

## Analyzing Peace Journalism in Cyber Media: Coverage of Ethno-Religious Conflicts in Indonesia

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Submitted: 02/05/2024 Revised: 15/06/2024 Accepted: 22/06/2024

**Abstract:** This study focuses on the reporting dynamics of the Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community's land conflicts by scrutinizing the role of journalists and sources in shaping media narratives and public discourse. A historical backdrop is provided, detailing communal conflicts after Suharto's fall and emphasizing the media's influential role in potentially exacerbating or mitigating conflicts. The research method integrates quantitative and qualitative analyses, including a content analysis of 110 news articles and interviews with journalists and community members to explore the application of peace journalism principles. The findings reveal the predominant use of hard news, with a nuanced implementation of peace-, truth-, community-, and solution-oriented principles. The analysis indicated balanced coverage between the physical and non-physical impacts of conflict, a trend towards opinionated rather than factual reporting, and a strong representation of the indigenous community's voice. The study recommends enhancing balanced reporting, promoting in-depth analysis, strengthening solution-focused journalism, providing peace journalism training, and encouraging diverse perspectives on conflict coverage. These measures aim to improve journalism's role in fostering peace and understanding societal conflict.

**Keywords:** *Cyber Media; Peace Journalism; Ethnic; Religion; Conflict.*

### Introduction

Significant changes have occurred in the media world, which have a significant impact on journalism. Conventional media are transforming into Internet-based mass media to expand their reach, sustain their existence, and make profits. The addition of cyber media platforms has consequences for journalism performance. There has been a shift in news values, professional ethics, workflows, working conditions, and newsroom management. However, these changes have not necessarily led to improved journalism (Ying Chan, 2014).

It is undeniable that the delivery of information has become much faster, sources of information are widely available, and interaction with readers is free. However, the spread of plagiarism, lack of verification, and other journalistic ethics violations have proliferated. This issue has increased drastically in various countries. Moreover, despite the apparent democracy of cyberspace media, questions still arise as to whether cyber media is truly different from traditional media or whether they operate

in almost the same way, prioritizing one-way communication principles (Loisa, 2015). Society has begun to complain about journalistic products emerging from cyber ecosystems. With this technological change, a paradigm shift in journalism has occurred, giving rise to what is commonly known as online journalism.

Cyber media is currently proliferating in Indonesia, with an estimated total of more than 47,000 people, and only about 993 of those are verified by the Press Council (Council, 2023). The sheer number of cyber media outlets has sparked competition that ultimately not only diminishes the quality of their journalistic works, but also has the potential to cause and exacerbate conflicts within communities. Amidst fierce competition among media, news about conflicts within society is considered by media managers to be more popular with readers than cultural events or harmonious cooperation between community groups.

In this context, another genre emerged – peace journalism. This genre highlights a peaceful perspective in journalistic works (Charles, 2021). It began to gain popularity and was implemented in Indonesia in the early 2000s, when the country experienced communal conflicts in Maluku (Fox, 2018). Journalists in Maluku have established the Maluku Media Centre to campaign for peace journalism. Journalists from print and broadcast media gathered to discuss how to cover events from a peace-oriented perspective (Nuswantoro, 2013).

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In societies affected by conflicts, journalism plays a crucial role in shaping public perceptions and knowledge of national identity, history, conflicts, and peace efforts. When mediating conflict, journalists not only disseminate information but also define, frame, process, and promote it. Journalists have become key factors in mediating information during and after conflicts (Şahin, 2022). Journalists and sources play a role in shaping media and public agendas and can ultimately influence public policy.

Therefore, this study seeks to answer the research questions: how do Indonesian local and national cyber media report on land conflicts with ethnic and religious nuances? Additionally, what are the roles of journalists and sources in determining agenda-setting and media framing related to the land conflict?

Previous studies have shown that journalistic work exacerbates conflict. We also found journalistic works that played a role in reconciling conflicting parties. Through their journalistic work, journalists—especially those who have received peace journalism training—can contribute to the creation and maintenance of peace. (Adebayo, 2016; Auwal & Ersoy, 2022).

## Literature Review

### Ethno-Religious Conflict in Indonesia

After President Suharto's fall in 1998, Indonesia experienced a series of communal conflicts related to ethnicity and religion (Suryana, 2018). The conflict between Muslim and Christian communities in Maluku, in the eastern part of Indonesia, from 1998 to 2002 resulted in thousands of casualties, many people losing their homes, and mass displacement. Around the same time, a conflict between Muslims and Christians occurred in Poso, Central Sulawesi, resulting in many casualties and infrastructure damage. In West and Central Kalimantan, ethnic riots occurred between the Dayaks and Madurese, resulting in hundreds of casualties and thousands of displacements.

Indonesia is a diverse country with hundreds of ethnic groups and a variety of religions, which include Islam, Christianity, Hinduism, Buddhism, and traditional beliefs. This diversity can sometimes lead to tension, particularly in areas with a significant mix of communities or where one group feels marginalized or disadvantaged. This diversity is a source of richness and potential tension, especially when it is intertwined with political processes. As such, conflicts with ethnic and religious nuances in Indonesia are often also related to politics. Local head elections (Pilkada) often become arenas in which ethnic and religious identities are emphasized (Wilson, 2015). Candidates may appeal to the identity of the majority in a particular area or attempt to bridge divisions to create a broader base of support. Political campaigns can

exacerbate or exploit existing tensions, leading to conflict (Bräuchler, 2017).

Existing literature has analyzed the ethnic factor in the violence that occurred in communal violence in Ambon, Poso, and Sambas after Suharto (Schulze, 2017). The three conflicts have similarities, starting from the migration of people from other ethnicities and a lack of respect for local customs by newcomers, coupled with social, economic, and political competition between local residents and newcomers. The Ambon and Poso conflicts are seen as religious conflicts, whereas the Sambas conflict is seen as an ethnic conflict. Ethnic conflicts are also a factor in land disputes. Land and customary forests, originally controlled by indigenous communities, were displaced by development programs, and newcomer ethnic groups became dominant in land allocation changes.

### Mass Media Coverage on Conflicts

During the ethnic and religious riots, the mass media appeared to side with one group, using conflict as material to attract readers. For instance, during the conflict in Ambon, Maluku, the mass media, especially newspapers, showed a bias towards either Christians or Muslims. As such, basic journalistic principles, such as verification and balance, were often ignored (Nuswantoro, 2013). This partisanship exacerbates tension and violence by reinforcing divisions and spreading fear and hatred. Despite these challenges, there have been instances in which the media played a constructive role in conflict resolution and peacebuilding. Some media outlets have worked to provide balanced coverage, promote dialogue, and highlight stories of reconciliation and peace.

The post-conflict ethnic situation in Indonesia is similar to that in Eastern Europe, such as the ethnic conflicts in the Western Balkans after the fall of communism, where the media was expected to be an active stakeholder in building democracy and its norms by providing unbiased information to the public. This mission is difficult because there is no functional system that frees the media from ideology and because of the difficulties of professional coverage or journalism. Transitioning the media's role from being an extension of the ruling party to being a mediator of public opinion is a challenging and time-consuming step (Andresen et al., 2017).

Media agenda-setting is a factor that influences political decision-making. Conflict framing strengthens the indirect impact of political agendas on questions within the parliament (Sevenans & Vliegthart, 2016). Critical questions posed by politicians are heavily influenced by the media agenda. The more media coverage there is on the conflict, the more it affects public agenda-setting.

All cyber media employ clichéd depictions of barbaric perpetrators and innocent victims in ethnic conflicts (Williamson Sinalo, 2022). Media outlets tend to oversimplify and stereotype the characters involved in ethnic conflicts. By labelling individuals as either “barbaric perpetrators” or “innocent victims,” this approach reduces complex human behaviors and the nuanced nature of ethnic conflicts to simple, easily digestible narratives. Such depictions lack depth and fail to consider the broader social, economic, and political contexts that fueled these conflicts. The use of clichés and stereotypes in reporting not only undermines the complexity of the issues at hand, but can also perpetuate harmful biases and misunderstandings about the groups involved. This statement calls attention to the need for more nuanced and responsible journalism that accurately represents the multifaceted realities of ethnic conflict.

### Methods

This research was conducted using a case study method that combines quantitative and qualitative approaches. The quantitative approach was used when performing content analysis, while the qualitative approach in data collection was conducted through in-depth interviews and focus group discussions (FGD). The case study approach is considered suitable for answering the research problems of “how” and “why” (Ying Chan, 2014). A case study is empirical research that examines phenomena in real life when the boundaries between phenomena are not clear and the research sources used are multiple. Case studies use both quantitative and qualitative evidence. Yin states that the case study method can be used in research on journalistic works to answer the questions of “why” and “how.”

Content analysis in this research was conducted on 110 news articles about the conflict of the Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community, Cigugur, Kuningan, West Java, published by online media throughout 2019–2022. Data on news articles were collected via online download. The qualitative approach was conducted with FGDs that included about 25 journalists and editors and members of minority groups in early 2023, and in-depth interviews

with six informants consisting of journalists and members of indigenous groups.

To strengthen the qualitative analysis, this study employed a framing analysis model that followed the Pan and Kosicki model. Pan and Kosicki operationalize four structural dimensions of news text as framing devices, namely syntax, script, thematic, and rhetorical.

### Conflict of the Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community

The Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community is a subethnic group with beliefs and traditions that differ from the majority of the Sundanese ethnic group in West Java, Indonesia. The conflicts involve the community, particularly highlighting the challenges and opposition they face due to their beliefs (Teguh, Irfan, 2017). Sunda Wiwitan and other indigenous religions in Indonesia are often degraded as animism or idol worship and are not officially recognized by the Indonesian government. This lack of recognition means that followers cannot list their religion in official documents such as identity cards and birth certificates, which affects their civil rights and everyday life.

At the beginning of 2020, citing pressure from the local community, the Kuningan Regency sealed off construction of the ancestral grave of the Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community despite initially having a Building Permit (IMB). Discrimination against indigenous communities continues to this day, and this conflict has been widely reported in international, national, and local cyber media.

### Research object

This study collected 110 news articles related to the conflict of the Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community from dozens of cyber media platforms. We categorized the media outlets as international, national, or local. As it is difficult to limit the borders of cybermedia, the categories of international, national, and local media are thus based on the location of the publisher: international from outside Indonesia, national from Jakarta, the capital of Indonesia, and local from outside of Jakarta.

**Table 1.** Names of the media outlets.

	Names
International media	Bbc.com, Voaindonesia.com, Dw.com/id
National media	Kompas.com, Detik.com, Liputan6.com, Tempo.co, Mediaindonesia.com, CNNIndonesia.com, Tribunnews.com, Merdeka.com, Viva.co.id, Kbr.id, Republica.co.id, IDNTimes.com
Local media	Suarajabar.com, Kabarcirebon.com, Radarcirebon.com, Aboutcirebon.id, Ayocirebon.com, Fajarsatu.com, Suaracirebon.com, Fajarcirebon.com, Bandungkita.id, Ayobandung.com, Bratapos.com, Radarcirebon.tv,

	Riapagi.com, Mediajatim.com, Alinea.id, Regamedianews.com, Banten.indeksnews.com, Westjavatoday.com, Ayocirebon.com, Suara.com, Kabarcirebon.com, Jabarnews.com, Pikiran-rakyat.com, Mubadalah.id, Fahmina.or.id, Menaramadinah.com, Jpnn.com.
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Brief descriptions about the cyber media that reported “conflict involving Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community” were taken from their websites and other sources, including the research titled “Indonesian Cyber Media News Coverage on Diversity Issues”(Susanto et al., 2020), that represent the data of the research.

Certain outlets encompass all three classifications of international, national, and local media. For instance, as the Indonesian wing of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC), BBC Indonesia provides international and local news in the Indonesian language. This outlet is known for its neutral and objective reporting as well as its in-depth analysis of global and national issues. BBC Indonesia also presents news in various formats, including videos, audio, and online articles. The outlet is part of the BBC World Service, which provides global news and information in various languages, has been operating since 1932, and the Indonesian language service started several decades after their establishment.

Voice of America (VOA) Indonesia is an international American service that provides news and information about Indonesia. They offer an American perspective on global and regional issues, focusing on democracy, freedom, and social issues. VOA Indonesia uses various platforms, including radio, television, and online platforms, to reach its audience. Its owner is the United States Government. The Indonesian language service of VOA began in 1942 as part of the U.S. effort to spread information and democratic values.

Kompas.com is a part of the Kompas Gramedia Group, one of Indonesia’s largest media groups. Kompas, as a daily newspaper, was first published on June 28, 1965, and has since become one of the most trusted sources of information in Indonesia. The website Kompas.com is known for its credible and in-depth reporting on a wide range of topics including politics, economics, and culture. It is also famous for its sharp editorials and thorough analyses of current issues.

Detik.com is one of the first and largest online news portals in Indonesia. News on Detik.com is always updated, with a focus on breaking news, politics, sports, entertainment, and technology. Detik.com is also known for its various channels that offer news and information on specific niches. The media is owned by PT Agranet Multicitra Siberkom and was established in 1998.

The news portal Pikiranrakyat. com provides local, national, and international news with a special focus on events in the West Java region. PT Pikiran Rakyat Bandung owns Bandung-West Java-based media. The media outlet originated from the Pikiran Rakyat newspaper, first published in 1966, with its digital version evolving alongside technological advancements. It is considered a local cyber medium. Other local cyber media sources provided no details regarding their owners or profiles.

The 110 news articles are described in Figure 1.

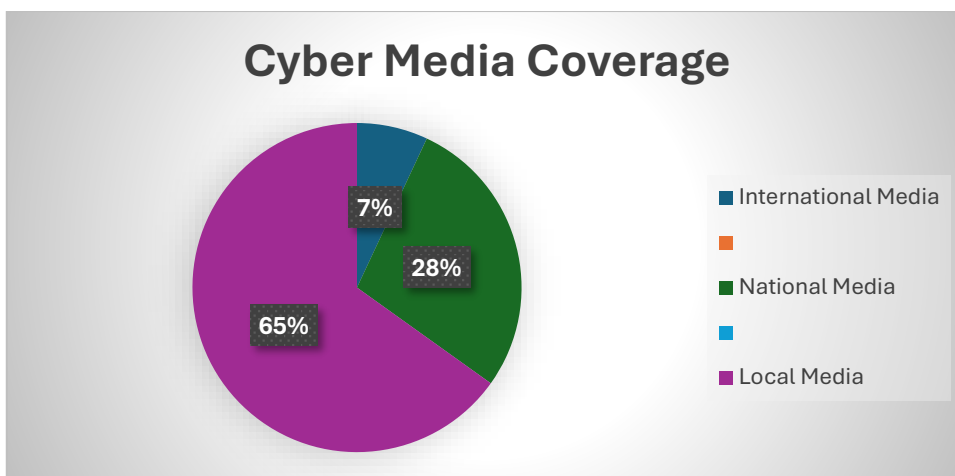


Fig 1. Cyber media coverage.

## Results And Discussion

Research findings from the perspective of peace in cyber

media reporting on ethnic and religious conflicts in Indonesia consist of the choice of news format, a peace perspective, and four principles of peace journalism:

peace-oriented, truth-oriented, society-oriented, and solution-oriented (McGoldrick & Lynch, 2016).

### Forms of news articles

In general, in the media, including cyber media, articles are divided into two main categories: hard news and features. Hard news tends to focus on current events, which are often factual and direct, quickly informing the audience about important events or announcements.

Conversely, features are longer, more in-depth, and exploratory, providing context, background, and analyzing issues. After going through the coding process, out of 110 articles about the Sunda Wiwitan Community indigenous community conflict, news articles were divided into two categories: hard news (98 articles) and features (12 articles). The results are presented in Figure 2.

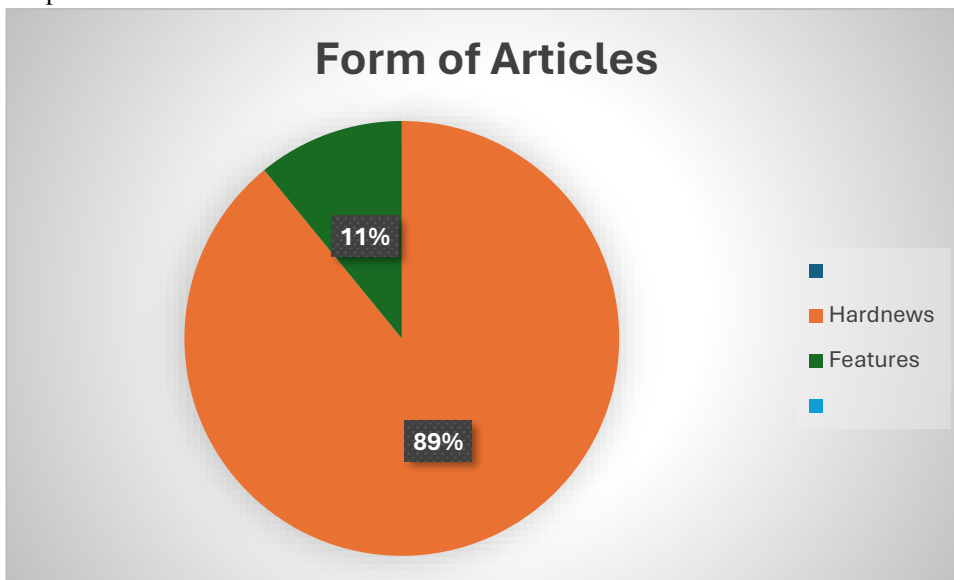


Fig 2. Forms of articles.

The data indicate that the process of determining the form or format of an article depends on the scale of the issue and its expected impact. For smaller issues, decisions can be made by the coverage coordinator and editor, whereas for major or significantly impactful issues, the decisions involve the editor-in-chief. This shows a hierarchical structure in determining the article format depending on the seriousness of the issue being discussed.

According to Suara.com editor-in-chief Suwarjono, during an interview on August 23, 2023, the hierarchical decision-making process in determining the form or format of an article related to a specific issue is explained as, “usually at our level there is a hierarchy typically at the level of the coverage coordinator and the editors who can determine what the discussion or coverage will be like in relation to that issue.”

### Principles in Peace Journalism

Peace Journalism aims to promote reconciliation and solutions to conflicts rather than exacerbating the situation. This principle proposes changes in how news about conflicts is prepared and presented with the hope of aiding the conflict resolution process. The four principles of peace journalism are peace-oriented, truth oriented, community oriented, and solution oriented. (McGoldrick

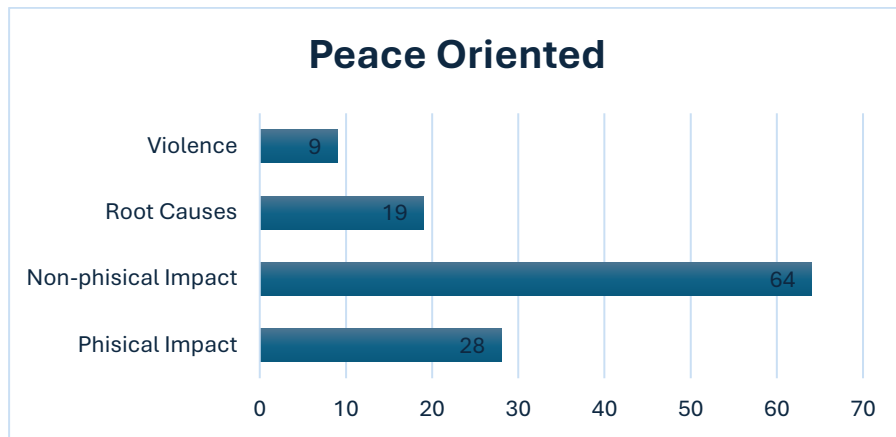
& Lynch, 2016).

#### Peace-Oriented

The peace-oriented principle in reporting conflict-related news in peace journalism is a key aspect that distinguishes it from conventional journalism approaches. This principle emphasizes the importance of reporting conflicts in a manner that seeks to understand their root causes, reduce tension, and encourage peaceful solutions.

In the context of conflicts involving the Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community, the peace-oriented principle of peace journalism is crucial. Sunda Wiwitan is an indigenous community in Indonesia with unique beliefs and ways of life that are closely related to the use and management of traditional land. Peace-oriented reporting plays a crucial role in resolving land conflicts fairly and sustainably.

The peace-oriented principle is demonstrated by the presence or absence of depictions of physical or nonphysical impacts, the root causes, and the choice of language that contains violence. The results of a quantitative coding analysis of 110 news stories related to peace journalism and the conflict of the Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community are illustrated in Figure 3.



**Fig 3.** Peace-Oriented.

The graph above shows the frequency of the four different aspects covered in news reports related to the principle of peace orientation in articles.

(1) **Physical Impact (28 articles):** The physical impact reported in 28 articles focused on the material consequences of conflict or emergencies, such as injuries or damage to property. In the context of peace journalism, this reporting may be done in a way that aims to highlight the losses incurred without exploiting the situation or exacerbating the conflict.

(2) **Non-physical Impact (64 articles)** With a greater number of articles reporting nonphysical impacts, there is a higher priority on the psychological, social, and economic consequences of conflict. This indicates that the media may be more focused on the long-term effects of conflict and emphasize the human aspect over physical losses, aligning with the principles of peace journalism that promote understanding and empathy.

(3) **Root Causes (19 articles)** Reporting on the root causes in 19 articles shows that there is an awareness and effort to explain the underlying causes of conflict or issues. This is an important component of peace journalism as it can help readers understand the broader context and encourage them to think about peaceful solutions.

(4) **Violence (9 articles):** The number of articles reporting violence was the least, which may indicate a deliberate approach to avoid narratives that encourage or highlight violence. In peace journalism, the minimal focus on violence is intended to prevent escalation or violent reactions and to promote dialogue or understanding.

Interview results on how cyber media implement peace-oriented principles in journalistic products show diverse media responses. Suwarjono is not explicitly mentioned, but the selection of Sunda Wiwitan issues and efforts to continuously update information about this community can be interpreted as peace-oriented efforts. Highlighting

minority group issues and ensuring that they have space in public discourse reflects an inclusive approach and effort to maintain social harmony. Peace orientation is reflected in the effort to build understanding and trust with the community, as expressed, “Well, Sunda Wiwitan is a very unique belief system, its name “Sunda Wiwitan“ itself is unique, and it becomes a consideration because it has been around for a long time, even culturally ingrained among not just journalist friends, but also the readers have been following for a long time.”

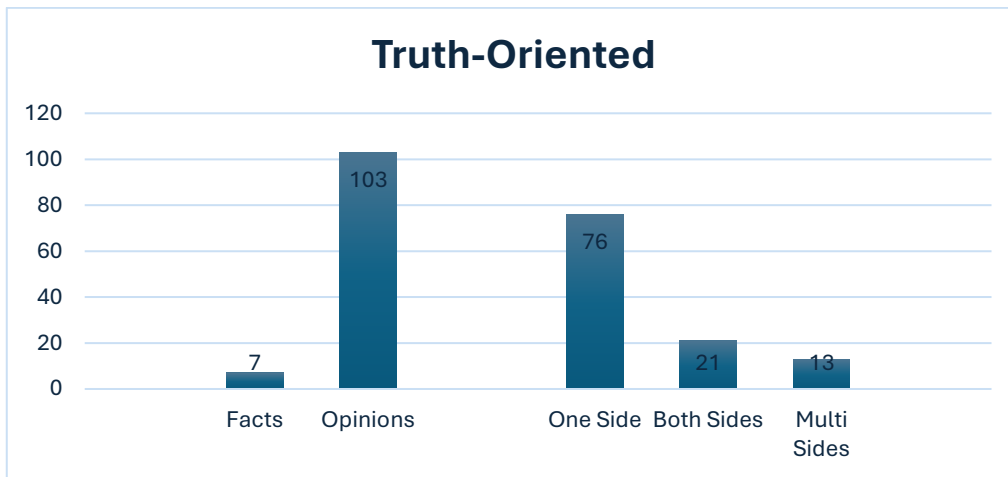
The IDN Times editor-in-chief Uni Lubis mentioned an orientation to peace in relation to the implications of implementing the seven pillars of IDN Times content, which include gender equality, unity in racial and ethnic diversity, and anti-bullying, showing the media’s orientation towards promoting peace and tolerance.

Although not explicitly mentioned in the quotes, she said in an interview on September 8, 2023 that the peace-oriented aspect can be interpreted from the content pillars that emphasize “gender equality, unity in different races and ethnicities, unity in different religions,” reflecting a peaceful approach in covering and presenting news.

#### Truth-Oriented

Truth orientation in Peace Journalism plays a crucial role in creating accurate and in-depth reports on conflicts with the aim of fostering understanding and reconciliation. This principle involves several key aspects: containing facts and not opinions, and covering both sides.

In writing articles related to the conflict of the Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community, online media appeared to prioritize opinions or views from sources (93.6%), rather than just being based on facts (seven articles, 6.4%). Meanwhile, in the balance sub-category, most of the news (76 articles) only used one source, 21 articles used two sides (covering both sides), and 13 articles used multiple sources or more than two sources (multiple sides), as shown in Figure 4.



**Fig 4.** Truth-Oriented.

According to the KBR.id editor-in-chief Citra Diah, they strive to maintain accurate and detailed exposure to issues involving the entire editorial staff, from the editor-in-chief to the editors and reporters. This shows an orientation towards truthfulness, in which maintaining an accurate and balanced narrative about diversity issues is key. “The exposure to issues, we maintain it, it remains there, meaning not just at my level as the Editor-in-Chief, but also the editors when they cover news, and the reporters as well,” she said in an interview on August 24, 2023.

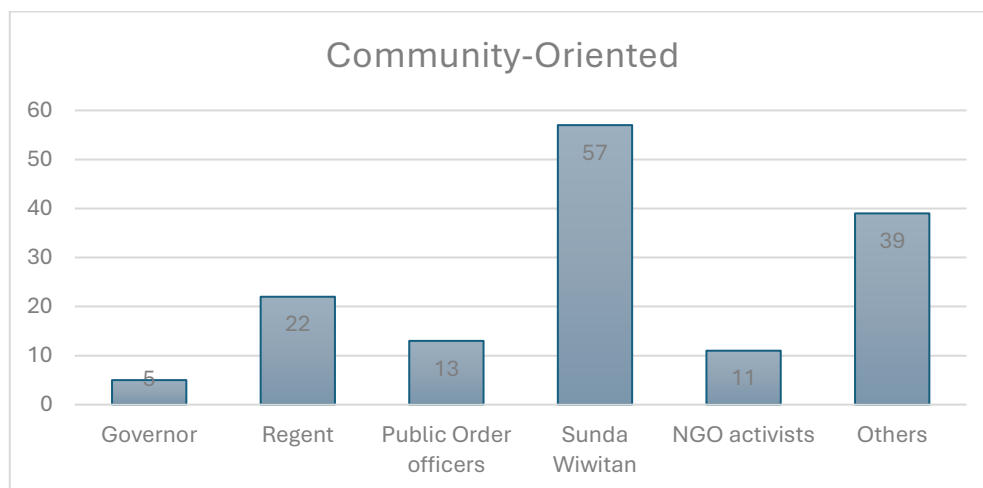
In an interview on August 22, 2023, Harapanakyat.com editor-in-chief Subagja emphasized consulting with a broad network to ensure the accuracy and depth of understanding of issues. “I know the field. I know the issues or I check if it seems I am not updated. I check with the network because I have been a journalist for 18 years,” he said in an interview on August 23, 2023.

#### Community-Oriented

Orientation to the community in peace journalism refers to an approach that places the needs, interests, and well-being of the community at the center of the journalistic process. It not only refers to reporting facts or events but also the understanding the impact of the news on the community and contributing to constructive solutions.

Peace journalism aims to build bridges between different groups or communities, encouraging dialogue and deeper understanding. In practice, this can mean reporting in a manner that shows diverse perspectives and avoids news coverage that reinforces negative stereotypes or incites conflict.

Articles on the conflict in the Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community that use the community-oriented principle demonstrate the diversity of sources interviewed by journalists, as shown in Figure 5.



**Fig 5.** Sources used by community-oriented articles.

Figure 5 illustrates the distribution of sources used to cover Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community conflicts within the framework of community-oriented peace journalism. Peace journalism focuses on representing a

community’s perspective and welfare, moving beyond simply presenting facts or events.

The distribution of sources in the graph relates to the community-oriented principles of peace journalism for the following reasons:

(1) **Diverse Sources:** The highest number of sources comes from the “Sunda Wiwitan” category itself, indicating that the media is giving a voice to the indigenous community at the heart of the issue. This aligns with peace journalism’s goal of amplifying the perspectives of those directly affected.

(2) **Multiple Viewpoints:** By including sources from “Others,” “NGO activists,” and government officials like the “Governor” and “Regent,” the coverage ensures that multiple viewpoints are considered. This multiplicity fosters a more nuanced narrative that contributes to understanding and resolving conflict.

(3) **Local Authorities:** The inclusion of “Public Order officers” implies that the cyber media is also considering the impact of law and order in the community and how the conflict is being managed on the ground.

(4) **Community Impact:** The focus on the community suggests that reporting aims to assess and communicate the impact of the conflict on the community’s welfare, going beyond mere reporting to a more empathetic.

Regarding the qualitative coding data in the community-oriented category, the source statement is obtained from an interview in an interview on August 23, 2023. Jabarnews.com editor-in-chief Riana Afriadi emphasized the importance of reporting focused on communities and village life, indicating a community orientation: “Our focus today is to highlight hyper-local content, village content, because why? If you want to see major issues in Jakarta, in big cities and others, they are actually about politics, diversity, religion, and other issues. Actually, the potential for these issues tends to occur in the villages.”

Meanwhile, Sunda Wiwitan representative Dewi Kanti mentioned that the approach taken by the Sunda Wiwitan community and its supporters tended to be oriented

towards strengthening and understanding the community, especially through cultural movements and resistance.

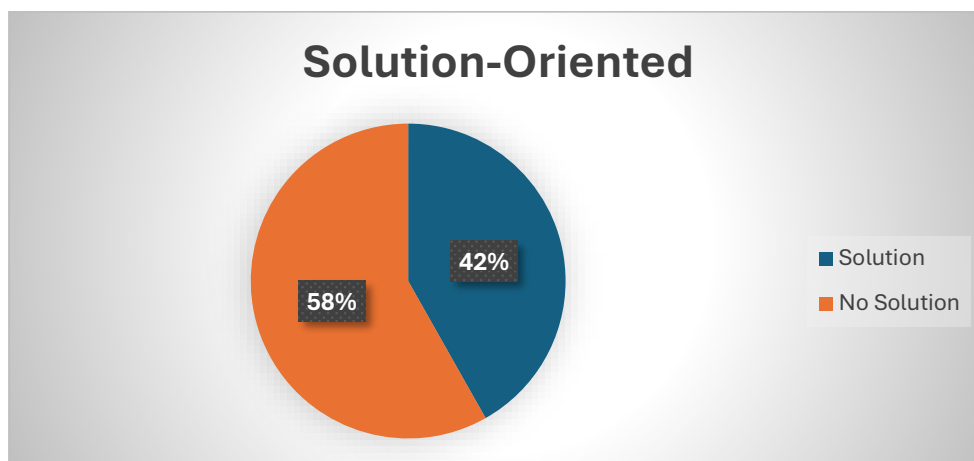
“So the support sometimes comes unexpectedly, and cool-headed journalists, especially those who are more supportive, act as a balancing force,” she said in an interview on September 13, 2023.

In the FGD on January 28, 2023, the Chairman of the Supreme Council for Indonesian Beliefs (MLKI) Engkus Ruswana said, “The role of service to the adherent community cannot be separated from the role of media and NGOs so far.”

#### Solution-Oriented

The principle of solution-oriented in peace journalism, also known as “Solution-Focused Journalism,” emphasizes a news approach that not only reports on problems or conflicts but also focuses on solutions, recovery, and positive efforts to address these issues. This concept strives to balance news by showcasing the positive aspects and potential solutions to the problems faced. Journalism seeks to report on individuals, communities, or initiatives that have successfully overcome social, economic, or environmental issues, providing insights and inspiration to readers. The goal is to empower readers with information that not only highlights problems, but also shows successful methods for overcoming them. This was expected to motivate readers to participate in these solutions. Instead of focusing solely on who is wrong or not working, peace journalism aims to highlight shared responsibilities and positive possibilities for the future.

From the quantitative coding of 110 news items related to the “solution-oriented” principle, it was found that the number of news items that did not offer solutions was higher (64) than those that did offer solutions (46 articles), as seen in Figure 6.



**Fig 6.** Solution-oriented articles.



Riana Afriadi stated that exposing social issues to find solutions without adding unnecessary “spices” reflects a solution orientation: “But now we package it in the form of video reportage, so we have some videos that are quite in-depth about village journalism, about local issues in the village, and they are in video form, that’s one aspect.”

Regarding the solution orientation offered by the media, informant Dewi Kanti mentioned that there are strategies implemented by the community and journalists to present a humanistic narrative and build historical awareness and cultural identity as a form of solution to existing conflicts: “So, for journalist matters, I leave it to Mas Oki to monitor the journalists. That’s how it is.”

### Framing analysis

Using the Pan and Kosicki framing model, researchers analyzed how international, national, and local media outlets structured news or issues related to the Sunda Wiwitan conflict in Cigugur, West Java. News items were purposely selected from all collected news (110 articles) with hard news and features types. News items were selected based on international, national, and local online media categories.

Overall, international media, including *bbc.com*, utilizes rhetoric, language style, and idioms to communicate the complexity of issues, construct a strong narrative about the experiences of indigenous communities, and influence how readers perceive the situation. Through these elements, the articles effectively convey the urgency of the issue and invite readers to reflect on its broader implications for discrimination and tolerance in society.

The framing analysis shows that the national cyber media present news about the conflict involving the Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community in a way that emphasizes constructive solutions, the commitment of the involved parties, and the crucial role of the National Human Rights Commission as a mediator. This gives readers the impression that, despite the conflict, concrete steps are being taken to find a peaceful and fair resolution, prioritize human rights, and maintain social harmony.

Some local media, such as news framing on *Ciremaity.com*, emphasizes the conflict dynamics between the application of regulations by local governments and the aspirations and traditions of the Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community. Through organized syntax, detailed scripting, themes that reflect the conflict between regulation and tradition, and rhetoric that shows tension, this news article presents a complex narrative of how government regulations can clash with local cultural practices. The implications of this framing show the need for broader dialogue and mediation between the government and indigenous communities to find solutions that respect both parties. Some framed the

issue by focusing solely on protests from intolerant groups that led the local government to conduct sealings.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

### Conclusions

Research on cyber media reporting on ethnic and religious conflicts in Indonesia, focusing on the Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community conflict, has provided significant insights into the implementation of peace journalism principles. Most of the articles were classified as hard news, suggesting a preference for immediate factual reporting over in-depth analyses. However, the application of peace journalism principles, namely peace-oriented, truth-oriented, community-oriented, and solution-oriented principles, indicates a nuanced approach to covering such conflicts.

- (1) **Peace-Oriented Approach:** The quantitative analysis shows a balanced coverage between the physical and non-physical impacts of the conflict, with a lesser focus on violence, indicating an effort to promote peace and understanding rather than exacerbating tensions.
- (2) **Truth-Oriented Reporting:** There is a predominance of opinions over factual reporting, with most news articles relying on a single source. This could potentially limit the depth and balance of coverage, emphasizing the need for a more fact-based and multi-perspective approach to accurately represent the conflict.
- (3) **Community-Oriented Perspective:** The data indicated a strong representation of the indigenous community’s voice in the news, aligning with the community-oriented principle of peace journalism, which aims to reflect the community’s perspectives and contribute to constructive solutions.
- (4) **Solution-Oriented Content:** There is a close balance between articles that offer solutions and those that do not, highlighting a trend towards reporting that seeks to address and resolve issues rather than merely presenting them.

### Recommendations

- (1) **Enhance balance in reporting:** Encourage a more balanced approach to truth-oriented reporting by increasing the use of multiple sources and factual information to provide a comprehensive view of conflicts.
- (2) **Promote in-depth analysis:** Increase the number of feature articles that explore issues in depth and provide context, background, and analysis to foster better understanding among readers.
- (3) **Strengthen solution-focused journalism:** Media outlets should aim to produce more content that not only highlights problems but also focuses on

potential solutions, recovery efforts, and positive actions to inspire and empower the community.

- (4) **Training and awareness:** Conduct training for journalists and editors on peace journalism principles to enhance their skills in reporting conflicts in a way that promotes peace, understanding and reconciliation.
- (5) **Engage diverse perspectives:** Encourage the inclusion of diverse viewpoints in the coverage of conflicts to ensure a more rounded and empathetic portrayal of issues that can contribute to peacebuilding efforts.

### Acknowledgements

The authors would like to thank IPB University, Indonesian cyber media journalists and members of Sunda Wiwitan indigenous community for their supports during the research.

### Declaration of interest

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

### Funding statement

The research was funded privately by the authors and without financial supports from any companies or institutions.

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