Hate Speech in French and German comment sections in the context of migration. An annotation protocol.

Table of contents

A: Preliminary remarks

Units of analysis

To consider the context of a comment, this codebook (also known as annotation protocol) has a hierarchical structure. Specifically, two levels of analysis are examined and described independently of each other:

1. *article level*
   The first level is that of the news story, i.e., the article.

2. *comment level*
   The second level comprises the individual comment in response to the news story (or in response to another comment). Many categories or classes are coded/annotated on the statement level within a comment. A statement is not necessarily bound to a sentence. Instead, the crucial factor is how long a single thought is described. A sentence can therefore contain several statements, e.g., evaluations of one or more targets.

Context unit

For this content analysis, the news story as well as the entire previous discussion thread up to the comment itself is defined as the context unit (textual context). For example, in a comment like "Throw them all out" beneath an article about migration the "them" is most likely to refer to refugees.
In addition, sometimes the social context has to be considered to some extent in order to be able to fully grasp the meaning the comment is published, for example: the word "do-gooder"("Gutmensch") became established as an insult of people who help refugees.

General coding/annotation instructions

There are variables that are coded for every article or comment and some only, if they are present in the text instance. Only statements that convey an evaluation (e.g., of a person or a group), contain requests or tendencies for actions, make a comparison of different groups or represent an explicit emotional expression will be considered for annotation. For this reason, the codebook is divided into the following modules, of which not all have to apply to a given comment:
- Negative evaluations of a target
- Positive evaluation of a target
- Requests or tendencies to act
- Contrasts (comparison of or contrast between opposing groups)
- explicit emotional expression

Explicit and implicit statements
The evaluation of a target can be expressed, for example, by speaking about personality traits or actions in a generalizing way or by using offensive terms (e.g., "nigger", "cunt", etc.). However, evaluations that unfold their meaning based on contextual knowledge of the communication situation - i.e., the article, course of discussion or comment itself - are also coded as **explicit** in this study. If for example, a comparison of different agents is brought up, an evaluation can be expressed explicitly, e.g.: in contrast to all other parties, the AfD has foreseen a certain scenario. In this case, anticipating something attains an explicit positive

evaluation or praise. Similarly, if a user states that everything used to be good and that the influx of refugees has changed everything this is coded as well as explicit. A change is not negative per se, but it gains its negative quality through the contrast with earlier times. It may be necessary to annotate contrast (c_contr) in these statements if it is clearly a comparison of opposing groups or times. However, this is not an automatism. More detailed explanations will follow in Module: contrasting of groups (c_contr).

Implicit evaluations are only present if there is no explicit positive or negative evaluation either in the comment itself or in the immediate context. In some comments, an evaluation is conveyed more subtly, e.g., by using ambiguous language, euphemisms (e.g., the word "gold nuggets" to address refugees), etc. to mask the evaluation or avoid censoring. In these cases, statements are coded as implicit evaluation.

Several annotations per comment are possible
In the case of a comment or a statement in a comment, it may be that several annotations per module have to be made: For example, if several targets are evaluated, each of them have to be coded separately. If content is repeated in a comment, it will also be coded several times (e.g., the media is accused of "opinion manipulation" twice).

Coding process itself
All annotations are performed with the help of the web-based annotation tool HUMAN[1] (for further information about the tool see Wolf et al., 2020).

---

[1] Wolf, M., Ruiter, D., d'Sa, A. G., Reiners, L., Alexandersson, J., & Klakow, D. (2020). HUMAN: Hierarchical Universal Modular ANnotator. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2010.01080*

B: Article variables

What is the source of the news story?	
Variable name	outlet
Analysis level	Article
Description of the variable	Here the source of the news story (in most cases articles) is annotated or automatically saved by the annotation tool respectively.
Code	1 Tagesschau 2 Zeit 3 Welt 4 Focus 5 Compact 6 Junge Freiheit 7 Epoch Times 8 France Info 9 Le Monde 10 Figaro 11 Valeurs Actuelles 12 Riposte Laïque 13 AgoraVox

Is the author of the article emphasizing facts or an opinion?	
Variable name	n_2
Analysis level	Article
Description of the variable	This variable refers to whether the author of the news story just emphasizes the facts or expresses an explicit opinion.

Code	1 fact-oriented
	   Factual style in which primarily current events or statements are presented (e.g., report, news, announcement)
	2 Opinion oriented
	   Opinion-emphasized style, in which above all a specific point of view on a current event or topic is represented (e.g., comment, column, interview)

Further explications	For journalistic texts that report factually on current events and clearly identify different opinions and quotations as such, 1 is coded. Authors of factual articles, for example, clearly mark when opinions are expressed (e.g., by mentioning the source of the quote) or disclose sources as evidence of their statements. If it cannot be clearly determined whether the media contribution is written in a neutral way or whether it nevertheless represents a single position, 2 is coded.

What is the topic of the article?	
Variable name	n_3
Analysis level	Article
Description of the variable	This variable refers to the main topic(s) of the media contribution. It is usually brought up in the title or the first paragraph of the news story.
Code	0 Flight/migration NOT main topic (→ END) 1 Management of immigration and political actions concerning asylum policy *e.g., rescue at sea by NGOs, flight routes, statistics on immigration, family reunification, safe countries of origin, expulsion/deportation, etc.* 2 Security and safety *e.g., border controls, border security, Crimes or violence committed by and against foreigners, risk of terror attacks, military conflicts or wars* 3 Justice *e.g., reporting on court hearings; reports on crimes are coded under '2 security aspects' unless they already deal with legal consequences of the crimes* 4 Integration and cohabitation (focus on civil society) *e.g., "both sides", i.e., the arrival society and the fugitives, are mentioned; it is a question of positive or negative aspects or examples of living together, "everyday behavior", etc.* *e.g., behavior of the (Muslim) refugees/migrants in everyday life* 5 Culture and religion *e.g., position of women in other cultures* 6 Education *incl. language acquisition and education/training of refugees/migrants* 7 Labor market and economy *incl. employment of refugees/migrants; shortage of skilled labor* 8 Social issues *incl. accommodation and care of refugees/migrants; distribution issues/equitable distribution in Germany; demographic change in Germany* 9 Health aspects *e.g., spread of diseases, reduction of vaccination coverage, hygiene in shelters, if health aspects are the focus and not the shelter situation per se* 10 Environment *e.g., consequences of climate change or natural disasters as causes of flight* 11 Media coverage of migrants/migration 99 Subject cannot be identified

Further explications	Regarding [0] When is a migration reference available? The reference to migration is interpreted generously. Articles in which migration is not the main topic but is nevertheless discussed to a greater or lesser extent - e.g., an article on the expulsion of foreign clan members, an article on the AfD in which refugees are named as the cause of various problems, or an arson attack on a foreigners' office - are also coded. If there is not only one topic but several topics, the coding depends on the relative length of the topic compared to others: The topic that is discussed most extensively in the article is then coded first. A second topic is only coded if it also takes up a significant part of the article. The codes apply if the topic is discussed at national level, but also if the topic is discussed at international level.

Which agents are mentioned in the article?	
Variable name	n_4
Analysis level	Article
Description of the variable	Here the first three main agents of the article are coded. Main agents are mentioned at least twice in the article or very prominently. The article starts with the teaser text.

Code	1 Migrants and the phenomenon "migration"; foreigners in Germany/France
	   111 Residents of other countries
	
	 2 Agents in the political sphere (if no other specific code applies)
	   211 CDU/CSU politicians or parties, Union – LR
	   212 SPD politician – PS
	   213 Bündnis 90/Die Grünen politicians – Les Verts
	   214 The left-wing politicians
	   215 FDP politician – En Marche!
	   216 AfD politician – RN/FN
	   217 Government
	   218 Opposition
	   219 Left-wing political camp, also left-green or red-green
	   220 Right political camp
	   221 Left-wing extremists
	   222 Right-wing extremists
	   223 Political institutions and public authorities (national and international, e.g., BAMF, EU)
	   224 States
	   225 Foreign politicians/party/government
	
	 3 The native population
	   e.g., the German/French population, the "ordinary" people, etc.
	   members, citizens' initiatives or movements, volunteers, etc.

	4 Agents from the media sector *e.g., journalists and media organizations, public institutions and specific media offerings (e.g., individual programs), also author of the article* 5 Civil society agents *e.g., NGOs, associations, aid organizations and social movements (Amnesty International, Doctors without Borders, Bread for the World, SOS Mediterranée) incl. speakers or their representatives* 6 Religious agents *e.g., religions and religious communities or their representatives, including "Islam"* 7 Scientific agents *e.g., experts* 8 Police 9 Courts *(also evaluations concerning the legal system)* 10 Military 99 Other agent or not determinable
Further explications	You can recognize an agent by the fact that he acts in some form. For this purpose, an action can be attributed to him in the article or a statement can be quoted by him. Main agents are mentioned at least twice in the article or are represented prominently. The codes ranging from 211 to 222 refer exclusively to political agents in Germany/France, the codes 223 to 225 to foreign political agents. Code 5 is intended for civil society agents only. If a "normal" individual (e.g., a victim of a crime, without focus on the fact that he/she is a German/French citizen) is reported, then 99 is coded.

C: Comment variables

For comments, many variables are coded at the statement level. A comment can contain multiple statements. What is crucial is how long a single thought or an evaluation is described. Therefore, it is possible that a sentence can contain several evaluations.

What kind of comment is it?	
Variable name	c_usmod
Analysis level	Comment
Description of the variable	This filter variable captures whether a comment is written by a user or by the editorial staff.
Code	**The message is** 0 a moderating comment 1 a user comment
Further explications	This variable refers only to moderation measures by the medium (editor, community manager, etc.), not by other users.
Examples for coding	[0] *Deleted. Please refrain from excessive polemic. Thank you, the editorial staff/rc*

If c_usmod = 0 → Which moderation measure is taken?	
Variable name	c_mod
Analysis level	omment
Description of the variable	This variable captures what kind of moderating measure the editorial staff took
Code	**The moderator is** 1 answering a question (→ END) 2 asking a question (→ END) 3 correction in an objective manner (→ END) 4 defending on one's own account (→ END) 5 appreciation (praise, gratitude) (→ END) 6 humorous answer (→ END) 7 reminder of debate culture, referring to the netiquette, announcements of consequences (→ END) 99 other moderating intervention (→ END)
Further explications	The variable refers only to moderation measures by the medium, not by other users.
Examples for coding	[7] *Deleted. Please refrain from excessive polemic. Thank you, the editorial staff/rc*

If c_usmod = 1 → Is a reference to the media article included in the comment?	
Variable name	c_refn
Analysis level	Comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures whether the comment *explicitly refers to the news piece* under which it is posted.
Code	**The user** 0 makes no reference to the news article 1 approval of the article 2 refusal of the article 3 agrees with the article, but also rejects it, ambivalent reference to the topic of the article 4 establishes a reference to the topic of the article (without evaluating it); for example, further comments on the topic of the article, additions, or news story is the reason for the expression of one`s own opinion which is not approving or negative with regard to the article 99 cannot be decided
Further explications	This decision can only be made after reading the whole article. In order to decide whether there is agreement with the article or only a reference to the general topic, one can be guided by whether explicit praise or agreement is given to the author, the medium or the viewpoints of various agents mentioned in the article.
Examples for coding	[2] *"One of its effects was that the head of the Federal Office for the Protection of the Constitution, Hans-Georg Maaßen, lost his post." It is rather correct that Mrs. Merkel & Co. took his statement at that time as an opportunity to get rid of an unpleasant "Querkopf". As is well known, Mr. Maaßen's statement was confirmed by various authorities/officials in Chemnitz.*

Does the comment relate to another comment and if so, how?	
Variable name	c_refc
Analysis level	Comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures whether a comment *explicitly refers to another comment*.
Code	**The user** 0 does not refer to another comment 1 agreement with or other positive reaction to another comment 2 disagreement with or other negative reaction to another comment 99 cannot tell

Further explications	This direct answer to another comment can be recognized e.g., by the hierarchical structure of a thread or by the explicit use of the name of another user.
Examples for coding	[1] *@user truer words have never been spoken.* *As others have already mentioned in the discussion here, our politicians need to change their course.* [2] *Are you kidding, name? You can't be serious! (…)*

What is the topic of the comment?	
Variable name	c_topic
Analysis level	comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures what the topic of a comment is.
Code	1 Management of immigration and political actions concerning asylum policy *e.g., rescue at sea by NGOs, flight routes, statistics on immigration, family reunification, safe countries of origin, expulsion/deportation, etc.* 2 Security and safety *e.g., border controls, border security, Crimes or violence committed by and against foreigners, risk of terror attacks, military conflicts or wars* 3 Justice *e.g., reporting on court hearings; reports on crimes are coded under '2 security aspects' unless they already deal with legal consequences of the crimes* 4 Integration and cohabitation (focus on civil society) *e.g., "both sides", i.e. the arrival society and the fugitives, are mentioned; it is a question of positive or negative aspects or examples of living together, "everyday behavior", etc.* *e.g., behavior of the (Muslim) refugees/migrants in everyday life* 5 Culture and religion *e.g., position of women in other cultures* 6 Education *incl. language acquisition and education/training of refugees/migrants* 7 Labor market and economy *incl. employment of refugees/migrants; shortage of skilled labor* 8 Social issues *incl. accommodation and care of refugees/migrants; distribution issues/equitable distribution in Germany; demographic change in Germany*

	9 Health aspects *e.g., spread of diseases, reduction of vaccination coverage, hygiene in shelters, if health aspects are the focus and not the shelter situation per se* 10 Environment *e.g., consequences of climate change or natural disasters as causes of flight* 11 Media coverage 99 Topic cannot be identified
Further explications	The codes apply if the topic is discussed on a national level but also if the topic is discussed on an international level. The topic is coded only once per comment.

Amplifier

Are there any amplifiers in the comment?	
Variable name	c_amp
Analysis level	Comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures whether a comment contains any reinforcing elements.
Code	0 no 1 yes 99 cannot tell
Further explications	Stylistic means such as punctuation or capitalization ("SHOUTING") can serve as a reinforcing element for the evaluation. The punctuation serve as a amplifier if it is used more than necessary such as ??!?, !!! (but not ...).
Examples for coding	[1] *You want to destroy our country! How sick are you? Have you gone insane? They are overrunning us... do you still feel anything???? Do you want to take all of Africa??? Just use your common sense....we can't take in ALL of them!!!!*

Module: negative evaluation (c_ne)

The following categories or classes are coded when there is a negative evaluation of an agent or the attribution of a negative characteristic (negative characterization and/or attribution of guilt and/or accusation, etc.). If facts (factual allegations in the case of a specific crime) are described, nothing is coded. A target can be negatively evaluated because s/he is seen as a burden or threat, or because s/he does not live up to expectations (e.g., inaction on the part of politicians) or because s/he harms other agents. Often, the context of the news story or previous comments is crucial to understand whether the assessment or attribution of a characteristic is to be understood negatively.

If the above-mentioned aspects are present, the first step is to decide whether the evaluation is implicitly or explicitly phrased.

Is there a negative evaluation of an agent?	
Variable name	c_ne_1
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures if there is an evaluation and if so, how this evaluation is expressed.
Code	0 no 1 yes, explicit 2 yes, implicit 99 cannot tell
Further explications	Implicit means that a statement contains an evaluation that is not expressed openly and explicitly, but subtly and can be derived through contextual knowledge, even if it cannot be derived explicitly from individual words and can therefore be explicitly coded. Contextual knowledge does not include the textual context (i.e., the course of the discussion or the comment), but background knowledge that a coder has acquired through his or her socialization (e.g., the knowledge that AfD politicians are often insulted as "Nazis"). The variable is not the same as the irony and sarcasm with which users may wish to emphasize their point by writing the exact opposite of what they actually mean. Nevertheless, puns can be used to evaluate implicitly. This implicit evaluation can also be done by unspoken assumptions.
Examples for coding	[2] *What kind of work do the Syrian families in Goltsov do? Because there is no work for them there. <u>But there is Hartz 4 everywhere.</u>* *(Original: Welcher Arbeit gehen denn die syrischen Familien in Golzow nach? Denn Arbeit gibt es dort nicht für sie. <u>Aber Hartz 4 gibt es ja überall.)</u>*

	[1] *We had just under 500.000 inhabitants. People were settled in Nuremberg. In the city <u>it looks like Africa now.</u>* *(Original: Wir hatten knapp unter 500.000 Einwohner. Da wurden auf Teufel komm raus in Nürnberg Leute angesiedelt. In der Stadt sieht <u>es jetzt aus wie in Afrika.)</u>* [1] *With EURAFRIKA everybody loses.* *(Original: EU-RAFRIKA kennt nur Verlierer.)*

The agent negatively evaluated is …	
Variable name	c_ne_2
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures the specific target that is evaluated.
Code	1 Migrants and the phenomenon "migration"; foreigners in Germany/France 111 Residents of other countries 2 Agents in the political sphere (if no other specific code applies) 211 CDU/CSU politicians or parties, Union – LR 212 SPD politician – PS 213 Bündnis 90/Die Grünen politicians – Les Verts 214 The left-wing politicians 215 FDP politician – En Marche! 216 AfD politician – RN/FN 217 Government 218 Opposition 219 Left-wing political camp, also left-green or red-green 220 Right political camp 221 Left-wing extremists 222 Right-wing extremists 223 Political institutions and public authorities (national and international, e.g., BAMF, EU) 224 States 225 Foreign politicians/party/government 3 The native population *e.g., the German/French population, the "ordinary" people, etc.* *members, citizens' initiatives or movements, volunteers, etc.* 4 Agents from the media sector *e.g., journalists and media organizations, public institutions and specific media offerings (e.g., individual programs), also author of the article* 5 Civil society agents *e.g., NGOs, associations, aid organizations and social movements (Amnesty International, Doctors without Borders, Bread for the World, SOS Mediterranée) incl. speakers or their representatives*

	6 Religious agents
	   e.g., religions and religious communities or their representatives, including "Islam"
	
	7 Scientific agents *e.g., experts*
	
	8 Police
	
	9 Courts *(also evaluations concerning the legal system)*
	
	10 Military
	
	12 Abstract entities
	   e.g., values (humanity), practices, models (such as democracy) etc.
	
	13 Co-discussants
	
	99 Other agent or not determinable

Further explications	The codes from 211 to 222 refer exclusively to political agents in Germany/France, the codes 223 to 225 to foreign political agents. It is possible that several agents are evaluated in one sentence. Then each target has to be annotated separately if there is more than one target. Code 5 is intended for civil society agents only. If a "normal" individual (e.g., a victim of a crime, without focus on the fact that he/she is a German/French citizen) is reported, then 99 is coded.
Examples for coding	[1] *They're rolling over us. Do you notice anything else? Do you want to record all of Africa? just use your common sense.....we can't take in ALL of them!!!!* [12] *Our false "democracies" are too weak to react. Hypocritical, superficial and short-sighted humanity!!!* (Attention: two codes in this example) [13] *You want to destroy our country! How sick are you? Have you gone insane? They're rolling over us... Do you still feel anything???* *(…)* [99] *We must hunt all invasive species, but especially left-wing vermin, which is a cancer in all countries.* (it is not clear whether the statement is directed e.g., against politicians or citizens)

The agent negatively evaluated is …	
Variable name	c_ne_3
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures whether a single individual or a group is evaluated.
Code	1 case specific 2 generalized entity (statement about a group, collective, etc. or a representative of this group) 99 cannot tell

Further explications	A comment about an individual is not necessarily coded as 1. If the person is seen as a representative of his (supposed) group, 2 is coded.
Examples for coding	[1] *This guy is just the worst!* [2] *Migrants follow women, make their needs everywhere, harass the elderly…* [2] *what a typical thing for a Muslim (…)*

The nature of/reason for the negative evaluation is…	
Variable name	c_ne_4
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures the justification for the evaluation.

Code	1 Passivity, e.g., lack of courage, lack of measures, inefficiency (on the part of politicians)
	2 Conspiracy/hypocrisy/dishonesty/manipulation of opinion (by politicians or similar)
	3 Ignorance, naivety, indifference
	   (e.g., from the "do-gooders", politicians, etc.)
	4 specific illegal, criminal behavior, including violence
	5 Financial burden e.g., on the welfare state, municipalities (through the target)
	6 Incompatibility with cultural norms (on the part of the target)
	7 Invasion (by migrants)
	8 Illness (e.g., insinuation of mental illness, not to be with the senses, but also the transmission of diseases)
	20 Characteristics
	   (if not already included in previous codes)
	30 Political conviction, opinion, ideology
	   (if not already included in previous codes)
	99 cannot be identified

Further explications	This is not about the user's own views, but explicitly about the evaluation of the target, i.e., the reason for his or her negative evaluation, which the user explicitly states. If one and the same target is blamed for several things, e.g., "Politicians do nothing, but they don't get it", then two reasons would be coded, but need to be backed up with the respective text passage.
Examples for coding	[2] *Just think of the image of the "dead refugee boy" spread by the media, with which we were manipulated three years ago to accept 1 million "pseudo refugees" in Europe.* *(Attention: media as one target accused of conspiracy/opinion manipulation; refugees as a second target accused of dishonesty code "2")*

	[4] *With the refugees we have imported masses of <u>knife-stabbers and rapists.</u>*(Attention: two different crime allegations)
	[5] *Our children must work hard, finance all the social benefits, and ultimately end up without a pension if the whole state collapses.*
	[5] *Well, then, Mr. Seehofer. But please at his expense and at the expense of those who support this madness. After all, my patience and that of millions of Germans is at the end of its tether to finance all this. Why should we finance the whole world. Whoever deals with German politics or receives background information, puts his hands together over his head, where OUR <u>sourly earned tax money</u> goes!!!!!*
	[5] *It has been known for a long time that only <u>social parasites</u> come!*
	[6] *Many migrants come here, <u>unable to adapt</u> and instead <u>force their culture on us.</u>*
	[7] *They're all <u>invaders</u>...*
	[7] *You want to destroy our country! How sick are you? Have you gone insane? <u>They're rolling over</u> us... don't you feel anything? Do you want to take in all of Africa? just use your common sense....we can't take in ALL of them!!!!*
	[8] *Don't listen to these <u>lunatics,</u> they can take in all black africans...let's see how long they'll keep shouting HERE.*
	[20] *Such people only want to be in the <u>spotlight</u>.*
	[20] *The words <u>"BACKBONE"</u> and "GERMAN GOVERNMENT<u>" just don't fit together.</u>*
	[30] *Typical AFD <u>chatter</u>! Let him suffocate in his vomit...!*

The victim of the agent's behavior is…	
Variable name	c_ne_5
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This annotation refers to whether there is potentially a (person) group that could suffer from the behavior, e.g., if refugees are accused of criminality, migrants could be victims or the native population.
Code	0 none
	1 Migrants and the phenomenon "migration"; foreigners in Germany/France
	111 Residents of other countries
	2 Actors in the political sphere (if no other specific code applies)
	211 CDU/CSU politicians or parties, Union – LR
	212 SPD politician – PS
	213 Bündnis 90/Die Grünen politicians – Les Verts
	214 The left-wing politicians

	215 FDP politician – En Marche!
	216 AfD politician – RN/FN
	217 Government
	218 Opposition
	219 Left-wing political camp, also left-green or red-green
	220 Right political camp
	221 Left-wing extremists
	222 Right-wing extremists
	223 Political institutions and public authorities (national and international, e.g., BAMF, EU)
	224 States
	225 Foreign politicians/party/government
	
	3 The native population
	   e.g., the German/French population, the "ordinary" people, etc. members, citizens' initiatives or movements, volunteers, etc.
	
	4 Agents from the media sector
	   e.g., journalists and media organizations, public institutions and specific media offerings (e.g., individual programs), also author of the article
	
	5 Civil society agents
	   e.g., NGOs, associations, aid organizations and social movements (Amnesty International, Doctors without Borders, Bread for the World, SOS Mediterranée) incl. speakers or their representatives
	
	6 Religious agents
	   e.g., religions and religious communities or their representatives, including "Islam"
	
	7 Scientific agents *e.g., experts*
	
	8 Police
	
	9 Courts *(also evaluations concerning the legal system)*
	
	10 Military
	
	12 Abstract entities
	   e.g., values (humanity), practices, models (such as democracy) etc.
	
	13 Co-discussants
	
	99 Other agent or not determinable

Further explications	The coder should not independently interpret whether there are *potential* victims. Instead, the user must name the victim or the affected group of people in the sentence or this can be clearly read from the direct context, e.g., "*... they are flooding our country and <u>we must come to terms with them</u>*" (here c_ne_5 = 3) If there is not any victim mentioned, go to the next variable
Examples for coding	[3] *Many migrants come here, unable to adapt and instead force their culture on us.* [3] <u>*You want to destroy our country!*</u> *How sick are <u>you</u>? Have you gone insane? They are overrunning us... do you feel anything????*

Does the comment contain irony-sarcasm?	
Variable name	c_ne_6
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures if the comment contains irony-sarcasm.
Code	0 no 1 yes 99 cannot tell
Further explications	Instead, the opposite is said, of what is meant, typically for humorous reasons or to express its message. Sometimes emojis and emoticons can be taken as an indication.
Examples for coding	[1] *Let Seehofer take in all the refugees himself.* [1] *Who would have expected that among the 2 million refugees there would be criminals and others? All those who say otherwise... shame on you xD*

The negative evaluation comprises swearwords.	
Variable name	c_ne_7
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures the offensiveness/vulgarity of a comment.
Code	0 no 1 yes 99 cannot tell
Further explications	Curse words include generally valid derogatory terms (e.g., stupid, idiot, asshole), specific insults (e.g., negro, do-gooder) as well as comparison with animals (e.g., rats, vermin).
Examples for coding	[1] *Salvini is a fucking asshole.*

Module: positive evaluation (c_pe)

This block is coded when a positive evaluation is attributed to an agent. This includes, for example, when an agent is held responsible for a positive development or improvement of a situation.

Is the evaluation in the comment implicit?	
Variable name	c_pe_1
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures whether there is an implicit evaluation.
Code	0 no 1 yes, explicit 2 yes, implicit 99 cannot tell
Further explications	Implicit means not openly expressed (i.e. deduced, "felt", etc.). It is understood here as a general category which might (or not) include irony-sarcasm (saying something while signifying its opposite, for emphatic reasons).
Examples for coding	[1] *Salvini will not allow to be manipulated!* [1] *Not stupid, Salvini!* *(Attention: not every denial of negative is automatically implicitly positive)*

The agent that gets positively evaluated is…	
Variable name	c_pe_2
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures who is the addressee of the evaluation.

Code	1 Migrants and the phenomenon "migration"; foreigners in Germany/France
	   111 Residents of other countries
	
	2 Agents in the political sphere (if no other specific code applies)
	   211 CDU/CSU politicians or parties, Union – LR
	   212 SPD politician – PS
	   213 Bündnis 90/Die Grünen politicians – Les Verts
	   214 The left-wing politicians
	   215 FDP politician – En Marche!
	   216 AfD politician – RN/FN
	   217 Government
	   218 Opposition
	   219 Left-wing political camp, also left-green or red-green
	   220 Right political camp
	   221 Left-wing extremists
	   222 Right-wing extremists

	223 Political institutions and public authorities (national and international, e.g., BAMF, EU) 224 States 225 Foreign politicians/party/government
	3 The native population *e.g., the German/French population, the "ordinary" people, etc. members, citizens' initiatives or movements, volunteers, etc.*
	4 Agents from the media sector *e.g., journalists and media organizations, public institutions and specific media offerings (e.g., individual programs), also author of the article*
	5 Civil society agents *e.g., NGOs, associations, aid organizations and social movements (Amnesty International, Doctors without Borders, Bread for the World, SOS Mediterranée) incl. speakers or their representatives*
	6 Religious agents *e.g., religions and religious communities or their representatives, including "Islam"*
	7 Scientific agents *e.g., experts*
	8 Police
	9 Courts *(also evaluations concerning the legal system)*
	10 Military
	12 Abstract entities *e.g., values (humanity), practices, models (such as democracy) etc.*
	13 Co-discussants
	99 Other agent or not determinable

The agent positively evaluated is …	
Variable name	c_pe_3
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures whether one individual or a group is evaluated.
Code	1 case specific 2 generalized (statement about a group, collective, etc. or a representative of this group) 99 cannot tell
Examples for coding	[1] *Salvini will not allow to be manipulated!*

The nature of/reason for the positive evaluation is…	
Variable name	c_pe_4
Analysis level	comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures the justification for the evaluation.
Code	1 Efficiency, drive 2 Honesty, transparency, "ethos" 3 astuteness, seeing things through 4 exemplary behavior (e.g., helping others in need, preventing crimes) 5 economic or financial advantages (e.g., labor force) as well as the relief of the social system (e.g., young migrants* do not need health services) 6 Cultural enrichment 20 Character traits (if agents are attributed other desirable traits - apart from honesty) 30 Political conviction, opinion, ideology 99 cannot be determined
Further explications	
Examples for coding	[1] *I don't like Salvini but he did a good job..* [2] *A chance for Europe that Salvini! Because all the other European leaders think like him but dare not say it!* [2] *Germany is not a state of injustice in which everyone is sentenced without proof of guilt as happens, for example, in Turkey or Russia.* [3] *The author Kelek comes from a Muslim background, so one can confidently assume that she knows what she is talking about.*

Does the comment contain irony-sarcasm?	
Variable name	c_pe_5
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures if the comment contains irony-sarcasm.
Code	0 no 1 yes 99 cannot tell
Further explications	The message signifies the opposite of what is said, typically for humorous or emphatic effect.
Examples for coding	[1] *Never before has the charity business been so true to itself.*

Module: action recommendation (c_act)

This block is coded if the comment is action-oriented (e.g., wants to change a certain state or proposes an action/procedure/behavior).

Both explicit and implicit requests for action are coded.

Is an action proposed or an action tendency expressed?	
Variable name	c_act
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures whether a call for action is phrased that is implicit or explicit.
Code	0 no action (tendency) (→ continue to the next block) 1 explicit action (tendency) (→ continue with C_act_1a) 2 implicit action (tendency) (→ continue with C_act_1b)
Further explications	A request/demand or call to act is implicit, e.g., if no clear agent for the call is recognizable or if the action is described by wordplay, metaphors, etc. In general, there can be more than one call to action in a comment. Calls for action without a concrete agent are also coded.

The explicitly phrased action consists of what?	
Variable name	c_act_1a
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures what the explicitly phrased action consists of.
Code	1 positive treatment or claim 2 call for change/adaption 3 negative but violence-free treatment 4 physical violence 5 elimination/killing 99 cannot tell
Further explications	Code 3 applies for all forms of (spatial/physical) distancing from refugees by the demand of deportations.
Examples for coding	[1] *We need to <u>welcome</u> and <u>integrate</u> them.* [1] *<u>Leave those poor refugees alone</u>, they're traumatised enough. No one is illegal, so no one should be forced to register.* [2] *Refugees need to <u>adapt to our customs.</u>* [2] *Politicians need to <u>change their course of action.</u>*

	[2] *Close the borders and help on the ground wherever possible - otherwise Europe risks slipping into African conditions.*
	[3] *Get the fuck out of Germany you fucking creature..."*
	[4] *We should beat them up*
	[5] *Typical AFD chatter! Let him suffocate in his vomit...!*
	[99] *Please read the original article.*

The implicitly phrased action consists of what?	
Variable name	c_act_1b
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures what the implicitly phrased action consists of.
Code	1 positive treatment or claim 2 call for change/adaption 3 negative but violence-free treatment 4 physical violence 5 elimination/killing 99 cannot tell
Further explications	This action can also be expressed implicitly by e.g., play on words or metaphors. However, (rhetorical) questions are not automatically an implicit call to act if there is too much room for interpretation.
Examples for coding	[5] *You don't lock up #trash or fly it halfway around the world, you dispose of it - forever!* [5] *If anyone goes to my daughter, you'll get to know me. Since I'm a DJ by the way, I play "Play me the song of death"...* [5] *Black salsify belong under the ground!*

Who should undertake the action?	
Variable name	c_act_2a
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures who performs or should perform the (recommended) action (= agent).

Code	1 Migrants and the phenomenon "migration"; foreigners in Germany/France
	   111 Residents of other countries
	
	2 Agents in the political sphere (if no other specific code applies)
	   211 CDU/CSU politicians or parties, Union – LR

	212 SPD politician – PS
	213 Bündnis 90/Die Grünen politicians – Les Verts
	214 The left-wing politicians
	215 FDP politician – En Marche!
	216 AfD politician – RN/FN
	217 Government
	218 Opposition
	219 Left-wing political camp, also left-green or red-green
	220 Right political camp
	221 Left-wing extremists
	222 Right-wing extremists
	223 Political institutions and public authorities (national and international, e.g., BAMF, EU)
	224 States
	225 Foreign politicians/party/government
	
	3 The native population
	   e.g., the German/French population, the "ordinary" people, etc. members, citizens' initiatives or movements, volunteers, etc.
	
	4 Agents from the media sector
	   e.g., journalists and media organizations, public institutions and specific media offerings (e.g., individual programs), also author of the article
	
	5 Civil society agents
	   e.g., NGOs, associations, aid organizations and social movements (Amnesty International, Doctors without Borders, Bread for the World, SOS Mediterranée) incl. speakers or their representatives
	
	6 Religious agents
	   e.g., religions and religious communities or their representatives, including "Islam"
	
	7 Scientific agents *e.g., experts*
	
	8 Police
	
	9 Courts *(also evaluations concerning the legal system)*
	
	10 Military
	
	12 Abstract entities
	   e.g., values (humanity), practices, models (such as democracy) etc.
	
	13 Co-discussants
	
	99 Other agent or not determinable

Further explications	In linguistics, this is referred to as the agent, person or object that performs an action. In passive constructions, however, the agent sometimes cannot be determined. Several answers can apply
Examples for coding	[2] *The current government should abolish itself.* [2] *Let's hope the Italian government will intervene militarily, if necessary, against the smugglers !!!*

The addressed agent is …	
Variable name	c_act_2b
Analysis level	comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures whether one individual or a group is supposed to perform an action.
Code	1 case specific 2 generalized (statement about a group, collective, etc. or a representative of this group) 99 cannot tell
Examples for coding	[2] *The current government should abolish itself*

Who should endure the action?	
Variable name	c_act_3a
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures who would experience the consequences of an action by (the mentioned) agent(s).

Code	1 Migrants and the phenomenon "migration"; foreigners in Germany/France
	    111 Residents of other countries
	
	2 Agents in the political sphere (if no other specific code applies)
	    211 CDU/CSU politicians or parties, Union – LR
	    212 SPD politician – PS
	    213 Bündnis 90/Die Grünen politicians – Les Verts
	    214 The left-wing politicians
	    215 FDP politician – En Marche!
	    216 AfD politician – RN/FN
	    217 Government
	    218 Opposition
	    219 Left-wing political camp, also left-green or red-green
	    220 Right political camp
	    221 Left-wing extremists
	    222 Right-wing extremists
	    223 Political institutions and public authorities (national and international, e.g., BAMF, EU)
	    224 States
	    225 Foreign politicians/party/government
	
	3 The native population
	    e.g., the German/French population, the "ordinary" people, etc.
	    members, citizens' initiatives or movements, volunteers, etc.
	
	4 Agents from the media sector
	    e.g., journalists and media organizations, public institutions and

	specific media offerings (e.g., individual programs), also author of the article
	5 Civil society agents *e.g., NGOs, associations, aid organizations and social movements (Amnesty International, Doctors without Borders, Bread for the World, SOS Mediterranée) incl. speakers or their representatives*
	6 Religious agents *e.g., religions and religious communities or their representatives, including "Islam"*
	7 Scientific agents *e.g., experts*
	8 Police
	9 Courts *(also evaluations concerning the legal system)*
	10 Military
	12 Abstract entities *e.g., values (humanity), practices, models (such as democracy) etc.*
	13 Co-discussants
	99 Other agent or not determinable
Further explications	Here it is coded who the patient in the sentence is: A patient has no control over the action expressed (by a verb).
Examples for coding	[5] *I hope that they will take the boat and sue <u>the captain</u>! The boat could have reached in Holland by now!*

The patient in question is ...	
Variable name	c_act_3b
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures whether an individual or a group is affected by an action.
Code	1 case specific 2 generalized (statement about a group, collective, etc. or a representative of this group) 99 cannot tell
Examples for coding	[1] *I hope that they will take the boat and sue <u>the captain</u>! The boat could have reached in Holland by now!*

Module: contrasting of groups (c_contr)

The groups/persons that are contrasted/juxtaposed are…	
Variable name	c_contr
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures whether there is a contrast between different groups/movements/persons in the comment. Note: if certain groups are explicitly represented as victims, this is coded in c_ne_4. What is important here is that there are opposing groups or a competition is made up, e.g., "we, the ordinary people" vs. the elite / the rich.
Code	1 elite (political or economic or media) vs the people 2 globalism vs State(s) 3 right-wing vs. left-wing camps 4 less advantaged citizens vs migrants *e.g., unemployed, homeless, disabled, sick, elderly people, etc.* 5 French vs. migrants 6 Germans vs. migrants 7 French vs. other political agents abroad, e.g., countries, EU 8 Germans vs. other political agents abroad, e.g., countries, EU 9 Europeans/Westerns vs. others (e.g., Arabs, Africans) 10 pro-migrants (ONG, associations, etc.) vs anti-migrants 11 "good" migrants vs. "bad" migrants 12 present vs. past (historical references, nostalgia for the past, etc.) 99 cannot tell
Further explications	Contrast requires the comparative comparison of two or more groups and usually an asymmetry or imbalance in power/resources etc. If both groups are not clearly named or can be clearly deduced from the context, then this comparison can be recorded as a maximum of 99. Mere comparisons (e.g., *"Germany handles things almost like Russia"*) do not represent a contrasting juxtaposition.
Examples for coding	[1] *The French did not ask for anything! It's the politicians who want migrants.* [2] *This globalist policy, without concern for the country, the history, the religion, meets all the expectations of large "above-ground" capitalist groups who see the nations as markets and nationalism as obstacles to enrich faster and easier.* [3] *We must hunt invasive species, but especially the leftist vermin who is a cancer in all countries, every migrant who comes should join the nationalists* [4] *these wild hordes of migrants (there is no other description) not only demand for social benefits (housing, food, income, health, transport ...) immensely superior to those of the poorest and*

weakest among us (little workers, retirees, seniors, homeless, but also, they are threatening, vindictive and screaming at racist and xenophobic discrimination.

[5] *It is a bit easy to reach out to migrants, as we know that there are many native French people who are starving and can no longer make ends meet*

[6] *It's all the same old formula, "Keep it that way, let them in". Our wives, children, retirees are debit items, unnecessary eaters. What this injustice state is able to afford and fools its own people is unbelievable!*

[7] *Europe does not protect us from "external invasions", moreover Europeans betray us*

[8] *Immigration must not proceed uncoordinated. Even if Merkel said that we can manage this, in many places I think you can see the excessive demands. In the housing market, partly in our offices, in the judiciary and in the hospitals, I wonder why this excessive demand has to be. Other countries in Europe are a little smarter or more realistic.)*

[9] *They are not abandoned to themselves; migrants know the method. They only have to wait for the "Western saviors" and that's all there is to do*

10] *We are not the monsters; the monsters are the NGOs that threaten the balance of the population in Europe*

[11] *Moreover, these so-called "refugee" migrants cause great prejudice to all our naturalised immigrants and the efforts that are being made to integrate them into our society in a sustainable way.*

[12] *In 486, that was a "barbarian king", the Grand Clovis, who saved Gaul from chaos and gave it a beautiful destiny. Only difference, Clovis converted to the Gallo-Romans Christian religion. I am not sure that our next Barbarian leader adopts our religion and our customs.*

[12] *[...] Unbelievable what has become of this one so proud Germanic-Prussian-German ground and soil with its descendants of the ur-inhabitants only within 118 years!!!*

[12] *(...) and if the foreign ones were gone then....... there will certainly be new "areas of application" (e.g., anti-discrimination law of the eu!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!) but what if we only invited the not yet cooperative ones of this "constitutional state" there to new "nürnberger talks", like back then more than 70 years ago?*

Module: explicit expression of emotions (c_emo)

Is there an explicit expression of emotions?	
Variable name	c_emo_1
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures whether the user explicitly expresses his/her emotions/feelings directed at a target. The use of emotion words or visuals, e.g., emoticons, is a necessary condition.

Code	0 no explicit emotional expression
	1 negative emotions
	     literal or pictorial expression of concrete negative emotions
	2 positive emotions (not laughing at others!)
	     literal or figurative expression of concrete positive emotions
	3 expression of amusement about or "ridiculing" a target
	99 unclear whether a concrete emotional expression is present

Further explications	Emotion words include all explicit expressions of feelings like e.g., love, hate, etc. Visuals that stand for such an expression of emotion need to be unambiguous, for instance: 🤮 😠 😡 🤬 🤢 😩 or 😊 😊 😍 🤗 For an explicit emotion expression to be encoded, it must be clearly linked to a target, i.e., an emoji follows a sentence with target or can be clearly assigned by the context (e.g., answer to a comment).

Examples for coding	[0] *I have enough of these politicians!*
	[0] *Just looking at this Söder....*
	    → possible underlying emotion both times not explicitly expressed
	
	[0] *This is simply unbelievable [...]*
	    → unbelievable" is not an unambiguous emotion word, since it can be used both negatively and positively
	
	[1] *Steinmeier was not elected by the people, he was installed by other politicians (frowny)*
	    All these illegitimate migrants just disgust me.
	
	[2] *4 more years, I love Merkel! (red heart)*
	
	[2] *I love the AfD! [blue heart]*
	
	[3] *Mimimi... the foreigners are to blame! ... All this whining of the AfDlers is just ridiculous xD*

Are these emotions triggered by an agent? Who is the target of the emotion that users express?	
Variable name	c_emo_2a
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable captures who or what elicit the emotion.

Code	1 Migrants and the phenomenon "migration"; foreigners in Germany/France
	   111 Residents of other countries
	
	2 Agents in the political sphere (if no other specific code applies)
	   211 CDU/CSU politicians or parties, Union – LR
	   212 SPD politician – PS
	   213 Bündnis 90/Die Grünen politicians – Les Verts
	   214 The left-wing politicians
	   215 FDP politician – En Marche!
	   216 AfD politician – RN/FN
	   217 Government
	   218 Opposition
	   219 Left-wing political camp, also left-green or red-green
	   220 Right political camp
	   221 Left-wing extremists
	   222 Right-wing extremists
	   223 Political institutions and public authorities (national and international, e.g., BAMF, EU)
	   224 States
	   225 Foreign politicians/party/government
	
	3 The native population
	   e.g., the German/French population, the "ordinary" people, etc. members, citizens' initiatives or movements, volunteers, etc.
	
	4 Agents from the media sector
	   e.g., journalists and media organizations, public institutions and specific media offerings (e.g., individual programs), also author of the article
	
	5 Civil society agents
	   e.g., NGOs, associations, aid organizations and social movements (Amnesty International, Doctors without Borders, Bread for the World, SOS Méditerranée) incl. speakers or their representatives
	
	6 Religious agents
	   e.g., religions and religious communities or their representatives, including "Islam"
	
	7 Scientific agents *e.g., experts*
	
	8 Police
	
	9 Courts *(also evaluations concerning the legal system)*
	
	10 Military

	12 Abstract entities
	e.g., values (humanity), practices, models (such as democracy) etc.
	13 Co-discussants
	99 Other agent or not determinable
Examples for coding	[3] *All these <u>illegitimate migrants</u> just disgust me.*

The trigger for the emotional expression is...	
Variable name	c_emo_2b
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable measures whether an individual or a group is the trigger for the explicitly expressed emotion.
Code	1 case specific 2 generalized (statement about a group, collective, etc. or a representative of this group) 99 cannot tell
Examples for coding	[2] *All these <u>illegitimate migrants</u> just disgust me.*

Does the comment include irony or sarcasm?	
Variable name	c_emo_3
Analysis level	Statement in comment
Description of the variable	This variable measures whether the emotional expression contains irony or sarcasm.
Code	0 no 1 yes 99 cannot tell
Further explications	Instead, the opposite is said, of what is actually meant, typically for humorous reasons or to express its message. This can usually only be deduced from the context (e.g., further statements in a comment).
Examples for coding	[1] *I love Merkel, great what this woman has done for our society - NOT.*