spread of the virus has also sparked feelings of racism, hatred and xenophobia on social media, targeting Chinese and Asian communities (Ziems et al., (2020); Fan et al.,, (2020).

Four months after the outbreak of the Corona epidemic in the world, Basch et al. (2020) analyzed news clips dealing with COVID-19 on the Internet and analyzed 401 videos published in January and

February 2020. Basch et al. (2020) found that the most popular topic in all the videos was death, followed by concerns about the virus outbreak and the condition. Negative moods in individuals, which increases negative feelings, while information related to prevention such as wearing a face mask or disinfecting surfaces. The video clips missed the opportunity to formulate messages that encourage health-preserving behavior, which is recommended that the media provide emotional support and public safety measures and that the news be from health care professionals during epidemic crises.

During the COVID-19 epidemic, the media formed an important bridge between science and society, because the people resorted to the media to know and shape their position, viewpoints, and behavior (Pearman et al. 2021). The media acts as a translator from the formal arenas of science to the informal arenas of daily life (Pearman et al. 2021). Pearman et al. (2021) found that media stories about the COVID epidemic had a significant impact on people's beliefs about its origins and opinions about the appropriate political response.

According to these works, the media coverage increased significantly in the early 2020s, the COVID virus was mentioned in 102 global press sources in 50 countries around the world, and media coverage of climate change decreased during the same period (Pearman et al., 2021). The coverage of the virus news witnessed a sharp increase in February and March 2020, in conjunction with the increase in infections, but this coverage decreased significantly in the last week of March. The authors considered that this difference in media coverage towards the epidemic has several explanations, including the so-called fatigue caused by the COVID-19, a term that refers to the feeling of fatigue from continuous listening and anxiety about the epidemic. In addition to other issues that replaced COVID-19, such as the US presidential election.

In an analysis of western and Chinese media coverage of the spread of the COVID-19 in Africa, Gabore (2020) found that western media used African official and unofficial channels and western unofficial channels as sources of information, while Chinese media used African



and Chinese official media. Gabore (2020) pointed out that media research on Africa, especially previous studies, is dominated by negative stereotypes. But Gabore (2020) found that western media coverage about the Corona epidemic is not mostly negative and came in several frameworks, including conflict, negativity and human interest, while the Chinese media coverage was unusually positive, and this is due, according to Gabore (2020), to the rise of China globally accompanied by a media strategy that enhances its positive image and its relations with other countries as a win-win cooperation between the two sides.

Even social media has been an important component of communication-related to disasters and health crises (Yu et al., 2021). Nevertheless, Ziems et al. (2020) found that during the Corona epidemic, there was increasing evidence of acts of discrimination, racism and xenophobia outside the Internet. Ziems et al. (2020) created a database called "COVID Hate" to study hate speech via Twitter against Asians, and more than 30 million tweets were collected. They found that bots makeup 10.4% of the hateful users and are more outspoken and hateful compared to non-bot users. The source of the tweets that broadcast hate speech is concentrated in five countries: America, India, China, Britain, and Canada. Local events in these countries lead to an increase in hate speech, as hateful tweets increased after a speech by former US President Donald Trump, while they increased in India after the implementation of protection orders across the country, also, online hate is more prevalent than fighting hate, as hate breeds hate Ziems et al. (2020).

In March 2020, a tweet from former US President Donald Trump sparked a huge wave of discussion when he suggested that the Corona virus was a Chinese virus (Yu et al., 2021). This label has become the embodiment of a sense of racism and xenophobia, and the hashtag "China virus" has appeared in many publications participating in the discussion about COVID 19 (Yu et al., 2021). This hashtag has been accompanied by other racist hashtags that reflect confusion between the Corona virus and ethnic cultural identities or aim to convey the message of racial enslavement (Yu et al., 2021). The words "China"

“Corona” “world” and “Chinese” were divided into three stages according to the authors. The first stage was with the beginning of the virus’s spread in the Chinese city of Wuhan and justified the negative comments as being caused by a feeling of fear. As for the second stage, it came after the virus spread globally and the infection became a topic For negative feelings (Yu et al., 2021). The third stage after defining COVID 19 as a pandemic, where a letter directed to the United States of America spread after Trump’s statements and was considered negative speech, and the number of tweets increased after the statements, which is the first time that a racist term has become a keyword (Yu et al., 2021).

Even at the tourism level, the media had a prominent control over increasing the awareness of potential travelers during the Corona epidemic crisis, as the media was the main source of information (Chemli et al., 2020). Chemli et al. (2020) found that the higher the perceived physical risk, the lower the impact of media coverage on the awareness of outbound tourists, because the perceived physical risk of "death" is trusted by media coverage. Thus, the media is one of the major influencers to highlight the awareness of travelers during the epidemic. Also Media coverage of COVID-19 has negatively affected China's image as a tourist destination and potential travel intentions due to headlines such as "the barbarism of the Chinese virus" (Yang et al. 2021). Such coverage may reduce the intentions of tourists to visit China and tarnish the country's image and news about the epidemic presented a highly inaccurate picture of COVID-19 to the public (Yang et al., 2021). According to Yang et al. (2021), it is expected that misleading media reports will change the behavioral patterns of tourists, and thus biased media coverage plays an important role in predicting the future behavior of tourists, and the negative image may in turn change the tourist's destination and travel intentions.

On the other hand, the media coverage during the epidemic was a major factor in preventing infectious diseases because people became aware of more and enhanced their awareness of self-protection (Feng et al., 2020) (Chang et al., 2020). It is also an effective way to reduce the spread of the disease during its early stages (Feng et al., 2020).

The role of the media is essential on several levels, including that it is a source of information related to the virus, government measures, recommendations, and the economic and social situation (Bendau et al., 2021). Previous studies have also shown the importance of media coverage during epidemics and its impact on the behavior of individuals and to bridge the problems resulting from the restrictions imposed on face-to-face communication (Bendau et al., 2021). The media also played a major role in providing information and educating people during the state of emergency in the world (Villena-Alarcón & Caballero-Galeote, 2020), but the majority of the Spanish public saw that the coverage of Spanish public TV (TVE1) was negative, given that the television was not neutral and there was an excess of information (Villena-Alarcón & Caballero-Galeote, 2020). In addition, the media have the ability to choose the content that can be broadcast and from what perspective and in this sense can influence the perceptions of the audience (Villena-Alarcón & Caballero-Galeote, 2020). However, the consumption of media coverage in Germany may be an important factor linked to anxiety and psychological distress (Bendau et al., 2021). They found that there are unlimited symptoms of depression and anxiety associated with COVID 19, and the use of social networking sites was associated with clear psychological stress (Bendau et al., 2021).

In the United States, Motta et al. (2020) found that right-leaning outlets such as Fox News allocated 3,836 stories with misinformation, while major outlets highlighted less misinformation, with 1,541 stories published. The gap in misinformation has widened with the continued spread of COVID-19 (Motta et al., 2020). More than one in five Americans were found to believe that COVID was intentional and created in a laboratory, and one in four Americans believed that a Corona vaccine exists or will be found, while few believe The virus was created in a laboratory by chance, or the virus does not exist at all (Motta et al., 2020). Also, misinformed people believed that the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention exaggerated the health risks arising from COVID-19 (Motta et al., 2020). Motta et al. (2020) suggested that right-leaning media viewers would endorse misinformation. Early media coverage of COVID-19 between January

1 and March 30 provided alternative media personalities (AMPs) an opportunity to present conspiratorial misinformation to their online audience (Rooke, 2021).

## **2.4. The Theoretical Part**

The press has moved to another form of practical journalism, which is the design of special websites on the Internet that provide the press service, which is online journalism, or what was agreed to be called the Arab press by the E- journalism (Abdel-Hamid, 2004).

It was agreed to define this press as “online journalism” as Abdel-Hamid (2004):

*The press process that takes well-defined sites on the Internet to publish content on a number of digital pages bearing a name and a distinctive mark to achieve a number of journalistic jobs locally and globally*

Despite the multiplicity of theories, Abdel-Hamid (2004) considered that applying these theories to digital communication is not an easy thing, because it is not possible to measure exposure to a number of television channels, for example, as in the theory of cultural implantation or thousands of newspapers and radio with the use of millions of websites available on the network, as well as It is not possible to generalize the results of a study on the impact of a site or a number of sites at the same time.

There is still a need to build a theory that takes into account the main variables in communication rather than theories borrowed from the efforts of specialists in psychology, sociology, politics and other disciplines related to communication science (Abdullah, 2006), (Al-Bishr, 2014).

In theoretical approaches in the research of new media, Abdel-Aziz (2011) indicated that theories were affected by the scientific

disciplines of those who codified them. Where most of these theories were developed from outside the science of media and therefore we find a theoretical overlap between all the sciences related to the phenomenon of communication (Abdel-Aziz, 2011). The communication process has been affected by technological development and there has been an informational leap in the available means, whereby the recipient can receive media messages through multiple destinations, from television and the Internet, also, new media has helped in creating new informational templates on the Internet (Abdel-Aziz, 2011). Abdel-Aziz (2011) also found in the field of media theories that researchers of communication sciences, despite the increasing reliance on modern media; they look at the text as it cannot be removed or the issuance of a communicative process without it.

Therefore, Abdel-Aziz (2011) believes that modern media theories do not clearly define their theoretical compass and swing between multiple parties, and one of the reasons for losing the compass of theories in modern media studies is that all theories in the new media are individual theories and did not amount to an integrated research project, and the academic effort in books and media encyclopedias did not provide a comprehensive scientific effort on theorizing for new media.

In the theoretical frame, the thesis was enlightened by the framing theory, and agenda-setting, as it is the most appropriate to the subject of the study and more able to achieve its objectives and provide answers to its questions

In the following part we review the two theories were chosen for their closeness to each other, Entman (2007) considered that agenda preparation could be seen as another name for framing which is the process of picking out some elements of reality and assembling a narrative that highlights connections in order to shape and change audience interpretations and preferences (Entman, 2007). The preparation of the agenda also highlights social conditions, world events, or personal characteristics (Entman, 2007).

Entman (2007) explained that to make people think in a certain way requires choosing what to tell them and directing them to the harmony between these elements, and through framing, doer's form texts that affect the agenda and considerations that people think. Entman (2007) showed that framing, agenda, and priming fit together as a tool in exercising political power.

In the research on news framing, Entman et al. (2009) emphasized that the repetition of frames over time in multiple texts gives people the opportunity to observe, understand, store and recall mental associations in the future, as the frames enhance the interpretation of a situation or support (implicit or explicit) for the desired response. This is consistent with the study on the agenda setting and international news (Wanta & Golan, 2004), where it was found that there is a relationship between media coverage of countries and how individuals view them, and the more negative stories readers receive, the more negatively they are presented. This means that the news media has the ability to show the public how important countries are to the United States and how they should be perceived (Wanta & Golan, 2004).

In an analysis of websites of prestige media outlets from (the United States, Britain, Egypt, and Qatar) during the war on Iraq to examine the media frameworks used to cover the war, Dimitrova & Connolly-Ahern (2007) found that the war story is composed differently by different media. The media frame used on American, British, and Arab websites are compatible with the national political environment, which means that media frames for issues such as war are not only affected by the political environment and cultural history but are also affected by journalistic values and routines (Dimitrova & Connolly-Ahern, 2007). The use of different frames by the Arab and international media in covering the war led to the construction of two different wars in order to attract local audiences, the framing also contributed to widening the division in public opinion between the public in Britain, the United States and the Arab countries Dimitrova & Connolly-Ahern, 2007).

### 1- The Framing theory

The researchers were interested in the role of the media in bringing about a change or modification in the recipients' attitudes towards facts, events, images and symbols, by reorganizing the media messages and texts related to these facts and events and placing them in media contexts or frameworks that confirm or deny a specific meaning (Abdel-Hamid, 2004).

Media framing, as Goffman defines it, is the construction of a number of expectations that are used to make people more aware of social situations at a given time (Abdel-Hamid, 2004). The idea of media frames finds its origins in psychology, which sees that modifications that enter into the definitions of judgments lead to a change in them, and hence the main idea of forming a framework as an organization of events and linking it to certain contexts lemons to the text or content a certain meaning (Abdel-Hamid, 2004).

Goffman (1979), saw that the use of advertisements for women linked presenting the image of women in the framework that he sees or prefers for men to see in them, and believes that this may lead to new learning or confirmation of learning the values, ideas and beliefs associated with the image of women more than promoting the advertised goods or product (Abdel-Hamid, 2004).

The general idea of framing is centered as a purposeful process carried out by the media and communicators, in which they reorganize the news content and place it within a framework of the recipients' interests and perceptions (Abdel-Hamid, 2004).

Framing arises from communication texts from professional networking involved in the framing process, which is defined as selecting certain aspects of reality and constructing messages that highlight links between them to reinforce a particular interpretation (Entman et al., 2009). Where the frame summons repeatedly the same things and names and uses identical or synonymous words and

symbols that are concentrated at an appropriate time (Entman et al., 2009).

Framing, a concept used in the behavioral and communication social sciences, goes back to both the sociological and psychological literature (Vreese & Lecheler, 2016). Evrej Goffman's work is essential, because he considers frames to be useful tools for humans to understand the world in all everyday situations, and is culturally relevant and serves to reduce the complexity of our world today (Vreese & Lecheler, 2016). Kaveman and Tversco's 1984 work is also a starting point, when they develop probability theory, which suggests that new information is perfectly evaluated based on whether a profit or loss frame is applied to it (Vreese & Lecheler, 2016). In the field of political communication, the idea of framing was chosen by Entiman 1993, who transferred the frame to the study of mass media and news in particular (Vreese & Lecheler, 2016).

Entiman stresses that the effect of framing is not achieved only by highlighting some aspects of events or facts through delete or omission of other aspects (Abdel-Hamid, 2004). These frames used to conceal the meaning are divided into two types, according to Sh.lyanger and A.simon, which are the specific frames that intersects between the event and concrete perceptions and put them in a specific frames whose dimensions can be discussed and its problems and solutions can be touched (Abdel-Hamid, 2004). As for the second part, it is the general or abstract frame (Abdel-Hamid, 2004).

The news frame can influence the individual by emphasizing certain aspects of reality and pushing others into the background for a selective function (Vreese & Lecheler, 2016).

Entiman, one of the most productive researchers in framing theory, warned in 1993 of the absence of a unified theory of framing capable of explaining how frames are built, how texts are manifested and how they affect the minds of the public, and considered that this absence complicates the strong and unified progress of the system (Ardèvol-Abreu, 2015).



The foundations that enabled the birth of framing theory come in interpretive sociology, which considers that people's interpretation of reality and daily life depends mainly on interaction and the definition of situations (Ardèvol-Abreu, 2015). The development of the theoretical body of framing began in the seventies at the beginning of cognitive psychology, and the concept and theories of framing were restored in the field of sociology and the original meaning of the frame expanded from the individual to the collective and from the psychological field to the social field (Ardèvol-Abreu, 2015).

This expansion benefited the study of press messages, where it was considered that the media has a great ability to generate and modify social frame of interpretation by interfering in the creation of a common social discourse (Ardèvol-Abreu, 2015).

The second stage in the nineties corresponds to the definition of the frames as a discipline of media studies with an application in the analysis of media discourses with a dispersed and uncensored methodology (Ardèvol-Abreu, 2015). At the beginning of the twenty-first century, the stage of reorganization and experimental development began and continues today (Ardèvol-Abreu, 2015). At this stage, there is an attempt to achieve a conceptual and methodological unification that allows for a more solid and rapid development through research synergies (Ardèvol-Abreu, 2015).

Makkawi and Al-Sayed (1998) considered that the framing theory analysis is one of the modern tributaries in communications studies, and it allows the researcher to measure the implicit content of media messages that are reflected in the media.

The theory assumes that events in themselves have a certain meaning and gain their meaning by placing them in a frame that limits them, organizes them and gives them a degree of consistency by focusing on the aspects of the subject and ignoring others (Makkawi & Al-Sayed, 1998), (Al-Bishr, 2014).

And the media frame according to Makkawi and Al-Sayed (1998), for an issue means deliberate selection of some aspects of the event or issue and making it more prominent in the media text, and the use of a specific method in describing the problem, identifying its causes, evaluating its dimensions and proposing proposed solutions regarding it. Several previous studies indicate that the public's elicitation of the reasons for an issue or problem and ways to treat it is largely related to the type of media frame used by the communicator to explain the dimensions of that issue (Makkawi & Al-Sayed, 1998).

According to Wolfsfeld, the determination of the media frame, , is governed by the extent of the political independence of the media, the type of news sources, the patterns of media practice, the nature of the events themselves, as well as the ideologies of those in charge of communication (Makkawi & Al-Sayed, 1998).

Researchers have used framing theory to understand how print information and other media are presented, and thus, over the past four decades, prominent media scholars have applied the concept of framing to explain how the media structure their delivery of news, and to reinforce certain interpretations of events through the selection of certain facts (Linström & Marais, 2012).

Research that attempts to explore news frames in texts, such as political news, adopts an inductive approach and refrains from analyzing news stories with predetermined frames in mind and frames appear during analysis (Vreese & Lecheler, 2016). The main question for framing the research is the place of the frame in the text, and what are the textual components that carry the frame (Vreese & Lecheler, 2016).

News frames affect citizens' ability to think about a variety of political issues, and some studies have shown that news frames affect information processing, i.e. how citizens incorporate framed information into their mental repertoire and how they understand a political issue (Vreese & Lecheler, 2016). However, the influence of news frames does not have the same power over all individuals at all

times with respect to all issues (Vreese & Lecheler, 2016). As for the duration of the effect of news frames, some studies have found that it may last for several weeks, while others have found that it dissipates very quickly (Vreese & Lecheler, 2016).

Framing theory also draws attention to some aspects of reality at the expense of the other situation, so in order to determine it, we must take into account what is described and what is neglected Ardèvol-Abreu, (2015). Therefore, framing is present in the mind of the journalist who writes the news report as well as in the news report that he builds Ardèvol-Abreu, (2015).

When journalists want to tell a comprehensible and engaging story, they are influenced by making routine news and space and time constraints framing reality by deciding what will become news and what will not become news, and the framing process continues when some aspects of a news event are selected and distinguished from others Ardèvol-Abreu, (2015).

There is a dominant school of thought among communication researchers, who consider both theories (framing and agenda setting) to be complementary to each other. The central issue in agenda theory is not the manner in which a particular event is reported but the amount of attention that media outlets give to the event or its features and the time in which the event is presented (Ardèvol-Abreu, 2015). While in framing the main aspect is the way the news topic or event is described and the interpretive scheme that is activated to address it (Ardèvol-Abreu, 2015).

Thus, the framing does not focus on accessibility, but rather a machine on applicability, and despite this theoretical distinction between the two theories, applicability and accessibility are linked and cannot be separated (Ardèvol-Abreu, 2015).

As for how to choose the frame, when journalists issue news and construct a description of an aspect of reality with words and pictures, they choose a frame, and they can choose another frame by choosing

another aspect that differs from the subject being reported using other sources, grammatical structures, vocabulary and images, and it is impossible to deal with a subject from all points of view (Ardèvol-Abreu, 2015).

## **2- Agenda setting**

Agenda setting for media is based on many decisions that are affected by public policy, editorial policy, technical and production systems, and others (Abdel-Hamid, 2004). The agenda is the sum of many options for expressing the media's interest in materials and messages, and arranging them in an order that reflects the levels and degrees of this interest (Abdel-Hamid, 2004).

The researchers raised a number of questions about this agenda, and the importance of arranging news materials and issues (Abdel-Hamid, 2004). These assumptions are close to the concepts that prevailed in the fifties, such as the view of K Lang and G Lange that the media show its power in drawing attention to certain issues, as it builds a general picture of politics and provides suggested topics for what should be thought in which people are (Abdel-Hamid, 2004).

The basic assumption in this theory is the agreement between arranging the media agenda and the public's agenda, with media issues and topics. One of the pioneering studies that tested this hypothesis, is the study of M.E Mcombs and D.L. Show in 1973, in the Chapel Hill's study which was conducted in the 1968 elections (Abdel-Hamid, 2004).

The study found a significant relationship between the agenda of the media and the agenda of the public (Abdel-Hamid, 2004).

Many contemporary writings have also found that there is an impact of the media agenda not only at the individual level, but also at the collective level , and in order for the media agenda to have an impact on the public's agenda, it needs a period of time estimated by studies

between 4 or 6 months, and other studies have found that they need between 4 to 6 weeks (Abdel-Hamid, 2004).

Building the agenda takes place in stages, as arranged by K Lang and G Lange, starting with the press highlighting the events and increasing coverage to arouse interest, then placing these issues in a frame that adds meaning to them using language that affects the republicans, linking the facts and events with secondary symbols, in order to finally build the agenda (Abdel-Hamid, 2004). As for those who set the agenda for the media, many researchers have referred to the concept of gatekeeper, the frame of policies and social and psychological pressures, in addition to the facts and events in themselves that impose themselves on the media (Abdel-Hamid, 2004).

The theory assumes that the media cannot present all the topics and issues that occur in society, but rather those in charge of these media choose some topics that are highly focused that they control their nature and content. It also considers that the media can change trends according to the unified model of excitement in early media studies (Al-Bishr, 2014).

Dhalaien et al. (2016) and Al-Bishr (2014) believes that this theory focuses on a particular person or topic and gives him a large space, alerting the public that this topic or person is of great importance, which makes him present constantly or abundantly in the media and that other topics have no presence or importance. The process of selecting issues that are presented in the media does not start from a vacuum, but rather has references and political and cultural determinants that are used to choose topics and issues to deliver a message or vision that affects the public or its attitudes and trends (Al-Bishr, 2014).

This amplification of issues or people by the media is not only at the expense of more important issues, but also has far-reaching effects on public awareness of the nation's issues because the public consumes issues presented by the media, which leads to being affected by this

arrangement and this is one of the aspects of the cumulative effect of the media (Dhalaïen et al., 2016).

Abdullah (2006) considered that the public does not learn from the media and communication about important issues, but it also learns how important these issues are, according to the emphasis it receives from the media. This means that the media and communication play an important role in shaping the recipients' social life when it plays its role in selecting and presenting news to them, arranging priorities in it and identifying important issues for the public (Abdullah, 2006).

## **CHAPTER THREE**

### **Methodology**

This chapter addresses the methods used to achieve the objectives of this research. It includes the following sections: Research Objectives, Research Questions and hypotheses, the sources (sample, sampling, the selected data, procedures), and the research methods used literature review, content analysis, interviews.

#### **3.1. Research Objectives and Hypotheses**

Several studies have indicated in the theoretical framework that media coverage has been affected by political events, wars, and terrorist events around the world, such as the September 2001 attacks. In the past few years, media, communications, and social networks have become a part of changing the world, the evolution of media as well as relations between nations. Social networking sites and the transition of media to the digital world constituted a great step forward and contributed to bringing people closer to each other, conveying views faster than in previous years when the media was represented in three main forms (newspapers, radio stations, and television). And at the same time, they can also contribute to the spread of fake news, hate speech, and stereotypes.

The media, when covering news about the other (Arabs or the West), was affected by major events around the world, whether they were political, economic, military or security. This research aims to monitor the news coverage provided by the Arab and European digital native media about the Arab world and Europe during the year 2020 and

reveal the aspects of these coverages and their main components and analyze what they included towards the Arabs and Europe, and whether the coverage towards the other is negative or positive, carrying hate speech or stereotypes in addition to the main subjects that were focused on, the sources of this news, and the impact of the Covid-19 epidemic on news coverage. The research also aims to present the opinions of experts in the media about Arab and European news coverage about the other and whether these coverages carry hate speech and stereotypes, and if they are subject to agendas that control journalistic work and the selection of topics and issues, and the method of dissemination.

This study will try to answer one main question and four sub-questions:

- **Main Question**

How do the Arab digital native media and the European digital native media cover the events about each other?

- **Sub-questions**

- Is there a stereotype of Arab events in the European media?
- Is there a stereotype of European events in Arab media?
- Is the media coverage in both digital media honest, professional and neutral?
- What is the most focused news in both media?
- Is the image of Europeans and Arabs negative or positive in both digital native media?
- Are the news and reports in both digital native media exclusive from there reporters? Or from news agencies or social media?



- Is the covid-19 pandemic influence the media converge in both digital native media?

### **Hypotheses**

- Digital native media could not bypass stereotypes about Arabs and Europeans when reporting the news.
- Digital native media is influenced by political events and international interest when reporting news on both sides.
- Digital native media focuses on negative events in the Arab world and Europe
- Digital native media relies on social media and international sources like news agencies
- The covid-19 pandemic in 2020 grabbed the digital native media attention more than other news

### **3.2. The sources**

#### **Media Sample**

The thesis studied six digital native media from six countries three from Europe and three from the Arab world. From Europe we analyzed Eldiario (Spain), Mediapart (France), and Observador (Portugal), and from Arab countries Elaph (Saudi Arabia), Baghdadtoday (Iraq), and Elnashra (Lebanon). The time period was from 01/01/2020 until 31/12/2020. We chose the entire year 2020 because it is the nineteenth year after the events of September 11, and nearly twenty years have passed since a prominent event that affected the whole world. Also, the Covid-19 epidemic came as another catalyst, as the impact of the epidemic that swept the world was enormous and brought about great changes on different levels: media, health, economic, political, and social.

The European media is represented in this research by three digital native media in Spain, France and Portugal in three languages (Spanish, portages translated to English and English) Eldiario (Spain), Mediapart (France), and Observador (Portugal).

**Eldiario** was born as a limited company in 2012 by a group of journalists led by Ignacio Escolar. More than 70 percent of the people work daily in newsrooms. The site's organizers believe that society needs independent and professional information and a voice for citizens who are drowning in a monotonous news show. Journalists, as defined on their website, defend human rights, equality and a better democracy, so their funding depends on readers to defend the independence of this medium so that they are not under threat, and news are truly effective. During the year 2020, due to the Corona epidemic, the site reached 63,000 users who paid the subscription because the site made membership mandatory for full access, with free or reduced fees for those who cannot afford the cost (Newman et al., 2021). It is the journalistic digital native media most consumed in Spain (Newman et al., 2021). The digital-born, as the Reuters 2021 report called, follows on social networks with more than 600,000 subscribers on Facebook, 1,200,000 on Twitter, 161,000 on Instagram, and 124,000 on YouTube.

**Mediapart** is an independent digital news newspaper established by journalists in March, 2008. The digital newspaper was born from the will of four journalists: François Bonnet, Gérard Desports, Laurent Mauduit and Eduy Blenel. The other two founders are Marie-Helen Smegan and Judefroy Beauvalet, with other shareholders and investor partners. This newspaper is the most used digital native media in France (Newman et al., 2021). During 2020, the site achieved its strongest annual growth in its 13 years of existence, resulting in a total of 218,000 subscribers (Newman et al., 2021). Mediapart is well followed on social networks with more than one million and 238 thousand subscribers on Facebook, 2 million and 700 thousand on Twitter and 550 thousand on Instagram.

**Observador** was born in Portugal in May 2014 as a free and independent online daily newspaper. In the editorial statute, the newspaper explains that its work is to search for the truth and is subject to facts. It does not adopt any political program and is not conditioned by partisan or economic interests, and it is responsible to its readers only. Observador, which is guided by the principle of human dignity, freedom and democracy, wants to contribute to an informed and active public opinion. During 2020, the newspaper appeared in prime time on the SIC and TVI TV channels, as well as Polígrafo as the main national fact-checkers due to the spread of fake news using profiles that mimic real news sources with the spread of the Corona epidemic (Newman et al., 2021). Observador is one of the most widely used digital journalistic media in Portugal (Newman et al., 2021). Observador has more than 920,000 subscribers on Facebook, more than 193,000 followers on Twitter, 216,000 followers on Instagram, and 130 thousand subscribers on YouTube.

The Arabic media is represented in this research by three digital news media in Saudi Arabia, Iraq and Lebanon in Arabic languages translated to Elaph (Saudi Arabia), Baghdadtoday (Iraq), and Elnashra (Lebanon).

**Elaph** is an online newspaper which defines itself through its website as "the first Arab daily online newspaper". It was founded on May 21, 2001 by Saudi businessman and journalist Othman Al-Omair, former editor-in-chief of the Saudi newspaper "Al-Sharq al-Awsat". The London-based newspaper takes a liberal view of world news in fields of politics, economics, art, sports and other fields in Arabic (Stoop, 2012). It has gained a wide audience among liberal and democratic writers (Stoop, 2012). The newspaper is one of the most widely read Arab news outlets, and it has paid close attention to the non-Arab ethnicities, whose voice is rarely heard in the Arab media (Darwish, 2003). Also, The "Saudi Elaph" from London has emerged as one of the electronic newspapers and magazines that has absorbed our professional development and understanding of the nature of the new content (Altuwaisi, 2019). Nasr al-Majali explained in an interview with him on March 13, 2022, that "Elaph" is the first Arabic website

to be published online since 21 years ago, and they do not consider it a Saudi website because the website's license is British and the publisher is a Saudi-British journalist. However, the license and publishing from outside the country do not cancel the identity of the Saudi website, as Makoshi (2020) described the two newspapers, Al-Sharq al-Awsat and al-Hayat al-London, which are issued in London and have a British license, as being Saudi newspapers, with their heart, mind, financing, and orientation. The site has 294 thousand subscribers on social networking sites: on Facebook, 314 on Twitter, and 76 thousand on YouTube.

**Elnashra** is a Lebanese website launched in 2001 by businessman Arz El Murr, which is specialized in the digital field. El Murr is from a family that is considered to own a media empire media in Lebanon that owns newspapers, satellite channels and radio stations, such as Jamahiriya newspaper and MTV channel (Trombetta, 2018). The news site defines its work as an independent online newspaper that monitors all political, artistic and sports news in Lebanon and the Middle East, in addition to analyzing international and local events. It is possible to listen to radio programs through a live broadcast on the Internet, and to view clippings from local newspapers (Melki et al. 2012). The site is at the forefront of the Lebanese digital news sites according to Allyoucanread, (2022), for the top 30 Lebanese newspapers online, as it ranks 11th and is preceded by sites for newspapers, satellite channels, news sites affiliated with political parties or news sites for local cities inside Lebanon. Although the news site defines itself as independent, its content tends to sympathize with the point of view of the March 8 Alliance and the Free Patriotic Movement of current President of Lebanon Michel Aoun (Melki et al., 2012). The newspaper has 523,000 subscribers on Facebook and 462,000 followers on Twitter.

**Baghdadtoday** is an Iraqi news agency that was launched in 2017, headquartered in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad. It defines itself as independent in its discourse and financing and is not affiliated with any Iraqi, Arab or foreign party. Its goal is to deliver information and news in complete impartiality, away from sectarianism. The site is run

by a group of independent Iraqi journalists. according to a report by the Arab-European Association for Media Researchers, Iraqi media was affected and changed after the occupation of Iraq in 2003 and transformed from media subjected and monopolized by a totalitarian regime to media liberated from all restrictions and uncontrolled on the levels of quantity and quality (Areacore, 2017). The same report mentions that in Iraq, there are between 180 to 200 daily and weekly newspapers of varying political, ideological, sectarian and, national orientations (Areacore, 2017).. The newspapers also multiplied as a manifestation of the change that was associated with the shape of the political system and its relationship to the nature of the facts of the new environment (Al-Samir & Dheirb, 2017). A. Mustafa and Noshi (2018) found that the most widely used digital media in Iraqi society is Facebook, and YouTube comes in second place. With the lack of accurate statistics for the number of news websites, their launch years, and viewership rates, the Baghdad Today News website was chosen, which is followed by one million and 800 thousand subscribers on Facebook and more than 6000 followers on Twitter and more than 24 thousand on Instagram.

### **Data sample**

The population for the study consists of all news articles (published in the six digital news media) from 1 January 2020 to 31 December 2020.

The sample consisted of news published from January to December, we Distributed weeks on all months (January= first week start from first to seventh day) (second week start from eight to fourteen of the month) (third week from fifteen to twenty one) (fourth week from twenty two to twenty eight of the month). The duration of the study consisted of 84 days for each news websites from the year 2020, was choose 7 consecutive days to form the sample week and resulted in 12 days over 12 weeks out of 12 months to be the study population.

**Table (1) The week sample for 2020 year**

Month	Year 2020/ week	Days of the week
January	1-7	Monday
February	8-14	Tuesday
March	15-21	Wednesday
April	22-28	Thursday
May	1-7	Friday
June	8-14	Saturday
July	15-21	Sunday
August	22-28	Monday
September	1-7	Tuesday
October	8-14	Wednesday
November	15-21	Thursday
December	22-28	Friday

Source: own elaboration

Collecting the data yielded (2385 news), and then the sample was reduced by choosing only one day every week, starting from Monday to Sunday, and in a specific order. The final sample consists a total 417.

The constructed weeks were chosen after enlightening with research related to the samples represented by online media. The constructed week, according to Luke et al., (2011) is more useful for simple random sampling because it explains the variation in news content over a 7-day news week.

Also Connolly-Ahern et al. (2009) argue that the rationale behind sampling the composite week is that researchers should take into

account variation in content based on the day of the week. And the number of weeks created to achieve representative samples of electronic media is much greater than that of traditional newspapers, which require only two weeks representing an entire year of content (Connolly-Ahern et al., 2009). They found that the representation of the samples varies greatly depending on the content field (Connolly-Ahern et al., (2009). The studies presented the possibility of needing smaller samples to achieve representation, as the information from the archive of electronic press releases reaches more than twelve weeks to represent an entire year (Connolly-Ahern et al., 2009) and because online news aggregators are also free to publish more and more news stories, this makes sampling requirements for this type of content more difficult than traditional media (Connolly-Ahern et al., 2009).

This study used the constructed weeks sampling method and the use of consecutive days to represent the content of news sites on the Internet for a period of one year, according to suggestions of studies conducted on the online part of traditional media Hester and Dougall, (2007)

*yields constructed weeks has been the most convincing response to the problem of systematic content variation in media content Constructed week samples “involve identifying all Mondays, and randomly selecting one Monday, then identifying all Tuesdays, and randomly selecting one Tuesday, etc., to ‘construct’ a week that ensures that each source of cyclic variation-each day of the week-is represented equally.”*

Hester and Dougall (2007) found that sampling requirements for online news content differed from those for traditional media, that two constructed weeks was effective for representing 6 months of daily newspaper issues which make it more effective to represent one year of content of online news sites. Which Daniel Riffe et al. (2005) agrees with is that taking two constructed weeks of daily traditional newspapers works well as a representative sample.

### **The selected data**

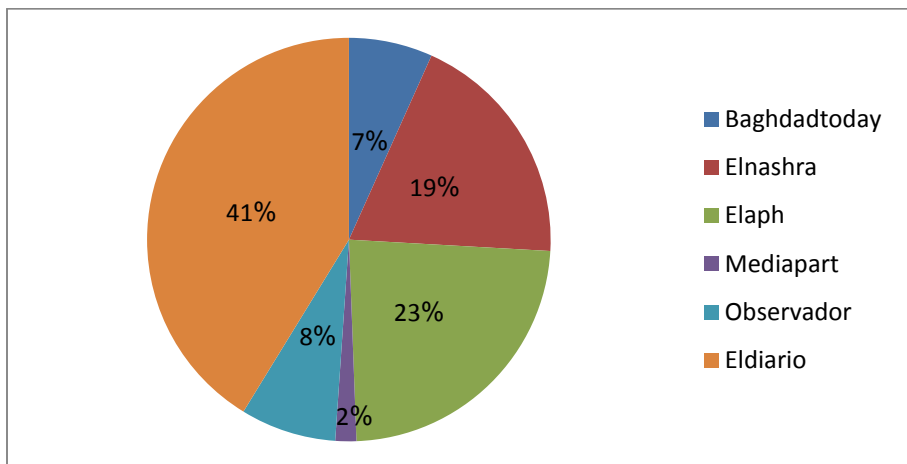
Based on the results of the search in six digital news media, the articles related to Arab issues in the European native digital media are 32 in Observador, 172 in Eldiario and 7 in Mediapart. And the articles related to European issues in Arabic news websites are 80 in Elnashra, 28 in Baghdadtoday and 98 in Elaph.

The archive of the six sites was searched during the year 2020 for events related to Arabs and Europeans using many keywords to reach the largest number of news and reports. As a result, 2385 articles were collected in the first phase, 1160 articles distributed in three languages: Portuguese, Spanish and English: 72 articles in Mediapart, 162 in Observador and 926 in Eldiario. On Arab websites, 1225 articles were collected, 609 in Elaph, 151 in Baghdadtoday and 465 in the Elnashra. After the process of sorting the news through the constructed week and choosing one day out of each week in a row from Monday to Sunday, the number of news that is considered the study population reached 417.

Three of the six online media, Eldiario, Elaph, Elnashra account for 350 of the stories, 83% of the Mediapart, Observador, Baghdadtoday making up another 67 stories.



Figure (1) The percentage of the stories in the six digital native media



Source: own elaboration

## Procedures

During the search process, many keywords related to many issues in Arab countries and Arab societies were used, and the search words included names of countries suffering from turmoil, wars and demonstrations. Use to search in European media: Iraq, Syria, Lebanon, Beirut, Hezbollah, Bashar al-Assad, Damascus, Jordan, Oman, Egypt, Libya, Palestine, Israel, the peace process, the Middle East, the Persian Gulf, the Persian Gulf, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Emirates, Dubai, terrorists, jihadists, Arabs, the Arab world, oil, immigrants, refugees, Islam and Muslims. As for the Arab media, it used: France, Spain, Europe, Europeans, the European Union, Britain, terrorism, terrorists, jihadists, the peace process, the extreme right, immigrants, refugees and Israel. More than one form has been used, as the Arabic language bears multiple forms of writing one word in general and in the news in particular (أ,ؤ,إ,آ). These terms were chosen in European media searches because they were repeated in research and studies on hate speech, Islamophobia and racism towards Arabs and Muslims in Europe and the United States of America. On

the other hand, in the Arab media, Europe was chosen in general because it is represented by the European Union and three countries were chosen from it, in addition to the same issues that were searched for in the European media, such as terrorism, jihad and refugees.

The paid subscription was made to the three European sites because they do not provide all the news completely when searching for it. As for the Arab sites, they provide news without any subscription fees.

**Table (2) Data by days in the weeks**

Media	Days of the weeks							Total
	Monday Week(1+8)	Tuesday Week(2+9)	Wednesday Week(3+10)	Thursday Week(4+11)	Friday Week(5+12)	Saturday Week 6	Week 7	
Eldiario	42	32	22	38	10	8	20	172
Observador	9	8	1	4	4	0	6	32
Mediapart	2	1	0	4	0	0	0	7
Elaph	16	14	18	18	19	10	3	98
Baghdad today	6	3	4	3	7	3	2	28
Elnashra	15	19	4	18	12	4	8	80
Total	90	77	49	85	52	25	39	417

**Source:** own elaboration

### 3.3. Methods

We used in the thesis three methodologies to find the results and achieve the research objectives and answer the questions: literature review, content analysis and interview. Content analysis is a method that seeks to describe the apparent content and explicit content of the media material in terms of form and content (Al-Mashhadani, (2017). In the content analysis we divided it into two parts, after coding the data and used four units to analyze (theme, word, source, and space), the first part of analysis was a qualitative analysis of the collected data, to found the percentage of news categories, the percentage of sources, the percentages of the length of stories, and the percentage of the stories trends. Also, we used descriptive approach to the six websites from the digital aspect to know their form and how they present news to their audience and mass base through social media, and the applications that are used to reach readers. The second part of analysis was quantitative analysis by using a descriptive approach which is based on describing the phenomenon to reach its causes and the factors that control it (Abdel-Hamid, 2000) (Al-Mashhadani, (2017). The second method used is interviews with experts from the six digital native media; we used electronic interviews through e-mail and online communication applications such as Zoom.

#### Literature Review

The study used also Literature Review - which was mentioned in the theoretical framework - to analyze the data. When a bibliography search was conducted, it includes books, scientific research journals, websites, and other information necessary for research Gómez-Luna et al. (2014). So the Literature reviews allow the study of the most important documents to identify the main ideas, conclusions, and main concepts, and the focus on documents related to the investigation Gómez-Luna et al. (2014).

Consideration of the relevant Literature Review is essential in all studies Snyder, (2019). And for many research questions, the literature review may be the best methodological tool for providing answers

Snyder, (2019). Also, the literature review is useful when the goal is to provide an overview of a particular issue or research problem so that the data is selected according to the purpose and issue of the research and it is important to ensure that it answers the specific research questions Snyder, (2019).

### **Content analysis**

Content analysis is one of the methods of the descriptive approach, which deals with the accurate perception of the interrelationships between society, trends, tendencies, desires, and perception (Al-Mashhadani, 2017). Berelson defined it as one of the methods of scientific research aimed at the objective, systematic and quantitative description of the apparent content of communication materials (Toemah, 2004). And also as Krippendorff (2004) defined Content analysis is:

*Content analysis is a research technique for making replicable and valid inferences from texts (or other meaningful matter) to the contexts of their use.*

Osgood also defines content analysis as a procedure whereby the individual makes certain conclusions about both the source and the future of the message in light of certain evidence included in this message Toemah, (2004).

Also, the International Encyclopedia of the Social Sciences considered this analysis to be one of the methods used in studying the content of written or audio communication messages by developing an organized plan that begins with selecting a sample of the material subject to analysis, classifying it, and analyzing it in terms of quantity and quality (Toemah, 2004).

The birth of Content analysis as social science research was by Max Weber's suggested at the first German Sociological Association Conference in 1910 to analyze the newspapers, but Scholars like Krippendorff and Merten consider that the history of content analysis began a long time ago in the exegesis of the Bible or Sigmund Freud's

interpretation of dreams (Kuckartz, 2014). Krippendorf (2004) pointed out that according to (Waples and Berelson) studies the used content analysis term content analysis did not appear in the English language until the early 1940s.

Content analysis, according to Al-Mashhadan (2017), aims to know the directions of the material that are analyzed in an organized scientific way and to identify the characteristics of these trends away from subjective impressions of random treatment through an organized and accurate understanding of the content and content of written, audio or visual texts.

The research in the field of theories related to media and communication is based on the theory of reception and the theory of prioritization. The theory of reception is concerned with the influence of the media on individuals and explains the process of receiving information by the public through the media, considering that the individual depends mainly on the media to receive information, while the theory of priority order assumes that the media It is the one who arranges the interests of the public by highlighting issues that deserve and neglecting others (Al-Mashhadani, 2017).

French journalist Jacques Kaiser described newspaper content analysis as the study that aims to uncover what the newspaper wants to convey to its readers and to make a certain impact through that article (Al-Mashhadani, 2017).

The content analysis is based on the researcher's determination of the temporal and spatial field for the analysis, and the selection of a representative sample of the original community by collecting all kinds of communication materials (articles, reports, news, or material published on the electronic media, and follow this by the selection of the appropriate unit of analysis that Berelson identified as (the word, theme, personality, singularity, space and time) (Al-Mashhadani, 2017). in this research, the choice fell on the unity of the word and the theme, which may be a symbol or term indicating hatred, racism, and stereotyping.

Content analysis performs a number of functions that Berelson has identified with 17 uses, part of them Krippendorff (2004):

- *To describe trends in communication content*
- *To disclose international differences in communication content*
- *To compare media or levels of communication*
- *To construct and apply communication standards*
- *To expose propaganda techniques*
- *To discover stylistic features*
- *To identify the intentions and other characteristics of the communicators*
- *To reveal the focus of attention*

Because journalism has changed according to economic and political changes, that's why Krippendorff (2004) said:

*Written text is not just a collection of words; rather, it is sequenced discourse, a network of narratives that can be read variously*

Content analysis answers research questions by analyzing texts, which are understood quite generally to include images, sound, Web sites, symbolic events, even numerical data, provided they mean something in the chosen context (Krippendorff, 2004):

As (Berelson, 1952) also said:

*The temptation is always to interpret the content data, even from a sample as restricted as the 'prestige papers,' into the application to 'people's attitudes' or 'the ideology of the times' or something similar*

Krippendorff (2004) set out several features of the texts analyzed, among them the fact that these texts have meanings related to specific

contexts, purposes, or discourses. Set out many features of the texts analyzed, among them the fact that these texts have meanings related to specific contexts, purposes, or discourses.

Methodological steps will be adopted in the content analysis as described by Al Assaf (1989) and include Classification of the researched content, Analysis of units of analysis identified by Berelson which are five basic units in the analysis (word, subject, personality, singular, standard unit or temporal). Designing an analysis form that includes (raw data - content categories - units of analysis - observations) and the design of the dump tables to be then unloaded the content of each document on its form.

Toemah (2004) considered that the interpretation of the results of the analysis is not merely a narration of specific phenomena or merely a monitoring of the indications of their recurrence and a determination of their size. Rather, this is skipped to a convincing explanation of these phenomena and to produce results that pave the way for a decision or further studies.

### **Online content analysis**

Analyzing content on the Web is not easy. As Karlsson and Sjøvaag (2016) sees the Web it as a dynamic form of content production and therefore online news analysis is not exactly an analysis of the way news appears. The digitization and convergence of media Karlsson and Sjøvaag, (2016) pose fundamental challenges to the basic method of content analysis. All methods have advantages and disadvantages, depend on research questions, and the established content analysis method does not reach all dimensions of online content, although it is the most developed and its tools have been honed for at least 60 years.

Quandt (2008) analyzed the data of ten online news media in five European countries to assess what they claimed to be entirely new journalism, especially after the increased competition in new forms of content. The study found that promises of an interactive age for reporting have not yet been fulfilled, and the sites analyzed revealed a lack of multimedia content, missing direct interaction with journalists,

and a focus on local political news. Quandt (2008) came to the conclusion that online journalism is basically old news journalism similar to offline newspapers, also journalists and audiences are still restricted by their habits of using and preparing reports.

Riffe and Weng (2010) considered that the information on the Internet is expanding by a huge amount and allows any user of the cyberspace to transfer data at any time and place. Therefore, estimating sampling frames for web content analysis is challenging, as few studies have tested sample sizes for web content analysis. Also, sample size is a major consideration that content analysts must deal with when sampling from the web.

Riffe and Weng (2010) used Newsweek to analyze it, and found that a 6-day random sample was the most effective way to analyze news magazine content for an entire year. Although the size of this random sample for a period of six days is effective and efficient for predicting this newspaper site's the content of a year, sampling methods may differ according to the research questions and different designs. Also Riffe and Weng (2010) considered that researchers' knowledge about content or web content publishing cycles and their impact on sample representation is limited, and there are no guidelines for researchers to sample or choose a sample that is sufficiently effective to screen web content.

Riffe et al. (1993) considered that in the case of newspapers, it would be efficiency to take a simple random sample, or to constructing a week to represent all days of the week, or to choose an appropriate sample from seven consecutive days. Also Riffe et al. (1993) hypothesized that constructed week sampling assumes a periodic variation of the content for different days of the week and required a representation of all the different days of the week.

Researchers on sampling like mink Studying 1941 Pravda headlines, used one month as a population and drew a whole week sample, found that the six-day and 15-day samples did not differ significantly from the population mean (Riffe et al., 1993). Also Stempel examined front page photographs in a Wisconsin newspaper in 1951 from six issues



per week (no Sunday edition) and compared the population (a year) with means for different sample sizes and found that 12 days—two constructed weeks—sufficient to represent the year, also Increasing sample size is a poor investment of the researcher's time (Riffe et al., 1993).

Although researchers are increasingly interested in examining Web connections, concerns about the existence of many Web sites are inactive; which make representation requires creative approaches to sampling Daniel Riffe et al. (2005) added.

Internet content studies present challenges and opportunities. Stempel and Stewart (2000) concluded that this problem lies in the absence of a sampling framework for the population, and they describe the Internet as a city without a telephone directory or an instruction map, and thus sampling requires creative solutions (Daniel Riffe et al., 2005). They also found that access to newspaper content online includes four problems Daniel Riffe et al. (2005)

*(a) Internet databases lead to convenience samples rather than representative samples, (b) indexing is not consistent from site to site, (c) files at some sites are missing information such as headlines and placements within broadcasts, and (d) acquiring the content can be expensive, as sites increasingly charge for content*

Also, McMillan (2000), after analyzing 19 studies and research papers on web content, came up with a set of recommendations, including: scholars should be aware of how the web is similar to traditional media because the web is interactive, and people use it differently than they use traditional media. In addition, sampling from the web is difficult because the sampling framework is not readily available, and content can change quickly, and this change makes coding difficult (Daniel Riffe et al., 2005).

Also, we analyzed the six digital native media from the web perspective, we used descriptive analysis (Al-Faisal, 2021), (Husni & Al-Timimi, 2018), (Kchour & Bachir, 2014) to:

- 1- The design of the website in general
- 2- Frames
- 3- The technical and media services they provide
- 4- The presence of these websites on social media

This analysis is because web design is of great importance in giving the ability to ease and effectiveness on the site and enable the reader to find the largest number of news and outlets (Al-Faisal, 2021).

In the analysis of the six sites, we touched on the components of the home page, images, video, social media, the services provided by the site such as commenting on news or opinion polls, creating blogs and applications on smart devices, as well as media services such as weather, stock markets, live broadcasts and COVID-19 statistics.

### **Data Coding and Analysis**

Al-Mashhadani (2017) considered that content analysis can be expressed in four words: objective, systematic, quantitative, and manifest. The content analysis aims to analyze the characteristics of selected news and stories and their impact on the image of Arabs and Europeans in the media. The two units of analysis were used, the word and the theme/the subject. A unit of content it can be a word, sentence, paragraph, image, article, television program (Daniel Riffe et al., 2005).

The data were used to create, for this study's purposes, six Categories describing the content for each day as the table (3) show. The Categories were:

News Category 1: percentage of "political News" stories each day

News Category 2: percentage of "economic" stories each day

News Category 3: percentage of "social" stories each day

Story Length: average number of paragraphs in each story coded each day

Trend story: the stories trend in collected news (neutral, somewhat neutral, not neutral)

Media and technology: the digital native media tools in the multimedia field

**Table (3) Data categories**

Categories	Example
<b>Them/ subjects</b>	Political, social, economy, Miscellaneous
<b>Words</b>	Jihad, Arabs, European, immigrants, refugees, middle east, European union, gulf countries, peace process
<b>Space/ length</b>	One paragraph, two to four paragraphs, five to ten paragraphs, long reports (more than ten paragraphs)
<b>Trends</b>	Neutral, not neutral, somewhat neutral, positive, negative
<b>Media/ technology</b>	Design, frames, media services, applications, followers in social media

**Source:** own elaboration

The thesis relies on the unity of the word and the subject as defined by Berelson to answer the research questions and theories. The words and topics of the analysis were identified on each website separately and from these categories: "Arabs, immigrants, terrorism, Arabic gulf, Islamophobia, Islam, jihadists, etc." These categories were coded and put into tables, examined and analyzed to find out the indications of what they refer to, guided by what (Toemah, 2004) explained through TEPAC's divisions of trends: supportive / non-supportive / neutral / no opinion, as well as what Kaplan and Goldsen used in their study on

war communication: Strongly positive ++ / positive + - / Severely negative - / Negative - / Balanced + / No clear trend.

After collecting and reading the news from the six digital native media, we coded the news in 21 codes according to three categories (Codes according to the news subjects) because there is a repeating to the subjects, (Codes according to the topics of news) and (Codes according to the text of the news) to know what the trend of the news if its neutral, not neutral, somewhat neutral (positive or negative) as the table (4) show below.

**Table (4) Coding table categories**

Codes according to the news subjects	Codes according to the topics of news	Codes according to the text of the news
Brexit, Conflicts, Covid19, Europe, international, Immigrants, Iraq, Jihadists, Local, Middle east, Protests, Racism, Refugees, Terrorism	Diverse/ Miscellaneous, Economy, Health, Politics, Sport	Hate speech, Stereotype

Source: own elaboration

Also, the direction of the news may be divided into three directions (with, against, neutral) or (negative, positive) with a definition of what is intended as positive and negative. After completing the data collection and clarifying its trends (Toemah, 2004), Qualitative Data Analysis Software atlas.ti is used to process the data and represent it in figures and graphs because according to Krippendorff (2004) the researchers concluded that the researcher's use of computer software as auxiliary tools and not a substitute for human capabilities. This coexistence with the use of software has greatly increased due to the human ability to understand written documents and the ability of computers to scan large amounts of data (Krippendorff, (2004).

The thesis is based on four **units of analysis**:

**Theme /Subject:** the unit of the idea it may be a sentence or a paragraph, defined by Abdel-Hamid (2000), that it aims to answer a question about the content of newspapers, and the aim of it is to reveal the centers of interest in the topics of the newspaper under study. A number of main categories fall under it: political, economic, social, sports, accidents and crimes, and religious issues (Abdel-Hamid, 2000).

**Word:** it may be a symbol or a term such as Arabs, Europeans, terrorism, and extremism. Al-Mashhadani (2017) considered that the word unit is the smallest unit of analysis, and one of the easiest units that can be dealt with.

**Source:** Does it depend on international or official news agencies? Or is it special reports from correspondents or from the Internet? It is a special category for revealing the source of the information if it is people, newspapers, radio stations and other various sources (Al-Mashhadani, 2017).

**Space:** The area of the news story if it is a short paragraph or medium or long news with more than 10 paragraphs. It is a physical measure that the researcher resorts to find out the space occupied by the media material in the newspapers, to find out the extent of interest and focus on the news story in question (Al-Mashhadani, 2017).

The units of analysis were determined because we seek to describe the elements of the content quantitatively Al-Mashhadani (2017). Therefore, the content was divided into units according to Berelson, which are word, subject/ theme, character, item, and space and time (Al Assaf, 1989). 3 units from Berelson were selected, namely, word, subject, area, and added It has other analysis categories and a sub-category has been used in the subject, which is the category of news sources Al-Mashhadani (2017). These units have been identified because the quantitative description is one of the characteristics of content analysis, and there must be units to be based on to arrive at a quantitative assessment of the phenomena of analysis (Toemah, 2004).

Krippendorff (2004) considered that the texts do not contain individual meanings that can be found, identified, and described as they are, As the texts have many points of view, they can be read, as well as the signs can have several names, and the data can be subject to different analyzes. The criteria for classifying the content into categories were also adopted on the boundaries of the theoretical framework of the research problem, the direction of the questions and the framework of the targeted results of the research (Krippendorff, 2004).

The content analysis categories are a set of classifications that are prepared according to the quality of the content and its content, and the aim of the research is to describe the content and categorize it with the highest possible degree of objectivity and comprehensiveness to extract results in an easy and accessible manner (Al-Mashhadani, 2017).

To answer the questions and hypotheses of the thesis, a number of analysis forms were designed for each unit of analysis. The articles were coded for the first time by digital media website, news number, week, and day. Krippendorff (2004) considered it common for content analysts to name their categories, using common and widely understood verbal descriptors. The content of the websites was analyzed according to the units that were previously identified; each story was analyzed as to the data components, or elements that each contained to found the most prominent issues that dominate media coverage, the images presented by this news and their direction if they are neutral, biased or objective. Sources of media coverage were also analyzed, whether from international or local news agencies, correspondents or from the Internet. The items that referred to the Arabs or the Europeans were also counted during the news.

## **Interviews**

Interviews in scientific research have been used since the eighteenth century when social scientific interviews were conducted to record cognitive content such as judgments, attitudes, or interpretations of an issue (Möhring & Schlütz, 2008). Interviews in communication research are central to measuring media use, the influence of media

and communications, and the state of public opinion (Möhring & Schlütz, 2008). One of the methods of quantitative interviews is either oral, in person, or over the phone, and it can be conducted in writing and can be administered via the Internet (Möhring & Schlütz, 2008).

The interview method was also used in this thesis. Abdel-Hamid (2000) defined the interview as a verbal interaction between the researcher and the respondent to achieve a specific goal. Also Al-Mashhadani (2017) defined it as a conversation between two people initiated by the researcher and aimed at obtaining information related to the research. Al Assaf (1989) mentioned Bingham's definition of the interview as a serious conversation directed towards a specific goal. As Kvale (1996) considered that conversation is a basic method of human interaction and through conversations and interaction can identified other people, their experiences, thoughts and feelings. In research, Kvale (1996) defined the interview as the purpose of obtaining descriptions of the life and the world of an interviewee.

The interview in scientific research is one of the research tools in which information is collected that enables the researcher to answer questions and research hypotheses (Al Assaf, 1989). In this thesis, interviews will be conducted with editors or managing editors in the six digital sites analyzed, Bogner et al. (2009) considered that interviewing experts is appropriate in situations where it is difficult to access a particular social field.

Also, research interviews are not like daily conversations that are based on an automatic exchange of points of view, but rather they are interviews that have structure and organization (Kvale, 1996). Abdel-Hamid (2000), identified some characteristics to the interview: as an interaction that allows the respondent to transcend the limits of an abstract answer to complete freedom in answering and expressing his opinions and ideas. An organized method based on a set of steps. It is also not just a physical dialogue between two parties, but rather it is the achievement of a specific goal related to the nature of the research problem. Because the sample was carefully selected in accordance with the objectives of the study and guarantees access to information

without distortion (Abdel-Hamid, 2000). Nor is it between two equal parties or partners. Because the researcher is the one who controls and dominates the interview procedures and follows up critically the answers to the questions (Kvale, 1996).

The thesis relied on electronic interviews through e-mail and online communication applications such as Zoom. We communicated via email, WhatsApp, facebook messenger with the six digital media to arrange interviews Al-Mashhadani, (2017) and were informed the respondents of the objectives of the interviews that took place with them, after designing the question form directed to them, which is consistent with the objectives and problem of the research.

In E- interviews, the delay between the researcher and the subject can range from seconds to hours or days (Bampton & Cowton, 2002). Also, the electronic interviews have the benefit of not setting a suitable time for the two parties to talk to each other, and it also allows the interviewee to build a response to a specific question and provides an opportunity to obtain the required information (Bampton & Cowton, 2002). The reliance on the interview as a means of collecting information has expanded to include electronic outlets with the administration of questionnaires via fax, e-mail, and the website (Fontana & Frey, 2000). It has also become possible to engage in borrowing interviews, such as using an Internet connection, synchronously or asynchronously, to obtain information (Fontana & Frey, 2000). Online interviews are so prominent today that researchers are studying their effects on response quality, and this type of interview will increase in the next millennium as people increasingly rely on social media (Fontana & Frey, 2000). In many cases, e-mail interviews can be a viable alternative to face-to-face and telephone interviews (Meho, 2006). The use of in-depth interviews via e-mail is rapidly increasing, and the cost of e-mail interviews is much lower than conducting them by phone or face to face and reduces the cost of transcription as data is generated in electronic form and requires little editing and coordination and more than one participant can be interviewed Once (Meho, 2006).



In the interviews also, we used the in-depth interviewing tool, as a technique designed to elicit perspectives on a research topic and gain insight into people's interpretation of the world, a method for respondents to share their personal opinions and experiences (Milena et al., 2008). Also, in-depth interviews are most appropriate in cases where we want to ask open-ended questions to extract information from a small number of respondents (Guion et al., 2011). They also allow exploration of deep perspectives and result in information that constitutes more questions, and allow the respondent to explain the topic using his own words (Guion et al., 2011) and (Boyce & Neale, 2006).

The sample size chosen by the experts is proportional to the qualitative research methods that are smaller than the sample used in quantitative research because qualitative research is concerned with a deep understanding of a phenomenon (Dworkin, 2012) and (Boyce & Neale, 2006). In in-depth interviews, the focus is not on making generalizations to a large number of people, but rather on induction and not on testing hypotheses (Dworkin, 2012). 14 specialists in qualitative methodology and a number of academics also found that the sample size is controlled by several factors, including the judgment of the epistemic community as well as the saturation of cognitive and methodological responses (Baker & Edwards, 2012).

We used a semi-structured interview method by preparing questions whose sequence can be changed, or some of them can be deleted or added to (Kandilji & Al-Samarrai, 2009).

Over the course of nearly five months - from January to May 2022 - the six digital native media and news agencies were contacted via e-mail, to conduct interviews with editorial directors, news editors, and technical department officials. Only the three Arabic digital native media responded to the interviews. BaghdadToday, the general supervisor and website manager Saif Al Hashemi, the editor-in-chief of Elnashra Joseph Samaan, Nasr Al-Majali, one of the Elaph founders and the editor of political affairs.

In the three interviews, 21 questions were written to answer six categories related to the data collected and analyzed:

- 1- News category: topics, size, and sources
- 2- Hate speech and stereotypes in the Arab and European media
- 3- Covid-19 pandemic influence
- 4- Agendas and their impact because of their connection to the scientific theories that have been enlightened in the framework
- 5- Journalism work in Arab countries and Europe
- 6- Technical work and social media after more than 20 years of its launch

After the interviews were held with the three experts, they were transcribed, written, and sent it to them again to agree to use their content in the thesis.

### **The descriptive approach**

This thesis relied on the descriptive approach as a method based on describing a phenomenon in order to reach the causes and factors that control it and to come up with results and generalizations (Al-Mashhadani, 2017). The descriptive approach is based on monitoring and following up on a phenomenon or event in a quantitative or qualitative manner for a specific period of time or several periods of time to identify the phenomenon or event and reach results and generalizations that help in understanding and developing reality (Al-Mashhadani, 2017). Al Assaf (1989) explained that the descriptive content analysis may be for the purpose of evaluation. Where the researcher may conduct a study aimed at arriving at a specific judgment on the dominant trend in a particular issue, such as a daily newspaper (Al Assaf, 1989). Abdel-Hamid (2000) considered that the descriptive survey aims to describe the interest and preference for media content within the framework of studies on the effects of media and their applications in priority order research. And one of the features of the survey method in the descriptive framework is that it is a quantitative method, especially as it deals with a large number of vocabulary, with which it is difficult to qualitatively describe (Abdel-Hamid, 2000).

In its analysis, the thesis relied on four units which are the subject/theme, the word, the source, and the space. We made a descriptive analysis of a group of news on each news site whose trends were somewhat neutral and not neutral.

And as we mentioned in the theoretical framework, there is no specific definition of hate speech despite its widespread use and the existence of legislation on it. So analysis forms were designed for each media outlet and analyzed all the news that was considered not neutral or somewhat neutral, with the identification of negative sentences, words, and statements in each news article, and it was categorized as negative because these sentences and words suggest stereotypes or hate speech to the reader.



## CHAPTER FOUR

### Analysis Results

This chapter presents the results of the analysis of the stories in the six digital native media in 2020 which answer the main research question and sub-questions. The first section presents a quantitative content analysis of the data to show the distribution of news, percentages of news topics, their sources, news size, and trends (positive/neutral, negative/non-neutral, or somewhat neutral) and this analysis is based on what Krippendorff (2004) considered that the texts when analyzed bear multiple aspects and can be subject to different analyzes, in addition to the importance of analyzing the content in an objective and comprehensive way to extract the results in an easy and accessible way (Al-Mashhadani, 2017), where the analysis presents the six digital native media together and then each digital media separately to find out the most prominent topics which each media focuses on, its trends and sources because each media represents a different orientation from the other, because every media outlet, specifically the Arab media, comes from different journalistic environments, and is controlled by multiple factors and agendas, whether political, economic, social and sometimes military, all of which affect the type and nature of news. The second section of the analysis depends on the descriptive approach to the content of the news to describe the news that carried negative or positive trends and the most prominent words and topics that carried these trends, which reflects hate speech or stereotypes towards the other. The six websites for the digital native media were also analyzed descriptively, the most prominent services provided by each website to its readers, the number of followers on social networking sites, and the applications in which each website is located.

The final section of the results presents the interviews that were conducted with experts from the websites to answer questions related

to the results of the analysis and the research questions and hypotheses.

#### 4.1. Results of the analysis

The following sections will present the results of the research in the six digital native media in Arab and Europe during 2020, the most sections in which news was published about Europe and the Arab world, the most prominent issues and sources, the size and the trend of news to reach how these sites cover issues on the Arab and European sides. These results are as follows:

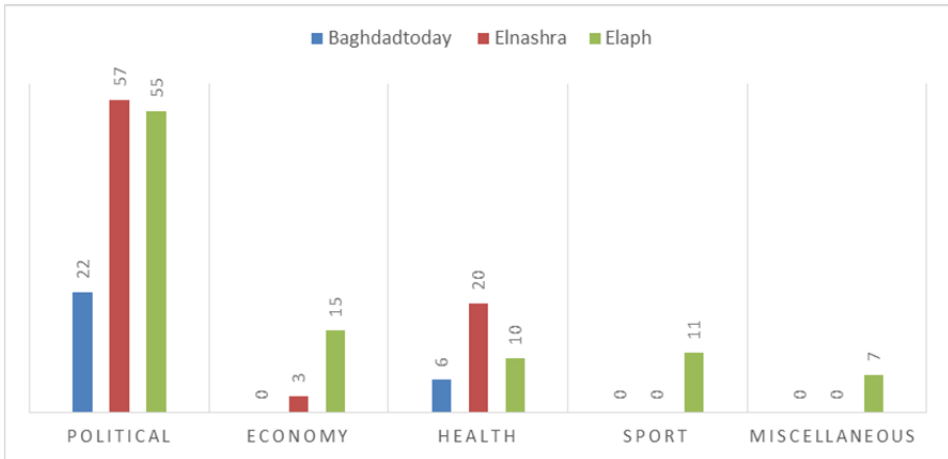
**4.1.1. On the Arab digital native media**, political news topped the list during 2020 with 65% of total stories, followed by health news with 18%, followed by economic news with 9%, sports news with 5%, and miscellaneous news with 3% from the total stories.

Political news was focused on the Middle East with 83 stories, while news about Europe was 41, and terrorism issues ranked third with 18 stories with. Miscellaneous and sports news was concentrated in only one Arabic media, Elaph, with 7 miscellaneous news and 11 sports news, while this news was absent from Elnashra and BaghdadToday.

Table (5) The total stories in Arab digital native media

Arab native media	Political	Economy	Health	Sport	Miscellaneous	Total
Baghdadtoday	22	0	6	0	0	28
Elnashra	57	3	20	0	0	80
Elaph	55	15	10	11	7	98
Total	134	18	36	11	7	206
Percentage	65%	9%	18%	5%	3%	100%

Source: own elaboration

**Figure (2) The stories in all Arabic native media**

Source: own elaboration

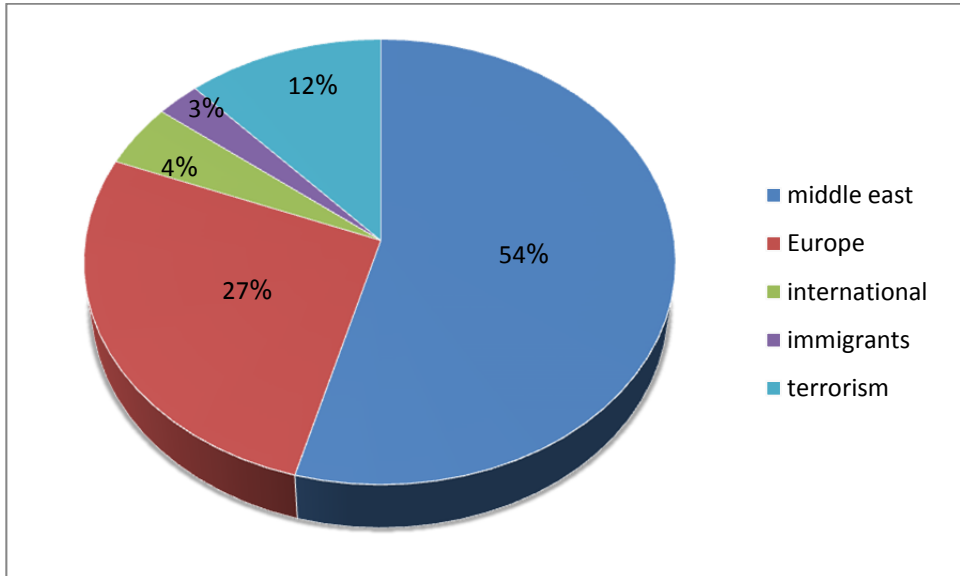
The Figure above shows the distribution of news in the three Arab digital native media, where political news was the most prominent and was the highest in the three digital media. Elaph came first, followed by Elnashra, and thirdly, BaghdadToday. The figure also shows that health news ranked second and highest in Elaph, followed by the Elnashra, and then Baghdadtoday. As for other economic, sports, and miscellaneous topics, they were not a large majority in Arabic media and Elaph was the most media that published on these topics.

**Table (6) The political news in Arab native media**

Arab native media (political news)	
Middle east	83
Europe	41
International	7
Immigrants	4
Terrorism	18

Source: own elaboration

**Figure (3) The percentage of the political news in Arab digital native media**



**Source:** own elaboration

Table 5 and Figure 3 above, show that Middle Eastern news made up 54% of all political news, while 27% of the news was about Europe, 12% about terrorism, 4% about international news and 3% about immigrants. The three Arab digital native media focus on the Middle East and the news related to it more than others because of their geographical location and the importance of the issues associated with this region, Lebanon, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia are in a region which news is topped by various Arab and international media. Therefore, the news came related to central issues in the Middle East, such as: the assassination of Iranian leader Qassem Soleimani in Iraq at the beginning of 2020 and its consequences. In addition to the news of the Palestinian- Israeli cause, and the visits of European officials to the Middle East or their statements about the most prominent files and issues, and the positions of European countries and the United States towards the region. And because the region suffers from the



repercussions of terrorism, news related to terrorism in the Middle East came in third place in the political news.

The following is a group of headlines to clarify what is meant by political news about the Middle East that was published on the three Arab digital native media, for example, on Elaph are "Von der Leyen: Containing tension is in the interest of Iran and Iraq", "The Israelis rule out that their country will be exposed to an Iranian strike", "Johnson leads the British position on the Iran crisis", "Pompeo hopes other Arab countries will normalize relations with Israel", "America calls on Saudi Arabia to normalize its relations with Israel", "Iraqi-British discussions to enhance security and military cooperation", "Trump and the Middle East Conflict: Unwavering Support for Israel!". And on the Elnashra are "Israeli general: Soleimani's assassination will likely bring consequences for Israel as well", "UN envoy to the Middle East: For proposals to achieve peace between the Palestinians and the Israelis", "European Union: We supported the easing of US sanctions against Iran", "The United Nations warns Israel against annexing lands in the West Bank". And on the Baghdadtoday are "The Foreign Minister condemns the American assassination in a meeting with the ambassadors of France, Britain, and Germany", "A suicide bomber blows himself up in a Syrian refugee camp in northern Lebanon", "The European Union objects to the execution of 21 convicts of terrorism in Iraq", "Zarif meets Al-Amiri and discusses with him the assassination of Soleimani and the fight against terrorism"

The sources of the news in the Arabic native digital media most of them without clear sources with 51 stories with 25% of total published stories, the media websites didn't explain in the stories if they made follow up day by day. The second main source was press releases with 41 stories with 20% of the stories, 40 stories were from news agencies with 19%, while the media's own work from reporters was 26 stories with 13% of all stories.

Table (7) The stories sources in digital native media

Source of the news	Reporter	News agencies	Press release	Internet and social media	Press conference	Another media	Without source	Multiple sources	Opinion articles	Total
Baghdadtoday	3	1	8	4	3	5	3	1	0	28
Elnashra	2	3	215		7	7	350		0	80
Elaph	21	36	13	3	0	1	13	10	1	98
Total	26	40	4112	10		1351	12	1		206

Source: own elaboration

In Elaph, the website relied on international news agencies as a source of news, the most prominent of which was the French News Agency (AFP), in addition to the reports of Elaph correspondent from London - the website's headquarters - which constituted the second source of news. Baghdadtoday relied on press releases issued by local or international bodies as a source of news, while other media such as television channels, the Internet and social media were the second and third sources of news, and the correspondents' reports were related to terrorism, but locally. In Elnashra the news without its source was the most prominent, where the site did not indicate the timing of the news or the means by which it was published, the press releases came as a second source of news, while the work of the correspondents was in the local affairs.

For the length of the stories, most of the news stories in Arabic native media were medium stories whose size ranges between 5 to 9 paragraphs, the stories were 123 stories with 60% of published stories. The Long report with more than 10 paragraphs was 63 stories with 30% of the stories and 20 stories were short between 1 to 4 paragraphs with 10% of the stories.

Table (8) the stories length in Arabic native media

Length of news	Long report	Medium report	Short news	Total
Baghdadtoday	1	16	11	28
Elnashra	0	78	2	80
Elaph	62	29	7	98
Total	63	123	20	206

Source: own elaboration

In Elaph, the majority of stories were long stories 62 stories, and the medium stories were 29 while the short news was only 7 stories. Baghdadtoday the majority of stories were medium stories 16 stories, and 11 stories were short stories with one long report. In Elnashra the stories were medium 78 stories, and 2 stories were short stories, and without long reports.

The trend of the stories in Arabic native media was mostly in the neutral side, 171 stories with 83% of total published stories, 33 stories were somewhat neutral with 16% of the stories, and 2 stories was not neutral 1% of stories. In Elaph, the majority of stories were neutral with 75 stories, and the somewhat neutral stories were 23 stories, without non-neutral stories. In Baghdadtoday 22 stories were neutral with 2 stories not neutral. In Elnashra 74 of the stories were neutral, and 6 stories were somewhat neutral, without non-neutral stories.

Table (9) the stories trend in Arabic digital native media

Stories trend	Neutral	Not neutral	Somewhat neutral	Total
Baghdadtoday	22	2	4	28
Elnashra	74	0	6	80
Elaph	75	0	23	98
Total	171	2	33	206

Source: own elaboration

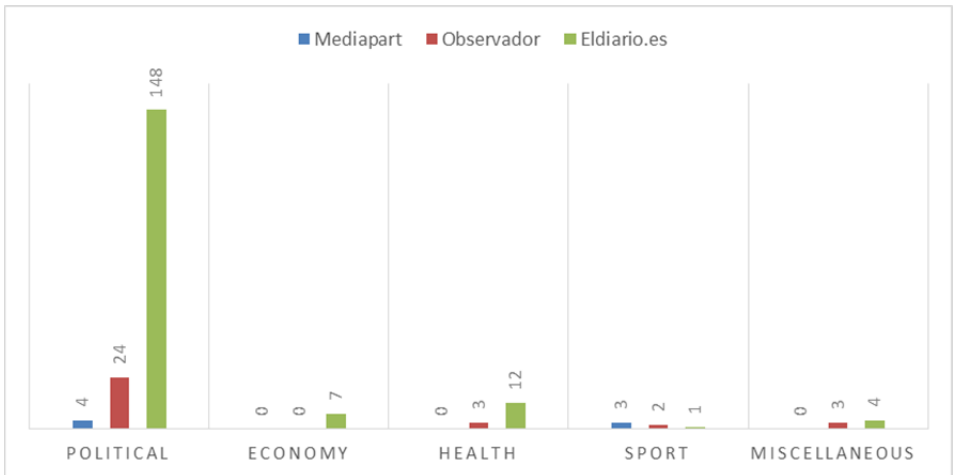
**4.1.2. On the European digital native media:** political news topped the list during 2020 with 84% of total stories, followed by health with 7%, economic news with 3%, and miscellaneous news with 3%, and sports with 3% of total stories.

Political news was focused on the Middle East with 106 stories with, while news about Europe was 51, and immigrant issues ranked third with 47 stories.

**Table (10) The total stories in European digital native media**

Europe native media	Political	Economy	Health	Sport	Miscellaneous	Total
Mediapart	4	0	0	3	0	7
Observador	24	0	3	2	3	32
Eldiario	148	7	12	1	4	172
Total	176	7	15	6	7	211
Percentage	84%	3%	7%	3%	3%	100%

Source: own elaboration

**Figure (4) The stories in all European native media**

Source: own elaboration

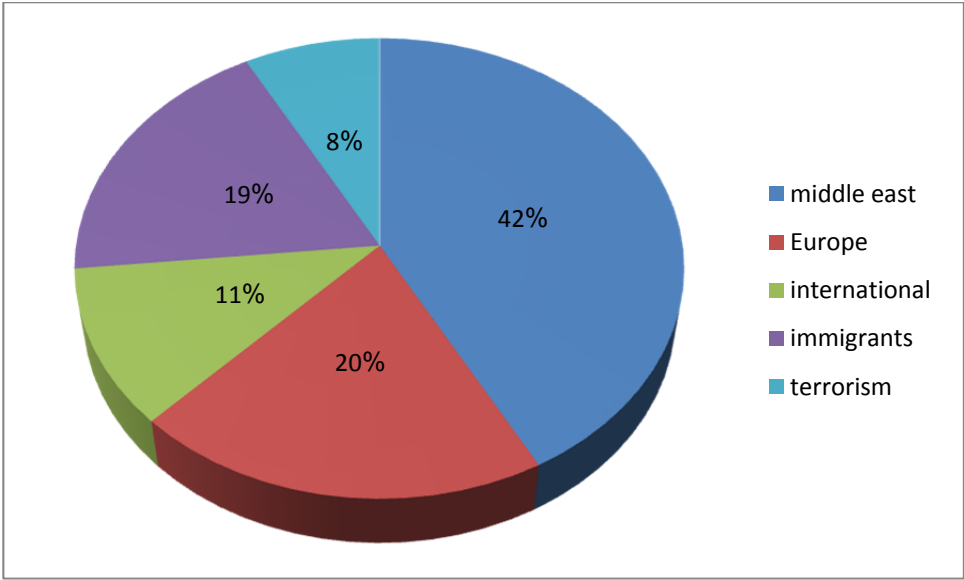
The figure above shows the distribution of news in the three European digital native media, where political news was the most prominent in the three media, specifically Eldiario, which came in the first rank and published the largest proportion of news with 148 political news. Followed by Observador, and in the third place came Mediapart. The remaining 24 news were distributed to the sports, health, and miscellaneous sections. Mediapart published sports news and it was the first among the three media, followed by Observador, and thirdly Eldiario. Also, Mediapart did not publish any economic, health, or miscellaneous, these stories were published on Eldiario and Observador, where Eldiario was in first place in publishing health, economic and miscellaneous news, followed by Observador.

Table (11) The political news in European native media

Europe native media (political news)	
Middle east	106
Europe	51
International	28
Immigrants	47
Terrorism	20

Source: own elaboration

Figure (5) The percentage of the political news in European digital native media



Source: own elaboration

The figure above shows that Middle Eastern news made up 42% of all political news, while 20% of the news was about Europe, 19% about

immigrants, 11% about international news and 8% about terrorism. For the same reason linked to the three Arab digital native media, the European digital native media focus on the Middle East, due to their connection to prominent issues such as terrorism, the Iranian and Turkish role, and the peace process. And the linkage of Middle Eastern countries such as Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, and Palestine to wars, terrorist bombings, and terrorist organizations, as well as the issues of immigrants, and the presence of foreign forces in these countries to combat terrorism.

The following is a group of headlines to clarify what is meant by political news about the Middle East that was published on the three European digital native media, for example, on Eldiario are "U.S. announces the relocation of its troops in Iraq", "Canada pledges to Iraq to maintain military and humanitarian assistance", "Pompeo assures Saudi Arabia that the U.S. does not seek war with Iran", "Israel remains in the background after the death of Soleimani", "Soleimani's death will reinforce Iran's will to stay in Syria", "At least 12 killed, half of them children, in Syrian bombings in Idlib". And on the Observador are "US 'mistakenly' sent letter announcing withdrawal of troops from Iraq", "NATO urges Assad and Moscow to halt 'horrendous attacks' on civilians in Syria", "Islamic State group threat grows again in Syria and Iraq, UN warns", "Pompeo 'optimistic' about seeing 'other Arab countries' normalize relations with Israel". And on the Mediapart are "The Beirut mega-blast: a reconstruction of the timeline of an avoidable tragedy", "The Paris-Dakar car rally gets lost in the sands of Saudi propaganda".

The sources of the news and stories in European digital native media relied heavily on news agencies with 148 stories with 70% of total published stories, the second main source was reporters work with 23 stories with 11% of the stories, 19 stories were from other media with 9%, 9 stories from press releases with 4% of all stories. In Eldiario, the website relied heavily on international news agencies as a source of news, the most prominent of which was EFE the Spanish international news agency, and Europa Press, while the second source of news was news reports from correspondents. Observador relied also

on international news agencies such as the Lusa Portuguese news agency, and the second source of news was press releases. In Mediapart the source of news was other media such as FRANCE 24 with a mention that the editorial team of Mediapart works on editing the news.



Table (12) The stories sources in European native media

Source of the news	Reporter	News agencies	Press release	Internet and social media	Press conference	Another media	Without source	Multiple sources	Opinion articles	Total
Mediapart	1	1	1	0	0	4	0	0	0	7
Observador	3	10	8	2	1	1	2	3	2	32
Eldiario	19	137	0	0	0	14	0	0	2	172
Total	23	148	9	2	1	19	2	3	4	211

Source: own elaboration

In European native media most of the news stories were short stories, whose size ranges between 1 to 4 paragraphs, they were 90 stories with 43% of published stories and 86 stories were medium with 40% of the stories, the long report was 35 stories with 16% of the stories. In Eldiario, the short and medium stories were almost equal with 87 short stories and 70 stories medium with 15 long reports. Also, in Observador the long and medium stories were almost equal with 16 long reports, and 13 medium stories with three short news. In Mediapart the long and medium stories were almost equal with 4 long reports and 3 medium stories without short news.

**Table (13) The stories length in European native media**

Length of news	Long report	Medium report	Short news	Total
Mediapart	4	3	0	7
Observador	16	13	3	32
Eldiario	15	70	87	172
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>211</b>

Source: own elaboration

The trend of the stories in European native media was mostly in the neutral side, 175 stories with 80% of total published stories, 34 stories were somewhat neutral with 19% of the stories, and 2 stories were not neutral with 1% of stories not neutral. In Eldiario, the majority of stories were neutral with 145 stories, and the somewhat neutral stories were 27 stories, without non-neutral stories. In Observador 24 stories were neutral and 7 stories were somewhat neutral stories with 1 story not neutral. In Mediapart 6 stories were neutral, and 1 story was non-neutral.

Table (14) The stories trend in European digital native media

Stories trend	Neutral	Not neutral	Somewhat neutral	Total
Mediapart	6	1	0	7
Observador	24	1	7	32
Eldiario	145	0	27	172
Total	175	2	34	211

Source: own elaboration

**4.1.3. In digital native media:** political news as we analyzed in Arab and European digital native media topped the list during 2020 with 310 news with 74% of total stories, in Arab digital native media was 65% and in European digital native media was 84%, followed by health news with 51 news with 12%, in Arabic media was 18% and in European media, 7%, economic news with 25 news with 6%, in Arabic media was 9% and 3% in European media, miscellaneous news with 14 news in both media with 4%, 3% in Arabic media and 3% in European media, and sports news 17 news with 4% of total stories in both media, 5% in Arabic media and 3% in European media. In Elaph and Elnashra the political news was the most prominent topic with 57 stories in Elnashra and 55 stories in Elaph and focuses on the Middle East. While the political news was the most prominent topic in Eldiario and Observador with 148 stories in Eldiario and 24 stories in Observador and also focuses on the Middle East. The second main topic was health news with 51 stories with 12% of total stories in both media. In Arab native media were 36 stories with 18% of total stories 35 stories about covid-19 with 97% of total health stories and one story about another health subject with 3% of total health stories. While 100% of the health stories in

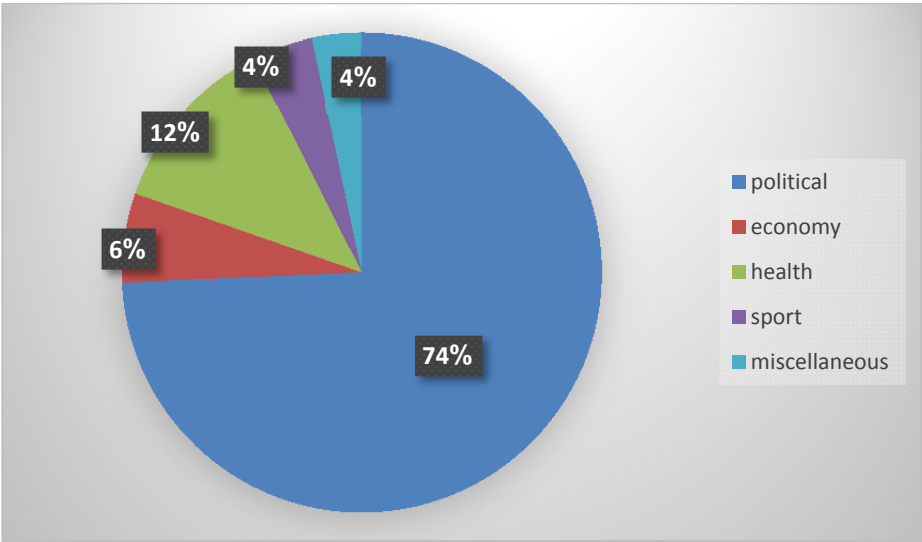
European digital native media were about covid-19 with 3 stories in Observador and 12 stories in Eldiario.

Table (15) The type of news in all media

News in six digital native media	The number of news	Percentage
Politics	310	74%
Economy	25	6%
Health	51	12%
Sport	17	4%
Miscellaneous	14	4%
Total	417	100%

Source: own elaboration

Figure (6) Percentage of political news in all media



Source: own elaboration

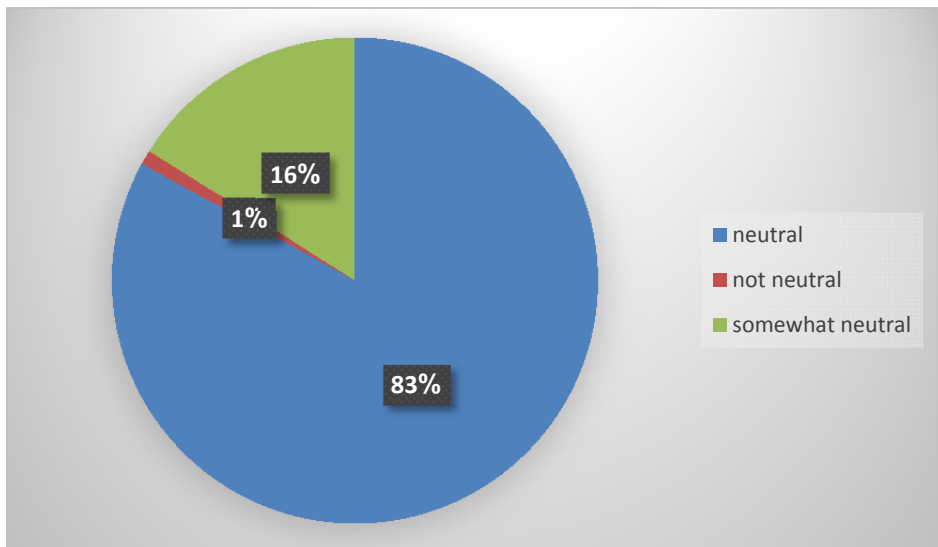
The trend of the stories was mostly in the neutral side, 346 stories with 83% of total published stories, 67 stories were somewhat neutral with 16% of the stories, and 4 stories was not neutral 1% of stories.

**Table (16) Trend of news in all media**

Trends in six digital native media	The number of news	Percentage
Neutral	346	83%
Not neutral	4	1%
Somewhat neutral	67	16%
Total	417	100%

Source: own elaboration

**Figure (7) News trend in all media**



Source: own elaboration

#### 4.1.4. Media Analysis (one by one)

In the following section, we review the analysis of each digital native media separately (one by one) to find out the most prominent topics that each media focuses on, its trends, and its sources, because each site represents a different trend from the other.

We made this analysis of each media separately because each media, especially The three Arab digital media differ in their journalistic environments and orientations: Elaph is owned by a Saudi businessman and journalist with a liberal orientation and the website is based in London, which gives the website a different journalistic environment from other Arab media, while Elnashra is owned by a Lebanese businessman from a family that is considered a media empire and owns several media institutions and despite the website's definition that it is independent, Melki et al. (2012) indicate its inclination to some political alliances in Lebanon. As for the Baghdad Today, which was founded by Iraqi journalists and based in Baghdad, it does not belong to any Arab or foreign party, the website differs from other Arab media because of the media environment and politics in Iraq. While the three European digital native media were founded by journalists, Eldiario is led by journalists who defend democracy and human rights and is funded by readers. Mediapart is also a subscription-based media and does not publish any advertisements. And the Observador does not adopt any political orientations and is not subject to partisan interests and politics.

#### **Baghdadtoday**

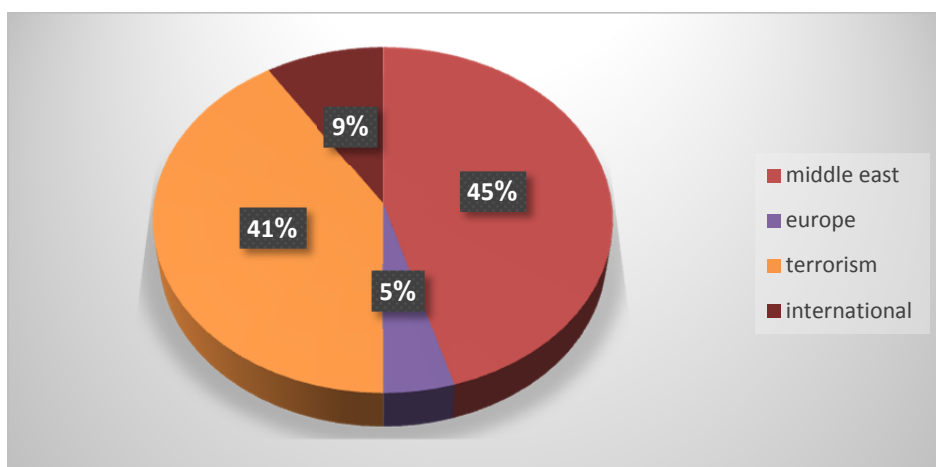
The political news in The Iraqi news site Baghdadtoday topped over other news with 22 stories with a rate of 79%, and 6 stories in the health sector with 21%. Political news was divided into 10 stories about the Middle East with 45% of the political stories, focusing on Iraqi local affairs, 9 stories about terrorism with 41%, 1 story in Arab-European story with 5%, and 2 international stories with 9% of stories.

Table (17) The type of news in Baghdadtoday

Baghdadtoday					
Type of the news	Political	Health	Economy	Miscellaneous	Total
	22	6	0	0	28

Source: own elaboration

Figure (8) Political news distribution in Baghdadtoday



Source: own elaboration

**Table (18) The health stories distribution in Baghdadtoday**

Health	
Europe	5
International	1

Source: own elaboration

The news sources on Baghdadtoday relied heavily on press releases with 8 stories with 29% of the total news, and the stories from reports were 3 stories with 11% of stories, and the rest of the sources were distributed on the Internet, social media, other media sites and news agencies.

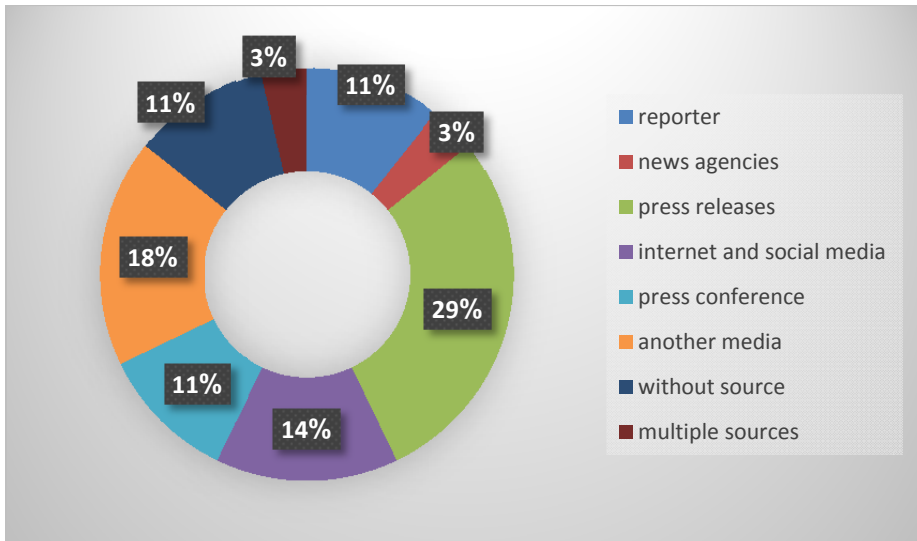
**Table (19) The sources of the stories in Baghdadtoday**

Source of the news	
Reporter	3
News agencies	1
Press release	8
Internet and social media	4
Press conference	3
Another media	5
Without source	3
Multiple sources	1

Source: own elaboration



Figure (9) The news sources distribution in Baghdadtoday



Source: own elaboration

The length of the news on the site focused on medium stories whose size ranges between 5 to 9 paragraphs, and their number was 16 stories with 57% of total stories, 11 short stories with 39%, and one long report with 4%.

Table (20) Length of news in Baghdadtoday

Length of news	
Long report	1
Medium report	16
Short news	11

Source: own elaboration

The trend of news in Baghdadtoday was neutral with 22 stories with 75% of the news stories that were published, while 2 stories were not neutral with 11%, and 4 stories were somewhat neutral 14%.

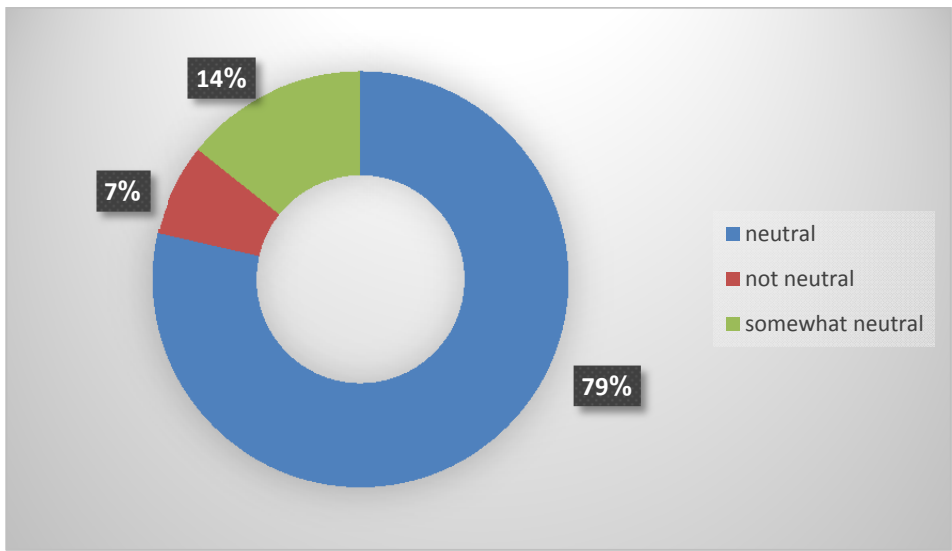
Table (21) the trend of the stories in Baghdadtoday

Trend news	
Neutral	22
Not neutral	2
Somewhat neutral	4

Source: own elaboration

The table shows that 22 stories are neutral, 2 not neutral and 4 stories somewhat neutral

Figure (10) the distribution of the stories trend in Baghdadtoday



Source: own elaboration

## Elaph

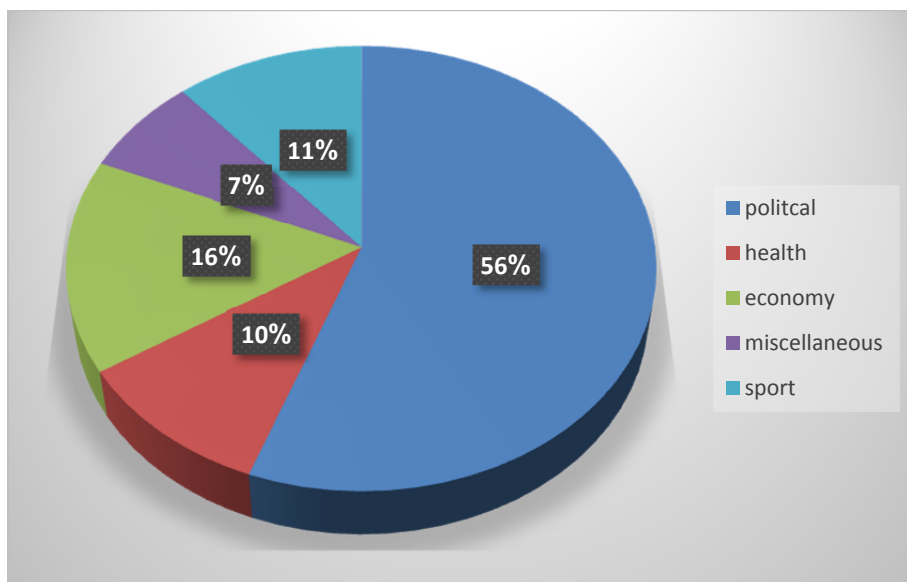
The political news in The Saudi news site Elaph topped over other news with 54 stories with a rate of 56%, 15 stories in economy sector with 16%, 11 stories in sport with 11%, 10 stories in health with 10% and 7 stories in miscellaneous with 7% of stories.

Table (22) The type of news in Elaph

Elaph						
Type of the news	Political	Health	Economy	Miscellaneous	Sport	Total
	54	10	15	7	11	98

Source: own elaboration

Figure (11) The type of news in Elaph



Source: own elaboration

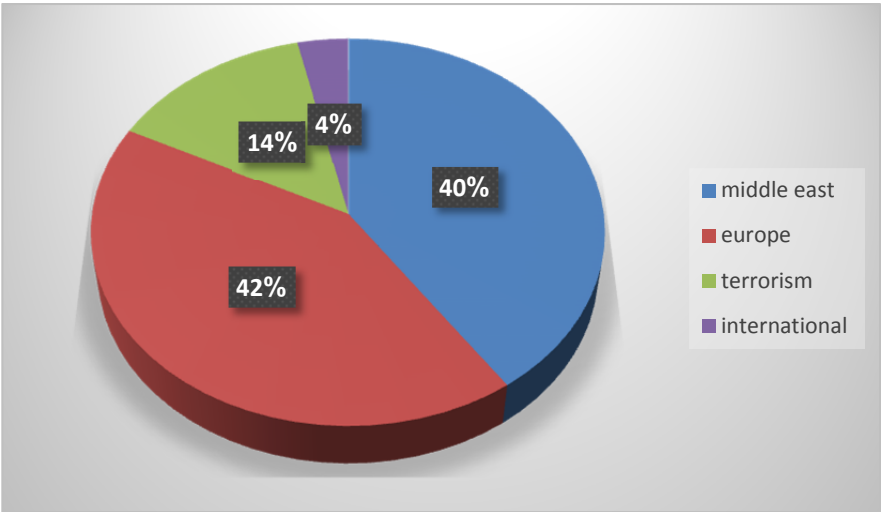
Political news was divided into 23 stories about the Middle East with 42% of the political stories, 24 stories about Europe with 40%, 8 stories about terrorism with 14%, and 2 international stories with 4% of stories.

Table (23) Political news in Elaph

Political news	
Middle east	23
Europe	24
Terrorism	8
International	2

Source: own elaboration

Figure (12) political news distribution in Elaph



Source: own elaboration

The figure above shows that European political stories are almost equals the stories about Middle East.

Table (24) Health and economic stories in elaph

Health		Economy	
Middle east	1	Middle east	0
Europe	8	Europe	13
International	1	International	2

Source: own elaboration

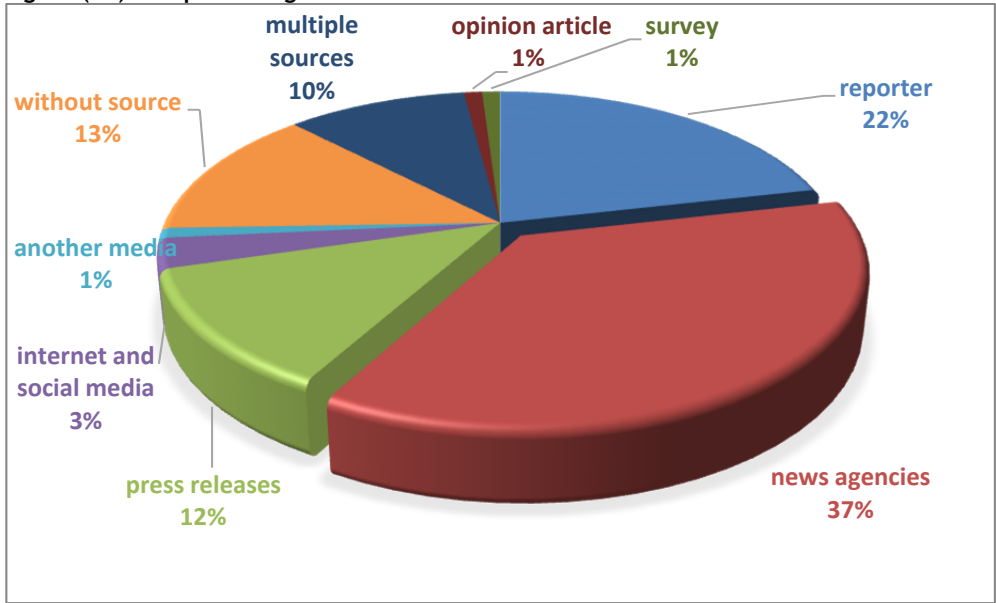
The news sources on Elaph relied heavily on news agencies with 36 stories with 37% of the total news, the stories by reporters was 21 stories with 22%, 13 stories without sources with 13%, 12 stories press releases with 12% and the rest of the sources were distributed on the Internet, social media, other media sites and multiple sources.

Table (25) The source of the stories in Elaph

Source of the news	
Reporter	21
News agencies	36
Press releases	12
Internet and social media	3
Press conference	0
Another media	1
Without source	13
Multiple sources	10
Opinion article	1
Survey	1

Source: own elaboration

Figure (13) The percentage of the sources



Source: own elaboration

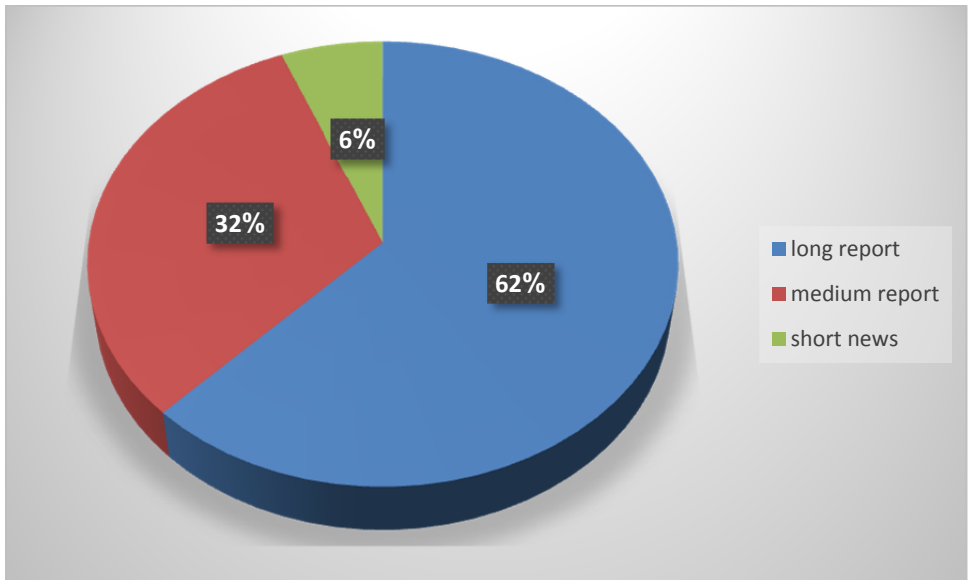
The length of the news in Elaph focused on long reports whose size ranges more than 10 paragraphs, and their number were 62 reports with 62%, 29 medium stories with 32%, and 7 short stories with 6%.

Table (26) The length of the stories in Elaph

Length of stories	
Long report	61
Medium report	31
Short stories	6

Source: own elaboration

Figure (14) the percentage of the length stories in Elaph



Source: own elaboration

The figure above shows that the long reports take large portion of the volume of published stories.

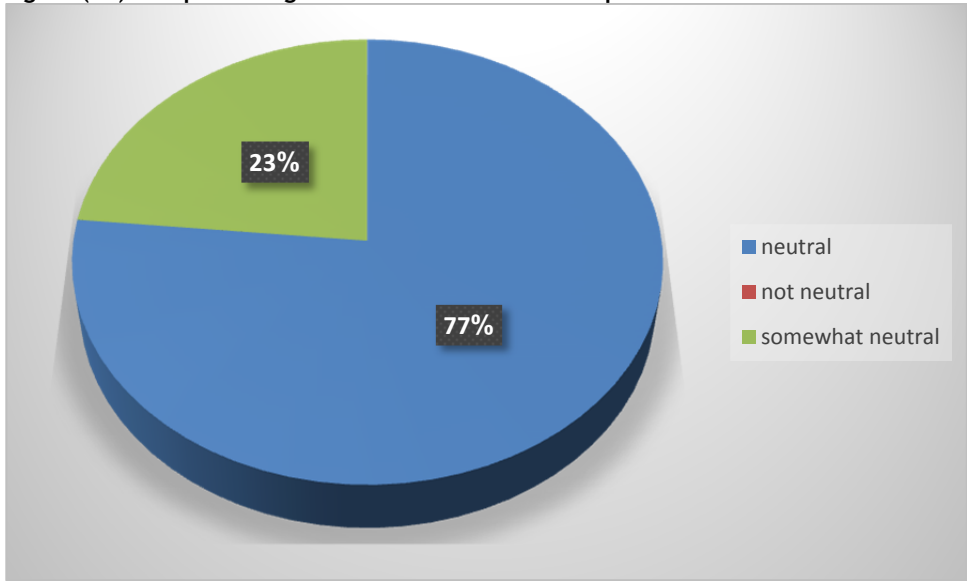
The trend of news in Elaph was neutral with 75 stories with 73% of the news stories that were published, while 23 stories were somewhat neutral with 27% of stories.

Table (27) The stories trend in Elaph

Trend stories	
Neutral	75
Not neutral	0
Somewhat neutral	23

Source: own elaboration

Figure (15) The percentage of the stories trend in Elaph



Source: own elaboration

Elnashra

The political news in The Lebanese news site Elnashra topped over other news with 57 stories with a rate of 71%, 20 stories in health sector with 25%, and 3 stories in economy with 4% of stories.

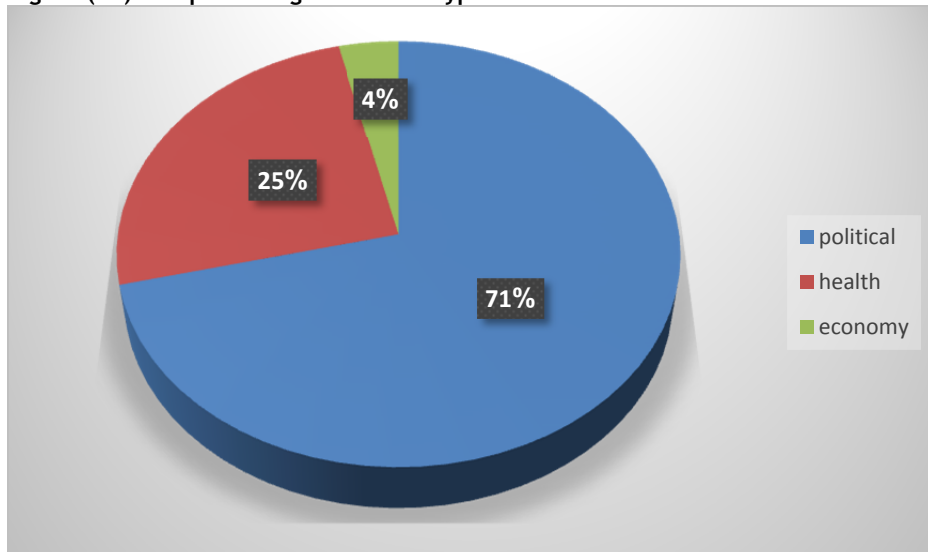
Table (28) The type of stories in Elnashra

Elnashra					
Type of the stories	political	Health	Economy	Miscellaneous	Total
	57	20	3	0	80

Source: own elaboration



Figure (16) The percentage of stories type in Elnashra



Source: own elaboration

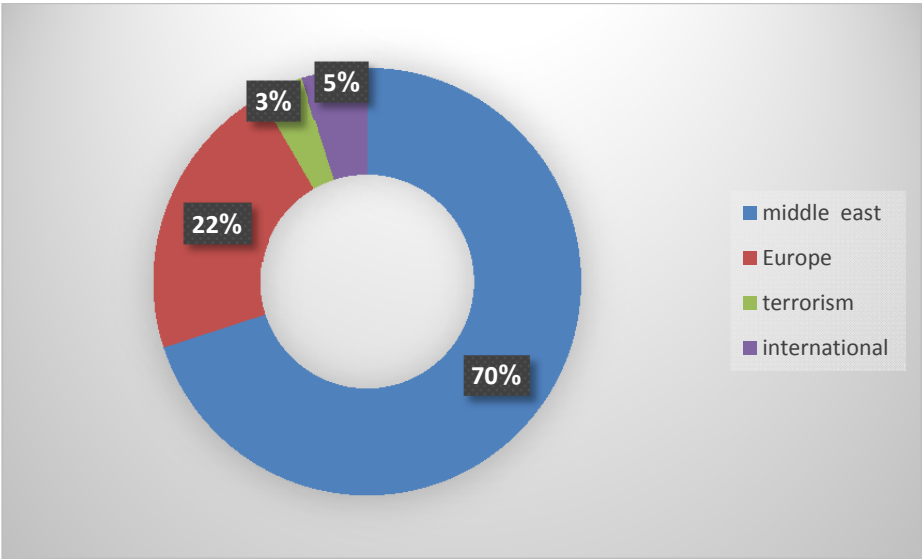
Political news was divided into 42 stories about the Middle East with 70% of stories, 13 stories about Europe with 22%, 2 stories about terrorism with 3%, and 3 international stories with 5% of stories.

Table (29) Political news in Elnashra

Political news	
Middle east	42
Europe	13
Terrorism	2
International	3

Source: own elaboration

Figure (17) Political news distribution in Elnashra



Source: own elaboration

The figure above shows that Middle East political stories are the majority with 70% of the stories

Table (30) Health and economy stories in Elnashra

Health		Economy	
Middle east	4	Middle east	1
Europe	9	Europe	1
International	7	International	1

Source: own elaboration

The majority of the stories in Elnashra without clear source 35 stories with 44% of total news, the stories by press releases were 21 stories with 26%, 7 stories there sources press conference and another media 9%, the own site reports was stories with 2% of the total stories, and

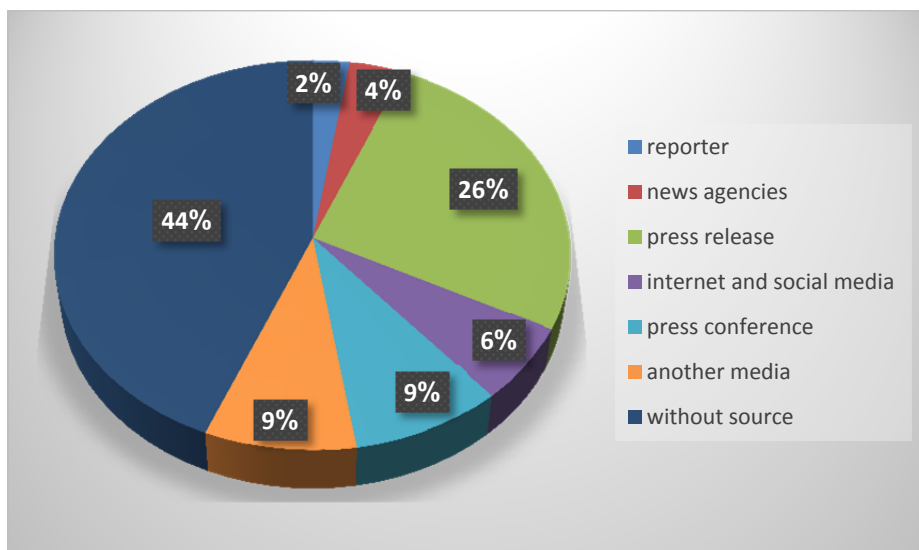
the rest of the sources were distributed on the Internet, social media and news agencies.

**Table (31) The sources of the stories in Elnashra**

Source of the stories	
Reporter	2
News agencies	3
Press release	21
Internet and social media	5
Press conference	7
Another media	7
Without source	35

Source: own elaboration

**Figure (18) The percentage of the sources in Elnashra**



Source: own elaboration

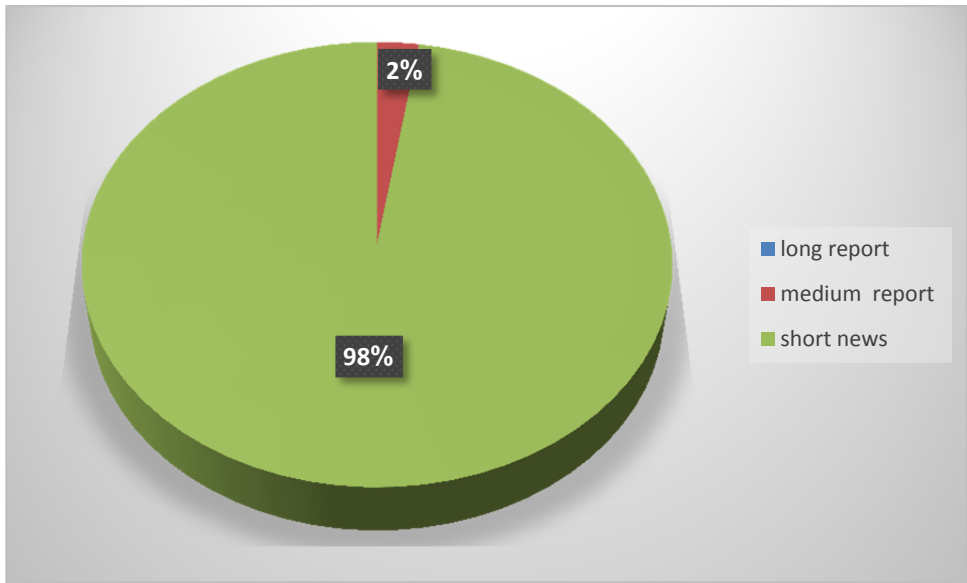
The length of the news in Elnashra focused on short stories whose size ranges between 1 to 4 paragraphs, their number was 78 stories with 98% of the stories, 2 medium stories with 2% of the stories and 0 long reports.

Table (32) The length of the stories in Elnashra

Length of news	
Long report	0
Medium report	2
Short news	78

Source: own elaboration

Figure (19) The percentage of the length stories in Elnashra



Source: own elaboration

The figure above shows that the short stories take large portion of the volume of published stories.

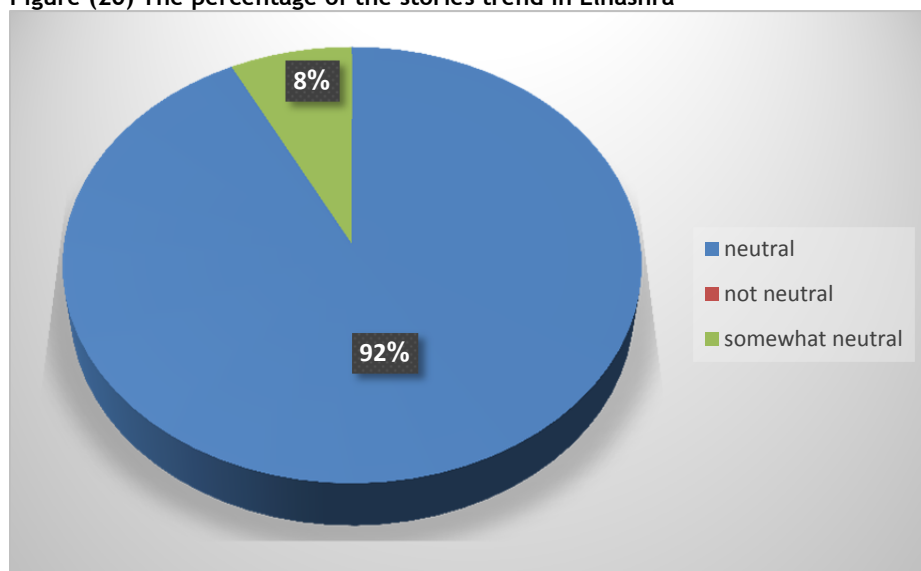
The trend of news in Elnashra was neutral with 74 stories with 92% of the news stories that were published, while 6 stories were somewhat neutral with 8% of the stories.

**Table (33) The stories trend in Elnashra**

Trend news	
Neutral	74
Not neutral	0
Somewhat neutral	6

Source: own elaboration

**Figure (20) The percentage of the stories trend in Elnashra**



Source: own elaboration

Europe native media

Mediapart

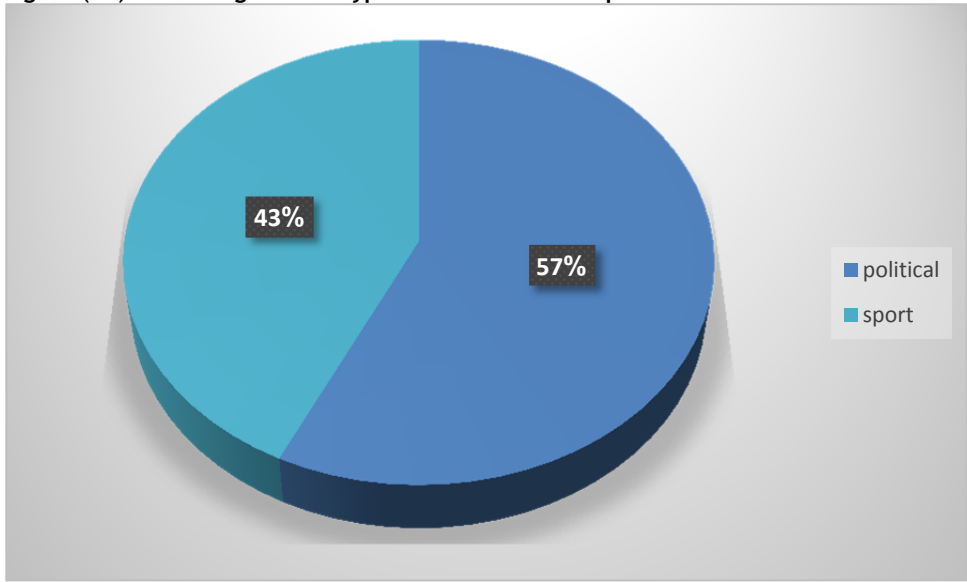
On the French site Mediapart, there was not much news about the Arab world, and it was divided into two sections: political news, 4 news stories with 57% of the news, and 3 sports stories with 43%.

Table (34) Type of stories in Mediapart

Mediapart						
Type of the news	Political	Health	Economy	Miscellaneous	Sport	Total
	4	0	0	0	3	7

Source: own elaboration

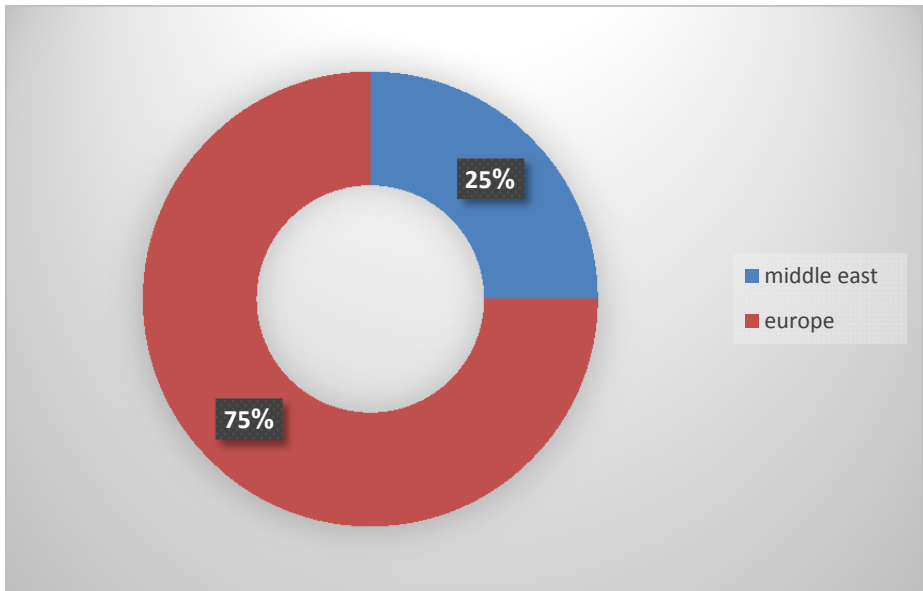
Figure (21) Percentage of the type of stories in Mediapart



Source: own elaboration

Political news was divided into 1 story about the Middle East with 25%, 3 stories about Europe with 75%. While the sport stories 3 stories about Middle East and 1 story about Europe.

**Figure (22) The political news in Mediapart**



**Source:** own elaboration

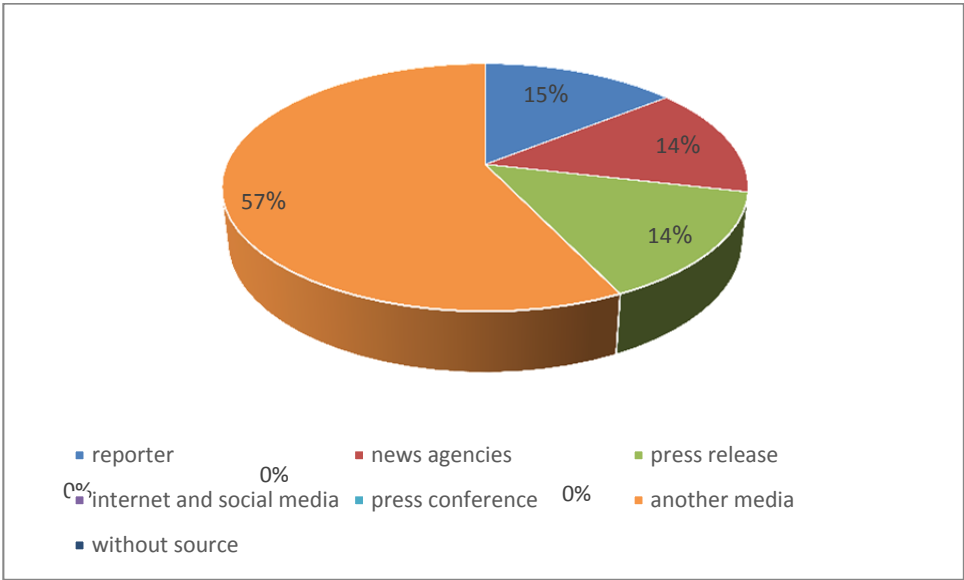
The news sources on Mediapart relied on another media with 4 stories with 57% of the total news, the rest of the sources were distributed on reporter, press release sites and news agencies.

Table (35) Source of the news in Mediapart

Source of the news	
Reporter	1
News agencies	1
Press release	1
Internet and social media	0
Press conference	0
Another media	4
Without source	0

Source: own elaboration

Figure (23) The stories sources in Mediapart



Source: own elaboration



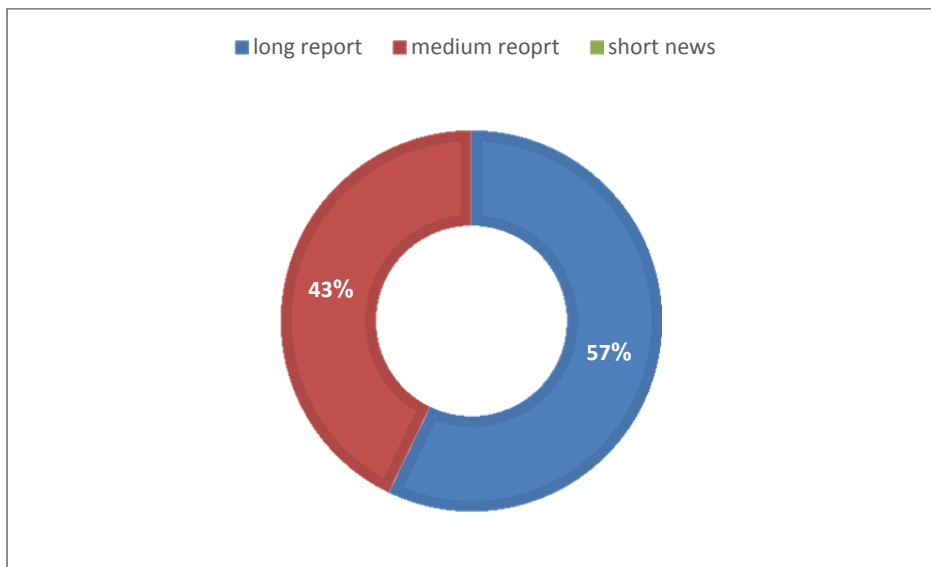
The length of the news on the site focused on long reports their number was 4 stories with 57% of stories and 3 stories was medium with 43%.

**Table (36) The length of the stories in Mediapart**

Length of news	
Long report	4
Medium report	3
Short news	0

Source: own elaboration

**Figure (24) The length of the stories in Mediapart**



Source: own elaboration

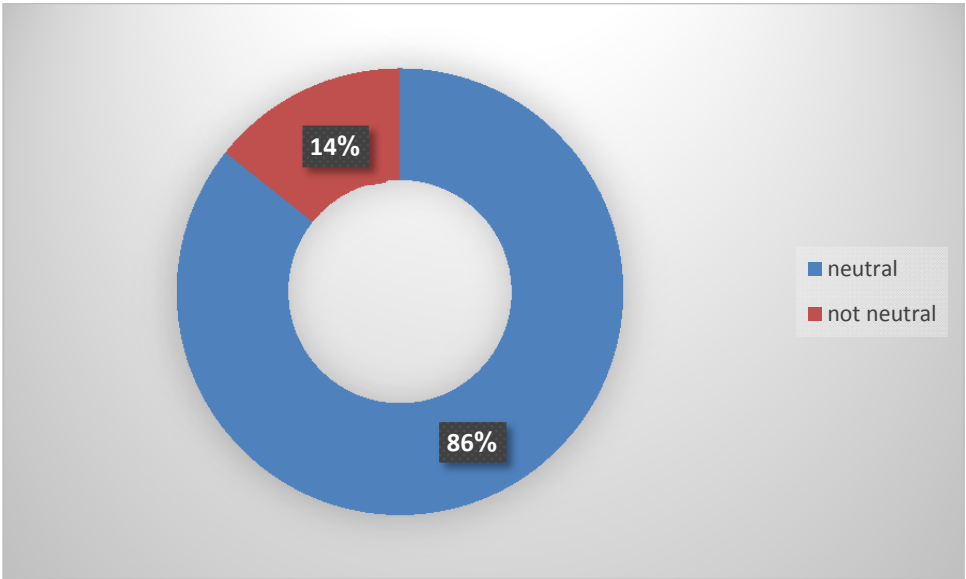
The trend of stories on Mediapart was neutral with 6 stories with 86% of the news stories that were published, while one report was not neutral with 14% of stories.

Table (37) Stories trend in Mediapart

Trend news	
Neutral	6
Not neutral	1
Somewhat neutral	0

Source: own elaboration

Figure (25) Trend percentage of the stories in Mediapart



Source: own elaboration

**Observador**

The political news in The Portuguese news site Observador topped over other news with 24 stories with a rate of 75%, 3 stories in health

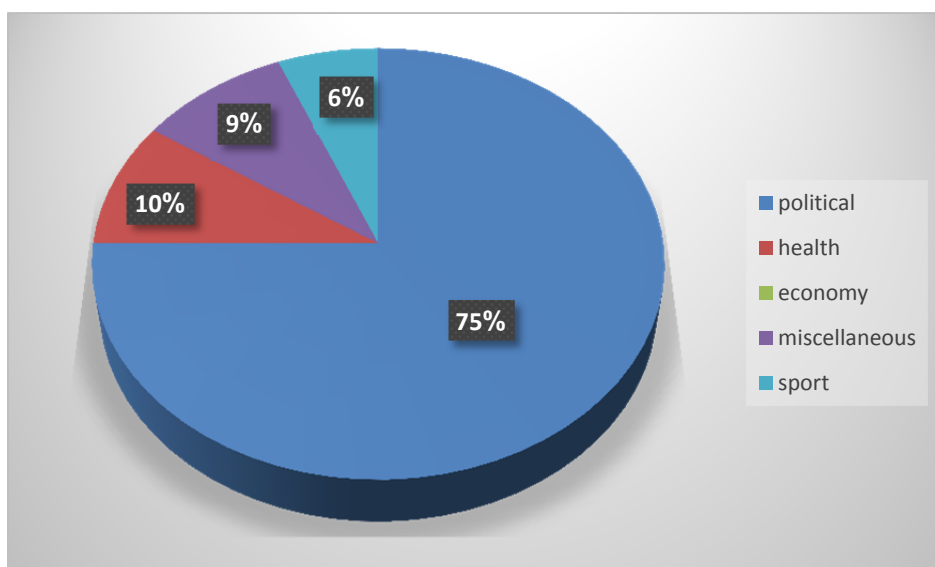
sector with 10%, 3 stories in miscellaneous sector with 9% and 2 stories in sport with 6%.

Table (38) stories Type in Observador

Observador						
Type of the news	Political	Health	Economy	Miscellaneous	Sport	Total
	24	3	0	3	2	32

Source: own elaboration

Figure (26) The percentage of the stories type in Observador



Source: own elaboration

Political news was divided into 17 stories about the Middle East with 63% of the stories, 4 stories about Europe with 15%, 3 stories about terrorism with 11% and 3 international stories with 11%.

Table (39) Political stories in Observador

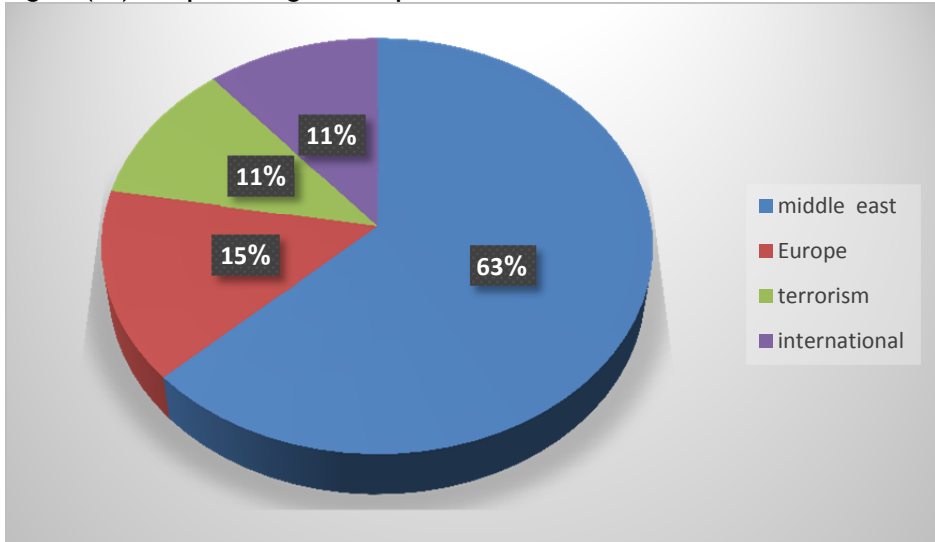
<b>Political news</b>	
<b>Middle east</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Terrorism</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>International</b>	<b>3</b>
Source: own elaboration	

Table (40) Health, miscellaneous and sport in Observador

<b>Health</b>		<b>Miscellaneous</b>		<b>Sport</b>	
<b>Middle east</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>Middle east</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Middle east</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Europe</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>Europe</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>International</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>International</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>International</b>	<b>0</b>

Source: own elaboration

**Figure (27) The percentage of the political stories in Observador**



**Source:** own elaboration

The figure above shows that the majority of stories it's about Middle East with 63% of the published stories, while 15% of the stories about Europe where they mention issues related to Arab or Muslim world.

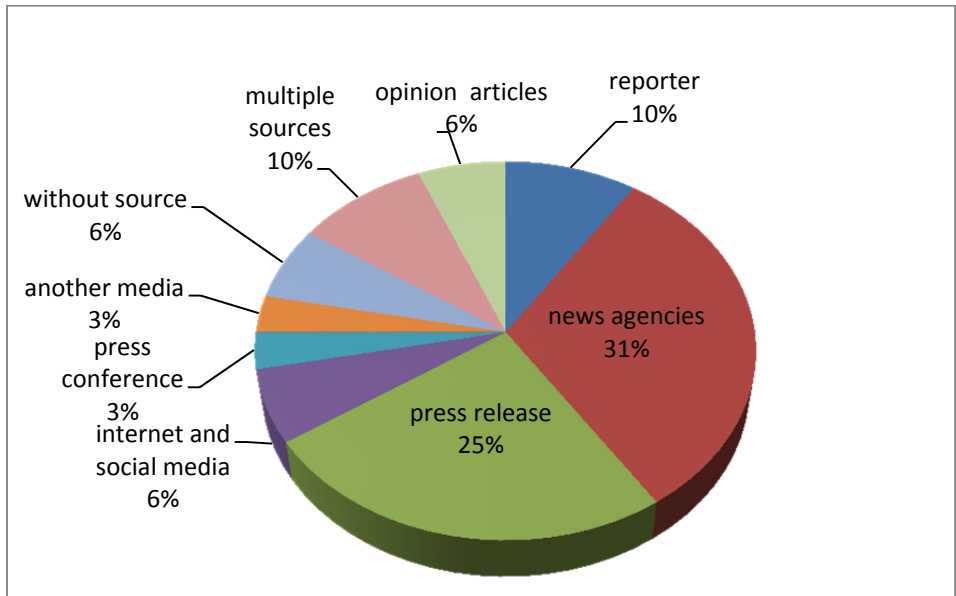
In the source of the stories, Observador relied on news agencies with 10 stories with 31% of total stories, 8 stories the source was press releases with 25%, while three stories from reporters with 10% of total stories.

**Table (41) Stories sources in Observador**

Source of the news	
Reporter	3
News agencies	10
Press release	8
Internet and social media	2
Press conference	1
Another media	1
Without source	2
Multiple sources	3
Opinion articles	2

Source: own elaboration

**Figure (28) The percentage of the stories sources in Observador**



Source: own elaboration

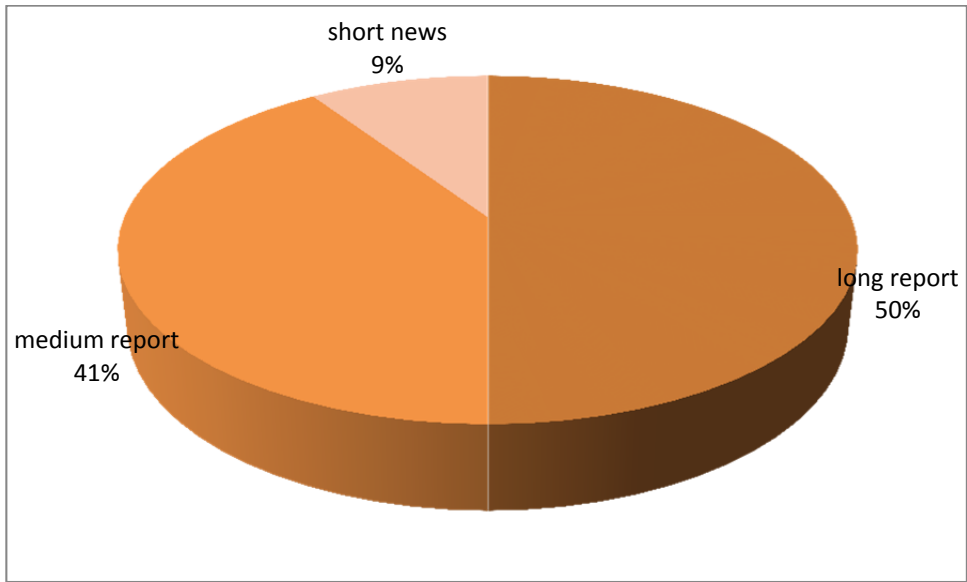
The length of the stories on the site focused on long reports with 16 stories with 50% of the stories, 15 stories was medium with 41% and 3 stories were short with 9%.

**Table (42) The length of the stories in Observador**

Length of news	
Long report	16
Medium report	13
Short news	3

Source: own elaboration

Figure (29) The percentage of the length in Observador



Source: own elaboration

The trend of stories on Observador website was neutral with 24 stories with 75% of the stories that were published, while 7 stories were somewhat neutral with 22% and one story were not neutral with 3% of the stories.

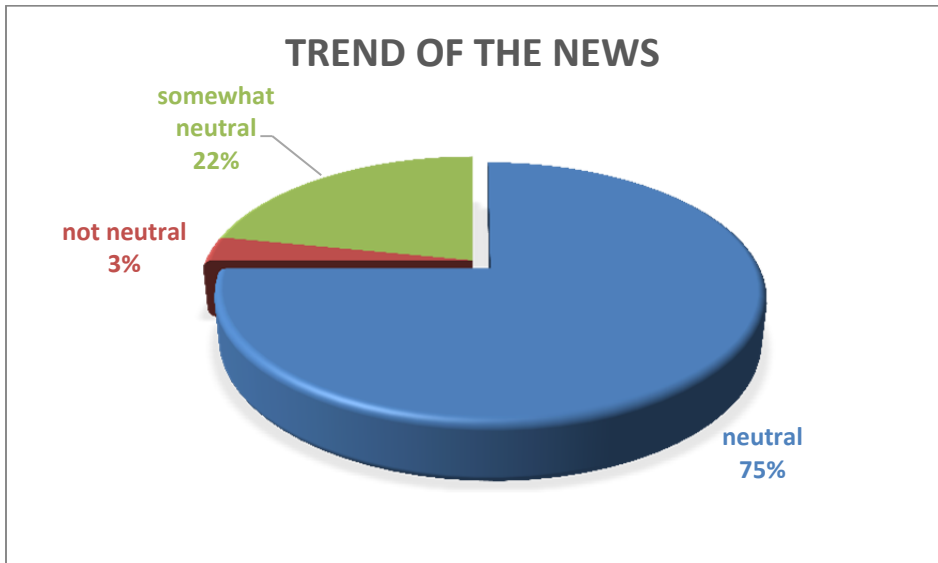
Table (43) Stories trend in Observador

Trend news	
Neutral	24
Not neutral	1
Somewhat neutral	7

Source: own elaboration



Figure (30) The trend percentage in Observador



Source: own elaboration

### Eldiario

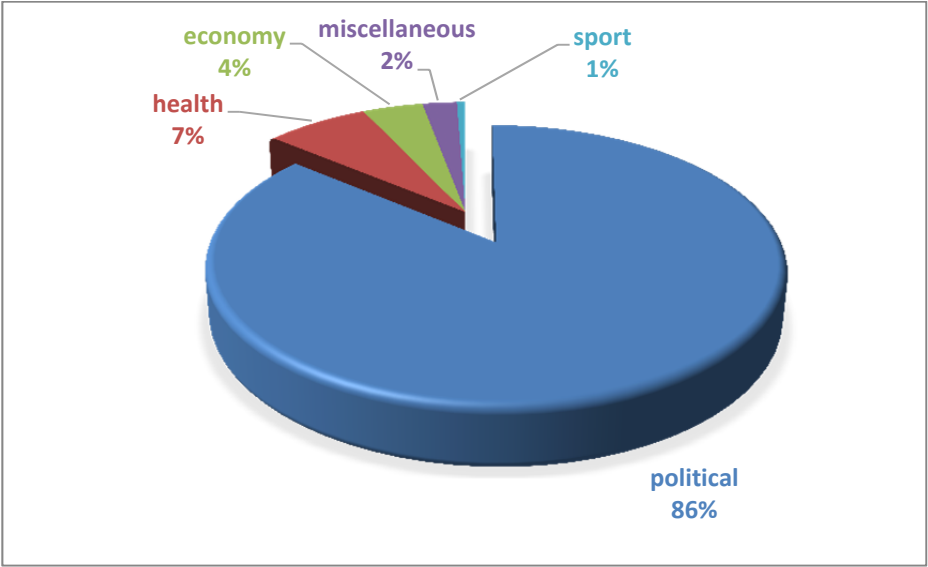
The political news in The Spanish news site Eldiario topped over other news with 148 stories with a rate of 86%, and 12 in the health sector with 7%, while the economic stories was 7 with 4% and 4 stories in miscellaneous with 2% and 1 story in sport with 1% of the stories.

Table (44) Stories type in Eldiario

Eldiario						
Type of the news	Political	Health	Economy	Miscellaneous	Sport	Total
	148	12	7	4	1	172

Source: own elaboration

Figure (31) Stories type percentage in Eldiario



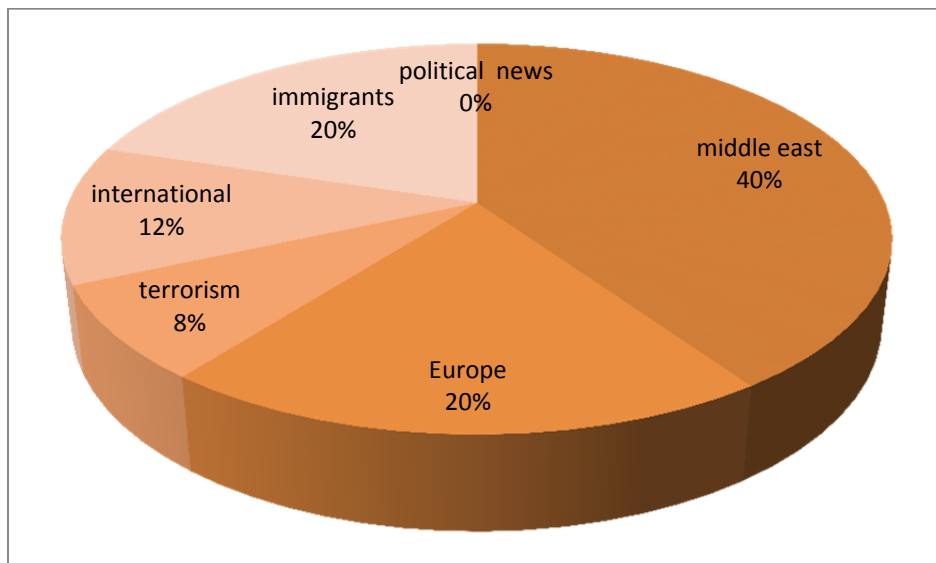
Source: own elaboration

Political news was divided into 88 stories about the Middle East with 40%, 44 stories about Europe with 20%, 44 stories about immigrants with 20%, 25 international stories with 12% and 17 stories about terrorism with 8% of the stories.

Table (45) Political stories in Eldiario

Political news	
Middle east	88
Europe	44
Terrorism	17
International	25
Immigrants	44

Source: own elaboration

**Figure (32) The political stories percentage in Eldiario**

Source: own elaboration

**Table (46) Health, economy and miscellaneous stories in Eldiario**

Health		Economy		Miscellaneous	
Middle east	7	Middle east	5	Middle east	3
Europe	3	Europe	0	Europe	1
International	2	International	1	International	0

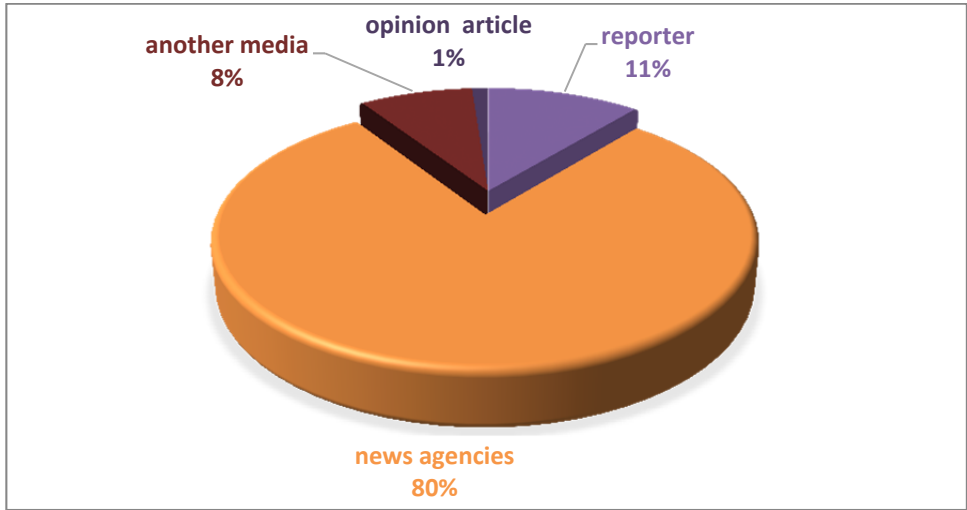
Source: own elaboration

The news sources on Eldiario relied heavily on news agencies 137 stories with 80% of the total news, and the stories that are the own worksite from reporters were 19 stories with 11%, and the rest of the sources were distributed on another media sites and opinion articles.

**Table (47) Stories sources in Eldiario**

Source of the news	
Reporter	19
News agencies	137
Another media	14
Opinion article	2
Source: own elaboration	

Figure (33) The percentage of the stories sources in Eldiario



Source: own elaboration

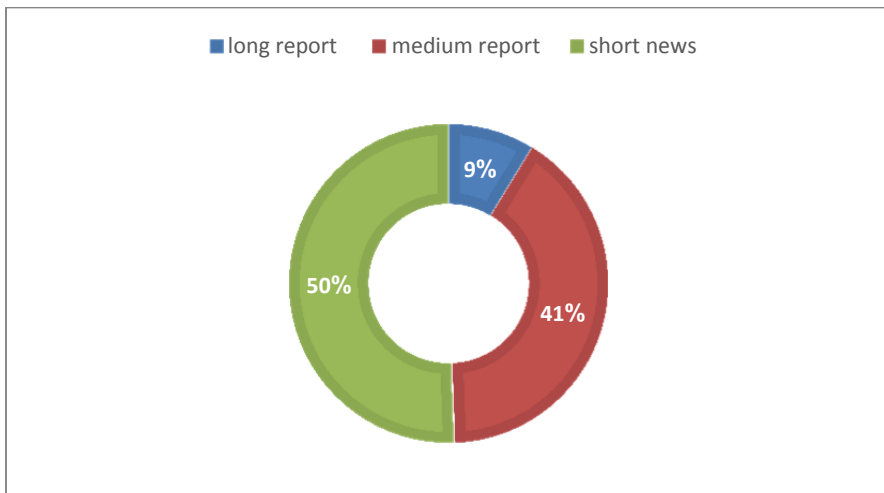
The stories length mostly concentrated between medium and short stories with 87 short stories with 50%, 70 stories medium with 41% and 15 stories long with 9% of the stories.

Table (48) Length of stories in Eldiario

Length of news	
Long report	15
Medium report	70
Short news	87

Source: own elaboration

Figure (34) The percentage of the length in Eldiario



Source: own elaboration

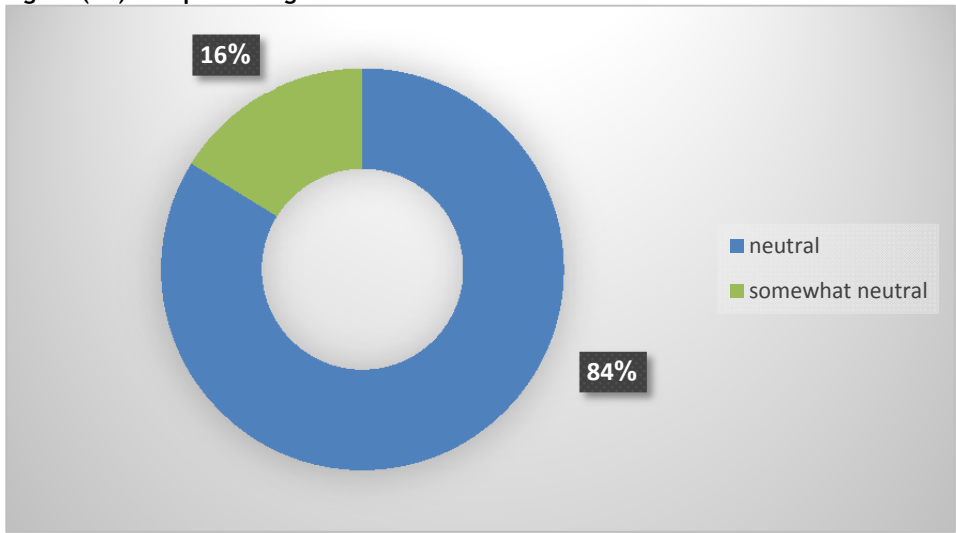
The trend of stories on the website was neutral with 145 stories with 84% of the stories that were published, and 27 stories were somewhat neutral with 16%.

Table (49) The stories trends in Eldiario

Trend news	
Neutral	145
Not neutral	0
Somewhat neutral	27

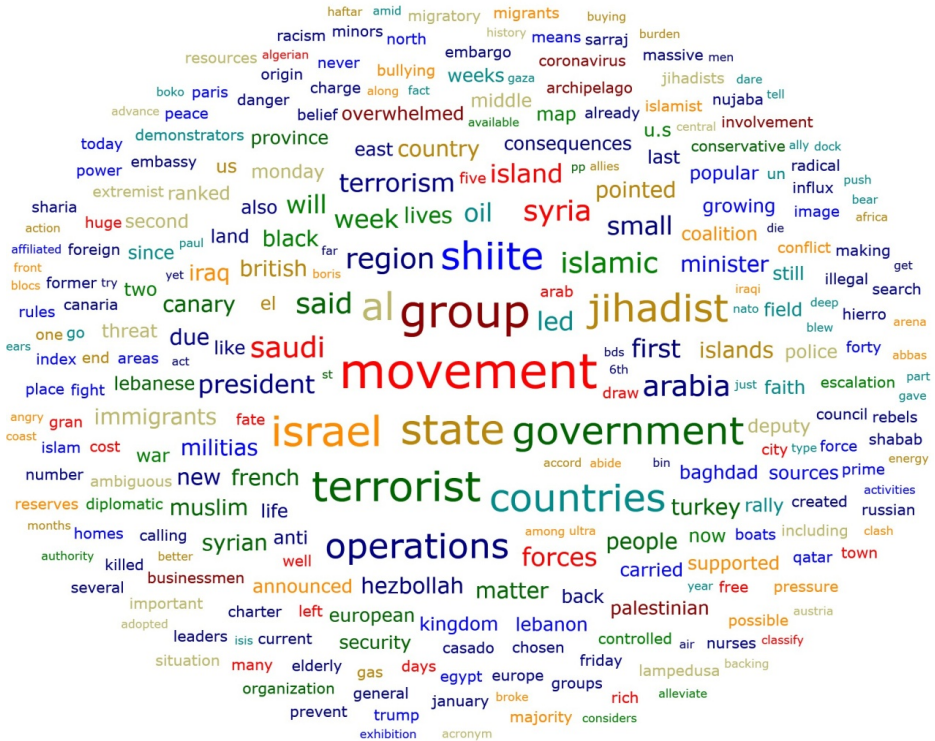
Source: own elaboration

Figure (35) The percentage of the trends in Eldiario



Source: own elaboration

## 4.2. The descriptive approach



In this section, we review the descriptive analysis of the news that was considered non-neutral or somewhat neutral (Only negative news), according to the text of the news or the words that were used by the digital native media. Where the descriptive approach, as we mentioned in the previous definitions, describes the phenomenon or monitors and follows up an event in a quantitative or qualitative manner, with the aim of evaluating and reaching a specific judgment on a particular topic Al-Mashhadani, (2017). Al Assaf, (1989).

Also, in this section, we designed analysis tables for each site separately and separately to clarify the text of the news and the words

that were used with reference to the date of publication and some additional notes on the news, in addition to illustrations linking this news with the codes of the text content (hate speech and stereotype) by using the ATLAS.ti9 program.

### **The six digital native media**

In the Arab digital native media, it is noted that the stereotypes in the news are not about Europe or Europeans, but the stereotypes and negative images presented by the media it's about the Arab countries themselves and the same region, which also includes Iran and Turkey, as these countries are part of the conflict in the Middle East, as well as Yemen and Libya.

In European digital native media, it is noted that stereotypes focus on Islam, Jihad, and Arabs, and their connection to terrorism. The description of Jihad and the Islamic state abounds, with contradictions in considering it sometimes terrorism or considering it Jihad and the members are they fighters, Jihadists, or terrorists? The Arab world presented in somewhat bleak due to conflicts and wars. The vast majority of news is focused on conflicts in Arab countries, ways to solve through Europe, and fighting terrorism, in addition to the issue of illegal immigration and somewhat focus on mentioning the nationality of immigrants.

According to studies in the second chapter Theoretical Framework Vicente et al. (2010) cleared that stereotypes about Arabs come from stories spread by the media, and these stereotypes are a perception maintains about someone or something (Abd-alrahman, 2020), also, stereotypes cover ethnic, political, gender, and even demographic groups (Bordalo et al., 2016). And there is no single clear and definitive definition of hate speech (Sap et al., 2019), Prism Project (2015) considered it as toxic language.

Also, Stereotypes and Media strategies lead to fear of Islam and Muslims by producing negative images of Arabs and the Arab world and presenting the other in a stereotypical image that distorts them and links them to backwardness and terrorism (Hamada, (2001); (Belkhiri



& Haroun, (2019). In Arab media, the statements from political parties and the political official became part of spread hate speech and stereotype, (Iraqi media house, 2018; Touma & Zaghbour, 2020; Mikhael (2018); Human Rights Watch (2017); Ben-David & Matamoros-Fernández, 2016; Wodak, 2002; Herrera, 2014; Cammaerts, 2009; Yamaguchi, 2013; Rooduijn, 2014) clarified that the media and political party officials are part of spreading hate speech towards the other and we noted that in Baghdad Today and Elnashra.

Also, the media in the Arabic world is influenced by political events like the Arab spring (Douai, 2019). In addition to relying on the Lebanese media to publish news about Syrian refugees as well, which may carry hate speech and stereotypes as we noted in the story about a Syrian refugees in Lebanon published in Baghdadtoday, as (Aljazeera Media Institute, 2019; Saghie et al., 2019; Mena media monitoring, 2020; Mendel et al., 2018) and Sadaka et al. (2015) indicated.

In Elaph, the reporter stories about minorities and the report in Baghdad Today about neighborhoods in Baghdad carry stereotypes against a group of people as the studies (Delgado & Stefancic, 1992; Rolando et al., 2015; Lillian, 2007; Dixon, 2017; Teo, 2000) indicate racism and stereotype against black people, Latinos, Asian and gender.

Confusion between terrorism and Jihad concepts can be noted in Elaph, They don't use one description, this mix between Jihad as an Islamic concept and terrorism may carry false assumptions about religion and ridicule about practices as Aguilera-Carnerero and Azeez (2016) found. Also, linked the Jihad concept to terrorism is related to western media definition which made Muslims and Arabs are "violent, unstable" because the word "Jihad" is associated with violence as Aguilera-Carnerero and Azeez (2016) indicate.

The Arabic digital native media focuses on Arabic issues or local issues in the first place as (El Sarayrah, 1986; Falah et al., 2006; Dagher, 2012) indicate in their studies. Also, the Palestinian – Israeli conflict in the three media mentioned in the political statements or press releases or news agencies and the stories was neutral, no anti-

Semitism or descriptions as an enemy only in a political statement from political parties or political officials and this is match (Obermann & Dijkink, 2008; Sandra Whitehead, 1987; Noakes & Wilkins, 2002) studies mentioned that the media converge about Palestinian- Israeli conflict was changed.

In Mediapart, the language used by the reporter is close to the stereotype that (Shaheen (2003); Shaheen (1985); Shaheen (1994) indicate in his studies. Also, close to what Stockton (1994) found that image about Arab related to cultural roots and ancient conflicts, George (2014) also mentioned the journalists role when they cover events which made them face a challenge to "Distinguishing between hate speech and hate spin" so the journalists must defend freedom of expression without neglecting the role of ethical codes of conduct. T. Van Dijk (1992) explains that accusations and suspicions of bias and direct and indirect racist attitudes may be denied by resorting to justifications and we cannot overlook the headlines because they are not random labels.

Again, the confusion between terrorism and Jihad concepts also we can see it in Observador and Eldiario with their reports about terrorist groups or terrorist fighters in Arab countries, they don't use one description (Jihad, terrorism, Jihadist, fighters, terrorist, Daesh, ISIS, and Islamic state), this mix between Jihad as an Islamic concept and terrorism link Muslims and Arabs to violence as Aguilera-Carnerero and Azeez (2016) found. Also, this description may raise Islamophobia against Muslims and Arabs (Sweeney & Opatow, 2013), (Aguilera-Carnerero & Azeez, 2016), (Chetty & Alathur, 2018). In addition, the two media sites use "Shiite" as a description to groups in Lebanon, Iraq, and Yemen in also Eldiario use "Jewish state" which is religious descriptions these descriptions in the Arab world carry discriminations against minorities as (Iraqi media house, 2018; Human Rights Watch, 2017; Mikhael, 2018) mentioned.

Also, Eldiario focuses on the migrant crisis by clarifying the nationality of the majority of them, they are Arabs from Morocco, this issue is a rich topic to political parties in Europe as Muhammad

(2019) mentioned. In the same issue, the statements from political parties about migrants can be connected to the fear of migrants and refugees as (Soukah, 2017; Corrales, 2004; Georgiou & Zaborowski, 2017) mentioned in their studies. also, he political parties' statements carry hate speech and stereotypes against migrants which made it related to the influence of some parties in Europe as studies indicate (Ben-David & Matamoros-Fernández, 2016; Wodak, 2002; Herrera 2014; Cammaerts, 2009; Yamaguchi, 2013; Rooduijn, 2014; Hanson-Easey & Augoustinos, 2010).

**Baghdadtoday:** The site focused on local news more than on European news, and the news was somewhat neutral, non-neutral, and neutral, distributed between local, international, and Arab news.

The neutral "positive" news on Baghdad Today was 22 stories with 79%, and the non-neutral "negative" news was two with 7%, and the somewhat neutral news that contained statements or descriptions that could be considered "negative" was 4 stories with 14%

Media	Week/ News	Main words/ sentences	Notes
	First week/ five news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The US Embassy is a direct target</li> <li>- targeting soldiers, Marines who are in the US embassy in central Baghdad</li> <li>- the US military presence is a goal for us in Iraq</li> <li>- The American embassy in Baghdad is a military base and a spy den</li> <li>- thousands of Marines inside it, and it is a very big target</li> <li>- the great fruit of the martyrs' blood will be the demise of Israel</li> <li>- revenge for the blood of the martyrs will be seismic when the missiles rain down on their heads</li> </ul>	
Baghdadtoday	Second week/ first news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Iraq ranked first, of the number of terrorist operations in 14 states (repeated 3 times)</li> <li>- Somalia ranked second</li> <li>- Syria and India" ranked fourth on the terrorism index</li> </ul>	
Baghdadtoday	Second week/ third news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the American terrorist (repeated 3 times)</li> <li>- the danger of US policies</li> </ul>	
Baghdadtoday	Fifth week/third news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- We lost 2000 megawatts in just 3 days due to terrorism</li> <li>- the losses resulting from the attacks</li> <li>- the accident was accidental</li> </ul>	Inconsistency in the official statements

<b>Baghdadtoday</b>	Sixth week/ third news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Trump threatens: Terrorists are burning our cities</li> <li>- US President Donald Trump threatened</li> <li>- Trump said on Twitter that "terrorists burn and loot our cities"</li> <li>- Durkan: any sweep of the city would be unconstitutional and illegal</li> </ul>	The statement themselves are negative and the site relied on one version of the opinions
<b>Baghdadtoday</b>	Seventh week/ first news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Checking the data of the people of north Baghdad</li> <li>- purifying them of "terrorism"</li> <li>- purge those areas of terrorist organizations</li> <li>- cleanse them of terrorist organizations remnants of ISIS</li> <li>- terrorist groups north of Baghdad</li> </ul>	The statement set a stereotype about the people in some areas in Baghdad and link them to terrorism
<b>Baghdadtoday</b>	Eighth week/ first news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- A suicide bomber blows himself up in a Syrian refugee camp</li> <li>- Lebanese media reported</li> <li>- Syrian person blew himself up</li> <li>- "We do not know until this moment if the explosion was caused by a bomb or if the young man blew himself up"</li> </ul>	As we mentioned in the theoretical framework, studies have monitored hate and racist discourse towards Syrian refugees in Lebanon, which can be considered this news in the same context because of the mayor statement

As the Table (50) above showed the stories we found it carrying words, sentences and descriptions with stereotype about Iraq and statement contain hate speech may lead to hate speech or violence

Source: own elaboration

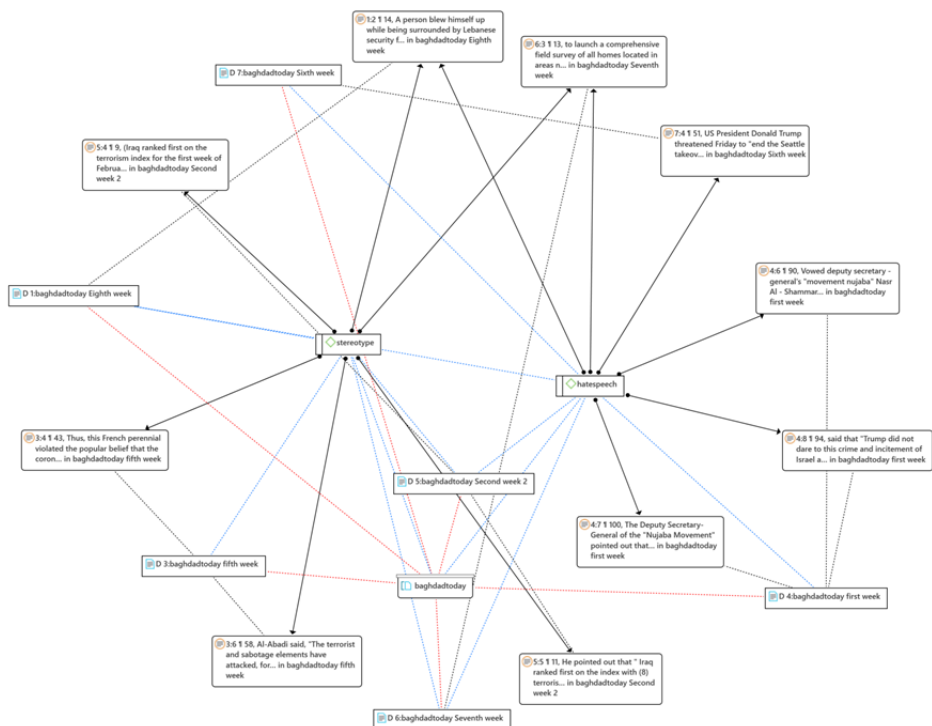
The fifth news in the second week was somewhat neutral, its statement by the leader of a political party in Iraq, he threatens the United States by targeting the US embassy in Baghdad, the statement came after the assassination of Iranian general Qassim Sulimani in Baghdad airport. The political leader used words and descriptions that we can consider as hate speech and also lead to hate speech and violence, as: "The American embassy in Baghdad is a military base and a spy den", "thousands of Marines inside it, and it is a very big target", "the great fruit of the martyrs' blood will be the demise of Israel", "revenge for the blood of the martyrs will be seismic when the missiles rain down on their heads".

The first news in the second week was somewhat neutral; the report was a press release by the Egyptian Dar Al Iftaa. Again the site chosen from the statement the Iraqi local issue, the news focuses on the stereotype about Iraq and links it to terrorism, terrorist groups, and bombings. The statement mentioned 14 countries but the site chose 8 countries, most of which are Arab and Islamic. Also, the statement to the Iranian foreign minister Javad Zarif was mentioned the American terrorist three times when he described the assassination of Iranian general Qassim Sulimani.

The third story from The sixth week, reporting the events of the demonstrations in Seattle and the statements of former US President Trump about them the site relied on several sources for the news (Twitter, the Internet, other media sites, and news agencies), and all of this was in one direction and did not provide a comprehensive picture of the event, which makes the coverage not impartial.

Two non-neutral news reported by the site, was the first news in the seventh week, quoting an Iraqi official about raids described as "cleansing" neighborhoods in the Iraqi capital, Baghdad, in addition to linking the people of these neighborhoods to terrorism and terrorist groups. This news presents a stereotyped image of these neighborhoods and creates hate speech around them.

The second news, in the eighth week, was short news about a Syrian refugee in Lebanon. The website relied on the description of the Lebanese media that the refugee was a suicide bomber, while the official statements did not refer to that, and as we mentioned in the theoretical framework about the Lebanese media, these coverage's and descriptions create stereotypes and hate speech towards the Syrian refugees in Lebanon.



**Figure (36)** Baghdadtoday stories words, sentences by weeks. Source: own elaboration by ATLAS.ti9

## **Elnashra**

On Elnashra, the number of news items that were considered somewhat neutral was six. The website committed itself to transmit statements, but the statements themselves bear stereotyped images that may create hate speech towards some groups.

The neutral "positive" news on Elnashra was 74 stories with 92%, and the somewhat neutral news that contained statements or descriptions that could be considered "negative" was 6 stories with 8%.

The second news in the second week carried statements by the Austrian Foreign Minister, who considered that terrorism and illegal immigration are the most serious threats to Austria, which can be considered as stereotypes and hate speech about immigrants as a threat to his country. In the second news of the sixth week, the news dealt with the statements of the British Prime Minister, who described the demonstrators as thugs, in addition to talking about a "clash" between the extreme right and anti-racism demonstrators, which can be considered as a form of stereotypes about one of the parties.



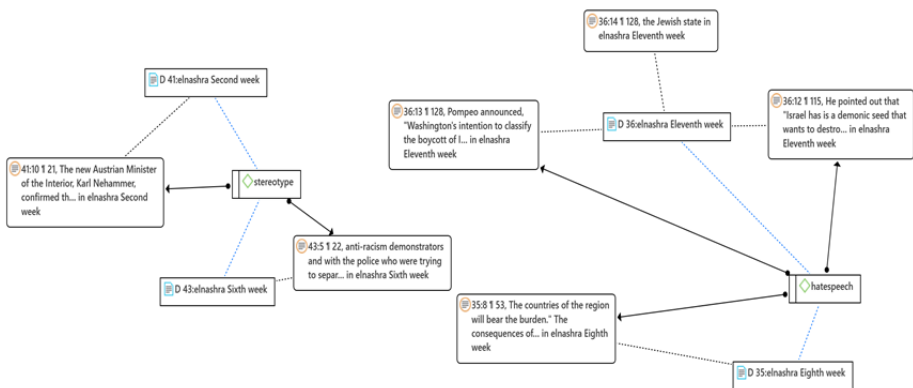
Media	Week/ News	Main words/ sentences	Notes
Elnashra	second week/ second news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- facing terrorism and human trafficking</li> <li>- confront with all force the dangers of terrorism, and combat human trafficking and illegal immigration</li> <li>- he stressed that it is important to combat organized crime in all its forms and deter its perpetrators</li> <li>- the person concerned to leave the country even if there were humanitarian considerations prevent</li> </ul>	The site indicate in the title and introduction about confronting terrorism and human trafficking, but when conveying the statement this was not indicate
Elnashra	sixth week/ second news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- clash of far-right protesters</li> <li>- with anti-racism demonstrators</li> <li>- racist bullying has no place in our streets</li> <li>- The clashes, skirmishes</li> </ul>	
Elnashra	seventh week/ third news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>al-Mudallam</i>: Syria is on the map, but Europe is not yet (repeated twice)</li> </ul>	
Elnashra	eighth week/ sixth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Emirati normalization with Israel is a serious strategic mistake</li> <li>- the Zionist entity, the Zionist regime</li> <li>- The Islamic world will not forget the betrayal of Al-Quds Al-Sharif</li> <li>- Israel is too small to pose a threat to</li> </ul>	

					Iran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- the UAE bears responsibility for any threat posed by Israel in the Gulf region</li><li>- The countries of the region will bear the consequences of any miscalculation resulting from normalization with Israel</li></ul>
Elnashra	eleventh week/	tenth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Naim Qassem: Israel is a demonic seed</li><li>- We are facing a usurping Israeli entity</li><li>- the arm of the West in all of our region and our lives</li><li>- Israel has is a demonic seed</li><li>- The Arab rulers, especially the Gulf used some humanitarian aid as a cover for their crime</li></ul>			
Elnashra	eleventh news	week/	eleventh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- the boycott of Israel movement as an anti-Semitic organization</li><li>- this movement as a "cancer"</li></ul>	The former US secretary of state presents hate speech and stereotype anti-Semitism to those who criticized Israel	

As the Table (51) above showed the stories we found it carrying words, sentences and descriptions with stereotype and hate speech. Source: own elaboration

The statements of Syrian Foreign Minister Walid al-Moallem in the third news of the seventh week can be considered as carrying hate speech about Europe, specifically when he said "Why do you remind me to put Syria back on the map? Syria is on the map, but Europe is not back yet."

The news also focused on the UAE-Israel peace agreement by publishing 8 news about it, including the sixth news in the eighth week, which transmitted statements to the Iranian Foreign Ministry, which indicated: "The Zionist entity" and that "the UAE is responsible for any threat posed by Israel in the Gulf region," and considered the agreement "a betrayal of Al-Quds Al-Sharif." As an official in the Lebanese Hezbollah also described Israel's "entity" as a "diabolical planting", which may be considered a hate speech, especially because that it was issued by an official in a party that is in a state of hostility with Israel and has been classified as a "terrorist organization" in several countries. Also Former US Secretary of State Pompeo accused the boycott of Israel movement of being a "cancer" and anti-Semitic, which can be considered hate speech towards this movement.



**Figure (37) Elnashra stories words, sentences by weeks.** Source: own elaboration by ATLAS.ti9

## Elaph

Elaph also relied on official statements, and the language of these statements and the words used to refer to a hate speech towards the other. The neutral "positive" news on Elaph was 75 stories with 77%, and the somewhat neutral news that contained statements or descriptions that could be considered "negative" was 23 stories with 23%.

From this news: The first news of the second week of the Bulgarian nationalist movement, which spoke of an exhibition "insulting" and "highlights the impact of Islam on Christianity."

Hate speech is not issued directly from news websites, but rather through the transmission of official statements by parties, personalities, and officials without editing these statements or ignoring the hate content that is being broadcasted, which indirectly leads to the creation of hate speech and stereotypes towards the other.

Elaph correspondent in several reports, used language conveying stereotyped images about the other, such as the fourth report in the second week, where he talked about the deportation of Jamaicans from Britain and indicated that the arrivals from the Commonwealth countries work as "manual laborers and cleaners".

The reporter also referred in his report in the third week to the nationality of a person accused of terrorism of "Libyan origin", which reinforces the stereotype about Arabs and terrorism. The fifth news in the eighth week was linked to the violence with the extreme right, describing it as "bullying" for its defense of statues representing figures considered by the demonstrators in "Black Lives Matter" to be racist figures. The statements in the sixth, eighth and tenth news of the same week, linking violence to the Black Lives Matter movement, and talking about the hijacking of protests, described the actions of the demonstrators as "ridiculous, shameful and mob", according to officials.

In a report to AFP published in the fifth week described the Spanish opposition as similar to the Corona epidemic, considering that “fighting the opposition is similar to fighting Corona.”

As for the fourth news, in the sixth week, it described the turbulent conditions in some Arab countries such as Libya, Iraq, Syria, and Yemen, which reinforce stereotypes that link these countries in terms of turmoil.

The reports focus on the term "Jihadists" instead of referring to terrorists or extremists, as in the second news in the seventh week and the seventh news in the ninth week, where it used once "Jihadists" and once "foreign fighters", "foreign Jihadists" and "Jihadist children." In the fifth news of the tenth week, the language of the new British intelligence chief bore stereotypes by linking terrorism to Islam, such as "radical Islamic terrorism" as one of the most prominent activities hostile to Britain.

Nor did the news that referred to Israel carry any hateful or anti-Semitic rhetoric, the second news item in the eighth week highlighted Israel and did not refer to the West Bank, but rather used the term “authority.” In the eighth news of the ninth week, the report referred to the “Hebrew state” three times. The same description was used in the seventh news of the tenth week, as Saudi Arabia was described as a "rich oil country." The tenth news item in the tenth week described Israel as the "enemy" and "Hezbollah, whom Washington sees as an arm of Iran and classifies it as a terrorist."

Media	Week/ News	Main words/ sentences	Notes
Elaph	First week/ first news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- That its judicial system aims to "crush the will of individuals, not prosecute them."</li> <li>- Do you know that your government deliberately wanted to crush Ghosn?</li> <li>- in a Hollywood scenario</li> </ul>	
Elaph	Second week/ first news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- an "insult" to the country</li> <li>- The exhibition as "humiliating", highlighting "the influence of Islam on Christianity"</li> </ul>	
Elaph	Second week/ fourth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Javid confirmed: "Everyone on board is a foreign criminal"</li> <li>- They are not British</li> <li>- trying to protect the public from serious and violent foreign offenders</li> <li>- Many arrivals from the Caribbean or the Commonwealth became manual laborers, janitors, drivers or nurses, and nurses</li> </ul>	
Elaph	Third week/fourth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Libyan Hisham Al-Obaidi</li> <li>- Hisham Al-Obaidi (of Libyan origin)</li> </ul>	
Elaph	Fifth week/ first news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The government in Spain is responding to</li> </ul>	

		<p>the epidemic and the opposition the minority government in Spain seems forced to fight on two fronts: against the emerging Corona virus and an uncompromising opposition</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Pablo Casado of the Popular Party calls Sanchez a "liar"</li> <li>- santiago abascal, the leader of the country's third party, Vox, describes the socialist leader as "a charlatan responsible for the high death toll"</li> </ul>
Elaph	Sixth week/ fourth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Libya, which is witnessing a conflict between the Government of National Accord led by Fayez al-Sarraj and recognized by the United Nations and supported by Turkey, and the forces of Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar, supported especially by Egypt, the UAE, and Russia.</li> </ul>
Elaph	Sixth week/ fifth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the battle of "Trafalgar", this was one of the headlines of the British newspapers on its website</li> <li>- the clashes between the police forces and the many contradictory groups</li> <li>- a group described as right-wing</li> <li>- the (Trafalgar) field, which witnessed some of the clashes today</li> <li>- Patel described the clashes with police as "totally unacceptable thuggery"</li> <li>- far-right violence</li> </ul> <p>Trafalgar: the Marine battle which broke out between the English fleet against the French and Spanish fleets</p>

Elaph	Sixth week/ sixth news	-	far-right bullying groups	The statements in the news are all criticizing the leader of the Trotskyist Socialist Workers' Party (SWP)
		-	fingers point to the involvement of a radical left-wing group in kidnapping the protest movement	
		-	involved in kidnapping protests and inciting violence	
		-	the fringe left-wing party for trying to control the "important black movement"	
		-	it "could turn the British against the anti-racist movement"	
		-	"trying to draw attention"	
		-	concerns mounted about repeat vandalism, clashes with police	
		-	violence between Black Lives Matter activists and far-right groups	
Elaph	Sixth week/ seventh news	-	Johnson: the protests had been "hijacked" by extremists	
		-	Soames: a "very small, very barbaric group of people" was responsible for the vandalism and were "behaving in an unspeakable and cowardly manner"	
		-	The Daily Telegraph: "the statue of Churchill and the Cenotaph of our National War could be disfigured in such a disgusting way"	
		-	to avoid clashes with far-right groups	
		-	to prevent any possible violence at Black Lives Matter protests"	
		-		
		-		
		-		
Elaph	Sixth week/ eighth news	-		
		-		



- it could lead to clashes with far-right groups
- to avoid a repeat of last week's violent clashes with police
- Johnson's protests that break the controlled social distancing and have been "unfortunately hijacked by violent extremists"
- Javid: criminality will not be tolerated

<b>Elaph</b>	Sixth week/ tenth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Johnson decides: Shame is messing with our history</li> <li>- Johnson criticized what he described as the "ridiculous and shameful"</li> <li>- Johnson accused London Mayor Sadiq Khan of "handing over" the capital's streets "to the mob"</li> <li>- being attacked by violent protesters</li> <li>- Mayor Khan's appeasement of the mob</li> <li>- the rise of the statues was an "absolute disgrace"</li> <li>- is exactly what extremist elements want to do</li> <li>- Succumbing to the mob</li> <li>- we can't allow the mob to take over</li> </ul>	All the statement from Conservative MP
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<b>Elaph</b>	Seventh week/ second news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- crush the remnants of the Islamic State (ISIS)</li> <li>- many British jihadists</li> <li>- forced jihadists to take refuge in a building</li> </ul>	The site repeat Islamic state without mention it's a terrorist organization and
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- found jihadists hiding in caves</li><li>- British jihadists</li><li>- the British Ministry of Defense: successful strikes against terrorists</li></ul>	called the fighter as "jihadist" while the minister of defense said it's against terrorist
Elaph	Eighth week/ second news	- British Foreign Secretary visits Israel and "the Authority"	The title ignore Palestine
Elaph	Ninth week/ fifth news	- where rebels broke out from City Council Hall	Describe the protest as rebels
Elaph	Ninth week/ seventh news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Jihadists</li><li>- the fate of foreign jihadist fighters</li><li>- foreign fighters</li><li>- to reintegrate former foreign fighters into their societies</li><li>- the reintegration of these former jihadists into their societies</li><li>- children of jihadists</li><li>- foreign jihadist fighters</li></ul>	No stability on one description between jihadist and fighter or saying terrorist
Elaph	Ninth week/ eighth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- controlled by the Islamic movement</li><li>- the Hebrew state (repeated 3 times)</li></ul>	
Elaph	Tenth week/ fifth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The 27 disruptive terrorist attacks that stopped eight of them were right-wing extremists</li><li>- extremist Islamic terrorism</li><li>- as radical Islamic terrorism</li><li>- the growing threat of right-wing</li></ul>	

		extremism
Elaph	Tenth week/ seventh week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Jewish state</li> <li>- the wealthy oil kingdom</li> </ul>
Elaph	Tenth week/ tenth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- two countries at war</li> <li>- the Israeli enemy</li> <li>- Hezbollah, which is Israel's archenemy</li> <li>- Hezbollah, which Washington sees as an arm of Iran and classifies it as a "terrorist"</li> </ul>
Elaph	Eleventh week/ fourth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- against separatism and radical Islam and after the two jihadist attacks</li> <li>- to purify it from foreign influence</li> <li>- extremism and political tendencies</li> </ul>
Elaph	Eleventh week/ fifth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- his speech in early October against separatism and radical Islam</li> <li>- the two jihadist attacks</li> </ul>
Elaph	Eleventh week/ eighth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Britain has the largest defense spending</li> <li>- Britain is promoting the restoration of its position on the world stage</li> <li>- the largest investment in its armed forces</li> <li>- the largest defense spender in Europe</li> <li>- the largest foreign and defense policy review in three decades</li> <li>- the second-largest in NATO</li> </ul>
Elaph	Twelfth week/ twelfth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Hamas, which Israel considers a "terrorist" movement, took control of Gaza</li> </ul>

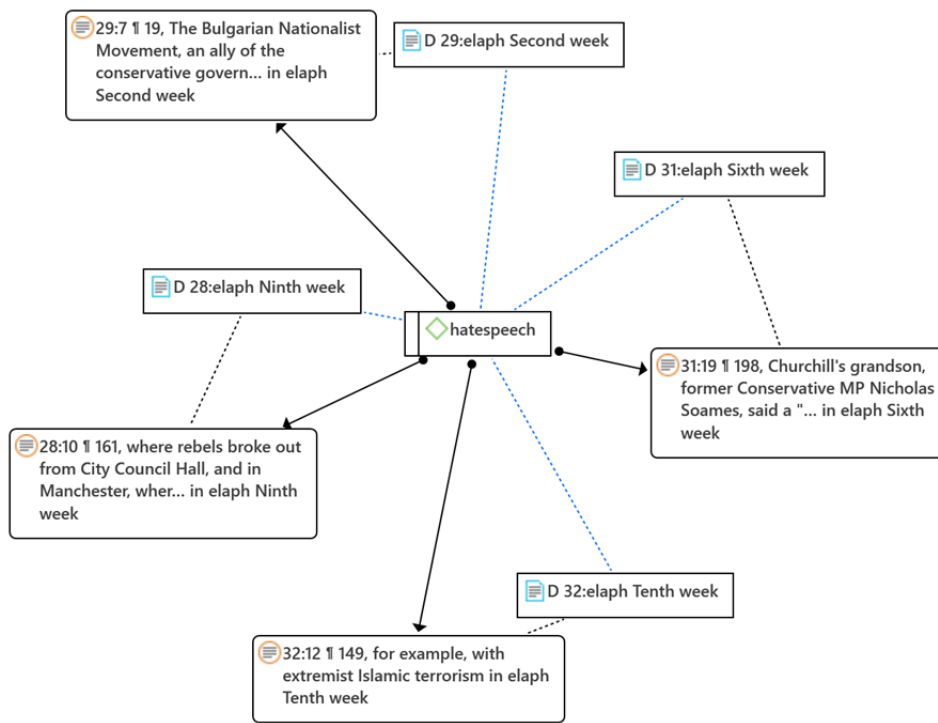
Elaph	Twelfth news	week/	fourteenth	-	the Hamas-controlled sector
				-	an Israeli aggression
				-	t claimed showed the air defenses repelling the Israeli attack

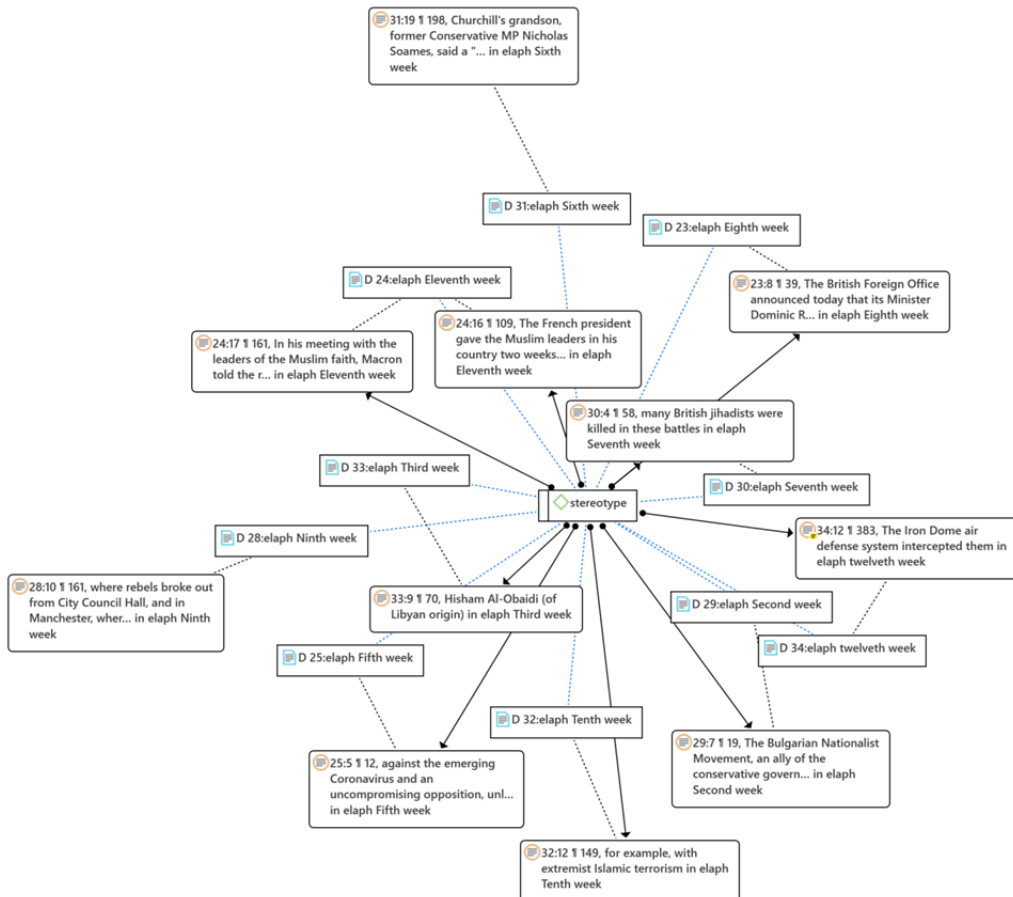
As the table (52) above showed the stories we found it carrying words, sentences and descriptions with stereotype and hate speech. Source: own elaboration

In the twelfth week, the twelfth and fourteenth news stories about Israel used in the first story "the terrorist Hamas," which was not used in previous news. In the second news, the site adhered to the descriptions used by the Syrian News Agency from the descriptions of "enemy" and "aggression", and the site used the word "alleged", an Arabic word that carries the meaning of skepticism.

In a set of reports on France, which is the first news in the eleventh week and the fourth and fifth news of the same week, the reports dealt with the charter of the republic, but it is clear that France focused on the Islamic religion, unlike other religions, which shows it as an extremist religion and creates stereotypes and hate speech towards it.

**Figure (38)** Elaph stories words, sentences by weeks. Source: own elaboration by ATLAS.ti9





**Figure (39) Elaph stories words, sentences by weeks.** Source: own elaboration by ATLAS.ti9

## Observador

The neutral "positive" news on the Observador was 24 stories with 75%, and the non-neutral "negative" news was one story with 3%, and the somewhat neutral news that contained statements or descriptions that could be considered "negative" was 7 stories with 22%.

The second news of the first week in the *Observador Vdealt* with the Portuguese military force in Iraq, and the use of the name ISIS in Arabic "daesh" with an explanation of the name as an abbreviation of the extremist Islamic State organization. In the first news of the second week, the Syrian army was referred to as an "occupation" inside Syria itself. In the second news of the same week, the report of the French news agency described Hezbollah as "Shiite", which is a sectarian religious description.

The non-neutral news was published in the third week about a document of the terrorist organization ISIS. The website considered according to an expert opinion that the organization published "myths since the time of the Prophet." This bears the fallacy of the fact that the "hadiths" attributed to the Prophet Muhammad are not related to the organization but are related to the Islamic religion, and are treated as religious teachings for the Muslims. The news also described the organization's members as "theologians" without explanations or seeking the opinion of another expert to explain the viewpoint related to the prophetic "hadiths" about personal hygiene.

With the website's commitment to official statements, these statements may carry stereotypes and hate speech, as, in the fifth news of the seventh week, The Portuguese right's statements rejecting the granting of citizenship came with a kind of hate speech, given that granting citizenship to immigrants "underestimates the value of Portuguese citizenship" and considering that Portuguese legislation is "Generous" towards others.



Media	Week/ News	Main words/ sentences	Notes
Observador	First week/ first news	- Islamic State terrorist group	the
		- fight "Daesh" (the Arabic acronym for the extremist group Islamic State)	
Observador	Second week/ first news	- Syrian regime forces	
		- forces loyal to Bashar al-Assad	
		- The Syrian army	
		- conquered the strategic town of Maarat al Numan	
		- Syrian government forces	
		- the 'jihadist' group Hayat Tahrir al-Sham	
Observador	Second week/ second news	- 'jihadist' groups	Religious description
		- Shiite Hezbollah	
Observador	Seventh week/ fifth news	- the country already has some of the "most generous legislation in Europe and with recent changes"	The right parties PSD and CDS statement
		- the changes "devalue Portuguese nationality" and the criterion of "blood connection to Portugal"	
Observador	Seventh week/ sixth news/ opinion article	- the re-establishment of a Universal Caliphate	
		- international jihadist organizations	
		- Daesh (5 times)	
		- the core of the Caliphate	
		- local Islamic militant groups	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the terrorist organization</li> <li>- <u>Daesh</u>, as an insurgent organization</li> <li>- the Islamic State Central Africa</li> <li>- jihadist cells</li> <li>- made up of young Muslims</li> <li>- with a strong Islamic tradition</li> <li>- seductive Jihadist rhetoric</li> <li>- 16 deaths among jihadists and government forces</li> <li>- the jihadists seems to be the establishment of an Islamic State</li> <li>- partnership between Jihadist terrorism and organised crime</li> <li>- the increasing violence on the part of the armed cells</li> <li>- one-off defeats on the jihadists</li> <li>- jihadists have been carrying out a variety of actions</li> <li>- the terrorists have intensified their attacks</li> <li>- "integrate an international force against terrorist attacks"</li> <li>- the eradication of the jihadists</li> </ul>
<b>Observerador</b>	Eighth week/ first news
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Islamic State group</li> <li>- more than 10,000 fighters remain active in Iraq and Syria strongholds in Syria and Iraq</li> <li>- the core of the jihadist group in Afghanistan</li> <li>- the group wants to attract fighters</li> <li>- The main threat facing Europe today is from local terrorists radicalised over the internet</li> <li>- reporting a growing problem with far-right violence</li> </ul>

Observador	Twelfth week/ first news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Islamic State (5 times)</li><li>- The jihadist group Islamic State</li><li>- The terrorist group</li><li>- the jihadist group</li><li>- attacks by terrorists</li></ul>
Observador	Twelfth week/ fourth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- terrorist group Boko Haram</li><li>- 'jihadists' also ransacked a hospital</li><li>- the 'jihadist' group Boko Haram</li><li>- Terrorists killed 11 people</li><li>- The Boko Haram 'jihadists'</li><li>- The 'jihadists' also attacked another Christian community</li><li>- the Islamic State in West Africa</li><li>- Nigerian President: to fight Boko Haram insurgents and other forms of criminality</li></ul>

As the Table (53) above showed the stories we found it carrying words, sentences and descriptions with stereotype and as the table showed all the news about terrorism and jihad. Source: own elaboration

The opinion article in the seventh week about the Jihadists in Mozambique after their failure in Iraq and Syria returned to linking Jihadists to Islam and thus terrorism, considering that the description of Jihadists is linked to terrorists. Without adopting a unified designation, are they Jihadists or terrorists?

In the first news of the eighth week, the UN official linked Jihad to terrorism, while describing the actions of the extreme right as violence, and the Arab countries are presented as the source of this type of terrorism and extremism. This was repeated in the first news of the twelfth week about Syria, where the designation of Jihadist groups is used, not terrorist groups, and in the fourth news of the same week about Boko Haram in Nigeria, It is noticeable that no single label was adopted for these groups, their activities, and their members.

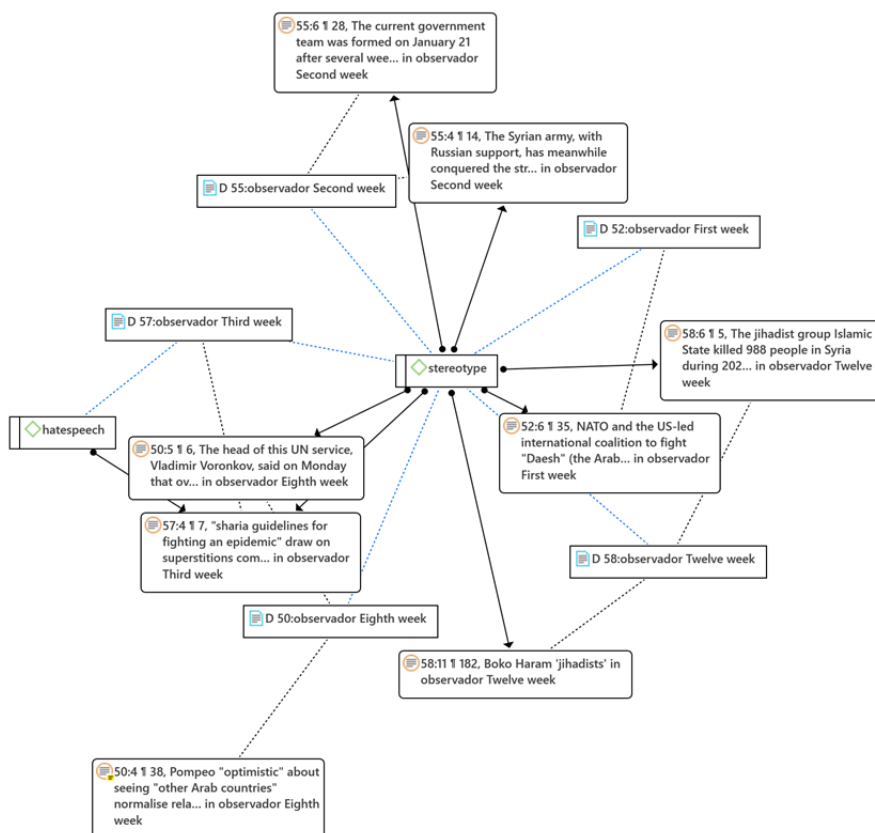


Figure (40) Observador stories words, sentences by weeks. Source: own elaboration by ATLAS.ti9

## Mediapart

The neutral "positive" news on Mediapart was 6 stories with 86%, and the non-neutral "negative" news was one story with 14%.

The Mediapart archive does not provide much news about the Arab world, but in general, news and reports are few. Among the 7 reports was collected, a special report by the site's correspondent in the

Middle East came as an opinion article, but it carries hate speech and stereotypes towards Saudi Arabia because of the Dakar Rally. The article linked the rally in Saudi Arabia and the coverage of the assassination of Saudi writer Jamal Khashoggi, as Saudi Arabia "purchased the media hype" and "hiding the country's face from the world." He also criticized the political reforms in Saudi Arabia as a cover-up for tyranny.

Media	Week/ News	Main words/ sentences	Notes
Mediapart	First week/ first news/ opinion article for their reporter in middle east	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- lost in the sands of Saudi propaganda</li> <li>- the event is nothing more than a PR exercise by the Saudi regime</li> <li>- to persuade people to forget its despotic, fundamentalist and brutal nature, as well as the scale of its crimes</li> <li>- They are bit players in an enormous political public relations exercise</li> <li>- the true violent and hypocritical nature of the Saudi regime</li> <li>- By buying, at huge cost, the massive global media hype</li> <li>- seeking to hide the true face of his country</li> <li>- changes to Saudi despotism</li> <li>- The Wahhabi kingdom</li> <li>- remains an hereditary monarchy with medieval traditions</li> <li>- governed by Sharia law</li> <li>- It is a place where the promotion of democracy is a crime punishable by the death penalty</li> <li>- is a land where death sentences</li> <li>- a land where there is a genuine sexual apartheid</li> <li>- land of the "deep and mysterious deserts"</li> <li>- Saudi Arabia is home to one of the most backward, intolerant and fundamental versions of Islam</li> <li>- a predatory authoritarian government</li> <li>- massive oil reserves</li> <li>- The Saudi regime, of course, has no shortage of money</li> <li>- the Wahhabi kingdom</li> <li>- trying to conceal its terrible human rights record</li> <li>- the Saudis made an offer they could not refuse</li> <li>- Saudi's whitewashing attempts</li> <li>- Macron has the habit of sparing tyrants and dictators when they are good customers of our arms industry</li> </ul>	

As the Table (54) above showed the stories we found it carrying words, sentences and descriptions with stereotype and hate speech about Saudi Arabia. Source: own elaboration

The reporter used the descriptions of the "Wahhabi kingdom", "medieval traditions", "ruled by Sharia", "a land where there is real sexual apartheid", "the land of deep and mysterious deserts", and the reporter considered that "Saudi Arabia is home to one of the most backward and fanatical versions of Islam." He also referred to the wealth of the Gulf state through his descriptions of "enormous oil reserves", "the Saudi regime does not suffer from a lack of money" and "Saudi Arabia is France's third-largest customer."

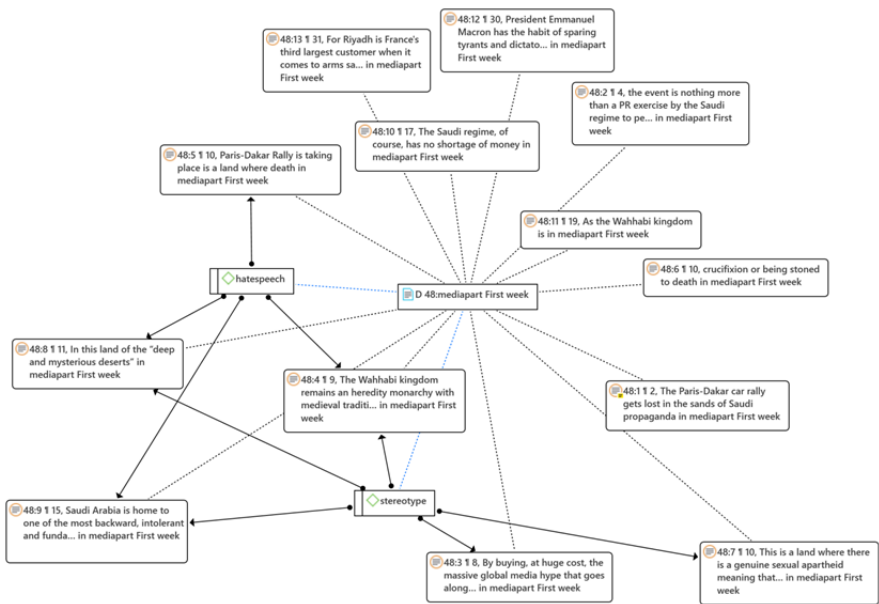


Figure (41) Mediapart stories words, sentences by weeks. Source: own elaboration by ATLAS.ti9

Eldiario

On Eldiario, the neutral "positive" news was 145 stories with 84%, and the somewhat neutral news that contained statements or descriptions that could be considered "negative" was 27 stories with



16%. The somewhat neutral news was not subjective or unprofessional, but the statements and press releases of the officials bear stereotypes and hate speech towards other groups.

The site focused in the eleventh week on the migrant crisis in the Canary Islands, most of whose nationalities were from Morocco.

The statements and press statements contained hate speech, and this may lead to the creation of stereotypes and hate speech in response to this crisis. It was also noted that news about terrorism referred to jihadists as terrorists, which confuses jihad as an Islamic concept with terrorism.

The site adhered to the press releases and the news of the Spanish news agency, but in a group of news, it focused on describing the "Shiite militias" "Shiite Hezbollah", such as the second news of the first week, the eighth and eleventh news of the same week, and the eighteenth news, where the Houthis were described as Shiite rebels, which is What reflects a religious sectarian classification and the third news of the ninth week. In the thirteenth news of the same week, the Emirates were described as a "Persian", not an Arab state. The fourteenth story also focused on the conflict over oil in Libya with reference to the "Wahhabist version" of Islam, while the seventeenth news item describes the Gulf States as "the Gulf oil kingdoms." In the fourth news of the sixth week, he described the Saudi regime as the "the totalitarian petro-monarchy" In the ninth news of the seventh week, the Yemeni province of Hadhramaut was described as "rich in oil" and referred to the terrorist organization Al-Qaeda and the Houthis as "separatist rebels."

Media	Week/ News	Main words/ sentences	Notes
Eldiario	First week/ second news	- Shiite militia sympathizers	
Eldiario	First week/ eighth news	- operating against jihadists - the (terrorist group) Islamic State - the pro-government Shiite Popular Multitude militias	
Eldiario	First week/ tenth news	- Israel, Iran's bitter enemy - the Iraqi Shiite militia	
Eldiario	First week/ eleventh news	- Shiite-backed militias	
Eldiario	First week/ thirteenth news	- Support of Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Russia, France and the United Arab Emirates (The latter Persian state)	UAE it's an Arabic country
Eldiario	First week/ fourteenth news	- The huge Syrian oil and gas reserves are an attractive investment - Saudi Arabia, the dominant player in the Middle East - Both blocs have countries that promote the ultra-Rigorous Wahhabi version - Saudi Arabia on one side and Qatar on the other	
Eldiario	First week/ seventeenth news	- the rich Gulf monarchies	
Eldiario	First week/ eighteen news	- Yemen's Shiite rebels - Yemen's Houthi rebel movement - Yemeni rebels	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Iraqi Shiite leader</li> <li>- the Lebanese Shiite group Hezbollah</li> <li>- the Shiite movement</li> <li>- the rebel movement</li> <li>- the rebels from Yemeni territory</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	First week/ nineteenth news	- the Iraqi Shiite militias Popular Multitude
<b>Eldiario</b>	Second week/ third news	- the powerful Shiite group Hezbollah
<b>Eldiario</b>	Third week/ first news	- the creation of the State of Israel a year earlier
		Historical fallacy
<b>Eldiario</b>	Fourth week/ first news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Six Abu Sayyaf jihadists die</li> <li>- the Abu Sayyaf terrorist group</li> <li>- that jihadist group</li> <li>- allegiance to the Islamic State (IS)</li> <li>- the deceased jihadists</li> <li>- Abu Sayyaf militias</li> <li>- Abu Sayyaf is now the strongest jihadist group in Southeast Asia</li> <li>- since the fall of the Caliphate at least a hundred foreign fighters fled from Syria and Iraq</li> <li>- Other jihadist groups loyal to IS such as the Islamic Fighters</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Fifth week/ second news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Islamic State</li> <li>- The jihadist group Islamic State (IS)</li> </ul>

Eldiario	Fifth week/ third news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- the Gaza Strip where radical groups</li><li>- the Egyptian affiliate of the jihadist Islamic State (IS)</li><li>- radical armed groups</li></ul>
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The State of Israel had just been created</li></ul>
Eldiario	Fifth week/ fourth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Daesh = 4 times jihadist terrorism= 2</li><li>- the terrorist organization</li><li>- the calls to radicals</li><li>- the jihadist threat</li><li>- to combating jihadism</li><li>- terrorist actions in Europe during the pandemic have been limited to the attack</li><li>- The French authorities are investigating it as a terrorist attack</li></ul>
Eldiario	Sixth week/ fourth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- the totalitarian petro-monarchy</li></ul>
Eldiario	Seventh week/ ninth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- the oil-rich province of Hadramut</li><li>- the country's separatist authorities</li><li>- the separatists</li><li>- the Houthis rebels</li></ul>
Eldiario	Seventh week/ fourteenth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- the illegal settlement</li><li>- skipped the guidelines of the Police</li><li>- several clashes with the National Police</li></ul>
Eldiario	Seventh week/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Migrants who jumped the restriction in Albacete return</li></ul>

	sixteenth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- to settlement</li> <li>- skipped the mobility restriction</li> <li>- an illegal settlement</li> <li>- to get them to return</li> <li>- seasonal workers</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Eighth week/ third news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The threat of the Islamic State (IS) is growing again</li> <li>- the terrorist group in Syria and Iraq</li> <li>- the recruitment of jihadists</li> <li>- the jihadist organization's</li> <li>- More than 10,000 of the group's fighters</li> <li>- the group is trying to attract fighters</li> <li>- In Europe, meanwhile, the threat comes mainly from local terrorists radicalized via the Internet</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Ninth week/ eleventh news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- The Islamist group that rules in the Gaza Strip, Hamas = 2</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Ninth week/ seventeenth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the attack against "Charlie Hebdo"</li> <li>- a jihadist attack</li> <li>- by the Islamic State</li> <li>- a criminal terrorist organization</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Tenth week/ second news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Jewish state= 2</li> <li>- the creation of the Jewish state in 1948</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Tenth week/ sixth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Lebanese Shiite group Hezbollah</li> <li>- the Shiite group</li> <li>- the Jewish state</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Tenth week/ seventh news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Saudi Arabia would have enormous consequences for the</li> </ul>

	news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- region</li> <li>- the kingdom led the 1973 oil embargo</li> <li>- the Mosques in East Jerusalem, Palestinian territory occupied by Israel since 1967</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Tenth week/ eleventh news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Jihadism strikes again in Mali</li> <li>- Jihadist attacks</li> <li>- a group of suspected jihadists attacked by jihadists</li> <li>- the terrorists</li> <li>- the terrorist groups'</li> <li>- the jihadists</li> <li>- the Al Qaeda jihadists</li> <li>- the two jihadist groups</li> <li>- the same jihadist ideology</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Tenth week/ thirteen news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 55 migrants, all of them Maghrebis</li> <li>- 45 people of Maghrebi origin</li> <li>- with 73 immigrants of sub-Saharan origin</li> <li>- with 16 Maghrebi men</li> <li>- 14 people also of Maghrebi origin</li> <li>- with 25 Maghrebi migrants</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Eleventh week/ first news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Moroccan terrorist</li> <li>- the terrorist</li> <li>- this terrorist attempt</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Eleventh week/ fourteenth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the massive arrival of immigrants that affects all the islands</li> <li>- PP sources consider that this "overflow" that the island is suffering is due to the "irresponsible" policy</li> </ul>

Repeatedly mentioning the nationality of immigrants

Using "terrorism" not jihad

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- a small island like El Hierro because "they are also overwhelmed" by this influx of immigrants</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Eleventh week/ sixteenth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the islands are still overwhelmed</li> <li>- exhausted the patience of the authorities</li> <li>- the great majority of those who have reached the coasts of the archipelago in the last weeks are Moroccans</li> <li>- What is happening in the Canary Islands is a humanitarian drama</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Eleventh week/eighteenth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the island is overwhelmed by the arrival of people</li> <li>- the massive arrival of irregular immigrants</li> <li>- PP sources consider that this "overflow" that the island is suffering is due to the "irresponsible" policy</li> <li>- El Hierro because "they are also overwhelmed" by this influx of immigrants</li> <li>- the island that is suffering the most migratory pressure</li> <li>- more than 1,500 people are still overcrowded in the Arguineguin dock</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Eleventh week/ twentieth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- after a group of Maghrebis were left on the street for hours</li> <li>- the policemen who work at the Arguineguin dock are physically exhausted by "marathon days"</li> </ul>
<b>Eldiario</b>	Eleventh week/ twenty three news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- the Canary Islands deputy has insisted on the need not to deteriorate the image of the Canary Islands</li> <li>- the migratory crisis is already opening the news in the United Kingdom or Germany, the main countries of origin of tourists to the islands</li> </ul>

Eldiario	Eleventh week/ twenty four news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- what the Canary Islands are going through is "a drama"</li><li>- the arrival of immigrants is "a human drama"</li><li>- their personal dramas that must be solved</li><li>- the Canary businessmen tell him that they are "very worried and very angry"</li></ul>
Eldiario	Eleventh week/ twenty five news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- start making decisions to tackle the "migratory drama"</li><li>- The deputy has insisted that the Canary Islands "does not have the capacity" to integrate these people</li><li>- this situation is deteriorating the image of the archipelago</li><li>- has consequences for the already battered tourism sector</li></ul>
Eldiario	Eleventh week/ twenty seven news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- The chaos experienced in Gran Canaria</li><li>- exploded the time bomb that has become the migratory management in the Canary Islands</li><li>- the time bomb that has become this port in the south of the island</li><li>- The people of Maghrebi origin arrived in the Archipelago</li><li>- the migrants, mostly Moroccan</li></ul>
Eldiario	Twelfth week/ fourth news	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Otherwise, not making these means available to them means condemning a large number of young people to exclusion, with the social and humanitarian cost that this entails.</li></ul>

As the Table (55) above showed the stories we found it carrying words, sentences and descriptions with stereotype and hate speech. Source: own elaboration



In the second week of the fourth news, while the website adhering to the official statements, described al-Bashir as a “dictator,” a “terrorist” and a “butcher,” and combined him with figures such as bin Laden. However, in the ninth news of the same week, the report described al-Bashir as “the former president,” which reflects the instability in the use of nomenclature and terminology.

In a report on UNRWA for the relief of Palestinian refugees published in the third week, the report bore historical inaccuracies about the Nakba and the 1967 war, considering that UNRWA was established when the state of Israel was established and not when Palestine was occupied, and considering what happened a land dispute and not the expulsion of the people from their homes and lands by force. This was repeated in the third news of the fifth week, with a focus on the Palestinian refugee issue, that they have no state and they are a hostage to international contradictions it was also repeated in the second news of the tenth week.

The fifteenth news of the eighth week also provided false information about Al-Aqsa and the Dome of the Rock as the third holiest place for Muslims and the first for Jews, but it is the second "Qiblah" for Muslims.

Eldiario focused on the Lebanese-Israeli negotiations over the demarcation of the border by publishing several reports, while continuing to use the "Jewish state" and referring to Hezbollah as "Shiite" in the sixth news of the tenth week. In the seventh news of the same week, reference was made to Saudi Arabia's geopolitical weight and the 1977 oil incident, as well as the occupied Palestinian territories in 1967, which contradicts other news about the occupation.

In the eighth news of the ninth week, the terms used by the Iranian side about the normalization of relations between the Emirates and Israel carried a kind of hate speech, such as "betraying the Arab world", "a disgrace" and "the greatest abomination." In the eleventh

news of the same week, Hamas was referred to as the "Islamic movement", and the vengeful tone of the Israeli army.

Jihadists, Terrorism, and Terrorists were repeated in a number of news stories, including the first news in the fourth week about Jihadists in the Philippines and their affiliation with ISIS, referring to them as "terrorist Jihadists" and "Islamic fighters." In the fourth news item of the fifth week, "Jihadist terrorism" and the Islamic State were referred to once as "Islamist" and once as a terrorist." And in the third news item of the eighth week, it referred to a Jihadist organization and local extremist terrorists, while reference was made to "extreme right-wing violence."

In the eleventh news of the tenth week, the news agency renewed its lack of distinction between Jihadists and terrorists and mixed the terms together "Jihadist attacks, Jihadists, the two terrorist groups, al-Qaeda Jihadists." Also, in the first news of the same week, the origins of an attacker in France were referred to as "an Algerian Jihadist who lived In Sweden".

And in the sixteenth news in the ninth week, former US President Trump used descriptions of protesters carrying hate speech, such as "extremists, terrorists, idiots, looters, evil people, and rioters."

The migrant crisis in the Canary Islands received more coverage than other issues. In the seventh week, the website indicated in the fourteenth news that the migrants exceeded the restrictions imposed on them in one of the accommodation camps, followed by in the sixteenth news another report on this move and referred to "the return of migrants." And the "illegal camp," but the coverage was from the official side more than communicating with the migrants themselves. In the nineteenth news of the same week, the website presented a special report that explained the problems facing migrants, as migrants worked on the front lines during the Corona epidemic to ensure agricultural care and production, and demanded migrants to improve their conditions and stop referring to them as "the Middle East and North Africa."

In the ninth week, Eldiario reported the twentieth incitement campaign against immigrants using fabricated images. The report mentions that some of the comments on the images carried hate speech. The report contributes to clarifying the truth and mitigating the attacks on immigrants. In the thirteenth news in the tenth week, the website indicated that the immigrants' nationality is Moroccan, which was repeated in other news during the eleventh week, and this focus on nationalities may provoke hate speech and racism against specific groups.

In the seventh news of the eleventh week, the site mentions the living conditions of migrants in the Canary Islands and the violations against them, and the use of the word "shame" in a number of aspects related to migrants, such as "the camp of shame", "the port of shame" and "the ship of shame". In the fourteenth and eighteenth news of the same week, the website quoted the statements of a Spanish party leader that carried a kind of hate speech, such as describing the islands as "sink", the "surplus" that the island suffers from, and the existence of a deal with the mafia. The sixteenth article focused on the fact that the island was "inundated" with immigrants, with reference to their Moroccan nationality. An opinion article defending the immigrants indicated that 85% of the immigrants are Moroccans and are exploited by the mafia, as well as some residents.

The twentieth story referred to the conditions of immigrants again and the political storm as a result, with reference to the Moroccan immigrants and the "terrible conditions" they face in exchange for the "psychologically exhausting" police situation. In the 23rd, 24th, 25th, 27th, and 29th news, the focus was on migrants, with statements of officials bearing hate speech, such as the statements of a Spanish parliament member she considered the migrants "disfigured" the islands and asked if the tourists would choose the island as a tourist destination for them. As news described the migrant crisis with "drama" and that the Canary Islands do not deserve the situation in which they are living; the businessmen in the islands are "angry, worried and helpless." In another piece of news, reference was made to "the deterioration of the archipelago's image," "the consequences

of the exhausted tourism sector,” and “immigrants cannot be integrated into society” and considered the migrant crisis a "time bomb" and that it was greater than the Kaiko crisis that occurred in 2006. While the twelfth week, in the fourth news, considered that failure to integrate young immigrants into society may lead to exclusion, which would entail social and human costs.

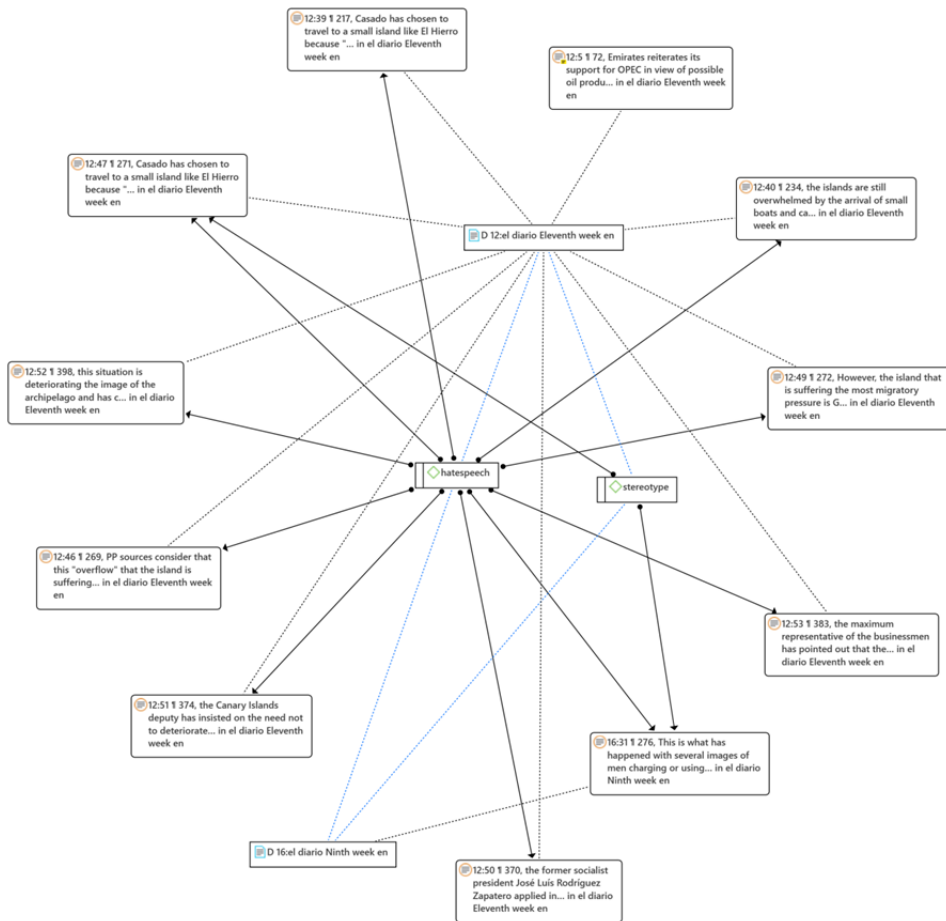


Figure (42) Eldiario stories words, sentences by weeks. Source: own elaboration by ATLAS.ti9

### 4.3. Digital native media multimedia

Technically, in recent years, digital media have diversified to reach the audience faster and larger and expand their mass base globally. The six Arab and European digital native media broadcast their media content through multiple media, as follows:

#### **Baghdadtoday**

The media offers multimedia innovation and, to a lesser extent, some cross-media and transmedia proposals. At the same time, as will be seen in the following lines, engagement with audiences is sought through social networks.

The site allows browsing on various devices. Through the computer, the main page of Baghdad Today is divided into a number of sections that the reader can browse successively.

Baghdadtoday offers its readers 13 different tab to view all the news and videos that are published. These sections come in the first part of the web page which contains the website's logo, social media links, smart device applications, a Definition of the site, and contact the editorial team. The 13 tabs provided by the site are: all news, Covid-19 news, politics, security, localities, special permission, special files, economy, Arab and international, science and technology, sports and video.

Image (1) Baghdadtoday main page



Source: the website page

The second part of the web page Includes the main five news display in moving way, adjacent to it are four other main news that is fixed. Between the second and third sections, the site displays the latest statistics of the Covid-19 epidemic with the latest news. In the follwing sections, site showses the latest news is published political news, security news and the Arab and international news with a larger area. The videos produced by the site presents in differnet section showed one main video and three sub-videos. Then section to site-specific announcements, sports news, local news, and special files. The final section includes the website's applications on smart devices and a tape that re-views all the website's sections and social media accounts.

Baghdadtoday differs from the other five websites by giving space for security news, and this comes due to the influence of the political and security environment in Iraq, and it is the only website among the five websites that is present on the Viber application and the Al-Rafidain Encyclopedia.

Video technology is also used by the site by publishing videos that reach the editorial team or videos that are published on social networking sites, the first video was published on the site on

01/10/2019 and the number of videos on the site is 168 videos, 7 of which have been deleted until the date of the search on the site on 24 /12/2021.

Image (2) Baghdadtoday videos



Source: the website page

In the Covid-19 news section, the site started publishing news in this section on 3/15/2020, with 592 pages until the date of the search in the site's archive, each page containing 12 news, The site also publishes an info graphic of Covid-19 statistics around the world, including injured, recovered, and deaths, in addition to the latest news about the epidemic.



Image (3) Baghdadtoday statistics about covid-19 pandemic

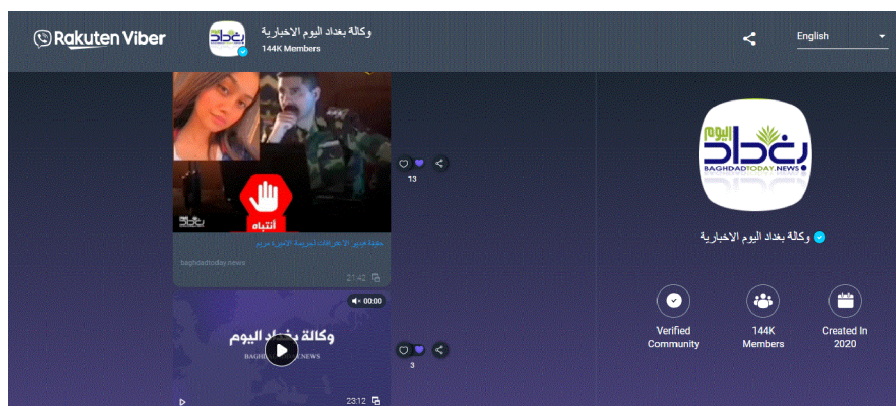


Source: the website page

Through social media, Baghdadtoday is present via Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, as well as through the service channels of sending messages and news to followers, which are Telegram and Rakuten Viber. The number of followers of the site on various social media is approximately 3 million followers, approximately 2 of whom follow the site on Facebook.

The site's channel via Rakuten Viber is documented and established in 2020, and the number of followers is 144 thousand and 449 and the browser can scan the barcode to become a member of the channel and get news for free.

Image (4) Baghdadtoday viber account



Source: official Viber account



The other channel via the Telegram application was created in 2017 and began to be published in 2018, with two thousand four hundred and thirty-six subscribers (2,436).

Image (5) Baghdadtoday telegram account



Source: official telegram account

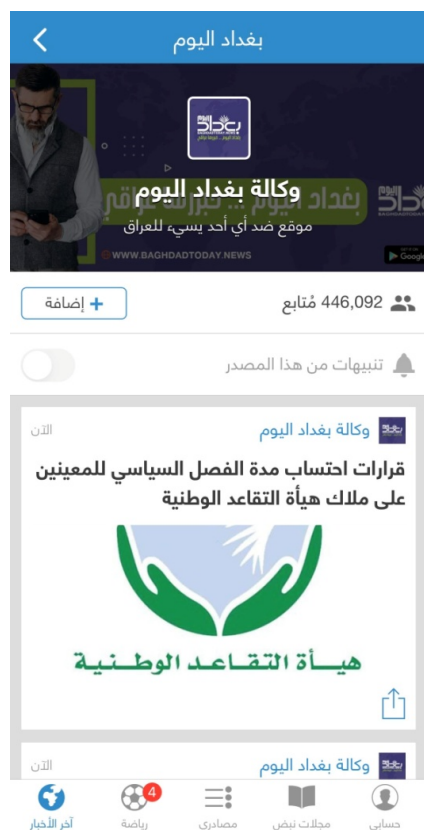
The site is also available through two applications: Nabd and Al-Rafidain Encyclopedia.

Al-Rafidain Encyclopedia, which is run by journalists from Iraq and a team of technology experts, defines itself as the first Arab heritage encyclopedia in terms of services provided through its website. The first encyclopedia to have a comprehensive news application that provides readers with the advantage of choosing and specifying their news sources

On Nabd application, the site follows 443 thousand and 343 followers, and it is a free application that provides the latest news from sources

chosen by the person who downloads the application and subscribes to news sources. More than 40 million people use the application to follow the news, moment by moment, and in various fields, where there is a feature of breaking news.

Image (6) Baghdaddtoday account in Nabd application

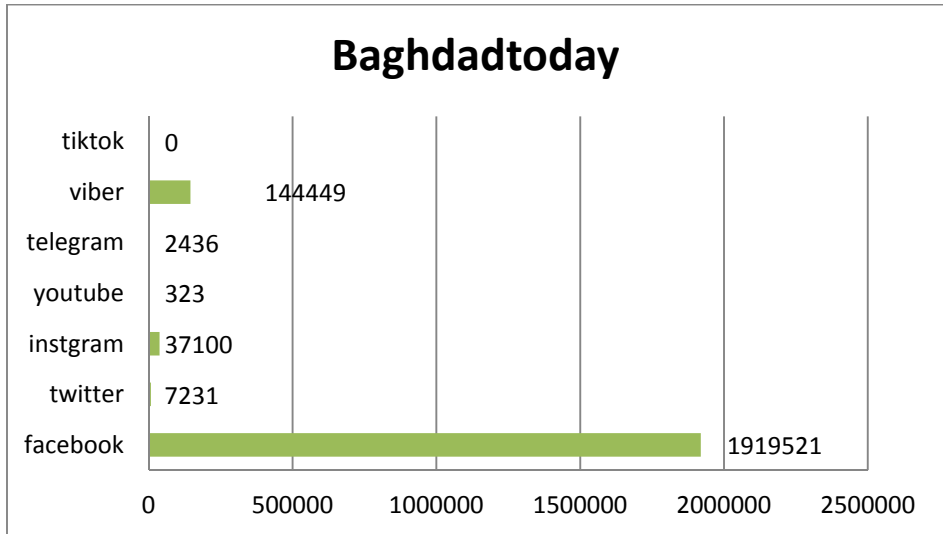


Source: official nabd account

The site is available as an application across Apple and Android stores.

In social media, the site follows on Facebook one million 919 thousand and 521 followers, Instagram 37 thousand and 100 followers and through Twitter 7 thousand and 331 followers, and the site does especially publishing daily quick stories of the most prominent stories and news.

**Figure (43) Baghdadtoday followers in social media**



**Source:** own elaboration

### **Elnashra:**

The site allows browsing on different devices; the main page of the Elnashra is divided into a number of sections that the reader can browse successively.

Elnashra offers its readers 8 different tab to view all the news and videos that are published. The first section contains the website's logo, also the site other copies for "Art, Sports, and Economics" news. Elnashra tabs are: the main page, important news, the Lebanese Bulletin, the international newsletter, articles, raw and frank, variety, and Elnashra TV.

Image (7) Elnashra main page



Source: the website page

The following section includes the main news, where the site displays ten main news followed by newsgroup entitled "Unread", sub-news, and a news section for the site and then Arab, international and local news, and with continued browsing, new news appears to the reader without stopping.

The final section includes a Definition of the site, subscription to the newsletter, social media accounts, smart device applications, and the ability to contact the site team. And also while browsing the site, it also sends notifications of new news on the site. While browsing the site, it also sends notifications of new news on the site.

Elnashra differs from other sites by presenting a different version related to sports and economic news as complete sites within a media organization. In addition to displaying a large number of major news and sending notifications while browsing for each new news published.

Image (8) Elnashra notifications for new news

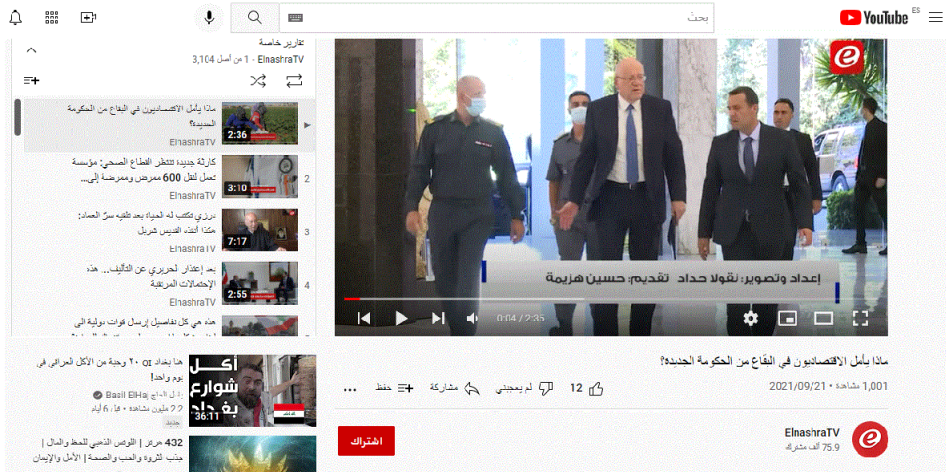


Source: the website page

Through social networking sites, Elnashra is located on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube. The number of followers of the site on various social media is approximately one million followers, more than half million of whom follow the site on Facebook. In Elnashra TV corner, the site presents special reports for the site and a corner of speeches for Lebanese officials. The videos are also on the YouTube channel, which are reports dealing with Lebanese local issues or statements International about Lebanon. Elnashra is also interested in its YouTube channel, where it publishes many videos of a local nature, including reports and special coverages.

Elnashra channel on YouTube has 75 thousand and 900 subscribers. The site presents videos in a number of angles, including the Elnashra reports, which is the largest with 3 thousand and 105 videos, sweet news, what is fake, right and wrong, investigations, a quick session, Sen Jem, and details.

### Image (9) Elnashra Youtube channel



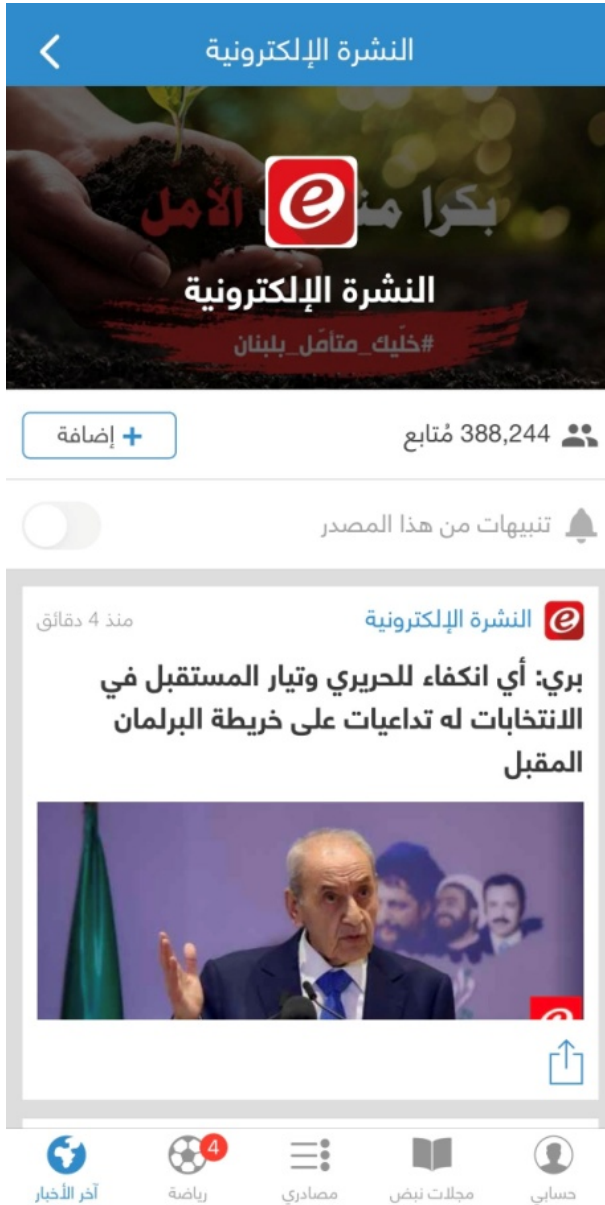
Source: official youtube channel

The site is also available through the Apple and Android mobile app stores.

Through the Nabd application, 387 thousand and 27 subscribers to the news service follow the newsletter, and on Twitter 74 thousand and 941 followers, Facebook 526 thousand and 759 followers, and the site publishes daily news stories that are published for only 24 hours.

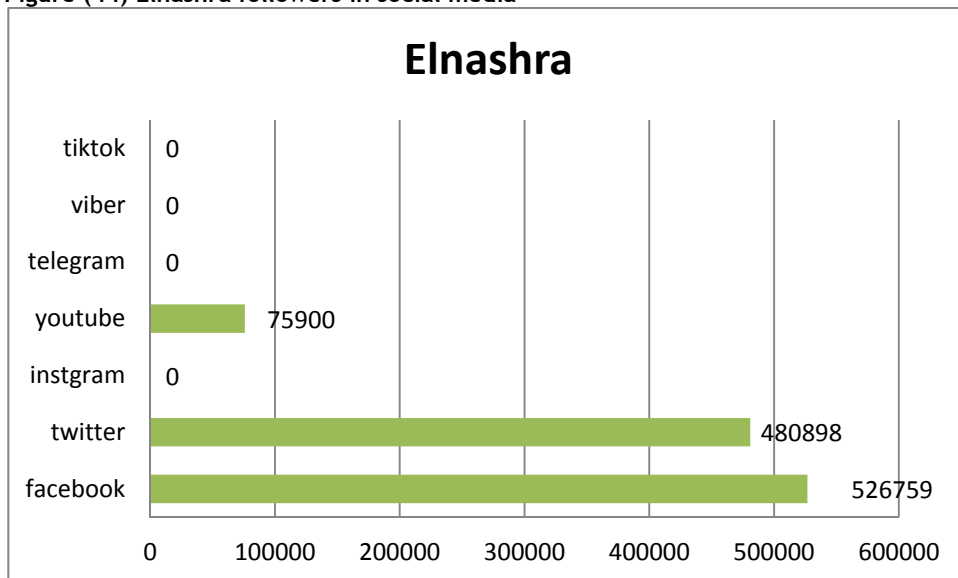


Image (10) Elnashra Nabd application account



Source: official nabd account

Figure (44) Elnashra followers in social media



Source: own elaboration

## Elaph

The main page of Elaph is divided into a number of sections that the reader can browse successively.

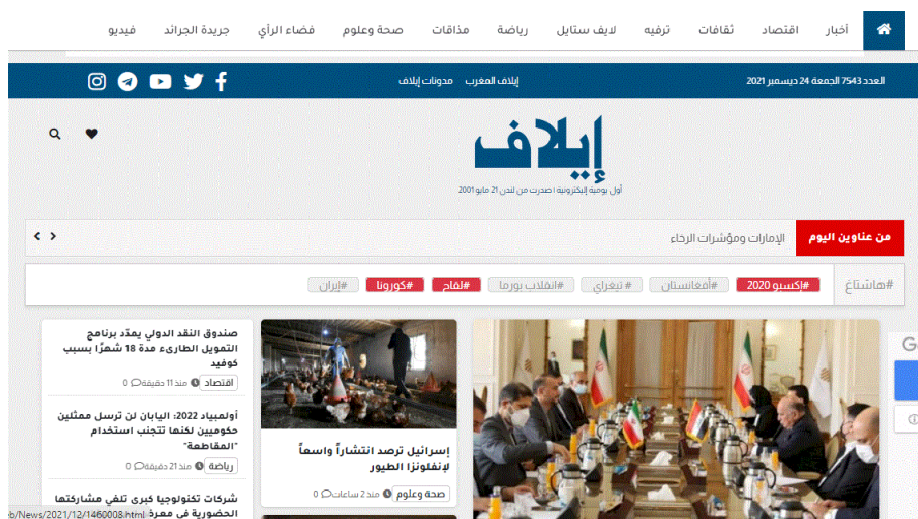
Elaph offers its readers 11 different tab to view all the news and videos that are published. The website's showed with the logo the phrase that it is the first electronic website issued from London May 21, 2001, with a bar containing today's date, issue number, and Elaph's Moroccan version with Elaph blogs and social media accounts. The main news portals on the site are: home, news, economy, cultures, entertainment, lifestyle, sports, tastes, health and science, opinion space, newspapers and videos. The site devotes a special section to news from the United States of America and a special section for women, entitled "Women of Elaph." The site also presents to its audience a referendum on issues around the world.



The site offers three main news stories that take the most space when browsing, and on the side of that, a corner that includes five different news stories in the economy, sports and politics.

Elaph gives its readers the opportunity to search feature within the site and the ability to save articles. And a hashtag for the most prominent news by clicking on it, the reader will move to all the news that falls under the hashtag.

Image (11) Elaph main page



Source: the website page

The following sections include news related to a prominent issue, statistics, news of the Covid-19 epidemic, health news, economy, sports, entertainment, women, culture, lifestyle, opinion articles, a referendum, and the most read news.

The site also displays a special area for the Covid-19 pandemic, providing the latest statistics by continents and by countries and it is updated every half hour, in addition to publishing the latest news related to the epidemic.

Elaph differs from the other two Arab websites in the expansion of the areas in which it provides news, and its coverage is more comprehensive, as it focuses on a variety of aspects related to politics, women, nutrition, lifestyle and others, in addition to providing another Arabic version "Maghreb" as well as blogging services.

Image (12) Elaph statistics about covid-19 pandemic



Source: the website page

Through social networking sites, Elaph is present on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and Telegram. The application of the site can also be downloaded through the Apple and Android mobile phone stores. The number of followers of the site on various social media is approximately one million followers; they are roughly distributed between Facebook and Twitter

Elaph is a YouTube channel with 77 thousand and 700 subscribers. The site presents videos under a number of titles, topped by interviews with 507 videos, video spaces with 362 videos, and reports with 275 videos. On the channel, there are videos that the site publishes in the "Video" corner, which has three headings: Entertainment, Lifestyle and New Media.

Image (13) Elaph YouTube channel



Source: official youtube channel

Elaph follows on Twitter 314 thousand and 426 followers, Facebook 293 thousand and 351 followers, Instagram 5 thousand and 285 followers, and via Telegram, the site established its channel in 2019 and it is followed by two thousand and 541 subscribers.

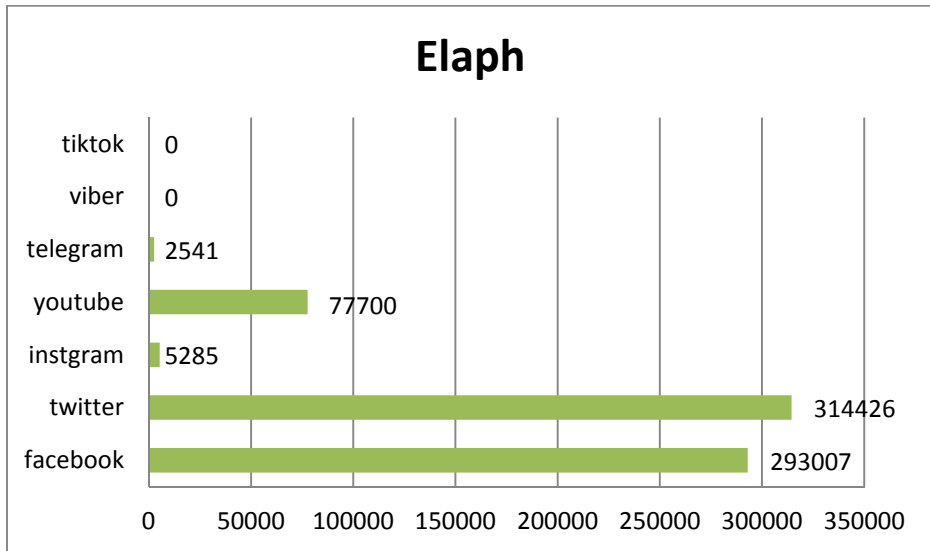
Elaph also presents its first electronic media extension entitled Elaph Morocco, which was launched in 2016 from London.

The site also offers the service of creating blogs for all age groups and in various fields, provided that the conditions and laws presented by the site are adhered to. Calculating the number of pages is 259 pages, and each page displays 8 blogs. We find that the total number of blogs reaches approximately two thousand and 71 blogs.

Image (14) Elaph blogs



Source: the website page

**Figure (45) Elaph followers in social media**

Source: own elaboration

### Mediapart

Mediapart, the English version differs in its form from the French version, as the home page of the site is divided into a number of sections that the reader can browse successively.

Mediapart offers its readers 3 different tab with menu to all website sections. The website's showed the today's date and the time of the edition with buttons to browse the other Spanish and French versions, as well as the possibility of contact with the site's team and the site's login account for subscribers. And to obtain news services, a subscription is required.



## Image (15) Mediapart main page



Source: the website page

The main news tabs on the site are not many. They are: the newspaper's front page, videos, files and investigations, in addition to a side menu that enables a broader browsing of the site.

Mediapart display the main story and a column to the right of it displays stories and videos of bloggers who subscribe to the blogging service on the site "Mediapart Club". The site presents sections that the reader browses down to a main story and subsidiary news, and presents news and stories published by other media outlets.

The site offers a space for readers entitled "Mediapart Club", a blogging platform and social network where each subscriber can edit and publish texts, links, photographs, videos and recordings. According to the site, the club is a space for pluralistic expression, exchange of views, and discussion of articles published by the site. There is also a charter for participation, which is a text that collects rules of good behavior so that participation takes place in a "joyful" atmosphere.

The site operates as a media network, as it broadcasts a video as a daily program from Monday to Thursday at seven in the evening, entitled "Outdoors." It is available for free on the site, but it is in

French only, and the number of episodes of the program reached, according to the site, 306 videos until the date of data collection on 11/24/2021.

Image (16) Mediapart daily program



Source: the website page

It also presents a podcast on various topics such as cinema, literature, exhibitions and podcasts on specific days and times, in addition to reports on news photos, and episodes about the 2022 elections in France, in addition to documentaries about France and the world in cooperation with a video platform and an association. The number of videos, according to the figures published on the site, is 292 documentaries.

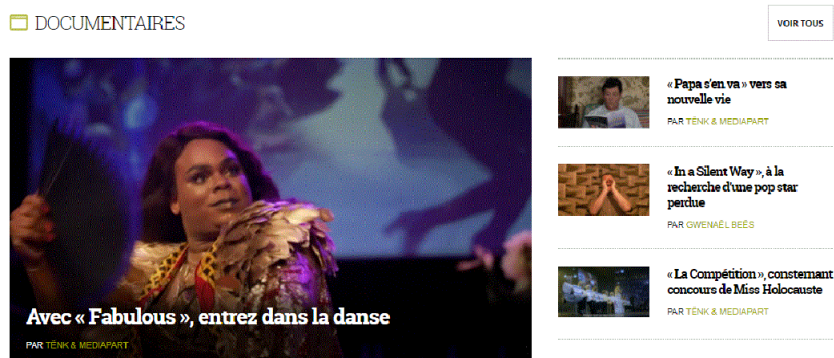
### Image (17) Mediapart podcasts



Source: the website page

The site varies in providing a series of videos in French in the form of episodes specialized in politics, economics, science, history, debates, special interviews, episodes about the feminist revolution, the countries of the Maghreb, the environment, work, photo-making, and all these various episodes are not free. As for Mediapart live, they are direct dialogues with the site's editorial staff and multiple guests to talk about interviews, comments and opinion polls. There are 533 episodes on the site, while there are 805 episodes on YouTube.

### Image (18) Mediapart documentaries



Source: the website page

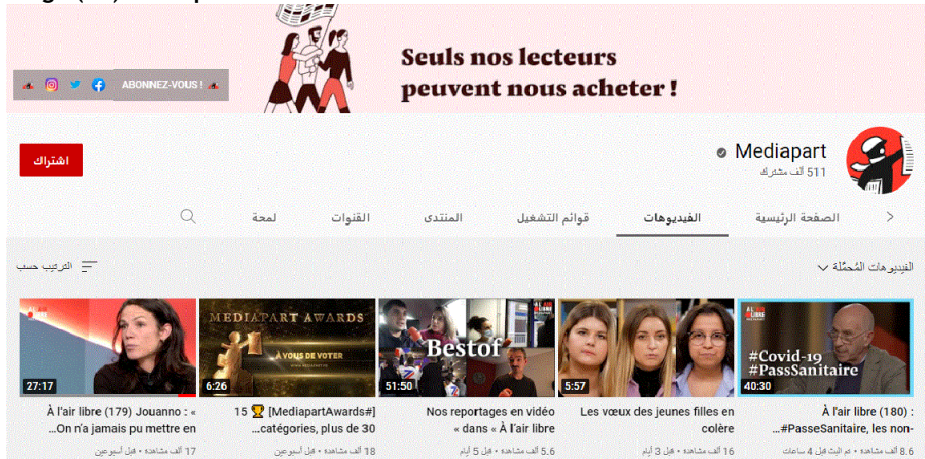


Mediapart differs from Arab digital native media by providing qualitative reports and coverage, while not free to obtain a large number of reports and documentaries that only subscriber can view. The site also gives space for its bloggers to display their stories on the home page and highlight the stories that are published. In addition to this, the most prominent aspect is the site's focus on visual work, including videos and programs, in addition to podcasts and its multiple episodes in different fields.

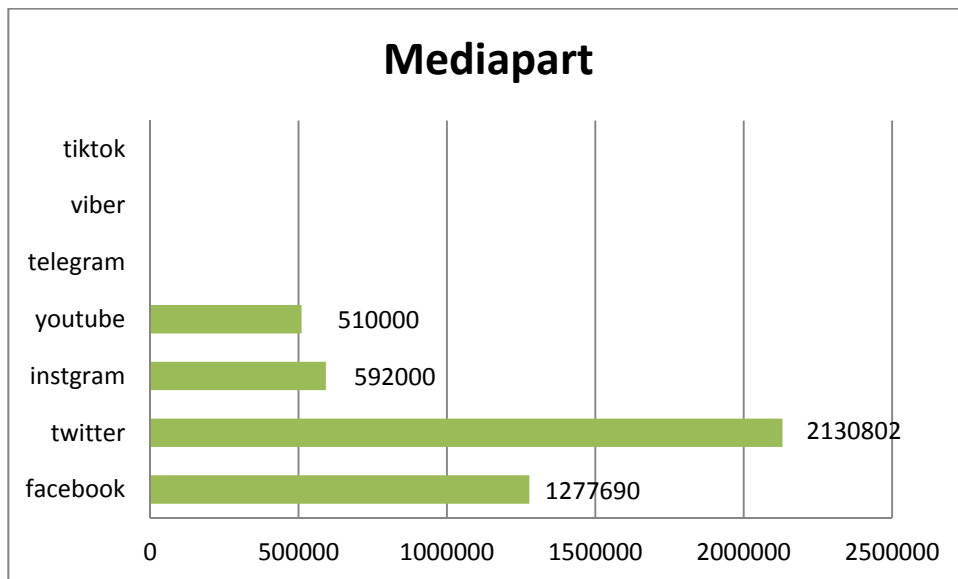
Through social media, Mediapart is present on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and YouTube. The application of the site can also be downloaded through the Apple and Android mobile phone stores. The number of followers of the site on various social media is approximately 5 million followers.

Mediapart's YouTube channel has 510,000 subscribers and all the videos on the site are posted on the channel. on Twitter with more than 2 million and 802 thousand followers, Facebook with more than one million and 277 thousand followers, and Instagram with 592 thousand followers. The site uses the services offered by these platforms such as displaying daily stories and saving some news stories in highlights.

Image (19) Mediapart YouTube channel



**Figure (46) Mediapart followers in social media**



Source: own elaboration

## Observador

The home page of Observador is divided into a number of sections that the reader can browse successively.

Observador offers its readers 6 different main tabs, one of them to the website radio in addition to a side list of site sections, the website highlighte Covid-19 statistics in Portugal, the European Union, and vaccinations.

The main news sections on the site are: opinion, radio podcast, newsletter, the latest news, and other sections from which all news sections are distributed from politics, sports, culture, lifestyle, and technology.

The sections that the reader can access with continued browsing each section includes main story and subsidiary news, and the following

sections present the site's podcasts, radio programs, special coverage, opinion articles, videos, and news of health, economy, politics, and art. And the last section of the site is fixed and includes Radio Observador's broadcasts, radio programs.

Image (20) Observador main page



Source: the website page

Radio broadcasting through the site is one of the most prominent sections on it, where the reader can browse the site and listen to radio programs that can know the schedule of programs from Monday to Friday. From the “Radio” option, the reader can browse episodes of programs that were broadcast via radio and podcasts, and the episodes can be listened to through three applications: Google, Spotify, and Apple podcast. The reader can know the type of content that he will listen to or watch through the color and icon that the site places for each section.

The Observador site differs significantly from other sites by the presence of the radio. It also shares with Mediapart the subscription feature and the absence of many tabs for multiple topics, which gives a more specialized look to the site and its materials that it publishes.

Image (21) Observador radio



Source: the website page

Through social networking sites, Observerdor is present on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, Linkedin, and Tik Tok. The application of the site can also be downloaded through the Apple and Android mobile phone stores. The number of followers of the site on various social media is approximately one million and half followers, around million of them on facebook.

The Observador channel on YouTube is followed by 148 thousand subscribers, and the site publishes the videos in various lists. Most videos are in two lists, the first is related to radio programs, which number 516 videos, and the second is in a list entitled "Currently", the site publishes 1,505 videos.

Image (22) Observador YouTube channel

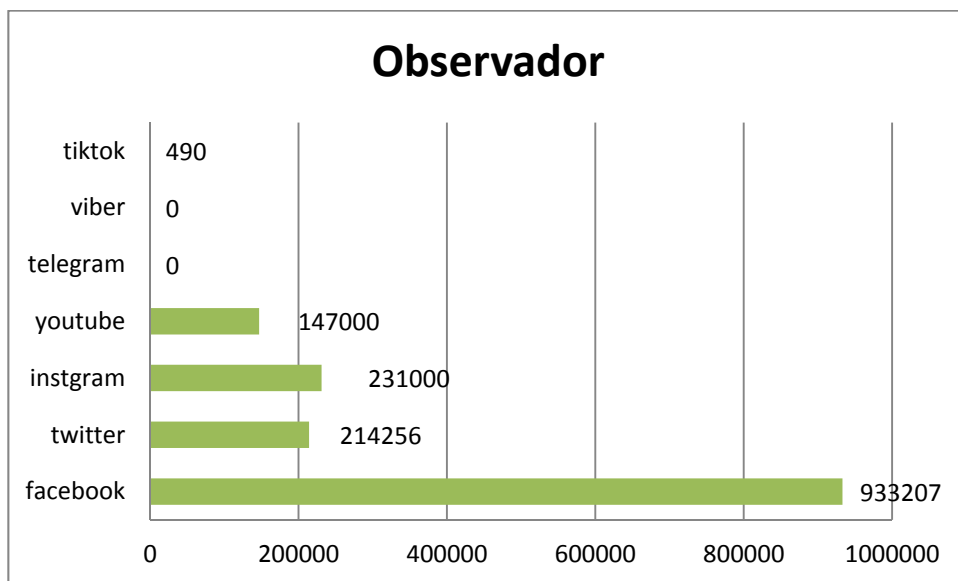


Source: the official youtube channel

The Observador on Twitter have 214 thousand and 256 followers, Facebook 933 thousand and 207 followers, Instagram 231 thousand followers, LinkedIn 99 thousand and 342 followers, and TikTok 490 followers. The site uses the services offered by these platforms such as displaying daily stories and saving some news stories in highlights.



**Figure (47) Observador followers in social media**



Source: own elaboration

### **Eldiario:**

Eldiario, the home page of the site is divided into a number of sections that the reader can browse successively.

Eldiario offers its readers 11 different main tabs, with the possibility of subscribing and accessing their accounts if they are already a subscriber. The site also allows the readers from Spain to choose the region they wants to see its news and will move to another page containing the news of the region they chose, in addition to the Argentine version of the site. Also, the statistics of Covid-19 epidemic injuries in Spain in general, as well as the statistics of vaccinations

The main news portals in Eldiario are: Politics, Economy, Health, Education, Equality, Weather, International, Culture and Opinion. Eldiraio also provides section for opinions and blogs with an expanded section entitled “We Will Sail Together” includes 10 partnerships between the website and other parties.

Image (23) Eldiario statistics about covid-19 pandemic



Source: the website page

The following sections includes main story and subsidiary news, and present political and economic news, articles, various and local news, international and cultural news, a caricature section, and a section highlighting the cooperation that the site holds with other parties.

Image (24) Eldiario main page



Source: the website page

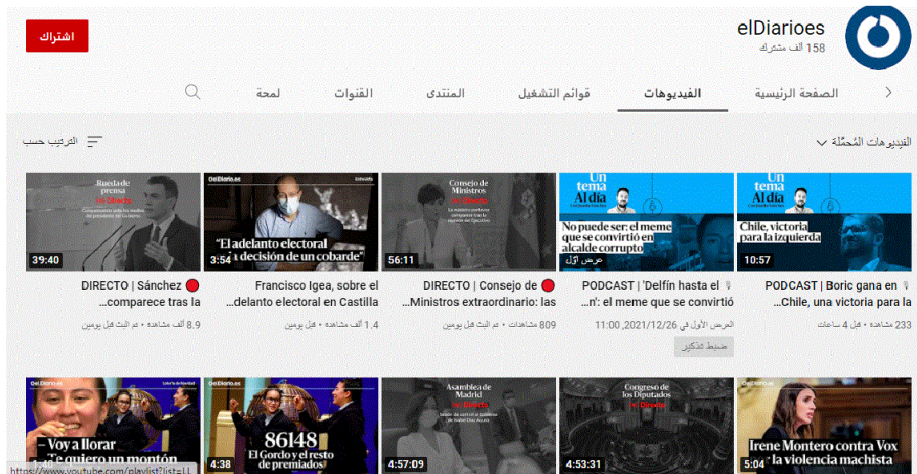
The site also highlights the news related to other sections prominently as if it were the main news, where the least number of news is shown and the images are given the largest space.

Eldiario shares with other European digital native media the subscription feature to receive exclusive and private reports, as well as live broadcasts via YouTube and Facebook.

Through social networking sites, Eldiario is present on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube and Telegram. The application of the site can also be downloaded through the Apple and Android mobile phone stores. The number of followers of the site on various social media is approximately two million followers, around million and a half of them on twitter.

Eldiario channel on YouTube is followed by 158 thousand subscribers, and the site activates the feature of live broadcasting through the channel, in addition to publishing videos, podcasts, coverage, and special reports.

Image (25) Eldiario YouTube channel



Source: the official youtube channel

Eldiario has more than one million and 306 thousand followers on Twitter, Facebook 644 thousand and 528 followers, Instagram 187 thousand followers, and Telegram channel 45 thousand and 848 subscribers. The site uses the services offered by these platforms, such as live broadcasting via Facebook and a podcast entitled "Today's



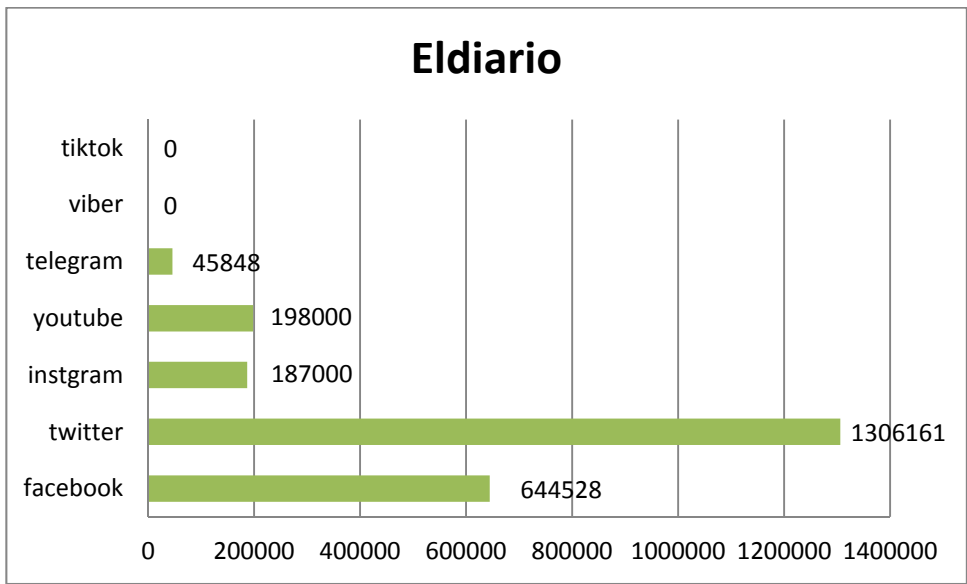
Topic", the number of which has reached 27 episodes, in addition to presenting daily stories and saving some news stories in highlights.

Image (26) Eldiario lives stream on facebook



Source: the official facebook account

Figure (48) Eldiario followers in social media



Source: own elaboration

**The six digital native media**

The six analyzed media, mainly European, present innovations in news presentation and the use of new technologies in media such as podcasts, live broadcasts, videos and radio. And there are no substantial differences between the three European media, as they share the feature of paid subscription to get news In return for free -no paid subscription- access to news in the three Arab sites. In addition, the three European media provide more in-depth content than the Arab media, which focuses on daily media coverage and keeping pace with events, while the six media share their presence on social media and have special applications for smart devices.

The data in this section was collected in date 01/03/2022 through the Ukrainian crisis in Europe.

In the six sites, interactive and informational services that are offered to readers differ.

As we mentioned in the previous part, the six sites included a number of sections in which the news was presented successively while browsing Baghdadtoday 7 sections, Elnashra 5 sections, Elaph 23 sections, Observador more than 23 sections, Mediapart 18 sections, and Eldiario 22 sections.

**Table (56) Sections in the main page**

Digital native media	Sections numbers
Baghdadtoday	7
Elnashra	5
Elaph	23
Observador	more than 23
Mediapart	18
Eldiario	22

Source: own elaboration

The number of photos posted on the home page while browsing, Baghdad Today is 51 photos, Elnashra 28 photos, Elaph 86 photos, Observador 68 photos, Mediapart 15 photos, and Eldiario 79 photos.

Table (57) Homepage image usage rate

Digital native media	Image usage
Baghdadtoday	51
Elnashra	28
Elaph	86
Observador	68
Mediapart	15
Eldiario	79

Source: own elaboration

And in Employing videos, podcasts, caricatures, and other languages, the table showed that all six sites provide videos, and only the European media provides podcasts, caricatures on one site Eldiario, and the edition in another language two sites Eldiario and Mediapart, Elaph have edition in the Arabic language.

Table (58) Employing videos, podcasts, caricatures and other languages

Digital native media	videos	podcasts	caricatures	another languages	other edition
Baghdadtoday	✓	×	×	×	×
Elnashra	✓	×	×	×	×
Elaph	✓	×	×	×	✓
Observador	✓	✓	×	×	×
Mediapart	✓	✓	×	✓	✓
Eldiario	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Source: own elaboration

Also, the Interactive services provided to the readers by the six media websites are: all sites allow the readers to write comments in the news except Elnashra, four sites make live streaming except Elnashra and Elaph, three sites give the readers blogging service Elaph, Mediapart, and Eldiario, one site publish weather forecast, one make polls, no site publish stock markets, and four sites publish statics about COVID-19 Eldiario, Elaph, Observador and Baghdad Today.

Table (59) The Interactive services provided by media

Digital native media	Comments	Live stream	Blogs	Newsletter	Stock markets	Weather	Polls	Web app	Statistics
Baghdadtoday	/	/	x	x	x	x	x	/	/
Elnashra	x	x	x	/	x	/	x	/	x
Elaph	/	x	/	/	x	x	/	/	/
Observador	/	/	x	/	x	x	x	/	/
Mediapart	/	/	/	/	x	x	x	/	x
Eldiario	/	/	/	/	x	x	x	/	/

Source: own elaboration

#### **4.4. The interviews**

The six digital native media were contacted via e-mail, to conduct interviews with editorial directors, news editors, and technical department officials. In the beginning, Elaph and Mediapart responded to the e-mail, but the questions were not answered, Mediapart responded that the journalists are busy, and the questions will be passed to them but we did not get any answers after that. E-mails were also sent to the editors and administrators of other sites without a response. Also, during the research stay for the researcher in Portugal, we tried to make an interview with editors in Observador at the headquarters of the site in Lisbon on the 27 of April, but they asked us to send the questions again through email because there is no possibility to make it face to face, and after re-sending the email we didn't get any answer. After that, we tried to conduct interviews with news agencies that the three European digital native media relied on (EFE, LUSA, and AFP) we contact EFE and AFP through their websites and LUSA through email and we don't get an answer from them too.

The three Arabic digital native media responded to our interviews through WhatsApp and Facebook messenger, Baghdad Today, the general supervisor, and website manager Saif Al Hashemi were contacted via WhatsApp, the interview was coordinated via the Zoom application on February 3, 2022, and Al Hashemi conducted it from his home in Baghdad because the power supply was unable to return to the site's headquarters.

In the Lebanese website Elnashra, we contacted the editor-in-chief of the website Joseph Semaan via the WhatsApp application on March 7, 2022, and in Elaph, we contact via Facebook Messenger on March 13, 2022, Nasr Al-Majali, who is living in London where the site's headquarters, he is one of the website's founders and the editor of political affairs, and we audio-recorded the three interviews.

In the three interviews, 21 questions were written to answer six categories related to the data collected and analyzed:

- 1- News category: topics, size, and sources.
- 2- Hate speech and stereotypes in the Arab and European media.
- 3- COVID-19 pandemic influence.
- 4- Agendas and their impact because of their connection to the scientific theories that have been enlightened in framework.
- 5- Journalism work in Arab countries and Europe
- 6- Technical work and social media after more than 20 years of its launch.

After the interviews were held with the three experts, they were transcribed, written, and sent it to them again to agree to use their content in the thesis. After receiving the approvals, the interviews were translated from Arabic into English and entered into the Atlas.ti9 program. A set of codes was developed that fit the five basic categories, in addition to selecting quotes that answer the questions representing the five categories.

### **News Category: topics, size, and sources**

The six digital native media was relied heavily on news agencies as the source of the news more than their own work from reporters, in Arabic digital native media 19% of the news from news agencies and 25% without clear source, and their own work was 13% of all stories. While in European digital native media 70% of the news is from news agencies and 11 from their own work. As shown in tables (7, 8) in Chapter Four.

The three respondents considered that this accreditation is linked to several reasons, Saif Al-Hashemi (BaghdadToday) linked this accreditation to the financial cost and the spread of agency correspondents around the world, unlike the site's work locally, as there are correspondents in the various governorates of Iraq, in addition to the ease of access to news Legal protection of the site from any legal issues they may be exposed to.



*"Reliance on news agencies in the Arab world and Iraq specifically because it is the main source for the real news that avoids the media institution legal accountability"*

And add:

*"The financial aspect is also very important, especially since a reporter or photographer in a province or city costs between two thousand and 2500 dollars, and this is what the site avoids when relying on news agencies"*

Joseph Samaan (Elnashra) agreed with Al-Hashemi that reliance on agencies, specifically in the Lebanese media, is linked to *"no possibility of distributing correspondents all over the world"* and the opposite on the local side, where the website's correspondents are located all over Lebanon, also the site has correspondents in Palestine and Syria and an office at the United Nations in Washington.

Semaan considered that this depends on the nature of the site's work, if the work is local, then relying on agencies is expensive, but if the work is local and international, it is difficult to have correspondents around the world, so agencies are relied upon.

*"Therefore agencies reduce the burdens on electronic media and this reliance on agencies is linked to the cost more than the ease of reach sources"*

Semaan also added that the Arab electronic media suffers from the advertising aspect, unlike Western media

*"In America, for example, the advertiser can look closely at the electronic media, therefore, printed institutions have abandoned their paperwork and turned to electronic copies, unlike the Arab world, in which electronic media is still considered an emerging media"*

Nasr Al-Majali (Elaph) stressed the difficulty of having correspondents all over the world.

*"Realistically any website cannot appoint correspondents in all countries of the world, nor can any media outlet do this task"*

Al-Majali disagreed with Semaan and Al Hashemi about the cost as a reason for this reliance, in his opinion this reliance is related to several reasons:

*"The antiquity of agencies in dealing with news and the scope of work they do around the world, this accreditation is to give more credibility in the news, in addition to the speed of the news agency in accessing news sources and obtaining information on a larger scale"*

With this reliance on agencies to access news, Al-Hashimi (BaghdadToday) sees that the role of the journalist has changed a lot with the presence of modern technologies that have given the ease to journalistic work in photography and writing news stories. Samaan (Elnashra) agreed with this opinion and explain that the former journalism work required a larger team consisting of a reporter, editor, photographer, and producer, while today's *"The journalist in the electronic media has a greater role than the previous role in the traditional media"*.

Adds:

*"Today, the work that was done by 6 people is now done by one person, and we have started in Lebanon to rely on this method, even in the majority of international agencies, the journalist is relied upon to do this when preparing his media material, whether television or text"*.

Al-Majali (Elaph) also agree that the role of the journalist has changed a lot, because the media, like other sectors, is subject to change, and *"people across the world and with this huge change in media and information technology and the world's convergence with each other, became a journalist wherever he is."*

The three respondents confirmed that the news obtained from the agencies is re-edited, built upon, and followed up.

The size of the analyzed news was dominated by the medium size from 5 to 9 paragraphs, and it represented 60% of the size of news in the three Arabic digital native media and 40% of the size of news in European digital native media, and the percentage was close to the size of short news, which was 43% of the total news. As shown in tables (9, 10) in Chapter Four.

Al-Hashimi (Baghdadtoday) justified this by saying that *"the Iraqi public started looking for the short story or the short news and moved away from the long reports and news that take it far"*

Samaan (Elnashra) considered that the ease of publishing and reaching readers is close to the truth and that whoever *"pays for the Internet, if he does not find what attracts him within 30 to 40 seconds in the subject that he reads or watches, then as a news site I will have a problem."*

Adds:

*"short stories save the cost on the viewer because it is difficult to publish a news article of a thousand words, this was possible in newspapers, which have a fixed cost, while the Internet is an open field and the price is a paid bill, and there is no problem with payment if he is going to read a good article, but the problem will be when paying And reading a bad article"*

Al-Majali (Elaph) considered that journalism today is accelerating and people don't have time to read a report of thirty paragraphs or thirty lines, and if the short news answers the magic questions of journalistic work (who, what, where and why?), then why the lengthening *"The lengthening is sometimes ugly and it fits with the traditional newspapers, but today everything in the world is fast"*.

After analyzing the news in the six digital native media, the political news category emerged as being dominant over other news categories with a rate of 74%. 65% of the three Arab digital native media, 54% of which was related to the Middle East, and 84% in European digital

native media 42% of which was related to the Middle East, as shown in tables (3,4, 5,6,) and figures (2,3,4,5,6,7) in Chapter Four.

Arab experts justified this focus because the political aspect is the most important aspect they care about in their lives. Al-Hashimi (Baghdadtoday) considered that the political aspect is the most important for Arab society and overlaps with many requirements.

*"The political crisis affects families and secures their lives and sustenance. Therefore, the Arab person depends on the political side to secure his life in the simplest aspects. In addition, the international orientation in politics is the most important".*

Samaan (Elnashra) considered that this focus depends on the geographical location. In Lebanon, which has been in a state of hostility with Israel since the moment of its existence until today, as Samaan says, making the political news the greatest aspect as it constitutes an obsession for the Lebanese citizen, and compares this with Canada, which does not constitute politics an obsession for the citizen there.

*"Lebanon is in a hot zone that has been moving for more than 80 years to this day. Iraq, for example, did not have problems in the past, but after the occupation of Kuwait, the political side became the largest part of the Iraqi media, and after that, Syria, Egypt, the coup and the revolution, and because Egypt today is calmer, we find Social issues are the most dominant in the news and press coverage".*

Al-Majali (Elaph) agrees that political news takes up a large part of the total news, not only on Elaph but in the Arab and Western press in general *"the political decision hijacks the world."*

*"In Elaph, between 1,200 and 2,000 news items are published per day, distributed in various sectors, but the political news stands out".*

### **Hate speech and stereotypes in the Arab and European media**

The trend of news in the first part of the analysis showed that 83% of the news published on Arab digital native media was neutral, 16% of

the news was somewhat neutral, and 1% of the news was not neutral. While in European digital native media 80% of the news was neutral, 19% was somewhat neutral and 1% was not neutral, as shown in tables (11, 12) in Chapter Four.

In the second part of the descriptive analysis of the news, it was analyzed through analysis sheets, to know the most prominent issues that focused on in the six digital native media, and the negative words and phrases that were used and may give stereotypes about the other, in addition to the statements of Arab and European officials that may carry hate speech, as shown in the tables (47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52) in Chapter Four.

Al-Hashimi (Baghdadtoday) from his point of view, consider that the media's publication in general of officials' statements bearing hate speech does not necessarily mean that the media publishes hate speech, also, media institutions should address these statements because they exist, and the media is supposed to be present in all sectors.

Adds:

*"Publishing the statements may be a criticism of the official who issued statements that carry hatred, and the Iraqi society today is well aware and has paid a heavy price with the sectarian what the occupation brought"*

Samaan (Elnashra) disagrees with this point of view, and considers that the media, by publishing this speech, contributes to spreading hatred, because *"if you published something that it is wrong, and it should not be published, it simply should not be published."*

Samaan gives an example of that ISIS, which used to publish a lot of news and reports, by publishing these reports means you are marketing for the organization in exchange for the possibility of

fighting it intellectually and spreading correct ideas about Islam and Muslims who see ISIS as a distorted idea of the truth of Islam.

Adds:

*"This is what we worked against to redirect the compass because when spreading hate speech is not all the audience carries culture, and the majority of the audience may be affected in some place by these discourses and may turn to embody them and go to implement them"*

Al-Majali (Elaph) agrees with both points of view, that when the media publishes statements that carry hate speech, it is for the sake of the news only and not for the sake of generalizing what was said.

However, some media may become addicted to publishing statements supporting hatred, which is not only present in the Arab world, but rather there is hatred among

*"the extreme right-wing currents in Spain, France, and Britain, but the national media do not allow it to expand, while in our Arab world hate speech exists because we are afraid of the power of the clergy Or the tribes, the intelligence services or the leader".*

As for the news coverage about Europe in the Arab media, and the Arabs in the European media, Al-Hashimi (Baghdadtoday) believes that the Arab media transmits all that is good about Europe and the West, unlike the European media, which transmits everything that offends the Arabs and they interfere in a large part of the conflict in the Arab world. Also the European media - agencies and media institutions -are linked to military and political parties that convey negative and bad images to their people about the Arab countries, because they:

*"Are looking for justification for these military interventions in those countries in front of their societies, especially since European societies are alive and looking for love and peace on the contrary from governments looking for influence and Most media organizations*

*transmit hate speech and bad images that, without their intervention, you would not find in our countries"*

Samaan (Elnashra) agrees with the fact that the Western media presents news about the Arab world in a stereotyped manner and believes that this is because each group has a different culture and civilization, but Europe and the West, in general, look to Arabs inferiorly and this was reinforced with September attack and the war in Syria and *"the invention of ISIS, which is a Western invention because the concepts of killing and destruction in this way reinforce hate speech towards the Arab world or towards the Arabic-speaking people"*.

Also, the Arab media sometimes provides coverage about the Western world and Europe that carries a discourse of hate speech, because the media in the West does not have the details that exist in our world, such as sectarianism, like covering the appointment of Rashida Dati in the French government years ago, and focusing on her being Christian, While Europeans have no problem with this.

*"There are many stories that promote hatred, for example, cohabitation in the West exists and in the Arab world as well, but we insult the West. We see the flaws of others without looking at our own"*

Al-Majali (Elaph) did not explicitly indicate that the Arab media presents the West in a stereotyped manner, but he ask the Arab media not to exaggerate and verify the news, given that the Arab media transmits rumors and tapes without verification. While he agreed that the Western media sometimes presented the Arabs in a stereotyped manner, and considered that this matter falls on the shoulders of the two parties:

*"the media itself, because it does not go to these countries to put the information in the right way, and the Arabs themselves were not able to express themselves, for example, Israel in the West is a country It is able and can present itself in a way of pressuring the news, while Saudi Arabia, despite having billions, was unable to break the stereotype against it"*

Add:

*"Unfortunately, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the Arabs, in general, were not able to present their issues well. The Palestinian issue is a historical humanitarian issue, but the Arabs, despite the ongoing conflict; we're unable to present their issues well"*

### **Covid-19 pandemic influence**

The year 2020, whose data we analyzed, witnessed the COVID-19 epidemic, which stopped life for a long time, and the media was affected by this stop, like other sectors.

Al-Hashimi (Baghdadtoday) confirmed that the media was affected at the beginning of the pandemic and were only present in social media because life almost stopped. And some coverage's conveyed stereotypes, hatred, and negative images, even about *"the epidemic itself and I can say that there have been deaths due to fear of the epidemic and not because of the virus itself"*.

Samaan (Elnashra) agreed that the pandemic greatly affected and created a state of panic and greatly reduced news coverage, not only locally but globally.

also, Press coverage about the other carried hate speech, this: *"Hate speech appeared when countries announced that they wanted to give the vaccine first to their people, then it would be exported to third world countries, and this is dangerous as if you were walking in a minefield and when making a report on what the Americans or the manufacturers say, the news may carry a somewhat hate speech"*.

Samaan asked who would decide that this is hate speech and put forward a number of examples about that:

*"If we say that the Palestinian should return to his country, is this hate speech? Or is it salvation from a demographic problem that is a burden on Lebanon? The Palestinian may consider it hate speech, but the Lebanese do not, and this applies to the Syrian displacement and the presence of about 2 million Syrians in Lebanon, if we talk about*



*this issue and its impact on electric energy and infrastructure, Is this considered hate speech? And if it is said that they distribute the Syrian exodus to all the Arab countries, and Lebanon is not the only one who bears the burden, is this discourse of hate or is it a discourse based on citizenship? Therefore, the basic meaning and principle of hate speech must be determined so as not to convey a wrong image to the other"*

Al-Majali (Elaph) also agrees that the pandemic has affected economically and professionally, in exchange for shortcomings in press coverage, as the coverage was in its entirety about the epidemic. And there was no hate speech in this coverage's about the origin of the virus, but rather the news was dealt with as issued by the World Health Organization and scientists.

*"As for the existence of hate speech in the Western and even Arab media towards China, for example, because of Corona, this did not exist. But the conspiracy theory greatly influenced people's opinions about the epidemic in social media, to the point of questioning the epidemic until he got the infection or lost one of his family members to turn into saying that the epidemic was created in the West".*

### **Agendas and their impact**

In the theoretical framework, three theories in communication sciences have been illuminated, Framing theory, agenda-setting. With the existence of a school of thought among researchers of communication sciences, which considers that the theory of media frameworks and the arrangement of agendas complement each other, the three experts were asked about the agendas, who sets them, and their impact on their journalistic work?

Al-Majali (Elaph) considered that there are no agendas that govern journalistic work, and any journalistic work that is governed by agendas is a failure because journalism expresses *"freedom, responsibility, commitment, public opinion and the leadership of public opinion. Therefore, we must be honest, impartial, and clear, and provide information as much as possible that is honest to the reader with whom we build trust".*

But this point of view differs from Semaan and Al-Hashemi, and they judge the existence of agendas through the journalistic environment in which they work in Lebanon and Iraq.

Al-Hashimi (Baghdadtoday) considered that the media is the product of political agendas, and Iraq is not isolated from that, as most of the journalistic work is governed by agendas, political money, and military and political conflicts. Journalistic work that is not governed by agendas destroys the idea of not touching many issues, which exposes it to legal and military accountability.

As for who set these agendas, there are two parties according to Al-Hashimi:

*"the political parties, and their affiliated institutions, and there are media institutions affiliated with the parties and this is known to the public, as well as the political money that affects the journalistic work in Iraq, where there is a very large political money".*

Adds:

*"Today, even the tribal sheik harasses the media if the media work affects his vision, which may be incorrect, and the parties as well, and everyone who has influence cannot be touched without harassment".*

Samaan (Elnashra) agrees with this view that journalistic work is governed by press, political, economic, and social agendas. And from his experience in the Lebanese media, there is not a single journalist who owns a media institution, but who owns these institutions are businessmen.

Also, if a "political party wants to market its view through a media institution, and does not wait for ideas to be published, but rather establishes a media institution, and this includes newspapers, television, radio stations, and websites and they are very well known and influence the broad lines".

An example of this is the promotion of corrupt personalities or who have agendas just because they paid a price to beautify their image,

and this matter *"happens hugely In the media, whether Arab or Western, and this is common to all media, and we see it more in electronic media because it has a greater impact on the public and reaches the audience everywhere and over 24 hours"*.

As for the person responsible for setting these agendas, according to (Samaan) *"is the owner of the institution, if he has a party affiliation, has a tendency to political work, or has an economic institution that funds the media website."*

In addition, *"Media organizations are also sometimes subject to the mood of the head of the administration and their commercial, political, economic, and even social reconciliation because many of them may take advantage of positions to market incorrect and out of the ordinary ideas"*.

### **Journalism work in Arab countries and Europe**

As the experts indicated that there are clear agendas that govern Arab journalistic work, they were asked if there are differences between journalistic work in Arab countries and European countries.

Al-Hashimi (Baghdadtoday) stressed that there are big differences; European journalistic work is highly professional, while in the Arab world it is considered a very dangerous job, as the journalist is subjected to harassment and legal accountability if he writes news about a minister or party. The second difference is the press environment:

*"The Arab press environment is full of conflicts, unlike the journalistic environment in Europe, which is politically stable, and terrorism and political disputes negatively affect journalistic work"*.

Samaan (Elnashra) also agrees that the differences are great and gives an example of the difference between press coverage: *"When the attack happened on a theater in France years ago, the nearest media institution was a thousand meters away from the site, and devices were used to bring the image closer to the scene of the accident, but*

*we did not see a single drop of blood or pictures of the victims of the accident out of respect for them. While in the Arab media, we have gone beyond that, when an accident occurs, the media runs to show blood on the walls and the body parts of the victims, and this goes beyond professional ethics".*

In addition, journalists' rights are violated financially and professionally, they are subjected to harassment and prosecution, and there are immunities for some groups such as clerics, politicians, lawyers, and even doctors, while this is not found in the European media.

Samaan adds that the Western media focuses its attention in a different place, while the Arab media is a substitute for political action and is not inclined to public affairs. Even military and war events are followed by the Western media from a deep strategic angle, while the Arab media follows them from a narrow political perspective.

Al-Majali (Elaph), in turn, stressed the existence of these differences, *"The Arab journalist is subject to agendas, and is at risk of regimes and economic, social, sectarian, tribal, political, family and religious reality"* While the journalist in Europe enjoys freedom and is not subjected to pressure.

Even following up the news stories, a European journalist can access its sources and be given the opportunity to follow them, while the Arab journalist encounters multiple stages to reach the official whose answer is that the information is incorrect.

### **Technical work and social media**

Technically and with the development witnessed by the media and communication technologies during the past twenty years, we asked the three experts about the impact of new technologies in the media and communication on their work. Al-Hashemi (Baghdad Today) stressed that new technologies greatly affected their journalistic work, especially during the COVID-19 epidemic, as the pandemic forced many to use technologies, as it constituted a service for the media of

ease, overcoming difficulties and saving expenses. Baghdad Today team is working today to develop digital content, train editors, and use experts to reach a larger segment of the audience, who is more present on Facebook than other social media accounts.

Samaan (Elnashra) In turn, agreed that the new technologies provided a great benefit and the development of journalistic work from fax and telephone saving the time and cost, also today the new technologies that enabled ordinary people to do live broadcasts through Facebook pages and see current events in Ukraine, for example. The live broadcast, in general, contributed to the progress of news coverage, and despite the occurrence of errors, the events reached the audience faster.

Samaan considered that *"Social media are not electronic news media, but rather they are an aid and marketer of media production, whether written, audio, or visual news, to deliver news to the other person and to cause a specific cultural breach or breach at the level of national belonging and citizenship."*

In addition, the news today is abbreviated with the hashtag "tag" which saves time when searching for a specific topic, and this did not exist five years ago, *"In the future, we are going to the "Ulgram" press, which is the press of hearing and watching the news by simply requesting the news orally, and this is something that is being worked on internationally, and we may reach it in a not too long time".*

On a different level, Al-Majali (Elaph) put forward a theory of his own in this aspect, which is that *"the development of communications, technologies and new technologies should stop for the next twenty years to take a breath and re-evaluate the upcoming media experience".*

Add:

*"We want solid technology that serves everyone, such as the German Heidelberg machine that has served 400 years in printing".*

Mushira N. S. Alzyod

In the three digital native media, the audience of Baghdadtoday and Elaph is concerned with political and social issues, and in Elnashra they are interested in economic and financial news.

## **CHAPTER FIVE**

### **Discussion and Conclusion**

In the next section, a discussion of the results that answer the main and subsidiary questions and the hypotheses associated with the results of the research.

#### **5.1. Discussion**

First of all, the thesis discussed how the Arab and European media convey news about the Arab world and Europe, twenty years after the events of September 11, and the world after witnessed many events in various political, economic, social, and even technological that witnessed great leaps, especially with the emergence of social networking sites, which caused a qualitative leap in terms of media coverage, freedom of opinion and expression, and was the one cause of the Arab Spring revolutions that began in Tunisia in 2011.

The main question posed by the thesis is: how the Arab digital native media and the European digital native media cover the events about each other? In the Arab media, the results were similar to studies Dajani and Donohue (1973), El Sarayrah (1986), Falah et al. (2006), where the Arab media generally focus more on political news and local affairs than European or international affairs, also the news related to Europe in Arabic media relevant to Arab issues.

News in Arabic digital native media, as the results of the analysis, showed, in which political news dominated others by 65% of all news

topics, 54% of which focus on the Middle East, while news about Europe 27% and international 4%. As for European digital native media, political news topped other news with 84% of all news, 42% of which focused on the Middle East, 20% about Europe, and 11% international.

In contrast to the aforementioned studies, the thesis carries out a study of digital native media which, in principle, could represent an important transformation in the coverage of the events analyzed. However, there is a continuum between traditional media and digital natives in relation to the subject matter and the territory covered by the information. This is not the case, as will be seen below, with the treatment of stereotypes and hate speech diminishing in the year analyzed, perhaps due to the influence of the pandemic.

In relation to the territorial scope of the information, the thesis finds that the strategy of digital natives is continuous with previous studies on traditional media. Arab studies on the Arab media found that the local issue is the most prominent, Dajani and Donohue (1973) it was found that 50% of the news in six Arab newspapers is political news that is published according to the political orientation of each country. Jordanian newspapers focused on the third world countries - Arab countries - more than others because Jordan is an Arab country first and because the Middle East witnessed major events in the region and the world in the eighties El Sarayrah (1986). Falah et al. (2006) by analyzing 65 Arab newspapers from 17 countries on the Iraq war found that the media focus on Arab issues and local affairs, while the international news is related to the intense diplomatic visits between Arab and western countries.

In relation to the territorial scope of the information, the thesis finds that the strategy of digital natives is continuous with previous studies on traditional media.

After the September 11 attack, AbdulGhani (2003) found after analyzing 4 Arab newspapers that the political and military news about the United States of America was the most prominent, and this news presented a negative image about the United States of America.



These results correspond to what Tessler (2003) found when analyzing data from 9 Arab and Islamic countries that Arabs and Muslims have negative images of the United States of America because of its political positions, a result reached by Diamond (2002), by analyzing cartoons in 8 Arab and Islamic newspapers, where It was found that it bears anti-Semitism and a stereotyped image towards the United States of America because of its foreign policy.

While studies of European media, which are more than studies of Arab media, found that the image of Arabs is a negative image that linked Arabs and Muslims to oil, women, the veil, fundamentalism, and terrorism.

The results of the thesis, which showed the predominance of the political aspect and the news of conflicts in the Middle East, and the focus on terrorist organizations or the fight against terrorism, converge with the findings of Mousa (1987), who analyzed 33 years of coverage of Arab issues by the New York Times, where he found that the general image of the Arabs is a political image linked to conflict and wars especially conflicts in the Middle East. Also, the American media relies on non-Arab sources to obtain news, which reflects an imbalance in the reports and provides a partial picture of the events because they are transmitted through unsympathetic eyes, which creates misunderstandings about Arabs and distorted their image by stereotypes Mousa (1987).

Vicente et al. (2010) through an analysis of six Spanish national magazines on the image of Arabs and Muslims, found that the western media contributed to the formation of a stereotyped image about the Islamic world, an image based on distortion.

Shaheen (1985), Shaheen (1994), Shaheen (2003) found that the various American media coverage's of the Arabs distort their image and show them as fanatics, savages, and money-crazy. This is what Ridouani (2011) found the image of Arabs is linked to fundamentalism, clothes, bearded Muslims, and terrorism. This also increased after the September events, as Evelyn Al-Sultani found, where Arabs have become terrorists and are subjected to hate and

racist crimes Naved Bakali (2013). Newspaper articles after September 11th linked Islam to terrorism, the veil, religious extremism, and Jihad Sweeney and Opatow (2013).

Hamada (2001) also found that the image of Arabs is linked to camels, women and dancing, and after the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Arabs became backward and anti-western, and these images contribute to the formation of a negative opinion and anti-Arab policies.

Sheikh et al. (1996), in an analysis of four American newspapers found that press coverage about Arabs comes after certain events. Like the 2003 Iraq war, US news coverage of the war was generally balanced, but the American media did not show voices opposing it, while Al-Jazeera focused on protests and diplomatic efforts Aday et al. (2005). As well as the Arab-Israeli conflict, where the media coverage in the Dutch newspapers according to Obermann and Dijkink (2008), changed after the events of September 11 and Israel was portrayed as a victim. This coverage is also related to the policies of the United States of America and the agreements that are concluded Noakes and Wilkins (2002). Like the Camp David Accords, where the press coverage about Egypt changed, the Arabs before the accords were evil, after the treaty they became positive, even the Egyptian woman image was modified in the American media Morsy (1986).

This dissertation asks also several research **Sub-questions**:

1. Is there a stereotype of Arab news in the European media?

In European digital native media, 175 stories were neutral, representing 80% of all news, 34 were somewhat neutral with 19%, and two were not neutral with 1% of the total of 211 stories in the three digital media.

The news around the Arab world focused on the Middle East. The issue of Jihad, terrorist organizations, and the fight against terrorism was the most prominent and the migrant crisis in Spain. The three digital native media did not distinguish between Jihad as an Islamic concept and terrorism as a concept related to killing, destruction, and

sabotage, and the websites described the organizations once as Jihadists and once as terrorists, and this also applies to the members of these organizations, they are Jihadists and sometimes they are terrorists and also fighters without settling on a single label, and this focus makes issues Arab countries and Arab countries are linked only to terrorism and terrorist organizations.

The results of the analysis showed that the three digital native media do not present Arabs in general within stereotype but the focus on the same issues and the use of the same journalistic treatment creates stereotypes about Arabs and Muslims, linking them to terrorism, terrorist organizations, conflicts, and wars.

These results also coincide with those of the thesis, to which the terminological and conceptual confusion is added.

Stereotypes that are used in the media lead to the production of negative and distorted images towards the Arab world and link them to backwardness and terrorism Hamada (2001) Belkhiri and Haroun (2019). The conflation of concepts of Jihad as an Islamic concept and terrorism as a concept of violence and extremism bears false assumptions about Islam, Muslims, and Arabs as violent and unstable people Aguilera-Carnerero and Azeez, (2016).

In the Mediapart report, we made it clear that the words used in the report were referred to by several previous studies, (Ridouani, 2011; Shaheen, 1985; Shaheen, 1994; Shaheen, 2003; Sweeney & Opatow, 2013; Naved Bakali, 2013; Louassini, 2002) where the journalist used phrases to describe Saudi Arabia such as

- "The Wahhabi kingdom" "remains a hereditary monarchy with medieval traditions"
- "governed by Sharia law"
- "It is a place where the promotion of democracy is a crime punishable by the death penalty"
- "is a land where death sentences"
- "land of the "deep and mysterious deserts"

- "Saudi Arabia is home to one of the most backward, intolerant and fundamental versions of Islam"
- "massive oil reserves"
- "The Saudi regime, of course, has no shortage of money"

In the migrant crisis in Spain, Eldiario focused intensely on the crisis and its circumstances, and press coverage dealt with the nationality of immigrants in more than one news, in addition to the statements of Spanish officials and politicians affiliated with parties, and their statements carried a hate speech against immigrants, which studies, (Farkas et al., 2018; Awan, 2016; Palazzetti et al., 2017; Jakubowicz, 2017; Hanson-Easey & Augoustinos, 2010; Ben-David & Matamoros-Fernández, 2016; Wodak, 2002; Cammaerts, 2009; Herrera, 2014).

Herrera (2014), Yamaguchi (2013), Rooduijn (2014) indicated about the role of parties and politicians in spreading such a speech towards the other.

The three experts who were interviewed agreed that the European media presents the Arabs in stereotypes, and they gave explanations for this that the European media institutions are linked to parties that want to deliver a message to their European audience about the Arab world as a justification for political and military interventions, in addition to the cultural and civilizational difference between the Arab and western worlds. The three Arab experts defended the media's publication of the statements of officials and party leaders that the media should be present and that these statements were actually said and that their publication may be criticism of the official who came out with these statements, while one of the experts found that the statements if they were misplaced and should not be published so It must be not published.

## 2. Is there a stereotype of European events in the Arabic media?

In Arabic digital native media, 171 stories were neutral, representing 83% of all news, 33 were somewhat neutral with 16%, and two were

not neutral with 1% of the total of 206 stories in the three digital media.

The results of the analysis showed that the three digital native media do not present European in general within stereotype or present hate speech against them, also the stories about Europe was 27% and 12% international news of total stories, and the focus of the news was in Middle East with 54% of the stories. These results are in agreement with the findings of El Sarayrah (1986), Falah et al. (2006), Dagher (2012) that the Arabic media focused on the local issues more than international news, and if they cover stories international or European related to Arab issues.

The stereotyped images carried by the three Arab digital native media, as we mentioned, were not about European countries. Rather, the news that was analyzed was related to Arab countries, their societies, and their minorities, which is consistent with Arab studies and reports (Iraqi media house, 2018; Touma & Zaghbour, 2020; Mikhael, 2018; Human Rights Watch, 2017).

Refugee issues made up the lowest percentage of news in Arab digital native media with 4 news at 3% one of the news was published in Baghdad Today, relying on Lebanese sources, sources to which Arab studies indicated that the Lebanese media spread hate speech against Syrian refugees in particular (Aljazeera Media Institute, 2019; Saghieh et al., 2019; Mena media monitoring, 2020; Mendel et al., 2018; Sadaka et al., 2015).

The lack of distinction between Jihad and terrorism is also present on the Elaph, which is considered, as previously mentioned, to may be bearing false assumptions and a negative image of Islam, as indicated by Aguilera-Carnerero and Azeez (2016), and holds Islam responsible for the terrorism that takes place in the world under the name of Jihad.

The three experts who were interviewed are officials in the three Arab digital native media. Saif Al-Hashemi (Baghdad Today) considered that the Arab media presents the west in general and Europe with a positive image that does not carry stereotypes or hate speech, unlike

the European media. Where as Joseph Semaan (Elnashra) considered that the Arab media presents the West in a stereotypical picture and sometimes hate speech, where the focus is on aspects that the West does not care about or does not focus on, such as religious differences or sects. He also considered that the Arab media focuses on aspects in the West as defects but they exist in the Arab world and it is not touched upon. Nasr Al-Majali (Elaph) did not answer this question directly, if the Arab media presents the West and Europe in stereotypes or hate speech, rather, he called on the Arab media to verify the news and avoid spreading rumors.

3. Is the media coverage in digital native media fair, professional, and neutral?

Is the image of Europeans and Arabs negative or positive in both digital native media?

The press coverage in the six digital native media was fair, professional, and neutral "positive", as the percentage of neutral news in Arab digital native media was 83% and non-neutral news 1%, and in European digital native media it was neutral news 80% and non-neutral news 1%.

In the total of the six digital native media the trend of the stories was neutral 346 stories with 83% of total published stories, 67 stories were somewhat neutral with 16% of the stories, and 4 stories was not neutral 1% of stories.

The results showed that the six digital native media did not present stereotypes about the other or hate speech in a clear and direct way. Rather, these stereotypes were expressed through statements by officials and politicians, as well as expressions that might carry hateful meanings. We have referred to the news that carried this, whether it was related to Jihad or terrorism, as well as news about immigrants, refugees, and minorities.

The Palestinian- Israeli issue, for example, we referred to the changes in press coverage, which mentioned in earlier studies, (Noakes & Wilkins 2002; Obermann & Dijkink 2008; Morsy 1986), that this coverage is affected by the policies of the United States and the agreements concluded with Israel, and descriptions were used in the coverage such as "The Jewish state", which considered racially oriented.

### 4. What is the most focused news in digital native media?

In six digital native media political news as we analyzed in Arab and European digital native media topped the list during 2020 with 310 news with 74% of total stories, followed by health news with 51 news with 12%, economic news with 25 news with 6%, and miscellaneous news with 14 news with 4%, and sports news 17 news with 4% of total stories.

The three Arab experts justified this focus on the political aspect globally because the political decision “hijacks” the world. As for the Arab region, the Middle East is a political hotspot, and the political aspect constitutes an obsession for the Arab citizen, as the political decision affects the details of his life, and when countries are more stable, the social aspect becomes more important from the political side.

### 5. Are the news and reports in both digital native media exclusive from there reporters, or from news agencies or social media?

As the results showed, 51 stories with 25% of total published stories in the Arabic native digital media without clear sources, they didn't explain in the stories if they made follow up day by day. and the second main source was press releases with 41 stories with 20% of the stories, 40 stories were from news agencies with 19%, while the media's own work from reporters was 26 stories with 13% of all stories. and in European digital native media they relied heavily on news agencies with 148 stories with 70% of total published stories, The second main source was reporter's work with 23 stories with 11%

of the stories, 19 stories were from other media with 9%, 9 stories from press releases with 4% of all stories.

Reliance on news agencies in the six digital native media was clear even in Arab news that did not refer to the source of the news. This dependence was justified by the three experts that there is no website or media institution capable of appointing correspondents for it all over the world, the cost is high if the site focuses its work on the local side more than the international news. One of the experts considered that the international news agencies constitute protection for the press establishment and the journalist from any consequences leading to legal prosecutions, in addition to the antiquity of the agencies and proliferation and easy access to news everywhere.

6. Does the COVID-19 pandemic influence the media converge in both digital native media?

This question was answered by the three experts, while health news in the six digital native media was the second category after political news with 51 stories with 12% of total stories which was 310 stories.

The three experts confirmed that the media, like other sectors, were affected by the epidemic, and take advantage of technical developments that enabled them to be present through social media. The epidemic stopped life and press coverage, in addition to the professional and economic impact of journalistic work, and field press coverage stopped due to fear of an unknown enemy.

## Hypotheses

H1- Digital native media could not bypass stereotypes about Arabs and Europeans when reporting the news.

H2- Digital native media is influenced by political events and international interest when reporting news on both sides.



H3- Digital native media focuses on negative events in the Arab world and Europe

H4- Digital native media relies on social media and international sources like news agencies

H5- The covid-19 pandemic in 2020 grabbed the digital native media attention more than other news

The study proved the wrong of the first hypothesis H1, that digital native media do not transcend stereotypes about Arabs and Europeans when reporting the news.

The study proved the validity of the second hypothesis H2 that press coverage is affected by political events and international attention, while the third hypothesis H3 was partially confirmed in terms of European media focus specifically on the Middle East and areas of conflict, disputes, terrorism, and terrorist -Jihadist organizations as the European media calls it - which reinforces the negative stereotype about Arabs and their association with terrorism.

The study proved the validity of the fourth hypothesis H4 in terms of the reliance of these sites on international news agencies and social media, specifically with the interruption of life due to the COVID-19 epidemic and the suspension of field coverage.

The study proved that the fifth hypothesis H5 is partially correct, as news about the epidemic ranked second after political news, which some of them dealt with the epidemic, in addition to economic news that talked about the epidemic's economic impact and the financial support to the affected countries and communities.

In light of the two theories, “Agenda setting and The Framing theory” with a tendency towards the theory of agenda setting, as the Arab interviewee expressed it clearly and directly, we found that the Arab media, in particular, is governed by multiple agendas, as indicated by the interviewees, where different forms of agendas dominate the work of the Arab media, and behind these agendas are many businessmen,

clerics, politicians, and even military bodies. Entman, (2007) Entman et al., (2009) Ardèvol-Abreu, (2015) considered that the two theories are convergent, as specific elements are selected and shed light on them to form public opinions. The two theories are also appropriate as tools in the exercise of political power Entman, (2007).

This is consistent with what was concluded Wanta and Golan, (2004) that the media have the ability to show the importance of some countries and how they should be viewed, and also agree with Dimitrova and Connolly-Ahern, (2007) that prestigious media outlets their media coverage frames affected by multiple factors, including politics Economy and History. These different frames offer different directions to attract the audience. Also, when the journalist describes an aspect of reality in words and pictures, this means that he chose a framework for the topic Ardèvol-Abreu, (2015). And agenda setting means focusing on a topic or person and giving it a large space to alert the public to it Al-Bishr, (2014) Dhalaien et al., (2016). The process of selecting topics in the media does not come from a vacuum, but rather has references and political and cultural determinants Al-Bishr, (2014).

This is consistent with the findings of Ortega-Pérez, (2019) in her thesis, which found that Arab countries abandoned control of the media in exchange for the emergence of emperors - linked to the ruling and rich families, leaders, and clerics - not linked to communications and establishing media institutions that disseminate information according to their needs, in addition, that It is difficult for an Arab journalist to carry out his work without interference from the authorities that control media work.

## **5.2. Conclusion**

First of all, the study, within the limits of the researcher's knowledge, was one of the few and maybe rare studies that examined the image of Europeans in the Arab media, as well as dealing with hate speech and stereotyped image towards them in Arab media. The researcher did

not find many Arab sources dealing with the image of Europeans in the Arab media; rather, most studies dealt with local and Arab issues in general and did not make comparisons between Arab and European media.

Western studies, on the other hand, focused intensely on the image of Muslims, Islam, and Arabs in general in the western and American media, and this may be related to the impact of US foreign policy in the Arab countries. Also, the studies did not examine the image of Europeans in the Arab media.

The study, after analyzing 417 news stories 310 of them are political news from the six digital native media during 2020, found that the Arab and European digital media did not provide news coverage about the other in a stereotypical or hate speech, and reliance on news agencies as a source of news and adherence to the official form of news may be a reason for that because there are controls and standards in reporting news.

The spread of the COVID-19 epidemic during 2020 may have an indirect effect on the language of these coverage's, as the six digital native media were content with transmitting official news, especially with life somewhat interrupted, also global political activity was not with the same strength compared to the years preceding the epidemic because all countries focused in 2020 in local and health issues in the first place, in addition to that the activity of terrorism groups and wars around the world stopped during the epidemic, which means that coverage that might provoke hate speech or stereotypes has stopped.

In the Arab media, the stereotypical image was not towards Europeans, but rather about the Arabs themselves and focused on the Middle East and the conflicts in it. Opposite to the European media which focused on the Middle East, terrorist organizations, and statements by European officials about peace processes and finding solutions to the conflict in these regions.

Also, from the interviews of Arab experts, we found that political, economic, and sometimes military agendas control journalistic work,

which means that these agendas exist in other Arab countries and control the work of Arab media in general, and it cannot be bypassed by the media institutions and their employees, or they will be subject to legal prosecution.

The experts also mention the differences between Arab and European media, the journalistic work in Europe is highly professional, while in the Arab world it is considered a very dangerous job and the Arab press environment is full of conflicts, unlike the journalistic environment in Europe, which is politically stable, the Arab media is a substitute for political action and is not inclined to public affairs and while the journalist in Europe enjoys the freedom the Arab journalist is subject to agendas, in addition, the differences in work ethics. This is consistent with Chomsky's opinion (2002), about the difference between free American media from the media in the Middle East because it is difficult to compare media controlled by institutions (industrial, commercial, political) and media controlled by governments.

### **5.3. Limitations and Future research**

The findings of this study have to be seen in light of some limitations. The first is the lack of Arab studies that deal with the image of Europeans in the Arab media in general, and hate speech and stereotypes towards the west or the other in the Arab media. Studies focused on the analysis of the American media specifically, more than the European media, and this may be linked to the great political role played by the United States of America in the Arab world. The second limitation concerns the lack of Arab studies that make comparisons between the Arab and western media and analyze their news coverage, in addition to the lack of Arab studies on hate speech and stereotypes toward the other (the west in general). The third limitation relates to the lack of European studies that study the Arab media, stereotypes, and hate speech in it. The fourth limitation relates to interviews, despite the numerous attempts to communicate with the editors and journalists of the three European digital native media and to send

many e-mails, in addition to visiting the headquarters of one of the websites, it was not possible to hold interviews, whether by e-mail or face to face. Also, we tried to expand the interviews with the news agencies but we faced the same results no reply to our emails or questions. As for Arab sites, the restrictions were related to the mechanisms of holding interviews, such as the Iraqi site, so the interview was postponed more than once due to the lack of electricity at the headquarters the main. The fifth and last limitation relates to the archive of the Mediapart, which did not make available all the news that was published throughout 2020, despite the paid subscription to the site's services.

Future studies may consider expanding research on the digital native media in both worlds (Arab and Europe), especially with the development in communication and media technology. And expand the subjects to examine the live podcasting, videos, images, and character. Also, the audience's opinions and reactions to digital native media news that is published on the social networks, especially with the possibility of concealing identity or creating accounts with fake names and data, in addition, examining the media coverage in digital native media during diplomatic crises or war.



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## **Appendix:**

Interviewee:

### **Baghdad Today**

Eng. Saif Al Hashemi

- General Supervisor and Director of Baghdad Today News Agency
- Expert and analyst in domestic and international political affairs
- Human rights activist

### **Elnashra**

Joseph Semaan - Journalist for 32 years

- Editor-in-chief of the Lebanese Elnashra website since 2007 until now
- Lecturer at the Faculty of Mass Communication at the Lebanese University in electronic media until today
- He worked in several radio stations: the official Lebanese radio station, the National News Agency, the director of Umm Al Quwain FM radio programs in the United Arab Emirates and others.
- Writer at Dar Al-Sayyad, Lebanon
- Editor-in-chief of Al Kass TV news in Qatar
- A trainer for electronic media and how to use multimedia in written news or television news and how to produce it

### **Elaph**

Nasr Al-Majali - political editor at Elaph and co-founder of Elaph newspaper 21 years ago

- Began his journalistic work as the youngest Jordanian journalist in 1971 (JORDAN)
- Co-founded the Jordanian Al-Rai newspaper (JORDAN)
- Journalist at Jordan News Agency for one year (JORDAN)
- Political Correspondent at the Jordanian Royal Court for ten years (JORDAN)
- Political correspondent in the Jordanian Parliament, the Prime Ministry, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (JORDAN)
- Accompanied King Hussein bin Talal on 40 foreign visits (JORDAN)
- Journalist and editor-in-chief at Al-Sharq Al-Awsat newspaper in 1984 (UNITED KINGDOM)
- In 1995 founded the BBC magazine, The Witness "AlShahed" (UNITED KINGDOM)
- Journalist at Elaph online newspaper since 2001 (UNITED KINGDOM)

### **Saif Al Hashemi**

#### Identification:

Baghdad Today the idea of its presence was born in conveying the real news to the recipient, and the motive for the idea is, to tell the truth, and deliver the truth wherever it is and however it is. The site started five years ago, and a year and a half ago, I start the editorial management of the site, which is a news agency with many formations. The editorial department consists of 15 journalists and correspondents in all the governorates of Iraq, and Baghdad alone has 5 correspondents, and there is another invisible side where the agency communicates with Political analysts to clarify ideas and analyze the political scene.



**The interview:**

**Question one: Why is there much reliance on news agencies instead of journalistic own work? Is this related to cost or ease of access to information and news sources?**

The agency itself, when it is documented and registered, is a well-known address for the legal and moral direction, as well as satellite channels, rely on agencies, first because they do not have correspondents or photographers everywhere, and because the news is easily transmitted from the agency to the media, and reliance on news agencies in the Arab world and Iraq specifically because it is the main source For the real news that avoids the media institution legal accountability.

The financial aspect is also very important, especially since a reporter or photographer in a province or city costs between two thousand and 2500 dollars, and this is what the site avoids when relying on news agencies.

**Question two: Relying on agencies and social media, has the journalist's role in news coverage changed?**

Yes, it has changed a lot. Modern technologies have given the ease to journalistic work, and mobile phones today have given the ease to filming, transmitting news, and even editing.

**Question three: Did the website editor's team edit the news from news agencies or build on them and follow up?**

Any news from international agencies is edited in the manner adopted by the agency or at least highlights the part that concerns the country.

**Question four: With the live follow-up to the events from TV channels and the live on platforms, has the news turned into short stories for ease of publication and access to readers?**

We as a news agency have the main goal, which is to convey the truth and make society aware of what we see and what society does not see,

and the Iraqi public started looking for the short story or the short news and moved away from the long reports and news that take it far.

**Question five: Are there press, political, economic, and social agendas that govern journalistic work today more than in the past?**

Certainly, since the beginning of the media, political agendas have begun, and Iraq is not isolated from the world and Iraq is a key in the issue. Most of the journalistic work is governed by agendas and political money, and the military and political conflicts in the region control most of the journalistic work. And if it does not control the journalistic work, the journalistic work undermines the idea of not touching issues that may expose him to legal, military, and other issues.

**Question Six: On your website, is there a political agenda that governs the publication of news?**

In the news related to Europe, there is no agenda that controls the type of issues that are published, only when news that talks about Arab countries are published, we try to make it clear that what is happening in our country is an outsider to our country and that the people are victims and not part of terrorism, and this is the only agenda we use.

**Question seven: Who decides to set these agendas? And what is its effect?**

It is established by two parties, the political parties, and their affiliated institutions, and there are media institutions affiliated with the parties and this is known to the public, as well as the political money that affects the journalistic work in Iraq, where there is a very large political money, today any neutral institution published certain news if this news affects the institution or party that Representing him will be attacked the institution that published the news in the media, economics, and so on.

Iraq lived 35 years under the late Saddam Hussein regime, and it was a life of conflicts with neighboring countries and the militarization of civil society. Today, after America brought democracy, as it claims, the problems persisted. On the contrary, the conflicts that were with neighboring countries turned into conflicts within the same city, and this left a very big impression. The Iraqi society must deal with its fear and harassment. Today, even the tribal sheik harass the media if the media work affects his vision, which may be incorrect, and the parties as well, and everyone who has influence cannot be touched without harassment.

**Question eight: Do you consider that there are differences between journalistic work in the Arab world and the Western world, Europe, and what are these differences in your opinion?**

Yes, there are very big differences. The journalistic work in Europe is a professional work par excellence, while the journalistic work in the Arab countries is very dangerous. If the news story is related to a minister, party, or institution, it exposes the journalist or the person responsible for the journalistic work to questioning and harassment, in addition to the contradictions in the journalistic environment the Arab press environment is full of conflicts, unlike the journalistic environment in Europe, which is politically stable, and terrorism and political disputes negatively affect journalistic work.

**Question nine: What is the role of censorship, "gatekeepers"? Have readers become the gatekeepers on the news after publishing?**

Yes, readers have become part of the gatekeepers. In social media, when news circulates on official websites, it is either supported or attacked; the group of readers represents the people and the majority opinion.

**Question ten: Why does political news constitute the largest aspect of press coverage, more than others?**

Because the political aspect is the most important for the Arab community, this aspect determines who will take over the government, determines the parties that have influence, and determines which countries it will wrestle with. The confused political situation in the Arab countries overlaps with all the requirements of society, the political crisis affects families and secures their lives and sustenance. Therefore, the Arab person depends on the political side to secure his life in the simplest aspects. In addition, the international orientation in politics is the most important.

**Question eleven: Does the website depend on a journalist's code of honour that governs the ethics of journalistic work on the site and determines the work of journalists on it?**

Journalistic work is governed primarily by the conscience of the journalist; there is no journalistic code of honor in the whole world, not only in Iraq. There is no specific charter, but the living conscience of any journalist who controls his work or the publication of news. In Baghdad Today, any news or journalistic work that misleads public opinion, or at least the vision is incorrect, the work is modified to the required vision.

**Question twelve: Do you think that the media, by publishing statements that carry hate speech or stereotyped towards others, contribute to spreading this discourse instead of fighting it?**

As a director of an institution and this is my own vision, when an official releases hateful headlines, the institution should deal with the news as it is because it exists and because the media institution must be present in all joints. Also, publishing the statements may be a criticism of the official who issued statements that carry hatred, and the Iraqi society today is well aware and has paid a heavy price with the sectarian what the occupation brought. The Iraqi and Arab people, in general, reject this discourse.

**Question thirteen: Do you think that the Arabic media presents news about Europe in a stereotyped way?**

The Arab media conveys all that is good about Europe, in contrast to the Western media (Europe or foreign), which transmits all that is bad about the Arab citizen and what is happening in the Arab countries. They also interfere in part of the decision, and in a large part of the ongoing conflict.

Question fourteen: **Do you think that media coverage about Arab countries in the European media bears stereotypes and hate speech about Arabs?**

To be fair, most European media agencies or media institutions associated with military and political parties in their countries convey to the peoples of these countries a negative and bad image of the Arab countries, because they are looking for justification for these military interventions in those countries in front of their societies, especially since European societies are alive and looking for love and peace on the contrary from governments looking for influence. Most media organizations transmit hate speech and bad images that, without their intervention, you would not find in our countries.

Question fifteen: **What is the impact of the Corona pandemic on your journalistic work? Has the pandemic affected press coverage of world issues?**

Yes, the media was greatly affected at the beginning of the pandemic, especially with the isolation of the world, and journalistic work, like other sectors. This work did not exist except through social media or the media, because life almost stopped.

Question sixteen: **Were press coverage's affected by the epidemic by publishing hateful news and stereotyped images about the other?**

There are politicized media repeating what the bad guys say or political agendas, and US President Trump has invested this in the conflict with China. And yes, the discourses contain stereotypes and hate and convey negative images even about the epidemic itself and I

can say that there have been deaths due to fear of the epidemic and not because of the virus itself.

Question seventeen: **What is the impact of new technologies in the world of media and communication on media work and news coverage about the other (Europe and the Western world) from your point of view?**

Yes, the pandemic affected a lot and had a tangible impact. The pandemic forced many to use technologies, and it was a qualitative leap that served the media from ease, overcoming difficulties, and saving expenses.

Question eighteen: **What is the most social media that the audience interacts with?**

Every window has its own style for users; we cannot compare the Facebook audience to the TikTok audience. We rely on the site that belongs to the elite, and secondly, Facebook because there is a larger age group and the presence of Iraqis on Facebook is greater.

Question nineteen: **What are the issues of interest to the social media audience?**

Political and social issues

Question twenty: **What is the size of your digital production compared to what is published on social media and republished?**

Yes, we have correspondents in all the governorates of Iraq, even Kurdistan, and some Arab countries. The correspondents work on digital content and videos, and we have developed the technical side to creating social programs that simulate society and break the site's approach, which is basically political. And because the intellectual protection is little - and it may be non-existent - when we publish a video quickly without the agency's logo within the speed race in spreading the news, within seconds it is transmitted by other media and we cannot determine who takes the news, but it is available to everyone, and therefore the speed of publication affects the

intellectual property rights of the videos. Sometimes the reader may see that we are not the first to publish the video.

Question twenty one: **Are you developing your digital content and how?**

We have created a whole team of photographers, producers, Monterrey, presenters, experts, and thinkers in the media field to lay the foundation stone for addressing the community in any social idea that might convey to them a kind of societal culture in the form of transferring information to the other, not the development of digital work, but rather the transmission of a message.

Question Twenty two: **Did the community's interaction change the orientation of the site?**

Society did not affect the orientation of the site, but the site is political par excellence, and any media institution has its strength from its impact on the public, and there are several forms of this influence, and the turnout for reading cultural news is limited compared to the news that is characterized by ambiguity, and any trend we must be part of, but not any trend because we want to reach the new generation to convey the cultural image and influence it with what we see as correct.

Question twenty three: **Are you working on developing your team of editors, whether in news editing or the digital content industry?**

We are always looking for the development of the journalistic staff and there are annual courses for the editorial team.

**Joseph Semaan**

**The interview:**

The first question: **Why is there much reliance on news agencies instead of journalistic own work? Is this related to cost or ease of access to information and news sources?**

In the Lebanese electronic media, we rely on news agencies because there is no possibility of distributing correspondents all over the world. But inside Lebanon, as a rule, we have correspondents in all regions in the north, south, and the Bekaa, and they are spread throughout the Lebanese territories. If the news site is concerned with local affairs so it will not rely on International agencies but if it is a general international matter they will use agencies. In Elnashra we have special correspondents in some places such as Syria and Gaza, and our office At the United Nations, and throughout the years of the war in Syria, there is a reporter who is interested in political news, military coverage taking place there, and humanitarian and social aspects. It is important to say that reliance on reporters is an addition to electronic media.

This also depends on the nature of the work in the electronic media. If its nature is local, the news agency is more expensive than the presence of correspondents all over the world, but if the concern is in local and global affairs, it is difficult to have correspondents around the world, therefore agencies reduce the burdens on the electronic media. So reliance on agencies is linked to the cost more than the ease of sources. and to reach the news today is no media does not have ease with sources and news, even from a distance, because the Internet has made us in a permanent state of communication with all sectors that contribute to the work of the media, but it must be noted that if the news is obtained from agencies, it is edited and developed with the presence of Skype it helps when preparing political and social reports.

Also, the electronic media in the Arab world suffers from the advertising aspect, unlike the West. In America, for example, the advertiser can look closely at the electronic media, therefore, printed institutions have abandoned their paperwork and turned to electronic copies, unlike the Arab world, in which electronic media is still considered an emerging media.

The second question: **Relying on agencies and social media, has the journalist's role in news coverage changed?**



I am not saying that the journalist's work has changed dramatically, but the journalistic work has become more demanding, because he is forced to follow up from a distance, especially with the presence of applications such as Zoom, Skype, and Video Call, and these cost less than international communication to follow up on a case, but the difference in local press coverage has become different from before. In the past, a reporter and a photographer were relied upon, and after their return from the field, a third person was relied upon for editing, and a fourth edited the sound, but today one person is relied upon instead of four to do all of that. The journalist is the one who is concerned with preparation, ideas, editing, and montage, and if it is a written report, then he is the one who is concerned with the image and its production. The journalist in the electronic media has a greater role than the previous role in the traditional media linguistic errors or in pictures or montages.

Today, the work that was done by 6 people is now done by one person, and we have started in Lebanon to rely on this method, even in the majority of international agencies, the journalist is relied upon to do this when preparing his media material, whether television or text.

The third question: **Did the website editor's team edit the news from news agencies or build on them and follow up?**

Certainly, every piece of news that is taken from the agencies is paraphrased, as electronic media is not a copy and paste. Because this makes the journalistic work meaningless, and therefore the news is edited and reformulated and the appropriate image is found and dealt with in the output to be suitable for publication. Editing in the electronic media is not different from editing in the visual or printed media, but it has evolved as the editor of the news, which prepares the text, puts the most appropriate, important, and attractive title without distortion or errors to be suitable for publication. The editor must also pay attention to the output of the text and the image if the colors are good and the location of the image in the text, taking into account professional ethics, which play a major role in not exceeding professional ethics. But this does not eliminate the fact that some

websites do not adopt the follow-up method, but rather prefer reformulating and editing the news because this is linked to the cost, especially with the absence of advertisements that cover the material cost, such as Western countries and America.

But on Elnashra, we do not stop at one place but continue to reach a place. For example, when I have news about one traffic accident and it ended, it is different from an accident of a hundred cars that happened due to a ditch in the winter, but unfortunately, investigative journalism in the Arab world does not exist because it requires diligent follow-up and great effort and a large amount of money to reach a place or touch the truth.

The fourth question: **With the live follow-up to the events from TV channels and the live on platforms, has the news turned into short stories for ease of publication and access to readers?**

Turning news into short stories for ease of publication and access to readers in which there is some truth in it. Also, because whoever pays for the Internet, if he does not find what attracts him within 30 to 40 seconds in the subject that he reads or watches, then as a news site I will have a problem. This means that either the journalist is not good or he is new to journalism, and we must search for the defect to find solutions to reach High “Traffic” rated for the site by readers.

Also, short stories save the cost on the viewer because it is difficult to publish a news article of a thousand words, this was possible in newspapers, which have a fixed cost, while the Internet is an open field and the price is a paid bill, and there is no problem with payment if he is going to read a good article, but the problem will be when paying And reading a bad article. It is also necessary to point out here the culture of reading that is widely present in the Western citizen, unlike the Arab citizen, who depends on short stories because he wants information easily.

The fifth question: **Are there press, political, economic, and social agendas that govern journalistic work today more than in the past?**

Yes, there are agendas to a very large extent, and from my experience in the Lebanese media, all the owners of media institutions in Lebanon are businessmen, and there is no institution owned by a journalist, but things differ according to different people, as there are personalities who manage things intelligently. In one of the well-known television stations in Lebanon, they knew "where the shoulder is eaten" in the media to develop the institution.

Yes, we are largely governed by the press, political, economic, and social agendas because every political party wants to market its view through a media institution, and does not wait for ideas to be published, but rather establishes a media institution, and this includes newspapers, television, radio stations, and websites and they are very well known and influence the broad lines because when there is a specific direction The outlook becomes 100% professional, rather it becomes to some extent professional, and the interest in marketing for a view becomes apparent, and advertising enters the media to distort the image of the real media. An example of this is when a political person wants to publish advertisements in a media organization, and this person may be very corrupt and maybe seeking the public good through his political work. On both sides, if an advertisement is placed, you, as a media entity, are obliged to beautify his image, and the advertisement is made on the orders of the Chairman of the Board of Directors, and you will be forced to conduct interviews and promote it and search for good aspects of the person despite our knowledge that he is a corrupt person, but he paid for it, and this happens hugely In the media, whether Arab or Western, and this is common to all media, and we see it more in electronic media because it has a greater impact on the public and reaches the audience everywhere and over 24 hours. This does not mean that it did not happen before, but today it is happening Larger and widely.

The sixth question: **Who decides to set these agendas? And what is its effect?**

Whoever sets the agendas is the owner of the institution, if he has a party affiliation, has a tendency to political work, or has an economic

institution that funds the media website. And the impact of these agendas depends on each person and his view of things, and their impact may be 40% bad because they are exploited in this context in an unnatural way. If the economist owns a media institution, it is self-evident that he will exploit this institution, and if there is another economist who seeks to compete with him through a media means, or if, for example, there are two people in the Economic Council fighting among themselves, whoever owns a media outlet will tarnish the reputation of the other in some way, and this is a very bad thing, and unfortunately not. There are controls, despite the professionalism of the media, but there are crooked ways to deliver a message, and this happens in a very large way. Media organizations are also sometimes subject to the mood of the head of the administration and their commercial, political, economic, and even social reconciliation because many of them may take advantage of positions to market incorrect and out of the ordinary ideas that are initially undesirable, but with their continuous repetition and intensively, they become entrenched in the subconscious, and so is done in the media through marketing the error. It is true that with its repetition and the creation of justifications for it, people interact with this error that it may be true, and the error turns with time into something true, and this is a very dangerous matter.

The seventh question: **Do you consider that there are differences between journalistic work in the Arab world and the Western world, Europe, and what are these differences in your opinion?**

Yes, there are big differences. For example, when the attack happened on a theater in France years ago, the nearest media institution was a thousand meters away from the site, and devices were used to bring the image closer to the scene of the accident, but we did not see a single drop of blood or pictures of the victims of the accident out of respect for them. While in the Arab media, we have gone beyond that, when an accident occurs, the media runs to show blood on the walls and the body parts of the victims, and this goes beyond professional ethics. In addition, there is a violation of the rights of journalists at the financial level and the practice of the profession, as there are no

unions, and if any, they do not work properly; sorry for this expression but the journalist is a "mop". Ethics also differ, Clerics, politicians, lawyers, and even doctors are protected and have immunities, while in the western media this does not exist and if a cleric sexually assaults a child, it is published on the subject, while in the Arab media this is not possible.

Western media is interested in a different place, while the Arab media is synonymous with political action and is not inclined to public affairs. Rather, media work becomes a follower of the political person more than the public issue, just as if an Arab president or prime minister wanted to prevent a journalist or group of journalists from working, this is easily done by pursuing and restricting them, and even military and war events somewhere, the Arab media covers them from a narrow political perspective, while the Western media looks at them from a larger and deeper strategic angle.

The eighth question: **What is the role of censorship, "gatekeepers"? Have readers become the gatekeepers on the news after publishing?**

In my opinion, there should be no censorship. The presence of censorship by the authority over the news means that all news is directed. Censorship must be subjective, so if I love my country and have a professional journalistic profession, I must not do anything that harms patriotism and the culture of citizenship, and there should not be censorship unless there is defamation and slander, and this happens in the media and here it is assumed that the matter will be transferred to the judiciary, specifically the judiciary specific to the media and specialized judges, and this, unfortunately, does not exist in our Arab world, unlike the Western world. Lebanon has a publications court, but it does not have sufficient knowledge of publications issues, including electronic media.

If a thousand media institutions appear, this is normal. People are able to distinguish a professional website that provides correct information, maintains professional ethics, is professional in dealing with issues,

and is objective when dealing with issues such as a conflict between parties because biased coverage in this aspect means that the journalist works as an instigator, and this is not required. People are the ones who judge the work of the media.

The ninth question: **Why does political news constitute the largest aspect of press coverage, more than others?**

This is according to the regions in the world because the geographical location affects the news coverage. Lebanon from the moment of its existence until today is in a state of hostility with Israel. It is obvious that the political and security news has the largest aspect because this constitutes a concern about the Lebanese. Will Israel launch bombings? Will Lebanon be pressured by the United Nations and Israel's friends in Europe and the West? While the political side does not constitute an obsession to the Canadians or the political side takes the largest part in the press coverage there. But Lebanon is in a hot zone that has been moving for more than 80 years to this day. Iraq, for example, did not have problems in the past, but after the occupation of Kuwait, the political side became the largest part of the Iraqi media, and after that, Syria, Egypt, the coup and the revolution, and because Egypt today is calmer, we find Social issues are the most dominant in the news and press coverage.

The tenth question: **Does the website depend on a journalist's code of honour that governs the ethics of journalistic work on the site and determines the work of journalists on it?**

Certainly there is a journalist's code of honor, and we have worked on that in Lebanon for a long time, but mistakes always happen because electronic media work depends on speed, and even with the development of technologies, mistakes happen even if less than before, but the political mentality still rules in some places.

The eleventh question: **Do you think that the media, by publishing statements that carry hate speech or stereotyped towards others, contribute to spreading this discourse instead of fighting it?**

Yes, absolutely 100%. I am convinced that if you published something that it is wrong, and it should not be published, it simply should not be published. For example, ISIS used to publish a lot of news and reports, and it is very difficult to market ISIS news and reports in the long term and for long periods at a time when I can fight ISIS intellectually, because this organization is considered itself a correct and sound idea, and why should I not market to the other Muslim who sees the ideology of ISIS distorting the truth of Islam and this was something important and we worked on it with everything we had, and it was not possible to move away from the danger represented by ISIS and this is what we worked against to redirect the compass because when spreading hate speech is not All the audience carries culture, and the majority of the audience may be affected in some place by these discourses and may turn to embody them and go to implement them.

The twelfth question: **Do you think that the Arabic media presents news about Europe in a stereotyped way?**

Yes, sometimes the Arab coverage of the Western world carries hate speech without our knowledge. The media in the West does not have the details that exist in our world, such as sectarianism. For example, when Rashida Dati was appointed to the French government years ago, the Arab media indicated that she was the first Muslim woman to be appointed to a French government, but the question here is what the difference between a Muslim and a Christian is if they take office? While Europeans have no problem with this, we think differently from the West, and this is a point against us because we think very absurdly when we take issues from a sectarian point of view. There are many stories that promote hatred, for example, cohabitation in the West exists and in the Arab world as well, but we insult the West. We see the flaws of others without looking at our own.

The thirteenth question: **Do you think that media coverage about Arab countries in the European media bears stereotypes and hate speech about Arabs?**

Certainly, the western media stereotype, presents news about the Arab world because they do not know our culture and they have cultures that do not converge with ours, and every country has a different civilization from the other, and even in Europe and the West in general always looks at the Arab with the view of inferiority, and this matter was reinforced with the events of September all the way to The war in Syria and the invention of ISIS, which is a Western invention because the concepts of killing and destruction in this way reinforce hate speech towards the Arab world or towards the Arabic-speaking people.

The fourteenth question: **What is the impact of the Corona pandemic on your journalistic work? Has the pandemic affected press coverage of world issues?**

Yes, the pandemic greatly affected and created a state of panic, because we had fears of mixing with others or going to the field because we are fighting something intangible, and a virus that we do not know who is carrying it and its degree of danger are high. the epidemic has greatly reduced news coverage and not only a local influence, but it's a global one, and our office in New York remained closed for a long time, and our reporters in Syria and Gaza were not able to go out and make coverage's and contact with others.

The fifteenth question: **Were press coverage's affected by the epidemic by publishing hateful news and stereotyped images about the other?**

Yes, the press coverage about the other was affected by the epidemic. When the vaccine was available, for example, there was talk of why it was not given to this person, or we found that some politicians distinguished themselves, and the issue turned into corruption. But the subject may confuse people, considering that the error becomes a fact. Hate speech appeared when countries announced that they wanted to give the vaccine first to their people, then it would be exported to third world countries, and this is dangerous as if you were walking in a minefield and when making a report on what the Americans or the



manufacturers say, the news may carry a somewhat hate speech. Here we ask, who decides that this is hate speech? For example, if we say that the Palestinian should return to his country, is this hate speech? Or is it salvation from a demographic problem that is a burden on Lebanon? The Palestinian may consider it hate speech, but the Lebanese do not, and this applies to the Syrian displacement and the presence of about 2 million Syrians in Lebanon, If we talk about this issue and its impact on electric energy and infrastructure, and Lebanon is going through very bad conditions, no one helped it, whether Arab or Western countries. Is this considered hate speech? And if it is said that they distribute the Syrian exodus to all the Arab countries, and Lebanon is not the only one who bears the burden, is this discourse of hate or is it a discourse based on citizenship? Therefore, the basic meaning and principle of hate speech must be determined so as not to convey a wrong image to the other.

The sixteenth question: **What is the impact of new technologies in the world of media and communication on media work and news coverage about the other (Europe and the Western world) from your point of view?**

The new technologies provided us with a great benefit. Before the existence of e-mail and fax, the journalist had to contact the newspaper or television and give the news read and write it, then it would be properly unloaded and edited, and all of this became in the past. Technology has greatly affected time and cost. Today, for example, there are texts that are read by the blind person. technology contributed to giving the news speed, and the spread of the Internet with such strength and not relying on the old method via telephones outdated by time, We become in front of modern technology, where the Facebook page is used to do live broadcasts and see the current events in Ukraine through a broadcast carried out by ordinary individuals on their phones. The live broadcast has contributed greatly to the progress of news coverage, although some errors occur, the events reach the audience faster.

The seventeenth question: **What is the most social media that the audience interacts with?**

Social media has contributed to the public's interaction with the news more, whether politically or socially by commenting on it, and here I also want to distinguish between the Arab and Western audiences. The Westerner criticizes constructively, while the Arab public curses and uses swear words. If I do not favor a particular party or group, I insult and slander them, and criticism is not constructive because, unfortunately, our nature is like this, and we want to abolish the other and to make our thought the dominant one.

The eighteenth question: **What are the issues of interest to the social media audience?**

Currently in Lebanon, the economic and financial news because the economic situation is collapsing, and people are interested in the exchange rates of the lira, for example, the prices of products, who are the monopolists, and if they will be held accountable.

The nineteenth question: **What is the size of your digital production compared to what is published on social media and republished?**

Social media are not electronic news media, but rather they are an aid and marketer of media production, whether written, audio, or visual news, to deliver news to the other person and to cause a specific cultural breach or breach at the level of national belonging and citizenship, and we started to make this breach to some extent. On Elnashra, 150 thousand people visit the site's pages per day, and this depends on the type of news and events. The number of visitors may reach 500 thousand people, and about 40 to 60 million pages are read.

The twentieth question: **Are you developing your digital content and how?**

We always follow modern technological media, and we may work to change the design of the home page while maintaining the basic principle of the site because we know the importance of electronic

media by finding everything easily. And electronic media is characterized by the ability to search for news, and this is not found in television, newspapers, or radio stations. For example, through the main page, the reader finds local and international news, economy, sports, art, heritage, and other news, while in newspapers the main headline is placed, and then details are indicated on other internal pages. As for electronic media, it is very developed and through search engines, we can know who takes the news and attributes it to us and those who infringe intellectual property and we prosecute him legally.

The twentieth first question: **Are you working on developing your team of editors, whether in news editing or the digital content industry?**

We are working on developing the editorial team through a trained team working on this matter, especially since we used to use news links in the past, but today they are abbreviated with a hashtag or blue tags, which saves a lot of time when searching for specific words as all the news related to this appears words only and this did not exist five years ago. It must be pointed out that the smart system found in all electronic media, whether in Lebanon or Egypt, is far more advanced than the media in other Arab countries. This reduces the burden of searching for news, but it is easily accessed.

Digitally as well, we started with the newsletter site by publishing short news with a small follow-up, while our production today has become larger and more comprehensive: local, Arab, international, social, economic and entertainment. Technology has certainly evolved and with it the digital media work. In the future, we are going to the "Ulgram" press, which is the press of hearing and watching the news by simply requesting the news orally, and this is something that is being worked on internationally, and we may reach it in a not too long time.

## Nasr Al-Majali

### The interview:

In the beginning, it must be noted that Elaph is not a Saudi website, the publisher Othman Al-Omair is a Saudi-British, and Saudi Arabia has absolutely no relations to do with “Elaph” except through the publisher is Saudi. Me, for example, when I talk about Jordan in Elaph or elsewhere, I speak as a British journalist belonging to Jordan, and Elaph is a British website that published in Arabic like BBC Arabic, and it is the first Arabic website that was launched online since 21 years.

The first question: **Why is there much reliance on news agencies instead of journalistic own work? Is this related to cost or ease of access to information and news sources?**

- Quite simply, Elaph have correspondents in the majority of Arab countries and some European and Asian countries such as India, China, and Japan, we had coverage of all hot issues and events, but realistically any website cannot appoint correspondents in all countries of the world, nor any media outlet can do this task, but We could not have correspondents, and I consider myself one of the itinerant correspondents, sometimes from home, given the specialization, as Nasr Al-Majali, for example, has the experience, and could rely on this experience upon that the journalist specializes in the affairs of Jordan, Kuwait or Britain, and he can follow the news and this event through his experience in These countries, also correspondents are also sent to various locations to cover the events in them.

The reliance on agencies is a major accreditation for several reasons: the antiquity of agencies in dealing with news and the scope of work they do around the world. In Elaph we have partnerships with news agencies such as AFP and a partnership with BBC Arabic, and this accreditation is also to give more credibility in the news, in addition to the speed of the news agency in accessing news sources and obtaining information on a larger scale. The issue is not related to the cost at all

but rather related to the professionalism and mechanism of the event, its follow-up, and its development.

The second question: **Relying on agencies and social media, has the journalist's role in news coverage changed?**

Yes, the journalist's role in news coverage has changed dramatically. The media, like other sectors, undergoes change. Without change, the process does not take place properly. We are with change, not only in Elaph, but in advanced media, and yes, we rely on news agencies and social media sometimes because people are across the world and with this huge change in information and information technology and the convergence of the world with each other, they became journalists wherever they are. also, I consider information from a citizen in Mafrq - a governorate in the north of Jordan - important information, but I do not adopt it until verifying it because the information is not taken for granted, and after being verified from other sources we built on it from our archives.

The third question: **did the editor's team edit the news from news agencies edited or build on them and followed up?**

- Yes, all news we receive from agencies is edited, developed, and built upon and information is added from our archives. This editing includes news from the news agency or we obtained it from other sources where it is edited linguistically and professionally and developed to reach the reader in an honest and reliable manner, even the captions of the photos and their content is ensured that it is edited so that it does not violate a general pattern or social offenses.

The fourth question: **With the live follow-up to the events from TV channels or the live on platforms did the news turn into short stories for ease of publication and access to readers?**

- Yes, the press today is accelerating. People are not free to read a report of thirty paragraphs or thirty lines. We are inclined to fast, adequate, and integrated information that contains all the information and that answers all the elements of the news to complete the

information -who, what, where, and why? - These magical questions in journalistic work, if I was answering it, why the lengthening? The lengthening is sometimes ugly and it fits with the traditional newspapers, but today everything in the world is fast.

The fifth question: **Are there press, political, economic, and social agendas that govern journalistic work today more than in the past?**

- The truth is no. Any journalistic work that is governed by agendas is a failure. We are talking about freedom, responsibility, commitment, public opinion and the leadership of public opinion. Therefore, we must be honest, impartial and clear, and provide information as much as possible that is honest to the reader with whom we build trust.

The sixth question: **Who decides to set these agendas? And what is its effect?**

- Since I do not see that we are committed to two agendas, this question is outside the framework of the discussion.

The seventh question: **Do you consider that there are differences between journalistic work in the Arab world and the Western world in Europe, and what are these differences, in your opinion?**

- I hope that there will be no differences between Western and Arab journalistic work, but there are simply differences. The Arab journalist is dependent on agendas and attenuated by regimes and economic, social, sectarian, tribal, political, family, and religious reality. The Arab journalist “may God help him” is between a fork and a knife, not one fork or one knife, but a thousand forks and a thousand knives, and he put himself as a “chicken” and relaxes and claps. There are two types of applause: the applause of joy and the applause of “the sweetness of the soul” - a term meaning the torments of the soul’s departure - the Arab journalist applauds from the “sweetness of the soul” and the pressures he is going through, while the Western journalist applauds from the sweetness of freedom. I am a man who has lived in Britain for 40 years and what I have been blessed with

Freedom from my writing on Elaph or any other website is not enjoyed by my colleague who used to work in the Jordanian Al-Rai newspaper, for example. On the contrary, when I meet him, I wonder about the difference between the two mentalities, and I refer to this matter with the utmost regret and sorrow.

Therefore, yes, there is a difference in the information, how to reach it, and how it is followed up. for example, I receive information from the British Foreign Office or the Defense via e-mail and I have the right to discuss it with them, while I was shocked when communicating with an Arab official and after several stages to reach him that the answer is that the information is incorrect, while in the West it is followed and given space for follow-up information.

**The eighth question: What is the role of censorship, "gatekeepers"? Have readers become the gatekeepers for the news after publishing?**

- Gatekeepers do not exist, but there are linguistic and moral controls and responsibility and the media is a responsibility and it is not by raising the voice. The journalist is a human who works within ethical controls and values. I told you that we monitor the images so that it does not affect the society we deal with or conflict with the values and ethics of societies, whether Arab or Western. Children, for example, we don't publish their pictures in a bad reality, while in the East there is an addiction to publishing a picture of an old man, for example, and addiction to publishing pictures of wrongdoing. We work under moral controls and not a dictatorship.

As for the role of the Arab reader as an observer, he has become dependent on the system where he lives, so he watches his family, his school, and his neighborhood. On the religious side, he considers himself the agent of God, and at the level of politics, he considers himself the State Intelligence, and on the economic side, he considers everyone corrupt except him, but in reality, he is the most corrupt.

**The ninth question: Why does political news constitute the largest aspect of press coverage more than others?**

- The political news, yes, takes a very large space, not only in Elaph but in the Arab and Western press in general, because the political decision hijacks the world. But it is important to point out the difference between politics and politicians. In the Arab media, attention is paid to who becomes a deputy in parliament and who will come as prime minister, while in the western media, transportation, politics, and the economy are all policies, and attention is paid to them. In Elaph, attention is paid to all aspects of politics, economy, sports, and art. In Elaph, between 1,200 and 2,000 news items are published per day, distributed in various sectors, but the political news stands out.

Also, the Arab person considers himself a politician, and politics takes a large part of his life; he eats, sleeps, and drinks politics and talks about politics wherever he goes, while in Britain, for example, the citizen has no purpose in the prime minister because there is a deputy who was elected for this task.

The tenth question: **Does the website depend on a journalist's code of honor that governs the ethics of journalistic work on the website and determines the work of journalists on it?**

- Yes, the charter may not be written, but it is on the conscience of a professional and responsible journalist. Therefore, the press in Europe is responsible journalism there are no strict controls, for example, regarding false news towards people, and therefore every journalist is disciplined within the framework of this conscientious responsibility accustomed to in all his practices.

The eleventh question: **Do you think that the media, by publishing statements that carry hate speech or stereotyped images towards others, contribute to spreading this discourse instead of fighting it?**

- Publishing statements that carry hate speech is for the sake of the news only, not for the sake of generalizing what he said and defeating him.



And I think yes, there are media outlets that addict statements supporting hatred. This hatred does not exist in the Arab world only, but there is hatred among the extreme right-wing currents in Spain, France, and Britain, but the national media do not allow it to expand, while in our Arab world hate speech exists because we are afraid of the power of the clergy Or the tribes, the intelligence services or the leader. And it's not a defense of the advanced and patriotic western media such as The Guardian, The Times, the BBC, the Daily Telegraph, and the Arab websites issued from Britain hate speech does not exist because it is prohibited speech.

The twelfth question: **Do you think that media coverage about Europe in the Arab media bears stereotypes and hate speech about Europe?**

- Today we are living through the Ukrainian crisis, and we find the Arab media and the Arabs have opinions on Putin, and the Western media also has an opinion. But I hope that the Arab media will document itself and avoid exaggeration without verifying the news. For example, ISIS has left the Arab region or almost has left however, the Arab media has not yet presented a true picture of ISIS but rather accused the west that it was created by ISIS, the Arabic media doing like the Arabic quote "With them, with them, upon them upon them." Just as the Arab media circulates tapes and rumors without verifying them. We in Elaph do not publish news without checking and verifying its source and all its information.

The thirteenth question: **Do you think that media coverage about Arab countries in the European media bears stereotype and hate speech about them?**

- Sometimes yes, the European media has stereotypes towards the Arabs, and I do not excuse them from spreading this stereotyped image of the Arab world, and I think that this is a responsibility on both sides, first of all, the media itself, because it does not go to these countries to put the information in the right way, and the Arabs themselves were not able to express themselves, for example, Israel in the west is a country that is able and can present itself in a way of

pressuring the news, while Saudi Arabia, despite having billions, was unable to break the stereotype against it, and here the responsibility is borne by Saudi Arabia, and we have tried to communicate with the Saudi side in this aspect, and with the money they have, they can form media armies. Unfortunately, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, and the Arabs, in general, were not able to present their issues well. The Palestinian issue is a historical humanitarian issue, but the Arabs, despite the ongoing conflict, we're unable to present their issues well, and this is sad.

The fourteenth question: **What is the impact of the Corona pandemic on your journalistic work? Has the pandemic affected press coverage of world issues?**

- Yes, the Corona pandemic affected us and our work economically and professionally, and we witnessed negligence in press coverage. For two years I do not leave the house and even the publisher he is a pilot could not leave as all the airports were closed. Corona confused us professionally, although we did not lose the skill and professional craftsmanship, our work was disrupted, and even economically, many employees were laid off as a result of reducing salaries, and even British websites and newspapers were affected.

Even professionally, our work was affected when I was writing reports or news, Corona took all the news space and one political news.

The fifteenth question: **Were press coverage affected by the epidemic by publishing hateful news and stereotyped images about the other?**

- We were dealing with news as issued by the World Health Organization and what scientists say about the origin of the virus, as well as the opinions of experts. In Elaph, we have a section that follows up on the news of the epidemic moment by moment. As for the existence of hate speech in the Western and even Arab media towards China, for example, because of Corona, this did not exist. But the conspiracy theory greatly influenced people's opinions about the

epidemic in social media, to the point of questioning the epidemic until he got the infection or lost one of his family members to turn into saying that the epidemic was created in the west.

The sixteenth question: **What is the impact of new technologies in the world of media and communication on media work and news coverage about the other (Europe and the Western world) from your point of view?**

- I have a special theory in this aspect, which is that the development of communications, technologies and new technologies should stop for the next twenty years to take a breath and re-evaluate the upcoming media experience. For example, I did not know how to use a computer. Therefore, we want a new and solid pattern that has been established for at least half a century in media technologies, not the technologies of competition between East and West, and every company issues something new. We want solid technology that serves everyone, such as the German Heidelberg machine that has served 400 years in printing.

The seventeenth question: **What are the social media that your audience interacts with the most?**

- Twitter and Facebook, and I were told Instagram as well, but the priority for Twitter is that the Saudi audience is strong in all social media, especially Twitter.

The eighteenth question: **What are the issues of interest to your audience on social media?**

- All topics are of interest to readers, but political news first and social issues second, especially with the Saudi audience and with the developments undertaken by Mohammed bin Salman in recent years, as the topics related to these developments take a large part of the Saudi public's attention.

**Coding tables:**

Coding table categories

Codes according to the news subjects	Codes according to the topics of news	Codes according to the text of the news
Brexit, Conflicts, Covid19, Europe, international, Immigrants, Iraq, Jihadists, Local, Middle east, Protests, Racism, Refugees, Terrorism	Diverse/ Miscellaneous, Economy, Health, Politics, Sport	Hate speech, Stereotype

Codes according to the news subjects:

Codes /frequencies	Baghdad today	Elaph	Eldiario	Elnashra	Mediapart	Observer	Totals
○ Brexit	0	8	0	0	0	0	8
○ Conflicts	20	25	86	50	1	17	19
○ Covid19	6	17	17	22	0	4	66
○ Europe	8	71	51	32	5	5	172
○ Immigrants	0	2	44	1	0	3	50
○ International	5	8	33	16	0	7	69
○ Iraq	9	0	0	0	0	0	9
○ Jihadists	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
○ Local	5	0	0	2	0	0	7
○ Middle east	19	23	92	48	2	21	20
○ Protests	2	6	0	1	1	0	10
○ Racism	0	4	0	2	1	0	7
○ Refugees	1	0	2	2	0	1	6
○ Terrorism	11	10	17	2	1	3	44

Codes according to the topics of news:

Codes /frequencies	Baghdadtoday	Elaph	Eldiario	Elnashra	Mediapart	Observador	Totals
○ Diverse/ Miscellaneous	0	7	3	0	0	4	14
○ Economy	0	15	7	3	0	0	25
○ Health	6	10	12	20	0	3	51
○ Politics	22	5	152	57	4	23	313
○ Sport	0	11	1	0	3	1	16

Codes according to context of the news:

Codes /frequencies	Baghdadtoday	Elaph	Eldiario	Elnashra	Mediapart	Observador	Totals
○ Hate speech	7	4	10	4	4	1	30
○ Stereotype	7	22	35	2	5	7	78

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This dissertation examines Arab and European digital native media coverage of issues related to the Arab world and Europe in 2020, twenty years after the 9/11 attack. The main objective is to analyze the image of Arabs in the European media and the image of Europeans in the Arab media. Media agendas, language, hate speech, stereotypical images of the other, as well as the importance of news, sources of information, and actors outside journalism who control their work are some of the categories studied. Methodological triangulation is used, combining literature review, content analysis, and in-depth interviews. We have worked with six digital native media, representing a sample from Europe and the Arab world (Spain, France, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, and Iraq).