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Ideological Features and Language Manipulation Strategies in News Headlines

the case of American-Venezuelan Conflict

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Dedication

All praises to Allah, who helped me finish this work. I would like to dedicate my dissertation:

To my lovely parents who always encourage, support and guide me to work hard to succeed in my studying and life.

To my wife and my little daughter who make my life wonderful and happy.

To my supervisor Prof. Dr.
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helping and guiding through
the whole work.

Finally, I would like to
dedicate this dissertation
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second year master
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Abstract

This study presents a comparative Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) of news headlines from BBC and Al Jazeera regarding the novel American-Venezuelan. Following Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model, the research investigates how ideological features are embedded within condensed media structures at the textual, discursive, and social practice levels. The central aim is to uncover how these two global media outlets construct divergent realities around the same geopolitical events through selective linguistic and framing strategies. The analysis reveals a profound ideological polarization in the thematic foregrounding of each outlet. Moreover, findings indicate that BBC predominantly employs a legitimizing discourse of Political Transition and "Democratic Restoration" (30%), framing the conflict through narratives of stabilization, international legitimacy, and institutional order. Conversely, Al Jazeera adopts a contesting, counter-hegemonic discourse that prioritizes "Sovereignty" and "Anti-Intervention" (30%), characterizing the same events as illegal intrusions, militarized aggression, and resource imperialism.

Keywords: CDA, American-Venezuelan conflict, BBC, Aljazeera, Fairclough's three-dimensional modal

List of Abbreviations

BBC: British Broadcasting Corporation

CDA: Critical Discourse Analysis

CNN: Cable News Network

DA: Discourse Analysis

RT: Russia Today

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General Introduction

1. Background of the Study

Media has emerged as one of the most potent instruments for influencing public opinion and creating social realities in the current era of international communication (Herman & Chomsky, 1988). Media organizations can gently affect readers' perceptions of global events and political disputes via the strategic use of language (Fowler, 1991). Researchers can decipher signals that are not immediately apparent to the general public by using linguistics, especially Discourse Analysis (DA), which provides a scientific method to understand how such readings are created through language (Fairclough, 1995; Gee, 2014).

With its intricate political, economic, and ideological aspects, the ongoing conflict between the United States of America (USA) and Venezuela has garnered considerable international media attention. However, depending on each media outlet's ideological position, news coverage of this debate frequently varies (Alvarado, 2021). As a result, examining the linguistic and ideological elements present in news headlines can shed light on how media distorts facts to support particular political narratives or viewpoints (MacLeod, 2019; Robertson, 2023).

2. Aim of the Study

Following Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model as the primary analytical framework, this study aims to uncover hidden ideologies in news headlines taken from the two broadcasting channels, BBC and Aljazeera. The headlines cover events about the American-Venezuelan conflict. The ultimate goal of this dissertation is to reveal how Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) may interpret specific linguistic choices, and therefore detecting ideological features hidden behind such a choice.

3. Significance of the Study

This study adds to the expanding corpus of research on media discourse and ideology, as it highlights how language shapes political opinions. It offers new insights into how Western and non-Western media create conflicting realities of the same event, namely the American–Venezuelan conflict, a subject that has received little attention in CDA researches.

Additionally, it is a useful resource for academics and students interested in political communication, media studies, and language analysis.

4. Research Questions

The present study seeks to answer the following questions:

- 1- Do news headlines from BBC and Aljazeera diffuse different versions about the American–Venezuelan conflict?
- 2- What are the ideological features used in news headlines tackling the American–Venezuelan conflict in BBC and Aljazeera?

5. Research Hypotheses

- 1-News headlines about the American–Venezuelan conflict contain ideological features that reflect political orientation of their publishers.
- 2-BBC and Aljazeera employ different linguistic strategies in constructing the same event, reflecting their contrasting ideological orientations.

6. Methodology

Tools of Data Collection

Thirty (30) news headlines about the American-Venezuelan conflict are collected—ten (10) from the BBC and ten(10) from Aljazeera. They are gathered from the official websites of BBC and Aljazeera. The selected headlines are taken from a period of time between

March 2025 to March 2026, guaranteeing both recentness and relevancy. All twenty headlines are in English, stored online for the previously specified time frame, and are hyperlinked (headlines are shortcuts to their original placement in the official websites of BBC and Aljazeera).

Tools of Data Analysis

Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Framework, which comprises the following, will be used to analyze the data: Textual analysis involves looking at modality, transitivity, and vocabulary. Discursive practice analysis: comprehending the settings of production and interpretation. Analyzing social practice involves connecting the discourse to power and ideological systems.

The frequency of ideological markers and manipulative techniques will be displayed in tables. The Data analysis starts by analyzing 15 headlines from BBC, listing the ideological features, and then identifying negative and positive features, then, analyzing Aljazeera headlines following the same methodology. Finally, we will verify how both channels tackled the conflict from two different perspectives.

7. Limitations of the Study

The scarcity of headlines about the conflict maybe a drawback. This is by virtue of its novelty. Furthermore, analyzing data using one single framework might create incomplete understanding about how hidden ideologies lay behind all levels of analysis, not only the ones mentioned in the chosen framework.

8. Structure of the Dissertation

The dissertation will be divided into two main chapters:

- **Chapter one:** This chapter provides the theoretical foundation for the study by explaining the relationship between language, discourse, ideology, and media. It explores the evolution from Discourse Analysis (DA) to Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), highlighting Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model as a framework for uncovering hidden ideological meanings in news headlines.
- **Chapter two:** This chapter presents the practical application of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) using Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model to examine BBC and Al Jazeera headlines about the American–Venezuelan conflict between 2025 and 2026. Through textual, discursive, and social analysis, the study reveals how each media outlet constructs different ideological narratives.

CHAPTER ONE

THEORETICAL PART

1. Introduction

Language is far more than a simple tool for communication; it is a powerful social instrument that shapes, constructs, and continually reproduces realities in which individuals live. Through language, people do not merely describe the world—they actively participate in creating meaning, influencing perception, and guiding interpretation. Every act of communication, especially within mass media, involves deliberate and strategic choices of words, tone, and structure that reflect specific worldviews and underlying ideologies. These choices are rarely neutral; instead, they often serve particular interests, subtly framing events in ways that can influence public opinion.

In the era of globalized information, where media outlets compete intensely to dominate narratives about international events, the language used in news headlines has become a critical site for ideological expression and manipulation (Thussu, 2006). Headlines, as the most visible and immediate part of a news story, are designed not only to inform, but also to attract attention and shape readers' first impressions (Reah, 2002). As a result, they often condense complex realities into simplified, emotionally charged phrases that can reinforce stereotypes, legitimize certain perspectives, and marginalize others (van Dijk, 1991). Consequently, understanding the role of language in media is essential for critically engaging with the information that circulates in contemporary society (Fairclough, 1995).

This chapter lays the theoretical foundation for understanding how language functions as a social practice. It underscores the notion that language is not merely a neutral medium of communication, but a socially situated practice shaped by cultural norms, power relations, and historical contexts. It introduces the concept of DA and its evolution into CDA, which explores the intersection between language, ideology, and power. In this respect, this chapter

outlines key theoretical contributions and explains how CDA provides analytical tools to uncover implicit meanings, biases, and power structures embedded in discourse.

The discussion will also highlight the relationship between discourse and media, with particular attention to the role of media institutions in framing events and shaping public understanding, define ideology and its manifestations through linguistic features, including lexical choices, syntactic structures, and rhetorical strategies, and present an overview of the two media institutions — BBC and Aljazeera — selected for this study.

This overview considers their institutional backgrounds, audience reach, and editorial perspectives, which may influence the way news is constructed and presented. This chapter concludes with a literature review of previous research relevant to media discourse and ideological analysis, offering a critical evaluation of existing studies while identifying research gaps that justify the current investigation.

2. Discourse Analysis (DA)

2.1 Definition and Origins

Discourse Analysis (DA) is a field of study that examines how language is used in real contexts to produce meaning beyond the level of grammar and syntax, rather than focusing solely on sentence structure. Moreover, it investigates how language functions in social interactions and how meaning is shaped by situational and cultural contexts. It emerged in the 1970s through the works of linguists and philosophers such as Foucault (1972), Halliday (1978), and Van Dijk (1985), who argued that language should be studied as a form of social practice rather than as an isolated linguistic system. Their contributions marked a shift from

formal linguistic analysis to a more interdisciplinary approach that incorporates sociology, anthropology, and philosophy.

According to Gee (2011), discourse represents “language in use,” which constructs social realities, identities, and relationships. This perspective highlights the dynamic nature of language as something people actively use to perform roles, express beliefs, and negotiate meaning in everyday interactions. This means that language is not neutral—it reflects and reproduces cultural, social, and political norms. It can also reinforce existing power structures or challenge them, depending on how it is employed.

The focus of DA, therefore, is on how meaning is created through interaction, context, and power relations embedded within texts. By analyzing these elements, researchers can better understand how discourse shapes knowledge, influences attitudes, and contributes to the organization of society.

2.3 Key Principles of DA

Discourse Analysis emphasizes several core tenets regarding the nature of language in use:

- The contextual nature of meaning: Language depends entirely on the immediate situation and the target audience. In other words, the interpretation of any text or utterance cannot be separated from the historical, cultural, and situational circumstances in which it is produced and received (Gee, 2011, p. 34).
- The social dimension of communication: Discourse demonstrates how texts reflect and actively construct social structures. In this sense, communication both shapes and is shaped by interpersonal relationships, cultural norms, and institutional frameworks (Slembrouck, 2001, p. 42).

- The functional aspect of language: Language performs actions and directly influences human thought. Language is therefore not only descriptive but also fundamentally performative, acting as a mechanism to persuade, justify, legitimize, or challenge particular viewpoints (Gee, 2011, p. 61).

Through these principles, DA serves as the theoretical foundation for CDA, which explicitly connects language with ideology and power. It provides the basis for examining how discourse can reproduce inequality or, alternatively, act as a means of resistance and social change.

3.2 Origins and Influences

CDA evolved in the late 1980s through the works of Norman Fairclough, Teun A. van Dijk, Ruth Wodak, and Paul Chilton, who integrated insights from linguistics, sociology, and political science (Wodak & Meyer, 2001). Their interdisciplinary approach allowed for a more comprehensive understanding of how discourse operates within complex social and political contexts (Fairclough, 1995). These scholars viewed discourse as a social practice that both reflects and shapes social structures (van Dijk, 1993). They emphasized that language is deeply embedded in systems of power and is instrumental in maintaining or challenging social hierarchies (Chilton, 2004).

They highlighted how dominant groups use language to legitimize their authority and influence public opinion. In addition, their work laid the foundation for various methodological approaches within CDA, enabling researchers to systematically analyze texts in relation to broader societal issues such as inequality, dominance, and resistance

3.3 Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model

Fairclough (2001) proposed a three-dimensional framework for analyzing discourse, which this study adopts: This model is widely regarded as one of the most influential approaches in CDA, as it provides a structured and comprehensive method for examining the relationship between language and society.

- **Textual Level**– The analysis of linguistic features such as vocabulary, transitivity, and modality that reveal implicit meanings and ideological stances. At this level, attention is given to how specific word choices, grammatical structures, and rhetorical devices contribute to the construction of particular representations of reality.
- **Discursive Practice Level** – The processes of production and consumption of texts, focusing on how news is selected, edited, and interpreted. This dimension explores the role of media institutions, journalists, and audiences in shaping the meaning of discourse through processes such as framing, gate keeping, and interpretation.
- **Social Practice Level** – the broader socio-political and cultural context, in which the discourse is produced, highlighting how texts reproduce or challenge dominant ideologies. It considers how discourse is influenced by power relations, economic interests, and cultural norms, and how it contributes to maintaining or transforming these structures.

Through this model, CDA enables researchers to trace the connections between linguistic choices and societal power structures, providing a systematic way to expose hidden ideologies in media discourse. As a result, it serves as a powerful analytical tool for

understanding how language functions within broader systems of dominance, inequality, and resistance.

4.3 Media, Power, and Ideology

Media discourse operates within systems of power and ideology (Fowler, 1991). It does not function in isolation, but is deeply influenced by political, economic, and institutional interests that shape how information is produced and disseminated (Herman & Chomsky, 1988). Western media outlets, for instance, often promote narratives consistent with capitalist or liberal democratic values, whereas non-Western media may challenge these narratives by emphasizing sovereignty or anti-imperialist perspectives (Boyd-Barrett, 2015; Sparks, 2007).

These differences highlight how media discourse can reflect broader geopolitical positions and cultural orientations. Analyzing how different outlets portray the same conflict allows researchers to identify these underlying ideological frameworks. Such comparative analysis reveals how language is strategically used to legitimize certain viewpoints while delegitimizing others, thereby influencing public perception and reinforcing particular power structures.

5. Ideology and Its Relationship with Discourse

5.1 Defining Ideology

The term ideology has been interpreted differently across disciplines. It is a complex and multifaceted concept that has been explored in fields such as sociology, political science, and linguistics, each offering distinct perspectives on its meaning and function. From a

Marxist perspective, ideology refers to the set of ideas and beliefs used by the ruling class to justify and maintain their dominance (Marx & Engels, 1846).

In this view, ideology serves to naturalize social inequalities and present them as inevitable or legitimate. In Van Dijk's (1998) socio-cognitive approach, ideology represents shared mental frameworks that guide how groups perceive and communicate about the world. These frameworks influence not only individual cognition but also collective understanding, shaping how members of a group interpret events and interact with others.

5.3 Ideological Features in News Headlines

News headlines often reflect ideological bias through a range of linguistic and stylistic strategies that shape how events are presented and interpreted by readers (Fowler, 1991). These features are not random, but are deliberately selected to frame reality in ways that align with particular perspectives or institutional interests (van Dijk, 1998). Through mechanisms such as strategic lexicalization, the omission of agency, and syntactic manipulation, headlines act as powerful ideological prisms that establish the boundaries of public interpretation before the full text is even consumed (Fairclough, 1995; Reah, 2002).

- **Lexicalization** – the use of emotionally charged or evaluative vocabulary. Specific word choices can carry positive or negative connotations, subtly guiding the audience's attitude toward the actors or events being described.
- **Agency Omission** – excluding the actor to obscure responsibility (e.g., “Protesters Shot” vs. “Police Shoot Protesters”). This strategy shifts focus away from those responsible for actions, thereby reducing accountability and altering the perceived seriousness of events.

- **Nominalization** – turning actions into abstract nouns to conceal agency (e.g., “The arrest of journalists” instead of “Police arrested journalists”). This process transforms dynamic actions into static entities, often deleting or backgrounding the agents involved and making the discourse appear more neutral or objective.
- **Modality and Transitivity** – expressing certainty or doubt to influence interpretation. These grammatical choices determine how events and participants are represented, highlighting or downplaying responsibility, intention, and credibility.

These features reveal how linguistic manipulation can subtly shape public understanding of political conflicts such as the one between the United States and Venezuela. By critically examining these elements, researchers can uncover the ideological positions embedded in media discourse and better understand how headlines contribute to the construction of social and political reality.

6.2 Aljazeera Media Network

Founded in 1996 in Qatar, Al Jazeera emerged as a major Arab news network that challenged the dominance of Western media narratives (Seib, 2008). It quickly gained international recognition for its alternative approach to news reporting, particularly by providing coverage that foregrounds voices and perspectives from the Middle East and other underrepresented regions (Miles, 2005). It presents itself as a voice of the Global South, emphasizing perspectives often marginalized in Western coverage, thereby serving as a counter-hegemonic alternative to traditional global news flows (El-Nawawy & Powers, 2008; Thussu, 2007).

This positioning has enabled it to attract a diverse global audience seeking alternative interpretations of international events (Zayani, 2005). Nevertheless, Al Jazeera also operates within its own ideological framework, influenced by regional politics and Qatar's foreign policy interests (Samuel-Azran, 2013). As a result, its coverage may reflect specific regional priorities and political alignments, which can shape the framing of certain issues, particularly when global conflicts intersect with the diplomatic maneuvers of the host nation (Cherkaoui, 2017; Khatib, 2013).

6.3 BBC Media Network

Comparing BBC and Aljazeera coverage of the American–Venezuelan conflict provides a fertile ground to examine how ideology shapes linguistic construction across different geopolitical contexts. Such a comparison allows researchers to identify contrasting discursive strategies and better understand how global power relations are reflected and negotiated through media language.

What is more than that, news headlines about the American-Venezuelan conflict will be analyzed from two different ideological standpoints. That is to say, a Western perspective, represented by BBC, and an Eastern perspective, represented by Aljazeera. This is to guarantee that ideological features will crop up during the analysis, since headlines are collected from two divergent sources of information.

7. Literature Review

The relationship between language, ideology, and media has been a focal point of numerous scholarly works. Researchers across disciplines have consistently emphasized the central role of discourse in shaping social realities and influencing public perception.

Fowler (1991) demonstrated how syntactic and lexical choices encode bias in news reporting. His work provided early empirical evidence that even subtle grammatical structures can shape readers' perceptions of events and participants. He argued that linguistic structures are not neutral but reflect ideological positions. By analyzing features such as transitivity, passivization, and word choice, Fowler showed how news texts can foreground or background certain actors and actions.

Van Dijk (1998) proposed that media discourse serves as a primary site for the reproduction of ideological structures. He argues that news production is not neutral, but guided by shared group beliefs and cognitive frameworks that influence how events are represented. His socio-cognitive model emphasizes how group beliefs influence text production and interpretation. This approach provides valuable insight into how audiences process media messages and how ideological meanings are internalized.

Teo (2000) applied CDA to newspaper reports on immigration in Australia, revealing how migrants were represented negatively through transitivity and modality patterns. His findings illustrated how media discourse can contribute to the construction of social stereotypes and the marginalization of specific groups.

In a similar vein, Fairclough (2001) highlighted that discourse is a mode of social practice that both reflects and constructs power relations. His work underscores the importance of analyzing language not only at the textual level but also in relation to broader social and institutional contexts, making CDA a powerful tool for critical media analysis.

In a cross-media study, Kuo (2007) examined Taiwanese and Western news coverage of China, finding that ideological stances were reflected in vocabulary and framing strategies.

This comparative approach highlighted how different cultural and political contexts influence the representation of the same events.

Richardson (2007) expanded the application of CDA to the print press by demonstrating that headlines are particularly useful for critical analysis because they distill complex ideological meanings into concise linguistic forms. He argued that headlines, due to their brevity and prominence, play a crucial role in shaping readers' initial interpretations and setting the cognitive agenda for the news events that follow.

Machin and Mayr (2012) further advanced this headline-centric approach within CDA, illustrating how multimodal and linguistic choices within prominent short-form news texts work together to naturalize specific institutional viewpoints. They established that the structural constraints of headlines force deliberate lexical selections that maximize ideological impact while downplaying alternative perspectives.

Hamzah and Wafa (2019) compared CNN and RT coverage of the Syrian conflict and concluded that each network emphasized different moral frames consistent with their political alignments. Their study further demonstrated that media outlets selectively construct narratives that align with their institutional and geopolitical interests, reinforcing the link between discourse, ideology, and power.

7.1 The Research Gap

Despite extensive research on media discourse, the American–Venezuelan conflict remains underexplored from a CDA perspective, especially in headline analysis. This gap highlights the need for more focused studies that examine how specific geopolitical conflicts are represented through media language.

This study fills that gap by comparing BBC and Aljazeera's headlines, focusing on how linguistic structures encode ideological features and manipulation strategies. By conducting a systematic comparative analysis, the research seeks to identify patterns of representation and differences in framing between the two media institutions. Using Fairclough's three-dimensional framework, the research aims to reveal how language reflects broader political tensions between Western and non-Western perspectives. Ultimately, the study contributes to a deeper understanding of how discourse functions as a tool for constructing and negotiating meaning within global media landscapes.

8. Conclusion

This chapter has provided a comprehensive theoretical background for the study. It has laid a solid foundation by introducing key concepts and frameworks that are essential for understanding the complex relationship between language, media, and ideology. Furthermore, It has established the conceptual and analytical framework necessary for understanding how language operates within broader social and political contexts.

The chapter has also explored the evolution from DA to CDA, the role of media as an ideological apparatus, and the relationship between language and power. These perspectives collectively demonstrate that discourse is not merely a neutral medium of communication, but an active force in shaping knowledge, beliefs, and social structures.

The chapter introduced the ideological profiles of BBC and Aljazeera and reviewed key literature in the field. By examining these institutions and previous studies, the chapter has highlighted how different media systems operate within distinct political and cultural environments, which in turn influence their discursive practices. This review highlighted the

main contributions of previous studies while identifying gaps that justify the focus of the present research. In particular, the limited attention given to headline analysis in the context of the American–Venezuelan conflict underscores the relevance and originality of this study.

CHAPTER TWO

PRACTICAL PART

Introduction

In contemporary media environments, news headlines play a crucial role in shaping public understanding of political events. As the most visible and frequently consumed element of news reporting, headlines do more than summarize information—they frame issues, prioritize perspectives, and subtly guide audience interpretation. Particularly in contexts involving geopolitical conflict and regime change, headlines become powerful discursive tools through which competing narratives about legitimacy, sovereignty, security, and democracy are constructed and circulated.

This study investigates how ideology is embedded within news headlines through a comparative analysis of coverage by BBC and Al Jazeera concerning events in Venezuela between 2025 and 2026. While both outlets report on the same broad set of developments, they operate within different institutional, political, and cultural contexts, which may influence how events are framed and interpreted. The study therefore seeks to explore not only what is reported, but how it is linguistically and discursively constructed, and what underlying assumptions and power relations these constructions reveal.

To achieve this, the research adopts Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) as its analytical approach, drawing specifically on Norman Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model. This model provides a comprehensive framework for examining discourse at three interconnected levels: (1) the textual level, which focuses on linguistic features such as vocabulary, grammar, and rhetorical strategies; (2) the discursive practice level, which considers how texts are produced, distributed, and interpreted within institutional contexts; and (3) the social practice level, which links discourse to broader sociopolitical structures, ideologies, and power relations. By

integrating these dimensions, the model allows for a systematic exploration of how meaning is constructed and how certain representations become dominant or contested.

The central aim of this study is to identify and compare the dominant themes and discursive patterns present in the selected headlines, and to uncover the hidden ideological features that shape their framing. In particular, the study examines how BBC headlines tend to foreground narratives of democratic transition, stabilization, and international legitimacy, while Al Jazeera headlines emphasize themes of sovereignty, anti-intervention, and resistance. Through this comparison, the research highlights how different media institutions may construct divergent realities around the same events.

Ultimately, this study contributes to a deeper understanding of the relationship between language, media, and power. By applying Fairclough's model within a CDA framework, it demonstrates that headlines are not neutral conveyors of information but are embedded within ideological processes that influence how global events are perceived. This approach not only reveals the underlying discursive mechanisms at work but also encourages a more critical engagement with news media in an era of increasingly complex geopolitical communication.

I. CDA of News headlines according to Fairclough's Model

To conduct a rigorous analysis of the headlines using Fairclough's (2001) Three-Dimensional Conception of Discourse, we must examine the intersection of language, discursive processes, and social structures.

Fairclough's model argues that every instance of language use is simultaneously a text, a discourse practice, and a social practice. In Our study, we have chosen fifteen (15) news headlines that were published in the official website of two channels Aljazeera and BBC about

the American-Venezuelan Conflict during the period from March 2025 to March 2026 about
the American-Venezuelan Conflict

- **List of selected BBC News Headlines (March 2025 to March 2026)**

1. **March 20, 2026:** Airlines Resume Flights to Caracas as Air space Safety Improves
2. **March 6, 2026:** Venezuela: US and Interim Government Agree to Re-establish Diplomatic Ties
3. **March 5, 2026:** Secretary Doug Burgum Meets Delcy Rodriguez to Discuss Energy Stability
4. **February 20, 2026:** US Lifts Oil Sanctions Conditionally Following Leadership Change
5. **February 15, 2026:** Venezuela's Future: Can the Interim Government Stabilize the Economy?
6. **February 2, 2026:** UN Human Rights Teams Arrive in Caracas to Monitor Transition
7. **January 28, 2026:** US Officials Deny 'Territorial Ambitions' in Venezuela Amid Regional Concerns
8. **January 15, 2026:** The Fall of a Dictator: Tracking the Final Days of the Maduro Regime
9. **January 10, 2026:** G7 Nations Issue Support for Venezuela's Political Transition
10. **January 5, 2026:** Western Leaders Back 'Restoration of Democracy' After Maduro Removal
11. **January 4, 2026:** Israel Welcomes 'End of Terror Network' in South America
12. **January 3, 2026:** Maduro Captured: US Special Forces Detain Venezuelan President in Caracas Raid
13. **November 22, 2025:** Inside the US Navy Flotilla Deployed to the Caribbean Sea
14. **November 15, 2025:** Trump's 'Southern Spear' Mission: A Strategy for Regional Security?
15. **October 5, 2025:** Venezuelan Migrants in US Face Uncertainty Amid TPS Revocation

- **List of selected Aljazeera News Headlines (March 2025 to March 2026)**

1. **March 1, 2026:** The Price of Oil: How US Foreign Policy Dictates Venezuelan Sovereignty
2. **February 10, 2026:** Human Rights Groups Warn of Escalating Violence in Post-Invasion Venezuela
3. **January 22, 2026:**Illegal Abduction: Al Jazeera Speaks to Venezuelans on US Interference
4. **January 20, 2026:** Massive Protests in Caracas Against 'US-Backed Puppet Government'
5. **January 12, 2026:** Is Washington Re-animating the Monroe Doctrine in Venezuela?
6. **January 4, 2026:** Mexico and Brazil Condemn US Military Strike as Violation of UN Charter
7. **January 4, 2026:**HonduranPresidentXiomara Castro Slams 'Kidnapping' of Maduro
8. **January 3, 2026:** Cuba Denounces 'State Terrorism' After US Raid in Venezuela
9. **December 30, 2025:** Trump Bombs Venezuelan Land for First Time: Is Regional War Imminent?
10. **December 5, 2025:** US Warships in Caribbean: A Calculated Move to Seize Oil Reserves?
11. **November 25, 2025:** The 'Cartel de los Soles' Lie: How Washington Fabricated a Terrorist Threat
12. **November 25, 2025:** Timeline: 26 Years of Fraught Relations Lead to US Intervention
13. **October 28, 2025:** Venezuela Suspends Gas Accords as US Warships Patrol Borders
14. **September 15, 2025:**Seventy Dead in US 'Anti-Narcotics' Strikes on Caribbean Vessels
15. **March 24, 2025:** Trump Imposes 25% Tariffs on Global Buyers of Venezuelan Oil

II. Analysis of the News Headlines (Fairclough's model)

Using Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model—Text (description), Discursive/Processing Practice (interpretation), and Social Practice (explanation)—the headlines can be mapped as follows. In CDA, text analysis focuses on lexical choices and rhetoric; processing analysis examines production/consumption and intertextual framing; social analysis links discourse to ideology, power, and sociopolitical structures.

• Table 01: Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model Applied to Al Jazeera

Headlines

#	Headline	Text Analysis (Description)	Processing Analysis (Discursive Practice)	Social Analysis (Sociocultural Practice)
1	The Price of Oil: How US Foreign Policy Dictates Venezuelan Sovereignty	Lexis of domination ("dictates"), economic metaphor	Produced through anti-hegemonic geopolitical discourse; intertext with oil politics	Power asymmetry, imperialism, resource control
2	Human Rights Groups Warn of Escalating Violence...	Crisis vocabulary ("violence", "post-invasion")	Draws authority from human rights discourse	Intervention framed as producing humanitarian instability
3	Illegal Abduction... US Interference	Criminalizing lexical choice ("illegal abduction")	Counter-discourse challenging official narratives	Sovereignty violation and resistance ideology
4	Massive Protests Against 'US-Backed Puppet Government'	Delegitimizing phrase "puppet government"	Protest discourse amplifies grassroots voices	Popular resistance vs imposed authority
5	Re-animating the Monroe	Historical metaphor/allusion	Intertextual reference to US intervention history	Neo-imperial continuity in Latin America

	Doctrine?			
6	Mexico and Brazil Condemn US Military Strike...	Legal discourse (“violation”, “UN Charter”)	Uses diplomatic voices to construct legitimacy	International law vs unilateral intervention
7	Xiomara Castro Slams ‘Kidnapping’ of Maduro	Evaluative verb “slams”; criminal framing	Regional solidarity discourse	Latin American resistance to external power
8	Cuba Denounces ‘State Terrorism’ ...	Strong ideological label “state terrorism”	Counter-hegemonic security discourse	Militarism and critique of state violence
9	Trump Bombs Venezuelan Land... Regional War Imminent?	War lexicon, alarm framing	Conflict-escalation narrative; speculative question format	Militarization and regional instability
10	US Warships... Seize Oil Reserves?	Suspicion through interrogative framing	Strategic-security discourse with resource narrative	Militarized resource imperialism
11	‘Cartel de los Soles’ Lie... Fabricated Threat	Delegitimizing “lie”, “fabricated”	Challenges dominant security narratives	Ideological construction of enemies
12	26 Years of Fraught Relations Lead to US Intervention	Historical narrative structure	Timeline genre creates causality	Intervention normalized through long-term tensions
13	Venezuela Suspends Gas Accords... Warships Patrol Borders	Economic-security vocabulary	Energy conflict discourse	Resource geopolitics and coercion
14	Seventy Dead in US	Casualty foregrounding; scare	Humanitarian critique of security discourse	Violence justified through counter-

	‘Anti-Narcotics’ Strikes	quotes challenge legitimacy		narcotics ideology
1 5	Trump Imposes 25% Tariffs... Venezuelan Oil	Economic coercion vocabulary (“imposes”, “tariffs”)	Trade-policydiscourse	Sanctions as instruments of power

- **Discussion of the table**

The table shows that Al Jazeera’s headlines consistently use critical and ideologically charged language to portray US involvement in Venezuela as interventionist and hegemonic. Through Fairclough’s three-dimensional model, the analysis reveals how textual choices, discursive framing, and sociocultural context work together to foreground themes of sovereignty, resistance, and anti-imperialism. The headlines also rely on historical references and alternative political voices to challenge dominant Western narratives. Overall, the findings demonstrate the effectiveness of CDA in uncovering hidden ideological meanings within media headlines

Table 02:Thematic Summary Through Fairclough’s Three Dimensions

Fairclough Dimension	Dominant Patterns Across Headlines
TextAnalysis	Loaded vocabulary, delegitimization, war metaphors, legal/imperial references, evaluative wording
ProcessingAnalysis	Counter-hegemonic framing, intertextuality (Monroe Doctrine, UN Charter, terrorism discourse), alternative sourcing (regional leaders, protests, human rights groups)
Social Analysis	Anti-imperial ideology, sovereignty struggles, resource geopolitics, militarization, resistance to hegemonic power

Discussion of the table

The table highlights how Al Jazeera’s headlines employ ideologically loaded language and counter-hegemonic framing to shape readers’ perceptions of the Venezuelan crisis.

Through Fairclough’s three dimensions, the analysis reveals the use of delegitimizing vocabulary, historical intertextuality, and alternative political voices to challenge dominant Western narratives. At the social level, the headlines foreground themes of anti-imperialism, sovereignty, militarization, and geopolitical power struggles. Overall, the table demonstrates the effectiveness of CDA in uncovering hidden ideological meanings in media discourse.

• **Table 03: Fairclough’s Three-Dimensional Model Applied to BBC News**

Headlines

#	Headline	Text Analysis (Description)	Processing Analysis (Discursive Practice)	Social Analysis (Social Practice)
1	Airlines Resume Flights to Caracas as Airspace Safety Improves	Positive lexis (“resume”, “safety improves”), normalization discourse	Recovery-oriented reporting; emphasizes restoration narrative	Post-crisis stabilization and return to order
2	US and Interim Government Agree to Re-establish Diplomatic Ties	Diplomatic vocabulary (“agree”, “re-establish”)	Institutional/state-centered framing	Legitimization of transition through diplomacy
3	Doug Burgum Meets Delcy Rodriguez to Discuss Energy Stability	Technocratic language (“stability”)	Elite political/economic discourse	Energy governance and geopolitical cooperation
4	US Lifts Oil Sanctions Conditionally Following Leadership Change	Conditional modality signals controlled approval	Policy discourse frames sanctions as leverage	Power through economic governance
5	Can the Interim Government Stabilize the Economy?	Evaluative/problem-solving framing	Future-oriented transition discourse	Governance legitimacy through economic performance

6	UN Human Rights Teams Arrive to Monitor Transition	Human rights and monitoring vocabulary	International institutional oversight discourse	Democratization linked to global norms
7	US Officials Deny 'Territorial Ambitions' Amid Concerns	Defensive lexical framing ("deny")	Responds to competing geopolitical narratives	Managing legitimacy amid intervention concerns
8	The Fall of a Dictator: Final Days of Maduro Regime	Strong evaluative term "dictator"; dramatic narrative	Personalized regime-change discourse	Authoritarianism vs democracy ideology
9	G7 Nations Support Venezuela's Political Transition	Consensus-oriented diplomatic language	Multilateral legitimacy discourse	Western/international endorsement of transition
10	Leaders Back 'Restoration of Democracy' After Maduro Removal	Positive democratization lexicon	Democracy-promotion narrative	Liberal democratic ideological framing
11	Israel Welcomes 'End of Terror Network'	Security lexicon ("terror network")	Counterterrorism discourse	Security framing legitimizes political change
12	Maduro Captured: US Special Forces Detain President	Action-oriented military lexicon	Intervention framed through operation reporting	Military power represented as corrective force
13	Inside the US Navy Flotilla Deployed to Caribbean Sea	Strategic military vocabulary	Security/defense explanatory genre	Regional deterrence and power projection
14	'Southern Spear' Mission: Strategy for Regional Security?	Strategic metaphor; interrogative framing	Security-policy analysis discourse	Intervention framed through security rationale

1 5	Venezuelan Migrants in US Face Uncertainty Amid TPS Revocation	Humanitarian vocab ulary (“uncertainty”)	Migration- policy discourse	Displacement linked to policy and instability
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Discussion of the table

The table shows that BBC headlines mainly employ positive and institutional language to frame events in Venezuela through narratives of democratic transition, security, and stabilization. Using Fairclough’s model, the analysis reveals how diplomatic, humanitarian, and security discourses help legitimize political change and international involvement. Overall, the headlines reflect broader ideological themes of liberal democracy, geopolitical order, and institutional authority

- **Table 04: Thematic Summary through Fairclough’s Three Dimensions**

Fairclough Dimension	Dominant Patterns in BBC Headlines
Text Analysis	Lexis of transition, democracy, stability, security, recovery; legitimizing vocabulary; institutional and diplomatic tone
Processing Analysis	Heavy reliance on official actors (US, G7, UN), elite sources, diplomatic/security intertextuality, transition-centered framing
Social Analysis	Liberal democratic ideology, intervention legitimacy, geopolitical order, security governance, post-crisis normalization

Discussion of the table:

The table indicates that BBC headlines primarily foreground themes of democratic transition, stability, and security through institutional and legitimizing language. At the discursive level, the coverage relies heavily on official actors and diplomatic narratives to frame political developments in Venezuela. Socially, the headlines reflect broader liberal democratic and geopolitical ideologies that normalize international intervention and post-crisis governance.

III. Analysis of themes across the News headlines

1) Analysis of themes in BBC news headlines

Based on the headlines, several recurring news themes/framing categories emerge (political transition, diplomacy, security, energy, migration, and human rights). These themes align with common BBC international coverage patterns around crisis reporting, geopolitics, and humanitarian issues.

Table 05: Themes analysis in BBC news headlines

	BBC News Headline (Date)	Primary Theme	Secondary Theme(s)	Broader Framing/Narrative
1	Airlines Resume Flights to Caracas as Airspace Safety Improves (Mar. 20, 2026)	Recovery & Normalization	Transportation, Security	Post-crisis stabilization
2	US and Interim Government Agree to Re-establish Diplomatic Ties (Mar. 6, 2026)	Diplomacy & International Relations	Political Transition	Restoration of state legitimacy
3	Doug Burgum Meets Delcy Rodriguez to Discuss Energy Stability (Mar. 5, 2026)	Energy Security	Diplomacy, Economic Cooperation	Geopolitics of oil
4	US Lifts Oil Sanctions Conditionally Following Leadership Change (Feb. 20, 2026)	Sanctions & Economic Policy	Regime Change, Energy	Conditional engagement
5	Venezuela's Future: Can the Interim Government Stabilize the Economy? (Feb. 15, 2026)	Economic Recovery	Governance	Transition challenges
6	UN Human Rights Teams Arrive in Caracas to Monitor Transition (Feb. 2, 2026)	Human Rights Monitoring	International Oversight	Democratic transition accountability
7	US Officials Deny 'Territorial Ambitions' in Venezuela (Jan. 28, 2026)	Sovereignty & Geopolitics	Regional Security	Intervention vs sovereignty debate
8	The Fall of a Dictator: Tracking Final Days of Maduro Regime (Jan. 15,	Regime Change	Political Crisis	Authoritarian collapse narrative

	2026)			
9	G7 Nations Issue Support for Venezuela's Political Transition (Jan. 10, 2026)	Multilateral Diplomacy	Democratic Support	International consensus
10	Western Leaders Back 'Restoration of Democracy' After Maduro Removal (Jan. 5, 2026)	Democracy Promotion	Foreign Policy	Democratic restoration framing
11	Israel Welcomes 'End of Terror Network' in South America (Jan. 4, 2026)	Security / Counterterrorism	Geopolitics	Security threat framing
12	Maduro Captured: US Special Forces Detain Venezuelan President (Jan. 3, 2026)	Military Intervention	Regime Removal	Conflict / intervention narrative
13	Inside the US Navy Flotilla Deployed to Caribbean Sea (Nov. 22, 2025)	Military Presence	Regional Security	Strategic deterrence
14	Trump's 'Southern Spear' Mission: A Strategy for Regional Security? (Nov. 15, 2025)	Security Strategy	Military Policy	Strategic intervention debate
15	Venezuelan Migrants in US Face Uncertainty Amid TPS Revocation (Oct. 5, 2025)	Migration & Humanitarian Issues	Immigration Policy	Displacement and vulnerability

Discussion of the table

The table shows that BBC headlines mainly emphasize themes of recovery, diplomacy, democratic transition, and security in their coverage of Venezuela. The headlines frame political developments through institutional and legitimizing narratives that portray intervention and transition as necessary for stability and international order. Overall, the thematic patterns reflect a liberal-democratic and state-centered perspective in news reporting

- **Table 06:Major Themes across All Headlines**

Theme	Related Headlines	Frequency
Political Transition / Regime Change	2, 5, 8, 9, 10, 12	High
Diplomacy / International Relations	2, 3, 7, 9	High
Security / Military Intervention	7, 11, 12, 13, 14	High
Energy / Sanctions	3, 4	Moderate
Human Rights / Governance	6	Moderate
Economic Recovery	5	Moderate
Migration / Humanitarian	15	Moderate
Recovery / Normalization	1	Emerging

Discussion of the table

The table indicates that BBC headlines predominantly foreground themes of political transition, diplomacy, and security, reflecting a strong focus on regime change and international involvement in Venezuela. Moderate attention is also given to economic recovery, sanctions, and humanitarian concerns, while recovery and normalization emerge as developing narratives. Overall, the thematic distribution supports a discourse centered on stabilization, governance, and geopolitical order.

2) Analysis of themes in Aljazeera news headlines

Based on the headlines, recurring themes in the coverage center strongly on anti-intervention framing, sovereignty, militarization, resource politics, and regional resistance. Compared with other international coverage, these headlines emphasize critiques of foreign intervention and geopolitical power.

Table 07:Themes analysis in Aljazeera news headlines

#	Al Jazeera News Headline (Date)	Primary Theme	Secondary Theme (s)	Broader Framing/Narrative
1	The Price of Oil: How US Foreign Policy Dictates Venezuelan Sovereignty (Mar. 1, 2026)	Resource Politics / Oil Sovereignty	Foreign Policy, Imperialism	Oil as driver of intervention
2	Human Rights Groups Warn of Escalating Violence in Post-Invasion Venezuela (Feb. 10, 2026)	Humanitarian Crisis	Conflict, Human Rights	Consequences of intervention
3	Illegal Abduction: Venezuelans on US Interference (Jan. 22, 2026)	Sovereignty & Anti-Intervention	Legitimacy, Resistance	Intervention as illegal intrusion
4	Massive Protests Against 'US-Backed Puppet Government' (Jan. 20, 2026)	Popular Resistance / Protest	Political Legitimacy	Rejection of imposed governance
5	Is Washington Re-animating the Monroe Doctrine? (Jan. 12, 2026)	Neo-imperialism / Monroe Doctrine	Geopolitics	Historical interventionism
6	Mexico and Brazil Condemn US Military Strike (Jan. 4, 2026)	International Law / Regional Opposition	Diplomacy	Violation of sovereignty norms
7	Xiomara Castro Slams 'Kidnapping' of Maduro (Jan. 4, 2026)	Regional Political Resistance	Sovereignty	Latin American solidarity
8	Cuba Denounces 'State Terrorism' After US Raid (Jan. 3, 2026)	State Violence / Security Critique	Anti-imperialism	US militarism critique
9	Trump Bombs Venezuelan Land: Is Regional War Imminent? (Dec. 30, 2025)	War Escalation	Regional Security	Threat of wider conflict
10	US Warships in Caribbean: Move to Seize Oil Reserves? (Dec. 5, 2025)	Militarization & Resource Control	Strategic Security	Oil-driven military strategy
11	The 'Cartel de los Soles' Lie... Fabricated Terrorist Threat (Nov. 25, 2025)	Media/Propaganda Critique	Security Narrative	Challenging official justifications
1	Timeline: 26 Years of	Historical Context	Foreign Relations	Long-

2	Fraught Relations Lead to US Intervention (Nov. 25, 2025)	ext		termconflictrajectory
1 3	Venezuela Suspends Gas Accords as Warships Patrol Borders (Oct. 28, 2025)	Energy Conflict	Militarization	Resource conflictescalation
1 4	Seventy Dead in US 'Anti-Narcotics' Strikes (Sept. 15, 2025)	CivilianCasualties / Human Rights	Security Operations	Costs of militarizedpolicy
1 5	Trump Imposes 25% Tariffs on Buyers of Venezuelan Oil (Mar. 24, 2025)	Economic Coercion / Sanctions	Trade Politics	Economic pressure as intervention

Discussion of the table

The table shows that Al Jazeera headlines primarily foreground themes of sovereignty, anti-intervention, and resistance in their coverage of Venezuela. The headlines frame US actions as forms of imperialism, militarization, and economic coercion, while emphasizing humanitarian consequences and regional opposition. Overall, the thematic patterns reflect a counter-hegemonic and anti-imperialist discourse.

3) Table 08: Major Themes across Headlines

Theme	Related Headlines	Frequency
Sovereignty / Anti-Intervention	1,3,5,6,7,8	Very High
Militarization / Conflict Escalation	8,9,10,13,14	High
Resource Politics (Oil/Gas)	1,10,13,15	High
Regional Resistance / Solidarity	4,6,7	Moderate-High
HumanitarianCosts / Human Rights	2,14	Moderate
Critique of US Narratives / Propaganda	11,12	Moderate
Economic Coercion / Sanctions	15	Moderate

Discussion of the table

The table illustrates a clear thematic hierarchy where Al Jazeera prioritizes "Sovereignty" and "Anti-Intervention" as the dominant ideological frame. By frequently linking

"Militarization" with "Resource Politics," the discourse shifts the narrative from a humanitarian mission to a strategic critique of neo-imperialism and economic coercion.

This distribution reveals a deliberate counter-hegemonic strategy that centers regional resistance and the delegitimization of US motives, effectively framing the conflict as a violation of international law rather than a democratic transition.

IV. Comparative Summary of Major Themes Across All Headlines (BBC vs Al Jazeera)

Using the thematic coding developed from both headline sets, the comparison below aggregates the major recurring themes and shows which themes each outlet tends to foreground.

Table 09: Comparative Theme Matrix

Major Theme	BBC Frequency/ Emphasis	BBC %	Al Jazeera Frequency/ Emphasis	Al Jazeera %	Comparative Observation
Political Transition / Democracy	Very High	30%	Low	5%	BBC strongly foregrounds democratic transition; marginal in Al Jazeera
Security / Militarization	High	25%	High	20%	Present in both, but framed differently
Sovereignty / Anti-Intervention	Low	5%	Very High	30%	Core Al Jazeera frame; largely backgrounded in BBC
Resource Politics / Energy	Moderate	15%	High	20%	More central in Al Jazeera
Humanitarian / Migration	Moderate	10%	Moderate	10%	Similar but framed differently
Diplomacy /	Moderate-High	15%	Moderate	15%	Present in

International Legitimacy					both, but BBC more institutional
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Discussion of the table

This comparative matrix highlights a profound ideological divergence: the BBC prioritizes a "Political Transition" narrative (30%) to legitimize the intervention as a democratic necessity, whereas Al Jazeera centers on "Sovereignty" (30%) to frame it as a violation of international law. While both outlets address security and diplomacy, the stark percentage gaps in their core themes demonstrate how headlines are engineered to either uphold Western institutional order or amplify anti-hegemonic resistance.

Table 10: Comparative percentage Distribution of foregrounded themes

BBC thematic emphasis	Al Jazeera thematic emphasis
4) Democratic Transition:30%	• Sovereignty/Anti-Intervention:30%
5) Security/Militarization:25%	• Security/Militarization:20%
6) Resource Politics:15%	• Resource Politics:20%
7) Diplomacy/Legitimacy:15%	• Diplomacy/Legitimacy:15%
8) Humanitarian/Migration:10%	• Humanitarian/Migration:10%
9) Sovereignty/Anti-Intervention:5%	• Democratic Transition:5%

Discussion of the table

The percentage distribution in Table 10 quantifies a diametric opposition in editorial priorities: the BBC dedicates its largest share (30%) to justifying the conflict as a "Democratic Transition," while Al Jazeera allocates an identical 30% to condemning it as a violation of "Sovereignty."

By marginalizing each other's primary concerns to a mere 5%, both outlets demonstrate a strategic use of foregrounding and backgrounding to construct mutually exclusive realities—one centering on institutional reform and the other on anti-imperialist resistance.

Table 11: Comparative Framing Summary:

Dimension	BBC Tends to Foreground	Al Jazeera Tends to Foreground
Political Framing	Democratic transition, regime change, stabilization	Sovereignty, resistance, anti-imperial critique
Security Framing	Regional security, counterterrorism, intervention legitimacy	Militarization, aggression, warescalation
Economic Framing	Sanctions, recovery, governance	Oilpolitics, extraction, economic coercion
International Relations	G7, UN legitimacy, diplomacy	Regional opposition, Global South solidarity
Ideological Orientation (CDA reading)	Liberal-democratic institutional legitimacy /	Counter-hegemonic / anti-intervention

Discussion of the table

This table provides a synthesis of the binary oppositions in the media coverage, showing how the BBC utilizes a "Stabilization" frame to characterize the conflict as a legitimate institutional transition. In contrast, Al Jazeera employs an "Aggression" frame, redirecting the focus toward militarization and economic coercion.

This summary underscores a fundamental ideological divide: the BBC's discourse is anchored in liberal-institutional legitimacy, while Al Jazeera's is rooted in counter-hegemonic resistance, ensuring that the same geopolitical event is consumed as either a "necessary correction" or an "imperialist violation."

Table 12: Higher-Level comparative themes

Shared Theme	BBC Framing	Al Jazeera Framing
Democracy /	Restoration, transition	Imposed "puppet"

Governance		governancequestioned
Security	Stabilization and protection	Militarization and aggression
Sovereignty	Limited emphasis	Central organizingtheme
Oil / Energy	Economicstability	Resource imperialism
Humanitarian Issues	Managed transition concern	Consequences of intervention

Discussion of the table

This table represents the third dimension of Fairclough's model—Social Practice (Explanation). It synthesizes the textual and discursive findings into "Higher-Level Themes," illustrating how the two outlets serve different ideological masters.

Table 13: Comparative Interpretation (Fairclough/CDA-Oriented)

Outlet	Dominant Discursive Tendency
BBC	Legitimizing discourse of transition, order, and international governance
Al Jazeera	Contesting discourse emphasizing intervention, sovereignty, and resistance

Discussion of the table

This table serves as the ultimate synthesis of the CDA analysis, identifying the BBC as an agent of legitimizing discourse that aligns military action with global order and democratic transition. Conversely, it positions Al Jazeera as a contesting discourse, which actively deconstructs Western narratives by centering the conflict on illegal intervention and the moral imperative of sovereignty.

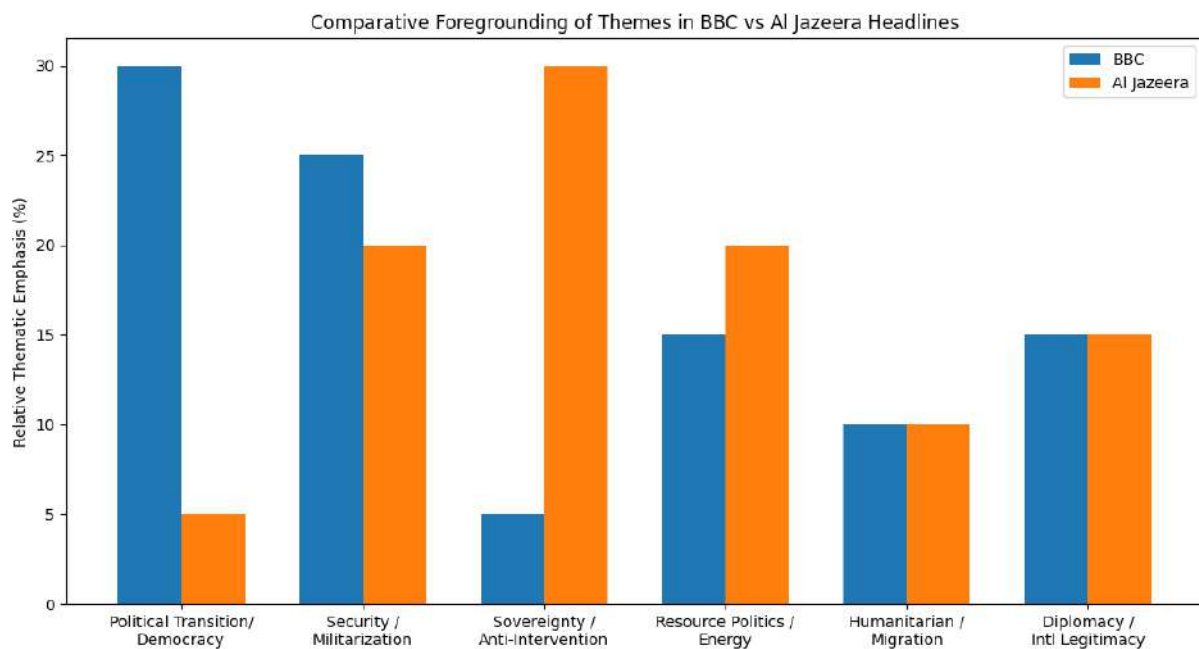
Overall Foregrounding Contrast

BBC foregrounds:	Al Jazeera foregrounds:
Democratic transition (30%)	Sovereignty / anti-intervention (30%)
Security/stabilization (25%)	Resource politics (20%)

International legitimacy (15%)	Militarization critique (20%)
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Below is a graph that shows the comparative foregrounding of themes in BBC and Al-Jazeera

Graph 01: comparative foregrounding of themes in BBC Vs Al-Jazeera Headlines



Discussion of the graph

The graph highlights a reciprocal thematic bias: the BBC prioritizes a "Political Transition" narrative (30%) to frame the conflict as a democratic necessity, while Al Jazeera centers on "Sovereignty" (30%) to frame it as a violation of international law. This inverse relationship illustrates how each outlet uses selective foregrounding to anchor their respective ideological agendas—liberal interventionism for the BBC and anti-hegemonic resistance for Al Jazeera.

Table 14: Interpretation of the analysis

Comparative Pattern	Interpretation
BBC emphasizes order after crisis	Intervention often normalized through democracy/security narratives
Al Jazeera emphasizes power contestation	Intervention often problematized as imperial or coercive
Same events, different foregrounding	Illustrates ideological framing differences in news discourse

Discussion of the table

This summary table illustrates the ideological polarization between the two outlets: the BBC utilizes a "Stabilization" frame to characterize the conflict as a legitimate institutional transition, while Al Jazeera employs an "Aggression" frame to emphasize militarization and economic coercion.

This divergent foregrounding confirms that the same event is constructed as either a necessary democratic correction (BBC) or an imperialist violation (Al Jazeera) depending on the channel's foundational ideology.

We can deduce the following points:

- BBC tends to foreground a “democratic transition and stabilization” frame.
- Al Jazeera tends to foreground an “anti-intervention and sovereignty resistance” frame.

This creates a classic CDA contrast between legitimizing versus contesting discourse.

Conclusion

This comparative CDA of BBC and Al Jazeera headlines demonstrates that news headlines are not neutral summaries of events, but discursive constructions shaped by ideology, power relations, and institutional positioning. Through the application of Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model—text analysis, discursive practice, and social practice—it becomes evident that headlines operate simultaneously at linguistic, interpretive, and sociocultural levels, where meaning is produced and ideological assumptions are often naturalized.

At the textual level, lexical choices, metaphors, evaluative labels, and framing devices revealed important ideological patterns embedded in apparently concise headline structures. Terms such as *restoration of democracy*, *dictator*, *puppet government*, *state terrorism*, and *territorial ambitions* were shown not simply to describe events but to position actors morally and politically, legitimizing some perspectives while marginalizing others. Through CDA, these linguistic selections can be understood as ideological signals rather than neutral journalistic wording.

At the level of discursive practice, the analysis highlighted how the two news organizations foreground different narratives through sourcing patterns, intertextual references, and framing strategies. BBC headlines tended to privilege discourses of democratic transition, security, and international legitimacy, while Al Jazeera foregrounded sovereignty, anti-intervention, and resistance. This demonstrates Fairclough's argument that discourse is produced and circulated through institutional practices that shape how audiences interpret events and how certain meanings become dominant.

At the level of social practice, the findings show how headlines reproduce broader relations of power and ideology linked to geopolitics, intervention, liberal democracy, imperial critique, and media hegemony. What appears as simple reporting often participates in wider struggles over

legitimacy, authority, and representation. In this sense, Fairclough's model was particularly effective in connecting micro-level linguistic features to macro-level structures of power.

Most importantly, CDA proved valuable in identifying hidden ideological features that may remain implicit or normalized in everyday news consumption. It exposed how headlines can legitimize intervention, construct threat narratives, naturalize political assumptions, or challenge dominant hegemonic discourse. Rather than viewing ideology only as overt bias, CDA reveals ideology in subtler forms—in word choice, silences, foregrounding, presupposition, and framing.

Overall, this study confirms that Fairclough's three-dimensional model provides a powerful analytical framework for uncovering how ideology operates within media discourse, particularly in headline reporting where meaning is highly condensed but politically significant. By revealing the relationship between language, power, and social structure, CDA not only deepens understanding of media representation but also encourages a more critical reading of news as discourse shaped by competing ideological forces rather than transparent reflections of reality.

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Résumé

Cette étude présente une analyse critique du discours (ACD) comparative des titres d'actualité de la BBC et d'Al Jazeera concernant le nouveau conflit américano-vénézuélien. S'appuyant sur le modèle tridimensionnel de Fairclough, la recherche examine comment les caractéristiques idéologiques s'intègrent aux structures médiatiques condensées aux niveaux textuel, discursif et social. L'objectif principal est de mettre en lumière la manière dont ces deux médias internationaux construisent des réalités divergentes autour des mêmes événements géopolitiques par le biais de stratégies linguistiques et de cadrage sélectives. L'analyse révèle une profonde polarisation idéologique dans la mise en avant thématique de chaque média. De plus, les résultats indiquent que la BBC utilise majoritairement un discours de légitimation de la « transition politique » et de la « restauration démocratique » (30 %), encadrant le conflit par des récits de stabilisation, de légitimité internationale et d'ordre institutionnel. À l'inverse, Al Jazeera adopte un discours contestataire et contre-hégémonique qui privilégie la « souveraineté » et la « non-intervention » (30 %), qualifiant les mêmes événements d'intrusions illégales, d'agression militarisée et d'impérialisme des ressources.

Mots-clés : CDA, conflit américano-vénézuélien, BBC, Al Jazeera, modèle tridimensionnel de Fairclough

تقدّم هذه الدراسة تحليلًا نقديًا مقارنةً للخطاب لعناوين الأخبار في كلّ من هيئة الإذاعة البريطانية بي بي سي وشبكة الجزيرة حول الصراع الأمريكي-الفرنزويلي واعتمادًا على نموذج فيركلاف ثلاثي الأبعاد، تبحث الدراسة في كيفية تضمين السمات الأيديولوجية داخل البنى الإعلامية المكثفة على المستويات النصية والخطابية والاجتماعية. ويتمثل الهدف الرئيس للدراسة في الكشف عن الكيفية التي تبني بها هاتان المؤسستان الإعلاميتان العالميتان واقعين مختلفين للأحداث الجيوسياسية نفسها من خلال استراتيجيات لغوية وتأطيرية انتقائية.

وقد كشف التحليل عن وجود استقطاب أيديولوجي عميق في إبراز الموضوعات الرئيسة لدى كل وسيلة إعلامية. كما أظهرت النتائج أن هيئة الإذاعة البريطانية تعتمد بصورة أساسية خطابًا تبريريًا يتمحور حول "الانتقال السياسي" و"استعادة الديمقراطية" بنسبة (30%)، حيث تُؤطر الأحداث ضمن سرديات الاستقرار والشرعية الدولية والنظام المؤسسي. وعلى النقيض من ذلك، تتبنى شبكة الجزيرة خطابًا معارضًا ومضادًا للهيمنة يركّز على "السيادة" و"مناهضة التدخل" بنسبة (30%)، إذ تصوّر الأحداث نفسها باعتبارها تدخلات غير قانونية وعدوانًا عسكريًا وإمبريالية قائمة على استغلال الموارد.

الكلمات المفتاحية: التحليل النقدي للخطاب، الصراع الأمريكي-الفرنزويلي، هيئة الإذاعة البريطانية، الجزيرة، نموذج فيركلاف ثلاثي الأبعاد.