Armed Conflict Between Hamas and Israel

Introduction

The recent armed conflict between Hamas and Israel has been a focal point for major news agencies, each providing unique perspectives on the events unfolding in the Middle East. This study examines reports from five prominent newspapers: Business Insider, TIME, The Telegraph, BBC News, and Statesman. The analysis spans over a month, with each newspaper's coverage carefully curated to include articles containing keywords such as 'Hamas' or 'Israel.'

Process for WEB Scrapping

For all the newspapers I have gone to their respective world news or Middle East news page and iterated through all the pages for at least 20 pages to cover a minimum one month and then have only included those news that has the keywords Hamas or Israel and saved them in dictionaries:

bi_dict: Business Insider; time_dict: TIME, tg_dict: Telegraph; sm_dict: Statesman; bbc_dict: BBC News

I meticulously partitioned each dictionary into two equivalent segments in the second phase. I conducted a comprehensive analysis for all newspapers to trace the dynamic shifts in focus over time and examined the associations between each topic like aid, war, trade, defense, and other words within the corresponding newspapers and all newspapers combined. This thorough examination yielded valuable insights.

1. Dominant Topics Across News Agencies

The first significant finding lies in the identification of dominant topics across the news agencies. For example:

- *BBC's* coverage evolves from international relations to legal aspects, reflecting a broad spectrum of perspectives.

- *Business Insider* maintains a military-centric focus, delving into technological aspects and IDF operations.

- *Time* starts with political figures and legal considerations, gradually shifting towards humanitarian concerns and ceasefires.

- *The Telegraph* emphasizes international relations, court cases, and the broader impact of the conflict.

- *Statesman* centers around the defense minister, military control, UNRWA, and allegations against Israel.

2. Variation in Coverage

Examining the variation in coverage across the newspapers reveals nuanced differences:

- *BBC* emphasizes international relations and legal aspects.

- *Business Insider* concentrates on military operations and technological aspects.

- *Time* covers political figures, legal considerations, and humanitarian aspects.

- *The Telegraph* emphasizes international relations and legal aspects.

- *Statesman* focuses on the defense minister, UNRWA, and allegations against Israel.

3. Common Themes

Despite differences, common themes like Gaza, Israeli actions, and casualties emerge across various agencies, indicating universally recognized aspects of the conflict.

4. Entity Recognition

Named Entity Recognition (NER) identifies key figures and organizations covered by each news agency, such as Netanyahu, UNRWA, IDF, and South Africa.

5. Language Usage

Each news agency demonstrates distinctive language usage. For instance:

- *Business Insider* employs words like 'night,' 'background,' 'display,' and 'experienced,' suggesting a focus on context and human experiences.

- *Time*'s use of words like 'food,' 'theory,' and 'populations' indicates a broad exploration of topics beyond direct war coverage.

- *The Telegraph* utilizes terms like 'Israeli,' 'people,' 'military,' and 'Gaza,' aligning closely with the conflict's core themes.

- *Statesman*'s focus on 'law,' 'government,' 'Netanyahu,' and 'voters' indicates an emphasis on political and legal dimensions.

- *BBC*'s inclusion of 'un,' 'says,' and 'even' showcases a diverse and inclusive approach.

6. Word2Vec Model Analysis - Insights into 'Trade'

The Word2Vec model provides insights into the contextual usage of 'trade.' Associations include opposition, violence, regional references, economic impact, motion, tanks, complexity, and trade intersecting with political entities.

7. Insights into 'Defense'

Word associations like 'emigration,' 'spirit,' 'poised,' 'wearing,' 'relief,' 'unpaid,' 'extremist,' 'shia,' and 'marginalized' provide nuanced insights into the multifaceted discussions around defense.

Conclusion

This comprehensive analysis offers a nuanced understanding of how major news agencies cover the Hamas-Israel conflict. This study provides valuable insights into the diverse perspectives shaping global narratives on this complex geopolitical event by delving into dominant topics, variations in coverage, common themes, entity recognition, language usage, and Word2Vec model insights.