

News Coverage in German Online Newspapers and in TV Newscasts



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Agenda

- European topics that newspapers talk about:
- Italian election
- influence on the EU (shift to the right)?
- newspapers with different political views
- news and comments on the Italian election

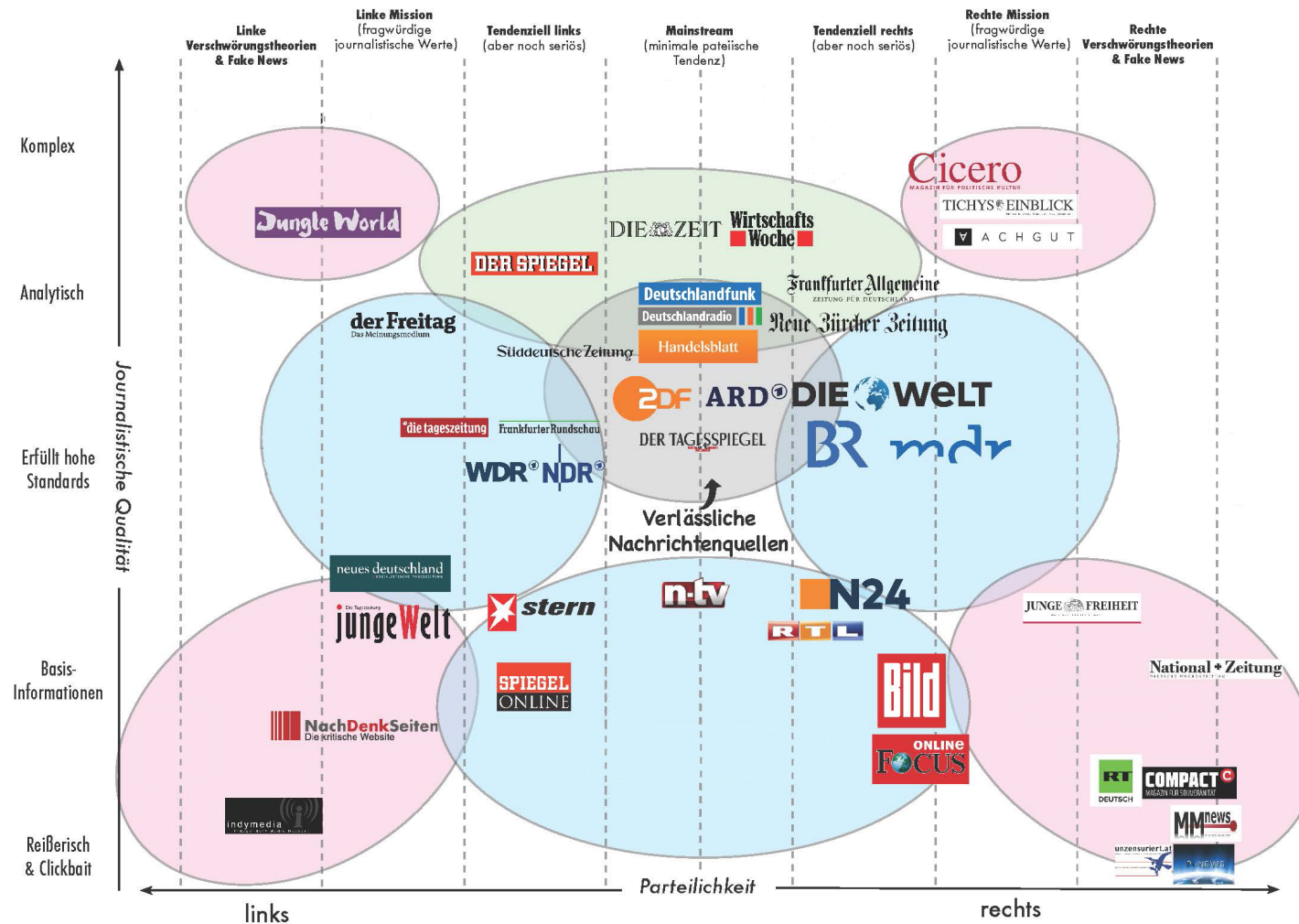
- TV news: compare two different TV channels
- news on incidents in Chemnitz



Italian presidential election: a comparison of German newspapers



Graphic illustration



Disclaimer: Yanessa Otero (<https://www.facebook.com/vanessa.otero.9619/posts/10155006385626062>) hat vor der US Wahl die amerikanische Medienlandschaft in eine Graphik gepackt. Das hat uns inspiriert, einen Ordnungs-Versuch für die deutsche Medienlandschaft zu wagen. Die Übersicht ist eine Diskussionsgrundlage, beruht auf persönlichen Einschätzungen und ist natürlich nicht abschließend (ja, die großen Regionalzeitungen fehlen...). Wir freuen uns auf konstruktives Feedback!



Italian election: A timeline



Part 1

- The new government in Italy consists of the right wing populist Lega and the anti-European Five Stars Movement
- Sergio Matarella (Prime Minister) defends the government's team (under the leadership of the independent Guiseppe Conte)
- expensive campaign in a dept-ridden country
- Both parties influenced the public opinion against Brussels and Berlin



Italian election: A timeline



Part 2

- Matteo Salvini (Lega) becomes secretary of the interior; Luigi di Maio becomes secretary of state for employment, both are deputy prime ministers
- Enzo Milanese (pro-European) will be foreign minister
- Giovanni Tria: minister of finance
- first coalition of these two parties in history
- international markets calm down after previous turbulences as a reelection is averted



Junge Freiheit



GESAMTSCHULE
der
Stadt Brühl



JUNGE FREIHEIT

WOCHENZEITUNG FÜR DEBATTE

Start Politik Wirtschaft Kultur Wissen Debatte Archiv JF-TV



Hessen 1

29. Oktober 2018

Nahles schließt personelle Änderungen nach Wahlniederlage aus

Die SPD-Vorsitzende Andrea Nahles hat nach der Landtagswahl in Hessen und dem schlechten Abschneiden ihrer Partei personelle Konsequenzen ausgeschlossen. Zugleich betonte sie, die Sozialdemokraten stünden zur Großen Koalition. Es liege eine Menge Arbeit vor ihrer Partei. [mehr »](#)



Scheidende CDU-Chefin 8

29. Oktober 2018

Merkel hinterläßt eine entkernte Partei

Die politische Karriere Angela Merkels neigt sich dem Ende zu. Spät, viel zu spät. Denn die CDU-Chefin hat nicht ihre Partei inhaltlich total entkernt, sondern mit ihrer Flüchtlingspolitik ein ganzes Land gespalten. *Ein Kommentar von Jörg Kürschner.* [mehr »](#)

Suchbegriff eingeben...

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Zur aktuellen JF »



Beliebte Meldungen

Meistgelesen Meistkommentiert

1. [Es reicht!](#)
2. [Wahlschlappe für CDU und SPD / Grüne gewinnen / AfD zweistellig](#)
3. [Die Krise der Volksparteien dauert an](#)

ZUWANDERUNG DARF NICHT FREMDBESTIMMT SEIN.

**keine
Legalisierung
illegaler
Migration**

migrationspakt-stoppen.de

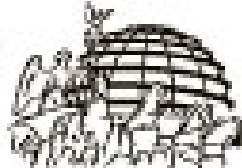
STOP
GANZ DEUTSCHLAND
PROTESTIERT
AfD

AfD



Junge Freiheit

- weekly magazine
 - Paper
 - Online
- German
- first edition : May, 1986
- politically cultural topic area
- conservative/ right wing

JUNGE  **FREIHEIT**



Explanation of the term conservative



In Germany conservative is a word that should not be understood in the international sense.

International meaning of conservative in general is “right wing“, “nationalist“ and “dreaming of better times.“

In Germany a conservative person is someone who wants to keep old convictions. They are also often not open to new ideas.



Junge Freiheit: Facts

article: “Mattarella violates the constitution“ (25th May, 2018.)

- Fact checking: **fake news!** He has the right, because the constitution says that he can nominate or refuse ministers
- President Mattarella does not accept the government's preferred candidate for the Ministry of Finance and Economy (named Savona)
- Lega (political party that wants Italy to leave the EU) leader Matteo Salvini issues an ultimatum: Savona or new elections
- Mattarella insists on his view: “ A man who supported a referendum on Italy's whereabouts in the Euro area should not be a minister”



Junge Freiheit: analysis

Opinion stated as a fact:

- “A veto, as suggested by Mattarella and some Italian and German media, is unknown in the constitution”
 - see above
- “So the formation of a government didn’t fail because the parties didn’t come to a conclusion. It failed because the president didn’t accept it.”
 - True fact! BUT The party proposed a minister who comments against the Italian constitution
- “Mattarella has thus prolonged the crisis and plunged Italy into new chaos.”
 - see above
- “Mattarella spoke out for illegal immigration, to the displeasure of many Italians- finally lost.”
 - The last comment doesn’t have anything to do with the building of the new government. Its only spread to create a bad reputation of Mattarella



Bild INFOS ZU BILDPLUS WETTER 7°C BREMEN EPAPER KONTAKT ZEITUNGSABO BILD SHOP LOGIN

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29.10.2018 - 17:35 UHR AKTUELLE NACHRICHTEN

MERKEL TRITT NICHT MEHR ALS CDU-CHEFIN AN IHRE HISTORISCHE RÜCKZUGS-REDE **IM VIDEO**

„Ich wurde nicht als Kanzlerin geboren“

Es ist an der Zeit ein neues Kapitel aufzuschlagen“



BILD

- political orientation: conservative
- publishing company: Axel-Springer publishing company
- boulevard newspaper / tabloid



BILD: facts

- **article:** „In einem Jahr wählt Europa ein neues Parlament . Was braut sich da zusammen?“ 09.07.18 ("Next year Europe is going to vote for a new parliament. There are some dark clouds gathering.")
- facts, evaluations (opinions) or assumptions?
- **facts (checked and verified):**
 - current distribution of seats in the European parliament
 - survey : perhaps no grand coalition with conservatives and social democrats
 - survey: the worst result for the European social democrats ever



BILD: analysis

- **opinion:**
 - „Da braut sich was zusammen.“ (There are some dark clouds gathering over Europe.)
 - „Chaos-Wahl in Italien“ (chaotic election in Italy)
- **assumptions:**
 - ”forecast for the next European election is difficult.“
 - ”possible new constellation in European parliament after the new European election.“
 - ”the demagogic , national parties are going to get many votes in the next European election.“



Spiegel Online

SPIEGEL ONLINE SPIEGEL 



Anmelden

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29. Oktober 2018

Schlagzeilen | DAX 11.339,19 | TV-Programm | Abo

Erklärung der Kanzlerin

Wann Merkel die Entscheidung für ihren Rückzug traf



Zäsur für die CDU und für Deutschland: Angela Merkel hat ihren Abschied von der politischen Bühne angekündigt. Nach dem Hessen-Debakel habe sie die Bekanntgabe des Verzichts auf den CDU-Vorsitz vorgezogen. [mehr...](#) [Video | Forum]

CDU: Merkel will nicht mehr für Parteivorsitz kandidieren

CDU-Vorsitz

Wer folgt auf Angela Merkel?



Angela Merkel tritt als CDU-Vorsitzende ab. Generalsekretärin Kramp-

SCHLAGZEILEN >

[Alle Artikel auf einen Blick...](#)



Spiegel Online



- published since: 25th October, 1994.
- Founders of print version: Rudolf Karl Augstein and Willy Brandt, 1970
- political orientation: left-liberal

SPIEGEL ONLINE

- Scandal:

With help from his newspaper, Rudolf Karl Augstein tried to bring down the conservative government of Konrad Adenauer. That is the reason why his newspaper reported critically about certain topics. He talked about alleged Nato secrets and then he was arrested.



Spiegel Online: analysis



- presents all important facts
- mostly without personal opinion
- If there is an opinion / comment:
 - critical towards conservative parties
 - pro European



Neues Deutschland

Das nd vom 29.10.2018:



► Zur Tagesausgabe



♥ Abonnieren

SPD in der Krise | Politik | Von Aert van Riel

Auf dem Weg in die Bedeutungslosigkeit



Die SPD streitet über ihre Strategie in der Krise. Während die Parteiführung Forderungen an den Koalitionspartner von der Union vorlegt, wollen einige Parteilinke das Bündnis schnell verlassen.

► **Nach der Hessen-Wahl** Merkel-Nachfolger bringen sich in Stellung



Neues Deutschland



Who does the newspaper belong to?

- Since 2007:
- 50% FEVAC
 - main company that supports the party “Die Linke”.
 - hotels, buildings and publishers belong to it,
 - worked with the SED (Socialist Party in Eastern Germany)
- 50% cooperative society
 - 96% belong to Matthias Schindler, who worked for the espionage of the GDR

How does the newspaper present itself?

- “socialist newspaper”
- not the body of the party “Die Linke”
- “gives Eastern Germany (former GDR?) a voice”
- strongest sales figures in Eastern Germany

“Neues Deutschland” was the second strongest newspaper of the GDR in the past and the main part of the party “SED”, which was created by SPD (socialist party) and KPD (communist party).



Neues Deutschland: analysis

Article: “Populists rule a country”

- mostly neutral
- headline is not neutral
- “Die Linke” (Newspaper) and “M5S” have common topics.
- → So there is not much written about “M5S”

Article: "Escalation of hate, resentment and violence"

- many judgemental terms
- left oriented
- against the Italian government
- “We must stand together against attacks on minorities“
- pro Europe

Article: "Escalation of hate, resentment and violence"

- parties promote racism



Neues Deutschland: analysis

Facts

The facts that are named in both articles are right:

Article: "Populists rule a country"

- new head of government: Guiseppe Conte
- two populist movements: Extreme right, unsteady left
- Minister of Economy: Giovanni Tria
- Salvini (Minister of the Interior): many racist statements, for example: "Clean the cities of migrants"
- soon: more deportations



Demonstrations in Chemnitz: A comparison of German TV newscasts



TV News

Tagesschau

Who owns Tagesschau?

- It is a channel under public law
- This means: publicly financed, but independent from the respective government

Orientation:

- ARD has to be politically neutral
- inform all its spectators about all facts

Target group:

- interested in political topics

RTL II News

Who owns RTL II News?

- It is a private channel
- It belongs to: RTL Group
- The owners are: Heinrich Bauer Verlag KG, Tele München Fernseh GmbH & Co., Medienbeteiligung KG, Burda GmbH

Orientation:

- RTL II wants to be politically neutral, but they say about themselves that they are mostly left-liberal
- Inform about the important facts

Target group:

- Young people (14 to 29) without prior knowledge of politics



Facts

Tagesschau:

- 35-year-old man was killed by two or three refugees
- Right-wing parties and associations called for a funeral march
- Demonstrators showed Hitler greetings and hunted people “not looking German”
- Videos where demonstrators hunted foreigners were spread on the internet
- 65000 people were at a concert against xenophobia in Chemnitz
- Hans-Georg Maaßen (then head of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution) doubted the authenticity of the video in an interview.
- Meanwhile the authenticity of the video has been proven
- Many politicians and citizens said Maaßen had to step back
- Government decided: Maaßen is no longer head of the Office for the Protection of the Constitution
- Now he is part of the federal ministry of internal affairs



Analysis

Tagesschau:

Tagesschau is neutral

They show:

- interviews with politicians
- statements by politicians of different parties are shown so that people can make up their opinion
- they try to show different perspectives of problems
- they use elaborate language and technical terms
 - target group: educated adults
- They repeated the same video 8 times within few weeks to argue against accusations that they were showing fake news.

RESULT: no judgemental comments on and around facts



Facts

RTL II News:

- 35 year old Daniel H. was killed with a knife by immigrants on the 26th August.
- On the 3rd September famous German bands send a signal against right wing riots and violence.
- A 22 year old man died on 6 September after a dispute with two Afghans, although he didn't die because of the fight, but because of his heart disease.
- On 12 September Gauland said that there was no hunt on foreigners.
- On 12 September, SPD delegate Schulz was having a tantrum during a session of the German parliament after Gauland's statements.
- On 7 September, Hans-Georg Maaßen, the President of the German Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution said a video of people chasing foreigners was no reliable information about the fact that such chases have taken place in Chemnitz.
- At the press conference Horst Seehofer, the chairman of the CSU said, when people speak their minds, it doesn't automatically mean they're Nazis. But he also said that immigrants are the source of the problem.



Analysis

RTL II news:

RTL2 judge facts: They call the concert that was organized by left-wing organizations a complete success. So they support the concert and people might be influenced.

Less interviews with politicians, but interviews with musicians and passers-by, a lot of pictures, no long text passages → corresponds to the target group (14-29 year old people) who are interested in singers rather than politicians

It is a simple language with few technical terms. They meet the target group

Partly scandal and gossip oriented: conflict between Schulz (Social democrat) and Gauland (right wing German party) is shown → Again they meet the target group's interests

