

Dramatisim ISIS Network and Framing Terrorism: An Analysis Indonesian News Coverage of Terrorism News

RAISA ALATAS*

İDİL SAYIMER

Kocaeli University, Türkiye

ABSTRACT

Terrorism is a global threat and not just a phenomenon. As a red zone of terrorism, terrorists in Indonesia have always been exclusively associated with ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria) affiliates. Seeing the focus of terrorism coverage in Indonesia related to the dramatization of the ISIS group is an interesting contribution related to the benefits of political economy in the media that is constructed differently in two mainstream media in Indonesia such as online media portals *kompas.com* and CNN Indonesia. In addition, there are differences in the comparative approach of the two media in reporting the arrest of terrorists suspected of being linked to the ISIS network. This study aims to answer the question, how is the dramatization of the ISIS network and the framing of terrorism news in Indonesia on *Kompas.com* and CNN Indonesia media? This research uses qualitative methods with Robert M. Entman's Framing Analysis approach, which includes problem definition, cause diagnosis, moral judgment, and treatment recommendations. The results show that by using big names in the ISIS network, dramatic framing can be achieved. Like *Kompas.com*, they focus on labelling the ISIS network as an extremist armed group and consider it a potential threat. This is different from CNN Indonesia which focuses more on narrative text when developing news about the government's position and steps to be taken to reduce the threat of terrorism in Indonesia.

Keywords: *Indonesia, ISIS, media framing, terrorism, dramatization.*

INTRODUCTION

Terrorism is a global threat and a frightening threat to many countries. Terrorist incidents can have a very damaging impact, not only on the direct victims but also on society, the economy, and political stability (Irwanti et al., 2023). Terrorism is not a phenomenon unique to one particular country or region. Many countries around the world, including developed countries, face the threat of terrorism. Meanwhile, Indonesia has experienced incidents of terrorism in the past. Some research refers to calling Indonesia a "red zone" but this does not fully reflect the current conditions or the efforts made by the Indonesian government to tackle terrorism (Irwanti et al., 2023). In a report, Indonesia was ranked third in the countries most affected by terrorism in the Asia-Pacific region this year, according to a report entitled Global Terrorism Index (GTI) 2023 published by the Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP), Indonesia achieved a score of 5,502 points (Institute for Economics and Peace, 2023).

Terrorists in Indonesia are always associated exclusively with ISIS (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria). Although several terrorist groups in Indonesia have expressed support for or affiliation with ISIS, the situation is complex and involves various factors. Several factors that can explain the link between terrorists in Indonesia and ISIS involve the ideology of Islamic radicalism, the influence of social media, as well as political and social issues at the global and regional levels. Some individuals or groups in Indonesia may feel inspired by the ideology and propaganda spread by ISIS (Schulze & Liow, 2019).

*Corresponding author: raisaalatas.ra@gmail.com

E-ISSN: 2289-1528

<https://doi.org/10.17576/JKMJC-2026-4203-06>

Received: 5 August 2024 | Accepted: 15 June 2026 | Published: 30 September 2026

There are misunderstandings that can trigger dramatization regarding the connection between terrorist groups in Indonesia and ISIS. Indonesia is a country with the largest Muslim majority in the world. Emphasis on links to ISIS is often made because several terrorist groups in Indonesia have expressed support for or affiliation with ISIS. However, this does not reflect the general view of Islam in Indonesia. Another factor that can influence this perception is Islamophobia, namely fear or hatred of Islam or Muslims. Some individuals or groups may exploit ties to ISIS to strengthen negative narratives against Islam as a whole.

According to statistical data, the number of terrorism suspects in Indonesia has increased again throughout 2021. Based on reports from the Indonesian National Police (Polri), there were 370 terrorism suspects in the country in 2021. In fact, the number of terrorism suspects in the previous year was 232 suspects. This means, there is an increase of 59.48% compared to 2020. Despite the increase, the number of acts of terror decreased by 7 cases or 53.8% last year. In detail, there were 13 terror cases in 2020, while there were only 6 acts of terrorism in 2021. Meanwhile, as of October 2023, the National Police recorded that there had been no acts of terror. So far this year, 104 terrorism suspects have been arrested by Densus 88 (Muhamad, 2023).

Reporting on terrorism in Indonesia can have various atmospheres depending on the news source, context and editorial approach of the media. The media often includes analysis from security experts, terrorism experts, and political analysts to provide further context. This could involve a discussion of the terrorist group's ideological background, ties to international organizations such as ISIS, or socio-economic factors that may contribute to radicalization. News coverage also often reflects the level of uncertainty and security concerns that may arise following a terrorist attack. The media is often faced with the challenge of providing accurate information without reinforcing terrorist narratives or causing panic. News is a representation of reality which is always complex.

Framing, or forming a news framework, is a process in which the media forms a point of view or narrative regarding a particular topic. Framing analysis helps understand how the media shapes public perceptions about certain issues, including reporting on terrorism in Indonesia. Framing analysis highlights how these various elements are interrelated and form the narrative of terrorism reporting. It is important to remember that the media has the power to shape people's perceptions and understanding of certain issues, and framing analysis can help dismantle these constructions.

In previous research conducted by Mohammad Zamroni, Yanti Dwi Astuti, Achmad Zuhri entitled '*religious Radicalism Frame in the Online Media News (Framing Analysis Reporting of "ISIS" in Republika.co.id and Tempo.co)*' in this research aims to explore how Islamic radicalism is framed through reporting on the "ISIS" group in two online media, namely Republika.com and Tempo.co, with an impartiality perspective. The research results show that news about the radical "ISIS" is included in the category of news construction that is emotional, sadistic, provocative and without confirmation. Apart from that, the quality of the news is often decorated with words that seem hyperbolic and bombastic (Zamroni et al., 2021).

According to the Global Terrorism Index (GTI) 2023, Indonesia is among the countries most affected by terrorism in the Asia-Pacific region (Institute for Economics and Peace, 2023). Strikingly, media representations of terrorism often link Indonesian suspects to ISIS, reflecting a dramatized narrative that may disguise the complexities of local radicalization. Media representations of terrorism always link Indonesian suspects to ISIS, reflecting a dramatic narrative that may disguise the complexity of local radicalization that actually exists.

Previous research has examined how Islamic radicalism is portrayed in Indonesian media (Zamroni et al., 2021), but there remains a gap in understanding how dramatization specifically operates through media frames and ideological discourses. Literature on the temporal dynamics of dramatized framing is scarce, especially longitudinal studies that track how news framing changes from terror events to policy narratives and how audiences respond over time. Such research is important to assess whether the shift in focus correlates with changes in public attitudes towards civil rights, freedom restrictions, or counter-terrorism policies in Indonesia. A Jacobson-type longitudinal design could be applied; references (Mahony, 2010) demonstrate the methodological need for the Indonesian context. This research addresses that gap by comparing the framing techniques used by Kompas.com and CNN Indonesia. Terrorism news reporting is largely treated as an episodic coverage of violent events, rather than as part of a developing narrative that can indirectly shift from direct threat construction to policy legitimization.

Therefore, looking at the focus of terrorism reporting in Indonesia related to the dramatization of ISIS group is interesting in the context of the benefits of media political economy. The online media portals Kompas.com and CNN Indonesia were chosen because both are media that are highly trusted by the public. In addition, there are differences in the approach of the two media in reporting the arrest of terrorists suspected of being linked to the ISIS network.

LITERATURE REVIEW

A good starting point is the definition proposed by Alex P. Schmid in *Political Terrorism: A New Guide to Actors, Authors, Concepts, Databases, Theories, and Literature* (co-edited with Albert J. Jongman). Schmid defines terrorism as a method of frightening through repeated acts of violence, used by individuals, groups, or semi-secret state actors, for unique, criminal, or political reasons, where it is conceptualized differently from murder and the direct target of violence is not the primary objective (Silke, 2018). In line with Schmid, Bushnell et al. (2019) describes terrorism as a frightening and repetitive act of violence, the direct victim of which is generally chosen randomly as a chance or selectively as a representative or symbolic target of the target group and serves as a message generator. A communication process based on threats and violence between the terrorist (organization), the victim (at risk) and the primary target (audience), depending on whether it is a threat or not, the target of terrorism, Become the target of requests, or the target of attention, Coercion, or propaganda, is the main purpose (Jongman & Schmid, 2005).

Developing a framework for analysing possible scenarios of terrorism requires a conceptual distinction between different types of factors (Silke, 2018). First, there is a significant difference between preconditions, or factors that promote the emergence of terrorism in the long term, and triggers, which are concrete events that necessarily precede the occurrence of terrorism. Second, a further classification divides situations into enabling or permissive factors that facilitate the emergence of terrorism, and situations that directly facilitate terrorist activities. Triggers are similar to the immediate causes of terrorism. Moreover, none of the factors can be neatly divided into single nation-states. Each has transnational aspects that complicate analysis (Silke, 2018).

The original theory of framing was developed by social psychologist Goffman (1956), and the concept of framing has become one of the most influential for understanding media and communication in recent decades, although it has been influenced by multiple analytical

approaches (Entman, 2021; Persson, 2019). This is one of the ways. As Entman states, framing theory is a “broken paradigm,” which has led to framing analysis being applied to different types of media content for different analytical purposes (Onwumechili, 2018). Despite its fragmented nature, Entman argues that framing has common characteristics such as defining the problem. That is, it determines what the causal agent is doing, the costs and benefits it is causing, and is usually measured against shared cultural values. Diagnosing the cause by identifying the forces that caused the problem. Making moral judgments, evaluating cause-and-effect relationships and their impact, as well as proposing solutions and justifying the handling of the problem and predicting its likely impact (Entman, 2021). Entman analogizes framing studies can lead to the treatment of media dramatization as stylistic hyperbole rather than as a structural amplification of the theatrical logic of terrorism in a text. Thus, in the style of framing text analysis, media framing can expand, intensify, or even reproduce the performative strategies embedded in terrorism itself.

Text can emphasize information through placement and repetition and can be associated with culturally familiar symbols (Bonvillain, 2020). However, even a single illustration of a term in an ambiguous part of the text can be very significant if it matches an existing schema in the recipient's belief system (Bonvillain, 2020). Similarly, recipients may have difficulty noticing, interpreting, and recalling the ideas highlighted in the text due to their preexisting schemas. For our purposes, schemas and closely related concepts such as categories, scripts, or stereotypes refer to clusters of mentally stored ideas that guide an individual's information processing. Since saliency is a product of the interaction between the text and the recipient, the existence of a frame in the text noted by researchers does not guarantee that it will influence the audience's thinking (Saldaña & Omasta, 2018).

METHODOLOGY

This research adopts a case-based qualitative design, specific to Robert M. Entman's text framing analysis. The chosen time frame of August 2023 corresponds to a specific terrorism arrest case that received concentrated media coverage in that short period of time. During this period, only a small number of news reports were published consecutively on the incident of Indonesian government employees involved in terrorism groups.

Robert M. Entman's framing analysis was chosen not to measure frequency trends, but as an analytical tool to examine how the framing function operates intensively in a limited event. Therefore, the unit of analysis consisted of six news articles that represented the complete coverage of the case within the time group.

Table 1: Kompas.com Analysis Unit

No.	Publish Date	Headline
1	14 August 2023	<i>“Fakta-fakta Terduga Teroris di Bekasi: Karyawan PT KAI dan Pendukung ISIS”</i> <i>Facts about Suspected Terrorists in Bekasi: PT KAI (Indonesian Railways) Employees and ISIS Supporters</i> (in Kompas.com: Maulana, 2023)
2	15 August 2023	<i>“Pengungkapan Teroris di Bekasi: Pegawai PT KAI Jadi Pengikut ISIS dan Aktif Lakukan Propaganda di Medsos”</i> <i>Terrorist Disclosure in Bekasi: PT KAI (Indonesian Railways) Employees Become ISIS Followers and Actively Conduct Propaganda on Social Media</i> (in Kompas.com: Chaterine & Santosa, 2023)
3	18 August 2023	<i>“Tiga Anggota Polri Ikut Ditangkap Terkait Kasus Terorisme di Bekasi”</i> <i>Three National Police Members Also Arrested in Connection with Terrorism Cases in Bekasi</i> (in Kompas.com: Andre & Carina, 2023)

Source: Developed by the author based on Kompas.com news reports (2026).

Table 2: CNN Indonesia Analysis Unit

No.	Publish Date	Headline
1	15 August 2023	<i>"Fakta-fakta Karyawan KAI Tersangka Teroris Jaringan ISIS Versi Polisi"</i> <i>Police Facts about KAI (Indonesian Railways) Employees Suspected of ISIS Network Terrorism</i> (CNN Indonesia, 2023b)
2	15 August 2023	<i>"Karyawan KAI Jaringan ISIS Diduga Mau Serang Mako Brimob & Mabes TNI"</i> <i>ISIS Network KAI Employees Allegedly Want to Attack Mobile Brigade Corps Headquarters & Indonesian National Army Headquarters</i> (CNN Indonesia, 2023c)
3	16 August 2023	<i>"Erick Thohir Respons Pegawai KAI Diduga Terlibat ISIS dan Terorisme"</i> <i>Erick Thohir Responds to KAI Employees Allegedly Involved in ISIS and Terrorism</i> (CNN Indonesia, 2023a)

Source: Developed by the author based on CNN Indonesia news reports (2026).

Entman's four framing functions were chosen because this study seeks to uncover interpretive structures. This study aims to analyse how meaning is constructed, how actors are morally positioned, and how terrorism is narratively dramatized in the text. Given the study's focus on symbolic intensification specifically the narrowing of discourse towards ISIS affiliation qualitative text framing analysis will provide more specific analytical depth.

RESULT

Framing Indonesian Terrorism Through Kompas.com

Robert Entman's framing analysis is a method for analysing how the media shapes people's perceptions and interpretations of an issue or event. In the context of reporting on terrorism in Indonesia, this framing analysis can provide a deeper understanding of how the media frames the issue and influences public views. Kompas.com as one of the most trusted media in Indonesia sees the framing of terrorism as a concern for the government and society.

The focus on making governments and society concerned about terrorism highlights the multifaceted character of the issue and its consequences for public safety, national security, and social cohesion (Al Amosh et al., 2024). Kompas.com contributes to the collaborative duty of all stakeholders - government agencies, law enforcement, civil society, and the general public - in overcoming and minimizing the threat of terrorism by presenting terrorism as a shared problem.

Kompas.com, one of the most reliable media outlets in Indonesia, is crucial for educating and swaying public opinion. By presenting terrorism as a major social issue, Kompas.com helps to increase public awareness of the gravity of the issue and to foster discussion on preventive, intervention, and response measures.

Kompas.com's report on August 14, 2023, was entitled "Facts about Suspected Terrorists in Bekasi: PT KAI (Indonesian Railways) Employees and ISIS Supporters". The online media Kompas tries to present the facts regarding the arrest of suspected terrorists in the city of Bekasi in the news text it publishes.

Table 3: Kompas.com News Framing Analysis (1)

Headline	Framing Analysis
14 August 2023 "Facts about Suspected Terrorists in Bekasi: PT KAI (Indonesian Railways) Employees and ISIS Supporters"	Define Problems: ● Terrorist Identification and Location of Arrest: The news identified a man suspected of being a terrorist with the initials DE and provided details of the location of the arrest at the Pesona Anggrek Harapan Housing Complex, North Bekasi, Bekasi City, West Java. ● Links to Indonesian state-owned enterprises (BUMN): Focus on information that suspected terrorists are BUMN employees. Diagnose Causes: ● ISIS Supporters and Propaganda on Social Media: Framing shows that DE is an ISIS supporter who actively carries out jihad propaganda via social media, especially Facebook. This activity is explained by providing motivation for jihad and inviting people to unite in the goal of jihad. ● Participation in Telegram Groups: Information includes DE's membership in a Telegram group called BEL4J4R PEDUL1 MUH4J1R, which is used for fundraising, as well as being an admin and creator of several Telegram channels related to global terror which are translated into Indonesian. Make Moral Judgement: ● Supporting Extremist Militant Groups: News evaluates DE's actions as an ISIS supporter and involvement in activities supporting extremist militant groups, including fundraising. Treatment Recommendation: ● Arrests and Legal Treatment: News provides information about arrests by the National Police's Anti-terror Densus 88, indicating law enforcement measures against suspected terrorists. ● Improved Social Media Security: The implications of activity on social media indicate the need for further monitoring and handling of online security.

Source: Obtained from primary data (Maulana, 2023).

This news defines the problem, diagnoses the causes, makes a moral judgement, and treatment recommendations for handling the arrest of a suspected terrorist who is one of the permanent employees of a BUMN (State-Owned Enterprise). The suspected DE terrorist, a BUMN employee, is strongly suspected of being an ISIS supporter with his activities on social media and Telegram groups. Arrest and legal treatment are suggested as treatment recommendations in the analysis. Meanwhile, online security monitoring is also emphasized by the government, which is expected because this is of course not out of control, but the government can take this serious step on social media.

The process of identifying people who may be ISIS sympathizers by their behaviour on social media and in Telegram groups emphasizes how important internet platforms are to radicalization and extremist networks. This emphasizes how crucial it is to keep an eye on online security to guard against terrorist operations made possible by digital means.

A commitment to maintaining the rule of law and guaranteeing accountability for transgressions related to terrorism is shown in the recommendations for arrests and judicial action. This demonstrates how seriously the government takes security threats and how urgent it is to take decisive action against terrorists. Furthermore, the government's emphasis on internet security monitoring suggests a proactive strategy for combating terrorism in the digital age.

In the next news on August 15, 2023, Kompas.com published the headlines "Terrorist Disclosure in Bekasi: PT KAI (Indonesian Railways) Employees Become ISIS Followers and Actively Conduct Propaganda on Social Media" still focusing on the arrest of one of the government employees suspected of being involved directly with the ISIS network. Trying to discuss more deeply in the news texts published by the online media Kompas.com still in August 2023.

Table 4: Kompas.com News Framing Analysis (2)

Headline	Framing Analysis
15 August 2023	Define Problems: ● Identification of Terrorist Suspect: DE was identified as a terrorist suspect who was arrested by Densus 88 Anti-terror Police in the Bekasi area, West Java. ● Involvement of BUMN Employees: Framing focuses on the fact that DE is a BUMN employee, especially PT Kereta Api Indonesia (KAI). Diagnose Causes: ● ISIS supporter: News shows that DE is a supporter of ISIS, is active in its propaganda on social media, provides jihadist motivation, and sympathizes with ISIS leaders. ● Activities on Social Media: Framing focuses on DE's activities on social media, including posting jihadist propaganda and testing homemade weapons on Facebook. Make Moral Judgement: ● Terrorist Suspect: DE is described as a terrorist suspect, and the news framing tends to lead to a moral judgment that this action is unacceptable in society. ● ISIS supporters: Framing also indicates a negative moral assessment of actions supporting ISIS and its propaganda. Treatment Recommendation: ● Legal Response: News provided information about the arrest by Densus 88, indicating that law and law enforcement were considered a necessary response to this case. ● Increased Security: With the arrest of suspected terrorists, the news provides the implication that increased security and surveillance of potential terrorist threats may be necessary.

Source: Obtained from primary data (Chaterine & Santosa, 2023).

By using this method, we can understand how this news views the problem that the identification of terrorist suspects and the involvement of BUMN employees are the main issues in this news. The involvement of government employees is unusual with strict methods to become a government employee. Diagnosing the cause that it turns out that support for ISIS can influence the government and activities on social media cannot be detected and become a tool for carrying out terrorist propaganda.

In making moral judgments in this news, assessing the suspect's actions and being a supporter of ISIS is something that is morally unacceptable for every society and of course leads to negative things, and therefore as the final category this framing analysis provides recommendations for handling through law enforcement and improvement. Tighter security from the police to reduce the potential for terrorist threats in Indonesia.

In the next news on August 18, 2023, online media Kompas.com again issued the headlines "Three National Police Members Also Arrested in Connection with Terrorism Cases in Bekasi". This time Kompas.com is trying to reveal the involvement of the police in the ISIS terrorism network.

Table 5: Kompas.com News Framing Analysis (3)

Headline	Framing Analysis
18 August 2023 "Three National Police Members Also Arrested in Connection with Terrorism Cases in Bekasi"	Define Problems: ● Arrest of Police Members: Three Polri members were also arrested as a result of the arrest of terrorists in North Bekasi. Dirreskrimum Polda Metro Jaya Kombes Hengki Haryadi will release further information this afternoon. ● Involvement of PT KAI (DE) Employees: DE, an employee of PT Kereta Api Indonesia (KAI), has been named a terrorist suspect. He is suspected of having a marketplace account for illegal weapons trading. Diagnose Causes: ● Marketplace Accounts as Camouflage: DE is suspected of using marketplace accounts as a camouflage tool for illegal weapons trading. Aswin Siregar from Densus 88 said that the marketplace was camouflage to make money and disguise activities related to firearms. Make Moral Judgement: ● Suspected ISIS supporter: DE is described as an ISIS supporter who is active in carrying out jihad propaganda via social media, providing motivation for jihad and calling for unity in the cause of jihad. ● Police Involvement: The arrest of three members of the National Police raises concerns regarding the involvement of security forces in this case. Treatment Recommendation: ● Legal Treatment: Densus 88 arrested DE and three members of the National Police. The release of further information is expected to provide a more in-depth explanation. ● Increased Social Media Security: Based on DE's activity on social media, increased monitoring of online activities and similar marketplaces may be necessary.

Source: Obtained from primary data (Andre & Carina, 2023).

This news looks at the contents of the text framing, describing the arrest of terrorists to the involvement of BUMN (DE) employees, and has an impact on the three members of the National Police who intervened in this case. Framing news involves problems, diagnosing the cause, that technological sophistication can also create camouflage for terrorists. The moral assessment of every terrorist case in the text will always end negatively as something that has a dangerous impact on the surroundings, and recommendations for handling, with an emphasis on the role of the marketplace as a camouflage tool and the involvement of the police in this case so that it can be handled legally.

The fact that terrorists can conceal their operations due to technological expertise emphasizes how security risks in the digital age are dynamic. This emphasizes how crucial it is to have more technological know-how and to be extremely vigilant in order to spot and stop terrorist activity that takes place online.

Ethical evaluations of terrorist incidents consistently present them in a negative light and highlight the detrimental effects they have on society. This news piece emphasizes how critical it is to confront the issue of terrorism by presenting it as a significant threat to public safety and security. The emphasis on the market's use as a tool for disguise and the police's involvement in this case demonstrate the variety of approaches being taken to end terrorism.

Framing Indonesian Terrorism Through CNN Indonesia

The media frames the issue of terrorism in Indonesia, and how this framing can influence public perception. Framing can indirectly emphasize certain aspects of a terrorist incident. For example, focus on the perpetrator, victim, motivation, or economic impact. This emphasis can guide people's attention to specific dimensions that can influence their perceptions (Betus et al., 2021). The narrative carried by news texts can influence the way people understand the chronology or context of a terrorist incident (Kearns et al., 2019; Tulga, 2020). Determining the direction of this narrative can form a certain point of view and influence people's interpretation of the event (Kearns et al., 2019).

This manipulation of focus can have a major impact on people's attitudes and responses to terrorism because people tend to form their opinions based on the information they receive. In addition, narratives constructed in news texts play an important role in building audiences' understanding of the chronology and context of terrorist events (Baker et al., 2020). The point of view formed by this narrative can form a certain point of view, which in turn shapes the way society sees and understands the event. Media framing carries enormous responsibility as it can promote better understanding or perpetuate bias and misunderstanding (Nickerson, 2019). To foster a comprehensive understanding of terrorism-related issues and encourage constructive public discourse, the media must ensure balanced, accurate and ethical reporting.

The next discussion will lead to CNN Indonesia's online media reporting as a comparison to previous online media. On August 15, 2023, CNN released the headlines "Police Facts about KAI (Indonesian Railways) Employees Suspected of ISIS Network Terrorism". This text will then be framed in Entman's four categories.

Table 6: CNN Indonesia News Framing Analysis (1)

Headline	Framing Analysis
15 August 2023	Define Problems:
"Police Facts about KAI (Indonesian Railways) Employees Suspected of ISIS Network Terrorism"	● Arrest of BUMN (PT KAI) Employees: Suspected terrorist DE, an employee of BUMN PT KAI, was arrested and named a terrorism suspect by Densus 88 Anti-terror Police. ● Affiliation with ISIS: DE is suspected of being affiliated with the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) terror network. ● Propaganda Activities on Social Media: DE actively carries out jihad propaganda through social media, especially Facebook, by providing motivation to unite in the cause of jihad. ● Pledge of Allegiance to ISIS: DE admitted that he had sworn allegiance to ISIS and often distributed posters containing the text of allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Al Husain Al Husaini Al Quraysi. ● Closed Perpetrator Profile: The results of the profiling show that the perpetrator, DE, is a closed person in social life.

Diagnose Causes:

- **Use of Social Media for Propaganda:** Framing shows that DE uses social media platforms, especially Facebook, as a means to carry out jihad propaganda and spread ISIS ideology.
- **Acceptance of Allegiance to ISIS:** DE's activities include pledging allegiance to ISIS and distributing allegiance posters, indicating involvement in the terror network.

Make Moral Judgement:

- **Terrorist Activities and Propaganda:** Moral judgments related to DE's terrorist activities and its efforts to spread jihadist propaganda, which were declared to be unlawful and ethical.

Treatment Recommendation:

- **Law Enforcement:** DE's arrest and designation as a suspect indicates law enforcement steps that need to be taken against individuals involved in terrorist and propaganda activities.
- **Increased Public Awareness:** The public is advised to be more sensitive to closed behavior in the surrounding environment and report suspicious things to the authorities.

Source: Obtained from primary data (CNN Indonesia, 2023b).

This news focuses on the scope of the arrest of terrorist DE, an employee of BUMN PT KAI, who is suspected of being affiliated with ISIS. Framing involves problem definition, diagnosis of causes related to ISIS's allegiance, moral assessment in the spread of jihad allegedly carried out by suspected terrorists, and recommendations for treatment, with an emphasis on propaganda activities on social media and oaths of allegiance to ISIS. In this text, the public is advised to be more alert to closed behaviour and report suspicious things as a message in the closing text.

The news described DE's arrest and his suspected ties to ISIS, which clarified the issue. This lays the groundwork for comprehending the gravity of the circumstance and the possible repercussions of DE actions. The second section of the causative diagnosis investigates DE's support for ISIS and its role in spreading terrorist propaganda, especially on social media. This narrative draws attention to the underlying mechanisms that might have contributed to DE's purported terrorist operations by identifying these variables.

The moral evaluation part categorically denounces DE's conduct, characterizing it as immoral and possibly damaging. This highlights the seriousness of transgressions related to terrorism and aims to reinforce society norms and values. By presenting the problem in this manner, the initiative hopes to boost accountability, create awareness of the threat posed by terrorism, and promote group action against extremist behaviour and propaganda. Furthermore, the final statement urging public watchfulness highlights how crucial community involvement is to maintain public safety and security.

In the next news text in the analysis unit, CNN Indonesia released the headlines "ISIS Network KAI Employees Allegedly Want to Attack Mobile Brigade Corps Headquarters & Indonesian National Army Headquarters" on August 15, 2023. In this text, if you look at the news headline, they even specify the location where terror will be spread.

Table 7: CNN Indonesia News Framing Analysis (2)

Headline	Framing Analysis
15 August 2023	Define Problems: ● Planned attack on Mako Brimob and TNI Headquarters: Suspect DE, an employee of PT KAI which is affiliated with ISIS, is suspected of planning an attack on Mako Brimob or TNI Headquarters. ● Inspiration from the Rebellion at Mako Brimob: DE stated that he got the inspiration and enthusiasm to carry out amaliyah action after seeing the terrorist uprising at Mako Brimob, Kelapa Dua, Depok, West Java. ● Increased Activity on Social Media: DE is intensive in spreading invitations and appeals to carry out acts of terrorism on social media, especially Facebook. ● Involvement in Fundraising: DE is involved in raising funds to support acts of terrorism. Diagnose Causes: ● Inspiration for the Rebellion: DE's involvement in the amaliyah action was driven by the inspiration and enthusiasm that emerged after seeing the rebellion at Mako Brimob. ● Activity on Social Media: Increased activity on social media, including the spread of messages calling for terrorism, has become a significant factor in planning terror acts. Make Moral Judgement: ● National Security Threat: Plans to attack Mobile Brigade Headquarters and TNI Headquarters, as well as involvement in terrorist activities, are considered serious threats to national security. Treatment Recommendation: ● Increased Supervision on Social Media: There is a need to increase supervision of terrorist activities on social media, including the spread of calls and plans for terrorist acts. ● Law Enforcement: Law enforcement actions need to be taken to deal with threats acknowledged by DE suspects. ● Intelligence Cooperation: Cooperation between intelligence agencies is needed to identify and respond to potential further threats.

Source: Obtained from primary data (CNN Indonesia, 2023c).

The text of this news reveals plans to attack the headquarters of the Indonesian mobile brigade (Brimob) and the headquarters of the Indonesian National Army which were planned by the suspect DE, an employee of PT KAI who is affiliated with the ISIS network. Inspiration from previous uprisings he saw and increased activity on social media were important factors in the reasons for the action he was going to take. Previously, attacks on police headquarters had also occurred in Indonesia. Law enforcement action and intensive monitoring of social media related to terrorist persuasive movements are needed to overcome the national security threats they face.

It is quite concerning that in order to organize these actions, DE boosted its social media activities and looked to earlier uprisings for inspiration. This emphasizes how online platforms contribute to radicalization and the dissemination of extreme ideologies. This emphasizes how urgently law enforcement organizations must step up their efforts to keep an eye on and combat terrorist activity, particularly that which is disseminated via social media.

The reference to earlier assaults on Indonesian police headquarters also serves as a reminder of the persistence of these threats and the necessity of taking preventative measures to avoid future occurrences of incidents of this nature. Mitigating national security dangers and preserving public safety require law enforcement activities and vigilant monitoring of social media sites linked to terrorist movements.

In the news analysis unit that will be framed is news from CNN Indonesia on August 16, 2023, with the headline "Erick Thohir Responds to KAI Employees Allegedly Involved in ISIS and Terrorism". Framing can also influence the way news presents the implications of terrorist incidents and proposed solutions. The presentation of proposed solutions can influence public attitudes towards policies such as in this text which mentions the Minister of BUMN as the leader of the suspected terrorist.

Table 8: CNN Indonesia News Framing Analysis (3)

Headline	Framing Analysis
16 August 2023	Define Problems: ● Involvement of PT KAI Employees in Terrorism Cases: There were individual employees of PT Kereta Api Indonesia (KAI) who were arrested by Densus 88 regarding their alleged involvement in acts of terrorism. ● Homemade Firearm Evidence: The arrest involved the seizure of a homemade firearm and hundreds of rounds of ammunition as evidence. Diagnose Causes: ● Indication of Terrorist Involvement: The PT KAI employee with the initials DE is suspected of being involved in acts of terrorism and being affiliated with the ISIS terrorist group. ● KAI and the Police Coordinate: The positive statement by the Minister of BUMN and the President Director of PT KAI shows cooperation and support for police actions. Make Moral Judgement: ● Acts of Terrorism Are Not Justifiable: Employee involvement in acts of terrorism is a serious offense and must be dealt with legally. Treatment Recommendation: ● Firm Law Enforcement: Legal action needs to be implemented in accordance with applicable provisions to handle cases of involvement in terrorism. ● Full Support to the Police: Support from the government and company management needs to be provided to ensure effective and fair law enforcement. ● Monitoring of Employees: Companies need to monitor employees more closely to prevent potential involvement in terrorist activities.

Source: Obtained from primary data (CNN Indonesia, 2023a).

In the narration of this news text, BUMN Minister Erick Thohir emphasized that the involvement of PT KAI employees in terrorism cases must be handled legally as one of the steps to resolve the problem from him as leader. This arrest received full support from KAI and the government, which shows commitment to law enforcement. These steps are considered important to maintain security and prevent potential terrorist involvement in BUMN agencies and other government agencies.

A strong commitment to maintaining the supremacy of law and guaranteeing responsibility in government-affiliated organizations is shown in BUMN Minister Erick Thohir's statement, which emphasized the significance of processing terrorism incidents involving PT KAI workers through legal procedures. Minister Thohir showed his commitment to successfully addressing security risks and his firm position against terrorism by giving precedence to legal procedures when resolving these instances.

The dataset reflects complete coverage in limited cases of specific terrorism incidents in concentrated and specific temporal clusters. This embodiment of unity conveys a clear message that government agencies will not tolerate terrorism and that those involved in such acts will face severe consequences. The text narrates that state-owned institutions play an important role in various sectors of the economy, it is imperative to keep them free from terrorist influence in order to maintain stability and build public trust.

The six articles above were selected through purposeful theoretical sampling. The articles were published consecutively during the peak of reporting on terrorism arrests in August 2023 and constitute the full set of coverage related to the case in that period. Across all six articles, a consistent pattern emerges in the intensification of ISIS references and the narrowing of the incident's discourse towards global jihadist affiliations. This reappearance suggests symbolic condensation rather than isolated editorial choices.

DISCUSSION

The findings in this analysis show that Kompas.com and CNN Indonesia both construct terrorism through a dramatized framing structure that accentuates the actions and perpetrators, while narrowing the field of interpretation towards ISIS affiliation. Through Entman's four framing functions, terrorism is defined as a direct national threat, causally linked to global jihadist networks, morally evaluated as extremist deviance, and resolved through state-centred security measures.

The dramatization of ISIS as a representation of Islam can trigger widespread Islamophobia or fear of Islam (Karipek, 2020). Simplifications and generalizations that appear in news or public narratives about acts of terrorism carried out by groups such as ISIS can create negative stereotypes towards Muslims as a whole (Rezaei et al., 2019). This can result in non-Muslim communities associating acts of terrorism with Islamic beliefs as a whole, even though the majority of Muslims condemn violence and terrorism.

Using this dramatization framework, Burke attempted to explain the complexity of human communication and how communication reflects humans' struggle to achieve their goals and needs (Burke, 2022). This theory provides a foundation for the analysis of rhetoric and communication by understanding narrative and dramatization in human communicative action (Burke, 2022).

After conducting an analysis of the news published by Kompas.com and CNN Indonesia regarding terrorism in Indonesia throughout August 2023. Kompas.com in reporting on terrorism at least mentions the ISIS group in almost every news. In the first news with the headline "Facts about Suspected Terrorists in Bekasi: PT KAI (Indonesian Railways) Employees and ISIS Supporters" apart from mentioning the words 'ISIS supporters' and the group's motivation for jihad, in this news even Kompas.com did not hesitate to emphasize that This is an extremist militant group. The negative morals of ISIS leaders and their propaganda in Indonesia are narrated by Kompas in such detail and reveal that ISIS can influence even the police.

Dramatism was Michael McGee when he developed the concept of "ideograph," which refers to a word or phrase that has a particular cultural and ideological meaning (Spackman, 2021). In the context of dramatization, ideographs are important because these words help shape narratives and shared understandings of actions and values. In the news that is developing with a gripping narrative about the fear that the ISIS group can still influence a person's actions and values. This narrative continues to be carried in news texts about terrorism in Indonesia apart from the political economy of the media, but the dramatization of the ISIS group is still a frightening spectre in cases of terrorism in Indonesia.

In "Narration as a Human Communication Paradigm", Fisher proposed that humans naturally tend to construct and understand the world through narratives or stories. According to Fisher, the dimension of dramatization in communication can be understood through the way we design and tell stories that shape our perception of reality (O'Boyle, 2022).

While emphasizing Walter Fisher's idea of narrative as a paradigm of human communication and Michael McGee's concept of the "ideograph," further theoretical ideas from drama academics like Kenneth Burke and his idea of the "dramatic pentad" may have deepened the examination.

Burke's "identification" theory is relevant to the debate about dramatization in news framing (Nicotera, 2020). Identification is the process through which people identify with particular symbols, ideals, or ideologies. Media narratives may aim to foster affiliation with specific characters or groups while framing terrorism news in order to affect viewer perceptions and attitudes (Etaywe & Zappavigna, 2022). Examining the ways in which the media fosters affiliation with or opposition to terrorist groups like ISIS can provide insight into the persuasive techniques employed in news reporting.

This study conceptualizes dramatization as a structural narrative mechanism. This study's analysis reveals how global terror symbols are condensed into national security narratives. This integrative approach contributes to framing theory by bridging its applications that situate it within the communicative nature of terrorism. The findings raise broader questions about the role of elite digital media in shaping public perceptions of terrorism in Indonesia. Concentration on ISIS affiliation may simplify complex local radicalization dynamics into a globally recognizable threat image.

Burke's play was then further developed by Joshua Gunn to incorporate the ideas of spectacle and performance in communication (Gunn, 2020). By using performance theory to analyse how terrorist news is framed, one can gain insight into how media portrayals elicit strong emotions and dramatic effects from viewers, influencing public opinion and comprehension of terrorism-related topics.

In CNN Indonesia's online media coverage, at least one news item was linked to the fact that this suspected terrorist was linked to being a supporter of ISIS, however, on the other hand, CNN Indonesia focused more on the impact that the suspected terrorist would have and the important steps that must be taken by the police and government to remember the suspect is a permanent government employee.

The dimensions of dramatization become broader and more complex, including understandings of identity, social interaction, cultural meaning, and narrative formation. The thinking of these experts provides a richer foundation for analysing how human communication involves all its elements in dramatic concepts and understanding the relationship between action, language and meaning in texts.

CONCLUSION

The conclusion of this article is that Entman's four categories of framing in two online media in Indonesia, Kompas.com and CNN Indonesia during August 2023, are in defining the problem, Kompas.com, more concisely regarding the involvement of BUMN employees with the ISIS network, diagnosing causes, revealing the propaganda carried out in social media and telegram groups, suppress moral judgment by referring to negative morals as members of ISIS extremist militants so that the state offers law enforcement as a form of treatment recommendation.

On the online media CNN Indonesia defines problems in more complex and detailed ways revealing the process of allegiance in the ISIS group, targets of bomb attacks and coordination between the police and the government. Diagnosing causes is more about uncovering the inspiration for rebellion and monitoring employees. The moral judgment applies the same as Kompas.com that terrorist behaviour is not justified for whatever reason, and the treatment recommendation reveals more about the role of the government and intelligentsia in this terrorist case. This research concludes that drama in framing can be done by linking the big name of the ISIS network. As done by Kompas.com which focuses more on calling the ISIS network an extremist militant group and can be a threat. This is in contrast to CNN Indonesia which brings more narrative text in developing stories about the government's position and the steps that must be taken by the government in view of this terrorism case, which is none other than one of the government's permanent employees (BUMN).

BIODATA

Raisa Alatas is a lecturer in the Department of Communication Science at Tadulako University, Indonesia, with more than eight years of experience in teaching and academic supervision. Her research interests include communication studies, media studies, terrorism and radicalism, cross-cultural communication, and communication and artificial intelligence (AI). Since 2023, she has been pursuing a Ph.D. in Communication Sciences at Kocaeli University, Türkiye. ORCID: 0000-0003-3248-0814. Email: raisaalatas.ra@gmail.com

İdil Sayımer is a Professor in the Department of Public Relations and Publicity and has served as the Dean of the Faculty of Communication at Kocaeli University, Türkiye, since 2024. Her research interests include public relations, new technologies, social media engagement, new media literacy, and digital marketing communication. She has participated in numerous research projects funded by the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK). ORCID: 0000-0002-2250-8900. Email: isayimer@kocaeli.edu.tr

REFERENCES

- Al Amosh, H., Khatib, S. F. A., & Ananzeh, H. (2024). Terrorist attacks and environmental social and governance performance: Evidence from cross-country panel data. *Corporate Social Responsibility and Environmental Management*, 31(1), 210–223. <https://doi.org/10.1002/csr.2563>
- Andre, J., & Carina, J. (2023c, August 18). *Tiga anggota Polri ikut ditangkap terkait kasus terorisme di Bekasi*. Kompas.com. <https://megapolitan.kompas.com/read/2023/08/18/11463541/tiga-anggota-polri-ikut-ditangkap-terkait-kasus-terorisme-di-bekasi>
- Baker, M., Kim, K.-H., & Zhu, Y. (2020). *Researching translation in the age of technology and global conflict: Selected works of Mona Baker*. Routledge.
- Betus, A. E., Kearns, E. M., & Lemieux, A. F. (2021). How perpetrator identity (sometimes) influences media framing attacks as “terrorism” or “mental illness”. *Communication Research*, 48(8), 1133–1156. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0093650220971142>
- Bonvillain, N. (2020). *Language, culture, and communication: The meaning of messages* (8th ed.). Rowman & Littlefield.
- Burke, W. W. (2022). Organization development. In *Oxford research encyclopedia of psychology*. Oxford University Press. <https://doi.org/mvbk>
- Bushnell, P. T., Shlapentokh, V., Vanderpool, C., & Sundram, J. (Eds.). (2019). *State organized terror: The case of violent internal repression*. Routledge.
- Chaterine, R. N., & Santosa, B. (2023b, August 15). Pengungkapan teroris di Bekasi: Pegawai PT KAI jadi pengikut ISIS dan aktif lakukan propaganda di medsos. Kompas.com. <https://nasional.kompas.com/read/2023/08/15/07275791/pengungkapan-teroris-di-bekasi-pegawai-pt-kai-jadi-pengikut-isis-dan-aktif>
- CNN Indonesia. (2023a, Aug 16). Erick Thohir respons pegawai KAI diduga terlibat ISIS dan terorisme. <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/ekonomi/20230816141158-92-986832/erick-thohir-respons-pegawai-kai-diduga-terlibat-isis-dan-terorisme>
- CNN Indonesia. (2023b, Aug 15). Fakta-fakta karyawan KAI tersangka teroris jaringan ISIS versi polisi. <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20230815103307-12-986181/fakta-fakta-karyawan-kai-tersangka-teroris-jaringan-isis-versi-polisi>
- CNN Indonesia. (2023c, Aug 15). Karyawan KAI jaringan ISIS diduga mau serang Mako Brimob & Mabes TNI. <https://www.cnnindonesia.com/nasional/20230815114639-12-986225/karyawan-kai-jaringan-isis-diduga-mau-serang-mako-brimob-mabes-tni>
- Entman, R. M. (2004). *Projections of power: Framing news, public opinion, and U.S. foreign policy*. University of Chicago Press.
- Etaywe, A., & Zappavigna, M. (2022). Identity, ideology and threatening communication: An investigation of patterns of attitude in terrorist discourse. *Journal of Language Aggression and Conflict*, 10(2), 315–350. <https://doi.org/10.1075/jlac.00058.eta>
- Gunn, J. (2020). *Political perversion: Rhetorical aberration in the time of Trumpeteering*. University of Chicago Press.
- Institute for Economics & Peace. (2023). Global Terrorism Index 2023: Measuring the impact of terrorism. ReliefWeb. <https://reliefweb.int/report/world/global-terrorism-index-2023>
- Irwanti, M., Khairil, M., Alatas, R., & Sari, D. F. K. (2023). News construction study of terrorism cases in the mass media of Central Sulawesi. *Journal of Namibian Studies: History Politics Culture*, 33, 3060–3076. <https://doi.org/10.59670/jns.v33i.523>

- Jongman, A. J., & Schmid, A. P. (2005). *Political terrorism: A new guide to actors, authors, concepts, data bases, theories, and literature*. Routledge. <https://doi.org/rm4f>
- Karipek, A. (2020). Portrayals of jihad: A cause of Islamophobia. *Islamophobia Studies Journal*, 5(2), 210–225. <https://doi.org/10.13169/islastudj.5.2.0210>
- Kearns, E. M., Betus, A. E., & Lemieux, A. F. (2019). Why do some terrorist attacks receive more media attention than others? *Justice Quarterly*, 36(6), 985–1022. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07418825.2018.1524507>
- Mahony, I. (2010). Diverging frames: A comparison of Indonesian and Australian press portrayals of terrorism and Islamic groups in Indonesia. *International Communication Gazette*, 72(8), 739–758. <https://doi.org/10.1177/1748048510380813>
- Maulana, A. H. (2023a, August 14). Fakta-fakta terduga teroris di Bekasi: Karyawan PT KAI dan pendukung ISIS. *Kompas.com*. <https://megapolitan.kompas.com/read/2023/08/14/22433021/fakta-fakta-terduga-teroris-di-bekasi-karyawan-pt-kai-dan-pendukung-isis?page=all>
- Muhamad, N. (2023, November 3). Aksi terorisme di Indonesia menurun dalam 3 tahun terakhir. *Databoks*. <https://databoks.katadata.co.id/datapublish/2023/11/03/aksi-terorisme-di-indonesia-menurun-dalam-3-tahun-terakhir>
- Nickerson, C. (2019). Media portrayal of terrorism and Muslims: A content analysis of Turkey and France. *Crime, Law and Social Change*, 72(5), 547–567. <https://doi.org/gh6qb5>
- Nicotera, A. M. (Ed.). (2020). *Origins and traditions of organizational communication: A comprehensive introduction to the field*. Routledge.
- O’Boyle, N. (Ed.). (2022). Narrators: A narrative approach to human communication. In, *Communication theory for humans* (pp. 51–76). Springer. <https://doi.org/rm4g>
- Onwumechili, C. (2018). Does a media organization’s defense of its own image matter? *International Journal of Communication*, 12, 3175–3196.
- Persson, A. (2019). *Framing social interaction: Continuities and cracks in Goffman’s frame analysis*. Routledge.
- Rezaei, S., Kobari, K., & Salami, A. (2019). The portrayal of Islam and Muslims in Western media: A critical discourse analysis. *Cultura*, 16(1), 53–73.
- Saldaña, J., & Omasta, M. (2018). *Qualitative research: Analyzing life*. SAGE Publications.
- Schulze, K. E., & Liow, J. C. (2019). Making Jihadis, waging Jihad: Transnational and local dimensions of the ISIS phenomenon in Indonesia and Malaysia. *Asian Security*, 15(2), 122–139. <https://doi.org/10.1080/14799855.2018.1424710>
- Silke, A. (Ed.). (2018). *Routledge handbook of terrorism and counterterrorism*. Routledge.
- Spackman, E. A. (2021). *And: An ideographic analysis of [unspecified subject]* [Master's thesis/Doctoral dissertation, Brigham Young University]. ProQuest Dissertations Publishing.
- Tulga, A. Y. (2020). The role of mass media in terrorism and its effect on individuals. *Insan ve İnsan*, 7(24), 47–64. <https://doi.org/10.29224/insanveinsan.695346>
- Zamroni, M., Astuti, Y. D., & Zuhri, A. (2021). Religious radicalism frame in the online media news (Framing analysis reporting of “ISIS” in Republika.co.id and Tempo.co). *Jurnal Ilmiah Islam Futura*, 21(1), 80–97.