Twitter (and other?) coverage of human rights agreement ratification

The basic argument I am aiming to test is that countries' ratification of human rights agreements (HRAs) generates good press. Press needn't designate the media (though it could and in many countries I would expect it to!).

Phase 1 is data collection
1. **Which treaties/countries?** At the end of this document, you will find a list of somewhat recent human rights agreement ratifications. Those treaty-country combinations are our focus.
2. **Where to look?** My suggestion had been to look on Twitter, but I am also happy to expand to any other options you can think of. I am not sure if it's best to search manually or set up a search of the Twittersphere? Facebook might also be a good option but of course those will only show up if Public or your friend.
3. **When to look.** Search dates are a bit tricky. If it isn't too onerous from a data collection perspective, we could search 5 years pre-ratification, and say 1 year post-ratification. There will probably not be a whole lot.
4. **What to look for.** What I am trying to get is a comprehensive(ish) dataset of tweets/articles/etc that talk about the relevant rights enshrined in the agreement (see end of document). So, some of these will talk about the behaviour but not the treaty. For instance, there might be an article about torture, but it makes no reference to the Convention Against Torture (CAT). Definitely keep it. We also want to make sure to get articles about the CAT. In theory, those should pop up when we search torture, but who knows. This immediately raises problems of course. When I searched Twitter for torture, I got stuff like "this baseball game is torture, man!" And when I searched for CAT, I got some articles about the Convention and some about the animal. We may have to do triage of these by hand; I am not sure! In Fiji, there was also some coverage of animal torture. Sigh…
5. **What to keep.** Always keep anything that seems remotely relevant. At worst, we drop it.
6. **What to code and how.** Please copy the text of each tweet/article (minus ads etc.) as a text file. Sometimes you can do this by just saving as html, but it depends on the site. At the top of the file, please record the date e.g., 2021-18-Jun) on the first line. Eventually, I will need to have a human go in and code things like who wrote the tweet/article, but that can wait for now. If that is something you're interested in doing, please let me know. It's a little bit clunky but I am not really sure there's a good automated way to do it. I guess automatically searching for particular terms is something we could consider, but I suspect that might lead to a fair amount of miscoding. Curious what you think.
7. **How to save the data.** I think it makes sense to have a separate folder for each country-treaty combination. It may end up being the case that for countries like Oman, who ratify multiple agreements in one day, we need to weave them together. E.g., if some UN agency tweets "Congratulations on ratifying treaty X and Y" in the same tweet, we will have to figure out how to handle that in terms of data saving.

This is really just a skeleton; please let me know what questions you have.

Treaty	Country	Date of ratification	Potential search terms
ICCPR	Qatar	21 May 2018	ICCPR, civil rights, civil and political rights, civil liberties, free, fair, rights, migrants
ICCPR	Fiji	1 Aug 2018	""
ICESCR	Qatar	21 May 2018	ICESCR, economic rights, social rights, cultural rights, migrants
ICESCR	Fiji	1 Aug 2018	""
ICESCR	Myanmar	Signed 15 Jul 2015 Ratified 6 Oct 2017	""
ICESCR	Oman	9 Jun 2020	""
CERD	Angola	Signed 24 Sep 2013 Ratified 2 Oct 2019	CERD, racial discrimination, race, ethnicity, minorities
CERD	Singapore	Signed 19 Oct 201 Ratified 27 Nov 2017	CERD, racial discrimination, race, ethnicity, minorities
CAT	Central African Republic	11 Oct 2016	Convention Against Torture, Torture Convention, CAT, impunity
CAT	Oman	9 Jun 2020	""
CAT	The Gambia	28 Sep 2018	""
CAT	Comoros	25 May 2017	""
CAT	South Sudan	30 Apr 2015	""
Genocide	Mauritius	8 Jul 2019	Genocide, ethnic cleansing, impunity, atrocities
Genocide	Turkmenistan	26 Dec 2018	
Genocide	Malawi	14 Jul 2017	
CMW	The Gambia	28 Sep 2018	Migrant, workers
CEDAW	South Sudan	30 Apr 2015	Women, female, girl
CRC	South Sudan	23 Jan 2015	Children

ICCPR: International Covenant on Civil & Political Rights:
https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/ccpr.aspx

ICESCR: International Covenant on Economic, Social & Cultural Rights:
https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cescr.aspx

CERD: International Convention on Racial Discrimination:
https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cerd.aspx

CAT: Convention Against Torture:
https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cat.aspx

Genocide: Convention Against Genocide
https://www.un.org/en/genocideprevention/documents/atrocity-crimes/Doc.1_Convention%20on%20the%20Prevention%20and%20Punishment%20of%20the%20Crime%20of%20Genocide.pdf

CMW: Convention on Migrant Workers
https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cmw.aspx

CEDAW: Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women
https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/cedaw.aspx

CRC: Convention on the Rights of the Child
https://www.ohchr.org/en/professionalinterest/pages/crc.aspx