

ABSTRACT

This thesis is focused on the construction of threat in news. The purpose of the quantitative content analysis is the construction of threat in Czech printed news in the case of Russian Federation. The thesis is based on the presumption that with the help of selective processes by journalists that implies the usage of certain frames and granting of space for certain actors and themes, media are able to construct a threat that may not be even real. Czech news may be influencing our way of thinking towards Russia. The content of the thesis is divided into four main parts. The first theoretical chapter links three crucial research areas: news, securitization theory and the concept of media framing. The next chapter describes the bilateral relationship between the Czech Republic and Russia that provides context for the analysis outcomes. The methodological part is concentrated on selective processes, which are being held in news about Russia. It has been operated with four variables: actor, theme, news frames (conflict, attribution of responsibility, human interest, morality and economic) and securitization frame. Concerning the securitization frame, the elements of diagnosis, prognosis or motivation to actively deal with a problem have been researched. The description of results and their graphical projection is integrated into the last chapter. The most frequented category of topics that occurs is Russian involvement in international conflicts. This finding corresponds to the conflict news frame that was detected in 42%. Actors that obtained the biggest share in news are in accordance with the securitization actor spectrum defined by the Copenhagen School. The most frequent was Russian President Vladimir Putin. Space in news has also been obtained by other world politicians, security experts or military members. According to the analysis, the research period has not shown a successful securitization move as was defined in the theoretical part of the thesis. However, it has been observed that more than every third article evinced the construction of Russian threat by the usage of diagnostic securitization frames.