

Alumni Mentored Internships

IE 399 Summer Practice Project Proposal Form

Alumni Information

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Position: Assistant Prof. in Chair of Corporate Development and Business Ethics

Proposed Project Information

Project Title: Media Bias

Planned Start Date: open

Planned End Date: open

(no supervision possible between 17.07.2020-10.08.2020)

Project Overview:

In the media, two types of biases are in place when covering acts of violence; **selection bias**, and **biased content coverage**. Both types of biases could arise due to editorial preferences, the group identity of journalists, owner(s) and readers. Selection bias refers to the difference in the rate of coverage of news depending on the characteristics of the perpetrator such as ethnicity or religion. Biased content coverage refers to the content of coverage being dependent on the characteristics of the perpetrators and victims. Both types of biases would create a distorted view of likelihood of terror attacks by different groups.

As part of a planned larger project, data will be collected on the coverage of events in the most important (circulated or read) Turkish newspapers; these events comprise violent atrocities perpetrated in Sub-Saharan Africa from 2010 to 2019 that are listed in the Global Terrorism Database (GTD) or the Uppsala Conflict Database (UCD).

Thus, the project involves creating a list of events from GTD and UCD and writing a web scraping program that identifies the coverage of each event in selected Turkish newspapers. Afterwards, both the selection bias (whether an event is covered) and the biased content coverage (whether e.g., religious identifiers are included) could be statistically analysed.