

# Biases in media language, and treatment between refugees from Ukraine and Syria



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**THE ALLIANCE**  
FOR CHILD PROTECTION  
IN HUMANITARIAN ACTION

## Aim and Relevance

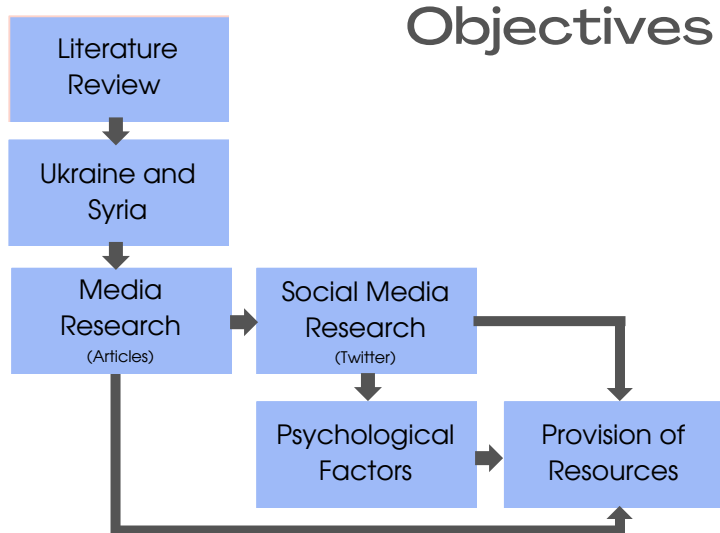
The aim of the research was it to identify possible differences and biases in media language and treatment between Ukrainian and Syrian refugees.

The study's relevance lies in the detection and acknowledgement of possible biases in media towards non-European refugees. To raise awareness and ensure legal prevention strategies in the future.

## Literature Review

Research found that European migrants are more preferred to non-European migrants (Heath & Richards, 2019). This partly explains why multiple human rights organisations have found that when African, Asian, and Middle Eastern refugees arrive at European countries' borders, they are treated drastically differently (Asylum Access, 2022). Furthermore, research found that there is a very clear difference between language used to talk about and describe Ukrainian refugees versus non-European refugees (Asylum Access, 2022). Years of this discriminating discourse and dehumanizing in the media have turned non-European pain into the norm, and lost lives into a statistic (Chouliaraki & Stolic, 2017).

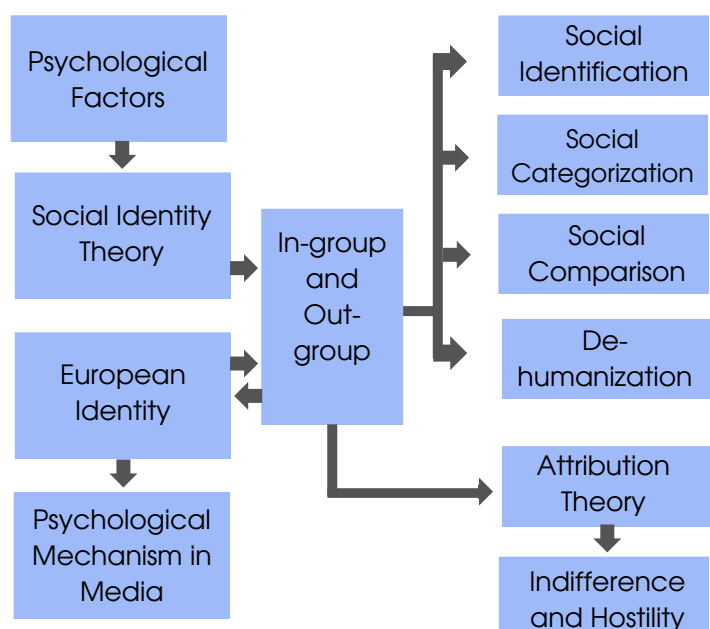
## Objectives



## Media Research Results

Ukrainian Refugees	Syrian Refugees
Being welcome into the host country	Treatment compared to those of Ukrainian refugees
Finding host families and housing and jobs	Describing the current events in the country

## Psychological Factors



## Provision of Resources

Ukraine	Syria
EU countries grant Ukrainian refugees under 18 years old access to their education systems	In 2019, more than 800,000 Syrian refugee children were not enrolled in school
A lot of private help	Little private help
2.3 million refugees registered for temporary protection in the EU countries	European countries host over 1 million Syrian asylum-seekers and refugees
The EU mobilized around €4.1 billion to support Ukraine	Monetary support from the European Union to Syria reached €141 million

## Discussions and Limitations

The main findings of this research show that Ukrainian refugees are considered as European (in-group), whereas Syrian refugees are considered as non-European (out-group). As concluding marks, it is important to remember that human dignity should be protected from physical and psychological violation regardless of their motivation, skin colour, religion, or ethnicity.

The research included the following limitations:

Literature Review	Lack of academic research
Media research	First time attempt time frame used one platform (Twitter)
Psychological Factors	Application on media generalized

## Future Research

In the future, biases in media language and treatment between refugees can be studied far more extensively. There are multiple areas on which future research could focus.

1. Politics and the European Union
  - Highly Influential on refugee matters
2. Children
  - More vulnerable
3. Gender Differences
  - Differences in vulnerability and lack of research on girls

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REFERENCES :

