

ABSTRACT

This thesis examines the framing of the Russia-Ukraine war in US media, focusing on the role of influential outlets like *The New York Times* in shaping public perception and aligning with US foreign policy objectives. The study explores how media narratives have been strategically constructed to support the US government's stance on the war, portraying it as both a moral imperative and a geopolitical necessity. By analyzing the themes of Ukraine's sovereignty, civilian suffering, and the violation of international law, the research highlights how media outlets reinforce US policy, particularly through the lens of humanitarian values and democratic principles.

In addition, the thesis investigates the strategic use of social media platforms in amplifying these narratives and projecting US soft power. It also considers the broader geopolitical context of US involvement, arguing that the framing of the war serves both to justify military aid to Ukraine and to weaken Russia's global standing. Drawing on the concept of "constrained interventionism," the thesis discusses the US's balancing behavior in responding to Russian aggression, while avoiding direct military confrontation. The study concludes that media framing plays a crucial role in guiding US foreign policy, shaping public opinion, and reinforcing the US's position as a global defender of human rights and international law. Through the convergence of media narratives and strategic foreign policy objectives, the US media landscape has become a powerful tool for influencing both domestic and international perceptions of the Russia-Ukraine war.

Keywords: Russia-Ukraine War, Media Framing, US Foreign Policy, The New York Times