Research Paper

Critical Discourse Analysis of Al Riyaḍ Media's Representation of Social Actors and Ideology Regarding the Coverage of Normalization of Saudi Arabia-Israel Relations

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ABSTRACT

This study examines how Al Riyaḍ media represents social actors in its coverage of the normalization process of Saudi Arabia-Israel relations. This study uses Theo van Leeuwen's critical discourse analysis model of *social actor representation*. The study aims to reveal the linguistic strategies used by Al Riyaḍ in shaping the meaning construction of the roles of the four main social actors, namely Saudi Arabia, Israel, the United States, and Palestine, and explore the ideological tendencies implied behind these representations. Data were collected from ten articles that discuss the involvement of four social actors in the normalization process, and then analyzed through a descriptive qualitative approach. The results showed that Al Riyaḍ consistently represented Saudi Arabia as the dominant actor supporting the establishment of a Palestinian state by using inclusion techniques through assimilation-individualization and association-dissociation strategies. This representation reflects ideological tendencies that affirm Saudi Arabia's active role as the leader of the normalization initiative and its consistent support for the establishment of a Palestinian state. This finding confirms that the media plays an important role in producing and reproducing power structures through the practice of representing social actors who are not ideologically neutral.

Keywords: Representation of Social Actors, Theo van Leeuwen's CDA, Al Riyaḍ, Saudi-Israeli Normalization

INTRODUCTION

The process of normalizing relations between Saudi Arabia and Israel is one of the most significant geopolitical dynamics in the Middle East region in recent years. This is often in the spotlight and causes polemics, given the ongoing conflict between Israel and Palestine and a number of Arab countries. In the political landscape of the Middle East, the relationship between Arab countries and Israel is a prominent strategic issue, especially after the signing of the *Abraham Accords* by several Gulf countries in 2020. Until now, a number of Arab countries that have established diplomatic relations with Israel include Bahrain, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Morocco, Jordan, Egypt and Sudan. This normalization occurs because of the political, economic and security interests that are mutually beneficial for each party (Derajat and Kurniawan 2022).

After the Hamas attack on Israel on October 7, 2023, known as *Operation Al-Aqsa Flood*, the diplomatic process towards normalizing relations between Saudi Arabia and Israel

experienced tension, but not completely stopped. The Saudi government remains committed to the possibility of normalization, but with the main condition of the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. According to an article published by the Arab Center Washington (2024), the Saudi government asserts that it will not take any steps towards official recognition of Israel without significant progress in resolving the Palestinian issue, in line with the principles of the 2002 *Arab Peace Initiative*. In this context, Palestine is not only positioned as an affected party, but also as a determining factor that is a prerequisite for regional diplomatic agreements.

Meanwhile, the United States plays a key role as a mediator in promoting the normalization process between Saudi Arabia and Israel. Through various official statements and high-level diplomatic visits, the US government is actively seeking a strategic agreement that not only includes geopolitical dimensions, but also takes into account the aspirations of the Palestinian people. As reported by Al Jazeera (2023) and Reuters (2024), US Secretary of State Antony Blinken said that any progress towards normalization must be accompanied by "a practical path to the establishment of a Palestinian state." In this regard, the United States offered Saudi Arabia various concessions, including security guarantees and support for the civilian nuclear program, as part of efforts to build a comprehensive agreement. The normalization of Saudi Arabia-Israel relations thus cannot be separated from the dynamics of the relationship between the four main actors, namely Saudi Arabia, Israel, Palestine, and the United States as the main mediator.

The involvement of the four social actors in the process of normalizing relations is not only diplomatic, but also reflects strategic and symbolic dimensions. In this context, the mass media plays an important role as an intermediary for delivering narratives, as well as a means of reproducing certain ideologies. The media not only conveys information, but also shapes public opinion through the representation of social actors involved in the normalization process. The representation reflects the ideological interests carried by the media. McQuail (2011) asserts that the media has power in framing the news through the ability to direct public attention, form opinions, label status, and determine the legitimacy of an event. As a result, the construction of reality conveyed by the media is often accepted by the public naturally without realizing it as a form of manipulation. In fact, media discourse is not a neutral product, but full of values and interests. Therefore, it is important to look at the ideology implied in the news.

Fairclough (1995) states that the media tend to shift the focus from the facts of events to ideological interpretations that benefit certain parties. In this case, language becomes an instrument of power used to maintain the dominance of certain groups while reducing the position of other groups. Critical discourse analysis (CDA) in linguistic studies views language as a social practice that cannot be separated from the sociopolitical context. As explained by Darma (2009), CDA not only examines linguistic elements, but also analyzes the relationship between language, power, and ideology reflected in discourse. Thus, this approach becomes relevant to reveal how the media constructs reality through language choices that are not value-free.

The representation of Saudi Arabia, Israel, the United States, and Palestine as the main social actors in media discourse can be analyzed through the *Critical Discourse Analysis* (CDA) approach developed by Theo van Leeuwen (2008). This approach provides conceptual tools to reveal how social actors are presented, omitted, categorized, or personalized in media texts. The process of representation is not neutral, but reflects the ideology or particular interests of the media concerned. Therefore, this study aims to examine how Al Riyaḍ frames the role of the four social actors in the process of normalizing relations between Saudi Arabia and Israel, as well as identify

the ideology implied behind the narrative built.

In this study, Al Riyaḍ media is used as a data source to analyze the news coverage of the process of normalizing relations between Saudi Arabia and Israel. Al Riyaḍ is an Arabic-language media under the auspices of Al Yamamah Press Corporation, a leading Riyadh-based press organization affiliated with the Saudi Arabian government (مؤسّسة اليمامة 1998) . The selection of Al Riyaḍ is based on its high readership, i.e. based on data from *Similarweb* in January 2024, Al Riyaḍ was ranked 20th in the category of Arabic-language news sites with a significant number of visitors. In addition, this media is also known to have institutional closeness to the Saudi Arabian government, so that the news content presented is relevant in representing the ideology and political interests of the state, especially in strategic issues such as normalizing relations with Israel.

As a media entity affiliated with the Saudi Arabian government, Al Riyaḍ has the potential to represent Saudi Arabia's foreign policy through the news presented, including in the context of efforts to normalize relations between Saudi Arabia and Israel. Therefore, it is important to examine how this media frames the roles of the four social actors discursively and ideologically in the narratives built, especially by using a critical discourse analysis approach.

In an effort to uncover these representational practices, this research uses Theo van Leeuwen's *Social Actor Approach* model (2008). This model emphasizes the analysis of how social actors are featured or hidden in discourse texts through two main techniques, namely exclusion and inclusion. The exclusion technique refers to the strategy of removing actors from the discourse which can be done through passivation, nominalization, or clause replacement. Meanwhile, the inclusion technique analyzes how actors are included in the discourse which can be done through various strategies such as objectivation-abstraction, nomination-categorization, nomination-

identification, determination-indetermination, assimilation-individualization, differentiation-indifference, and association-dissociation. Through this approach, the research can explore how Al Riyaḍ represents social actors in the normalization process, and how these representations reflect the ideology that the media wants to convey. As explained by Nur (2022), CDA not only examines the linguistic aspects of the text, but also seeks to reveal the interests and ideologies hidden behind it. Through the analysis of representations and discursive strategies used by the media, this study seeks to understand the relationship between language, power and ideology manifested in international news coverage of the normalization of Saudi-Israeli relations.

A study on the normalization of relations between Saudi Arabia and Israel has previously been conducted by Wardoyo (2023) through a literature review approach. Although the study made an initial contribution to the understanding of this issue, there is no research that specifically examines the construction of media discourse using the critical discourse analysis (CDA) approach of Theo van Leeuwen's model. To fill this gap, this study adopts van Leeuwen's CDA model to analyze how the representation of social actors and media ideology are constructed in Al Riyaḍ's reporting on the issue of normalizing Saudi Arabia-Israel relations. This approach allows for a more in-depth exploration of the ideological dimension in media texts, especially through linguistic strategies that represent social actors in a selective and meaningful way.

RESEARCH METHOD
This research applies a descriptive qualitative method that aims to describe in depth the results of critical discourse analysis of news texts. This approach was chosen in order to unravel the structure, meaning, and ideological tendencies in media discourse systematically and contextually. Qualitative research emphasizes on deepening the meaning, values, and implicit messages

contained behind the facts, with an approach that focuses on aspects of language and word usage. In line with Nur's view (2021), qualitative research is descriptive because it documents data carefully in various forms, such as words, sentences, conversations, pictures, diaries, and audio-visual recordings. Based on this, this research presents a qualitative descriptive of the representation of social actors of Saudi Arabia, Israel, the United States, and Palestine, in the news analyzed through exclusion and inclusion techniques and media ideology that frames the narrative in the news text.

The data in this study were obtained through the library method with library research techniques, as described by Nur (2021) as qualitative data collection sourced from written documents, such as newspapers, books, magazines, and speech texts. The search was conducted through the official website www.alriyadh.com using the keywords تطبيعإسرائيل وبين السّعوديّ /taṭbīʕ bayna as-suʕūdiyy wa-ʔisrāʔīl/ to identify news that explicitly displayed the involvement of the four social actors in the normalization process. Relevant news stories were selected and classified based on the representation of social actors using the exclusion and inclusion techniques of Theo van Leeuwen's CDA model. Each data was coded to facilitate the classification and analysis process.

Data analysis was conducted using Theo van Leeuwen's critical discourse analysis framework which includes two levels, namely micro and macro. The micro level examines the representation of social actors through exclusion techniques, such as passivation, nominalization, and clause replacement, as well as inclusion techniques such as objectivation-abstraction, nomination-identification, nomination-categorization, determination-indetermi-nation, assimilation-individualization, differentiation-indifference, and association-dissociation. Meanwhile, the macro level is used to reveal media ideology based on the micro level representation pattern. This research also applies the commensurate method of the determining element sorting technique with the referential commensurate sub-method to interpret the meaning of lingual units based on the social referent referred to by the language in the news discourse (T. Nur 2021) .

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
Micro Analysis - Representation of Social Actors
Discussion of the representation of social actors is the result of micro-analysis using Theo van Leeuwen's exclusion and inclusion techniques in the discourse on the news of normalizing Saudi Arabia-Israel relations. The four representations of social actors found in Al Riyaḍ media are classified based on the use of exclusion and inclusion techniques. The following table shows the percentage of strategies used by Al Riyaḍ media towards the social actors of Saudi Arabia, Israel, the United States, and Palestine.

Based on the findings in the table, Al Riyaḍ media applies more inclusion techniques in representing the four social actors involved, especially Saudi Arabia. this is reflected in the high use of assimilation-individualization (50.64%) and association-dissociation (27.56%) strategies. The assimilation-individualization strategy shows that Saudi Arabia is generally presented as part of a collective entity or official institution. Meanwhile, the dominance of the association-dissociation strategy shows Saudi Arabia's relationship with other actors, especially Palestinians, within the framework of solidarity or certain political positions. The absence of exclusion techniques against Saudi Arabia indicates that the country is consistently featured explicitly in the discourse, which strengthens its position as the central actor in the construction of the news narrative.

Table 1.

No.	Technique/Strategy	Saudi Arabia	Israel	America	Palestine
EXCLUSION					
1.	Passivation	-	-	-	-
2.	Nominalization	-	9 (12.67%)	-	1 (2.85%)
3.	Substitution of Sentences	-	-	-	-
INCLUSION					
1.	Objectivation - Abstraction	12 (7.69%)	2 (2.82%)	3 (5.35%)	2 (5.71%)
2.	Nomination - Categorization	7 (4.48%)	7 (9.86%)	8 (14.28%)	-
3.	Nomination - Identification	9 (5.77%)	5 (7.04%)	8 (14.28%)	5 (14.28%)
4.	Determination - Indetermination	2 (1.28%)	-	3 (5.35%)	2 (5.71%)
5.	Assimilation - Individualization	79 (50.64%)	40 (56.33%)	22 (39.28%)	23 (65.71%)
6.	Differentiation - Indifference	4 (2.56%)	7 (9.86%)	3 (5.35%)	-
7.	Association - Disassociation	43 (27.56%)	1 (1.42%)	9 (16.07%)	2 (5.71%)
TOTAL		156	71	56	35 = 318

Israel is also represented through inclusion techniques, with the dominance of the assimilation-individualization strategy (56.33%), which shows its appearance more often in institutional forms than individuals. In addition, the nomination-categorization and differentiation-indifference strategies of 9.86% each clarify Israel's position in certain social relations. However, Israel is the only actor that tends to be excluded through the nominalization strategy of 12.67%, which obscures the actor or source of action, especially in the context of conflict. Meanwhile, the United States is represented institutionally and strategically through the strategies of assimilation-individualization (39.38%), association-dissociation (16.07%), and nomination-categorization and identification (14.28%). Palestine is dominated by the assimilation-individualization strategy (65.71%), showing collective representation as a community group, with minimal personalization of individuals or figures, which makes their position more as objects than subjects in the discourse structure.

The following is a discussion of the representation of social actors in the discourse on the news of the normalization of Saudi Arabia-Israel relations.

Exclusion Technique
The use of exclusion techniques by Al Riyaḍ media only found 9 data through the nominalization strategy against Israeli social actors and one datum against Palestinian social actors. The following are the results and discussion of data on the use of nominalization strategies against Israeli and Palestinian social actors.

Nominalization Strategy
Nominalization strategy is a way to erase the existence of social actors in the text by changing verbs into nouns. In Arabic, a similar process is done by changing *fi'il* (verb) into *mashdar* (deverb noun). This form does not require a subject, so the actor of the action no longer appears explicitly in the sentence structure (Miftah and Kholisin 2021) .

Table 2 Nominalization Strategy of Israeli Social Actors

Code	News	Data
42 (Nml)	MA.B8	في سِيَاسَةِ إِيقَافُ اَلْعُدْوَانِ عَلَى غَمَّنَ عَلَى جِهَتِهِ قَالَ اَلْمُحَلِّلُ وَالْكَاتِبُ اَلسِّيَاسِيُّ اَلدُّكْتُورُ إِبْرَاهِيمْ اَلنَّحَاس أَنَّ فِلَسْطِينَ حَاضِرَةٌ اَلْمَمْلَكَةِ اَلْعَرَبِيَّةِ اَلسُّعُودِيَّةِ مُنْذُ عَهْدِ اَلْمَلِكِ اَلْمُؤَسِّس عَبْدُ اَلْعَزِيزْ بِنْ عَبْدِ اَلرَّحْمَنْ آلْ سُعُودْ -طَيَّبَ اَللَّهُ ثَرَاهُ. وَهَذَا اَلْحُضُورُ اَلَّذِي تُمَثِّلُ بِالتَّأْكِيدِ اَلدَّائِمِ عَلَى دَعْمِ وَمُسَانَدَةِ أَبْنَاءِ اَلشَّعْبِ اَلْفِلَسْطِينِيِّ عَلَى جَمِيعِ اَلْمُسْتَوَيَاتِ اَلسِّيَاسِيَّةِ وَالِاقْتِصَادِيَّةِ وَالْأَمْنِيَّةِ وَالْعَسْكَرِيَّةِ وَالْإِنْسَانِيَّةِ وَغَيْرِهَا مِنْ مَجَالَاتٍ، تَوَاصُلٌ فِي ثَبَاتِهِ وَالتَّأْكِيدُ عَلَيْهِ /ʔīqāfu al-ʕudwāni ʕalā ġammana jihatahu qāla al-muḥallilu wa-al-kātibu as-siyāsiyyū ad-duktūru ʔibrāhīm an-nuḥāsi ʔanna filasṭīn ḥāḍiratun fī siyāsati al-mamlakati al-ʕarabiyyati as-sūʕūdiyyati munðu ʕahdi al-maliki al-muʔassisi ʕabdu al-ʕazīz bin ʕabdi ar-raḥman āl suʕūd - ṭayyaba allāhu θarāhu. wa-hāðā al-ḥuḍuru allaðī tumaθθilu bi-at-taʔkīdi ad-dāʔimi ʕalā daʕmi wa-musānadati ʔabnāʔi aš-šaʕbi al-filasṭīniyyi ʕalā jamīʕi al-

		mustawayāti as-siyāsiyyati wa-al-iqtiṣādiyyati wa-al-ʔamniyyati wa-al-ʕaskariyyati wa-al-ʔinsāniyyati wa-ġayrihā min majālātin, tawāṣulun fī θabātihi wa-at-taʔkīdu ʕalayhi/ Cessation of aggression (against Palestine) has been an integral part of Saudi Arabia's foreign policy since the reign of King Abdulaziz bin Abdulrahman Al Saud. This was confirmed by political analyst and writer Dr. Ibrahim Al-Nuhas, who stated that the Kingdom's support for the Palestinian cause has been consistent in various sectors, including political, economic, security, military and humanitarian.

Data 42 (Nml) above is included in the exclusion technique using the nominalization strategy because there is a process of eliminating social actors by changing the word class which means that this strategy does not need a subject because of the change of verbs to nouns which generally give the affix "pe-an" in Indonesian. In Arabic, the word class is generally changed from *fi'il* (verb) to *mashdar* (deverbial noun) which in the data is characterized by the diction إيقَافُ الْعُدْوَانِ /ʔīqāfu al-ʕudwāni/ "cessation of aggression." The use of this strategy has implications for obscuring the responsibility of the social actor, in this case Israel, as the one who committed the aggression. By eliminating the subject of action, Al Riyaḍ media tends to focus the narrative on the moral position of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia as the initiator of peace, while avoiding direct confrontation with the aggressor in the discourse structure.

1. Inclusion Technique

The use of inclusion techniques by Al Riyaḍ media is dominated by the assimilation-individualization strategy towards each social actor. The following is a discussion of inclusion techniques from each strategy towards the social actors of Saudi Arabia, Israel, the United States, and Palestine.

Objectivation-Abstraction Strategy

Objectivation strategies present social actors concretely through specific data such as numbers, names, or verifiable facts. In contrast, abstraction strategies present social actors indirectly by using general expressions such as "many" or "thousands," which are hyperbolic and tend to lead readers to broad interpretations. Both strategies influence how readers understand the representation of events in the text (Amaliah, Mahmudah and Mayong 2021) .

Table 3. Objectivation-Abstraction Strategies of Saudi Arabian Social Actors - Arab States

Code	News	Data
1 (Obj)	MA.B1	الْيَوْمَ هُنَاكَ سِتُّ دُوَلٍ عَرَبِيَّةٍ لَهَا عَلاقَاتٌ دِبْلُومَاسِيَّةٌ مَعَ إسْرَائِيلَ، مِصْرُ، الأَرْدُنُّ، الإمارَاتُ العَرَبيَّةُ المُتَّحِدَةُ، البَحْرَيْنُ، السُّودَانُ، المَغْرِبُ /al-yawma hunāka sittu duwalin ʕarabiyyatin lahā ʕalāqātun diblūmāsiyyatun maʕa ʔisrāʔīla, miṣru, al-ʔurdunnu, al-ʔimārātu al-ʕarabiyyatu al-muttaḥidatu, al-baḥraynu, as-sūdānu, al-maġribu/. Currently, there are six Arab countries that have diplomatic relations with Israel, Egypt, Jordan, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan, Morocco
63 (Abs)	MA.B9	وَأَشَارَ الرَّدَّادُ إِلَى أَنَّ وَاشِنْطُنْ وَتَلَّ أَبِيبْ تُدْرِكانَ أَنَّ اسْتِجابَةَ إسْرائِيلَ لِحَلِّ الدَّوْلَتَيْنِ، لا يَعْنِي التَّطْبِيعَ مَعَ السُّعوديَّةِ فَقَطْ، بَلْ وَمَعَ أَكْثَرَ مِنْ خَمْسِينَ دَوْلَةً إسْلامِيَّةً إِذَا أَخَذَتْ السُّعودِيَّةُ هَذَا القَرارَ. /wa-ʔašāra ar-raddādu ʔilā ʔanna wāšinṭun wa-talla ʔabīb tudrikāna ʔanna istijābata ʔisrāʔīla li-ḥalli ad-dawlatayni, lā yaʕnī at-taṭbīʕa maʕa as-sūʕūdiyyati faqaṭ, bal wa-maʕa ʔakθara min xamsīna dawlatan ʔislāmiyyatan ʔiðā ʔaxaðat as-sūʕūdiyyatu hāðā al-qarāra/. Al-Raddad asserted that both Washington and Tel Aviv understand that if Israel agrees to a two-state solution, the impact will not be limited to normalizing relations with Saudi Arabia alone, but also opens up opportunities for normalization with more than fifty other Islamic countries, if the Saudis take such a strategic step.

Data 1 (Obj) above is included in the objectivation strategy because there is information that is shown accurately and concretely. Objectivation is often characterized by the use of specific numbers,

clear names of individuals or groups, and verifiable facts. The use of objectivation strategy by Al Riyaḍ media in explicitly mentioning سِتُّ دُوَلٍ عَرَبيَّةٍ /sittu duwalin ʕarabiyyatin/ "six Arab countries" that have

established diplomatic relations with Israel, accompanied by the mention of the countries' names one by one الإمارَاتُ العَرَبيَّةُ مِصْرُ، الأرْدُنَّ /miṣru, al-ʔurdunnu, al-ʔimārātu al-ʕarabiyyatu al-muttaḥidatu, al-baḥraynu, as-sūdānu, al-maġribu/ "Egypt, Jordan, United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Sudan, and Morocco," shows an attempt to convey information as concrete verifiable facts. This kind of presentation gives the impression that Al Riyaḍ is documenting the ongoing political reality, rather than framing the narrative in an emotional or argumentative manner. The implication is that the media conveys the existence of Arab-Israeli relations as an ongoing and increasingly common phenomenon in the region, without explicitly supporting or criticizing these countries.

The data 63 (Abs) above belongs to the abstraction strategy because there is a mention of non-concrete information marked in the diction أَكْثَرَ مِنْ خَمْسِينَ دَوْلَةً إِسْلامِيَّةً /ʔakθara min xamsīna dawlatan ʔislāmiyyatan/ "more than 50 Islamic countries." The use of this strategy shows the media's attempt to generalize a group of social actors without specifying who these countries are. This strategy has implications for creating the impression of a large

collectivity that is potential and uncertain, without providing factual details or concrete verification of the state actors in question. Justification of the diction in Arabic shows that the structure of أَكْثَرَ مِنْ /ʔakθara min/ is hypergeneric and abstract. Even in the translation, the phrase retains the undefined character of the intended subject. Thus, this data can be categorized as an abstraction strategy because it does not indicate a clear entity, but rather forms a broad and speculative image of Islamic geopolitical power, in order to strengthen the importance of Saudi Arabia's position in the context of normalizing relations with Israel.

Nomination-Categorization and Identification Strategy

The nomination-categorization strategy is used to present social actors based on certain names or categories, such as status, religion, or political affiliation, which can reflect media ideology (T. Nur 2022). Meanwhile, the nomination-identification strategy reveals actors or actions in detail through explanatory clauses, usually using conjunctions such as *which* or *where*, thus emphasizing the identity or role of the social actors to be highlighted in the discourse (Sekarwati 2022) .

Table 4. Nomination-Categorization Strategy and Social Actor Identification United States - US Secretary of State Antony Blinken

Code	News	Data
56 (Nom)	MA.B9	وَتَمَكَّنَت السُّعوديَّةُ مِنْ خِلال تَذْكير العالَم بِمَوْقِفِها المَبْدَئيِّ مِنْ دَفع الإدارَة الأميركيَّة، لِتَبَنّي مَطْلَب إقامَة دَوْلَةٍ لِلْفَلَسْطينِيِّينَ، فَبَعْدَ سَاعَاتٍ مِنْ البَيان السُّعوديِّ، غادَرَ بِلينْكِنْ إلَى تَلِّ أبيبَ بِرَسائِلَ قَوِيَّةٍ وَنيَّة جِدّيَّةٍ لِلْبَحْثِ في خِيَارِ إقامَة دَوْلَةٍ فَلَسْطينِيَّةٍ، الأمْرُ الَّذي لَمْ يَكُنْ مَطْرُوحًا عَلَى أجِنْدَة أعْمال الرَّئيس بايْدِنْ والرُّؤَساء الأميركِيِّينَ بِهَذِهِ الجِدّيَّةِ، مُنْذُ عَهْدِ الرَّئيس الأميركيِّ السّابِق بيلْ كِلينْتُون /wa-tamakkanat as-sūʕūdiyyatu min xilāli taðkīri al-ʕālami bi-mawqifi-hā al-mabdaʔīyi min dafaʕi al-ʔidārah al-ʔamīrīkiyyah, li-tabannī maṭlabi ʔiqāmat dawlatin li-al-filasṭīnīyīn, fa-baʕda sāʕātin min al-bayāni as-sūʕūdiyy, ġādara bilīnkin ʔilā talli ʔabīb bi-rasāʔila qawiyyah wa-niyyah jiddiyyah li-al-baḥθi fī xiyāri ʔiqāmat dawlatin filasṭīnīyah, al-ʔamru allaðī lam yakun maṭrūḥan ʕalā ʔajindati aʕmāli ar-raʔīsi bāydin wa-ar-ruʔasāʔi al-ʔamīrikiyyīna bi-hāðihi al-jiddiyyah, munðu ʕahdi ar-raʔīsi al-ʔamīrikī as-sābiqi bīl kilīntūn/. Through the reaffirmation of its principled position, Saudi Arabia succeeded in encouraging the United States Government to adopt the demand for the establishment of a Palestinian state. Hours after the Saudi statement, Blinken traveled to Tel Aviv with a strong message and a more serious commitment to discuss the option of Palestinian statehood - an issue that had not previously been high on the agenda of President Biden or US presidents since the Bill Clinton era.
10 (Kat) 10 (Idn)	MA.B2	عِنْدَمَا زَارَ وَزيرَ الخارجيَّةِ الأمْريكيُّ أنْتوني بِلينْكِنْ تَلَّ أبيبَ قَبْلَ يَوْمَيْن قَالَ: "لَمْ آتٍ إلَى هُنَا كَوَزير خارجيَّةٍ وَإنَّمَا كَيَهوديٍّ فَرَّ جَدُّهُ مِنْ الذَّبْح"

		/ʕIndamā *zāra wazīr ʔal-xārijīyah ʔal-ʔAmrīkīyū ʔAntonī Bilīnkin Tall ʔAbīb qabl yawmayn qāl: "Lam ʔātī ʔilā hunā kawazīrin xārijīyah wa ʔinnamā kayahūdīyyin farru jadduhu min ʔal-ðabḥ."/* When US Secretary of State Anthony Blinken visited Tel Aviv two days ago, he said, "I did not come here as Secretary of State, but as a Jew whose grandfather survived the massacre."

Data 56 (Nom) above is included in the nomination strategy because there is a general mention of information about social actors without additional information so that actors are presented as they are. In this data, the nomination strategy is used in mentioning the identity of social actors in general without being followed by a specific mention of identity, namely بلِينْكِنْ /*bilīnkin/* "Blinken." The use of this strategy shows that Al Riyaḍ media tends to place him as an actor who is well known and globally recognized, so there is no need to clarify his role. Therefore, readers are directed to focus on Blinken's actions as a representation of US policy, not on his personal figure, so that the narrative remains centered on the dynamics of relations between countries and not individuals.

Data 10 (Idn & Kat) above is included in the categorization strategy because there is a mention of the process of grouping or defining social actors based on certain categories, such as status, position, role, religion, or membership in a group. In this data, categorization is used in the word كَيَهودِيّ /*kayahūdīyyin/* "as a Jew." In addition, the data also uses an identification strategy because there is a mention of social actors followed by a definition added through a clause. In this data, identification strategy is

used in the clause فَرَّ جَدُّهُ مِنْ الذَّبْح /*farra jadduhu min ʔal-ðabḥ/* "whose grandfather survived the massacre" which explains the parent clause لَمْ آتِ إِلَى هُنَا كَوَزِيرٍ خَارجِيَّةٍ /*lam ʔātī ʔilā hunā kawazīrin xārijīyah/* "I did not come here as Foreign Minister." The use of this strategy aims to highlight the personal and emotional dimensions of Blinken's identity, thus reinforcing the impression that his involvement in the Israeli-Palestinian issue is not merely diplomatic, but also ideological and historical. By adding the background of a Jewish family that survived the massacre, Al Riyaḍ media implicitly emphasizes Blinken's emotional affiliation with Israel, which may affect the objectivity of his diplomatic role.

Determination-Indetermination Strategy
Determination strategies are used to name social actors or events specifically and clearly. In contrast, indeterminacy strategies hide the identity of the actor or event in an anonymous way. This anonymity can be caused by limited information or certain privacy reasons (Eriyanto 2015). According to van Leeuwen (2008), this strategy creates a generalization effect that can affect the way people understand the content of the discourse.

Table 5. Determination-Indetermination Strategy of Palestinian Social Actors - President Mahmoud Abbas and a Consulate General and Ambassador Extraordinary of Palestine

Code	News	Data
23 (Det)	MA.B3	وَهُوَ مَا عَبَّرَ عَنْهُ الرَّئِيسُ الفِلَسْطِينِيُ مَحْمُودُ عَبَّاس بِرَفْضِه قَتْلَ المَدَنِيِّينَ مِنْ الجَانِبَيْنِ الفِلَسْطِينِيّ والإِسْرائِيليِّ، وَدَعَا لإِطْلَاقِ سَراح المَدَنِيِّينَ والأَسْرَى والمُعْتَقَلِينَ مِنْ الجَانِبَيْنِ، مُجَدِّدَا التَّأْكِيدَ عَلَى نَبْذِ العُنْف واللِّتْزامِ بِالشَّرْعِيَّةِ الدَّوْلِيَّةِ والاتِّفَاقِيَاتِ المُوَقَّعَةِ والمُقَاوَمَةِ الشَّعْبِيَّةِ السِّلْمِيَّةِ، وَأَكَّدَ أَنَّ سِيَاسَاتٍ وَبَرامِجَ وَقَرَاراتِ مُنَظَّمَةِ التَّحْرير الفِلَسْطِينِيَّةِ هِيَ الَّتِي تُمَثِّلُ الشَّعْبَ الفِلَسْطِينِيَّ بِصِفَتِهَا المُمَثِّلُ الشَّرْعِيَّ والوَحِيدَ لَهُ، وَلَيْسَ سِيَاسَاتٍ أَيِّ تَنْظِيمٍ آخَرَ. /*wa-huwa mā ʕabra ʕanhu ar-raʔīsu al-filastīnīyu maḥmūdu ʕabbāsin bi-rafḍihi qatla al-madaniyyīna min al-jānibayni al-filastīnī wa-ʔisrāʔīlī, wa-daʕā li-ʔiṭlāqi saraḥi al-madaniyyīna wa al-ʔasrā wa al-muʕtaqālīna min al-jānibayni, mujaddadan at-taʔkīda ʕalā nabði al-ʕunfi wa al-iltizāmi bi-aš-šarʕiyyati ad-dawliyyati wa al-ittifāqiyyāti al-muwaqqaʕati wa al-muqāwamati aš-šaʕbiyyati as-silmiyyati, wa-ʔakkada ʔanna siyāsāti wa-barāmija wa-qarārāti munaẓẓamati at-*/

		*taḥrīri al-filasṭīnīati hiya allatī tumaθθilu aš-šaʕba al-filasṭīnīya bi-ṣifatihā al-mumaθθila aš-šarʕiyya wa al-waḥīda lahu, wa-laysa siyāsāti ʔayyi tanẓīmin ʔāxara/ Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas expressed his opposition to the killing of civilians, both on the Palestinian and Israeli sides. He called for the release of civilians, prisoners, and detained persons from both sides. Abbas also reiterated his commitment to reject violence, abide by international law and agreements, and support peaceful popular resistance. In addition, he stressed that the policies, programs, and decisions of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) are the only ones that legitimately represent the Palestinian people, not the policies of other groups.
9 (Idt)	MA.B2	سِيَاسَاتِ إِسْرَائيلَ الاِنْتِقَامِيَّةِ لِاقْتِلَاعِ الشَّعْبِ الفِلَسْطِينِيِّ واسْتِمْرَارِ الاِحْتِلَالِ وَقَدْ كَرَّرَتِ المَمْلَكَةُ تَحْذِيرَاتِها مِنْ أَنَّ وانْتِهاكِ حُرْمَةِ المَسْجِدِ الأَقْصَى سَتَكُونُ كَفِيلَةً بِإِدامَةِ هَذَا الصِّراعِ وَتَفَجُّرِهِ في أيِّ لَحْظَةٍ. وَنَصَحَتِ المَمْلَكَةُ الدّوَلَ الَّتِي تَرْفُضُ التَّحَاوُرَ مَعَ المُنَظَّماتِ الفِلَسْطِينِيَّةِ المُسَلَّحَةِ أَنْ تَعْتَرِفَ بِالدَّوْلَةِ الفِلَسْطِينِيَّةِ وَرَئِيسِها الَّذِي يُكَرِّرُ كُلَّ يَوْمٍ مُعارَضَتِهِ لِلْمُقَاوَمَةِ المُسَلَّحَةِ وَنَبْذِهِ لِلْعُنْفِ وَتَأْيِيدِهِ لِلْمُقَاوَمَةِ السِّلْمِيَّةِ وَفِي هَذَا السِّيَاقِ عَيَّنَتِ المَمْلَكَةُ سَفِيرًا فَوْقَ العادَةِ في فِلَسْطِينَ وَقُنْصُلًا عَامًّا في مَدِينَةِ القُدْسِ المُحْتَلَّةِ عَلَى أَمَلٍ أَنْ يُشَجِّعَ ذَلِكَ الدّوَلَ الأُخْرَى لِلتَّقَدُّمِ بِخُطْوَةٍ إِلَى الأَمَامِ لِلاِعْتِرَافِ بِالدَّوْلَةِ الفِلَسْطِينِيَّةِ، لَكِنَّ كُلَّ هَذَا لَمْ يَحْدُثْ وَكَأَنَّهُمْ كَانُوا يَتَوَقَّعُونَ هَذَا الاِنْفِجارَ /wa-qad karrarat al-mamlakatu taḥðīrātihā min ʔanna siyāsāti ʔisrāʔīla al-intiẓāmiyyati li-ʔiqtīlāʕi aš-šaʕbi al-filasṭīnī wa-istimrāri al-iḥtilāli wa-intihāki ḥurmati al-masjidi al-ʔaqṣā satakūnu kafīlatan bi-ʔidāmati hāðā aṣ-ṣirāʕi wa-tafajjuri-hi fī ʔayyi laḥẓatin. wa-naṣaḥat al-mamlakatu ad-duwala allatī tarfuḍu at-taḥāwura maʕa al-munaẓẓamāti al-filasṭīniyyati al-musallaḥati ʔan taʕtarifa bi-ad-dawlati al-filasṭīniyyati wa-raʔīsi-hā allaðī yukarriru kulla yawmi muʕāraḍatihi lil-muqāwamati al-musallaḥati wa-nabðihi lil-ʕunfi wa-taʔyīdi-hi lil-muqāwamati as-silmiyyati. wa-fī hāðā as-siyāqi ʕayyānat al-mamlakatu safīran fawqa al-ʕādati fī filasṭīna wa-qunṣulan ʕāmmān fī madīnati al-qudsi al-muḥtallati ʕalā ʔamali ʔan yušajjiʕa ðālika ad-duwala al-ʔuxrā li-t-taqaddumi bi-xuṭwatin ʔilā al-ʔamāmi lil-iʕtirāfi bi-ad-dawlati al-filasṭīniyyati, lakinna kulla hāðā lam yaḥduθ wa-ka-ʔannahum kānū yatawaqqaʕūna hāðā al-infijāra/ Saudi Arabia has repeatedly warned that Israel's retaliatory policies that seek to expel the Palestinian people, continue the occupation, and violate the sanctity of the Al-Aqsa Mosque, are major factors that will prolong and potentially reignite the conflict at any time. The Kingdom also called on countries that refuse to dialogue with Palestinian armed groups to recognize the Palestinian state and its president, who firmly rejects violence, opposes armed resistance, and supports the peaceful path of struggle. As part of its efforts, Saudi Arabia has appointed an ambassador extraordinary to Palestine as well as a consulate general in Jerusalem, hoping that this move would encourage other countries to take a more advanced position in recognizing the Palestinian state. However, in reality, there has been no response from the international community to these initiatives, as if they had anticipated the explosion of the current crisis.

Data 23 (Det) above is included in the determination strategy because it shows a social actor or event that is clearly mentioned. The use of determination strategy in mentioning الفِلَسْطِينِيُّ مَحْمُودُ عَبَّاسِ الرَّئِيسُ /ar-raʔīsu al-filasṭīnīyu maḥmūd ʕabbās/ Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas clearly with his position and statement shows Al Riyaḍ media's effort to present Abbas as an authoritative and representative figure of Palestine. This strategy strengthens Abbas' legitimacy as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, while ignoring or delegitimizing the role of other groups that are considered not in line with the peaceful approach.

The data 9 (Idt) above is included in the indetermination strategy because there is an unclear or anonymous mention of social actors or events. The use of indeterminacy strategy by Al Riyaḍ media on سَفِيرًا فَوْقَ العادَةِ في فِلَسْطِينَ /safīran fawqa al-ʕādati fī filasṭīn/ "an ambassador extraordinary to Palestine" and قُنْصُلًا عَامًّا في مَدِينَةِ القُدْس /qanṣulan

ʕāmmān fī madīnati al-qudsi/ "a consulate general in Jerusalem." aim to obscure *the identity of* the individual and the consulate general in Jerusalem," aims to obscure the identity of the individual and highlight the state institution as the main perpetrator, so that the public spotlight is not focused on the personal figure, but on Saudi Arabia's diplomatic policy collectively. Thus, Al Riyaḍ media constructs a narrative that the move is part of the state's commitment, rather than a specific individual's initiative, in order to strengthen legitimacy and the impression

of neutrality within the framework of international relations.

Assimilation-Individualization Strategy

According to van Leeuwen (2008), assimilation and individualization strategies are used to describe the identity of social actors, both as part of a group and specifically as individuals. Amaliah (2021) explains that assimilation places the actor in the context of the community or social group to which he belongs. Meanwhile, individualization highlights social actors as a single entity accompanied by a clear identity.

Table 6. Assimilation-Individualization Strategy of Saudi Arabian Social Actors - Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Saudi Minister of Foreign Affairs Faisal bin Farhan

Code	News	Data
52 (Asi)	MA.B8	فَكَمَا أَكَّدَتْ بَيَانَاتٍ **وِزَارَةِ اَلْخَارِجِيَّةِ** اَلسَّابِقَةِ عَلَى هَذِهِ اَلْجَوَانِبِ ، فَإِنَّ بَيَانَ وِزَارَةِ اَلْخَارِجِيَّةِ اَلصَّادِرِ فِي 7 فَبْرَايِرَ 2024 م أَعَادَ اَلتَّأْكِيدُ عَلَى أَهَمِّيَّةِ وَقْفِ اَلْعُدْوَانِ اَلْإِسْرَائِيلِيّ عَلَى قِطَاعِ غَزَّةَ وَانْسِحَابِ كَافَّةِ أَفْرَادِ قُوَّاتِ اَلِاحْتِلَالِ اَلْإِسْرَائِيلِيّ مِنَ اَلْقِطَاعِ يُعَدَّ اَلْبَيَانُ اَلرَّسْمِيُّ اَلصَّادِرُ مِنْ وِزَارَةِ اَلْخَارِجِيَّةِ تَأْكِيدًا لِلْبَيَانَاتِ اَلسَّابِقَةِ اَلَّتِي تُؤَكِّدُ رُسُوخَ وَثَبَاتَ اَلْمَوْقِفِ اَلسُّعُودِيّ حِيَالَ اَلْقَضِيَّةِ اَلْفِلَسْطِينِيَّةِ فَإِنَّ وِزَارَةَ اَلْخَارِجِيَّةِ تُؤَكِّدُ أَنَّ مَوْقِفَ اَلْمَمْلَكَةِ اَلْعَرَبِيَّةِ اَلسُّعُودِيَّةِ كَانَ وَلَا يَزَالُ ثَابِتًا تُجَاهَ اَلْقَضِيَّةِ اَلْفِلَسْطِينِيَّةِ وَضَرُورَةُ حُصُولِ اَلشَّعْبِ اَلْفِلَسْطِينِيّ اَلشَّقِيقِ عَلَى حُقُوقِهِ اَلْمَشْرُوعَةِ /fa-kamā ʔakkadat bayānāti wizārati al-xārijiyyati aṣ-ṣābiqati ʕalā hāðihi al-jawānibi, fa-ʔinna bayāna wizārati al-xārijiyyati aṣ-ṣādiri fī sabʕati fabrāyira 2024 milādiyyun ʔaʕāda at-taʔkīdu ʕalā ʔahammiyyati waqfi al-ʕudwāni al-ʔisrāʔīliyyi ʕalā qiṭāʕi ġazzata wa-insiḥābi kāffati ʔafrādi quwwāti al-iḥtilāli al-ʔisrāʔīliyyi min al-qiṭāʕi. yuʕaddu al-bayānu ar-rasmiyyū aṣ-ṣādiru min wizārati al-xārijiyyati taʔkīdan li-l-bayānāti aṣ-ṣābiqati allati tuʔakkidu rusūxa wa-θabāta al-mawqifi as-sūʕūdiyy ḥiyāla al-qaḍiyyati al-filasṭīniyyati. fa-ʔinna wizārata al-xārijiyyati tuʔakkidu ʔanna mawqifa al-mamlakati al-ʕarabiyyati as-sūʕūdiyyati kāna wa-lā yazālu θābitan tujāha al-qaḍiyyati al-filasṭīniyyati wa-ḍarūratu ḥuṣūli aš-šaʕbi al-filasṭīniyyi aš-šaqīqi ʕalā ḥuqūqihi al-mašrūʕati/ A statement by **the Saudi Ministry of Foreign Affairs** released on February 7, 2024 reiterated the urgency of halting Israel's military aggression in the Gaza Strip and withdrawing all occupation forces from the territory. This statement is consistent with previous official stances reflecting the Kingdom's firm and stable position on the Palestinian issue. The Ministry emphasized that Saudi Arabia's stance towards the Palestinian cause remains unchanged, which is to fully support the fulfillment of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people in a just and dignified manner.
15 (Ind)	MA.B2	وَهَذَا اَلْمَوْقِفُ أَكَّدَهُ أَيْضًا **وَزِيرُ اَلْخَارِجِيَّةِ اَلْأَمِيرُ فَيْصَلُ بْنُ فَرْحَانٍ** فِي جَوْلَاتِهِ اَلْأَخِيرَةِ وَاتِّصَالَاتِهِ مَعَ نُظَرَائِهِ فِي كَثِيرٍ مِنْ دُوَلِ اَلْعَالَمِ حَيْثُ حَذَّرَ مِنْ خُطُورَةِ اِسْتِمْرَارِ اَلتَّصْعِيدِ اَلْعَسْكَرِيّ فِي غَزَّةَ وَمُحِيطِهَا، وَدَعَا إِلَى ضَرُورَةِ اَلْعَمَلِ عَلَى إِيجَادِ اَلسُّبُلِ اَللَّازِمَةِ لِنَزْعِ فَتِيلِ اَلتَّوَتُّرِ وَوَقْفِ تَصَاعُدِ اَلصِّرَاعِ اَلدَّائِرِ فِي اَلْمَنْطِقَةِ وَإِلَى تَكَاتُفِ اَلْمُجْتَمَعِ اَلدَّوْلِيّ لِإِيجَادِحَلٍّ عَادِلٍ وَمُنْصِفٍ يُلَبِّي تَطَلُّعَاتِ اَلشَّعْبِ اَلْفِلَسْطِينِيّ، وَتَخْفِيفِ تَدَاعِيَاتِ هَذِهِ اَلْأَزْمَةِ بِمَا يُسْهِمُ فِي حِمَايَةِ اَلْمَدَنِيِّينَ وَحِفْظِ اَلْأَمْنِ وَالسِّلْمِ اَلدَّوْلِيَّيْنِ /wa-hāðā al-mawqifu ʔakkadahu ʔayḍan wazīru al-xārijiyyati al-ʔamīru faysalu bnu farḥānin fī jawlātihi al-ʔaxīrati wa-ittiṣālātihi maʕa nuẓarāʔihi fī kaθīrin min duwali al-ʕālami ḥaytu ḥaððara min xuṭūrati istimrāri at-taṣʕīdi al-ʕaskariyyi fī ġazzata wa-muḥīṭihā, wa-daʕā ʔilā ḍarūrati al-ʕamali ʕalā ʔījādi as-subuli al-lāzimati li-nazʕi fatīli at-tawatturi wa-waqfi taṣāʕudi aṣ-ṣirāʕi ad-dāʔiri fī al-manṭiqati wa-ʔilā takātufi al-mujtamaʕi ad-dawliyyi li-ʔījādi ḥallin ʕādilin wa-munṣifin yulabbī taṭalluʕāti aš-šaʕbi al-filasṭīniyyi, wa-taxfīfi tadaʕiyyāti hāðihi al-ʔazmati bimā yusʕimu fī ḥimāyati al-madaniyyīna wa-ḥifẓi al-ʔamni wa-as-silmi ad-dawliyyayni ḥuqūqihi al-mašrūʕati./ Similar statements were also made by **Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan** during his visits and diplomatic communications with a number of international

| | | partners. He emphasized the urgency of ending the ongoing military escalation in the Gaza Strip and surrounding areas, while warning of the potential dangers posed by a prolonged armed conflict. In this context, he encouraged joint efforts to formulate concrete steps to ease tensions and stop the escalation of conflict in the region. In addition, he called for the international community's solidarity in seeking a fair and balanced settlement that addresses the aspirations of the Palestinian people while minimizing the humanitarian impact of the crisis. Such measures are expected to support the protection of civilians and maintain global stability and peace. |

Data 52 (Asi) above is included in the assimilation strategy because there is a mention of the social actor وِزَارَةَ ٱلْخَارِجِيَّةِ /wizārat al-xārijiyyati/ "Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia" as a collective entity. This reflects Al Riyaḍ media's attempt to present the position of the state institutionally, rather than individually. Thus, through this assimilation strategy, the media reinforces the impression that the statement is not an individual opinion, but rather an official and ongoing representation of Saudi Arabia's foreign policy on the Palestinian issue.

The data 15 (Ind) above is included in the individualization strategy by mentioning in detail the names and positions of the social actors involved, namely وَزِيرُ الخارجِيَّةِ /wazīru al-xārijiyyati/ "Minister of Foreign Affairs" followed by the individual identity الأَمِيرُ فَيْصَلُ بْنُ فَرْحانِ /al-ʔamīru fayṣalu bnu farḥān/ "Prince Faisal bin Farhan". This strategy is used to give personal legitimacy to the political statement, by highlighting the authority and credibility of Faisal bin Farhan as the official representative of the kingdom. By explicitly mentioning his name and position, Al Riyaḍ media reinforces the impression that the diplomatic position is not just institutional rhetoric, but also backed by an important figure who is active and influential in the international arena.

Differentiation-Indifferentiation Strategy
The differentiation-indifference strategy, according to van Leeuwen (2008), is used to show the inequality of power relations between dominant and subordinated groups. This strategy emphasizes differences in social position, where the hegemonic group is described as superior, while other groups are marginalized. Rosmita (2019) adds that the dominant group is usually positioned as the advantaged and honorable party, while the subordinated group is shown negatively and disadvantaged in the discourse.

Table 7. Differentiation-Indifferentiation Strategy of Israeli Social Actors - Israeli Government

Code	News	Data
8 (Dif)	MA.B2	وَمَوْقِفُ الْمَمْلَكَةِ الْحَالِيّ لَيْسَ وَلِيدُ اللَّحْظَةِ وَإِنَّمَا هُوَ امْتِدَادٌ لِمَوْقِفِهَا الثَّابِتِ فِي دَعْمِ قَضِيَّةِ الشَّعْبِ الفِلَسْطِينِيّ العادِلَةِ وَوُجُوبِ حَلِّها مِنْ خِلالِ دَفْعِ إسْرائيلَ لِلْقَبُولِ بِالْقَرَارَاتِ الدَّوْلِيَّةِ بِهَذَا الْخُصُوصِ وَهِيَ القَرَارَاتُ الَّتِي لَمْ تُنَفَّذْ حُكوماتُ إسْرائيلَ الْمُتَعاقِبَةِ وَلَوْ قَرَارًا وَاحِدًا مِنْها فِي اسْتِهانَةٍ مَفْضُوحَةٍ بِكُلِّ المَواثِيق الدَّوْلِيَّةِ والْإِنْسانِيَّةِ وَهِيَ تَعْتَمِدُ فِي ذَلِكَ عَلَى الدَّعْمِ اللّامَحْدودِ مِنَ الوِلايَاتِ الْمُتَّحِدَةِ وَبريطَانِيَا الْمُتَحالِفَتين مُنْذُ الحَرْبَيْنِ العَالَمِيَّتَيْنِ وَالْمُتَجَاهِلِتين لِلْحَقِّ الْعَرَبِيِّ وَمَشاعِرِ مَلايِين العَرَبِ وَالْمُسْلِمِينَ عَلَى الرَّغْمِ مِنَ الحَدِيثِ المُسْتَهْلِكِ عَنْ أَلصَّداقاتِ والتَّحالُفاتِ. /wa-mawqifu al-mamlakati al-ḥāliyyi laysa walīdu al-laḥẓati wa-ʔinnamā huwa imtidādun li-mawqifi-hā aθ-θābiti fī daʕmi qaḍiyyati aš-šaʕbi al-filasṭīnīyi al-ʕādilati wa-wujūbi ḥalli-hā min xilāli dafaʕi ʔisraʔīla li-l-qabūli bi-al-qarārāti ad-dawliyyati bi-hāðā al-xuṣūṣi wa-hiya al-qarārātu allatī lam tunaffað ḥukūmātu ʔisrāʔīla al-mutaʕāqibati wa-law qarāran wāḥidan minhā fī isti-hānatin mafḍūḥatin bi-kulli al-mawāθīqi ad-dawliyyati wa-al-ʔinsāniyyati wa-hiya taʕtamidu fī ðālika ʕalā ad-daʕmi al-lāmaḥdūdi min al-wilāyāti al-muttaḥidati wa-birīṭānyā al-mutaḥālifatayn munðu al-ḥarbayn al-ʕālamiyyatayn wa-al-mutajāhilatayni li-l-ḥaqqi al-ʕarabiyyi wa-mašāʕiri malāyīni al-ʕarabi wa-al-muslimīn ʕalā ar-raġmi min al-ḥadīθi al-mustahliki ʕan aṣ-ṣadāqāti wa-at-taḥālufāti./ The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's current stance is not a momentary response, but a continuation of its consistent stance in support of the just struggle of the Palestinian people. The Kingdom emphasizes the importance of resolving the conflict through pressure on Israel to comply with relevant international resolutions.

		However, to date, none of these resolutions have been implemented by the Israeli government, which has blatantly shown disdain for the entire charter of international law and humanitarian principles. Israel's non-compliance is backed by the unrestricted support of the United States and the United Kingdom - two key allies since World Wars I and II - which continue to ignore the rights of Arabs and the feelings of millions of Arab and Muslim people in the world. This reflects the sharp contradiction between the diplomatic discourse of "friendship and alliance" and the political reality that tends to override historical and moral justice in conflicts.
8 (Idf)	MA.B2	وَمَوْقِفُ الْمَمْلَكَةِ الْحَالِيِّ لَيْسَ وَلِيدُ اللَّحْظَةِ وَإِنَّمَا هُوَ امْتِدَادٌ لِمَوْقِفِهَا الثَّابِتِ فِي دَعْمِ قَضِيَّةِ الشَّعْبِ الفِلَسْطِينِيِّ العَادِلَةِ وَوُجُوبِ حَلِّهَا مِنْ خِلَالِ دَفْعِ إِسْرائِيلَ لِلْقَبُولِ بِالْقَرَارَاتِ الدَّوْلِيَّةِ /wa-mawqifu al-mamlakati al-ḥāliyyi laysa walīdu al-laḥẓati wa-ʔinnamā huwa imtidādun li-mawqifi-hā aθ-θābiti fī daʕmi qaḍiyyati aš-šaʕbi al-filasṭīnīyi al-ʕādilati wa-wujūbi ḥalli-hā min xilāli dafaʕi ʔisrāʔīla li-l-qabūli bi-al-qarārāti ad-dawliyyati/ The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia's current stance is not a momentary response, but rather a continuation of its consistent stance in support of the just struggle of the Palestinian people. The Kingdom emphasizes the importance of resolving the conflict through pressure on Israel to comply with relevant international resolutions.

Data 8 (Dif) above is included in the differentiation strategy by cornering or marginalizing other social actors. The use of differentiation strategies by Al Riyaḍ media against Israeli government actors aims to emphasize the stark difference in values between Saudi Arabia's commitment to international justice and Israel's rejection of these resolutions. By framing Israel as a party that ignores the principles of law and humanity, the media builds moral opposition that strengthens Saudi Arabia's position as an actor that upholds legality and ethics in conflict resolution.

The data 8 (Idf) above is included in the indifference strategy by tending to obscure the existence of weaker groups so that the narrative presented becomes more in favor of the dominant group without displaying the complexity of power relations in it. The indifference strategy used by Al Riyaḍ in the data is seen through the obscuring of the active role of the Israeli government in the conflict, which is only passively mentioned as a party that "needs to be pressured" to comply with the resolution. In this way, the focus of the discourse is shifted entirely to the moral position and consistency of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, thereby reinforcing the image of Saudi Arabia as the dominant, solutionary actor without allowing room for power dynamics or resistance from the opposing side.

Association-Dissociation Strategy

According to van Leeuwen (2008), the association-dissociation strategy shows whether there is a relationship between social actors and other parties. Badara (2014) explains that association links social actors to a larger group, while disassociation separates actors from any social group, so that they seem to stand alone without any particular affiliation.

Table 8. Association-Dissociation Strategy of Saudi Arabian Social Actors - Saudi Crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman

Code	News	Data
13 (Aso)	MA.B2	كَمَا شَدَّدَ سُمُوُّ وَلِيِّ العَهْدِ عَلَى مَوْقِفِ المَمْلَكَةِ الثَّابِتِ تُجَاهَ مُناصَرَةِ القَضِيَّةِ الفِلَسْطِينِيَّةِ وَدَعْمِ الجُهُودِ الرَّامِيَةِ لِتَحْقِيقِ السَّلَامِ الشَّامِلِ والْعَادِلِ الَّذِي يَكْفُلُ حُصُولَ الشَّعْبِ الفِلَسْطِينِيِّ عَلَى حُقُوقِهِ المَشْرُوعَةِ. /kamā šaddada sumūw-waliyyi al-ʕahdi ʕalā mawqifi al-mamlakati aθ-θābiti tujāha munāṣarati al-qaḍiyyati al-filasṭīniyyati wa-daʕmi al-juhūdi ar-rāmiyyati li-taḥqīqi as-salāmi aš-šāmili wa-al-ʕādili allaðī yakfulu ḥuṣūla aš-šaʕbi al-filasṭīniyyi ʕalā ḥuqūqihi al-mašrūʕati/. The Crown Prince also reiterated the Kingdom's firm position in support of the Palestinian cause and efforts to achieve a comprehensive and just peace, which guarantees the Palestinian people their legitimate rights.
12 (Dis)	MA.B2	هَذَا المَوْقِفُ عَبَّرَ عَنْهُ سُمُوُّ وَلِيِّ الْعَهْدِ الْأَمِيرِ مُحَمَّدِ بْنُ سَلْمَانَ فِي كُلِّ مُناسَبَةٍ وَفِي اتِّصَالَاتِهِ الأَخِيرَةِ، وَأَعْلَنَ لِكُلِّ العَالِمِ أَنَّ المَمْلَكَةَ تُبْذَلُ الجُهُودَ المُمْكِنَةَ بِالتَّوَاصُلِ مَعَ كَافَّةِ الأَطْرَافِ الدَّوْلِيَّةِ والْإِقْلِيمِيَّةِ لِوَقْفِ أَعْمالِ التَّصْعِيدِ الجَارِي

		/hāðā al-mawqifu ʕabra ʕanhu sumūw waliyyi al-ʕahdi al-ʔamīri muḥammadi bnu salmān fī kulli munāsabatin wa-fī ittiṣālātihi al-ʔaxīrati, wa-ʔaʕlana li-kulli al-ʕālimi ʔanna al-mamlakata tubðalu al-juhūda al-mumkinata bi-at-tawāṣuli maʕa kāffati al-ʔaṭrāfi ad-dawliyyati wa-al-ʔiqlīmiyyati li-waqfi aʕmāli at-taṣʕīdi al-jārī/. This statement has been made consistently by the Crown Prince, Prince Muhammad bin Salman, on every occasion as well as in his most recent communications. He has publicly stated to the world that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia continues to pursue all forms of communication with various international and regional parties to stop the ongoing escalation.

Data 13 (Aso) above is included in the association strategy that connects or groups social actors with other actors, entities, or certain situations to create relationships or provide special meanings. The use of association strategies in the data shows how the Crown Prince is symbolically and politically linked directly to the state's commitment to the Palestinian cause. By linking the figure of MBS to support for peace and the fulfillment of Palestinian legitimate rights, Al Riyaḍ media builds an image that the highest leadership of Saudi Arabia is in line with the principles of justice and solidarity with the Palestinian issue, while strengthening the legitimacy of the kingdom's position in the eyes of the regional and international public.

Data 12 (Dis) above belongs to the disassociation strategy in which a social actor is separated or not connected to any larger social group. The use of disassociation strategy in mentioning Muhammad bin Salman separately from other actors or institutions shows Al Riyaḍ media's attempt to highlight the Crown Prince's personal role as the main initiator in conflict resolution diplomacy. By not explicitly linking him with other state institutions or officials, MBS is constructed as a central figure who is proactive, independent and visionary in responding to regional escalations.

Macro Analysis - Al Riyaḍ Media Ideology

Al Riyaḍ newspaper is an Arabic-language media outlet under Al Yamamah Corporation, a Riyadh-based press organization affiliated with the Saudi Arabian government (مؤسّسة اليمامة 1998). This affiliation reflects the media's ideological tendency to promote the values of Saudi nationalism and support solidarity among Islamic countries. This tendency is in line with the political vision and foreign policy promoted by Saudi Crown Prince Muhammad bin Salman (Al-Rasheed 2018) . In the analysis of social actor representations, Al Riyaḍ consistently frames Saudi Arabia as the main actor supporting the establishment of a Palestinian state, mainly through assimilation-individualization and association-dissociation strategies. These strategies present Saudi Arabia as the main initiator, while showing its closeness to Palestine in the Islamic solidarity narrative.

In presenting the social actors Israel and the United States, Al Riyaḍ uses inclusion rather than exclusion techniques. The representation of Israel is dominated by assimilation-individualization as well as differentiation-indifference and nomination-categorization strategies, with limited use of nominalization strategies that obscure roles without explicitly eliminating them. Meanwhile, the United States is represented explicitly as an individual and an institution through assimilation-individualization strategies, followed by frequent associations with allied countries and Israel. This representation strengthens the position of the US as Saudi Arabia's strategic partner in the regional context. This finding supports van Dijk's view (1998) that the media plays a role in reproducing discourses that favor the dominant group, in this case the state. Thus, Al Riyaḍ functions as an ideological representation tool that directs the construction of reality in accordance with the political interests of the state.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the micro-analysis of the representation of social actors in the news of the normalization of Saudi Arabia-Israel

relations, it can be concluded that Al Riyaḍ media predominantly uses inclusion rather than exclusion techniques in presenting the four main actors, namely Saudi Arabia, Israel, the United States, and Palestine. This media accentuates Saudi Arabia as an actor who actively supports the establishment of a Palestinian state through the dominance of assimilation-individualization and association-dissociation strategies. This representation shows the construction of Saudi Arabia's image as a regional leader who is committed to the Palestinian issue.

In terms of media ideology, Al Riyaḍ shows a tendency that is in line with the ideology of state nationalism, by placing Saudi Arabia as the central actor in the discourse of peace in the Middle East. This position reflects the direction of the Saudi government's foreign policy, especially in strengthening solidarity among Islamic countries and its regional leadership role. In addition, Al Riyaḍ also features diplomatic representations towards Israel and the United States, as part of a discourse strategy that supports Saudi Arabia's foreign policy position in the context of international relations.

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