Protest sentiment from newspaper coverages and the success of the coup

Previous assumption: protest offers information leaks, and it might not help the opposition leadership. However, this assumption was doubted because according to our reading of the dataset and public literature, it appeared to us that the protests are mainly about people’s daily lives (Latov, 2017), while the success of the coup depends on inner-government organizations. There was a limited indication of how information leaks from grassroots protests could impact inner government organizations.

In this research, we are adopting the sentiment of protest, instead of the information of protest. For one, sentiment is a good indication of social problems. Second, it indicates a culture’s ability to mobilize/civic engagement. Third, when it is associated with coup, which is a high-level political change, the relationship between protest sentiment and coup can indicate an area’s level of democracy. Overall, it allows us to investigate the deeper social and political culture of a country.

Very limited literature about protest sentiment’s relationship to coup. In protest sentiment literature, a lot of research about social media, but very few on newspapers.

There are three approaches to studying emotions: (1) emotions as a social construct; (2) emotions as methods/ways of mobilization; (3) emotions as a commodity.

The sentiment of protests indicates:

* Social problems (data reading)
* The ability to mobilize the mass (Yang, 2000)
* News coverages: the press’ interests to (de)legitimize protests. Legitimized protests from the press may cause less emotional reactions from the audience (Kilgo and Harlow, 2021).

The relationship between protest sentiment to coup indicates:

* Level of democracy: if protests could cause erosion of the fundamental principles/civic engagement where consensus was based (Kosov, et. al, 2020).
* Indirectly test the assumption about whether or not protest causes information leaks that are helpful to the leadership.

RQ1:

Level of democracy (protest data – coup success)

RQ2:

how newspapers intervene in the process of “protest mobilization – coup success” via sentimental management (protest data – newspaper sentiment – coup success)

RQ3:

Newspaper intervention and the level of democracy

Bibliography

**Kosov, G. V., Gapich, A. E., Minkina, O. V., Stankevich, G. V., & Gukasov, A. V. (2020). Socioeconomic Potential of Protest Sentiment in the Stavropol Territory in the Context of the Process of Erosion of Fundamental Principles of Social Consensus. In E. G. Popkova & K. V. Vodenko (Eds.), *Public Administration and Regional Management in Russia: Challenges and Prospects in a Multicultural Region* (pp. 363–370). Springer International Publishing.** [**https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-38497-5\_40**](https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-38497-5_40)

The erosion of consensus between the authorities and society is manifested not in the form of one-time individual campaigns, but generally in mass proportions due to the belief that only a mass expression of dissatisfaction is able to change the situation of injustice. The increase in quantity and quality of social protests, expansion of territories covered by them, is an indicator of erosion of fundamental principles on which this type of consensus was based.

Living conditions – sentiment and distrust – whether or not to continue to support government programs under difficulties – if not, increased civic engagement.

**Nguyen, H., & Gokhale, S. (2022). An efficient approach to identifying anti-government sentiment on Twitter during Michigan protests. *PeerJ Computer Science*, *8*, e1127.** [**https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj-cs.1127**](https://doi.org/10.7717/peerj-cs.1127)

Anti-government sentiment on social media has the goal of fundraising.

Thematic AI coding.

**Kilgo, Danielle K.; Harlow, Summer. JOURNALISM STUDIES; SEP 10 2021; 22; 12; p1627-p1647.** [**https://web-p-ebscohost-com.proxy2.library.illinois.edu/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=3&sid=102b347f-2c6f-40dc-be8d-ef33ad5cfbf8%40redis**](https://web-p-ebscohost-com.proxy2.library.illinois.edu/ehost/pdfviewer/pdfviewer?vid=3&sid=102b347f-2c6f-40dc-be8d-ef33ad5cfbf8%40redis)

This analysis of Facebook news posts of protests by mainstream U.S. news organizations contributes to our understanding of how social media’s engagement affordances work in cohort with journalists’ use of emotional appeals to legitimize some protests and delegitimize others. Results show posts encourage the mobilization of some protests more than others, and media frames and emotional linguistic devices might contribute to a spectrum of delegitimizing framing effects. Legitimizing features significantly decrease emotional reactions from audiences, leading to more neutral but potentially less engaging audience reception and response.

***The Egyptian protest movement in the twittersphere: An investigation of dual sentiment pathways of communication-Web of Science Core Collection*. (n.d.). Retrieved June 30, 2023, from** [**https://www-webofscience-com.proxy2.library.illinois.edu/wos/woscc/full-record/WOS:000631328400001?SID=USW2EC0EDA01CmntcDyDf80BIbxPC**](https://www-webofscience-com.proxy2.library.illinois.edu/wos/woscc/full-record/WOS:000631328400001?SID=USW2EC0EDA01CmntcDyDf80BIbxPC)

We find that anger, fear, pride and hope were the prime sentiments regarding intention to or support of protest, regardless of language (Egyptian and English).

**Gainous, J., Vélez Serrano, M., & Wagner, K. M. (2023). Protesting With Feeling in Puerto Rico: Twitter and El Verano Del 19. *Political Research Quarterly*, *76*(2), 465–480. https://doi-org.proxy2.library.illinois.edu/10.1177/10659129231161286**

Our results suggest that protesters frequently tweeted with both positive and negative **sentiment** when calling for the governor's resignation, but ultimately, those tweets couched in negative **sentiment**, when compared to those with positive **sentiment**, had the most reach. That said, those tweets including either positive or negative **sentiment** had more reach than those absent **sentiment**.

Latov, Y. (2017). The specter of a “revolutionary situation”: Protest actions and protest sentiments in Russia today. *Social Sciences (Russian Federation)*, *48*(2), 62–79. Scopus. <https://doi.org/10.21557/SSC.48907818>

Analysis of the results of a survey carried out in early spring of 2016 and their comparison with the previous “waves” of the survey show that in the near term (the next year or two) a “revolutionary situation” in Russia will remain only a distant menace and mass protest actions will be only a potential threat, not a tangible reality. This conclusion is bolstered by the fact that 2015 saw only a moderate level of personal participation in various protest actions. Besides, current protest actions are prompted mainly by economic factors as people protest against loss of jobs, price growth, etc., not against the government. While many protest against the current socioeconomic “rules of the game,” their protest is not consolidated; protest against existing political institutions has its “leaders” (the liberal opposition), but this protest has a far narrower base.

Papacharissi, Z. (2016). Affective publics and structures of storytelling: Sentiment, events and mediality. *Information, Communication & Society*, *19*(3), 307–324. <https://doi.org/10.1080/1369118X.2015.1109697>

Affective publics support connective yet not necessarily collective action.