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Module 10 CNA

Sup.

World’s on fire it feels like. Terrorist attack in Vienna, and it’s reported on by CNN, Reuters, and the Washington Post as well as a lot of other sources – I would have used the New York Times in place of CNN if I was able to find a proper article that wasn’t just a live update feed or a video. Due to the fact that it is the aftermath of a terrorist attack, the details are a little bit fuzzy still as it takes some time for these things to clear up; however, given that Reuters and Washington Post are consistently rated as extremely factual sources as well as the fact that, as of the time of writing (2:30am), all three sources had been updated within the past hour, the information presented in all three of them is likely as current and as accurate as these sources can give us. It’s hard to state which source, of the three, seems to leave out the most facts. Initially, it looked as though the Washington Post had neglected to mention that there were multiple attackers; however, that was an error on my part and was just overlooked in a paragraph I accidentally skipped as nothing called my eye to it. The only article that seems to have the most information is, in fact, the Reuters article, which mentions explicitly that six different locations were attacked in Vienna by gunmen, though it doesn’t mention that the killed gunman (a detail all three articles cover) was wearing a fake explosive belt.

With factuality out of mind, we can look a bit at the bias present in the articles. Perhaps due to the international nature of this event, as well as how recently it had occurred alongside the fact that it’s an ongoing event, there does not seem to be a traditional left-or-right leaning bias present in any of the articles, as they all appear to lack any explicit language designed to steer the mind in one direction or the other. The Washington Post, of the three articles, feels perhaps a bit more biased towards presenting this information to an American source, as they bring up Trump’s reaction to the event rather quickly within the article while CNN doesn’t include his reaction at all – perhaps to paint him as uncaring or perhaps to just focus on international world leaders that are on the same continent as the attack – and Reuters, the other source to bring up Trump’s statements, does so after bringing up statements by other world leaders and does so later in the article.

The fact that this attack seems to be so well-planned out, with reports reading that the terrorists were using automatic assault rifles, makes me question any connections to the ongoing unrest involving Islamic refugees in France, but at the same time, doesn’t feel like too much of a coincidence for these to not have been planned together? Is there some sort of goal that stirring up chaos in first world nations this close to the supposed-leaders-of-the-free-world’s election season hopes to achieve, or is that putting too much value on America? Hell, will this even influence American politics, even if it might be too late to influence the election at all?

<https://www.reuters.com/article/austria-attack-int/at-least-one-killed-in-vienna-attack-involving-multiple-assailants-locations-idUSKBN27I2P7>  
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/europe/austria-attacks-gunman-islamic-state/2020/11/03/cbb4e6ec-1d6f-11eb-ad53-4c1fda49907d_story.html>  
<https://www.cnn.com/2020/11/02/europe/vienna-shooting-intl/index.html>