

WAR OUTBREAK-RELATED LANGUAGE IN THE “SINTEZA ZILEI” NEWS SHOW ON FEBRUARY 24, 2022

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Abstract

What we are looking at in this paper is the news show “Sinteza zilei” transmitted on channel Antena 3 on the 24th of February 2022, the day the war between Russia and Ukraine started, in order to establish, through analyzing the language used, the psychological impact of the outbreak of war between Russia and Ukraine, the issues that concern people the most, detaching some features related to its perception and its further transmission or dispersion by the news channel in question. In the Introduction, we outline the reasons why we have chosen this particular show, which have to do with its relevance and popularity as illustrated by statistics. Also, we relate the ability to perform such an analysis, along with the access to information and capacity to draw relevant conclusions with social and cultural implications, to its presence in the online environment, i.e., on YouTube. This ensures repeated access to its content that is essential for its study and the research attempted on it. The use of electronic resources, technology and Internet helps investigation of this type, making it possible.

Keywords: online resources, war language, news show, crisis

JEL Classification: H5, Z10

1. Introduction

One of the reasons why we have chosen this TV show is that it has constantly monitored the war situation between Russia and Ukraine, for almost two months now, providing a closer and relentless look into events as they occurred, in real time, and focusing on this aspect of our existences with dedication, making it the focal point of the show overall. This was made possible by the interval that it is reserved in the program grid, which is roughly an hour daily, so relatively enough time to detail the issues brought forward; also, by being placed later in the evening, it can offer, as the title announces, a synthesis of the occurrences of the day, summing up the available information at that point. Moreover, I have picked this show as it is present in the grid of a news television, one that is centered on this kind of broadcasts in general. Even though another television appears to have the lead in terms of audience, i.e. Pro TV, according to various statistics and polls, Pro TV is not oriented on news exclusively, news shows being merely one component among others in their program grid, and the channel being rather an entertainment-focused one. What is more, Antena 3 has seen a dramatic rise in audiences starting from February to March 2022.

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If we take a closer look at this situation, we will realize why it is extremely significant. Apparently, if we consider the top five and we take into consideration the count at national level for the prime-time viewership in February-March, for the segment between seven and eleven o'clock p.m., we notice that Antena 3 occupies, indeed, only the fifth position, but, in terms of numbers of viewers, it is the only one that is on the rise, and a significant one, from 377,000 viewers, in February, to 455,000 in March [1]. All the other channels occupying the top positions from the first to the fourth have seen a decrease in the number of viewers, as visible in the table below (which originally features seventy-six positions, but out of which we have displayed here only the first ten):

	National for February 2022	Thousands of people	Rtg%	Share	National for March 2022	Thousands of people	Rtg	Shr
1	Pro TV	1.879	10.7	23.2	Pro TV	1.720	9.8	21.9
2	Kanal D	1131	6.4	13.9	Kanal D	1077	6.1	13.7
3	Antena 1	938	5.3	11.6	Antena 1	879	5.0	11.2
4	Romania TV	473	2.7	5.8	Antena 3	455	2.6	5.8
5	Antena 3	377	2.2	4.7	Romania TV	423	2.4	5.4
6	Happy Channel	240	1.4	3	Happy Channel	269	1.5	3.4
7	DigiSport 1	209	1.2	2.6	Antena Stars	212	1.2	2.7
8	Prima TV	172	1.0	2.1	Digi 24	175	1.0	2.2
9	Realitatea Plus	162	0.9	2	DigiSport 1	174	1.0	2.2
10	Antena Stars	162	0.9	2	National TV	170	1.0	2.2

Figure 1. Audience of television channels in February-March 2022, according to the prime-time average (prime-time interval, between seven and eleven p.m.), at a national level; positions 1 to 5 (“Audiența posturilor TV în lunile FEBRUARIE și MARTIE, după media în PRIME-TIME (intervalul de maximă audiență, 19.00 - 23.00), la nivel NAȚIONAL”) [2]

The table above depicts an ascending trend in prime-time ratings for Antena 3, followed by even more visible changes in the month of March, when Romanians became more interested in the issue of war, given that it has been unfolding, seen rapid advancements, and done so quite close to the borders of our country. The interest shown by Romanians in news has caused a decrease in the interest in “generalist” televisions such as Pro TV, Kanal D or Antena 1. Forbes Romania places Antena 3 on the fifth position as well, the channel being outnumbered in viewership for the month of February only by România TV as another news show. According to Forbes, televisions with the greatest audiences at a national level for February 2022, where the numbers represent the amount of viewers every minute

throughout a day are: Pro TV with 829,000 viewers per minute (all day), Antena 1 500,000, Kanal D 409,000, România TV 301,000 and Antena 3 239,000, with the mention, nevertheless – which functions as an early positive sign for our argument – that it has won the greatest number of viewers on the niche of news televisions [3].

However, the counts above refer to the whole month of February, which includes, of course, the three weeks prior to the war outbreak. The situation with the statistics is about to change, as we shall see in what follows, Antena 3 becoming the leader of news shows in the subsequent month, which means that it has done a better job at depicting war information than the competition.

News televisions have, in general, registered increases in audiences (with the exception of România TV) throughout March, which is perhaps a normal outcome of the war situation. România TV, which used to be the main competitor for Antena 3 on the interval January-February, outranking the latter in audiences [4], not only fell behind, but lost viewership. Moreover, even though the other news televisions present in the top ten, namely Realitatea Plus and Digi 24 managed to increase the number of viewers, as part of the general rise in interest for news bulletins and shows against the background of the special context, which we consider a natural consequence, they have done so by far less dramatic numbers than Antena 3. Thus, Realitatea Plus went from 162,000 to 168,000, whereas Digi 24 progressed from 127,000 to 175,000; this means an increase of 6000 viewers and, respectively, 48,000 viewers, in comparison with Antena 3’s increase of 78,000 viewers. In order to check this information, we should have a look at the table below, which is a continuation of the one above, starring positions from eleven to fifteen:

	National for February 2022	Thousands of people	Rtg%	Share		National for March 2022	Thousands of people	Rtg	Shr
11	National TV	158	0.9	2		Realitatea Plus	168	1.0	2.1
12	Pro Cinema	157	0.9	1.9		Prima TV	161	0.9	2
13	TVR 1	146	0.8	1.8		Pro Cinema	145	0.8	1.8
14	Digi 24	127	0.7	1.6		TVR 1	132	0.8	1.7
15	TVR 2	104	0.6	1.3		TVR 2	111	0.6	1.4

Figure 2. Audience of television channels in February-March 2022, according to the prime-time average (prime-time interval, between seven and eleven p.m.), at a national level; positions 11 to 15 [5]

To illustrate the progress registered by Antena 3 in comparison with the other two news channels that are closer to it in the tops presented here, we can use a chart, as below. It shows the great difference between Antena 3 and the other two news channels in both months, February and March, as well as the more significant evolution in numbers registered by this channel in comparison with the evolutions of the other two.

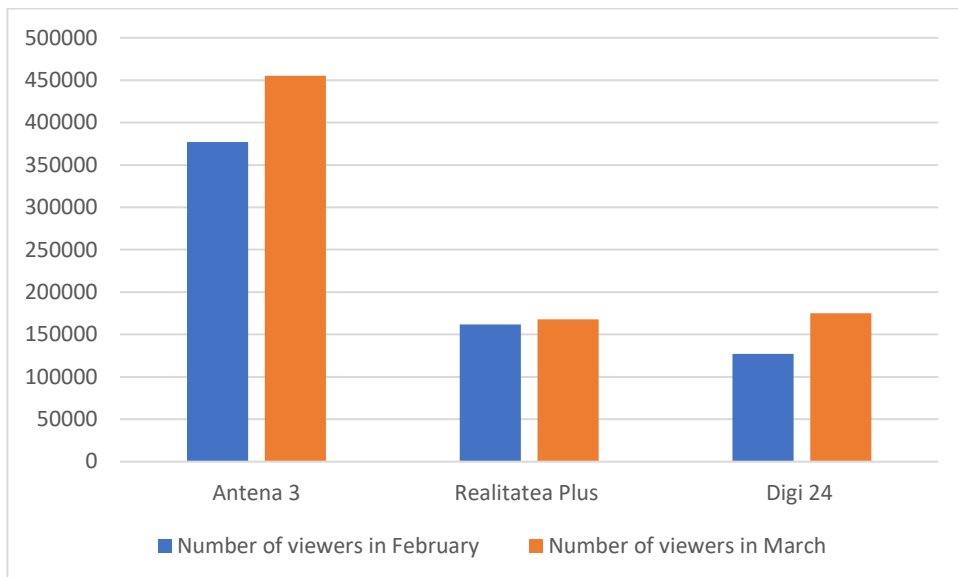


Figure 3. The progress registered by Antena 3 in comparison with the other two news channels present in the top positions for the months of February and March

If we analyze what has happened in terms of averages per day (not in prime time as above), the increase in the prominence of news televisions, and particularly Antena 3, is more visible. At national level, Antena 3 has managed to rise to the fourth position, after Pro TV, Antena 1 and Kanal D, in this order, followed by România TV; at urban level, the increase is even more dramatic, as it has made the top, rising to the third position, pushing Kanal D out of it [6].

The data from the short paragraph above is meant to primarily point to a significant rise in the viewership of the channel Antena 3 in the period of the two months considered relevant here. It goes to show that the channel is the most appreciated in terms of news shows nowadays. The tables before reveal its importance *on the specific time interval of the evening*, functioning as an argument why we are endeavoring to look at the show called “Sinteza zilei”, picking it for this analysis.

Last but not least, we need to mention that this analysis has been made possible due to the online presence of the registered show. The source of it is YouTube. Hence, the online component and environment functions here not only as a means for accessing the information at any given time, but also as a facilitator – given its quasi-ubiquity and repeat access – for analyses of this type, with relevance in the social plane, which increase awareness of both reception and conception of informative materials, counting as instruments to check perception and, respectively, change of perception upon a later date, with respect to a social phenomenon of this relevance and impact such as war.

2. Language – corpus and approach

In this section we start by introducing the corpus of language that we are analyzing. The method used below is to divide and classify the sources of the language within the news

show by some relevant moments, for the sake of ordering information a bit. To this aim, we have watched the three recorded videos corresponding to the three parts of the news show from the 24th of February present on YouTube and noted all significant vocabulary in these sections. The resulting corpus then constitutes the object of our study, as we are analyzing, classifying it on topics and themes and drawing conclusions on the studied items.

The focus terminology is mostly in Romanian, for obvious reasons, “Sinteza zilei” being a Romanian news show, but there are also English terms coming from interviews made by the CNN collaborators, for which the Romanian translation was provided either in a dubbed manner, as a voiceover, or in the form of subtitles.

All the credit for the corpus introduced below goes, of course, to the authors, producers, host and guests of the news show, the Intact trust and Antena 3, as it consists of actual quotes from their sentences, from what is being said or shown in the broadcast. What occasionally appears in brackets are explanations that put the respective phrase in Romanian in context and are meant to provide minimal explanatory frame. The suspension points are used to eliminate the babbles that occur in spoken language and do not omit any relevant information, i.e., information that would change the meaning of the phrase in any meaningful way.

We are putting forth this corpus in a chronological order, as it is presented in the show, which explains why some parts of it are, in some places, coherent, as they relate to a certain topic which is approached at a certain time for some minutes or dozens of seconds in a row, but others are, on the contrary, disruptive, as the concept of the show is to introduce “breaking news” as they arrive from the reporters, which on some occasions means dropping the subject or even interrupting the guests’ flow of ideas quite abruptly. For these reasons, the way the terminology is introduced below may seem random or incoherent, but we are intentionally presenting it so in order to preserve original flows and to be as loyal as possible to the actual unfolding of the show, which is part of its specific and, we should say, value.

In the news show, the sources that information comes from are: the girdles with titles summing up what is being presented, and which are constantly changed on the screen so that each appears quite a number of times throughout the duration of the whole show; the dialogues or monologues of the host, Mihai Gâdea, and his guests (like, for instance, his colleague, Radu Tudor and others mentioned here further); the videos played with footage made by reporters onsite in various relevant locations (Romanian ones, like Cristi Popovici or the CNN correspondents, Nick Paton Walsh and Clarissa Ward) or with bits of interviews with political personalities such as President Zelensky or Putin.

The corpus is the following.

The announcements or breaking news titles displayed on the girdle:

“Război la granițele României!”

“Bilanț tragic: Sute de morți și răniți”

“Trupele ruse sunt aproape de Kiev, vor să cucerească orașul”

“Centrala nucleară de la Cernobîl, capturată de trupele lui Putin”

“70 de instalații militare din Ucraina au fost distruse”

“Comunitatea internațională condamnă invazia decisă de Putin”

“Acum: se încearcă ocuparea Kievului. Alertă în capitala Ucrainei”

“Este stare de război în Ucraina și stare de alertă în Moldova”

“Avioanele către Ucraina și Moldova, redirecționate spre România”

“Guvernul României a activat un task force care monitorizează situația”

“Val de sancțiuni internaționale anunțate pentru Rusia”

“Oficial ucrainean: capitala Kiev este înconjurată de militarii ruși”

“Compania aeriană rusă, interzisă acum în spațiul aerian britanic”

“Apocalipsa după Putin! Bombardamente în zorii zilei. Groază și prigoană”

“Comisia europeană: Rusia va fi izolată așa cum nu a fost vreodată”

“Primii refugiați au ajuns deja în România. Suntem pregătiți pentru 500.000”

“Rușii au distrus peste 70 de ținte militare în Ucraina! Rușii fac prăpăd!”

“Iohannis: România nu va fi atrasă în conflictul militar din Ucraina”

“Iohannis: Niciun român nu trebuie să se teamă”

“Oficial ucrainean: sute de civili și militari morți în urma atacului”

“Imaginile terorii. Ucrainenii sunt disperați: Unde să fug?”

“Presa ucraineană anunță că Rusia a capturat Cernobil”

“Armata rusă se laudă că prima zi a invaziei a fost un success”

“Imaginile terorii: sună alarmele de război la Kiev! Este alertă maximă”

“Vitali Kliciko, primarul Kievului, a decretat stare de asediu!”

“Proteste în Rusia față de decizia de a invada Ucraina”

“Teroarea războiului: oamenii fug cu copiii în brațe să se salveze”

“Peste 1200 de persoane au fost reținute la protestele din Rusia”

“NATO, avertisment pentru Putin: nu te apropia de țările aliate”

“Măcel în Ucraina: un copil mort în urma atacurilor. Sute de militari decedați”

“Mâine întâlnire de urgență a tuturor membrilor NATO”

“Războiul în direct. Cum dispare Ucraina de pe hartă în atacul rușilor”

“Ziua în care a început din nou războiul în Europa. Rușii au invadat Ucraina!”

“Rusia a început războiul”

“Ultima oră: Vladimir Putin pregătește un nou atac! Ce ținte noi are Rusia”

“Putin zdruncină pacea planetară. Rusia pregătește un nou atac”

“Șocant! Imagini noi cu haosul din Ucraina. Bombe, tancuri, sute de morți și răniți”

“Rusia lui Putin versus SUA și NATO. Ce urmează pentru România?”

“Stațiile de metrou din Ucraina au devenit buncăre improvizate”

“Zeci de ucraineni vin pe jos în România: Plecăm unde vedem cu ochii!”

“Mama din Ucraina care a venit plângând în România cu bebelușul în brațe”

“Ucraineni în genunchi în centrul orașului, se roagă pentru țara lor”

“Biden: Putin a plănuit atacul luni de zile, inclusiv spitalele de campanie”

“Biden: Putin este agresorul! Putin a ales războiul!”

“Biden: Putin nu va fi iertat pentru invazia Ucrainei”

“Biden: Vom încerca să oprim acțiunea Rusiei. Impunem penalități economice”

“Biden: La summitul NATO de mâine vom face tot să oprim acțiunea lui Putin”

“Biden: Dacă Rusia continuă atacurile cibernetice, vom răspunde!”

“Biden: Putin este o amenințare pentru viitorul nostru, ne opunem vehement!”

“Biden promite suplimentarea cu trupe a flancului estic, dacă va fi nevoie”

“Biden: Vom susține aliații NATO din flancul estic, cum e și România”

“Biden anunță sancțiuni economice pentru Rusia. Le blocăm băncile”

“Biden: Putin vrea să refacă URSS. Nu am de gând să vorbesc cu Putin”

“Biden: Vom începe să vedem efectul sancțiunilor impuse Rusiei”

“Biden: Rusia va ajunge o putere de mâna a doua în urma sancțiunilor”

“Ultima oră: Val de proteste anti-Putin în Rusia. 1500 de oameni au fost arestați”

“Biden anunță ce a decis SUA după ce Putin a pornit războiul în Ucraina”

“Trimisul special Antena 3 în Ucraina, transmisiune de pe linia frontului”

“Trimisul special Antena 3 în Ucraina, date în timp real de pe linia frontului”

“Război lângă România! Rusia versus restul lumii!”

“Liderii lumii libere condamnă invadarea Ucrainei de către ruși”
“G7: Vladimir Putin, pe lista neagră a istoriei Biden: Putin e agresorul!”
“Convoiul disperării la granița României. Oamenii fug din calea războiului”
“Șeful NATO: Un atac împotriva unui stat aliat NATO e un atac împotriva tuturor!”
“Paris, imagini de ultimă oră: Mii de oameni protestează împotriva Rusiei”
“Român din Odesa, mărturie în direct din infernul războiului”
“Cristina Șișcanu cere ajutor pentru familia ei din Ucraina”
“Insula Șerpilor a fost ocupată de ruși. Armata lui Putin continuă atacurile”
“Acum: Lupte grele la Harkov! Atac cu rachete. Oamenii s-au refugiat la metrou”
“Armata lui Putin este la 40 de km de România! Rușii continuă atacurile”
“Lupte grele în Sumy, în nord-estul Ucrainei. Trupele rusești fac prăpăd!”
“Putin aruncă în aer 75 de ani de pace după al 2-lea război mondial”
“Zeci de refugiați au ajuns în vama Siret. Românii le oferă mâncare și transport”

During the news show, words said by Mircea Gâdea or the guests, live:

“linia frontului”

Mariupol

“cele două republici separatiste care au devenit independente”

“armatei ruse”

“imagini care (...) ne-au făcut pielea de găină”

“terifiați” (about the people who have taken shelter underground)

“zone de la metrou, buncăre, adăposturi improvizate”

“cutremurător”

“război plus Coronavirus”

“momente extrem, extrem, extrem de grele”

“Ministru al Apărării” (Ioan Mircea Pașcu); “fost vice-președinte al Parlamentului European”, “domnule Ministru”, “domnule Profesor”

“a gândit acest atac”

“generalii săi (Putin’s) au venit cu propuneri”, “și-au dat acordul”, “a decis”

“hartă”; „ordinea atacurilor”; “atacurile pe ore”

“Putin anunță o operațiune militară specială în Donbas”

“Putin îi amenință”

“tentați să intervină”

“ar putea să se alăture”

“legea marțială”

“trupe rusești”; “au intrat în Ucraina din Belarus”; “au intrat în Ucraina din Crimeea”; “vin ... intră”

“forțele rusești au preluat controlul asupra unei baze aeriene”

“bazele aeriene”

“liderul Uniunii Europene”

“cele mai grave sancțiuni”

“peste 40 de soldați și 10 civili au murit în timpul invaziei”

“zona așa-zis separatistă”

“NATO suplimentează mai multe forțe terestre și aeriene”

“forțele rusești merg mai departe și preiau baze aeriene”

“mor și civili”

“război cu NATO”; “război nuclear”

“cele 30 de țări NATO”

“toate aeroporturile au fost lovite pentru a nu permite aterizarea unor avioane din vest care să aducă echipament militar”

“blocadă navală”

“zone hașurate”

“coridor terestru”

“să izoleze Ucraina de Marea Neagră”

“teatru de operațiuni”

“România joacă un rol important în toată această ecuație”

“proteste din Rusia”

“anunță măsuri”; “aceste măsuri îi vor afecta pe ruși, pe poporul rus”

“proteste de la Moscova”

“ce face propaganda Rusiei”

“pentru a justifica ceea ce se întâmplă”

“oamenii au ieșit în stradă”

“îi este teamă”

“arestări imediate, i-au luat, i-au băgat în dube”

“reușește să îi convingă pe ruși că direcția războiului este direcția în care trebuie să meargă?”

“sentimente anti-occidentale”; “patria era amenințată”; “a încercat să educe populația”

“rubla s-a prăbușit, bursele s-au închis, acțiunile au pierdut din valoare”

“măsurile sunt drastice pentru a descuraja creșterea acestui val anti-război în Rusia”

“la noi în țară Ceaușescu a recurs inclusiv la uciderea oamenilor care protestau și tot nu a mers”

“centrala nucleară de la Cernobil”

“dezastru fără precedent”

“această centrală nucleară este acaparată de ruși, este cucerită de ruși”

“sunt ținuți prizonieri”

“bomba nucleară”

“pune mâna cu armata sa pe”

“granița cu”

“simbol al fostei URSS”

“să intre în posesia”

“să ocupe acest obiectiv”

“Președintele Statelor Unite”

“uniformă militară, grad de general”

“se încearcă convingerea poporului rus”

“cine a lovit copii, cine a lovit femei, cine a ucis”

“au mâinile pătate”; “vieți nevinovate”

“plecau din Kiev”

“zonele ... afectate”

“absolut impresionante”

“un avion de transport s-a prăbușit”; “pilotul de la bord”

“Ministerul Apărării”

“Republica Moldova”

“mare acțiune”

“cel mai negru război de după al doilea război mondial”

“Ministrul de Interne ucrainean a făcut ... un anunț”

“57 de morți, zeci de răniți”

“o nuanță evidentă de criză umanitară”

“un tată care ... își ia rămas bun de la copilul său și de la familia sa pentru a se duce să lupte pe front”

“cozi mari în zonele în care ucrainenii mergeau să se înroleze”

“granița noastră de la Siret, acolo unde localnicii au ieșit să îi aștepte pe refugiați”

“sunt voluntari la granița Siret care preiau aceste familii să le ducă la pensiuni sau la casele lor”

“zeci de tineri care au venit din tot județul”

“mașini personale”

Mădălin Dumitru, “specialist în cibernetică”; “*cybersmart defense*”; “atacuri cibernetice”; “două site-uri au fost clonate”; “Capital și News.ro”; “copiat întreg conținutul site-ului original”; “folosite pentru diseminarea de informații de tip *fake news*”; “*social media*”; “abundență de propagandă rusească”; “suntem în mijlocul unui război cibernetic de mai bine de 15 ani”; “atac cibernetic răsunător asupra Estoniei” (2007); “război hibrid”; “sunt infectate aceste sisteme informatice”; “aceste atacuri hibride au loc cu mult timp

înainte”; “la anumite comenzi se detonează”; “sunt targetate de obicei, sunt atacate de obicei sistemele din infrastructura critică – aici vorbim de electricitate, de sistemele de ghidare GPS, de telecomunicații ... site-urile guvernamentale cu ... atacuri de tip bombing ... ca acestea să fie blocate”; “derularea și rostogolirea de știri false pentru a alimenta starea aceasta de panică”; “Rusia este cunoscută ca ... având capacități ofensive cibernetice”; “grup de astfel de hackeri denumit APT28 sau Fancy Bear”; “Advanced Persistent Threat”; “să infecteze sistemele informatice ale unui stat și să stea acolo în adormire”; “există armate cibernetice, există soldați”; “atacă state”; “virusi sofisticati”; “a mapa suprafața de atac a unei țări”; “Ucraina este un furnizor de servicii IT pentru Top 500 Fortune, deci, în Statele Unite, 1 din 5 companii din Statele Unite are ca furnizor de servicii IT companii din Ucraina, deci este o țară care face foarte mult *outsourcing*”; “atacurile acestea de tip *supply chain* – lanțul de aprovizionare”; “*soft-uri* esențiale pentru *retail*, pentru magazine”; “codurile sursă”; “aplicații”; “atacuri cibernetice sofisticate cu un impact global”

“Putin *asasin!*”

“copii foarte mici”

“Cătălina Porumbel, jurnalist de investigații și realizator Antena 3”

“Sarmiza Andronic, “analist politic expert în comunicare”

“Vice-președintele comisiei de apărare din Camera Deputaților, domnul Sorin Moldovan”

“Prim redactor șef adjunct Evenimentul zilei, Mirel Curea”

“Mugur Ciuvică, președintele grupului de investigații politice”

“mame cu copii”

“Polonia”

“UE”

“Statele Unite ale Americii au suspendat astăzi programul împotriva Chinei privind spionajul și furtul de tehnologie. Se încearcă, așadar, după toate datele, ruperea relațiilor dintre Moscova și Beijing”

“New York Times”

“presa de stat din China”

“E o încercare a Statelor Unite de rupere a Chinei de Rusia?”

“NATO a intrat în Iugoslavia”

“Charta ONU”

“genocid, dezastru umanitar”

“oameni chinuți în Donbas”

“Sankt Petersburg”; “au ieșit foarte mulți oameni în stradă; dezaprobare”

China”

“ridicarea unor sancțiuni, a unor restricții de către Statele Unite ale Americii pentru

“cine îl poate opri pe Vladimir Putin în acest moment”

“două piețe importante: India și China (for Putin)”

“efecte imediate”

“nivelul de trai al rușilor”

“propaganda de la Kremlin”

“revolte”; “stadiu incipient”; “dacă ele se vor intensifica”

“rubla”

“dictator”

“sondaj de opinie”

“talent psihiatric”

“absolut toată lumea normală la cap a spus că acțiunea de azi a lui Putin e nebunie”

“nicio rațiune, nicio logică de bun simț”

“noi am analizat rațional, aici a fost greșeala”

“a intrat pe Skype”

“atac masiv asupra Kievului”

“armă”; “au spart geamurile”; “agitație”; “suntem surprinși”; “straniu”; “teamă”

“trecerea cu bacul (at) [...] Isaccea”

“militarii ucraineni au recucerit un aeroport strategic la nord de capitală”;

“respingere”

“două tabere”; “tabăra pro-rusă”

“ucraineni, români, găgăuzi, Bulgari”; “diferite naționalități”; “nu e legat de naționalitate”

“poliția lui Vladimir Putin încearcă să impresioneze”

“o femeie este pusă de poliție la pământ și este lovită cu bestialitate de către poliția de la Moscova”; “brutalitate”; “violență”

“aceste imagini nu pot fi cenzurate, ele ajung pe Twitter”

“cenzura este absolută în momentul de față în Rusia”

“ceea ce face propaganda lui Vladimir Putin este îngrozitor”

“a surprins o lume întreagă Putin”

“arată disperat”; “arată ca un om bolnav”

“eroarea noastră ... sau eroarea mea ... a fost că eu am aplicat o schemă rațională de a analiza o situație excluzând, din ușurință, faptul că poate omenirea are de a face cu un om care s-a decompensat, cu un om nebun”; “nenorocirea e că e un om nebun care are o valiză nucleară”

Cristina Șișcanu: “familia extinsă”; “verișoara mea”; “sunt foarte îngrijorată pentru ea, pentru soțul ei, pentru copil, mai ales că ea este și însărcinată în 7 luni și este și infectată cu Covid, și a trebuit să plece așa, că erau în izolare toată familia, și trebuie să meargă la părinți”; “unchiul”

“este complicat”

“s-a raționalizat benzina”; “a stat 3 ore la coadă la benzinărie”

“ampliare a situației”; “mi-e frică”; “s-a speriat cealaltă verișoară a mea”; “halul”; “le este frică”; “sunt foarte marcată”; “este foarte greu să lase totul în urmă”; “plângea”

“copilași, mame”

“vremuri de criză”; “situațiile dramatice”; “scenariul cel mai negru s-a împlinit”

“Insula Șerpilor a fost ocupată de trupele rusești, declară serviciul de grăniceri al Ucrainei”

“40 de mii marine”; “în dreptul Deltei Dunării”; “zonă strategică”; “un radar, un scut”; “poate avea importanță militară majoră”; “era o garnizoană”; “foarte aproape de apele teritoriale ale României”; “45 de kilometri”; “e o bază militară”; “rol strategic”; “cel mai apropiat punct de NATO”

“incendiu”

“la Moscova sunt proteste violente cu arestări pe stradă, cu bătăi pe stradă”

“baza Mihail Kogălniceanu”

“contingent destul de numeros de trupe ale NATO”

“Interfax”

“un rol de demoralizare”; “un rol descurajant”; “devastator”

“război informațional, comunicational”; “în primele 72 de ore”

“Putin nu folosește cuvântul război ... folosește mereu intervenție militară”

“lupte grele în această localitate din nord-estul Ucrainei, Sumy”

“puști-mitralieră”; “radar atât de puternic”; “radiații”; “echipamente”

“schimbă dramatic echilibrul de forțe și aranjarea lor în bazinul Mării Negre”

“foarte lung proces cu Ucraina la Curtea Internațională de Justiție pentru delimitarea platoului continental”

“un mic port-avion”

“prezența militară agresivă rusă”

“ecuația echilibrului strategic din bazinul Mării Negre”

“3 riverane membre NATO”; “2 parteneri NATO”; “un adversar declarat al NATO”

“să trateze bazinul Mării Negre ca pe propria ogradă”

“Iac rusesc, așa cum se spunea la începutul mandatului lui, Băsescu”

“să mute toată zona de influență, toată zona de interdicție maritimă și pericolul militar mult mai aproape”

“France-Presse”

“Președintele Emmanuel Macron”

“ofensivă militară”; “atac aerian”; “atacuri cu rachetă”

“președinția franceză a Consiliului Uniunii Europene”; “campanie electorală prezidențială”

“situație extrem de compromițătoare pentru el și pentru noi, ca europeni”

“frecventabil pentru vreun lider al Europei civilizate”

“lucrurile nu arată deloc bine”

“focuri de armă”

“imposibil pentru mulți să creadă”

“războaie ... convenționale”

“dramele sunt cutremurătoare”; “dorm la metrou”; “doar hainele de pe ei”; “copii foarte, foarte mici”; “nu se aștepta nimeni ca în secolul ăsta să mai existe astfel de scene”

“unde vrea să ajungă Vladimir Putin”; “cine poate să îl oprească pe Vladimir Putin în aceste momente”

Nikolaev; la 63 de kilometri de Marea Neagră; soldații ruși care pun mâna și pe această localitate”

“bătălie la sol (în Sumy)”; “raid aerian”; “atacuri aeriene”; “atacuri cu rachetă”; “să distrugă”; “centre de comandă”; “soldați”; “scenariul cel mai rău”

“zonele care și-au declarat independența”

“ce localități au cucerit”

“faptul că sunt aproape ... de noi ... era greu de crezut acum 24 de ore”; “ce își doresc de fapt?”; “să ajungă la granița cu NATO”; “să aibă argumente cât mai grele într-o negociere”

“Germania a trimis avioane de luptă Eurofighter pentru a suplimenta la Kogălniceanu ...”

“am primit forțe noi”; “Franța a anunțat că trimite”; “Statele Unite au trimis astăzi 2 avioane F35”; “Statele Unite și Germania în momentul de față este limpede ceea ce anticipează, anticipează o apropiere a Rusiei de granița noastră”; “cele mai performante din lume”; “5 aeronave”; “și în Polonia”; “flancul de est”; “ne uităm cu multă îngrijorare”; “forță NATO într-atât de redutabilă”; “forțe italiene”; “grup de luptă NATO ... condus de către Franța”; “va fi dislocat în perioada imediat următoare în România”

“știre îngrozitoare”

“purtătorul de cuvânt al Kremlinului a dat o declarație pentru Russia Today”; “Peskov”

“ofertă serioasă”; “capcană”

“cetățean cu mințile duse”

Evghenia Kironaki: “s-a interzis ieșirea din țară a bărbaților” (younger than sixty); “trăiesc o dramă ca journalist”; “sunt într-un soi de stare de șoc”; “nu îmi vine să cred”; “niciodată nu te-ai aștepta la un război de asemenea amploare”; “sunt familii care sunt împărțite, sunt afaceri ... relațiile sunt foarte apropiate între oameni, strict între oameni”; “nu te așteptai să poarte un război ... cei care poartă o cruce la gât și dincolo, și dincoace”; “frați creștini”; “frați ortodocși”; “ceva incredibil”; “situație foarte disperată”; “a pleca la război”; “asta e foarte mare durere, când frate cu frate se războiește, când vecin cu vecin se războiește”; “să se despartă familii, să se certe la masa”; “e avertizată populația să aibă grijă, să nu se apropie de geamuri, să nu iasă pe străzi”; “pierderi foarte mari din partea rușilor”; “apărare de asemenea dimensiuni”; “a intrat înapoi sub controlul ucrainenilor un anume aeroport”

“forțele aeriene rusești să parașuteze militari”; “Rusia se pare că ascunde pierderile pe care le-a suportat”; “cred și eu că rușii nu se așteptau la asemenea apărare ... ca ucrainenii să fie atât de îndârjiți”; sunt cozi la centrele de recrutare”

“s-au împărțit arme la cel puțin 10.000 de persoane”

“această situație este extrem de periculoasă”

“o parte din organizațiile paramilitare au primit astfel de arme” (în 2014)

“imagini de la sol”

“cel mai mare război se poartă acum la nivel de *fake news*”

“ambele tabere se acuză de genocid, de înscenare”

“vama Siret”

“l-au făcut praf, practic pulbere ruși” (about an aerodrome); “pagube”

“îi somează să se predea”

“impact emotional”

“lăsați armele”; “să vă predați”; “executați de ruși” (the 30 Ukrainian soldiers from Snake Island)

“situație fără precedent”

“asalt incredibil”

The video clip with footage from the war sites and embedded comments or explanations made on it, as well as snippets from interviews with Presidents Zelensky or Putin:

“atac de anvergură”

“Se trage! Se trage! Hai să plecăm! Hai să plecăm!”

“atacul de care se teme lumea întreagă”

“aerodromuri și aeroporturi militare”; “depozite de muniție”; “baze strategice”

“lovite de o ploaie de rachete trase din avioanele de luptă ale rușilor și din drone”

“armata ucraineană”

“(Putin) operațiune militară”

“aviația rusă a ridicat de la sol”; “avioane militare”

“ore de coșmar”

“Președintele Ucrainei, reședința sa din Kiev”

“catastrofa care i-a lovit țara”; “bombardamentele”; “regiunea separatistă Donbas”; “au avansat rapid” (the bombardments); “au fost lovite ținte în ...; aruncate în aer baze militare ... și instalații radar”

“estul Ucrainei”; “zona Crimeei, Gerson și Odessa”

“bubuitură puternică”

“Marea Azov”

“lovituri de artilerie, focuri de armă”; “lovituri puternice”; “pompieri care încearcă să stingă incendiul”; “lovituri repetate”; “lovite case, lovite blocuri”

“șase persoane rănite”; “ne-am adăpostit într-un garaj subteran, un buncăr improvizat”; “rachete”; “aruncată în aer”; “tranșee”; “militar ucrainean”; “mesaj emoționant”; “să doboare cel puțin șapte avioane de luptă și un elicopter”; “a respins asaltul rușilor”

(Zelensky): “panică, să sprijinim (the Ukrainian army), coaliție anti-Putin”

“țintă majoră”; “au pătruns”; “au lansat rachete”; “raid”; “un avion militar ucrainean s-a prăbușit ... doborât de ...”; “navă militară a Rusiei din Marea Neagră devia vapoarele comerciale”

Video call with the CNN correspondent, Nick Paton Walsh, dubbed in Romanian:

“una dintre cele mai mari temeri”; “una dintre cele mai mari probleme, cea mai mare problemă”; “zona de securitate din partea de sud a țării”; “ne îngrijorează”; “Marea Neagră este lângă noi”; “atac în apropiere de Marea Neagră”; “explozii”; “lupte intense în apropierea unui pod” (near the Crimean Peninsula); “mișcări multiple”; (the bridge) “este foarte disputat”; “centrala electrică”; “vor evita, vor ocoli orașul”; “probleme de securitate”

Video call with the CNN correspondent, Clarissa Ward, with subtitles in Romanian:

(Adolescent who has come to study in Ukraine, describing war and the situation): “oribil” (very horrible), “însăpăimântător” (very scary)

“adăpost antiaerian” (Bomb shelter); “subsol” (Basement); “bombardamentele” (Bombing); “exploziile” (explosions); “tancurile rusești” (Russian tanks); “în număr mare pe scări” (people came flooding down the stairs)

“Vă este teamă?” (frightened); “Sunteți însăpăimântată?” (scared)

(Ukrainian woman describing what she has on her, subsequent to rushing to the underground station) “strictul necesar” (necessary stuffs); “pașaportul, documente și ceva bani” (passport, documents and some money); “cash” (we can’t take cash); “nu știu dacă voi putea plăti cu cardul” (not sure if I can pay by card); “mașină”; “nu cred că acum poți fi în siguranță” (car; safe to go)

“asalt pe scară largă” (widespread assault); “țintește orașe” (targeting cities); “sentiment de disperare” (sense of desperation); “stații de metrou” (subway stations)

Video with statement made by a female official as part of Russian propaganda:

“criminalii de război din Ucraina trebuie judecați obligatoriu”; “victimele lor au fost oameni pașnici, printre care femei și copii”; “Șeful Gărzii Naționale”; “Fostul Ministru de Interne”, “loctiitorul său, Fostul Ministru al Apărării”; “condamnat în Rusia la 6 ani de

pușcărie cu executare”; “sunt ... deschise dosare penale pe numele ...”; “misiunea rusă din Donbas”; “atacul asupra ambasadei ruse din 2018”; “anchetarea”; “este declanșată o vânătoare”

Video call from Kiev with reporter Cristi Popovici:

“pusti”; “cartiere”; “autostrada”, “drum expres”; “partea de sud a țării”; “plecând”; “lăsând în urmă”; “turiști”; “hotel”; “jurnaliști”; “evacuați”; “2 paznici și o cameristă, unul din paznici face și pe recepționarul”; “toate instituțiile, toate restaurantele sunt închise”; “bancomatele ... nu merge niciunul”; “benzinăriile sunt ... pustii, altele nu au combustibil, am încercat și noi să alimentăm”; “oraș-fantomă”

“să bage frica în locuitori”; “nu i-a reușit războiul blitzkrieg”

“comandamentul forțelor unite” (joint-force commandment) (from Ukraine); “structură a armatei ucrainene”; “duce bătălii”; “nord, est, sud”; “bilanțul”; “au părăsit”; “(marile) orașe”; “zonele rurale”; “Harkov, un punct industrial foarte puternic al Ucrainei, aflat doar la 30 de kilometri distanță de granița cu Rusia”; “lupte crâncene”; “oamenii s-au refugiat”; “circulau informații ... deocamdată nu s-au adevărit”

Language related to the press, media and to journalism:

“trust de presă”; “jurnaliști, tehnicieni, echipa”; “vital”; “echipa Antenei 1”; “a transmite pentru publicul din România”; “correspondent”; “sub gloanțe”; “informații în timp real despre război pe ...”; “imagini dure”; “informații încă neconfirmate”; “suntem în legătură directă cu corespondentul CNN”; “un jurnalist extraordinar, uriaș al planetei” (Clarissa Ward); “întregii prese, partenerilor CNN”; “cel mai bun reporter de război în momentul de față”; “trecere în revistă”; “îi rog pe colegii mei să difuzeze imagini”; “există informații”; “nu dispun de asemenea date”; “televiziunile din Rusia”; “previzionare”; “reportaje de propagandă”; “canalele publice”; “unul dintre cei mai buni jurnaliști”; “ne întoarcem repede”; “îi rog pe colegii mei să pregătească materialele de la Siret”; “sursele spun”; “imagini de noapte”; “zvonul”; “massmedia”; “comunicat al poliției de frontieră”; “cei care erau pe post”; “o redacție întreagă lucrează și la această oră”; “cel mai urmărit post de știri din România”; “ceea ce facem noi nu este o meserie, este mult mai mult de atât, este o misiune”; “posturi de știri din Ucraina”; “televiziunea de știri”; “mai avem 30 de secunde”

“Trăim vremuri grele, iar noi, ca jurnaliști, înțelegem să ne desfășurăm activitatea cu mult profesionalism și cu multă onoare.”

“am fost foarte mândru să fac parte din această echipă”

“am fost foarte impresionat de determinarea colegilor mei de a-și exercita profesiunea în vremuri grele cu mult profesionalism”

3. Findings

To start with the simplest items of vocabulary, and in order to set the scene and identify the entities present in the news show, we remark the use of *proper nouns or names*. We can divide these into more categories.

Since the news show is exclusively dedicated to signaling and describing the outbreak of war between Russia and Ukraine, and its advancements and developments, we may first speak of *toponyms* of the parties involved in the conflict. As part of these, we have *country names*, such as Russia and Ukraine as main protagonists, but also, since the show discusses other countries' positions and statements regarding this conflict, their names as well: Romania, in the context in which the presenter and guests worry about the conflict reaching and surpassing the borders of our country, especially with the Russians overtaking Snake Island; Moldova, or the Republic of Moldova, as a neighboring country, due to its proximity to the armed conflict; “SUA”, i.e. the USA (as the site of the setup of NATO, the defensive organization that has had a reaction to the starting of this conflict in the world), also called “Statele Unite” or “Statele Unite ale Americii”, i.e. the United States of the United States of America, the acronym being mostly used in the written presentations on the girdle, to economize space, and the other, more extensive or even the full name appearing in oral discourse; Belarus as a territory used by Russia to deploy military forces, so its ally; “URSS” also called “fosta URSS” in Romanian, i.e. USSR or former USSR, an abbreviation for the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, in its shorter name the Soviet Union, a “communist state spanning Eurasia from 1922 to 1991”, a “federal union”, “the largest country in the world [...] spanning eleven time zones” [10], in the context of wondering on Putin's intentions to, or nostalgia for go(ing) back to this kind of territorial arrangement; Estonia, in the context of Mădălin Dumitru exemplifying a cyber-attack with the one happening in this country in 2007; Poland, due to its proximity to war, being a neighbor of Ukraine and Belarus, but also a NATO territory, the implications of a potential attack on it from the part of Russia being a third world war. Another country mentioned in the news show is China, in the context of the United States suspending the program regarding the investigation of alleged espionage and technology theft from China, described by German and Liang as “a Trump-era national security program designed to focus resources on prosecuting economic espionage and trade secret theft by Chinese government agents” initiated in 2018 [11]; the program formerly known as “the China Initiative”, however, will still be developed, “threat-driven”, to have a wider scope, not be country-specific or “myopic”, triggered by concerns of national security, as U.S. Assistant Attorney General for National Security Matthew Olsen revealed [12]. In the context of the news show, a hypothesis is launched related to this measure, whether it is not an attempt to undermine relationships between Moscow and Beijing. Also, China is seen as a relevant market for Russia, along with India – another country mentioned in this quality, of representing market for Putin, and thus the initiative drop from the part of the US may appear to be a move to isolate Russia. European countries that are part of the NATO Alliance are referred to in the context in which they send support for Romania and Poland as allies of the defense organization on the eastern flank: Germany, for dispatching Eurofighter

⁵⁰ Sources for the whole corpus: [7], [8], [9].

planes, France for announcing to send a battle group led by them, i.e. French troops that will be characterized as “Response Force” units [13]; Italy is implied in the phrase “Italian forces”. Former Yugoslavia is mentioned briefly as a territory of NATO intervention. As a natural corollary, names designating nationalities also appear, such as Ukrainian, Russian, Romanian, American, Italian, French, Bulgarian, Gagauz, referring to either the respective people or as adjectives describing something from the respective countries.

Among toponyms, the names of *cities and regions* appear in great numbers, next to the countries, being even more numerous than country names. Most of them are from Ukraine, which is only logical since this country is a war theater: Kyiv, the capital of Ukraine and an extremely populous city, transformed into a target of the Russian army, along with Mariupol and Chernobyl, famous for its nuclear disaster and power plant that is suspected to represent an objective with military relevance; Odessa and Kharkiv as the site of bombings and missile strikes; Sumy as the site of attacks by ground forces; Donbas is mentioned as a separatist region to highlight the turmoil of the population in general, and appears in the Russian female official’s discourse as the site of a Russian mission; Nikolayev is described as another city recently occupied by the Russians, and Kherson as yet another target. Evghenia Kironaki and Cristina Șișcanu mention a few other cities and regions from Ukraine, indicating them as either places that the population deserts as a result of the expanding war, or places where people are currently going through a difficult situation as a consequence of having to defend themselves. Moscow, Sankt Petersburg and Paris are presented as the sites of anti-war protests, and Moscow is shown to be the space of Russian police brutality and violence against anti-war protesters in general, a woman being even beaten in the street; Kremlin is linked in discourse with Russian propaganda. As a side comment, a challenge in enumerating all these place names has been paying attention to their spelling in three languages – Romanian, English and Russian with a Latin alphabet.

There are some narrower spatial points of interest, whose relevance is mainly that they represent outlets for the Ukrainian evacuee population that is on the move, running away from the war sites and fleeing its country. Isaccea is one, in Tulcea, a border point used by Ukrainian refugees to enter the territory of Romania by ferry. It is mentioned by a Romanian man living in Odessa, who is relayed by the news show via Skype and gives testimony as to the recent events. Siret is a city relevant in context for providing a customs point where Ukrainian refugees have crossed the border into Romania; hence, the name of this exact frontier point also appears, i.e. Vama Siret; therefore, the name is not used here to designate the river or the city in its entirety, but the ground location.

Snake Island appears in the context of its occupation by the Russian forces during the show. As a result of creating a context for its geographical position and the strategic implications of the fact that it has been taken, other *sea- and water-related toponyms* appear, such as an actual sea name, the Black Sea, the area referred to as the Black Sea Basin, as well as the name of the Danube Delta, to describe the island’s position on a horizontal axis (as being colinear). The interest raised by this place is strategic from a two-fold perspective. Firstly, its location near the borders of our country is seen as a reason for concern, as it brings Russian presence and frontiers closer as well, and implicitly that of war areas. Secondly, it has a military strategic significance not only due to this proximity and its overtake being an advancement and victory of Russian troops, but also for its endowments. As Radu Tudor explains, it is known to have been possessing a powerful radar and equipment. Coming back to terminology, in Tudor’s explanation, the other water-related concepts employed are “*riveran*”, translatable as riparian, riverside or coastal – used to describe the countries in

the area that bear the characteristic of neighboring the Danube, and the term lake in the phrase Russian lake, referring to Putin's alleged intentions as far as Russia's influence in the Black Sea Basin, and which actually quotes former President Bănescu and his outlook on the intentions of the eastern power. Nick Paton Walsh speaks of the Black Sea coast. The Azov Sea also gets mentioned in the news show. Still Walsh reminds us of the Crimean Peninsula in relation to a strategic bridge being close-by, and the toponym Crimea designates itself a strategic point of a potential start of progress made by the Russians regarding their interests and military offensive.

One comment before continuing to present the proper nouns is due at this point. The city and region names introduced above are often accompanied by the four main *cardinal points or directions* on the compass rose (north, south, east, west), but also by the ordinal or *intercardinal directions*, in an attempt at pinpointing the space in discussion as exactly as possible. Examples of this type are, in English translation, from the first category: north of the capital of Ukraine (to refer to how the Ukrainian military have recovered a strategic airport), the eastern flank (of the NATO member and partner countries), planes from the west, east of Ukraine, Nick Paton Walsh discusses a security area in the south part of the country, whereas Cristi Popovici describes Kyiv as almost deserted and an exodus of the population to the south; Popovici also mentions the north, east and south to refer to Ukraine as being surrounded by the Russian army. From the second category, of intercardinal directions, we can stipulate the example of the northeast of Ukraine, when trying to establish the position of Sumy. A further observation here is that some cardinal points are made to represent broader parts of the world, like in the examples above, in which countries like Poland and Romania are grouped to represent, for the Americans and from their perspective, the eastern flank of defense; equally, the west is used by us to refer to the NATO countries that provide aid, or to the United States as well, depending on the context. These terms are no longer mere cardinal points, but are used metonymically to indicate extremely wide parts of the world, encompassing various state entities. Also, we should note that they reflect a Eurocentric and/or western type of discourse.

The proper nouns that we have mentioned so far are linked to geography. We have begun with their presentation for reasons related to the main topic of the news show, as they hold primacy when describing actions of the type involved here – the outbreak of a war and the rapid succession of events that is characteristic to military action and operations – which highlight, in discourse, entities such as countries, cities, regions, which are the main actors. Now, we can proceed in our presentation with the mention of *people's names*. Naturally, most of them will be politicians and/or personalities holding an office (Volodymyr Zelensky, President of Ukraine; Vladimir Putin, President of Russia; Biden, President of the United States; Iohannis, President of Romania; Macron, President of France; Vitali Klitschko, the mayor of Kyiv, Dmitry Peskov, Kremlin Press Secretary; Ioan Mircea Pașcu, National Defense Minister and vice-President of the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the European Parliament), but there are also reporters/correspondents, both Romanian and foreign i.e. the CNN collaborators (Nick Paton Walsh, Clarissa Ward, Cristi Popovici), and other guests (Mădălin Dumitru, cybersmart defense specialist; Cătălina Porumbel, investigation journalist and Antena 3 producer; Sarmiza Andronic, political analyst and communication expert; Sorin Moldovan, Vice President of the Defense, Public Order and National Security committee of the Chamber of Deputies; Mirela Cărea, Deputy Editor in Chief “Evenimentul zilei”; Mugur Ciuvică, President of the Group for Political Investigations). Hence, the enumerations that we have just made could represent a

classification, each category bearing a few examples. We notice that, with the most prominent and well-known personalities, such as presidents, neither the first name nor the title is generally mentioned next to the surname, given their worldwide popularity. For this reason, in reference to them, either the surname or the title appears on their own, which is considered enough information to identify the referent for a considerably wide audience. All the other referents are introduced along with their office and titles next to their full names.

For the sake of economy of space, we are going to group the *vocabulary related to war, warfare and its effects* in two main sections below, according to the predominant parts of speech, which means that we will have verbs and verbal phrases, on one column, and nouns and noun phrases, on the other. The nouns and noun phrases are further divided into actions and actors/entities/items. The table below contains my translations into English of the phrases in Romanian extracted from the news show under analysis.

VERBS AND VERBAL PHRASES	NOUNS AND NOUN PHRASES	
	ACTIONS	ACTORS/ENTITIES/ITEMS
want to conquer	war	Russian troops
captured by	invasion	Putin's troops
have been destroyed	(maximum) alert	military installations
planes ... redirected	the occupation of Kyiv	Chernobyl nuclear plant
has activated a task force	state of war	task force
is monitoring the situation	state of alert	Russian militaries
is surrounded	international sanctions	Russian airline company
banned	bombardments/bombings	British airspace
will be isolated	military conflict	refugees
have destroyed	state of siege	military targets/objectives
killed	protests	civilians
civil defense sirens are sounded	warning	militaries
has decreed a state of siege	(massive) attack	civil defense sirens
to invade	economic sanctions/penalties	allied countries
run ... to save themselves	cybernetic attack	(major) target

have been detained/arrested	troop support/military aid	bombs
the war began	wave of protests	tanks
Russia has started the war	missile attack/strike	metro stations/ subway stations
is preparing an attack	heavy fights/battles	improvised bunkers
what follows	special military operation	field hospitals
come on foot	martial law	NATO summit
leave	nuclear war	eastern flank
came crying	land corridors	second-rate power
Putin shakes/shatters world peace	naval blockade	frontline
has planned	theater of operations	leaders of the free world
try to stop	Russian/Kremlin propaganda	frontier/border
impose	measures	army
do everything in our power	people have taken to the streets	separatist republics
retaliate	immediate arrests	improvised shelters
continues	taken, put in the van	his generals
vehemently oppose	are held prisoners	Russian forces
promises	to seize by armed force	air bases
are blocking (banks)	espionage	ground forces
announces	technology theft	air forces
have been arrested	the repelling of	embassy
has decided	censorship	NATO countries
condemn	street fights	airports
are protesting	arrests	military equipment
requires help	military intervention	nuclear bomb
has been occupied	information warfare	former USSR

have taken refuge	military deployment	military uniform
blows up/have been blown up	maritime interdiction	general rank
have come up with proposals	balance of forces/power	Ministry of Defense
had agreed	airstrike	Ministry of the Interior
is threatening	gunshots	volunteers
tempted to intervene	air raid	dictator
might join	negotiation	two sides
have entered	recruitment	nuclear briefcase
are coming	genocide	Border Guard Service
have taken over	setup	radar
move forward	missile rain	shield
are dying	artillery strikes	garrison
to justify	repeated blasts/blows	contingent
to take possession/to come into possession	anti-Putin coalition	Mihail Kogălniceanu base
to strike	explosions	machineguns
has crashed	intense fighting	aircraft carrier
to enroll	widespread assault	conventional wars
have suspended	mission	command center/war room
to break off (relationships)	hunt	soldiers
to adopt/reinforce sanctions	investigation	Eurofighter war airplanes
have broken windows	Blitzkrieg war	F35 airplanes
have reconquered		NATO force
is beaten		Italian forces
has been rationalized/rationed		NATO Battle Group

to move the sphere of influence		spokesperson
have declared their independence		paramilitary organizations
has made a statement		military airports
to leave to the front/to go to war		military airdromes
to parachute		ammunition depots
guns have been distributed		drone
are accusing		trenches
to urge/summon to surrender/turn themselves in		fighter plane
drop your weapons		helicopter
will be executed		firefighters
have rapidly advanced		security problems
have been hit		security area
have taken shelter		bomb shelter
to shoot down a plane		basement
have breached		Russian tanks
have launched missiles		war criminals
shots are being fired!		National Guard Chief
to put out the fire		ghost town
must be tried		joint-force commandment
sentenced		
charges are filed/a criminal case is opened		
to strike fear/to spread fear		

Among the verbs above, we can find a few categories, as follows. For one, there are verbs of physical, offensive, aggressive action and warfare, attributable to the aggressor in the first place, such as “conquer”, “capture”, “destroy”, “surround”, “kill”, “isolate”, “invade”, “detain/arrest”, “impose”, “occupy”, “blow up”, “enter”, “intervene”, “strike”, “parachute”, “execute”, “hit”, “shoot”, “launch”, “breach”, “fire”, and some on the part of the resisting, attacked party, such as “retaliate”, “oppose”, “protest”, “condemn”, “crash”, “reconquer”. A number of these verbs are directly connected with warfare, others acquire this connotation in context. There are some that show the effects or consequences of warfare, like “rationalize/ration”, “run”, “leave”, “surrender/turn in”, “take (shelter), “file (charges)/open (a case)”, some of which have to do with the population fleeing war sites.

Among the actions, we can refer to the same criterion of classification used the case of the verbs, as we have physical actions that aim at concrete destruction, and other actions that aim at undermining the enemy not by brute force, but in other ways, such as the terms referring to cyber wars fought with the help of (information) technology, the war through fake news and propaganda, espionage, and various other forms of resistance – through protests, for instance. Then, there are the phrases that refer to the status of a country in the way in which it perceives and relates to war, most of which correspond to those that can be decreed in the case of a medical emergency as well, so are generally valid for a crisis: “state of war”, “state of alert”, “state of siege”, “martial law”. Since war is, among other things, about territory claim and relationship with space, there is vocabulary related to spatial positioning and to the notion of (de)limit(ation), such as “naval blockade”, “land corridors”, “theater of operations”.

The actors column in the table above excludes the names of countries and some of the people mentioned in the preceding paragraphs, which form a category of entities involved in conflict in their own. Here, we mention that these individuals and entities can be separated into those with direct implication in war, and those who are indirectly involved. On the third column of the table above we also find entities which are affected, or suffer the experience of war rather than initiate it or participate in it willingly, like the refugees or the civilians. Then, we can classify the entities found here into animate and inanimate ones. In the first categories we have people that are actually involved in battle and the groups they form, and in the latter the objects, like arsenal and equipment that they use, endowments, as well as items of specific geography.

Some of the adjectives used in the news show are: “dead”, “deceased”, “shocking”, “destroyed”, “forbidden”, “(extremely) desperate”, “forgiven”, “independent”, “terrified”, “shattering”, “extremely, extremely difficult (moments)”, “the most severe”, “afraid”, “anti-Western”, “anti-war”, “absolutely impressive”, “tormented”, “strange”, “bestially”, “terrible”/“horrible”, “ill”/“sick”, “crazy”, “psychiatric”, “worried”, “infected”, “isolated” (as a result of being infected with Coronavirus), “pregnant”, “complicated”, “very shaken”, “dramatic”, “strategic”, “discouraging”, “devastating”, “*assassin*”, “pro-Russian”, “aggressive”, “compromising/discreditable”, “frequentable”, “impossible (to believe)”, “formidable/redoubtable”, “the most performant”, “unbelievable/incredible”, “warned”, “fierce/tenacious/resilient”, “extremely dangerous”, “sizable”, “touching (message)”, “disputed/contested”, “frightening”, “frightened”, “scared”, “safe”, “peaceful”, “deserted”, “evicted”, “vital”. We notice that most of them are descriptive adjectives, from both possible categories, i.e. qualifying, of “passing or perceived qualities” (“shocking”, “terrified”, “shattering”, “worried”, “isolated”, “very shaken”, “dramatic”) and classifying, of “permanent qualities or absolutes” (“dead”, “deceased”, “destroyed”, “forbidden”,

“forgiven”, “infected”, “*assassin*” etc.) [14]. We notice that in the first category of adjectives, which are gradable, some of them in the corpus are brought to an extreme, modified by “very”, “extremely”. Overall, most of the adjectives are absolutes or superlatives – strong, radical terms that render the heightened dramatism of the situation. A lot have to do, on the one hand, with emotions, describing states and feelings and, on the other, with the concept of destruction, being part of the semantic sphere of this term. There are also a few adjectives of political opinion and activism, representing rather extreme stands themselves, that display the prefix “pro” or “anti”.

Some nouns and noun phrases characterizing the situation are: “chaos”, “tragic count”, “hundreds of dead and wounded”, “apocalypse”, “horror”, “persecution”, “havoc”, “terror”, “mayhem”, “people”, “(little) children”, “mother(s)”, “baby”, “on their knees, praying”, “aggressor”, “threat”, “future”, “black list”, “convoy of despair”, “inferno”, “(extended) family”, “the goosebumps”, “disaster”, “women”, “blood on their hands”, “unprecedented disaster”, “innocent lives”, “the darkest of wars/scenario”, “affected (areas)”, “(humanitarian) crisis”, “father”, “young people”, “genocide”, “humanitarian disaster”, “disapproval”, “dictator”, “madness”, “no rhyme or reason”, “no common sense logic”, “agitation”, “surprise”, “fear”, “brutality”, “violence”, “trouble”, “state” (i.e. extremely bad state or shape), “husband”, “cousin”, “parents”, “uncle”, “demoralization”, “partner”, “enemy/adversary”, “danger”, “dramas”, “only the clothes on their backs”, “the worst scenario”, “hard to believe”, “great concern”, “out of his mind”, “trap”, “men younger than sixty”, “living a nightmare”, “shock”, “divided families”, “cross”, “Christian brothers”, “orthodox brothers”, “great pain”, “brother against brother, neighbor against neighbor”, “extremely great losses”, “defense”, “control”, “damage”, “catastrophe”, “powerful bang”, “houses”, “blocks of flats”, “underground garage”, “panic”, “one of the greatest fears/problems”, “sense of desperation”, “under fire”. The first aspect that we notice is again the use of extreme terms sending to the idea of disaster, destruction and extremely negative emotional states and perceptions. Then, there are a few phrases with a tinge of lyricism and/or used metaphorically to point again to radical and intense misfortune. Many refer to family members, either to its nucleus or the extended one, and to people at various ages and of both genders. Within this category, we notice the stress that falls on mentions of the female gender and children, as the physically weakest individuals, to the purpose of expressing the injustice and horror of war. Some terms such as “brother” or “neighbor” are not used in their literal sense, but in their second or third meanings, in the figurative acceptance of the term to point to lost values of what it is to be humane and of a spiritual communion among the people of the world who share the same religion, but not only or nor necessarily just them.

Specialized terminology appears on occasion. For instance, *financial, stock market terminology* intervenes when the effects of the war on the Russian population and finances are anticipated. Thus, the Russian currency, the “rouble” is mentioned, the value of which is remarked to imminently fall, just like the stock markets, which have closed, and the shares or stock that have depreciated in value.

Also, *IT terminology related to IT security* is introduced by one of the guests, namely Mădălin Dumitru, IT specialist in cybersecurity, and is allotted a fairly large portion of the discussion time, as it is, after all, a form of countering alternative, modern warfare. It makes sense in the context in which, against the background of the military offensive, the issue of a simultaneous, ongoing informational war through fake news is raised. Hence, the terms used are part of the IT field, broadly, and of “cybersmart defense” in particular. In his

explanation, Dumitru mentions nouns and noun phrases specific to IT in general, of the type: original website, content, social media, information systems, governmental websites, IT services, IT service provider, essential retail software, source codes, applications, which are formed by a noun preceded by either an adjective or another noun with adjectival value. Then, Dumitru mentions a series of noun phrases that refer to cybernetic attacks, security, and defense, of the type: cybernetic attacks, fake news dissemination, cybernetic war, hybrid war, hybrid attacks, bombing attacks, cybernetic offensive capabilities, hacker group, APT28, Advanced Persistent Threat, Fancy Bear, cybernetic armies, cybernetic soldiers, sophisticated viruses. In these, we notice that, in many cases, the noun in the noun group is one related to war and warfare, bearing the adjective “cybernetic” to place this conflict in the sphere of information technology. The other nouns are proper nouns with high specificity, like those referring to Russian threat groups, APT28 and Fancy Bears. The adjective “hybrid” refers to the deployment of combat in both the real world, in the classical type of war, and in the virtual environments. What is highlighted by the guest is the efficiency of warfare in the virtual sphere, as well as the empowerment of physical warfare that can be achieved by resorting to cybernetic forms of attack, and the way in which the former is accompanied by the latter in the current situation. The specialist also uses verbs and verbal phrases that designate particular actions that can be performed inside such a cybernetic war and attack: *Capital* and *News.ro* are the two websites that have been “cloned” through the copying of the content of the whole original website; systems can be “infected” and an attack can be “detonated” upon certain commands or keystrokes; critical infrastructure information systems are “targeted” long before the actual attack; websites can be “blocked”; viruses can “lie dormant” for a time; the area of attack is “mapped” beforehand. Besides the metaphors relying on analogies with warfare, a cybernetic attack or war uses metaphors based on parallels with the medical field, more precisely with the specific behavior in the case of infection, especially with a virus. Hence, we could conclude that terminology describing cybernetic wars is widely borrowed from warfare and medicine. In his discourse, Mădălin Dumitru also uses economic vocabulary, i.e. *terms related to the functioning of markets*, in order to describe the export of know-how in the IT field, specifically cyber security, from Ukraine to the United States, where, in the latter, one out of five companies employs IT services from the former: “outsourcing”, “supply chain”, “retail”.

A special place is taken up by *media and journalism terminology*. This corpus can be divided into: nouns designating the participants, human and non-human ones, such as “press trust”, “journalists”, “technicians”, “team”, “(CNN) correspondent”, “televisions”, “public channels”, “mass media”, “newsroom/editorial board”, “(Ukrainian) news channels”, “news television”; nouns and noun phrases related to what is being released, like “real-time data/information”, “tough images”, “preview”, “propaganda documentaries”, “press release”, “broadcasts”, “marathon editions”, “special editions”; verbs and verbal phrases like “to broadcast (images)”, to “be live with”, “take stock” or “give an overview”, “there is information” (to approximate the data that has not yet been placed in context or is incomplete), “we are coming back really soon” to keep people tuned during the ad time, to be “on air”. When the information has not been checked thoroughly or at all, this is made visible through specific phrases, such as: “reports/information yet unconfirmed”, “sources say”, “rumor”. This type of phrases are interpretable as both creating face and losing it for a channel or show, as they mean that information that has not yet been thoroughly verified or is partial is still aired, and, on the other hand, under such difficult circumstances, the excuse would be that they mean to be the first that introduce it to the public, and that events

happen in rapid succession, as it is a context of a crisis. In the eyes of the public, the latter argument may bear more weight, although the downside may be to exaggerate the gravity of the circumstances and create panic. However, we consider that the news show in question manages not to do that.

Pride for the people the presenter is working with, for the job itself, branch and pursuit is manifest in the adjectives used to characterize the work or the actors involved in it. His colleagues are referred to in the superlative, as “an extraordinary, huge reporter of the planet” and “the best war reporter”, “one of the best journalists”, and Antena 3 news channel is introduced by a superlative as well, as “the most viewed”, or the “highest-rated”, which indeed it becomes, as we have seen in the statistics (outranking România TV). Pride is also visible in the praise that he provides for his co-workers’ effort, highlighting their dedication and goodwill, as well as their professionalism. Hence, Mihai Gâdea emphasizes the fact that a whole newsroom are still working at that late hour, and that marathon editions, in which they will be working until the next day due to the unusual circumstances, will ensue. Also, he states that for them what they do is not merely a job, but a “mission”. He describes the activity of the whole team as one done honorably and with professionalism, resorting to adjectives like “proud” and “impressed” to characterize what he feels in seeing this commitment in them. One phrase gets repeated in his one-minute closing discourse, namely the “tough times” under which his team gets to perform the work, this stress showing how this work is all the more valuable, and the people doing it more outstanding themselves. This discourse is a mainly subjective claim of professionalism. In the news show, objective professionalism is achieved through the presentation of interviews and images onsite, obtained with the help of journalists and reporters that have gone to Ukraine and offer live transmissions, and through the use of numbers and figures, which render the impression of exactness and presuppose the taking of more responsibility in the presentation of facts or news.

The “backstage” talk with the colleagues made live, for the viewers to hear, in such phrasings such as “I am asking my colleagues to ...” enhances the impression of authenticity and genuineness or honesty, as well as dramatism. Another example would be to announce how much time there is until a video starts or until the show finishes, like when Mihai Gâdea lets the viewers know there are thirty seconds until they end the transmission. The uttering of this information, in the examples that we have given here, is not exactly absolutely necessary, as the presenter may just communicate through the ear piece with his colleagues, or through previous understandings and gestures that are specific for these cases and are learnt as part of the training for the job, without saying these things aloud.

4. Conclusions

There are a few conclusions that we can detach from the news show analyzed above, the edition of February 24, 2022. For one, the depiction of the countries makes us understand the following. Russian cities appear to be places where aggression is deployed by the authorities against their own people as well in various forms, either through manipulation with discourses, i.e., propaganda, or physically. Equally, the Ukrainian cities and regions are shown to be theaters of war initiated by the Russian forces, which makes Russia the invader and aggressor and Ukraine the aggressed, bearing the two faces of this role – the victim, and the heroic and heroically resilient party that defends itself.

One remark related to the guests of the news show would be that these are mainly, and will be, in the following editions of the news show, mostly people with experience in diplomacy, defense and military strategy, on the one hand, and political analysts, on the other, as these categories are considered to provide the most relevant insight in the situation at hand. This means that the news show aims not only to synthesize information and present it to the public, but also investigate the potential subsequent developments before they occur, so to attempt a forecast and discuss strategy. This means that it targets the deeper understanding of the occurrences, not only a mere repertoire of events. It tries to educate the public in terms of strategy, profiling of the main public figures, as well as interpret the stands taken in the process, along with the social implications of the facts.

In analyzing this show, we can say that it is both synthetic and rich in terms of vocabulary. This edition of the show is comprehensive and detailed enough in comparison with others which allotted shorter times for the description of the occurrences of the day, so it provided the roundest of the pictures available at that moment. Moreover, it far surpassed its allocated normal broadcast time, rapidly adapting to the situation and out of a desire to be as informative as possible.

The interest in the social and even psychology is manifested in the revelation of everyman's perspective. Undeniably, this is also a manner of keeping wider audiences close. The interest is also visible in the attempt to draw psychological profiles in the subsequent editions of the show. Putin is put under scrutiny out of a desire and need to understand and provide a rational explanation for the occurrences and for his mindset, perhaps in view of revealing a method to negotiate and ultimately stop the war.

Another aspect that needs to be mentioned is the way in which it introduces a highly emotional component as well. In the light of the ongoing real and actual horror of a traditional war, the presentation of events in this emotional manner cannot be suspected to be a mere marketing ruse, as the world has actually genuinely experienced a shock in seeing the development of conservative warfare in the twenty-first century, while perhaps most people, overall, have gone past conceiving such horror actually happening in the civilized world. Beyond some extremist discourses, and war being fought in other areas of the globe, its outbreak at the heart of Europe constitutes a trauma whose effects long term we are yet to realize and experience. This is not to say that it is normal in other parts of the planet, but that its proximity has made Europeans experience a sense of urgency. Other than being a reaction, or even a strategy, the emotionality displayed in the broadcast plays a positive role in that it attempts to remind people of their humanity, of the notion of responsibility, as well as warn them, and prevent them from becoming used to these images, indifferent, or ultimately seeing them as acceptable.

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