Journal of Language and Literature
Vol. 25 No. 2, October 2025, pp. 579 – 591
DOI: 10.24071/joll.v25i2.12795
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Framing Analysis in the Papua Conflict in Benar News and The Guardian

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Abstract

The conflict in Papua has been ongoing since 1963 due to the Papuans' intention for independence. This conflict has been reported in many news media. Two news media outlets, Benar News and The Guardian, use framing when reporting issues related to the conflict in Papua. The framing in Benar News and The Guardian shapes the perceptions toward the issue of the Papua conflict. Accordingly, this study aims to explore the use of framing analysis in Benar News and The Guardian while reporting the problem related to the conflict in Papua and the depiction shown by Benar News and The Guardian when reporting the conflict in Papua. Using qualitative methods, this study applies Robert Entman's framing analysis approach, supported by text analysis in critical discourse analysis (CDA) by van Dijk, to analyze the data taken from two news outlets about the release of the pilot as one of the conflicts in Papua in Benar News and The Guardian. The findings reveal that Benar News and The Guardian frame the issue corresponding to the news. Benar News depicts the event as the Indonesian authorities' effort to release the pilot, who is captivated and taking a side toward Indonesia. Besides that, The Guardian depicts the issue as how the Papuan separatists face a struggle to gain independence that makes them kidnap the pilot as a bargaining chip, but heroically value human rights by releasing the pilot. Then, The Guardian takes a side toward the Papuans. This brings the idea that framing analysis supported by text analysis in CDA reveals how the news media present the issue to audiences. Therefore, the application of framing analysis supported by CDA's text analysis indicates that Benar News and The Guardian examine framing when reporting the issue of the Papua conflict according to their view.

Keywords: *critical discourse analysis; framing analysis; news media; Papua conflict*

Article information

Received: June 20, 2025

Revised: September 30, 2025

Accepted: October 7, 2025

Introduction

The conflict in Papua became an issue reported by the news media. This began in 1963 with Indonesia, which has maintained the western part of Papua as an Indonesian territory after being transferred from the Dutch (Lele, 2023). As a response, most of the West Papuans disagree to join Indonesia because they want to be independent of Indonesia (Druce, 2020). Consequently, the conflict between West Papuans and Indonesia has persisted to this day. This conflict is depicted in the news media that shape the issue of the Papua conflict according to their views. As a result, the framing process is shown by them when reporting the issue. Accordingly, the process of media framing while giving a story is regulated by the selection, emphasizing, commenting, and excluding (Caragee & Roefs, 2004, as cited in Muir et al., 2021).

The news media are the instruments of information that frame the Papua conflict and reveal points of view to the audience. They are used to aid citizens in becoming aware (Hobert, 2005, as cited in Strömbäck et al., 2020). The awareness comes from the audience's knowledge taken from the information in the news. Accordingly, the media build opinions of audiences toward an event (Paramitha & Karim, 2022). In addition, the perception of the audience is a consequence of interpretation from the media (Suma, 2023). Indeed, the news media have created a frame to reveal the point of view on the issue of the Papua conflict to the audience.

Framing in media is the written form, spoken, graphic, or visual message applied by conveyors to give a topic context that refers to a person, event, episode, or issue, supported by the text transmitted through mediation in receivers (D'Angelo, 2017). Still, in the written form, the involvement of language can build people's thoughts about the issues. If language causally impacts people's ideas of issues, the tactics of partisans will polarize the public perception of the same fact (Alesina et al., 2020). This supports the idea of language existence, as in the framing carried out by the media on the issue reported.

The issue of framing, especially the conflict in Papua, has been depicted in news articles. In the beginning, this comes from the print media and later from the online news media. The online news media that report on the issue of Papua are Benar News and The Guardian. BenarNews is an online news media associated with Radio Free Asia (RFA) that is dedicated to serving the truth to the audience. The Guardian is a daily newspaper from the United Kingdom, started in 1821, and it investigates journalism globally. These news media report the conflict in Papua and illuminate the framing when depicting the issue through language.

Related to the framing in news media, several studies have been conducted. Anggoro et al. (2023) analyze the framing process through Robert Entman's framing analysis on Republika.com and Sindonews.com that frames the women candidates for the 2024 Presidential election. This study reveals that Sindonews.com focuses on gender and stereotypes, and Republika.com highlights electability factors and political parties. Meanwhile, the framing process on different issues has been explored by Salman et al. (2023) when examining the May 1998 tragedy in Kompas, Suara Karya, and Republika from 1999 to 2008. The study explores three news media that point out and shape the issue without highlighting political interests to solve the cases. In addition, the application of framing analysis has been explored by Zawawi et al. (2024) when uncovering how Al-Jazeera and BBC Coverage report the Hamas attack on Israel. The findings illuminate that Al-Jazeera views the attack as defensive, and BBC Coverage sees that as sudden terrorism, which shows a different political side and ideological bias.

Moreover, the previous study of framing by Robert Entman was conducted by Chaidir Ali et al. (2024) when exploring the detik.com's role in reporting poverty alleviation programs in Aceh. The study implies that Aceh is still challenged to overcome poverty, and mass media shapes public perceptions. Besides that, Setiawan et al. (2024) investigate how Republika reports the Israeli aggression in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict during the years 1999 and 2021. This

study illuminates that the newspaper emphasizes that the Palestinians must be defended according to its Muslim readership. However, few studies are focused on the application of Robert Entman's framing analysis while examining the issue depicted in their study. Meanwhile, this study applies Robert Entman's framing analysis, strengthened by Van Dijk's critical discourse analysis (CDA), to explore how the news media reports and shape the issue through language, as seen in Benar News and The Guardian, which report and frame the Papua conflict.

In framing the issues, framing patterns exist based on how the news media shape the issue. The pattern comes from how the media defines the problem, determines the cause, evaluates, and suggests. This can be stronger with support from written forms related to linguistics. Accordingly, Robert Entman's framing analysis supports the framing in news media from various perspectives. Entman (1993) defines frames as the aspects of perceived reality and highlights this in the text in some ways, including problem definition, causal interpretation, moral evaluation, and/or treatment recommendation toward the described item. Additionally, it covers the issue and makes it more salient than others (Entman 1993, as cited in Carnibella & Wells, 2022).

The framing in news media is strengthened through language. Meanwhile, critical discourse analysis (CDA) provides the exploration of linguistic ideas, especially from text analysis. CDA is a discourse analysis type focused on abuse of social power, how domination and inequality are built, recreated, and challenged by text and talk in social and political contexts (Dijk, 2008). Still, CDA is an analytical tool to reveal social and political issues, as well as becoming the investigator of social power issues, power abuse, discrimination, and injustice and inequality in society (Irawan, 2017). In CDA, Van Dijk proposed three dimensions, consisting of social cognition, social context, and text analysis (Dijk, 2009). One of the CDA dimensions, text analysis, brings the support of framing to shape the issue in news media. The details of structure related to text are in three dimensions, consisting of macrostructure (observable topic), superstructure (scheme of parts and orders), and microstructure (highlighting meaning) (Eriyanto, 1996, as cited in Ahmadi et al., 2023).

Thus, framing analysis theory will be used to explore this study through the news of the conflict in Papua depicted in Benar News and The Guardian. Related to this, the text analysis becomes the support to emphasize the influence of language usage in shaping the issue. Then, the news that will be analyzed comes from *New Zealand pilot freed after 19 months in Papua rebel captivity"* from September 21, 2024, in Benar News; and *"New Zealand pilot kidnapped a year ago on West Papua will be freed, rebel group says"* released on February 7, 2024, in The Guardian. Both news reports have the same topic related to the conflict in Papua.

Related to Robert Entman's framing analysis of the news media supported by van Dijk's critical discourse analysis through textual analysis, this study is inspired to explore the framing in Benar News and The Guardian while reporting the conflict in Papua in 2024. Specifically, this study will be aimed at two points: (1) to examine the application of Robert Entman's framing analysis in Benar News and The Guardian when reporting on the Papua conflict, and (2) to analyze how Benar News and The Guardian portray the conflict in their coverage.

Methodology

This is a qualitative study aimed at exploring the framing in the news of the Papua conflict depicted in Benar News and The Guardian. To conduct this research, the method used in this study is a qualitative method. The qualitative method is a research method that focuses on natural objects, from how the research becomes an instrument with the triangulation technique; qualitative is the data analysis, and meanings become the result of the analysis (Sugiyono, 2020). This means that qualitative methods are used to study a phenomenon through triangulation and analysis, and the results are qualitative (Haryono, 2023). As a result, this method

supports examining framing in news media that is shaped through languages in the written form as the objects of study. The linguistic approaches in this study are Robert Entman's framing analysis and van Dijk's critical discourse analysis. The framing analysis is applied in this study through the techniques and dimensions to explore how the news media shape the issue. CDA's text analysis exists to examine the linguistic features in framing.

The data are collected from the documentation technique of textual sources. The qualitative method produces descriptive data formed of written and spoken words related to the natures of individuals, circumstances, and symptoms of particular groups that can be analyzed (Moleong, 1994). Qualitative data used in this study to point out the study on textual, behavioral, motive, and interpretation, besides the numbers (Romadlani, 2024). Accordingly, the data are collected from the text in the news related to the conflict in Papua in Benar News and The Guardian in 2024. In collecting data, this study is limited to two different news media that report on the same conflict in Papua. This begins with identifying the relevant text as the source of this study. After that, the data is observed to get the same topic of the Papua conflict. Lastly, the relevant data are summarized and emphasized to analyze the theme.

The analysis of data is done through several steps. The first step is analyzing the news textually to explore the application of framing analysis from the four techniques of framing that consist of problem definition, causal interpretation, moral judgment, and treatment recommendation, as well as two dimensions of framing analysis, selection, and salience. Then, the data is explored to find framing in the news text through the linguistic features contained in text analysis in Van Dijk's critical discourse analysis. Lastly, the data is examined to imply the depiction of the Papua conflict according to Benar News and The Guardian to gain the imagery from each news. From this, the analysis of framing in Benar News and The Guardian will have resulted in framing patterns supported by the feature of linguistics.

Results and Discussion

News media frame the issue to construct the conflict depicted in the news. The media constructs by reporting the selection point of view, determining the source of news, and describing the actors and events that appeared (Rahadi, 2017). Related to this, the objective of the study is to explore the use of framing analysis as well as the depiction in Benar News and The Guardian while reporting the conflict in Papua. Still, the conflict in Papua is derived from two topics that are presented differently, according to Benar News and The Guardian.

1. Framing Techniques in *Benar News* and *The Guardian*

Accordingly, the topic is about the way the rebels in Papua have released a New Zealand pilot who has been kidnapped for a year. In this case, Benar News and The Guardian present the news on the same topics. Benar News presents the topic with the title *New Zealand pilot freed after 19 months in Papua rebel captivity,* and The Guardian serves the topic with the news entitled *New Zealand pilot kidnapped a year ago on West Papua will be freed, rebel group says.* From this, it can be seen how they frame the issue of the conflict in Papua as depicted in the topic through the techniques.

Table 1. Robert Entman's Framing Analysis in Benar News and The Guardian

Framing Techniques	Benar News	The Guardian
Problem Definition	Defines the claim of the release of a New Zealand pilot from the rebels in Papua after 19 months,	Informs the rebels who release the captivated victim from New Zealand, intending to keep

Framing Techniques	Benar News	The Guardian
	with the effort of Indonesian authorities joined together with the New Zealand government.	humanity after insisting on independence and making the victim a bargaining chip.
Causal Interpretation	Determines the cause from the separatist groups in Papua who demand their independence and emphasize them as the actors.	Diagnoses the rebels in Papua as the actors with the reason for their efforts to gain independence from Indonesia.
Moral Judgment	Justifies the action taken by Indonesia to save the pilot and gives a claim about the rebels in Papua who want to trade the victim for independence.	Justifies the action carried out by the rebels due to their motivation of protecting humanity and ensuring the good condition of the pilot, but still judges Indonesia as a struggle for the insurgents to gain independence.
Treatment Recommendation	Exposes a contradictory report of an international organization that blames Indonesia for having crimes of racism and systemic discrimination against the Papuan natives, and the refusal to allow investigations into human rights.	Keeps justifying the action taken by the rebels caused by the background between Papua and Indonesia that has conflicted, and how the victim is related to Indonesia.

From table 1, Benar News and The Guardian present different views of framing techniques with the same topic related to the release of a New Zealand pilot. Both news media have explained different framing techniques, as shown in the table. For the use of framing techniques while reporting the issue, text analysis in critical discourse analysis (CDA) examines the linguistic features. For instance, they use different terms to define the rebels. Benar News uses the word 'separatist' to define the Papuans' rebels, and The Guardian shows the rebels in Papua as 'Guerrilla fighters' when mentioning the actor. As a result, they show different names of the Papuan rebels. Accordingly, names play a similar role as narratives, depictions, euphemisms, and analogies (Bhatia, 2013). From this, Benar News mentions the rebels as a negative narrative, and The Guardian gives an analogy to the rebels. Consequently, the findings and instances imply that Benar News and The Guardian use the framing techniques according to them. Hence, the comprehensive analysis of the framing technique supported by CDA's text analysis is presented below.

a. Framing Techniques in Benar News

a) Problem Definition

Benar News defines the problem in the first topic as the claim of how a New Zealand pilot who had been kidnapped for 19 months by the rebels was released through the efforts between Indonesia and the New Zealand government. In this case, the narrative shown by Benar News indicates that the action happens positively. Then, Benar News implies their side toward the Indonesian side in the topic description. Accordingly, the text analysis from CDA examines the language features that determine the issue in the news report.

i. Macrostructure

This refers to the global topic of the text. It is used to formulate a global meaning that is called global propositions (Dijk, 1980). Macrostructure consists of three rules:

deletion, generalization, and construction (Afzal et al., 2022). This explains the theme of the discourse theoretically and becomes important in social awareness (Rovino et al., 2021). In this case, the main topic of the news is about the release of Mehrtens, a New Zealand pilot who has been kidnapped by the rebels in Papua. This topic is stated in the title *New Zealand pilot freed after 19 months in Papua rebel captivity*. Accordingly, the macrostructure is shown by the deletion when an unimportant part is omitted. The title omits the other parts shown in the first paragraph of the text that defines the issue. Meanwhile, the framing comes from the action taken by Indonesia, which is viewed as a heroic action, although negatively the Papuan rebels for their action. Accordingly, this global theme supports the idea of defining the problem in the framing technique as stated in the title.

ii. Superstructure

This is part of the framework of a news report in text analysis. In this case, the news report is traditionally started from a headline and a line that comes from a summary (Dijk, 2015). Accordingly, Benar News presents the definition of the problem in the headline and line of the text reported. For the headline, Benar News serves the news report entitled *New Zealand pilot freed after 19 months in Papua rebel captivity.* Besides that, Benar News shows the line under the headline below.

> *A New Zealand pilot held hostage for 19 months by separatist rebels in Indonesia's Papua region was freed on Saturday, Indonesian authorities said, bringing an end to a standoff that had drawn international attention.* Derived from Benar News on May 15, 2025.

This summary of the news report shows how Benar News defines the problems as Benar News' claim of the release of a New Zealand pilot. This is supported by the word '*freed'* to give the claim. This scheme supports the problem definition and indicates that Benar News takes a side in favor of Indonesia.

iii. Microstructure

This is about the analysis of the features of linguistics. It comes from the study of meaning by exploring words, sentences, propositions, and others (Sobur, 2001). Benar News serves microstructures to support the problem definition. This comes from how the word choices are used to depict the parties in the text. In this case, Benar News employs different lexical choices for the words 'separatist rebels' and 'Indonesian authorities' to describe them in distinct ways, indicating different framings that suggest the rebels are perceived negatively and the Indonesian authorities neutrally.

b) Causal Interpretation

Benar News diagnoses the Papuan rebels as the actors. Still, their reason is to demand independence from Indonesia. Accordingly, the text analysis of CDA will examine the diagnosis that indicates the side taken by BenarNews toward Indonesia.

i. Macrostructure

This is the text analysis that focuses on getting the topic of the news related to the release of a New Zealand pilot from the rebels. The actors are the rebels and the Indonesian authorities. Benar News diagnoses the rebels as the actor from their demand for independence. In the text, Benar News mentions that the rebels kidnap the pilot and record him surrounded by arms. This forms the construction to support the general theme of the news. This macrostructure is depicted in the whole text and builds the theme. Meanwhile, the framing is shown by the negative imagery given to the rebels, which indicates the side toward Indonesia.

ii. Superstructure

This refers to the structure that builds the text. This contains a discourse structure of text framework, consisting of an introduction, content, closing, and conclusion (Eriyanto, 2001). In this case, Benar News shows the diagnosis in the body of the text. The following example will illustrate it.

> *When Mehrtens was taken captive, the TPNPB demanded Papua's independence in exchange for his release.* Derived from Benar News on May 15, 2025.

This shows how Benar News chronologically defines the background in the body of the text. This reveals the separatists as the actors of the issue, with their reason for demanding independence. Accordingly, it supports the causal interpretations in the framing technique.

iii. Microstructure

This is the analysis of linguistic features. Benar News shows the linguistic feature to determine the agents of the issue. In this case, the abbreviation *'TPNBPB'* refers to the rebels in Papua. Benar News tries to ensure that the actors are organized while doing the action. Besides that, the use of passive voice in *'Mehrtens was taken'* indicates that the victim is powerless and the perpetrators are powerful. These linguistic features imply the side taken by Benar News toward Indonesia, which negatively mentions the rebels.

c) Moral Judgement

Benar News shows the judgment by justifying the Indonesian authorities' effort to release the pilot. In addition, Benar News points out that the rebels are kidnapping the pilot to make him a bargaining chip for independence. This indicates that Benar News chose Indonesia's side. Meanwhile, the text analysis from CDA examines the judgment taken by Benar News through the following instance below.

i. Macrostructure

This is the theme of the news report. Benar News summarized the conflict as the release of a New Zealand pilot from the rebels. Related to this, Benar News reveals the justification for the action carried out by the Indonesian authorities. Benar News states the good condition of the pilot as one of the topics in the text. This implies how Benar News takes the side of Indonesia through the theme that is built. The justification of Indonesia's action has built the theme of the news report.

ii. Superstructure

This comes from the scheme of the news report made. In this case, Benar News reveals the judgment in the body of the news report. This can be seen from the instance below.

> *"He was in good health when we retrieved him, and we immediately flew him to Timika," Bayu said in a statement, referring to a major town in Central Papua province. He did not specify the exact conditions of his release.* Derived from Benar News on May 15, 2025.

The example is included in the body of the text. Benar News shows a direct quotation to justify the action taken by Indonesia. Direct quotation is how the reported idea is presented, the same as what the speaker told (Sari & Pranoto, 2021). Besides that, Benar News directly uses the word *'we'* to define the Indonesian authorities. This implies that Benar News fully justifies Indonesia's action. They frame Indonesia's side positively.

iii. Microstructure

This is related to the linguistic feature that is analyzed in the text. Benar News illustrates the judgment from the words that indicate the effort from Indonesia. The words' *good health' and 'immediately'* show that the Indonesian government is serious about taking action. This frames the Indonesian authorities positively. Accordingly, this supports the moral judgment taken by Benar News that confirms Indonesia's effort.

d) Treatment Recommendation

Benar News reveals the evaluations by exposing a contradictory action that portrays Indonesia, which will be investigated due to accusations of human rights issues in Papua. However, they refuse the investigation. Accordingly, the text analysis in CDA emphasizes the statement linguistically.

i. Macrostructure

This is how the topic in the text makes the meaning of the text general. In this case,

the theme is about the release of the pilot from being kidnapped by the rebels. This comes from how Benar News depicts the refusal of Indonesia to be investigated due to the accusation of human rights issues. Benar News serves a refusal of Indonesia to be investigated as a topic in general. This is supported by the construction process that emerges all propositions, consisting of the report from Human Rights and accusations toward Indonesia. Accordingly, this treatment builds the theme in the news report even though it is contradicted by other meanings.

ii. Superstructure

The schematic of the news report that contains the headline + lead, and the body of the text. Accordingly, Benar News reveals the recommendation in the conclusion. This is shown in the example below.

> *International human rights organizations have repeatedly called on Indonesia to allow independent investigations into the human rights situation in Papua, but the government has restricted access to the region.* Derived from Benar News on May 15, 2025.

The conclusion illustrates how Indonesia refuses the investigation. This indicates that Benar News still presents the contradictory parts placed in the last part of the news report. This implies how Benar News still tries to frame Indonesia positively.

iii. Microstructure

This refers to the features of linguistics in text analysis. In this case, Benar News shows the microstructure form through the word used. This is shown by the phrase' *human rights situation'*, which indicates how Benar News still serves the opposite side of Indonesia. This demonstrates that Indonesia still has a negative side, even though Benar News presents that in the last.

b. Framing Techniques in The Guardian

a) Problem Definition

Problem definition in The Guardian is stated by the rebels who release a New Zealand pilot to keep humanity. This is shown by how the victim is used as a bargaining chip for independence. This indicates the side taken toward Papuan rebels. Meanwhile, CDA's textual analysis explains the issue.

i. Macrostructure

The Guardian brings the topics from the rebels who release the pilot to protect humanity. This defines the problem according to The Guardian's perspective. The Guardian states the issue as in the title, which is a general theme. This deletes another proposition in the opening part of the text. From this, the rebels are depicted positively and seen as heroic. Consequently, The Guardian tends to be on the rebels' side. From this, the problem is defined as how the rebels in Papua released the pilot.

ii. Superstructure

This part is presented by The Guardian in the headline and lead of the text. The Guardian illustrates the problem in the title *New Zealand pilot kidnapped a year ago on West Papua will be freed, rebel group says.* For the lead, it is revealed in the instance below.

> *Rebels in Indonesia's West Papua region have said they will release a New Zealand pilot who was taken hostage a year ago as a bargaining chip for their independence movement.* Derived from The Guardian on May 15, 2025.

This part summarizes the issue of the rebels who release the pilot after demanding independence. The phrase' *independence movement'* legitimizes the reason for their action. This implies the side taken by The Guardian that refers to the Papuan's side.

iii. Microstructure

The Guardian explores the microstructure form that can be seen from the use of the lexical choice' *rebels in Indonesia's West Papua region'* to define the rebels in Papua positively and the word *'release'* to clarify their action. This implies that The Guardian takes the side

of the rebels. This supports the idea of defining the problem in the framing technique.

b) Causal Interpretation

The Guardian determines the actor of the event toward the rebels in Papua and indicates their reason for gaining independence. Then, The Guardian indicates the side on the rebels' side. Hence, text analysis from CDA examines the statement from the framing technique.

i. Macrostructure

The Guardian shows the general meaning as the release of the pilot done by the rebels after being kidnapped. They present the statement from TPNPB's chief as the topic that supports the global meaning and constructs the following topic. As a result, they reveal that the actors formed the topic of the news report. The rebels in Papua become the actors who are portrayed positively. This supports the causal interpretation in the framing technique.

ii. Superstructure

The Guardian illuminates the Papuan rebels as the actors in the text body. This is seen in the instance below.

> *The chief of general staff of the West Papua National Liberation Army (TPN-PB), Terianus Satto, said in a statement the pilot would be released in order to protect humanity and safeguard human rights.* Derived from The Guardian on May 15, 2025.

The Guardian informs the agents of the events from a statement expressed by the chief of TPNPB. Still, The Guardian shows the actors positively from their intention of keeping humanity. This indicates the side taken by The Guardian toward the rebels. Accordingly, this suits the causal interpretation in the framing technique.

iii. Microstructure

The Guardian determines the rebels in Papua as the actors based on the word choice positively. The Guardian uses the phrase *'The chief of general staff of the West Papua National Liberation Army (TPN-PB)'* to mention the actors of the event and the words 'protect humanity' to show their action. This validates the actors' claim directly and indicates The Guardian's side toward the rebels. This suits the causal interpretation in the framing technique.

c) Moral Judgement

The Guardian shows the judgment as justifying the rebels' action positively. Still, The Guardian mentions the judgment toward Indonesia as the struggle for the Papuan rebels to gain independence. Accordingly, the text analysis in CDA emphasizes the judgment taken by The Guardian.

i. Macrostructure

The Guardian covers the topic of the rebels in Papua who release the pilot to keep humanity. The statement from a rebel spokesperson that states the good condition of the pilot builds the general meaning. Accordingly, The Guardian justifies the rebels' action. Consequently, The Guardian shows their side on Papua because the whole meaning can be implied as having a side to it.

ii. Superstructure

The Guardian illuminates the schematic through the text's body. This can be seen in the instance below.

> *Speaking to Indonesian magazine Tempo on February 2, a rebel spokesperson said the movement would announce an update on the condition of the pilot this week, adding that Mehrtens was healthy. "He's fine. He eats well," he told the publication.* Derived from The Guardian on May 15, 2025.

From the instance, The Guardian shows how the rebels treat the victim well, strengthened by the word *'healthy'* to present the pilot's condition. As a result, The Guardian justifies their action and depicts it positively. Additionally, The Guardian shows the side of Papua. Accordingly, this fits the evaluation in the framing technique.

iii. Microstructure

The Guardian shows the lexical choice, shown in the words' *fine'* and *'well',* while informing the condition of the victim. The Guardian highlights that the rebels have a good image for their action. This implies the side toward the rebels in Papua. Accordingly, this microstructure supports the judgment taken by The Guardian.

d) Treatment Recommendation

The Guardian shows the recommendation by justifying the Papuan rebels' action. This comes from how The Guardian presents the background of the conflict between Papua and Indonesia. Accordingly, textual analysis from CDA emphasizes the recommendation.

i. Macrostructure

The Guardian generally reveals the topic of the rebels who released the pilot. Specifically, the background about the escalated conflict between Papua and Indonesia becomes the topics that build the general theme that deletes the unimportant part in the last sentence of the paragraph. From this, The Guardian shows their justification of the rebels' action. Then, this supports the idea that is contained in the treatment recommendation taken by The Guardian in framing technique.

ii. Superstructure

The Guardian recommends the issue based on the conclusion in the last part of the text. This is shown in the instance below.

> *The conflict in Papua has escalated significantly since 2018, with pro-independence fighters mounting deadlier and more frequent attacks, largely because they have managed to procure more sophisticated weapons. It began after the region was controversially put under Indonesian control in a vote overseen by the United Nations in 1969.* Derived from The Guardian on May 15, 2025.

In the example, The Guardian retells the conflict between Papua and Indonesia to justify the rebels' actions. The word 'controversially' emphasizes the conflict stemming from Indonesia's control of Papua. This implies that the side taken by The Guardian belongs to the Papuans. Accordingly, this supports the treatment recommendation in framing techniques.

iii. Microstructure

The Guardian applies the lexical choice from the words' *pro-independence fighters'* and *'Indonesian control'* to depict the background. The Guardian positively reveals the rebels as the fighters, which indicates that they are making an effort to gain independence from Indonesia. Then, The Guardian reports that the Indonesian authorities have ruled Papua. From this, The Guardian negatively frames the side toward Indonesia. Accordingly, this suits the treatment recommendations that justify the action of the rebels by providing the background.

2. Framing Dimensions in *Benar News* and *The Guardian*

Besides technique, Robert Entman has proposed the framing dimensions. This consists of selection and salience. Selection is when the news media or journalists choose to show the aspects of the issues to the audiences of the news reported (Oelrich & Siebold, 2024). Still, selection refers to how the journalists select the aspect based on an assumption by looking at the event without perspective (Eriyanto, 2002). Then, the salience or highlighting refers to highlighting specific aspects of the issue that are carried out by the news media to stress that the issue stems from an event (Pohan et al., 2023).

Accordingly, the topic that has been explained in framing techniques indicates how it is selected and highlighted. In this case, Benar News and The Guardian show different aspects that are chosen and salient.

a. Selection and Salience in Benar News

In the selection, Benar News shows some aspects that are chosen to be reported on the

news. Firstly, Benar News selects to show how the Indonesian authorities released the kidnapped New Zealand pilot from the rebels in Papua. Later, Benar News presents the reason behind the rebels' actions, who want to gain independence from Indonesia. Benar News depicts the rebels negatively through their action. These selections indicate how Benar News takes a side in Indonesia.

In salience, Benar News highlights two aspects of clarification. First, Benar News points out how the effort carried out by the Indonesian authorities in the kidnapping of a New Zealand pilot. Besides that, Benar News highlights the demand for independence from the Papuan rebels. From this, Benar News takes the side of the Indonesian authorities.

b. Selection and Salience in The Guardian

In the selection section, The Guardian shows some aspects that are selected while reporting the news. First, The Guardian selects to show the rebels who release the pilot to protect humanity. Second, The Guardian was selected to reveal the reasons behind the rebels' demand for independence from Indonesia, indicating that Indonesia became a hindrance to the rebels' independence. Lastly, The Guardian selects to present the Indonesian colonization in Papua that caused the issue. From these, The Guardian implies the side toward Indonesia from how the news media negatively frame Indonesia.

In salience, The Guardian highlights two aspects when reporting the news. Firstly, The Guardian clarifies their action of keeping the victim in good condition. Then, The Guardian emphasizes that the reason behind the kidnapping is to demand independence from Indonesia. From all of these, The Guardian indicates their side on Papua while delivering the issue.

Conclusion

This study aims to explore how Robert Entman's framing analysis is applied when serving the news of the Papua conflict in Benar News and The Guardian, and their depiction of the conflict. To conduct this study, Robert Entman's framing analysis, supported by textual analysis in van Dijk's CDA, is used. Based on the study, the findings reveal that Benar News and The Guardian take different approaches when presenting the news, as reflected in their framing of the conflict. Benar News tends to depict the issue as a heroic action taken by the Indonesian authorities while giving the news report and framing the side of Indonesia positively. On the contrary, The Guardian uses framing analysis to indicate the justification of the action carried out by the rebels in Papua. The Guardian tries to depict the issue as how the rebels in Papua face a struggle for independence from Indonesia and how they heroically value human rights. Meanwhile, the implication of this study is that the application of framing analysis supported by text analysis in CDA uncovers how the media form language to inform the audience about the issue. This can be seen from how each technique of framing is strengthened by text analysis when reporting the topic of releasing the pilot. In addition, this study contributes to enhancing the awareness of how news media shape the news when serving the news to the audiences, as depicted by how two news media differently use framing.

Moreover, this study is limited to the analysis of two news articles with the same topic of releasing a New Zealand pilot through the critical interpretation of the researcher, without analyzing other topics related to the Papua conflict. In addition, this study only employs van Dijk's CDA on the textual analysis without looking at the writer and society's perspective. As a result, future studies can explore different topics about the Papua conflict to find the application of framing when reporting the news. In addition, the analysis of the social cognition and social context can be conducted to find how the conflict is seen from the background of journalists and society's view. In conclusion, the framing in news media supported by the language use can depict the issue according to them and can build the understanding of the readers about the problem that happened, as shown by how Benar News and The Guardian shape the Papua conflict according to their side.

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