

Practices of Peace Journalism in Indonesian Media on the 2023-2024 Israeli-Palestinian Conflict: A Comparative Study of Kompas, Republika, and Detik

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Abstract

Objectives: This study examines the implementation of peace journalism in 253 articles from three major Indonesian online media outlets: Kompas, Republika, and Detik, chosen for their distinct characteristics—Kompas for its journalistic integrity, Republika for its large Muslim readership, and Detik for its wide reach and real-time reporting.

Methods: Using qualitative content analysis, this research interprets news narratives from articles selected between October 7, 2023, after Hamas' attack on Israel, and May 20, 2024, following the International Criminal Court's arrest warrants for key figures. Keyword searches related to the Israel-Palestine war yielded 264,000 articles from Kompas, 240,000 from Republika, and 594,000 from Detik, filtered down to 86, 82, and 85 articles.

Results: Kompas excelled in exploring conflict root causes, humanitarian reporting, and promoting non-violent solutions, adhering to seven of ten peace journalism principles. Detik focused on war consequences and public interest impacts, adhering to two principles. Republika shows a tendency to support Palestinians, especially resistance groups, which leads to a lack of application of other principles of peace journalism. The research also highlights Indonesia's strong political position in support of Palestine that likely influenced how these media framed their coverage.

Conclusions: Kompas, Republika, and Detik approach the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with a commitment to objectivity and humanizing narratives, while maintaining a pro-Palestinian stance. This study underscores the value of diverse media perspectives in fostering empathetic public discourse, supporting peaceful conflict resolution.

Keywords: Indonesian media, Israel-Palestine conflict, media coverage, peace journalism.

ممارسات صحافة السلام في وسائل الإعلام الإندونيسية بشأن الصراع الإسرائيلي الفلسطيني 2023-2024: دراسة مقارنة بين صحف كومباس، وريبوبليكا، وديتيك

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ملخص

الأهداف: تبحث هذه الدراسة في تطبيق صحافة السلام في 253 مقالاً من ثلاث وسائل إعلام إندونيسية رئيسية على الإنترنت: كومباس، وريبوبليكا، وديتيك، وقد تم اختيارها لخصائصها المتميزة - كومباس لثراءها الصحفية، وريبوبليكا لقاعدتها الكبيرة من القراء المسلمين، وديتيك لانتشارها الواسع وتقريرها الآنية.

المنهجية: باستخدام تحليل المحتوى النوعي، يفسر هذا البحث الروايات الإخبارية للمقالات المختارة بين 7 أكتوبر 2023، بعد هجوم حماس على إسرائيل، و20 مايو 2024، بعد صدور مذكرات الاعتقال من المحكمة الجنائية الدولية بحق شخصيات بارزة. أسفرت عمليات البحث بالكلمات المفتاحية المتعلقة بالحرب الإسرائيلية الفلسطينية عن 264,000 مقالة من كومباس، و240,000 من ريبوبليكا، و594,000 من ديتيك، وتمت تصفيها إلى 86 و82 و85 مقالة على التوالي.

النتائج: تفوقت كومباس في استكشاف الأسباب الجذرية للنزاع، وإعداد التقارير الإنسانية، والترويج للحلول غير العنيفة، والتزمت بسبعة من مبادئ صحافة السلام العشرة. ركزت ديتيك على عواقب الحرب وتأثيراتها على المصلحة العامة، والتزمت بمبدأين فقط. وأظهرت ريبوبليكا ميلاً إلى دعم الفلسطينيين، وخاصة جماعات المقاومة، مما أدى إلى عدم تطبيق المبادئ الأخرى لصحافة السلام. كما يسلط البحث الضوء على الموقف السياسي القوي لإندونيسيا الداعم لفلسطين، الذي أثر على كيفية تأطير هذه الوسائل الإعلامية لتغطيتها.

الخلاصة: تتعامل صحف كومباس وريبوبليكا وديتيك مع الصراع الإسرائيلي الفلسطيني بالتزام بالموضوعية والروايات الإنسانية، مع الحفاظ على موقف مؤيد للفلسطينيين. تؤكد هذه الدراسة على قيمة تنوع وجهات النظر الإعلامية في تعزيز الخطاب العام المتعاطف، ودعم حل الصراع السلمي.

الكلمات المفتاحية: وسائل الإعلام الإندونيسية، الصراع الإسرائيلي الفلسطيني، التغطية الإعلامية، صحافة السلام.

Introduction

The Hamas uprising against Israel on October 7, 2023 created new tensions around the world. In the military operation called Al-Aqsa Storm, the Al-Qassam Brigades, the military wing of Hamas, targeted southern Israel with 5,000 missiles and penetrated the border by air, land and sea (Smyth, 2023). Hours later, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu declared war on Hamas. The October 7 attacks occurred during a period of instability in Israel characterized by socio-political tensions that threatened the country's democratic reputation and social cohesion. Netanyahu's plan to gain full control of the executive branch has sparked public outrage (Benn, 2024). In response to the Hamas attack, Israel cut off access to water, food and fuel in Gaza and launched a ground invasion, which led to the siege of Gaza City. Since October 7, Israel has returned to intense airstrikes in the Gaza Strip, targeting hospitals, places of worship, and residential areas, leading to severe humanitarian consequences and high civilian casualties.

The conflict between Israel and Palestine occurred long before the above case. Their conflict can be traced back to the United Nations (UN) issuing Resolution 181 in 1947, which led to the establishment of the state of Israel in the Palestinian territories on May 14, 1948 (Franco, 2023; Mbah et al., 2024). From there, the conflict between these two countries never ended until it exploded again when Hamas attacked Israel on October 7, 2023. Hoaxes that emerged in the aftermath of the attack, especially in Western media, portrayed Hamas' malicious brutality as fact (Karniel et al., 2017). Notable hoaxes included claims of baby beheadings, burned babies, pregnant women stabbed, and a list of terrorists found by the IDF (Spencer, 2023). Media bias and sensationalism in reporting conflicts and terrorist activities have been observed in studies focusing on media coverage, election campaigns, and voting behavior (Yoon & Wilson, 2014). The framing of certain groups or events in the media significantly affects public perception and understanding of complex geopolitical issues.

The framing of Hamas as a terrorist organization by Israeli and Western media reflects a widespread trend in media representation, where complex political issues are reduced to simplistic and often biased depictions (Karniel et al., 2017; Panayotova & Rizova, 2021). Studies on media coverage of conflicts, such as the Ukraine conflict, have highlighted the role of media in shaping public understanding and perceptions of geopolitical events (Fengler et al., 2018). Contrary to prior literature, which suggested a lack of contextualization in media reporting, recent research has shown a trend towards meta-coverage that examines the media's role in crises, shedding light on the complexities of media representation in times of conflict. This contextualization is crucial in avoiding the perpetuation of stereotypes and misinformation, especially when reporting on sensitive issues like terrorism and warfare.

Media framing shapes narratives about regions and cultures, often leading to misrepresentations, as in the case of Africa and China (Adegbola et al., 2018; Gabore, 2020). For terrorist groups like ISIS, the media influences perceptions and responses to their propaganda (Andersen & Sandberg, 2020). The 24-hour news cycle impacts audiences' interpretation of violence and conflict (Klaczkowski, 2021). In the Israeli-Palestinian war, the media often promoted war journalism, supporting propaganda and elite interests while ignoring historical context and dehumanizing the enemy (Galtung, 2016). In contrast, peace journalism explores the roots of conflict and humanizes all sides, offering a more just narrative (Lee & Maslog, 2005).

In conflict zones like Israel and Palestine, peace journalism emerges as a crucial approach for fostering constructive and empathetic reporting (Lee, 2010). This journalistic method prioritizes avoiding demonizing language, maintaining neutrality, and incorporating perspectives from all involved parties (Lee et al., 2006). By eschewing inflammatory rhetoric and presenting a balanced view, peace journalism aims to cultivate understanding and encourage peaceful resolutions. Studies suggest this approach demonstrably reduces audience anger and fear while fostering hope and empathy (Lynch et al., 2015).

Specifically within the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, peace journalism transcends mere reporting on ongoing negotiations (Abdul-Nabi, 2022). It represents a deliberate effort by journalists to contribute to peacebuilding. Journalists practicing peace journalism delve into historical context, amplify diverse voices, and integrate conflict resolution considerations into their reporting. This approach seeks to shift the narrative away from perpetuating differences and towards peace initiatives (Bhowmik & Fisher, 2023). This proactive stance necessitates expanding the reporting timeframe to encompass events

preceding and following conflicts, thus facilitating a more comprehensive understanding of the situation (Neumann & Fahmy, 2016).

Research on media coverage of the Israel-Palestine conflict has historically been criticized for its emphasis on war journalism, which tends to focus on sensationalism, conflict, and propaganda rather than promoting peace (Ozohu-Suleiman, 2014). For example, framing the conflict as a story of violent extremists can overlook the underlying systemic issues such as economic and geopolitical forces that contribute to the perpetuation of the conflict (Falah, 2021). By analyzing media coverage and its impact on public support for the peace process, researchers have sought to understand how different narratives can either hinder or facilitate efforts towards peacebuilding (Sheafer & Dvir-Gvirsman, 2010).

In analyzing the presence of peace journalism in the coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict within major Indonesian media outlets like Kompas, Republika, and Detik, it is crucial to consider the unique perspectives and biases that may influence their reporting. While existing studies have predominantly focused on Western media coverage of this conflict, there is a growing interest in understanding how media from different regions, such as Indonesia, approach and portray the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (Ozohu-Suleiman, 2014). The Indonesian state's staunch defense of Palestine on international platforms, including at UN council meetings, underscores the country's strong stance on the issue.

This political position may influence how Indonesian media outlets frame their coverage of the conflict, potentially aligning with the government's narrative in support of Palestine. Understanding this context is essential in evaluating the extent to which peace journalism principles are integrated into their reporting (Slater, 2007). By reframing narratives to focus on peacebuilding efforts and highlighting commonalities that can unite opposing sides, peace journalism offers a pathway towards fostering dialogue and understanding (Shepherd, 2022). Embracing peace journalism in regions of prolonged conflict is not only essential from a journalistic perspective but also crucial for fostering empathy, understanding, and ultimately, peace.

We comprehensively analysed news coverage about the Israeli-Palestinian war in Indonesia's three most prominent media outlets, Kompas, Republika, and Detik, from October 7, 2023, to April 19, 2024. This period encompasses significant developments in the conflict, including the Iranian drone attack on Israel and Israel's bombing of the Iranian consulate in Damascus, which resulted in the deaths of several senior military officials. These events mark a critical escalation in the conflict, affecting international relations and regional stability.

This research tackles a crucial issue: the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict's deep historical roots. By analyzing Indonesian media coverage, it explores how the world's largest Muslim population perceives the events. This is particularly important in Indonesia, where major media outlets significantly influence public opinion on the Palestinian cause. Additionally, this study addresses the gap in peace journalism research, focusing on how media can promote peace and reduce tensions through balanced reporting.

Literatur Review

Peace Journalism

Norwegian scholar Johan Galtung pioneered the concept of peace journalism in the 1970s, establishing a framework for journalists covering conflicts and wars. In collaboration with Jake Lynch, Galtung further developed the idea in 2010. They argued that media, particularly war reporting, often exhibits a bias towards violence, conflating conflict with outright war (Galtung, 2016). Media coverage frequently emphasizes the differences between parties, neglecting commonalities and potential pathways to peace (Rafeeq, 2023).

Peace journalism, through its advocacy and interpretive approach, focuses on presenting narratives that highlight peace initiatives, reduce ethnic and religious tensions, prevent further conflict escalation, and promote conflict resolution, reconstruction, and reconciliation (Lee & Maslog, 2005). The goal is to deliver balanced news coverage that fosters peace. Key characteristics of peace journalism include: (1) exploring the complexities of conflict while humanizing all parties involved; (2) exposing falsehoods; (3) amplifying the voices of civil society while revealing violence and suffering, particularly among children and women; and (4) maintaining a firm belief in the possibility of achieving peace through creative, nonviolent means (Galtung, 2016).

Table 1. Differences Between Peace Journalism and War Journalism

No.	Peace Journalism	War Journalism
1.	Oriented towards peace	Oriented towards violence
2.	Oriented towards truth	Oriented towards propaganda
3.	Oriented towards people/society	Oriented towards elites
4.	Oriented towards solutions	Oriented towards victory

Source: (Galtung, 2016).

The impact of peace journalism extends beyond the journalist's role, demonstrably influencing the audience. Exposure to peace-oriented reporting elicits more positive responses from viewers (Lynch et al., 2015). Media outlets, by presenting stories through a peace journalism lens, have the potential to shape public perceptions and attitudes, ultimately contributing to an environment more conducive to conflict resolution. This aligns perfectly with the core principles of peace journalism, which prioritize solutions over disputes, long-term impacts over short-term issues, and the inclusion of diverse public viewpoints rather than solely relying on government perspectives (Wang, 2022).

Media Framing and Bias

Peace journalism is supported by framing theory, which refers to organizing news to present a specific narrative. Media framing can reveal the biases of journalists or media outlets. When reporting on conflict or war, framing can indicate which side the media supports (García-Perdomo et al., 2024). Peace journalism is crucial because it emphasizes the principles of good journalism, such as transparency, giving a voice to all parties, uncovering lies, and reporting on war atrocities and suffering. It also focuses on conflict transformation, recognizing that conflict can lead to human progress by finding creative, nonviolent solutions (Arregui et al., 2022).

Framing theory, as explained by (Entman, 1993, 2010), underlines the important role of the media in selecting and highlighting certain aspects of reality to shape public understanding and response to news. This process not only involves presenting information but also arranging it in such a way as to influence the way audiences perceive a problem, define the problem, interpret causes, make moral judgments, and recommend solutions. In conflict reporting, media frames often reflect the interests of powerful elites, resulting in biased portrayals of events and alignment with dominant narratives (Cozma & Kozman, 2017).

Framing theory explores how rhetorical devices influence individuals by emphasizing certain aspects of reality to support particular views (Bagdikian, 2004). Frames simplify messages to gain support while alienating opponents. Herman and Chomsky (1998) in "Manufacturing Consent" argue that media serves elite agendas by framing news to support their interests, especially in war journalism, which focuses on sensationalism and official perspectives, often ignoring historical context and alternative viewpoints. This framing can create biased narratives favoring certain actors and marginalizing others, influencing public perceptions and responses. Studies like Vreese (2005) highlight biases in conflict reporting, such as favoritism towards official sources and dualistic representations, which can increase violence and reinforce power dynamics. Researchers examine media frames and biases and explain how information construction and dissemination affect audience attitudes and behaviors.

In journalism, framing theory significantly impacts the narrative and public perception of various issues, including the Israeli-Palestinian conflict (Friedman & Herfroy-Mischler, 2020). Bhowmik & Fisher (2023) highlighted the influence of media frames on public perceptions of responsibility in social problems, illustrating how news media can shape narratives about who is responsible for causing or solving society's major problems. News framing in the media, including coverage of conflicts such as the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, is important in shaping social understanding of issues and potential solutions, impacting audience attitudes and behaviours.

Research Methods

This research uses qualitative content analysis to interpret data (Elo et al., 2014; Shava et al., 2021), a method widely applied to texts from interviews, social research, film narratives, TV programs, and news content (Macnamara, 2005). The study examines online news coverage from Kompas.com, Republika.co.id, and Detik.com, three of Indonesia's largest media companies in Indonesia. Kompas is known for its journalistic integrity and in-depth reporting, Republika focuses on Islamic perspectives, and Detik is recognized for its wide reach and real-time reporting. The period from October 7, 2023, to May 20, 2024, was chosen due to significant events: the October 7 Hamas attack on Israel, which drew international attention, and the May 20 issuance of ICC arrest warrants for Benjamin Netanyahu, Yoav Gallant, and three Hamas leaders, introducing new dimensions to the conflict and influencing media narratives.

The first step in this research is to determine relevant keywords to search for news related to the conflict, namely "Palestine," "Israel," "Israel-Palestine," "Palestine-Israel," "Palestinian War," and "Hamas." A search with these keywords found 264,000 news on Kompas, 240,000 on Republika, and 594,000 on Detik. Given the large number of interconnected and repetitive stories, the next step was to filter these stories to find unique and relevant articles. After further examination based on keywords and full content, 86 news articles from Kompas, 82 from Republika, and 85 from Detik were selected.

The next stage involved data coding, categorizing selected news articles based on peace journalism principles: exploring conflict root causes, emphasizing non-violent solutions, avoiding emotional language, revealing war consequences, highlighting public interest issues, and countering false narratives and propaganda. Each story was qualitatively analyzed for patterns and trends in media coverage, including theme analysis (violence, peace, propaganda), narrative analysis (story structure and delivery), and language analysis (emotional vs. objective language). To ensure accuracy and reliability, triangulation was conducted by checking consistency among the three media and discussing findings with two experts in journalism and communication. The qualitative analysis results were then interpreted to understand each media's role in shaping public perceptions and promoting peace.

Result and Discussion

Result

Peace journalism is essential in providing a thorough and nuanced view of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, as practiced by Kompas, Republika, and Detik. This approach not only reports on recent violent incidents but also delves into the long-standing historical context and ongoing impacts, thereby fostering a better understanding, reducing tensions, and encouraging peaceful conflict resolution efforts. The analysis of peace journalism practices in online articles from Kompas, Republika, and Detik is summarized in the chart below:

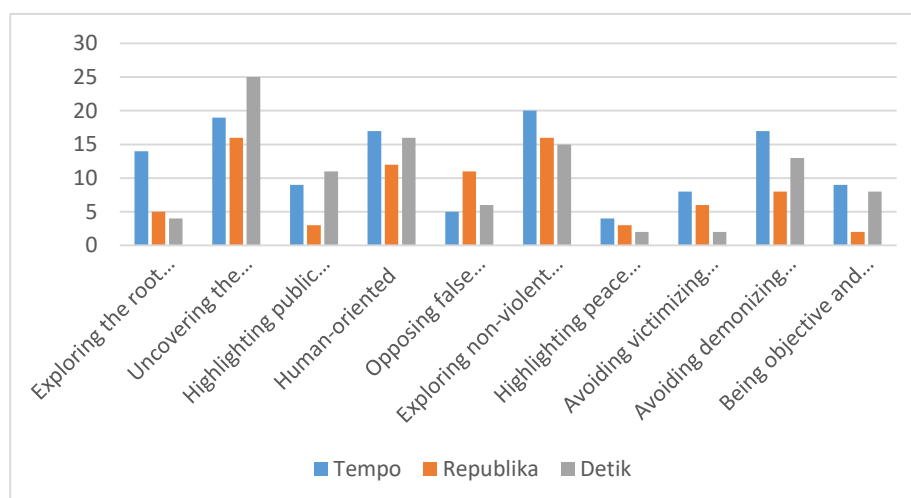


Chart 1. Implementation of Peace Journalism principles in Kompas, Republika, and Detik

Source: data processed by the author

Based on the chart above, it is evident that Kompas excels in applying six out of ten key principles of peace journalism. Specifically, Kompas outperforms in exploring the root causes of conflict, advocating non-violent solutions, and maintaining objectivity through human-oriented reporting. In 57% of the instances, Kompas effectively delves into the underlying causes of the conflict, situating these within the broader international context, and ensuring that facts remain paramount, free from emotional language.

In contrast, Detik shows strength in uncovering the consequences of war and highlighting public interest impacts, particularly concerning the Palestinian people. Statistically, Detik's coverage aligns with peace journalism principles in 32% of the analyzed cases, with a significant focus on the human impact of the conflict. This media frequently uses straightforward, direct language and quotes from affected individuals, which emphasizes the real-time experiences and survival struggles of the Palestinian community.

Meanwhile, Republika primarily stands out in opposing false narratives and propaganda, particularly those propagated by Israel and its Western allies. However, Republika's overall adherence to the principles of peace journalism is lower, with consistent alignment in only 18% of the cases. This tendency is likely due to the media's notable bias towards Palestine, often featuring Palestinian militant groups as the focal point of its coverage, which could detract from a more balanced application of peace journalism principles.

Kompas

Often, the causes of war are unknown or misunderstood by the public. The media has an important role in exploring and explaining the root causes of conflict so that people can understand the historical context and reasons behind the violence. In the context of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, many people think that the conflict was caused by the Hamas attack on October 7, 2023. In fact, the conflict between Israel and Palestine has been going on for more than 75 years. Thus, using a peace journalism approach, the media should not only focus on the current violence, but also provide a thorough historical context.

Kompas quoted Hamas spokesman Khaled Qadomi as stating that Hamas' attack on October 7, 2023, was a response to decades of Israeli attacks on the Palestinian people. This statement was part of Kompas' broader attempt to provide a chronological account of the events of October 7 and Israel's subsequent response, aiming to uncover the root causes and humanize all parties involved in the conflict (Adryamarthanino & Indriawati, 2024a). By giving voice to Hamas representatives, Kompas sought to explain the motivations behind their actions and the historical context of violence that influenced the decision, which is in line with the principles of peace journalism.

Kompas even made a long coverage tracing the history of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict up to 10 consecutive news reports which showed the media's intention to provide a comprehensive understanding to readers. Another important issue covered by Kompas is the hunger crisis in Gaza, which is a severe humanitarian impact of the ongoing conflict. The report highlighted that many people in Gaza can only eat one meal a day and described incidents where Israeli soldiers shot at individuals trying to take food from humanitarian aid trucks (Adhi, 2024). By focusing on the dire conditions faced by the people of Gaza, Kompas exposed a harsh reality that is often obscured by statistics and standard news reports, in keeping with its commitment to peace journalism.

In its coverage of the conflict, Kompas also reported on Israeli attacks on humanitarian convoys and facilities in Gaza. The report detailed incidents such as Israeli missiles hitting a World Central Kitchen (WCK) convoy of vehicles and projectiles penetrating a building occupied by Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) staff (Reditya, 2024a). This highlights the enormous challenges faced by humanitarian organizations in delivering essential aid, such as food and medicine, due to the conflict, illustrating how these attacks directly hamper humanitarian efforts.

Kompas showed its commitment to the humanitarian side of the conflict by reporting on the evacuation of Indonesian citizens in Palestine. This focus underscores the media's dedication to exposing human rights violations and giving voice to the victims of war (Adryamarthanino & Indriawati, 2024b). By highlighting the conditions of civilians and medical personnel, Kompas contributes to a more comprehensive narrative of the suffering caused by the conflict. In addition, Kompas emphasized the right of Palestinians, including Hamas, to carry out attacks against Israel based on the history of

occupation and the provisions of international law. The media outlet verified Israeli claims about Hamas actions on October 7, including the alleged beheading of a baby and acts of rape, and found them to be false (Adit, 2024a). This effort not only exposed the lies but also provided a broader historical and legal context, helping readers understand the complexity of the conflict without forgetting the need to humanize all parties involved.

To enrich its coverage further, Kompas regularly consults experts and institutions to report their views and research findings. For example, University of Indonesia Professor Hikmahanto Juwana emphasized the need for a two-state solution for Palestinian independence and recognition of Israel. This non-violent solution is also supported by the Indonesian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and international organizations such as the UN, OIC, and ASEAN (Aditya & Setuningsih, 2024).

Kompas also covered the demonstrations in Jerusalem, where tens of thousands of Israelis urged their government to negotiate a ceasefire, and the Palestinians' hope for an immediate ceasefire. By presenting these perspectives, Kompas illustrates that both Israelis and Palestinians want peace and an end to violence, thus reinforcing the notion that civilians on both sides have a common interest in resolving the conflict peacefully. The resilience of the Palestinian community during Ramadan in refugee camps was also the focus of Kompas' coverage. The coverage highlighted the Al-Musaharati tradition, where people wake up for suhoor with drumming and poetry, demonstrating their strength and creativity in maintaining traditions amidst conflict (Adit, 2024b).

Kompas maintained an objective tone in its reporting, providing a detailed chronology of the October 7 attack and the Israeli government's response without using inflammatory language. This approach is crucial in peace journalism as it helps reduce polarization and hatred (Adryamarthanino & Indriawati, 2024a). In addition, Kompas reported anarchy in the international system as the cause of the conflict, demonstrating objectivity by highlighting broader structural factors without excessive bias (Suryodarsono, 2023). From here, Kompas is consistent with the principles of peace journalism by compiling a comprehensive and humane narrative of the conflict.

Republika

Republika, as a media outlet known for its advocacy of the Muslim struggle, exemplifies the principles of peace journalism through its comprehensive and balanced coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Republika highlighted the more distant history by focusing on the Ottoman Turkish victory in Jerusalem, which created tranquility for the Arab communities in the region despite their diverse religious backgrounds, including Islam, Judaism and Christianity. This tranquility ended when Palestine was taken over by the British, who promised sovereign territory to ethnic Jews in Jerusalem (Fizriyani, 2023). This approach emphasizes how changes in power and political promises have shaped the dynamics of the conflict, helping readers understand that the current conflict has deep and complex roots that are essential to finding a peaceful solution.

Focusing on the mass evacuation of Palestinians due to the Israeli military offensive in Rafah, Republika described how hundreds of thousands of people were forced to leave their homes without essential belongings, seeking refuge in areas that lacked adequate water supply or sanitation (Mabruroh & Amanda, 2024). The social impact of the conflict is evident as Republika provides an in-depth description of the plight of the displaced community and the direct impact of the military offensive on the cessation of humanitarian aid.

Republika further highlighted the poor condition of public facilities, especially hospitals, owned by Palestinians. A report on Al-Awda Hospital in Jabalia, the only hospital in northern Gaza that provides orthopedic surgery and maternity services, illustrates the severe health crisis caused by the siege and military attacks. This coverage underscores the critical health situation and how Israeli military actions exacerbate this crisis. Republika's articles titled "Israel Kepung RS Al-Awda di Jabalia (Israel Besieges Al-Awda Hospital in Jabalia)" (Zamzami, 2024) and "Daftar Propaganda Bohong Israel yang Terbongkar (List of Israeli Lies Propaganda Exposed)" (Zuraya, 2023a) depict a framing that portrays Israel as committing horrific acts in the conflict.

Although Republika appears to be engaging in war journalism through these reports, it also includes elements that are in line with the principles of peace journalism. By exposing false propaganda and highlighting the humanitarian crisis in

besieged hospitals, Republika not only documents the harsh realities of war but also seeks to humanize the victims and provide a balanced narrative. This dual approach underscores Republika's commitment to advocating for the cause of Muslims while striving to maintain journalistic integrity and focus on a peaceful settlement.

The condition of journalists and medical staff in Gaza also received great attention. Republika reported on the many journalists killed in the war, emphasizing their important role in informing the world about the conflict and the risks they face (Dwinanda, 2024). In addition, the film also covers the struggles of the 2,000 medical staff who worked without food to break their fast during Ramadan, demonstrating their commitment to treating patients injured in the war (Puspaningtyas, 2024). These reports highlight the sacrifice and dedication of journalists and medical professionals in the midst of conflict.

Republika refuted Israeli allegations that Hamas killed concert-goers at a music festival near Kibbutz on October 7, 2023, by showing video evidence that showed the shooting came from an Israeli Apache helicopter (Zuraya, 2023b). This report underlines the importance of visual evidence in countering propaganda and illustrates that Israel also commits acts that harm civilians. Republika adheres to the principles of peaceful journalism by presenting verified facts without criticizing the parties involved.

Focusing on an international solution to the conflict, Republika highlighted the efforts of Turkey, Egypt and Russia to end the Israeli-Palestinian war. German Chancellor Olaf Scholz's warning to Israel not to expand the attack on Rafah and his call for immediate humanitarian aid were included, along with similar calls from Chinese President Xi Jinping, French President Emmanuel Macron, and UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres (Livicansera, 2024; Satria, 2024). These reports underscore the global push for peace.

Given the risks journalists face, Republika reported that the Palestinian Journalists Syndicate (PJS), the International Center for Justice in Palestine (ICJP), and the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ) plan to file a complaint with the International Court of Justice (ICJ) against Israel for war crimes (Purwadi, 2024). This shows Republika's commitment to holding violators accountable and seeking justice. Republika also covered a rally of Israelis in Tel Aviv demanding a ceasefire and linked this to wider protests against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's government (Adhi, 2024). The coverage highlighted that the call for a ceasefire stemmed from humanitarian concerns and criticism of government policies deemed to have failed to maintain stability and security (Reditya, 2024b).

The solidarity of Gazans, exemplified by Jamil Abu Assi's family, who cooked food for refugees, also became a focal point. Republika presents a supportive community narrative, showing Gazans not only as survivors but also as active agents who contribute to the welfare of their community (Agustin, 2023). This helps change people's perception from viewing Gazans as passive victims to recognizing their resilience and solidarity. Republika consistently uses non-demonizing language when covering Hamas and other Palestinian resistance groups, referring to them as resistance factions and not terrorist groups. This balanced perspective recognizes the complexity of the situation without making one-sided judgments. In reporting the ceasefire agreement between Hamas and Israel, Republika maintained objectivity by avoiding emotional language and presenting facts accurately (Firmansyah, 2024). This approach supports balanced reporting and contributes to peace efforts.

Detik

Peace journalism requires the media to reveal the hidden impacts of war, including migration, damage to social and economic infrastructure, and the long-term impacts felt by the community. In this context, Kompas, Republika and Detik provide different perspectives in reporting the impact of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, thus collectively offering a more comprehensive picture of the situation. Detik provides a broader perspective by reporting on changes in Israel's military strategy during the Israeli-Palestinian conflict in 2023. The report notes that Israel now bulldozes entire roads and neighborhoods, cutting off water, food and electricity supplies, creating unprecedented conditions of total siege (Febriani, 2023). This highlights the escalation of military tactics and their impact on daily life and reveals serious long-term implications for community recovery.

Examining the root causes of the conflict, Detik focuses on the period when the British established a 'national home' for Jews after taking over Palestinian land from the Ottoman Empire. The conflict escalated with the establishment of Israel in

1948, triggering the Nakba, during which many Palestinians were forced to flee their homes (Deutsche Welle, 2024b). Detik also describes the first wave of the Intifada in 1987, which was characterized by Palestinian protests against the Israeli occupation, helping readers understand the origins and long-term impact of the conflict on Palestinian society.

Reporting on the damage caused by Israeli bombs, Detik highlighted the destruction of hospitals, including the Indonesian Hospital in Gaza, as well as thousands of homes and public facilities, such as schools and universities (Ibrahim, 2023). The outlet also raised the issue of the destruction of cultural heritage sites in Palestine, emphasizing the wider impact on cultural identity and education (Setya, 2023). By covering this widespread destruction, Detik shows how the conflict impacts not only lives and homes but also precious cultural heritage.

Detik focuses on the struggles of important figures in Gaza who continue to fight for humanity, such as journalist Motaz Azaiza, Dr. Sara Al-Saqqa, and Indonesian Medical Emergency Rescue Committee (MER-C) volunteers. By highlighting their efforts, Detik humanizes the conflict and shows resistance to injustice through daily humanitarian actions (Timberbuatbaik.id, 2023). In response to Israeli propaganda, Detik exposed false claims, such as the alleged hidden bases at Al-Shifa Hospital, which were used to justify the attack. By highlighting the impact of propaganda and the importance of information verification, Detik maintains the principle of humanization and underlines the real impact of military action based on misinformation (Deutsche Welle, 2024a).

Similar to Kompas, Detik reported that Indonesia supports a two-state solution between Israel and Palestine, urging both sides to recognize each other's existence and negotiate borders. Indonesia also urged the UN General Assembly to establish an independent commission to investigate humanitarian conditions in Gaza and protect civilians (Damarjati, 2024). Detik covered the solutions offered by the Indonesian government, emphasizing international diplomacy to resolve the conflict (Erwanti, 2023). Focusing on the role of international organizations and NGOs, Detik highlighted the efforts of ActionAid Palestine and UNRWA in providing humanitarian aid (Satria, 2024). By covering these initiatives, Detik showed that peace and relief efforts are supported globally, underlining the importance of international concern for the humanitarian situation in Gaza.

Detik also shares inspiring stories of resilience, such as the people of Gaza who continue to perform ablutions for prayer despite the water crisis. By highlighting individual acts of creativity and dedication, Detik emphasized people's spiritual resilience and innovation in the face of adversity (Harbani, 2024). This coverage shows that despite the hardships, the people of Gaza have maintained their dignity and faith. Detik avoids using demonizing language in its articles, focusing on accurate and balanced information to help the public understand the broader context of the actions taken by the parties involved in the conflict. This approach is in line with the principles of peace journalism, as seen in their reporting on Israel's ground operation in Rafah and the arrest of Benjamin Netanyahu, Yoav Gallant, and three Hamas leaders by the ICC (Christiastuti, 2024; DetikNews, 2024). By presenting facts objectively and avoiding emotional language, Detik ensures information remains focused on relevant details, supporting efforts to achieve peace.

Discussion

A Deeper Understanding of the Conflict

Coverage of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict often falls into oversimplified narratives that fail to capture its complex nature. To truly understand this conflict, it is important for media reporting to delve beyond mere events and explore the historical, political, and socio-economic contexts that have contributed to shaping it (Attar & King, 2023). Research has shown that Western media coverage of the conflict tends to be unbalanced, with a tendency to favor the Israeli government's perspective. In addition, media portrayals of the conflict can influence public attention, as more news about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict leads to increased Google searches on the topic (Durante & Zhuravskaya, 2015).

In this context, Kompas' coverage, which includes a broader geopolitical framework, is crucial. However, its focus on systemic aspects of the conflict sometimes neglects personal stories of resilience and agency among Palestinians and Israelis. While it is important to report on tragedy and hardship, Kompas should seek to balance these reports with stories that reflect the strength and resilience of individuals, thus avoiding narratives that only portray them as victims. This balance

is important to empower news subjects and connect their stories to the broader human rights and social justice narrative.

Republika's objective reporting on the ceasefire agreement provides a factual basis for understanding the development of the conflict. However, the challenge for Republika lies in enriching this narrative with the human dimensions of the conflict. By including stories of how people navigate their daily lives amidst hardship, Republika can offer a more comprehensive picture documenting the conflict and the human spirit facing it. Such coverage would provide a more holistic view of the conflict, highlighting the resilience of the Palestinian people and their efforts to maintain dignity and hope in the face of occupation.

Detik's balanced approach to legal proceedings involving ICC actions against leaders from both sides is a step towards nuanced reporting. However, Detik faces the challenge of ensuring this legal narrative is clear of the stories of individuals living in conflict. By interweaving the legal aspects with personal stories of adaptation and survival, Detik could present an informative and highly humanizing narrative. This approach reflects not only the complexity of the conflict but also the indomitable nature of those affected by it, thus contributing to a narrative that fosters a deeper understanding of human rights and social justice in conflict contexts.

It is, therefore, the responsibility of the media to provide comprehensive coverage that recognizes these complexities and challenges existing biases. This includes acknowledging the impact of international politics, the strategic importance of location, and the psychological basis of conflict while also portraying affected communities as active agents in their narratives. In doing so, media outlets such as Kompas, Republika, and Detik can contribute to a more informed public discourse and foster a more nuanced understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, rich with stories of human resilience and the quest for justice.

Humanitarian Orientation

In covering the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, peace journalism encourages a humanitarian-oriented approach that connects the conflict to the human experience. This approach requires a careful balance of narrative, a conscious effort to avoid stereotyping, and the promotion of a deeper understanding of the human dimensions of the conflict (Attar & King, 2023; Bhowmik & Fisher, 2023). By examining the economic and socio-political challenges faced by Palestinians under Israeli occupation, media reporting can highlight the human impact of the conflict, highlighting its diverse effects on individuals and communities (Ayoub, 2023).

At the same time, media that focus exclusively on the tragedies and hardships of victims can inadvertently reinforce victim narratives that undermine the subject of the news. Therefore, the media should highlight the suffering, agency, and resilience of individuals and communities affected by conflict. By presenting a balanced view that incorporates the strengths and resilience of those involved, the media can foster a more empathetic and comprehensive understanding of the conflict (El-Nawawy & Elmasry, 2022). Furthermore, another challenge is to ensure that these stories are not merely anecdotal but also connected to a broader narrative of human rights and social justice.

Kompas, Republika, and Detik had the opportunity to integrate peace journalism principles into their coverage of the conflict. By focusing not only on the political and military aspects but also on the stories of individuals and communities in conflict, they can avoid reinforcing a single narrative of victimization and instead highlight the resilience and agency of both Palestinians and Israelis. This balanced reporting has the potential to foster a more empathetic and comprehensive understanding of the conflict, one that recognizes the shared humanity of both sides.

Furthermore, media coverage of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict can influence public attention and awareness, with spikes in interest correlating with media attention to specific events (Durante & Zhuravskaya, 2015). On the other hand, by adopting a peace journalism perspective, the media can shape their coverage to focus on the human experience, contributing to a more balanced and in-depth understanding of the conflict (Abdul-Nabi, 2022). This shift in focus is important to ensure that the stories of those living in conflict are not merely anecdotal but connected to a broader narrative of human rights and social justice.

This change in focus is important to ensure that the stories of those living in the conflict are not merely anecdotes but are connected to a broader narrative of human rights and social justice. By advocating the principles of peace journalism

and emphasizing the human dimensions of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the media can promote empathy, understanding, and a more holistic view of this long-standing and complex conflict.

Kompas, Republika, and Detik have the opportunity to lead by example, offering coverage that informs, educates, and connects with readers on a human level. Through such efforts, they can contribute to a media landscape that not only reports on the conflict but also fosters the conditions for peace and mutual understanding while keeping in mind the importance of presenting a balanced and nuanced portrayal of the human experience of the conflict.

Objectivity and Moderation

Objectivity and moderation in reporting the Israeli-Palestinian conflict news coverage are essential components of responsible journalism. Although objectivity is often mistaken for soulless neutrality, objectivity is fundamentally about fairness and accuracy (Ozohu-Suleiman, 2014). Examining conflict coverage in different media over an extended period reveals that depictions of conflict can vary widely, highlighting the importance of striving for objectivity and balance in reporting. Studies have shown that Arab news media tend to favor the Palestinian perspective and portray Palestinians as victims of Israeli aggression, which underscores the need for moderation and fairness in media coverage (El-Nawawy & Elmasry, 2022).

Unsurprisingly, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict is an ongoing cycle of violence. Both sides perceive themselves as victims and respond to perceived threats with violence (Haushofer et al., 2010). The rancorous nature of the ongoing conflict makes it difficult for journalists to convey an objective view, as each side tends to justify its actions as a defensive response to the other's aggression. The role of the media is important in shaping public understanding by avoiding one-sided narratives and recognizing the complexity of the conflict.

Although there is an international consensus in favor of a two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the chances of achieving such a resolution remain slim due to factors such as Israeli reluctance and internal Palestinian conflict (Schenker, 2022). Press coverage of this conflict has been scrutinized, with concerns about bias and imbalance in reporting. News organizations have been accused of overly favoring one side or not adequately representing both perspectives, thus highlighting the need for more balanced reporting to contribute to a better understanding of conflict dynamics.

In the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, both sides often see themselves as victims, engaging in violence in response to perceived threats. This illustrates the complexities journalists must face to present an objective view of the conflict. By acknowledging the retaliatory nature of the conflict and avoiding biased narratives, the media can contribute to a more balanced understanding of the dynamics at play. Kompas and Detik are committed to providing accurate and balanced reporting, demonstrating their dedication to objectivity and moderation in media coverage.

However, their challenge is to maintain this balance while still engaging readers. Too much moderation can lead to uninteresting reporting, while a lack of objectivity can lead to bias and misinformation. Republika, on the other hand, emphasizes factual reporting but must ensure that these facts are kept distinct from the broader context that gives them meaning. Objectivity is not just about presenting facts but also about understanding and conveying the complexities behind them. By upholding the principles of objectivity and moderation in reporting the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, journalists can strive to present a comprehensive and accurate picture of the complexities and nuances inherent in this perennial conflict.

Research Limitations and Recommendations

While this analysis effectively highlights Kompas, Republika and Detik's adherence to various principles of peace journalism, it would be worthwhile to explore further the balance these media outlets strike between covering the immediate events and delving into the deeper historical context of the conflict. Investigating the proportion of articles that emphasize root causes versus articles that focus on recent developments could provide valuable insights into how these media contribute to a nuanced public understanding of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. For example, while Kompas excels at exploring the root causes of the conflict, contributing 14 out of 23 articles on this topic, we consider it essential to consider whether this depth is consistent.

This study has limitations in its reliance on a sample of articles selected from each media outlet, which may only partially

capture their overall coverage during the conflict. Although providing detailed insights, we recognize that the primary use of qualitative content analysis can be complemented by quantitative methods in future research to understand the extent of media bias better. Future research could expand the sample size and include more media with different editorial stances or regional focus. In addition, it is also necessary to conduct a longitudinal analysis to reveal how media coverage evolves in response to significant developments in the conflict. By addressing these areas, future research can offer more comprehensive results on how the media shapes public perceptions of complex international disputes such as the Israeli-Palestinian case.

Conclusion

An analysis of the peace journalism practices of Kompas, Republika, and Detik reveals how each outlet approaches the Israeli-Palestinian conflict with a commitment to objectivity, in-depth reporting, and humanizing narratives. All three media demonstrate a commitment to objectivity by avoiding demonizing language and focusing on factual reporting, which contributes to a fairer narrative and supports peace efforts. Their comprehensive coverage encompasses the impact of the conflict on Gaza's public interests, including humanitarian barriers, the health crisis, and damage to cultural heritage. This comprehensive coverage illuminates the intricate and brutal realities of the conflict while underscoring the significance of safeguarding fundamental rights and public interests.

By emphasizing narratives of humanity and community resilience, such as Ramadan traditions, communal support, and innovative religious practices, the media portrayed Palestinian society as resilient and proactive in the face of adversity. These narratives inspire and educate the public about the importance of resilience and solidarity in conflict situations. Rigorous verification of information and countering propaganda are at the core of their reporting. By refuting false claims and presenting evidence-based reporting, Kompas, Republika, and Detik raise awareness about the importance of accurate information and countering propaganda that can exacerbate conflicts.

The media highlighted various peace efforts, including ceasefire calls, internal political dynamics, and the role of international organizations. This comprehensive approach fostered a deeper understanding of the conflict and encouraged sustainable peace efforts. While their coverage reflected an obvious pro-Palestinian stance, it is important to note that peace journalism is not the same as taking sides in the conflict; rather, it aims to convey the truth by journalistic principles and the ethos of peace journalism. The coverage of Kompas, Republika, and Detik may reflect ethnocentric perspectives or biases inherent in media coverage, which highlights the need for a thorough understanding of how conflicts are portrayed in domestic and international media.

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