

# Civil and Political Rights in the American Press Release for the Most Prominent News Websites

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## ABSTRACT

The study aimed at determining civil and political rights in the press address of the most prominent American websites, between 10/2021 and 1/2022. A tool containing civil and political rights was prepared in accordance with the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the UN General Assembly on December 16, 1966, and came into force on March 23, 1976. To ensure the credibility and stability of the tool, test-retest, factor analysis and necessary changes have been made. To obtain the results, frequencies, calculation averages and percentages were used. The results showed that the right to life leads the percentages (25.02%), followed by other rights (18.73%) (cultural, social and economic rights), equality (14.36%) and freedom of expression (12.06%), which are at the centre of civil rights. On the other hand, it has gained dimensions: freedom to establish associations (0.85%), freedom of protest and peaceful demonstration (2.16%) the lowest percentages, all of which are political rights.

## Keywords

News websites - civil rights - political rights - press release

## 1. Study questions

### 1.1 The main question

The study relates to the following president's question, "What is the nature of the American press discourse on websites on civil and political human rights issues?"

### 1.2 Sub-questions

The following sub-questions arise from this question:

**1.2.1** What are the most prominent civil rights issues addressed by the most famous news sites?

**1.2.2** What are the most prominent political human rights issues addressed by the most famous news sites?

**1.2.3** What is the ranking of civil and political human rights issues on the news sites under study?

**1.2.4** What are the most important media frameworks in which civil and political rights have been presented on the news sites in question?

**1.2.5** What is the location of the article on civil and political human rights on the news sites under study (home page, internal page)?

### 1.3 Study hypothesis

The study's hypothesis is based on the realization that "The most followed U.S. news sites have had a growing interest in civil and political rights over the past few years."

## 1.4 Study procedures

### Study approach 1.4.1

The researchers followed the method of analyzing the content, as it is in line with the objectives of the study, where the

study includes an analysis of the content of several media with human content and human rights dimensions.

Content analysis is a research method that describes the content shown objectively quantitatively and qualitatively. It is mainly aimed at collecting information about a particular phenomenon or problem by referencing research sources such as books, audio and video recordings and written records [1]. The content analysis approach has several characteristics that qualify it to be the most suitable for this study:

- Content analysis aims to clarify the motives and objectives of the writer or speaker, and to know the extent to which the content of the communication material affects people's ideas and trends.
- Objectivity prevails over this type of study, where objectivity is the cornerstone of the method of content analysis, because any departure from objectivity in dealing with content may spoil the results and therefore the study as a whole [2].
- The analysis of content is based on the fact that each human being has an intellectual imprint that distinguishes his personality and reveals his identity.

That is, the linguistic behavior of a human being -orally or editorially- can be considered the most accurate expression of his identity, tendencies and trends[3].

- Content analysis requires the use of quantitative method of collecting information, so that other samples can be compared.
- Content analysis seeks to describe the explicit content or content of the media material.
- Content analysis provides the reader with an objective and structured quantitative description of the content that the researchers subjected to the study.

## 1.5 Study community

The study community consists of all daily, weekly and half-weekly news sites affiliated with democratic currents in the United States.

## 1.6 Sample study

The sample represents the most followed American news sites:

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1. Cable News Network "CNN".
2. The New York (Times).
3. Mondoweiss.
4. Washington Post.

- 5.Los Angeles.
- 6.AI-Monitor.
- 7.The Associated Press.

## 1.7 Study tool

The researchers developed a tool for analyzing content in line with the objectives of the study. It is designed to collect data and monitor frequency rates in materials whose content is analyzed. To be used to describe this content, categorize it objectively and comprehensively, allowing for the possibility of analysis and obtaining results in an easy and simple way, which includes categories of content and form[4].

## 1- Content categories:

These are the categories that relate to describing the content provided for analysis, and identifying the implications of the study sample of associations, institutions, news sites and social networks.

The category of topics (civil and political rights) published by the study sample includes newspapers, social networks and institutions affiliated with civil rights currents.

## 2- Framework category:

- General framework: includes talking about civil and political rights in their abstract form.
- Special framework: Includes talking about positions or events related to civil and political rights in certain contexts.

## 3- Photo category :

This category relates to the existence of the image and its number or not.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Over the past few years, it has been clear that the influence of traditional media (visual and written media) has declined in favour of electronic media networks and social networks. Traditional American media has played a major role in guiding American public opinion for decades . But the ability of traditional media to form American public opinion is clearly declining in favor of social media and news sites. Young Americans have come to draw their information on many issues, including civil and political rights issues, through live broadcasts by young people on the ground on media, such as : " TikTok" , " Facebook" and " Instagram". Which has had an important impact on changing the stereotype of civil and political rights [5].

In this context, many newspapers and magazines have stopped publishing paper copies in the United States for many years. "The Christian Science Monitor " stopped publishing its paper version in 2009, followed by "U.S News and World Report" in 2010, Then Newsweek magazine in 2013 [6].

American society has undergone a deep transformation toward civil and political rights for years. In parallel with the growing polarization within American society during the four years of the " Trump" administration. The American people were divided between a team that believed in the white supremacy of European origin , and among people of color and black immigrants from Africa, South America and Asia. The polarization has raised awareness among large segments of the American community of people of color and marginalized people .Who does not usually interested in public affairs, which was reflected in the results of recent elections in the United States in which Joe Biden received more than (80) million votes,and Trump about (74) million. The growing percentage of voters of color translated into an increase in the membership of this group in the Senate and the

House of Representatives, and an increase in the influence of the progressive civil rights and anti-colonial movement in the Democratic Party.

In the same context, issues against injustice and rejection of racism have become increasingly important., justice, equality and civil rights within the American Democratic Party. Issues of freedom, justice, equality and anti-racism have become an important issue within the Democratic Party and have become a central issue after the May 2020 killing of black citizen "George Floyd", which led to the uprising of a large segment of black ethnicity against police violence and systematic racist practices in American society. Political movements such as Black Lives Matter have emerged that emphasize the need to combat racism in its various forms. This issue has become an important part of Biden's presidential platform and part of the Democratic Party's rhetoric. The recent violence in the occupied territories has been addressed within the framework of the perspective of racial justice, with a large segment of young Americans saying that the Palestinian people represent the weakest party persecuted because of their ethnic identity and that Israel represents a apartheid authority similar to the white South African state. This has made there widespread sympathy among the new generations, who may not know much about the history of the Palestinian cause, but who see a strong, heavily armed party suppressing a weak party on racist grounds[7].

Meanwhile, the influence of the progressive movement within the Democratic Party has increased. It has become difficult for President "Biden" to move beyond their political orientation. The growing influence of the progressive movement is mainly due to profound and historic transformations in American society, a society of immigrants from other continents of the world. The growing awareness among non-European immigrants and people of color has been driven by issues of discrimination and racism, and against racist white groups and movements that have not hesitated to use violence to target minorities and immigrants of color. To other counter-movements defending minority rights that have found their way to the American Congress by increasing the number of representatives and their ability to defend their positions and defend their interests.

During the Years of the "Trump" Administration, American society underwent a profound transformation due to the polarization between whites of European descent, immigrants of color from southern U.S. countries and black Africans. Former President Donald Trump's insistence on popular policies and slogans has mobilized people of color, marginalized and new immigrants, and has moved more toward political participation and overcome voluntary isolation by rushing to the Democratic Party and raising its shares in recent elections. This shift has strengthened the presence of the pro-civil rights and anti-racism sectors not only in terms of the American interior but also in the perception of relevant issues at the external level. This is the focus of the main study, where the main question revolves around the nature of human rights media discourse (civil and political rights) in the most prominent news websites in the United States.

## 3.METHODS

### First: The methodology of the study

This study is based on the description and analysis approach, and the descriptive approach is based on determining the

characteristics of the phenomenon and describing its nature and the quality of the relationship between its variables, causes and trends. The curriculum is based on the analysis and study of a range of phenomena, and describes these phenomena accurately and specifically. It expresses them by giving them digital qualities, writing tables and data that determine these phenomena and how they relate to other phenomena.

The content analysis approach is one of the branches of the descriptive analytical approach, a method or tool for scientific research that researchers can use in a variety of research areas to describe the apparent content and explicit content of the material to be analyzed in terms of form and content. In response to the research needs formulated in the questions of research or its basic assumptions, according to the objective classifications specified by the researcher. In order to use these data afterwards, either in describing this scientific material or to discover the intellectual, cultural, political and ideological background from which the scientific material originates. Or to learn about the purposes of those who communicate through words, sentences, symbols, images and all expressive methods - in form and content - by which communicators express their ideas and concepts. This is provided that the analysis process is carried out on a regular basis, on a systematic basis, and objective criteria. The researcher's collection, tabulation and analysis should be based mainly on quantitative method[8].

#### **Fourth: Study tool**

The researchers developed a tool to analyze the content of the sample chosen in line with the objectives of the study by exploring the contents of civil and political rights in several American media, trade union and research, and the preparation of the tool has gone through several steps, the most prominent of which are:

1- See a series of studies that have used content analysis tools that intersect in one way or another with the subject of the study. Especially the tools that deal with the analysis of human rights and civil and political rights to use in the preparation of the study tool.

2- Determining the purpose of content analysis, where the study aimed to identify the contents of civil and political rights on a sample of American media, trade union and research institutions.

3- To determine the civil and political rights the study seeks to discover, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, adopted and offered to sign, ratify and join under the UN General Assembly resolution of December 1966, was reviewed[9] [10].

4- Conducting a number of consultations with experts related to the study in the field of civil and political rights, and the temperament of their opinions in the appropriate tool to achieve the objectives of the study.

5- Defining the category of content analysis of civil and political rights, as stated in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, adopted by the UN General Assembly Resolution of 1966, with some deletions and additions, in line with the nature and objectives of the study. Civil and political rights were therefore included:

#### **First: Civil rights**

1- Right to life: Includes organized assassinations, extrajudicial killings, indiscriminate killings, and targeting for political, ethnic, religious or other reasons.

2- Equality: To give members of society equal opportunities, to enable them to make the most of their talents and lives, so that everyone gets the same opportunities, treatment and support, and everyone is equal regardless of their races, genealogy, beliefs and physical condition such as disability, the right to fair litigation, the presumption of innocence, the right to defend and appeal to judicial institutions.

3- The right to move: the right of the individual to move freely within his or her homeland, and not to impose any restrictions on his movements except in certain cases and under the law, and the right to travel and return without complications. This includes military barriers restricting the movement of personnel, temporary or permanent closure of major roads. And forcing citizens to take difficult and long paths, as is happening in the West Bank and Al-Quds.

4- Freedom of religion: the human right to freedom of thought, conscience, religion and belief, and his freedom to take or convert to any religion or belief of his choice. His freedom, whether individually or with a group, to show his religion or belief in worship, practice and education.

5- The right to freedom of expression: the freedom of the individual to express his or her own opinions and positions, whether personally or in front of traditional or new media.

6- Detention other than the law: No one may be arrested except for reasons provided for by law and in accordance with the procedure established. Those arrested should be notified at the time of arrest of the reasons for his arrest, and immediately notify any charges against him. And persons accused of criminal acts are quickly submitted to a judge or a legally authorized officer to initiate judicial functions. He or she has the right to be tried within a reasonable time or to be released.

7- Prohibition of torture: absolute prohibition of torture, including cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment, physical or psychological abuse, or assault on personal dignity.

8- Other rights: include economic, cultural and social rights.

#### **Second: Political rights**

1- Political participation: freedom to form parties, freedom of individuals to join the party they see fit without restrictions. To ensure that parties exercise their political activity freely and parties participate in elections.

2- Elections: The freedom of individuals to participate in elections, whether by nomination or voting. Also the election propaganda was allowed without restrictions.

3- Public functions: the right of citizens to hold public office, with the right, transparent competition in accordance with the law away from nepotism, while refraining from arbitrary dismissal or forced deportation for personal purposes.

4- Forming associations: the right of a group of individuals to the freedom to form a group to achieve a common interest or defend an inclusive cause, or to join an official or informal group. On the contrary, it also includes the right not to be forced to join associations. The "Gathering" may include civil society organizations, non-governmental Organizations, associations of all names, cooperatives, clubs, religious associations, political parties and trade unions.

5- Freedom of assembly: the freedom of individuals to assemble peacefully at any time and for any purpose; to express their positions in any way they deem appropriate.

6- The right to face occupation: it is specific to the reality of entities under occupation. In terms of initiating boycott

campaigns, exposing the crimes of occupation, moving in international courts, and affecting international public opinion.

### Fifth: Units of measurement and analysis

**Analysis of Unit:** Represents the idea or subject, in addition to the nature of the article under study because the elements of civil and political human rights may exist in a paragraph or sentence, or the subject as a whole. It may be prominent and visible, or hidden between the text, whether the text is news, article, analysis, investigative or research. The limits of the analysis are the elements of civil and political rights in line with the procedural definition of these rights.

**Numerical Unit:** It consists of frequencies relating to elements of civil and political human rights, its categories and variables contained in the texts. Which are recorded quantitatively and converted into numbers that can be handled statistically.

**Analysis categories:** These are the classifications added by the researcher to the content, which serves the objectives of the study, and expands the areas of analysis, ensuring greater accuracy, objectivity and inclusiveness. The categories included: the subject (civil and political human rights), the framework: the general framework (abstract talk about civil and political human rights), the specific or special framework (human rights violations), the geographical area (within the United States, other countries of the world, Palestine).

### Sixth: Reliability and stability measures of the tool

#### 1- Validity Test

Validity is defined as the accuracy of the tool in measuring the purpose for which it is designed, that means to what extent it reflects the data collected from the tool. Real information and data from the study sample that is supposed to represent the study community[11].

To achieve the requirement of the validity of the tool, the following steps have been followed:

- Design a content analysis tool with additions to civil and political rights, to suit the Palestinian reality. And identify the categories of analysis in line with the nature and objectives of the study, with a list of items directly or indirectly indicative of civil and political rights, to facilitate and correct the analysis process as possible.
- Identify the units of analysis, counting and measurement, and choose the appropriate analysis categories to serve the objectives of the study, namely four: subject, framework, geographical dimension, image.
- The application of the tool initially to analyze the content of four electronic numbers of an American newspaper (National Interest); To develop a first impression of the tool, the outputs of the analysis and the appropriateness of the categories for the analysis of the press material.
- The tool was presented to a group of expert arbitrators related to the subject of the study, and journalists, two human rights specialists, and others from the academic corps were selected as experts in scientific research, especially in qualitative research.
- Some modifications have been made to the tool in terms of deleting or adding a number of civil and political rights, and adding a number of categories to suit the essence of the study. A set of keys or words and phrases indicating civil and political rights has also been added.

### 2- Reliability Test

Reliability means to get very close values if the tool is applied more than once under similar conditions. And measured by finding the correlation between the test and itself, the results obtained by conducting a different group of researchers to analyze the same sample of research, and in the same circumstances are very similar.

To calculate the stability factor, the researcher himself applied the tool for 14 days to: The New York Times, The Washington Post and CNN.

After a period of time (two weeks) the tool was applied to the same newspaper and location, and then used the Holisti equation, to calculate the stability factor by a percentage[12].

Holisti Equation:	M= Number of times the agreement is for the first analysis.
$\frac{2 \times M}{N1+N2}$	N1= Number of coding times for the first.
	N2= Number of coding times for second analysis.

#### The results were as follows:

98.7+94.1+98.1+100+80.4+87.5+100+100+100+100+98.8+98.9+98.2+98.2+92.2+98

This means that the ratio of agreement between the two analyses is 91.5%, which is high and confirms the high stability of the tool.

### Seventh: The limits of study

The study limits include the following limits:

- 1- The time limit for content analysis has extended to three months (10/2021-12/2021).
- 2- The analysis was limited to the most attended websites in the United States.
- 3- The content of the analysis relates to civil and political rights as described by the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights. It was adopted at the United Nations General Assembly in 1976.
- 4- Classification of civil and political rights in terms of the form of the framework; A general framework that talks about abstract human rights, or a special framework for description, violations and events.

## 4. RESULTS

### Results of the First part

#### 1. Results of Factor Analysis:

##### 1.1 Requirement of adequacy of the number of analysis samples and homogeneity test:

Kaiser- Meyer- Olkin (KMO) test was conducted to ensure the adequacy of the size of the study sample, and (Bartlett) test for homogeneity. The (KMO) test result showed that the value is good (0.73), which is greater than (0.5) and this indicates an increased reliability of the factors we obtain from the Factor Analysis. (Bartlett) is also less than (0.001), which indicates that the correlation matrix was significantly different from the original matrix ( $p < 0.00$ ) and is less than (05.0), which means that factor analysis can be performed.

##### 1.2 The results of the Factor Analysis and the degree to which each paragraph is loaded on the axis:

The results of the Rotated Matrix Component after rotation showed the values of the ramifications of each variable on

each of the factors extracted after rotation. Loading values (correlation coefficient) are descending for each of the factors derived after rotation. The purpose of this rotation is to reach a new situation of factors so that they can be easily explained, and two factors have been drawn: civil and political rights.

**Table 1: (Olkin) test values for sample size and (Bartlett) test for homogeneity**

Test	Value
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO)	0.73
Bartlett's Test	P<0.001

**Table 2: Loading values on the axes of civil and political rights.**

Axis	Rights	Saturation value	Eigen Values		Variance%
			F1 (Axis 1)	F2 (Axis 2)	
Civil Rights	The right to life	0.73	-		
	Equality	0.43	-		
	Freedom of residence and movement	0.66	-	3.90	25.3
	Freedom of expression	0.77	-		
	Freedom of belief		-		
	Torture	0.44	-		
	Arrest	0.55	-		
	Other violations	0.80	-		
Political Rights	Political participation	-	0.35		
	Elections and the right to nominate	-	-		
	The right to face occupation	-	0.90	1.56	13.7
	Freedom of association	-	0.89		
	Freedom of protest and peaceful demonstration	-	0.41		
	Holding public office	-	0.62		

## Results of the Second part

### 2. Results of sample characteristics:

The online content of the most followed American newspapers has been selected: The New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN, Mondoweiss, Los Angeles Time, The Associated Press, The Monitor, CNET.

**Table 3: Sample characteristics: newspapers and the number of articles or units analyzed.**

	The newspaper	Number of followers million	Number of analysis units	Percentage
1.	New York Times	0.190	15	07.1%

2.	Washington Post	106.6	21	10.0%
3.	CNN	198.7	28	22.9%
4.	Mondoweiss	0.204	21	10.0%
5.	Los Angeles Times	23.4	23	11.0%
6.	The Associated Press	18.0	35	16.7%
7.	AL-Monitor	0.067	20	09.5%
8.	Cnet	112.1	27	12.8%
	Total		205	100%

## Results of the Third part

### 3.1 Frequencies of civil and political rights items and percentages:

To determine the most frequent and common items of civil and political rights, frequencies and percentages of the overall percentage were used.

The results show that the right to life tops the percentages (25.02%), followed by other rights (18.73%) (economic, social, cultural), Then equality (14.36%) and freedom of expression (12.06%), which is the axis of civil rights. On the other hand, it has gained dimensions: the right to face occupation (0.81%), the freedom to establish associations (0.85%), and the freedom to protest and peaceful demonstration (2.16%) the lowest percentages, all of which are political rights.

**Table 4: Frequencies of civil and political rights items according to their percentages**

Rights	Item	Percentage%	Axis
The right to life	1	25.02%	Civil Rights
Other rights	2	18.73%	Civil Rights
Equality	3	14.36%	Civil Rights
Freedom of expression	4	12.06%	Civil Rights
Freedom of residence and movement	5	7.17%	Civil Rights
Arrest	6	4.24%	Civil Rights
Holding public office	7	3.78%	Political Rights
Political participation	8	3.21%	Political Rights
Torture	9	2.66%	Civil Rights
Elections and the right to nomination	10	2.64%	Political Rights
Freedom of belief	11	2.28%	Civil Rights
Freedom of protest and peaceful demonstration	12	2.19%	Political Rights
Freedom of establishment of the Association	13	0.85%	Political Rights
The right to face occupation	14	0.81%	Political Rights

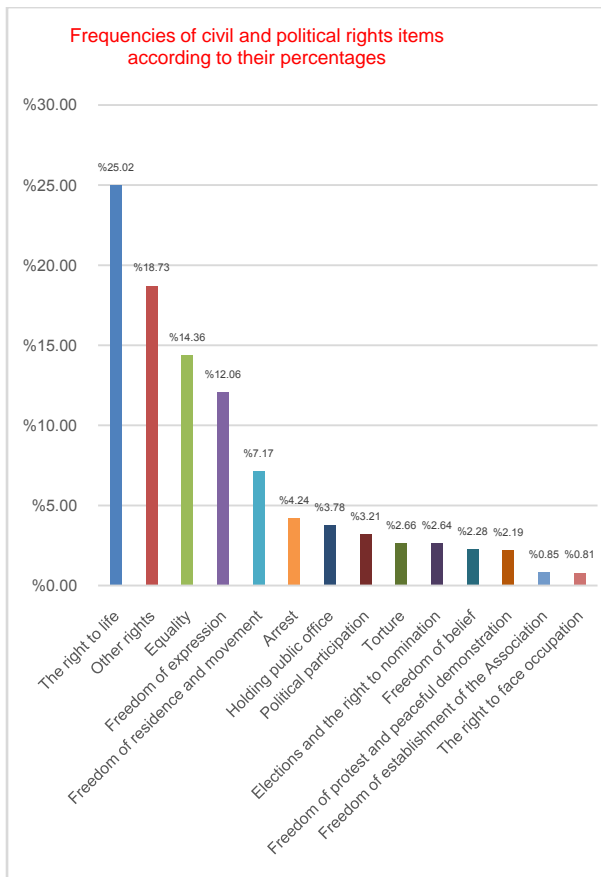


Figure 1: Frequencies of civil and political rights items according to their percentages

### 3.2 Frequencies of civil and political rights items and percentages individually:

To determine the most frequent and common items of civil and political rights individually, frequencies and percentages of the overall ratio of each axis were used.

The right to life at the center of civil rights leads by 28.93% for the other eight dimensions. Followed by other violations (21.64%), the right to equality (16.95%) and the right to freedom of expression (13.94%).

The focus of political rights was the right to hold public office by (28%) , followed by political participation (23.81%), the right to vote and nominate (19.53%), and the right to freedom of protest and peaceful demonstration (16.30%).

In general, the focus of civil rights on political rights has been significantly advanced, when compared. The centerpiece of civil rights (86.53%) was the total proportion of the two axes, while political rights only (13.47%).

Table 5: Frequencies of civil and political rights items and percentages Separately.

Axis	Rights	Number	Percentage%
Civil Rights	The right to life	6610	28.93%
	Equality	3793	16.59%
	Freedom of residence and movement	1894	8.29%
	Freedom of expression	3187	13.94%

	Freedom of belief	604	2.64%
	Torture	702	3.08%
	Arrest	1119	4.89%
	Other violations	4946	21.64%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>22855</b>	<b>100</b>
Political Rights	Political participation	847	23.81%
	Elections and the right to nominate	695	19.53%
	The right to face occupation	215	6.04%
	Freedom of association	225	6.32%
	Freedom of protest and peaceful demonstration	580	16.30%
	Holding public office	996	28.00%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>3558</b>	<b>100%</b>
	Civil Rights	22855	86.53%
	Political Rights	3558	13.47%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>26413</b>	<b>100%</b>

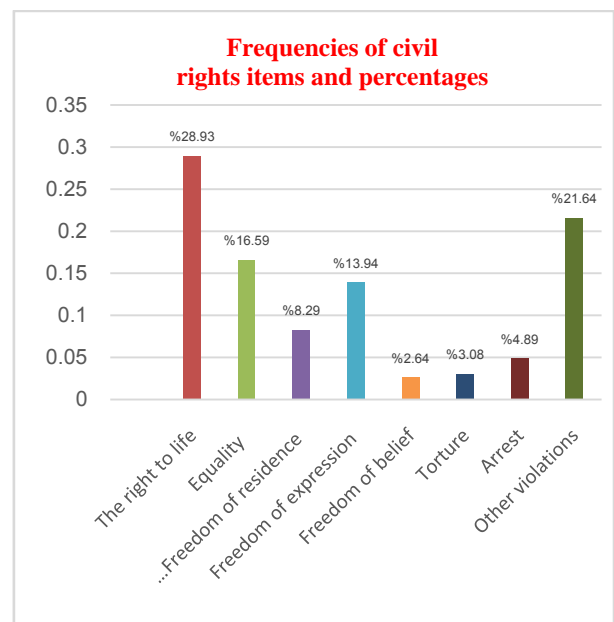


Figure 2: Frequencies of civilrights items and percentages

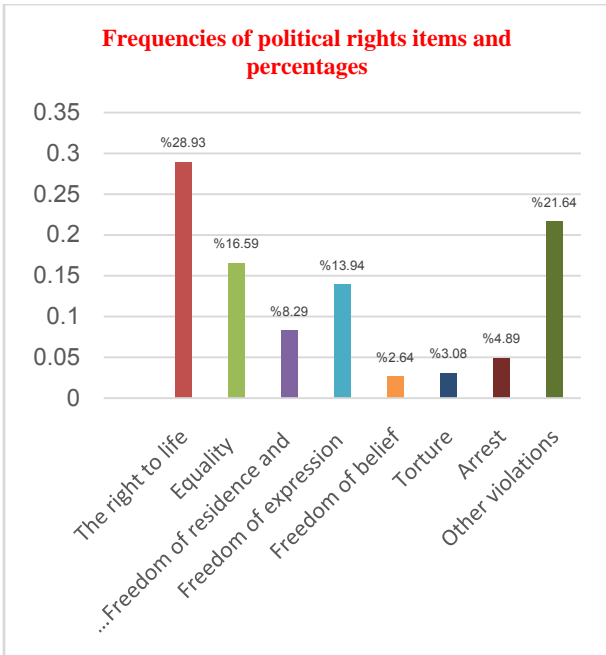


Figure 3: Frequencies of political rights items and percentages

### 3.3 Framework variable frequencies (Special framework: talk about civil and political rights in the context of events that took place, General framework: talk about civil and political rights in its abstract form).

The results showed a huge difference between talking about civil and political rights in their own context, depending on specific events and geographical areas, and their overall context as political and civil rights. The rate of the special framework was (95.66%), while the general framework only (4.34%).

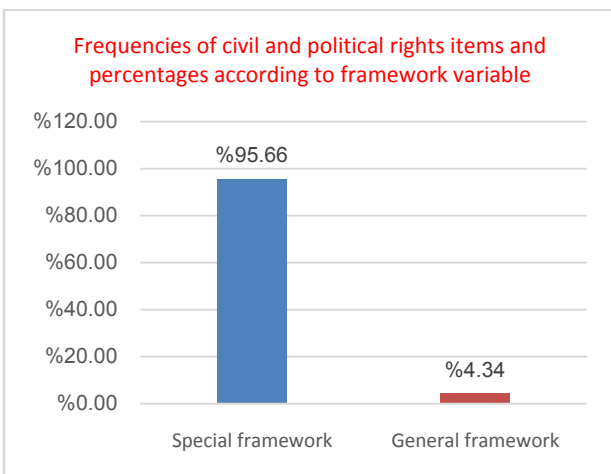


Table 6: Frequencies of civil and political rights items and percentages according to framework variable:

Framework	Number	Percentage%
Special framework	25266	95.66%
General framework	1147	4.34%
Total	26413	100%

Figure 4: Frequencies of civil and political rights items and percentages according to framework variable

### 3.4 Frequencies of the place of talk about civil and political rights (home page - internal page)

The results showed a significant difference between talking about civil and political rights in favor of the home page (73.91%), while the proportion of civil and political rights on the internal pages (26.09%).

Table 7: Frequencies of civil and political rights items and percentages by place of talk (home or internal page).

	Number	Percentage%
Home Page	16963	73.91%
Internal Page	5989	26.09%
Total	22952	100%

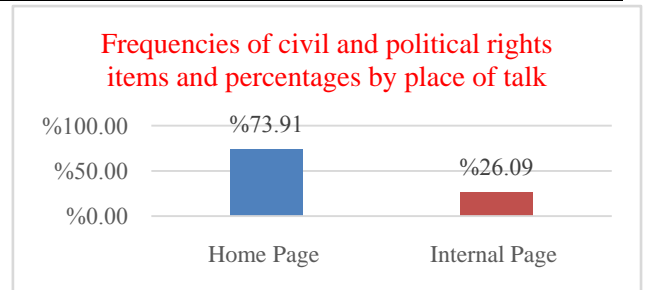


Figure 5: Frequencies of civil and political rights items and percentages by place of talk

### 3.5 Photo frequencies

The results showed that the number of images in the content of analysis of articles, research, reports or tweets was 1812, with an average of (2.3) per analysis unit.

Table 8: Photo repetition and number in analysis units.

	Number	Average per unit analysis	Standard Deviation(SD)
Photos	1812	2.30	2.79

## 5. DISCUSSION

### 5.1 Discuss the results of the first part: Results of Factor Analysis

The results of the first part relate to other measures of scientific control of the tool, which are supposed to measure

the contents of civil and political rights. This part focused on the results of the Factor Analysis.

A test was made about the appropriateness of the number of sample data collected, and the link matrix, as a prerequisite for testing the Factor Analysis of the study's tool. Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) tested 0.73, higher than 0.51 as recommended by "Kreiser" [13].

Bartlett's test is less than 0.001 ( $p < 0.00$ ), which is less than 0.05 as recommended by "Guilford" [14].

The conditions for the use of Factor Analysis have therefore been verified, and the test can proceed.

After testing and using Varimax Rotation, Loading is considered at least 0.3 as recommended by Guilford [15].

Emphasizing two axes through Factor Analysis, civil rights appeared with statistically indicative Loadings (excluding freedom of belief (less than 0.3)). The right to life (0.73), equality (0.43), freedom of residence and movement (0.66), freedom of expression (0.77), torture (0.44), arrest (0.55), other violations (0.80), explains this axis (25.33%) of total variation.

Political rights concepts also showed statistically indicative Loadings, with the exception of elections and the right to nominate (less than 0.3), political participation (0.35), the right to face occupation (0.90), freedom of association (0.89), freedom of protest and peaceful demonstration (0.41), holding public office (0.62).

Freedom of belief should be removed from the centerpiece of civil rights, elections and the right to nominate from the centerpiece of political rights. But it would have been better to keep them in the current study, given their importance and being an integral part of the 1976 International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

## **5.2 Discussion of the second part: Results of sample characteristics**

The sample of the most popular and followed newspapers in the United States, most interactive with civil rights issues within the United States, was selected: The New York Times, The Washington Post, CNN, Mondoweiss, Los Angeles Time, The Associated Press, The Monitor and Cnet.

The number of analysis units depended on the article published daily, which contains human rights contents. The ratios were different between a newspaper or other media agency, in order: CNN (22.9%), Associated Press (16.7%), CNET (12.8%), Los Angeles Time (11.0%), The Washington Post (10.0%), Mondoweiss (10.0%), Monitor (9.5%) and The New York Times (7.1%).

A sample of the most active and present media has been selected, allowing as much space as possible to analyze the content of their releases in a short period of time. It is not a perfect sample, because of the breadth of the study community, and the multiplicity of visions and orientations. American society is full of racial, religious and cultural diversity, but as we noted in the study's limitations, the target group is democratic, pro-civil and political rights, anti-persecution and policies of racial discrimination.

## **5.3 Discussion of the third part**

Frequencies of civil and political rights items and percentages.

### **1- Distribution of frequencies of civil and political rights.**

The results show that the right to life is the highest, with (25.02 %) of civil and political rights, followed by other rights (18.73%), such as cultural, social and economic rights. It also includes the demolition of houses, confiscation of land, siege,

assault on public property, exploitation of the judiciary, denial of attorney, abuses of prisoners, bribery, nepotism, corruption, child labour. Then equality (14.36%), freedom of expression (12.06%), freedom of residence and movement (7.17%), detention (4.24%) all are civil rights. Then holding public office (3.78%), political participation (3.21%) which are political rights.

As expected, the right to life is at the forefront of percentages of rights. Because of the importance of this right, which is innate and is the basis for all other rights, it makes no sense for any right in the absence of the right to life. The right to life is at the forefront of all international treaties, conventions and regulations on human rights. The human right to life is the most important personal right, it is the basis of all of them, and it is not reasonable to think about exercising any other right without adequate guarantee and protection of that right. This fact was therefore reflected in international human rights law, and its provisions emphasized the sanctity of that right and the need to secure it and its immunity [16].

The right to life was at the forefront of rights in the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which was presented and ratified in 1966. Article 6 of The Third Part states, "The right to life is a inherent right of every human being, and the law must protect this right and no one may be arbitrarily deprived of his life" [17].

In the 1948 Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the United Nations General Assembly, Article 3 of it decided on the right to life, stipulating that "Everyone has the right to life, freedom and physical personal integrity" [18].

The Office of Human Rights has expanded on the right to life in times of war as well. It issued the Geneva Convention on the Protection of Civilians in Wartime in 1949, which stated in its third article on people who do not directly participate in hostilities, including prisoners of war :

"It prevents assault on life and physical integrity, especially murder in all its forms, mutilation, cruel treatment, torture, assault on personal dignity, particularly degrading treatment that degrades dignity". The agreement also banned hostage-taking, sentencing and execution of sentences without a previous trial before a legally formed court, and ensured all necessary judicial guarantees in the eyes of civilized peoples [19].

Although there is a formal separation between the right to life and the issue of abortion in the United States, abortion remains at the heart of the concept of the right to life. There is an ongoing debate at the elitist and popular level about whether abortion is legalized or rejected in the first place, in a polarized state between Republican conservatives, church followers and pro-abortion liberals.

Abortion is legal throughout the United States and its territories, although restrictions vary from state to state, and many anti-abortion laws have been applied in each state since 1900. Since 1976, the Republican Party has generally sought to restrict access to abortion or criminalize abortion, while the Democratic Party has generally defended abortion and its lax tools [20].

Equality came after the right to life in civil rights axis with a percentage (14.36%), reflecting the importance of this dimension on the American scene. American society is essentially a immigrant community, with a wide mosaic of ethnicities, races and religions from all over the world. Although the United States is a long-standing democracy with a well-established tradition that has been passed down through generations based on a solid legal basis, the American Constitution, which was drafted by the early founders, racism and discrimination on the basis of color are still found in



American society. It is clearly manifested in discrimination against black Americans.

The meta-view of a large segment of white Americans towards people of non-European ethnicity, perhaps the sharp polarization that former American President Donald Trump (2016-2020) has contributed to deepening among white immigrants from Europe and others of color, is perhaps the most prominent manifestation of the meta-view of white racists.

Some amendments to the provisions of the American Constitution were made in line with some of the imbalances that have emerged on the surface as American society has swelled numerically. The influx of immigrants of various ethnicities, discrimination against blacks, and the successors of the post-end slavery era after the American Civil War (1866-1861). Among these amendments: The amendment to the Equal Protection Clause, a provision in the 14th Amendment to the American Constitution, states that "All persons born in the United States or naturalized by nationality, persons under their jurisdiction, are citizens of the United States and the state in which they live, cannot draft or enforce a law that impedes their privileges or legal immunity, and no state can deprive them of their lives, freedom or property without legal provision, and cannot deny equal protection to citizens under the law" [21].

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, co-drafted by the United States, states in its first article: "All people are born free and equal in dignity and rights, and they have given reason and conscience, and they must treat each other in a spirit of fraternity". In the second article "Every human being has the right to enjoy all the rights and freedoms mentioned in this declaration, without discrimination of any kind, particularly discrimination on the basis of race, color, sex, language, religion, political and non-political opinion, national or social origin, wealth, birth or any other situation. Moreover, discrimination may not be made on the basis of the political, legal or international status of the country or territory to which the person belongs, whether independent, under guardianship, non-self-governing or subject to any other restriction on his or her sovereignty" [22].

Despite the well-established American legal structure regarding equality, the rejection and criminalization of all forms of racism, discrimination in various forms against blacks in American society still exists. It's as if racism against blacks has taken root in the American subconscious and in the structure of customs and traditions, while it has found a translation of it in all walks of life. It has led to a number of unrest in the United States in recent decades, most recently the death of George Floyd on May 25, 2020 in Minneapolis, Minnesota, when a white policeman pressed his knee on his neck to death.

The Corona outbreak is the most prominent example of racism in the American health system, with statistics in a number of cities and counties, including Wisconsin, Carolina, Illinois, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, and Louisiana, showing that blacks get sick and die of the virus at higher rates than whites. In Milwaukee County, Wisconsin, a statistic showed that (81%) of the deaths were black, although they made up only (26 %) of the county's population [23].

Freedom of expression came in fourth place with (12.06 %), which is one of civil rights. The importance of freedom of expression to the American people lies in the fact that it is one of the most prominent manifestations of American democracy, and under it the media of all kinds are available on an unlimited margin of freedom and independence. It has sometimes forced U.S. presidents or official figures to resign on charges of corruption or legal abuses, so that American

freedom of expression has become an inspiration to all those seeking freedom of speech and expression from writers and intellectuals around the world.

This right is recognized in the First Amendment to the American Constitution, one of the first 10 amendments to the Constitution known as the "Bill of Rights", adopted on December 15, 1791. "Congress may not pass any law on the establishment of a religion or prohibit its free exercise, restrict freedom of expression or freedom of the press, or the right of the people to peacefully assemble and petition the government for redress," the right said [24].

The fourth article of the 1948 American Declaration of Human Rights and Duties of the Organization of American States states: "Everyone has the right to freedom of research, opinion, expression and dissemination of ideas by any means of any kind" [25].

However, freedom of expression is not in its ideal position, especially during the administration of President Donald Trump (2016-2020). Press freedom is suffering from a slight deterioration in the United States, a study said, which began even before Trump took office; because of the financial troubles facing the media sector and increased partisanship of news organizations [26].

"The greatest danger is that the United States is no longer the model and standard from which other countries are inspired," the study said.

This is followed by the right to freedom of residence and movement (7.17%) and by a clear difference, which relates more to legal and illegal immigrants, and the right to grant them permanent residence or citizenship. The right to movement is linked to the movement of individuals and the restrictions of "Terrorism Suspicion", especially after the 9th/September attacks, and the denial of entry to American territory by a number of arrivals, or not being granted a visa to enter, because their names are on special lists.

The right to residence and movement is an inherent right guaranteed by all charters drawn up by the early founders of the United States, co-drafted or joined. The American Declaration of Human Rights and Duties in Article 8, entitled "The Right to Stability and Mobility." Every person has the right to prepare housing in the territory of the state to which he is a citizen, to move freely within this territory, and not to leave except of his own volition [27].

There is no indication that freedom of expression faces a real problem in the United States, even with the previous Trump administration (2016-2020). The former American president used to incite media outlets that criticize him, especially if they are affiliated with the Democratic Party or even independent, and he has repeatedly described them as false. We have not heard of accountability, arrest or filing of lawsuits in the United States against the background of freedom of expression or expression of opinion.

The United States ranked in the Press Freedom Index as one of the manifestations of freedom of expression in 2021, ranked 44th out of 180 countries around the world, relatively advanced compared to the rest of the world. The index is issued by "Reporters Without Borders" and relies on a questionnaire sent to organizations in partnership with "Reporters Without Borders", including 14 groups whose work focuses on freedom of expression, as well as journalists, researchers, jurists, human rights activists and public liberties advocates [28].

The latest dimensions of civil rights in order of redundancies are detention at (4.24%), a relatively modest percentage compared to other civil rights dimensions. Overall, the issue of detention has been of no importance to the American people in modern times except in two events: the infamous

Guantanamo Bay, which the United States established after the 9th of September attacks to detain terrorism suspects by American definition. The detainee is located at Guantanamo Bay, the far southeast of Cuba, and is not subject to U.S. law, since it has theoretically been leased from Cuba since 1903.

The second event was in 1942, when former American President Franklin D. Roosevelt signed a resolution allowing the American military to transfer Americans of Japanese origin to concentration camps, after the deadly Japanese raid on the American port of Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1942, on suspicion that Americans of Japanese descent might be exploited by Japan to recruit them as agents for Japan. Politicians have supported the transfer of Japanese Americans living in the West Coast region to concentration camps, despite the Justice Department's objection at the time, and some 120,000 Japanese Americans have been placed in concentration camps in the largest official forced transfer in the American history.

There have been promises from former President Barack Obama to close Guantanamo detainee, but tough Republican opposition in the American Congress has so far prevented the detention from being closed. The Biden administration is working to transfer detainees home, release them, or transfer them to prisons inside the United States as a prelude to ending the thorny issue, although only 39 are currently being held at Guantanamo .

The political rights of the article whose content was analysed during the research period were not as important as civil rights. Frequencies of the dimensions of political rights were much lower than those of civil rights .

Frequencies of the dimensions of political rights were much lower than those of civil rights

The frequency of the right to confront occupation (0.81%), freedom of association (0.85%), freedom of protest and peaceful demonstration (2.16%), elections and the right to nominate (2.64%), political participation (3.21%), and holding public office (2.78%).

These results reflect the extent to which the American people and their elites are interested in rights in their political context . It's much closer to civil, economic, cultural and social rights than political rights. Despite its importance in expressing democratic practice and translating popular will through the election fund. The American people are concerned with domestic issues that directly affect them, especially economic and living standards, and in one way or another express one or more civil rights, such as abortion, which falls within the right to life. Present and strong in the American public debate, and in every election to the American Congress, the issue is raised again. The reasons for the worsening polarization between the Democratic and Republican parties are that abortion is a key issue among conservative groups in the Republican Party and those who are affiliated with religious currents and church leaders.

The issue of racial racism of European whites against blacks and people of color, which is classified as the right to equality, has caused successive crises over the past six decades, which have led to clashes and vandalism on the streets of America, most recently the humiliating strangulation of George Floyd "by a white policeman in May 2020."

In fact, the priority of civil rights over political rights for the American people and their elites is a reflection of the fact that the majority does not care about political affairs and public issues, rather than the events of the outside world, which appear in the ignorance of the majority of the American people or large segments of them on some obvious international issues. A 2014 study by the University of Pennsylvania's Enenberg Center for Public Policy, conducted

by the Center on 1,416 adults, indicated that a majority of Americans surveyed (60 %) did not know the political party that controlled the House of Representatives and senate. The study also found that only (36 %) of Americans were able to name the three main branches of the American government representing three authorities in the United States: The White House, which represents the executive branch, congress (both chambers of the Senate and the House of Representatives), which represents the legislature, and the Supreme Court, which represents the judiciary, while (35 %) failed to name even one of the three [29].

A 11/2002 national geographic study revealed that only( 51 %)of Americans were able to determine where New York State was located? The study also found that (29 %) of Americans could not determine where the Pacific Ocean is geographically located? Even though the Pacific Ocean borders the entire west coast of the United States. The same study revealed that one in seven Young Americans, aged ( 18-24 ), knew Iraq's location on the map, even though the American invasion of Iraq was at the door. Three years after the American invasion of Iraq began in 2003, the same site conducted a similar study in America in 2006 that showed that (63 %) of young Americans of the same age group could not determine Iraq's geographical location in the Middle East map. The same study also revealed that 9 out of 10 young Americans in the study did not know Afghanistan's location on the map, despite the start of the American invasion since 2001. One of the strangest results of the study was that( 54 %)of young Americans did not know that Sudan was located on the continent of Africa [30] .

"A Morning Consult " poll also found that (34 %)of Americans know where Ukraine is on the map, while (66 %)have not been able to locate it on a deaf map of Europe (with no information) [31] .

## **2- Discussion of the results of the variable framework (Special framework: talk about civil and political rights in the context of events that took place, General framework: talk about rights as they are abstract):**

The difference between talking about civil and political rights in its abstract context was clear and visible. Speaking of evidence and models arranged by events, talk of civil and political rights was limited to its abstract framework (only 4.34%), while the remaining( 95.66% )came in the context of talking about partialities and events. Imposed by reality, such as: assassination, massacre, arrest of an opposition figure and severe torture, protests interspersed with violations, targeting human rights figures or institutions in countries under tyrannical rule, persecution of ethnic or religious minorities, prosecution of opponents.

Talking about civil and political rights may be more exciting and convincing from the point of view of writers, analysts, journalists and researchers, when reviewed in the context of certain events and evidence. This has a scientific basis as the style of the event or story within certain events, aims to find meanings and connotations in the reader about the life and the environment around them. So that important questions and issues are raised within the conflicts faced by the characters of the event to deliver certain messages, facilitate the teaching of abstract concepts and theoretical principles, attract attention towards the subject of the event, prepare them for the new situation, increase their motivation, excite them and arouse their curiosity, as well as help expand imagination and the

ability to describe, and help to form logical links between concepts through the sequence of events [32].

### 3- Discuss the results of the variable place of talk about civil and political rights ( Home or internal page) :

The results revealed that there is a big difference between talking about civil and political rights in favor of the home page by (73.91%), while the percentage of civil and political rights in the internal pages (26.09%). That is, 3/4 talk of civil and political rights was presented on the home page, and this difference is linked to the events and high-profile evidence inside and outside the United States, as important or exciting events were logically presented on the front pages.

### 4- Discuss the results of photo frequencies in the article including civil and political rights:

It turns out that the number of images in the content of analysis of articles, research, reports or tweets containing civil and political rights was 1812 with an average of (2.3) per analysis unit, meaning that there are more than two images per article, research, media material or tweets. This reflects the importance of images of the material displayed in the electronic world, including material that includes talk about civil and political rights.

There is no doubt that in our modern era, the image has become a key element in addressing the other, representing the most important tools of our world, knowledge, culture, economy and media.

The importance of the image lies in the fact that the sense of sight is the most important and most commonly used human senses in the acquisition of information, and the image addresses all human beings regardless of age, educational level or social background. Images break the language barrier because the spoken or written word is linked to something concrete, perceptible and specific, and the word is linked to something abstract, intangible and generalized. The image differs from the written text that requires the hard, focused and slow dismantling of the relationships between words, while the images give the message at once. It is also different from the written word in ease of receiving, because reading requires meditation and the work of the mind, but the image does not need much mental effort to receive it <sup>(2)</sup>.

## 6. CONCLUSION

1- There is a pattern, language or human rights imprint in American human rights, political and media discourse, which is a passing language for the media, institutions and personalities in multiple and different expressions, but with one human rights knowledge content.

2- American society and its active institutions cannot be viewed from outside official frameworks, through one path or specific templates, considering that there is a general culture that brings together the majority of the spectrum and components of American society. This is a wrong entry point to understanding American society that leads to untrue and far-fetched conclusions. There is even a wide variety of races, religious backgrounds, beliefs and opinions, which resonate in the position on humanitarian and human rights issues, the attitude towards racism, and the against injustice and oppression.

3- Civil rights have clearly outperformed political rights in human rights and the media discourse.

4- The right to life came at the forefront of other civil rights, followed by the right to equality, which is almost the most debated issue in American public discourse.

5- The talk of civil and political rights in the vast majority came in the context of certain events and evidence inside and outside the United States, in return little talk was limited to civil and political rights as defined and abstract informatics.

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