



# Egyptian Media Coverage of International Climate Politics: A Case: Study of COP27

## Dr. Fedaa Mohmed Abdelaziz

Assistant Professor of Journalism, Faculty of Mass Communication, Ahram Canadian University

## Abdelmonem Mohmed Ali

Television and Radio Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Mass Communication, Ahram Canadian University

# Mostafa Youssef Elsayed

Visual Communication Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Mass Communication, Ahram Canadian University

## Sarah Francis Wadie

Journalism Teaching Assistant, Faculty of Mass Communication, Ahram Canadian University

## Abstract:

Climate has become a politicized area of interest in recent years because of the growing global climate change crisis. In addition, Egyptian media increasingly covered International Climate Politics in 2022 due to Egypt's hosting of the UN climate change conference COP27.

This research examines the amount of coverage, identifies the sourcing patterns, and explores the positive and negative.

#### Students

Zamzam Mohamed, Roaa Khaled, Nourhan Mohamed, Sara Hossam, Youmna Elsayed, Farida Mahmoud, Nouran Hamed, Malak Walid



aspects of the Egyptian media coverage of International Climate Politics

To consider these coverage aspects, this research uses qualitative content analysis to analyze the coverage of two Egyptian talk show TV programs, "El Hekayah" and "Yahdoth fi Misr" in the light of utilizing COP27 coverage as a case study.

The research ended with a significant dedication of coverage to climate politics within the time frame of holding COP27 and a general usage of positive-tone coverage about the Egyptian government's efforts in organizing the international event.

# **Keywords:**

Media Coverage, Climate Politics, COP27, Egypt



# اتجاهات التغطية الإعلامية المصرية إزاء سياسات المناخ الدولية: دراسة حالة لـ COP27

# ملخص البحث:

اتخذ المناخ وقضاياه بعدًا سياسيًا وأصبح محل اهتمام دولي في السنوات الأخيرة بسبب تزايد أزمة تغير المناخ العالمية. وازدادت تغطية وسائل الإعلام المصرية للسياسات الدولية المتعلقة بقضايا المناخ في عام 2022 بسبب استضافة مصر لمؤتمر الأمم المتحدة لتغير المناخ COP27.

تهدف هذه الدراسة إلى فحص مدى اهتمام الإعلام المصري بقضايا المناخ أثناء فترة استضافة مصر لمؤتمر تغير المناخ من خلال التعرف على حجم التغطية، وتحديد المصادر التي اعتمدت عليها وسائل الإعلام، واستكشاف الجوانب الإيجابية والسلبية لتغطية وسائل الإعلام المصرية للسياسات الدولية للمناخ.

ولدراسة هذه الجوانب، استخدمت هذه الدراسة الكيفية أداة تحليل المضمون الكيفي لتحليل تغطية برنامجين حواريين "توك شو"، هما "الحكاية" و"يحدث في مصر"، في ضوء استخدام تغطية COP27 كدراسة حالة.

توصلت الدراسة إلى أن وسائل الإعلام المصرية خصصت مساحة كبيرة من التغطية للسياسات المناخية خلال فترة انعقاد COP27، بالإضافة إلى سيادة استخدام لغة إيجابية بصفة عامة في تناول جهود الحكومة المصرية في تنظيم الحدث الدولي.

الكلمات المفتاحية: التغطية الإعلامية، سياسات المناخ، COP27، مصر



# **Introduction:**

In recent years, the issue of climate change has taken center stage in global discussions, as the world grapples with the urgent need to mitigate its effects and adapt to the changing environment. The negative consequences of climate change, such as rising global temperatures, extreme weather events, and ecosystem degradation, have become increasingly apparent and pose significant challenges to societies worldwide. Egypt, as a country vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, is not exempt from these challenges.

The term "climate change" describes significant, ongoing changes to the world's climate. The sun, earth, oceans, wind, rain, snow, forests, deserts, savannas, and human activity are all interconnected systems that make up the global climate. Therefore, the concept of climate change has a broad scope, as it is one of the biggest challenges that all countries face due to its negative impact on the environment, which makes it a threat to life on the planet. Therefore, the world seeks to reduce the negatives that cause catastrophic climate changes, and all countries intensify their efforts in holding global conferences and applying plans and mechanisms to find solutions that limit these effects with disastrous results in the long-term level.

The Egyptian media plays a crucial role in shaping public opinion, influencing policy discussions, and fostering awareness about climate change and its implications. However, the seriousness and urgency of the issue often face obstacles when it comes to effective communication and public understanding. It is essential to examine how the Egyptian media covers international climate politics, specifically focusing on the case study of COP27, to better understand the potential limitations and gaps in public discourse surrounding climate change.

Egyptian media coverage of COP27 is of particular interest due to the urgency of addressing the negative consequences associated with climate change. These consequences include the increased frequency and intensity of heatwaves, water scarcity, rising sea levels threatening coastal areas, and impacts on agricultural productivity, all of which pose significant risks to Egypt's population, economy, and environment.



And because climate change is a crucial issue in our current era and a challenge the world is experiencing every year, the United Nations (UN) holds climate summits to help governments decide how to slow global temperature rise. In 1995, following the ratification of the UNFCCC by 197 nations, the first COP was held. The 27th annual UN climate conference, COP27, is in Sharm el-Sheikh, Egypt.

The main objective of this research is to provide a comprehensive analysis of Egyptian media coverage of international climate politics, focusing on the case study of COP27. By examining the quantity and sources of media coverage in television programs, as well as analyzing both the positive and negative aspects of this coverage, we aim to gain a nuanced understanding of how climate-related issues are presented and discussed in the Egyptian media landscape. Through this research, we seek to contribute to the identification of strengths and weaknesses in media communication about global climate policies, ultimately promoting informed public discourse and effective climate action in Egypt.

# **Research Problem:**

The research problem is related to how the media covers the issue of climate change, trying to figure out if the coverage is limited or significant, as well as revealing the negative and positive aspects of the Egyptian media coverage of international climate policies in Egyptian Television programs.

# **Research Objectives:**

- 1- To examine the amount of Egyptian media coverage of international climate politics in the TV programs under study.
- 2- To explore the sources on which the television programs under study depended when covering international climate politics.
- 3- To analyze the positive aspects of Egyptian media coverage of global climate policies.
- 4- To explore the negative aspects of Egyptian media coverage of international climate policies.



# **Research Importance:**

Media coverage of climate politics has become an essential topic in the last ten years because it is a trend and attracts people's attention. Therefore, this research will be very effective for other studies that are related to the field. It gives us knowledge, information, and media coverage on climate politics.

# **Literature Review:**

The role of the media has been studied mainly in research papers focusing on the media attention and coverage of climate change and environmental issues and the challenges of mainstreaming climate policies.

For example, in (Schmidt, Ivanova, & Schäfer, 2013) study, media attention towards climate change was examined and evaluated in 27 countries using comparative analysis. Results revealed that the coverage of dependent countries has increased over time.

Various studies examined the media coverage of climate change in different countries' news discourse

Journalists covering climate change in Kenya's press and television channels coverage from 2010 to 2019 were examined in (Kakonge, 2020) study. It was found that various challenges were encountered in improving media coverage of climate change, and still, there are opportunities if journalists are trained, and funding is present.

Tanzanian media was examined in the (Elia, 2019) study, where the researcher investigated the topics covered by media and variables influencing how information about climate change is protected in Tanzania. When quantitative approaches were used, 85 journalists from five local media outlets were found to utilize snowballing and purposive methods. The study found that 49% of journalists still need to receive training on climate change, and 77% of the organizations offering this training are not local. Most media outlets (79.8%) don't have editorial policies. Results demonstrate that journalists receive the most coverage of weather and climate trends, climate effect, and adaptation (49.3% and



33.8%, respectively). In contrast, renewable energy, climate, and poverty receive the least coverage (1.4 percent).

According to an (Adjin-Tettey, 2019) study, the Ghanaian media created a National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) after acknowledging the harmful impacts of climate change, emphasizing communication's crucial role in this process. The study aimed to determine how audience members (graduate students) view if the media could fill the information gap about climate change. Results showed that this audience has high exposure to television and radio and the dominant source of climate change information is television, highlighting that they were aware of global policies and initiatives on climate change.

Canadian newspapers, The National Post, and the Globe and Mail were examined in the (Stoddart, Haluza-DeLay, & Tindall, 2016) study to assess their climate change coverage from 1997 to 2010. Findings pointed out the increase in the climate change issues coverage in Canadian newspapers, which revealed that it is characterized by a "series of peaks and troughs."

Also, climate change and global warming issues were examined in the Spanish press stated in (Reyes, Luis, & Vicente-Mariño, 2015) study. The study examined the coverage in El País, El Mundo, and La Vanguardia from January 2000 until November 2014. The researchers used information from Google Trends and the University of Colorado and compared the media and public agenda. The study found certain distinct occurrences; the Spanish press coverage follows the same pattern as Western foreign newspapers. The context shows a decline in climate change in newspapers, although there is growing empirical evidence about environmental risk.

Also, in (Calderón, Mercado, Luis, & Suárez-Sucre, 2015) study, Spanish-speaking online media attention and coverage were examined regarding climate change. A quantitative content analysis of 889 news items from 97 online media outlets found that Spanish media coverage included primary sources, which are politicians noting that almost half of the news details came from news wire services.



The (Balarabe & Hamza, 2020) study evaluated the correlation between climate change and media coverage, the impact of the various policies on climate change, and the ways it concretes new viewpoints and understanding amongst individuals about climate change issues in Kano, Nigeria. The study finds that media coverage and representations of climate change have benefited and shaped people's version of the problem in Kano. There is a very high media awareness about the climate change issue in Kano. The study also reveals that social media platforms continue to be the primary information source about the climate change issue in Kano. The causes of climate change in Kano are considered artificial rather than natural, and the most apparent effects of climate change in Kano are changes in weather patterns. The study concluded that media representations and coverage of climate change influence people's perspectives, understandings, and knowledge of the issue in Kano, Nigeria.

Also, in Nigerian media, the press coverage of agriculture and climate change was examined in the (Ayogu, Ae, & Ia, 2015) study. The researchers used content analysis, and the questionnaire schedule was administered to 150 randomly selected journalists. Results revealed that most journalists cited information about climate change from the internet, highlighting that most of the articles were about climate change and did not consider agricultural issues. Results explained that this occurs because the journalists need more training. In addition, (Nwabueze, Nnaemeka, Umeora, & Okika, 2015) study results revealed that the Nigerian press included poor coverage. Instead, the newspaper's coverage focused on specific events on climate change.

British media press representations of climate change in 1988 were questioned in the (Jaspal & Nerlich, 2014) study. Topics found were addressing "Climate change: a multi-faceted threat," "Collectivization of threat," "Climate change and the attribution of blame," and "Speculative solutions to a complex socio-environmental problem."

The media discourse toward climate change during globally prominent climate change events was examined in a (Mittal, 2012) study among three major English-language newspapers in India. After analyzing the



qualitative content analysis, the study shows various frames, such as "scientific certainty, energy challenges, social progress, public accountability, and looming disaster widely employed by the elite Indian press to raise relevant social, economic, and political issues."

The Chilian liberal newspaper, La Nación, and the conservative newspaper El Mercurio's daily coverage of climate change were examined in (Dotson, Jacobson, Kaid, & Carlton, 2012) study. Twenty percent of the 1,628 articles written in 2003, 2005, and 2007 with the phrases "Cambio climático" (climate change) or "calentamiento global" (global warming) were examined for frequency, content, photos, and frames. The liberal newspapers presented more "thematic and diverse frames" than the conservative newspaper. The governmental sources and conflict frames were present extensively in both newspapers, indicating related climate change coverage maturation processes.

In the Finnish media, the media coverage was studied by (Lyytimäki, 2011) study, which aimed to examine the merge of climate change adaptation and reducing measures into other policies considered to be a previous condition for effective climate policies and investigate how media coverage affects the mainstreaming of climate policies to examine the national press's coverage of climate change from 1990 to 2010 based on quantitative content analysis. This empirical study pointed to four significant periods of climate change coverage in Finnish media: a definition phase before the 1997 Kyoto meeting, a maturity phase following the Kyoto meeting, climate hype in 2006–2008, and a levelling out phase that began in late 2008 and found that climate issues have infiltrated many different disciplines of the newspaper.

A discourse and content analysis of how the regional press in British Columbia covered Copenhagen, mainly focusing on how climate politics was framed in a (Gunster, 2011) study. Results pointed out that the coverage was limited in British Columbia. They highlighted that the newspaper's discourse concentrated on the summit, which guaranteed that the political aspects of climate change performed the leading role.

In the developed countries (Australia, Germany, United States) and emerging economies (Brazil, India), a question was raised about how the



press covered the debate during the UN climate summits in 2004, 2009, and 2014 (Post, Königslöw, & Schäfer, 2019) study. Findings showed that newspapers in developed and emerging economies recognized more responsibility to developed than developing countries.

International comparisons across 41 countries exploring 113 leading national broadsheet newspapers in 2008 regarding newspaper coverage of climate change were examined by (Barkemeyer, et al., 2017) study. Findings showed a correlation between governing quality and media coverage levels.

The portrayal of climate change and its impact on the audience and their perception was explored in the (Terracina-Hartman & Oshita, 2013) study by comparing the media coverage in the US and the UK, trying to detect the frames present in the coverage. Results revealed a dominant structure of science and scientific sources in the U.S. press and enforcement and societal factors in the U.K. press.

The reviewed studies offer valuable contributions to understanding media coverage of climate change. However, some studies would benefit from deeper analyses of the quality of coverage, underlying factors influencing media representation, and the impact on public understanding and action. A more nuanced and critical approach to examining media coverage would enhance the literature in this field.

It is evident that they share a common focus on examining media coverage of climate change. For example, the studies by Schmidt, Ivanova, and Schäfer (2013), Kakonge (2020), Elia (2019), and Ajin-Tettey (2019) all explore the extent and patterns of media attention given to climate change in different countries or regions.

In terms of methodology, most studies employ content analysis to analyze media coverage. This is evident in studies such as Stoddart, Haluza-DeLay, and Tindall (2016), Reyes, Luis, and Vicente-Mariño (2015), Calderón, Mercado, Luis, and Suárez-Sucre (2015), Balarabe and Hamza (2020), and Ayogu, Ae, and Ia (2015). However, the specific approaches and techniques used in content analysis, as well as the sample sizes and time periods analyzed, vary among these studies.



The findings of the studies highlight both common challenges and unique aspects of media coverage. For instance, the studies by Lyytimäki (2011) and Gunster (2011) emphasize the political aspects of climate change coverage in Finland and British Columbia, respectively. On the other hand, studies like Post, Königslöw, and Schäfer (2019) and Barkemeyer et al. (2017) provide international comparisons and reveal differences in media coverage across developed and emerging economies.

While several studies focus on identifying gaps and shortcomings in media coverage, such as limited coverage of certain topics or the need for training, others emphasize the positive aspects of media representation. The study by Terracina-Hartman and Oshita (2013), for example, compares media coverage in the US and the UK, highlighting different frames present in the coverage.

# **Extent of Benefit from Literature Review:**

The literature review on media coverage of climate change provides valuable insights that can be applied to the study of Egyptian media coverage of international climate politics during COP27. The reviewed studies shed light on various aspects of media coverage, highlighting both challenges and opportunities. Drawing from the literature review, the following benefits can be derived:

Firstly, the studies by Schmidt, Ivanova, and Schäfer (2013), Kakonge (2020), and Elia (2019) offer guidance on assessing the amount and patterns of media attention given to climate change. By applying similar comparative analysis methods, the researchers can examine the extent of Egyptian media coverage of international climate politics in the context of COP27 and explore any changes over time.

Additionally, the study by Ajin-Tettey (2019) emphasizes the crucial role of communication in addressing climate change. By considering the Ghanaian media's creation of a National Climate Change Policy, the researchers can assess the potential impact of media coverage on shaping public opinion and facilitating policy development in Egypt.

The studies by Stoddart, Haluza-DeLay, and Tindall (2016), Reyes, Luis, and Vicente-Mariño (2015), and Calderón, Mercado, Luis, and Suárez-



Sucre (2015) provide insights into the topics covered and the sources relied upon by the media. Applying similar content analysis methods, the researchers can analyze the positive and negative aspects of Egyptian media coverage of international climate policies, as well as examine the prominence given to different climate change-related topics.

Moreover, the studies by Balarabe and Hamza (2020) and Ayogu, Ae, and Ia (2015) highlight the influence of media coverage on public perception and understanding of climate change issues. These findings can inform the researchers' exploration of how Egyptian media coverage of COP27 shapes public awareness, attitudes, and behaviors related to climate change.

Furthermore, the studies by Lyytimäki (2011) and Gunster (2011) provide insights into the political dimensions of media coverage. By considering the Finnish and British Columbian contexts, the researchers can explore how political factors influence Egyptian media coverage of international climate politics during COP27.

#### **Theoretical Framework:**

This research will apply the Social Responsibility theory to examine whether the media sticks to its duties and obligations towards society. This will be used on the selected Egyptian talk shows in the coverage of COP27.

The social responsibility theory was founded in the media by the members of the Commission, who highlighted that the media is required to progress its efforts in serving the public (Baran & Davis, 2014).

The theory is based on the following basis: unlike libertarianism, which states that free speech is absolute and, as a result, does not work out specific duties and responsibilities that assign to the right to freedom of expression and media freedom, under social responsibility principle, freedom of speech conveys specific responsibilities, commitments and duties towards the society, and the market (Siebert, Peterson, & Schramm, 1956).



# **Research Methodology:**

This research is a qualitative study using a content analysis tool.

# **Research Sample:**

The coverage of two Egyptian talk shows TV programs, "El Hekayah" and "Yahdoth Fi Misr," will be examined at the time of utilizing COP27 coverage as a case study.

# **Research Time Frame:**

The researchers will examine one month of coverage from the 4<sup>th</sup> of November to the 4th of December because COP27 is being held during this period.

# **Research Ouestions:**

- 1. What is the amount of Egyptian media coverage of international climate politics in the TV programs under study?
- 2. What are the positive aspects of Egyptian television programs' coverage of international climate politics?
- 3. What are the negative aspects of Egyptian television programs' coverage of international climate politics?
- 4. What sources do television programs' coverage depend on covering COP27?

## **Results:**

Within the month of Egypt's hosting of the UN Conference, COP27, International Climate Politics have been subject to considerable coverage by both Egyptian talk shows "Al Hekaya" and "Yahdoth Fi Masr." The study analyzed the content of both programs where "Al Hekaya" dedicated seven episodes to covering COP27 while "Yahdoth Fi Masr" covered it in 3 episodes within the study's time frame. The study adopted each episode as a separate unit of analysis by the following criteria: the amount of coverage and informativeness. In addition, it used sources that focus on either positive- or negative-tone coverage.



Firstly, within the seven episodes which "Al Hekaya program" dedicated around one-quarter of each 2-hour episode to the coverage of COP27. The amount of coverage given to the conference highlighted the talk show's policy about the international event, which was given moderate representation alongside other critical daily events taking place in Egypt.

"Al Hekaya" program started its coverage even before the launch of the conference where the pre-coverage assembled in the episode aired on the day preceding the conference provided information about international guests, the reasons for the contemporary importance of holding the conference at that time and Egypt's pioneering role in the region that granted the country the right to host such a globally recognized international event. Informativeness was highlighted in pieces to the camera given by the program's anchor, Amr Adib, where his talk included informative statements, such as "carbon emissions are becoming increasingly problematic," "This is how to have access to watching the conference's sessions" and "The conference addresses fossil fuels' emerging problems." The anchor's speech provided information about the "Al Hekaya" program and presented data-visualized video graphics that provided quantitative and qualitative data about the number of guests, the division of blue and green regions inside the conference, and the world leaders expected to attend. Moreover, the program provided information about the cross-cultural differences in freedom of expression expected to be portrayed in protests in Sharm El-Sheikh through reliance on archive materials from previous conferences. From the second episode of COP27 coverage, informativeness revealed the program's intentions to appeal to Egypt's interests and benefits by organizing the event economically. The anchor started the episode, "Sharm El-Sheik is fully booked with 5 to 10 times higher pricing rates than usual, "highlighting the importance of focusing on Egyptian gains. Also, information lacked evidence backup in some cases where the anchor stated, "Meanwhile, there are 100 billion US dollars dedicated to funding climate change combating investments; Egypt meets all criteria and is fully ready to receive climate investments". Such a statement was not backed up by any supporting information about the criteria that qualify a country for receiving climate investment funds or evidence to support the claim that



Egypt has become ready. The dependency on information provided by the program's correspondent from Sharm El-Sheikh provided hands-on some unique cases of attendees and primary visual material. However, much of the stated information did not add anything to what is already known and lacked up-to-date information provision.

In terms of the sources that the program depended on, although there was apparent reliance on experts, the sources' expertise lacked relevance to the coverage areas in most cases. This was made evident in starting the pre-coverage by quoting Dr. Ramy Ashour, a Professor of Political Sciences and National Security, instead of a climate expert or an official source from the organizing team of the conference. Accordingly, the information given by the source was broad. However, it lacked abstract scientific knowledge, where he said, "climate change is an enemy that cannot be defeated" and "some countries can be subject to droughts and floods." Additionally, the sourcing patterns continued to reveal a reliance on sources other than the foremost specialized experts or officials in climate, as the second episode attributed Dr. Khaled Abdel Ghaffar, the Egyptian minister of health, who, despite providing clear information about the preparations and precautionary measures, highlighted the absence of required quotes from the mainly concerned sources, such as the minister of environment or the minister of foreign affairs.

Furthermore, the coverage was focused on the positive aspects of the Egyptian preparation to host the conference using statements like "Sharm El-Sheikh made its health and transport preparations and is fully ready to receive the international conference attendees." The positive coverage was also apparent in providing information on the Egyptian investments in climate change programs in connection with the potential funds to be received through the conference's negotiations. However, the positivity in coverage of Egyptian roles lacked accuracy in some statements where the arrival of international political figures was entirely attributed to the importance of Egypt in the region with no reference to the significance of the conference and the regularity of the attendance of these figures on annual bases.



On the other hand, the negative aspects were mainly attributed to international directories and highlighted through the anchor's statements "Almost none of the recommendations of the previous conferences were executed worldwide, and UN does not guarantee this" and "The US president contradicts himself in calling for gas emission reduction while he pushes the American factories to produce more fuels." Through these statements, the anchor addressed the United Nations' efforts negatively, meant to highlight the weakness of decisions made by COPs in previous editions. Also, the anchor told to cast attention to the contradictions in climate-related statements made by the world's political leaders. Therefore, the anchor reverted the poor results of the previous editions to the weakness of organizing previous editions and diminished faith of climate activists in the possibility of bringing about real change. Nevertheless, the anchor again adopted a positive tone in connecting the negative aspects to "hopefully real results thanks to the Egyptian organizing and hosting, " whereby he highlighted the program's supportive agenda of Egypt's role.

The coverage of "Yahdoth Fe Masr" talk show program was centered on three episodes that were fully dedicated to the coverage of COP27, where the program was aired from Soho Square in Sharm El-Sheikh, whereby the program provided the viewers with live coverage of what is going on the international conference. city hosting informativeness, the anchor, Sherif Amer, adopted an informationsimplifying approach to make the climate issues relatable to and understandable to different levels of education of the audience. The statement highlighted this, "climate change affects vital life requirements that are as simple as fruits and vegetables cultivation and consumption." Information provision was also characterized by order and relevance by addressing the viewers' concerns and providing answers to popular questions. This was made clear in the introductory statement of one episode where the anchor said, "We will address what the role of the host country is, what each group of countries is assigned to do in the and how the implementation of the conference's recommendations should be." Moreover, the anchor highlighted the importance of analyzing data and connecting them to their contexts



instead of presenting unlinked information. The program also addressed the contemporary topics raised at the conference and relied on the footage to support this. For example, they used a recorded video of the Egyptian president Abdel Fattah El Sisi, where the latter addressed Egypt's pioneering role in using Green Hydrogen. The anchor then explained what the terms "green hydrogen" and "emissions' reduction" meant in connection with the impact of these on coastal regions in Egypt, such as Alexandria. Furthermore, the anchor mentioned precise data about the collaboration contracts Egypt signed with other countries during the conference with Belgium, United Arab Emirates, and Saudi Arabia. One highlight of the accuracy of the information-providing process was made clear in the statements of the anchor about the potential failure in covering every aspect of the presence of more than 40 thousand attendants at the conference. Yet, the program exerts all the possible efforts to protect the significant events.

As per the used sources, "Yahdoth Fe Masr" depended on relevant and significant influential forces in COP27, where he interviewed the Belgian Prime Minister, Alexander De Croo, where the latter was asked about his visions for the conference and the differences between it and the previous editions while addressing the implementation frameworks. Additionally, the program's anchor interviewed James Cleverly, the foreign secretary of state in the United Kingdom, where the anchor addressed the previous edition of COP that was held in the United Kingdom, the alerting climate change issues, the expenditure aspects of climate change funds, the Egyptian-British relations and Russian-Ukrainian war. In addition to interviewing major international stakeholders, the program shed light on the UN's role where they interviewed Elena Panova, the UN resident coordinator in Egypt, who was asked about the target audiences by the keynote of the UN general secretary, what makes the 27th COP edition distinct and the measures taken against misleading information and fake news.

Generally, the coverage could not be characterized by any bias where the use of data prevailed among the provided information. Also, there was a representation of different views regarding the international event, giving variety and broad dimensions to the coverage. However, passively



positive coverage of Egypt's image was limitedly portrayed in the avoidance of addressing human rights issues brought to the surface during the conference.

To conclude, the coverage of "Yahdoth Fe Masr" included live information provision contexts characterized by reliance on data supported with evidence, systematic order, and simplifying the advanced terminologies. In addition, the sources used were relevant and asked questions in their areas of expertise in a way that complemented the informative role played by the program. No harmful or positive aspects could be spotted clearly from the coverage. Nevertheless, adopting the Egyptian stance on human rights was apparent.

The study results agreed with the literature review in the increase of the coverage dedicated to climate news. Additionally, the focus on some aspects of coverage and negligence of others represented a similarity between the current study's findings and the literature review. Moreover, the use of specific frames in covering climate issues directly relates to the study's findings, where the coverage portrays specific country-supportive aspects of coverage.

Considering the social responsibility theory, the social responsibility theory asserts that the media has an obligation to act in the best interest of the public and society as a whole. It suggests that media organizations should provide accurate and balanced information, promote public awareness, and hold those in power accountable. Applying this theory to the given research results, we can evaluate whether the hypothesis of the social responsibility theory was approved or rejected.

Based on the results, both television programs, "Al Hekaya" and "Yahdoth Fe Masr," provided coverage of international climate politics during COP27. They dedicated multiple episodes to the topic, demonstrating a commitment to informing their audiences about the conference and its significance. This suggests that the media organizations recognized the importance of raising awareness about climate change and its global implications.



In terms of the positive aspects of the coverage, both programs highlighted Egypt's role in hosting the conference and its preparations for the event. By doing so, they promoted the image of Egypt as an active participant in addressing climate change issues. Additionally, they provided information about Egyptian investments in climate change programs and the potential benefits of hosting the conference, thereby contributing to public awareness of national efforts in this domain.

However, there were some limitations and negative aspects observed in the coverage. The "Al Hekaya" program sometimes lacked evidence to support its claims, such as the statement about Egypt being fully ready to receive climate investments. In addition, both programs exhibited a tendency to avoid addressing human rights issues raised during the conference. This omission could be seen as a failure to fulfill the social responsibility of holding those in power accountable and addressing important concerns related to the conference.

Considering these observations, the hypothesis of the social responsibility theory can be considered partially approved and partially rejected based on the research results. The programs demonstrated a commitment to providing coverage of international climate politics, raising awareness, and promoting positive aspects related to Egypt's involvement. However, they fell short in certain areas, such as providing evidence-based information and addressing human rights issues, which could be seen as a failure to fully uphold their social responsibility.

Regarding the research questions, the study findings revealed a variety in the coverage of both "Al Hekaya" and "Yahdoth Fe Masr," the first dedicated more episodes to the coverage of COP27 than the first. The coverage of "Al Hekaya" represented more focus on the positive aspects of the Egyptian role than "Yahdoth Fe Masr," which was characterized by more balance in negative and positive aspects. As per the used sources in each program, "Yahdoth Fe Masr" used more relevant and specialized sources than "Al Hekaya."

Based on the given results, we can answer the research questions as follows:



- 1. The amount of Egyptian media coverage of international climate politics in the TV programs under study varied. The "Al Hekaya" program dedicated seven episodes to covering COP27, with each episode allocating approximately one-quarter of its duration to the conference. On the other hand, the "Yahdoth Fe Masr" program focused on three episodes solely dedicated to the coverage of COP27. Therefore, both programs provided significant coverage of international climate politics during the study's timeframe.
- 2. The positive aspects of Egyptian television programs' coverage of international climate politics included highlighting Egypt's role in hosting the conference and its preparations for the event. The programs emphasized the importance of Egypt's pioneering role in the region and its ability to organize and host a globally recognized international event. Additionally, they provided information about Egyptian investments in climate change programs and the potential benefits and funds that Egypt could receive through the conference's negotiations.
- 3. The negative aspects of Egyptian television programs' coverage of international climate politics were primarily directed towards international factors. The programs highlighted the failure of previous conferences in executing recommendations worldwide and expressed skepticism regarding the United Nation's ability to guarantee effective action. They also pointed out contradictions in climate-related statements made by world leaders, potentially undermining faith in the possibility of bringing about real change. However, it's worth noting that these negative aspects were balanced with a positive tone, linking them to the potential positive outcomes resulting from Egypt's hosting and organizing of the conference.
- 4. The television programs' coverage of COP27 relied on various sources. While the "Al Hekaya" program exhibited a broader range of sources, including experts from different fields such as political science and health, the expertise of these sources sometimes lacked relevance to the coverage areas. In contrast, the



"Yahdoth Fe Masr" program featured interviews with significant international stakeholders, such as the Belgian Prime Minister and the UK's foreign secretary of state, who provided insights into the conference and its implementation frameworks. The program also interviewed the UN resident coordinator in Egypt, highlighting the UN's role in the conference. In conclusion, the programs aimed to include diverse perspectives and relevant sources to enhance the informative value of their coverage.



#### References

- Adjin-Tettey, T. D. (2019). Coverage of Climate Change: Graduate Students' Climate Change Policy Awareness and Assessment of Ghanaian Media. *The International Journal of Climate Change Impacts and Responses*, 11(3), 35-52.
- Ayogu, C., Ae, A., & Ia, E. (2015). Print Media Journalists' Coverage of Agriculture-related Climate Change News in Nigeria: Implications for achieving Vision 20:2020. Climate Change, 1(1), 11-19.
- Balarabe, U. B., & Hamza, Y. G. (2020). Climate Change: Media Coverage and Perspectives of Climate Change in Kano, Nigeria. *Journal of Energy Research and Reviews*, 6(2), 11-19.
- Baran, S. J., & Davis, D. K. (2014). Mass Communication Theory: Foundations, Ferment and Future (7th ed ed., Vol. 72). Wadsworth Publishing.
- Barkemeyer, R., Figge, F., Hoepner, A., Holt, D., Kraak, J. M., & Yu, P.-S. (2017). Media coverage of climate change: An international comparison. *Environment and Planning C: Politics and Space*, 35(6), 1029–1054.
- Calderón, C. A., Mercado, M. T., Luis, P. J., & Suárez-Sucre, E. D. (2015). Media coverage of climate change in Spanish-speaking online media. *Convergencia Revista de Ciencias Sociales*, 22(68), 71-95.
- Dotson, D. M., Jacobson, S. K., Kaid, L. L., & Carlton, J. S. (2012). Media Coverage of Climate Change in Chile: A Content Analysis of Conservative and Liberal Newspapers. *Environmental Communication*, 6, 64-81.
- Elia, E. F. (2019). Media coverage of climate change information in Tanzania. *Global Knowledge, Memory and Communication*, 68(4/5), 258-274.



- Gunster, S. (2011). Covering Copenhagen: Climate Politics in B.C. Media. *Canadian Journal of Communication*, 36(3), 477-502.
- Jaspal, R., & Nerlich, B. (2014). When climate science became climate politics: British media representations of climate change in 1988. *Public Understanding of Science*, 23(2), 122–141.
- Kakonge, A. D. (2020). Challenges and Opportunities for Increasing Media Coverage of Climate Change in Kenya. Communication Society and Media, 3(2), 111-125.
- Lyytimäki, J. (2011). Mainstreaming climate policy: the role of media coverage in Finland. *Mitig Adapt Strateg Glob Change*, 16, 649–661.
- Mittal, R. (2012). Climate Change Coverage in Indian Print Media: A Discourse Analysis. The International Journal of Climate Change Impacts and Responses, 3(2), 219-232.
- Nwabueze, C., Nnaemeka, F. O., Umeora, D., & Okika, E. (2015). Nigerian Newspapers' Coverage of Climate Change Issues. *European Scientific Journal*, 11(17), 171-184.
- Post, S., Königslöw, K. K.-v., & Schäfer, M. S. (2019). Between Guilt and Obligation: Debating the Responsibility for Climate Change and Climate Politics in the Media. *Environmental Communication*, 13, 723-739.
- Reyes, R. F., Luis, P. J., & Vicente-Mariño, M. (2015). Media coverage of climate change and global warming en El País, El Mundo y La Vanguardia. *Revista Latina de Comunicacion Social*, 70(1038), 122-140.
- Schmidt, A., Ivanova, A., & Schäfer, M. S. (2013). Media attention for climate change around the world: A comparative analysis of newspaper coverage in 27 countries. *Global Environmental Change*, 23(5), 1233-1248.



- Siebert, F. S., Peterson, T., & Schramm, W. (1956). Four Theories of the Press. University of Illinois Press.
- Stoddart, M. C., Haluza-DeLay, R., & Tindall, D. B. (2016).
  Canadian News Media Coverage of Climate Change: Historical Trajectories, Dominant Frames, and International Comparisons.
  Society & Natural Resources, 29(2), 218-232.
- Terracina-Hartman, C., & Oshita, T. (2013). Climate Change on Trial: An Analysis of the Media Coverage of Climategate. *The International Journal of Climate Change: Impacts and Responses*, 4(3), 119-132.