



## NPO DETAILED ANALYSIS

2024-03-15\_AT\_300014416

Broadcast: NPO broadcast | 2024-03-15 | Analysed on: 2026-05-23 01:59

Version 3.0-detail | Universal 3.0-detail | Konverter 3.4 (2026-05-20) | Maatstaf: Mediawet 2008 Art. 2.1

### TOTAL SCORE

**3.9/10**

*Slight imbalance*

0 = balanced, 10 = strongly one-sided/manipulative

## POLITICAL SPECTRUM

Classification based on Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES) 2024

The Chapel Hill Expert Survey (CHES 2024) is an academic survey of 609 political scientists in 31 countries. Each party is rated on a scale from 0 (far left) to 10 (far right).

Party	SP	GL-PvdA	PvdD	D66	CDA	NSC	CU	VVD	BBB	SGP	PVV	FvD
CHES	1.10	2.40	2.50	4.80	5.50	5.80	6.00	7.00	7.50	7.80	9.20	9.50
Spectrum	Left	Left	Left	Left	Centre	Centre	Right	Right	Right	Right	Right	Right

The overall tendency is displayed on a 0–10 scale (0 = strongly left-favouring, 5 = balanced, 10 = strongly right-favouring). The calculation is based on the difference in average favouring of left vs. right parties (grouping according to CHES 2024).

### TENDENCY (L – R)

**4.8 / 10**

*Balanced*

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

← Left

Right →

Source: Chapel Hill Expert Survey 2024 — [chesdata.eu](https://chesdata.eu) | [Jolly et al., Electoral Studies, 2022](#) | Threshold values: [Pew Research Center](#)

This section provides political context and does not count towards the total score.



## POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

The Schoof cabinet (took office July 2024) is an extra-parliamentary cabinet supported by PVV (37 seats), VVD (24 seats), NSC (20 seats) and BBB (7 seats). Prime Minister Schoof is non-partisan. The largest opposition party is GL-PvdA with 25 seats, followed by D66 (9 seats), CDA (5 seats), SP (5 seats), PvdD (3 seats), CU (3 seats), SGP (3 seats), FvD (3 seats), DENK and Volt.

Party	CHES L-R	Seats	Government/Opposition	Core position
SP	1.1	5	Opposition	Socio-economically left, anti-market forces
GL-PvdA	2.4	25	Opposition (largest)	Climate, humane asylum policy, fair sharing
PvdD	2.5	3	Opposition	Animal rights, climate, left-progressive
D66	4.8	9	Opposition	Pro-EU, liberal-progressive, innovation
CDA	5.5	5	Opposition	Christian democratic, centre-right
NSC	5.8	20	Government	Economic security, rule of law, extra-parliamentary
CU	6.0	3	Opposition	Christian-social, centre-right
VVD	7.0	24	Government	Free market, entrepreneurship, strict migration policy
BBB	7.5	7	Government	Agrarian-populist, farmer protection
SGP	7.8	3	Opposition	Reformed, traditional-conservative
PVV	9.2	37	Government (largest)	Anti-Islam, asylum stop, national sovereignty
FvD	9.5	3	Opposition	Far right, Eurosceptic, Baudet

The formation process following the November 2023 elections is proceeding with difficulty: relations between PVV and NSC are tense, partly due to Omtzigt's temporary withdrawal. The migration dossier forms the largest substantive fault line between coalition and opposition parties. In addition, the question arises whether an extra-parliamentary programme cabinet can develop sufficient decisiveness without a stable parliamentary majority. Wilders' position as leader of the largest party is under pressure due to the slow formation process and internal tensions.

The Dutch public broadcaster (NPO) operates under the Media Act 2008, of which Article 2.1 requires pluriform, balanced and independent reporting. The broadcasting associations (including AVROTROS, producer of EenVandaag) each bear their own editorial responsibility, while pluralism is assessed across the total output. PVV has repeatedly criticised the NPO as a "left-wing broadcaster", which increases the political sensitivity of balanced reporting.



## CHAPTER 1 — PARTY-POLITICAL BIAS

The broadcast covers three main topics: medication theft in healthcare, the cabinet formation (programme cabinet/Putters), and international topics (US school shootings, Russian elections). Party positions are addressed exclusively in the formation segment (approx. 04:34–11:44).

Party	Score (-5..+5)	Broadcast representation vs. party programme
VVD	-1	05:14–05:39 "You can see the green bars for VVD and PVV... they are minorities who expect this cabinet to be able to tackle problems" — VVD voters are portrayed as sceptical; VVD programme positions (entrepreneurship, budgetary discipline) are not addressed — slightly distorting through selective voter representation
PVV	-1	06:06–06:10 "There is only one who can tackle the problems and that is Mr Wilders" — cited as voter opinion, not as a programme position; PVV positions (asylum stop, de-Islamisation) are not substantively addressed — neutral to slightly distorting
GL-PvdA	0	10:30–10:41 "Party leader Timmermans says he does not want his people to implement Wilders' politics" — factual representation of Timmermans' position; programme positions not further addressed
NSC	-1	07:04–09:13 — NSC voter "Hans" describes Omtzigt as "a runner, not a strong man" and "emotional"; NSC programme positions (economic security, rule of law) are not addressed — personal criticism dominates over substance
D66	0	10:22 "Voters of CDA and D66 are divided" — merely mentioned, no substantive representation of party positions
BBB	+1	05:20–05:22 "More hopeful are BBB voters" — relatively positive representation of BBB voter sentiment; programme positions not addressed
CDA	0	10:22 — merely mentioned as part of voter overview; no substantive representation
SP	0	10:13–10:19 "Those are also truly left-wing voters, such as those of the SP. Nearly seven in 10 hope that people from their party can contribute to a more social course" — factual representation of voter sentiment

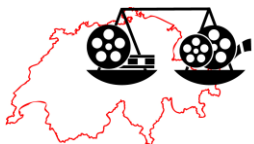
### Summary Party Bias

- Most accurate representation: BBB (Score +1) — voter sentiment represented positively, albeit without substantive programme verification
- Strongest distortion: NSC (Score -1) — Omtzigt is personally discredited through voter statements ("runner", "emotional") without NSC programme positions being substantively addressed
- Average deviation from 0: 0.5
- Conclusion: The party-political bias in this broadcast is limited in scope, because party positions are barely addressed substantively. The formation segment focuses on voter sentiment and personal relations between party leaders, not on programmatic content. The representation of NSC/Omtzigt through negative voter statements without counterbalance constitutes the most demonstrable distortion.

### Left-Right General Tendency

TENDENCY SCORE: +0.4

CLASSIFICATION: Slightly left-favouring



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Reasoning: The broadcast addresses the formation primarily through voter sentiment and personal relations, whereby coalition voters (PVV, VVD, NSC) are more often portrayed as sceptical than opposition voters. The segment on Russian political prisoners and the critical tone regarding Putin align with a progressive-liberal worldview. The medication segment contains no political colour. The tendency is slight but not systematically left-favouring.



## CHAPTER 2 — BROADCAST INFORMATION AND THEMATIC FRAMEWORK

### Broadcast details

- Title: EenVandaag (live programme)
- Date: 15.03.2024
- Length (estimated from transcript):
- Presenter/Reporter: Not named in transcript (presenter duo based on "Whitney" and "Joyce" as reporters); Joyce Roodnat (opinion panel segment); Joost Bosman (Moscow correspondent); Paul Alexander (journalist/writer); Joost Vullings (political commentator)

Person	Function	Party/Affiliation	Political Spectrum
Joyce (surname not mentioned)	Reporter/researcher EenVandaag Opinion Panel	AVROTROS/EenVandaag	Neutral (journalistic)
Joost Vullings	Political commentator	EenVandaag	Neutral (journalistic)
Joost Bosman	Moscow correspondent	EenVandaag	Neutral (journalistic)
Paul Alexander	Journalist and writer	Independent	Not determinable
Spokesperson NU'91	Professional organisation nurses	NU'91	Professional interest healthcare
Nieuwendijk	Corporate investigator Hoffmann	Hoffmann corporate investigations	Commercial/private
Alexander Podrabinek	Former Soviet dissident/activist	Independent	Pro-democratic/liberal
"Hans" (PVV voter)	Opinion panel member	PVV	Right
"Hans" (NSC voter)	Opinion panel member	NSC	Centre-right
Legal expert (unnamed)	Legal commentator school shooting	Not mentioned	Neutral
Former minister Sanne Dekker	Former minister	VVD	Right-liberal

### Main topic

The broadcast covers three separate topics: (1) medication theft by healthcare workers, (2) the Dutch cabinet formation and the concept of a programme cabinet, and (3) international items on school shootings in the US and political prisoners in Russia around the presidential elections.

### Relevant Perspectives for a Balanced Broadcast

- Perspective of healthcare workers themselves on workload and access to workplace medicines
- Perspective of healthcare institutions/employers on medication management and policy
- Perspective of patients on the risks of medication theft
- Perspective of coalition voters (PVV, VVD, NSC, BBB) on the formation — substantively, not only sceptically
- Perspective of opposition parties on the programme cabinet



- Perspective of Russian citizens who support the regime (for balance alongside dissidents)
- Perspective of legal experts on parental liability in the Netherlands
- Perspective of the gun lobby or proponents of gun ownership in the US context
- Perspective of international human rights organisations on Russia
- Perspective of the coalition negotiators themselves on the content of the programme cabinet

### **Assessment: Was each perspective addressed?**

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#### [A] ADDRESSED

Timestamp: 00:28–00:49 — Quote: "Heavy shifts, staff shortages... but also intense events during a shift... can mean that you cannot sleep well" — Assessment: Workload as explanatory context is touched upon, but exclusively through the NU'91 spokesperson, not through healthcare workers themselves.

#### [B] INDICATED

Timestamp: 03:37–04:16 — Quote: "What bothers professional organisation NU'91 is that in many healthcare institutions good policy is not being implemented" — Assessment: Employers/institutions are indirectly addressed but do not speak for themselves.

#### [C] OMITTED

Timestamp: n/a — Quote: n/a — Assessment: The perspective of patients at risk from medication theft (particularly opiates, sleeping pills) is entirely absent.

#### [D] INDICATED

Timestamp: 05:49–06:10 — Quote: "With subject specialists as ministers you are less dependent on political colour" / "There is only one who can tackle the problems and that is Mr Wilders" — Assessment: Coalition voters are given a voice, but predominantly sceptically or through single statements; substantive coalition positions are absent.

#### [E] INDICATED

Timestamp: 10:06–10:41 — Quote: "Slightly more than half of opposition voters would support that" — Assessment: Opposition voters are mentioned, but opposition parties themselves are not given a voice.

#### [F] OMITTED

Timestamp: n/a — Quote: n/a — Assessment: The perspective of Russians who support Putin or approve of the war in Ukraine is absent; the reporting is one-sidedly pro-opposition.

#### [G] ADDRESSED

Timestamp: 12:43–12:57 — Quote: "In other cases they can certainly refer to this... whereby it applies that every story is different" — Assessment: Legal nuance is present, albeit concisely.

#### [H] OMITTED

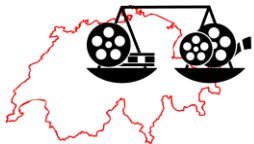
Timestamp: n/a — Quote: n/a — Assessment: The perspective of proponents of gun ownership or the gun lobby in the US context is entirely absent; the segment presents school shootings as an uncontested problem.

#### [I] INDICATED

Timestamp: 18:06–26:28 — Quote: "All action that is currently visible in Russia happens from prison" — Assessment: The human rights perspective is present through journalist Paul Alexander and correspondent Joost Bosman, but without formal human rights organisations.

#### [J] OMITTED

Timestamp: n/a — Quote: n/a — Assessment: The coalition negotiators themselves (Wilders, Yeşilgöz, Omtzigt, Van der Plas) are not given a voice on the content of the programme cabinet.



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## CHAPTER 3 — 15 CRITERIA: DETAILED ANALYSIS



## Hard facts — 9 techniques that are countable and scientifically verifiable

### 1. EXPERT SELECTION

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*Definition: Who speaks as an expert?*

#### Expert 1: Spokesperson NU'91 (professional organisation nurses)

Timestamp: 00:14 / 01:34–04:21

#### Statement

"Our research shows that 60 percent do not know what the policy is. And many say there is no policy."

#### Framing

NU'91 is the professional organisation of nurses and carers; they themselves conducted the research being reported on.

Missing countervoice: An independent researcher (e.g. university epidemiologist) or an employers' organisation (ActiZ) could have tested or nuanced the findings.

#### Source depth check:

**(a) FUNDING:** NU'91 is a trade union/professional organisation funded by membership contributions of nurses and carers. Interest: strengthening the position of healthcare workers, advocating for better working conditions.

**(b) MANDATE:** NU'91 represents the interests of its members; a survey among its own members about their own behaviour is methodologically vulnerable (self-selection, social desirability).

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 — NU'91 has an institutional interest in framing theft as a consequence of poor working conditions

D2 Personal risk: +1 — Organisation risks reputational damage through publication of negative findings about its own members

D3 Professional competence: +1 — Professional organisation has sector knowledge, but no independent research methodology

D4 Consistency of opinion: 0 — No comparable previous statements available in transcript

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: 0 — Mix of figures and contextual explanation

D6 Source level: 0 — Own survey (secondary; no peer-reviewed research)

• TOTAL: +1 → SOURCE LIGHT: YELLOW

**(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE:** The spokesperson is presented as a neutral professional body, while NU'91 has a structural interest in a framing that identifies workload as the primary cause and employers as the responsible party.

#### Expert 2: Nieuwendijk (corporate investigator Hoffmann)

Timestamp: 01:49–03:35

#### Statement

"We often hear back that there is stress or pressure involved. Often work-related, but also personal."

#### Framing

Hoffmann is a commercial corporate investigation agency; Nieuwendijk speaks from commercial investigative practice.

Missing countervoice: An independent criminologist or occupational psychologist could have scientifically substantiated or nuanced the explanations for medication theft.



#### Source depth check:

**(a) FUNDING:** Hoffmann is a commercial private agency; income comes from assignments from healthcare institutions that want to investigate fraud.

**(b) MANDATE:** Commercial interest in making the problem visible (more assignments); no independent scientific mandate.

D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — Commercial interest in problem amplification (more investigation assignments)

D2 Personal risk: 0 — No demonstrable personal risk

D3 Professional competence: +1 — Practical experience in sector, no academic methodology

D4 Consistency of opinion: 0 — Not verifiable from transcript

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +1 — Predominantly factual, no strong appeal

D6 Source level: -1 — Anecdotal (own case studies), no systematic research

• TOTAL: -1 → SOURCE LIGHT: YELLOW

**(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE:** Nieuwendijk is presented as a neutral expert, while Hoffmann commercially benefits from growing demand for corporate investigations in healthcare.

#### Expert 3: Paul Alexander (journalist/writer)

Timestamp: 18:37–25:24

#### Statement

"Pavel Krisevitsj, I correspond with him in prison, is an activist who has been held for three years in the notorious Moscow prison Butyrka."

#### Framing

Independent journalist writing a book about political prisoners in Russia; direct source through correspondence with Krisevitsj.

#### Source depth check:

**(a) FUNDING:** Independent journalist/writer; possible publisher interest in book publication.

**(b) MANDATE:** Journalistic-documentary; no institutional mandate.

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 — Book publication creates interest in dramatising the story

D2 Personal risk: +2 — Correspondence with Russian political prisoner entails real risk

D3 Professional competence: +1 — Journalistic expertise; no academic Russia studies

D4 Consistency of opinion: 0 — Not verifiable

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: 0 — Mix of factual description and empathetic tone

D6 Source level: +1 — Direct correspondence (primary source), albeit one-sided

• TOTAL: +3 → SOURCE LIGHT: YELLOW

**(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE:** Alexander is presented as a neutral journalist; his commercial interest in the book and the one-sided pro-opposition framing are not mentioned.

#### Missing expert groups:

- Independent pharmaceutical researcher or healthcare ethicist (medication segment)
- Russian political scientist or Kremlin analyst with a more nuanced perspective on domestic support
- Forensic psychiatrist or youth psychologist (school shooting segment)

Summary: All three experts have demonstrable interests that are not mentioned; none of the sources reaches green on the credibility matrix. The expert selection is one-sided and lacks independent scientific counterweights.

#### Source traffic light for participants:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
Spokesperson NU'91 (professional organisation nurses)	-1	+1	+1	0	0	0	+1	YELLOW
Nieuwendijk (corporate investigator Hoffmann)	-2	0	+1	0	+1	-1	-1	YELLOW



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Paul Alexander (journalist/writer)	-1	+2	+1	0	0	+1	+3	<b>YELLOW</b>
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## 2. SOURCE SELECTION

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Claims without primary source = penalty points (rumour check)

*Definition: Which sources are cited? Are they diverse and independent?*

### Source 1: NU'91 survey

Timestamp: 00:56–01:22 — Statement: "Professional organisation NU'91 conducted a survey among its members, 1700 people responded. And what emerges: 48% of the people who responded indicate that they have at some point stolen medication from the workplace supply."

**(a) Funding and sponsorship:** NU'91 (trade union/professional organisation), funded by membership contributions.

**(b) Structural conflict of interest:** NU'91 has an interest in framing theft as a consequence of poor working conditions and inadequate employer policy; this promotes their lobbying for better working conditions.

**(c) Missing counter-source:** An independent peer-reviewed study or an employers' organisation (ActiZ, NFU) that tests or nuances the findings is absent.

Methodological vulnerability (Rumour check):

The survey has a self-reporting bias: respondents who have stolen medication may be over- or under-represented. The response (1700 out of an unknown total membership) and the selectivity are not critically questioned.

### Source 2: EenVandaag Opinion Panel

Timestamp: 04:44–11:44 — Statement: "This emerges from research conducted through the EenVandaag Opinion Panel."

**(a) Funding:** AVROTROS/EenVandaag (public broadcaster).

**(b) Structural conflict of interest:** The opinion panel is EenVandaag's own instrument; the framing of questions determines the outcomes and has not been independently verified.

**(c) Missing counter-source:** An independent polling agency (Ipsos, I&O Research) could have validated or nuanced the findings.

Rumour check:

Timestamp: 06:14–06:33 — Statement: "Yes.. and then the love between the negotiating party leaders also doesn't seem to be overflowing."

Word marker: "seems" — no primary source for the claim about mutual relations; this is an editorial interpretation presented as a factual observation.

Primary source present: No — penalty point (+1)

Summary: The source selection is limited to own research instruments (opinion panel) and a partisan professional organisation; independent scientific sources are absent. The methodological limitations of the NU'91 survey are not critically questioned.



3. TIME ALLOCATION									3/10
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*Definition: Distribution of speaking time between different positions.*

Estimated speaking time:

- Medication segment (NU'91/Hoffmann/presentation): approx. 4 min. 25 sec. (approx. 17%)
- Formation segment (Joyce/Vullings/voters): approx. 7 min. 10 sec. (approx. 27%)
- School shooting segment (US/Netherlands): approx. 3 min. 15 sec. (approx. 12%)
- Russia segment (Bosman/Alexander/Podrabinek): approx. 10 min. (approx. 38%)
- Other (intro, closing, chat references): approx. 1 min. 30 sec. (approx. 6%)

Within the formation segment:

- Sceptical voter voices (PVV/NSC doubt): approx. 3 min. 30 sec.
- Positive voter voices (BBB, NSC confidence): approx. 45 sec.
- Political commentary Vullings: approx. 1 min.
- Opinion panel analysis Joyce: approx. 2 min.

Summary: The Russia segment dominates the broadcast with nearly 40% of the time, which is defensible given the current events (upcoming presidential elections). Within the formation segment, sceptical and negative voter voices receive considerably more time than positive or substantive coalition positions, resulting in a slight imbalance.



#### 4. OMISSION (Selective Omission)

6/10

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*Definition: What is not shown, although relevant?*

##### Omission 1: Methodological limitations of the NU'91 survey

###### Context

The survey has a response of 1700 members, but the total membership of NU'91 and the selectivity of the response are not mentioned.

Relevant at: 00:56–01:22

Effect: The 48% finding is presented as representative without the self-reporting bias or non-response being discussed, creating the impression that almost half of all healthcare workers steal.

##### Omission 2: Substantive coalition positions in the formation segment

###### Context

The formation segment addresses exclusively voter sentiment and personal relations between party leaders; the substantive agenda of the programme cabinet (migration, purchasing power, climate) is not addressed.

Relevant at: 04:34–11:44

Effect: Voters and viewers receive no substantive picture of what the coalition wants to achieve, meaning the sceptical tone about feasibility cannot be tested against concrete plans.

##### Omission 3: Russian perspective of Putin supporters

###### Context

The Russia segment addresses exclusively dissidents, political prisoners and opposition; the perspective of Russians who support the regime or approve of the war in Ukraine is entirely absent.

Relevant at: 15:10–26:28

Effect: The reporting suggests that the Russian people are predominantly against Putin, while polls (including independent ones) show considerable support for the regime.

Summary: Three structural omissions weaken the informational value of the broadcast: methodological transparency about the NU'91 research, substantive coalition agenda in the formation segment, and a balanced Russian perspective. These omissions are not random but consistently reinforce the dominant framing of the respective segment.

#### Missing voices

- Healthcare worker (expert by experience): Could have explained which circumstances lead to medication theft and which policy measures would be effective from the shop floor.
- Patient representative (e.g. Patiëntenfederatie Nederland): Could have quantified and contextualised the risks of medication theft for patient safety.
- Healthcare institution/employer (e.g. ActiZ or NFU): Could have responded to the criticism that policy is lacking and explained their own measures.
- Coalition negotiator or spokesperson (PVV, VVD, NSC or BBB): Could have defended the content and rationale of the programme cabinet.



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- Russian citizen who supports the regime: Could have provided a more nuanced picture of domestic support for Putin.
- Gun rights expert or Second Amendment advocate (US): Could have placed the debate on parental liability in a broader context.
- Forensic psychiatrist or youth psychologist: Could have explained which signals parents could reasonably have recognised in Ethan Crumbley.
- Formateur Kim Putters himself: Could have explained the rationale of the programme cabinet instead of being assessed exclusively through voter reactions.



## 5. STATISTICAL MANIPULATION

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Complete figures include: absolute number, share (%) and trend

*Definition: Selective or misleading use of statistics.*

### Finding 1: 48% medication theft

Timestamp: 01:01–01:07

Figure: "48% of the people who responded indicate that they have at some point stolen medication from the workplace supply."

Dimensions:

- (a) Absolute value: 48% of 1700 respondents = approx. 816 persons — shown
- (b) Share: Percentage of total healthcare workforce (approx. 1.3 million in the Netherlands) — not shown
- (c) Trend: Development over time (is theft increasing or decreasing?) — not shown

#### Missing context

The percentage applies to self-reported respondents of a trade union survey, not to all healthcare workers. The non-response bias (who responds to such a survey?) is not discussed.

Effect: The viewer gets the impression that almost half of all healthcare workers steal, while it concerns a selective sample with self-reporting.

### Finding 2: School shooting figures US

Timestamp: 13:09–13:21

Figure: "In 2022 79, in 2021 73. Last year there were 82 school shootings. This year the count is already at 16."

Dimensions:

- (a) Absolute value: Numbers per year — shown
- (b) Share: Per capita, per school, as percentage of total shooting incidents — not shown
- (c) Trend: Rising trend is suggested — partially shown

#### Missing context

The definition of "school shooting" varies greatly by data source (e.g. Everytown vs. FBI); this is not mentioned. The figure "16 this year" is not set against the point in the year.

Effect: The figures create the impression of a clear, strongly rising trend, while the definitional issue undermines comparability.

### Finding 3: Opinion panel percentages formation

Timestamp: 04:58–05:25

Figure: "It is only a minority of 3 in 10 who think that the country's problems can be tackled with this."

Dimensions:

- (a) Absolute value: 30% — shown
- (b) Share: Of which population (panel members, voters, population)? — unclear
- (c) Trend: Compared with earlier polls? — not shown

#### Missing context

The composition and representativeness of the EenVandaag Opinion Panel are not mentioned; it is an opt-in panel, not a random sample.

Effect: The 30% finding is presented as representative of "the voter", while the methodological limitations of an opt-in panel limit generalisability.



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Summary: In all three segments, figures are presented without fully addressing the dimensions of share and trend, and without methodological transparency about the data sources used. This leads to a systematic overestimation of the significance of the presented statistics.



## 6. GUILT BY ASSOCIATION

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*Definition: Discrediting through association with negative groups or ideas.*

### Association 1: Omtzigt as "runner"

Timestamp: 08:29–08:43

#### Quote

*"Omtzigt is nowhere to be seen. I am surprised and shocked. Is simply a runner, not a strong man. When he goes to lead, he becomes emotional, it doesn't go well."*

Technique: A voter statement (PVV voter "Hans") is broadcast without editorial counterbalance; Omtzigt is associated with weakness and emotional instability.

Effect: The association of Omtzigt with "runner" and "emotional" discredits him as a leader without NSC or Omtzigt himself being able to respond.

Source check Omtzigt:

- Does Omtzigt work with demonstrable primary sources? YES (parliamentary documents, own research)
- Are his core statements falsifiable? YES
- What has he lost through his position? Temporary party leadership, political goodwill
- What does he gain? No demonstrable personal gain from the withdrawal
- Net: Risk > Gain → increased credibility
- RESULT CATEGORY: A — System-critical politician with methodology

The framing of Omtzigt as a "runner" by a voter is a personal opinion, not a factual judgement. The broadcast offers no editorial counterbalance.

Summary: Guilt by association is limitedly present in the form of unqualified voter statements about Omtzigt; the technique is not deployed systematically but the absence of editorial counterbalance reinforces the effect.



## 7. TIMING

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*Definition: Strategic placement of information (beginning/middle/end).*

### Finding 1: Opening with shocking figure

Position: 00:10 (opening)

Content: "Almost half of healthcare workers occasionally steal medication for personal use."

#### Timing effect

The broadcast opens with an alarming figure that sets the tone for the medication segment; the nuance (self-reporting, definition of "stealing") follows only later and less prominently.

### Finding 2: PVV voter as closing of formation segment

Position: 06:06–06:10 (closing of the voter block)

Content: "There is only one who can tackle the problems and that is Mr Wilders."

#### Timing effect

The statement is placed as the last voter voice before the transition to Joost Vullings' commentary; the somewhat absurdist tone ("according to a PVV voter") serves as a light-hearted closing but can also be read as ridicule.

### Finding 3: Russia segment as longest block

Position: 15:10–26:28 (second half of the broadcast)

Content: Extensive story about political prisoners and Putin's election manipulation.

#### Timing effect

The longest segment is placed in the second half, which increases the emotional impact; the story about Pavel Krisevitsj ends with a romantic element (marriage to Lena), which strengthens sympathy for the opposition.

Summary: The timing choices reinforce the dominant framing of each segment: alarming opening for the healthcare segment, light-hearted closing of the formation segment, and emotional build-up in the Russia segment. The effects are present but not extremely manipulative.



## 8. SELECTIVE INDIGNATION

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Indignation = bias. Selective indignation reinforces the finding. Score = degree of indignation (0–5) + selectivity (0–5)

*Definition: Indignation at certain positions, but not at comparable others.*

*Methodological principle (v2.2): Before each assessment, the triggering event is documented. A reaction can only be assessed as selective if comparable triggering events at other positions did not produce an analogous reaction.*

### **Finding 1:** Tone regarding Putin vs. tone regarding coalition negotiators

Timestamp: 15:12–15:14 / 11:00–11:13

Triggering event: Russian presidential elections without real opposition (15:12); difficult Dutch formation (11:00).

Reaction Russia: "Not that there is much to choose from, because every form of opposition has been eliminated." — clearly critical tone.

Reaction formation: "They see no alternative, are more or less condemned to each other." — neutral to slightly negative tone.

Asymmetry: The critical tone regarding Russia is considerably stronger than regarding the Dutch formation; however, this is substantively justified given the fundamental difference in democratic character. Asymmetry not demonstrably manipulative.

Degree of indignation: 2/5

Selectivity: 1/5

Summary: Selective indignation is barely demonstrable in this broadcast; the critical tone regarding Russia is substantively justified and is not deployed as a political weapon in the Dutch context.



## 9. COMPLETENESS (Selective Omission — Overall Picture)

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*Definition: How completely does the broadcast portray the subject?*

### Finding 1: Medication segment without patient perspective

Timestamp: 00:10–04:25

Missing perspective/fact: The risks of medication theft for patient safety are not quantified; no patient representative is given a voice.

Relevance: Medication theft (particularly opiates and sleeping pills) can have direct consequences for patients who depend on that medication.

#### Effect

The segment focuses on the healthcare worker as a victim of workload, not on the patient as a potential victim of theft.

### Finding 2: Formation segment without substantive coalition agenda

Timestamp: 04:34–11:44

Missing perspective/fact: The substantive priorities of the programme cabinet (migration, purchasing power, climate) are not discussed.

Relevance: Voters cannot assess the feasibility of the cabinet without knowledge of the substantive agenda.

#### Effect

The segment reduces the formation to a personality conflict and voter sentiment, without substantive context.

### Finding 3: Russia segment without domestic support for Putin

Timestamp: 15:10–26:28

Missing perspective/fact: Polls showing considerable domestic support for Putin (including from independent agencies such as the Levada Center) are not mentioned.

Relevance: The picture that "millions of Russians want change" (26:04) is not representative of the full domestic situation.

#### Effect

The broadcast suggests that the Russian people are predominantly against the regime, which gives a distorted picture of political reality.

Summary: The completeness deficiencies are structural and consistent: in each segment the perspective of the "other side" (patient, coalition, Putin supporters) is omitted, which reinforces the dominant framing of each segment.

The broadcast reflects a broad news format in which social grievances (medication theft), political current affairs (formation) and international developments (Russia, US) are combined. The formation segment takes place during a period of great political uncertainty: four months after the elections there is still no cabinet, and the relations between the coalition negotiators are openly tense. The Russia segment fits within a broader Western media context in which Putin's regime is critically monitored. The school shooting segment touches on a long-running American debate about gun ownership and parental responsibility.

*Share of perspectives covered*

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**Schweizerischer Verein** für ausgewogene Berichterstattung  
**Association suisse** pour une information équilibrée  
**Associazione svizzera** per un reporting equilibrato

*Inverted: original value measures coverage (higher = better). Displayed as deviation (higher = greater gaps).*



## Soft facts — 6 qualitative techniques

### 10. FRAMING (Setting the frame)

5/10

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

*Definition: How is the subject fundamentally framed?*

#### Finding 1: Medication theft as workload problem

Timestamp: 00:28–00:49

<b>Quote</b>	<i>"Heavy shifts, staff shortages... but also intense events during a shift... can mean that you cannot sleep well... and that you then tend towards a sleeping pill."</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	Medication theft is primarily framed as an understandable consequence of workload, not as a criminal offence or patient safety risk.
<b>Why problematic</b>	The frame "theft as a last resort" softens the seriousness of the criminal offence and shifts responsibility from the employee to the employer/institution.

#### Finding 2: Formation as personality conflict

Timestamp: 06:14–06:33

<b>Quote</b>	<i>"And then the love between the negotiating party leaders also doesn't seem to be overflowing."</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	The cabinet formation is framed as a personal conflict between party leaders, not as a substantive political process.
<b>Why problematic</b>	The frame "bad atmosphere" reduces complex political negotiations to interpersonal dramas, which diminishes the informational value for voters.

#### Finding 3: Russia as dictatorship without nuance

Timestamp: 15:12–15:14

<b>Quote</b>	<i>"Not that there is much to choose from, because every form of opposition has been eliminated."</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	Russia is framed one-dimensionally as a dictatorship without any nuancing of the domestic political landscape or support for the regime.
<b>Why problematic</b>	The frame excludes alternative interpretations from the outset and presents a Western-liberal perspective as universal truth.

Summary: The framing in all three segments is consistent: workload as explanation for theft, personality as explanation for political failure, and dictatorship as unambiguous framework for Russia. These frames are recognisable but reduce complex realities to simple narratives.



## 11. WORD CHOICE AND TERMINOLOGY

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*Definition: What language is used? What connotations are set?*

### Finding 1: "Stealing" vs. "taking"

Timestamp: 00:53 / 01:05

<b>Quote</b>	<i>"Healthcare workers who pinch a pill, or a strip or a box." / "48% of the people who responded indicate that they have at some point stolen medication from the workplace supply."</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	The broadcast alternates between "pinching" (informal, trivialising) and "stealing" (legally serious); this creates an inconsistent moral tone.
<b>Why problematic</b>	A neutral alternative would be: "unauthorised taking of medication" — consistent and legally correct without trivialising or dramatising.

### Finding 2: "Runner" for Omtzigt

Timestamp: 08:37

<b>Quote</b>	<i>"Is simply a runner, not a strong man."</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	The word "runner" has a strongly negative connotation of cowardice and unreliability; it is broadcast without editorial counterbalance.
<b>Why problematic</b>	Neutral alternative: "Omtzigt temporarily withdrew from the negotiations" — factual and without moral judgement.

### Finding 3: "Notorious" prison

Timestamp: 18:54

<b>Quote</b>	<i>"in the notorious Moscow prison Butyrka"</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	The adjective "notorious" is an editorial value judgement that reinforces the negative framing of the Russian prison system.
<b>Why problematic</b>	Neutral alternative: "the Moscow prison Butyrka" — factual, without pre-coloured connotation.

Summary: The word choice is consistent with the dominant framing of each segment: trivialising for medication theft, discrediting for Omtzigt, and negatively emotional for the Russia segment. The inconsistency between "pinching" and "stealing" is the most notable linguistic problem.



## 12. MODERATION BEHAVIOUR

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*Definition: Asymmetries in follow-up questioning, interruptions, expressions of sympathy.*

*Methodological principle (v2.2): Before each assessment, the triggering event is documented.*

### Finding 1: No follow-up questioning on NU'91 methodology

Timestamp: 00:56–01:22

Triggering event: NU'91 spokesperson presents 48% figure from own survey.

**Quote (presenter)** *[no follow-up question visible in transcript]*

**Comparison** In the school shooting segment, the legal expert is asked about the implications for the Netherlands (13:42–14:25).

Asymmetry: The methodological limitations of the NU'91 survey are not questioned, while in other segments critical follow-up questions are asked. Asymmetry demonstrable but limited.

### Finding 2: No editorial counterbalance to negative voter statements about Omtzigt

Timestamp: 08:29–08:47

Triggering event: PVV voter "Hans" calls Omtzigt "runner" and "emotional".

**Quote (presenter)** *"How do you view that?" [to NSC voter "Hans"]*

**Comparison** The statement "There is only one who can tackle the problems and that is Mr Wilders" (06:06) is also not followed by a critical follow-up question.

Asymmetry: Both statements are broadcast without editorial counterbalance; the asymmetry is not demonstrably one-sidedly directed. Asymmetry not unambiguous.

Summary: The moderation behaviour shows no systematic asymmetry, but the absence of critical follow-up questions regarding the NU'91 methodology is a demonstrable shortcoming. The voter interviews are predominantly facilitated without editorial correction.



### 13. QUESTION ASYMMETRY

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*Definition: Differently hard/soft questions to different persons.*

#### Asymmetry 1: Nieuwendijk vs. NU'91 spokesperson

To NU'91 spokesperson, 01:34: [implicit question about policy] — soft (no follow-up question about methodology)

To Nieuwendijk, 01:57: "Where does it occur most?" — neutral/soft

#### Comparison

Both interviewees receive soft, open questions; neither is critically questioned about their interests or methodology.

#### Asymmetry 2: Joost Bosman on effectiveness of dissidents

To Joost Bosman, 25:31–25:43: "Very courageous people who fight the regime of Putin in this way, but one does wonder whether this actually achieves anything."

#### Assessment

Neutral — the question invites nuancing but is not critical about the one-sidedness of the reporting.

#### Comparison

No comparable critical question is asked about the absence of the Putin-supporters perspective.

Summary: The question asymmetry is limited; all interviewees receive predominantly soft, open questions. The absence of critical follow-up questions is consistent across all segments, demonstrating a general pattern of facilitative interviewing rather than a targeted asymmetry.



## 14. FALSE BALANCE

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*Definition: Artificial balance despite factual imbalance.*

### Finding 1: Two "Hans" voters as representative contrast

Timestamp: 06:53–09:57

Construction: Two voters with the same first name (one PVV, one NSC) are presented as a representative contrast for the intra-coalition tension.

#### Analysis

The choice of two voters with the same name is an editorial construction that suggests the coalition is internally divided, but the sample of two persons is not representative. The "false balance" lies in the suggestion that two anecdotal voices provide a balanced picture of voter opinion.

Summary: False balance is limitedly present; the two "Hans" voters create an apparently balanced picture that is in reality anecdotal. The opinion panel research provides more statistical substantiation, but the methodological limitations are not mentioned.



## 15. AGENDA-SETTING

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*Definition: What counts as normal/self-evident? What does not make it onto the agenda?*

### Finding 1: Medication theft as structural healthcare system problem

Agenda element set: Medication theft is a consequence of inadequate policy and workload, not of individual morality.

Timestamp: 03:37–04:21 — Evidence: "What bothers professional organisation NU'91 is that in many healthcare institutions good policy is not being implemented."

Alternative agenda: The question of whether medication theft is also a symptom of broader addiction problems among healthcare workers, or of insufficient access to occupational healthcare, does not make it onto the agenda.

### Finding 2: Programme cabinet as problematic construction

Agenda element set: The programme cabinet is from the outset a risky and questionable construction.

Timestamp: 05:27–06:06 — Evidence: "They are mainly wondering how workable this form of cabinet is. Can decisions be made quickly when you constantly have to consult with parliament for majorities?"

Alternative agenda: The advantages of a programme cabinet (greater parliamentary oversight, fewer party-political compromises) are barely addressed.

### Finding 3: Russian presidential elections as farce

Agenda element set: The Russian elections are by definition not a real democracy and serve exclusively as a legitimization tool for Putin.

Timestamp: 15:12–15:14 — Evidence: "Not that there is much to choose from, because every form of opposition has been eliminated."

Alternative agenda: The question of whether there are gradations in the degree of democratic character of the elections, or how Russian citizens themselves experience the elections, does not make it onto the agenda.

Summary: The agenda-setting is consistent with the dominant framing: medication theft as a systemic problem, programme cabinet as a risky construction, and Russian elections as a farce. Alternative interpretations are systematically kept off the agenda.



## CHAPTER 4 — OVERALL ASSESSMENT

### Overview of Individual Scores

No.	Criterion	Type	Score	Main finding (1 sentence)
1	Expert selection	H	5	All experts have demonstrable interests that are not mentioned; no independent scientific counterweights.
2	Source selection	H	5	Own research instruments and partisan professional organisation dominate; independent sources are absent.
3	Time allocation	H	3	Russia segment dominates; within the formation segment sceptical voices receive more time than positive ones.
4	Omission	H	6	Three structural omissions (patient perspective, coalition agenda, Putin support) consistently reinforce the dominant framing.
5	Statistical manipulation	H	5	Statistics are presented without methodological transparency and without share and trend dimensions.
6	Guilt by association	H	2	Limitedly present through unqualified voter statements about Omtzigt without editorial counterbalance.
7	Timing	H	3	Alarming opening, light-hearted closing of formation segment, emotional build-up in Russia segment.
8	Selective indignation	H	2	Barely demonstrable; critical tone regarding Russia is substantively justified.
9	Completeness	H	6	Structural omissions in all three segments consistently weaken the overall picture.
10	Framing	S	5	Three dominant frames (workload, personality conflict, dictatorship) reduce complex realities.
11	Word choice	S	4	Inconsistent moral tone regarding medication theft; discrediting language for Omtzigt without counterbalance.
12	Moderation behaviour	S	3	Facilitative interviewing without critical follow-up questions; no systematic asymmetry.
13	Question asymmetry	S	3	All interviewees receive soft questions; no targeted asymmetry but general lack of critical follow-up questions.
14	False balance	S	2	Limitedly present through anecdotal two-voter construction.
15	Agenda-setting	S	5	Alternative interpretations are systematically kept off the agenda in all three segments.

### Results

- HARD FACTS SCORE (average criteria 1–9): 4.1 / 10
- SOFT FACTS SCORE (average criteria 10–15): 3.7 / 10
- TOTAL SCORE (average all 15 criteria): 3.9 / 10

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## Dominant Techniques

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- 1. Omission / Selective Omission (Score 6):** In all three segments, structurally relevant perspectives are systematically omitted (patient perspective, coalition agenda, Putin support). These omissions are not random but consistently reinforce the dominant framing of the respective segment, indicating a pattern of selective information provision.
- 2. Completeness — Overall Picture (Score 6):** The broadcast provides no complete picture of the subject addressed in any of the three segments; alternative perspectives, methodological limitations and contradictory facts are consistently kept out of view. This considerably limits the informational value for the viewer.
- 3. Expert Selection and Source Selection (both Score 5):** The chosen experts and sources have demonstrable institutional or commercial interests that are not mentioned; independent scientific counterweights are absent in all segments. The presentation of partisan sources as neutral experts undermines journalistic independence.

## Core Messages of the Broadcast

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**MESSAGE 1 (SUBSTANTIVE):** "Medication theft in healthcare is primarily a consequence of workload and inadequate policy, not of individual morality."

**Technique:** Framing through NU'91 spokesperson and Hoffmann investigator — Evidence: 00:28, 03:01

**MESSAGE 2 (PERSONAL):** "The coalition negotiators are personally unable to work together, which undermines the feasibility of the programme cabinet."

**Technique:** Voter statements without editorial counterbalance, personality framing — Evidence: 06:14, 08:37

**MESSAGE 3 (SOCIETAL):** "Russia is a dictatorship where courageous dissidents represent the only voice of the people."

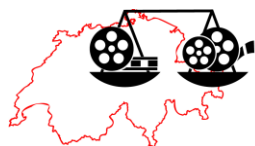
**Technique:** Selective expert selection, emotional build-up, omission of Putin support — Evidence: 15:12, 26:04

**Reasoning:** The total score of 3.9/10 places the broadcast in the category "slight tendency". The dominant techniques (omission, incomplete source selection, framing) are present but not extreme; the broadcast contains no demonstrable deliberate disinformation. The slight left-favouring tendency (score +0.4) is consistent with the choice of progressive-liberal frames in the Russia segment and the critical tone regarding the coalition formation. Article 2.1 of the Media Act requires pluriform and balanced reporting; the structural omissions and the one-sided expert selection constitute a demonstrable but not serious tension with this norm.

## CONCLUSION

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EenVandaag of March 2024 displays a pattern of slight but consistent one-sidedness that manifests itself in all three segments addressed. The structural omissions (patient perspective, coalition agenda, domestic Russian support) are the most demonstrable problem and point to an editorial choice that reinforces the dominant framing of each segment. The expert selection is methodologically vulnerable: all chosen sources have demonstrable institutional or commercial interests that are not mentioned, which undermines journalistic independence. The presentation of figures systematically lacks the dimensions of share and trend, and the methodological limitations of the research instruments used (NU'91 survey, EenVandaag Opinion Panel) are not critically questioned. In light of Article 2.1 of the Media Act, the broadcast is not in serious conflict with the pluriformity requirement, but the structural omissions and the one-sided source selection constitute a demonstrable tension with the requirement of balanced and independent reporting that, if repeated structurally across multiple broadcasts, would warrant a formal assessment.



## OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE 15 CRITERIA

### Individual scores — All 15 criteria

No.	Criterion	Score	Classification
1	EXPERT SELECTION	5	●●●
2	SOURCE SELECTION	5	●●●
3	TIME ALLOCATION	3	●●
4	OMISSION (Selective Omission)	6	●●●
5	STATISTICAL MANIPULATION	5	●●●
6	GUILT BY ASSOCIATION	2	●
7	TIMING	3	●●
8	SELECTIVE INDIGNATION	2	●
9	COMPLETENESS (Selective Omission — Overall Picture)	6	●●●
10	FRAMING (Setting the frame)	5	●●●
11	WORD CHOICE AND TERMINOLOGY	4	●●
12	MODERATION BEHAVIOUR	3	●●
13	QUESTION ASYMMETRY	3	●●
14	FALSE BALANCE	2	●
15	AGENDA-SETTING	5	●●●

#### HARD FACTS SCORE (1-8)

**4.1/10**

*Considerable imbalance*

#### SOFT FACTS SCORE (9-14)

**3.7/10**

*Slight imbalance*

#### TOTAL SCORE

**3.9/10**

*Slight imbalance*

*Average of Hard Facts and Soft Facts*



## KEY — Meaning of the scores

### Individual scores per criterion (0–10)

<b>0</b>	<b>No finding</b>	No relevant deviation established.
<b>1–2</b>	<b>Weak finding</b>	Slight deviation without material impairment of balance.
<b>3–4</b>	<b>Slight to moderate finding</b>	Recognisable tendency; minor to moderate impact.
<b>5</b>	<b>Moderate finding with impact</b>	Relevant imbalance that affects the opinion-forming potential of the public.
<b>6</b>	<b>Considerable finding (threshold)</b>	Scores from 6 onwards are classified as 'considerable findings'.
<b>7</b>	<b>Considerable finding</b>	Clear, well-documented imbalance with clear impact.
<b>8–9</b>	<b>Serious finding</b>	Pronounced imbalance; multiple documented individual findings in this criterion.
<b>10</b>	<b>Maximum severity</b>	Systematic, ongoing imbalance in this criterion.

### Aggregated deviation index — Interpretation ranges

<b>0.0 – 2.5</b>	<b>Unremarkable</b>	No material patterns discernible; broadcast meets the balance requirement.
<b>2.6 – 4.0</b>	<b>Slight imbalance</b>	Isolated deviations; statistically visible, but within tolerance range.
<b>4.1 – 6.0</b>	<b>Considerable imbalance</b>	Multiple considerable findings; relevant impairment of perspective diversity.
<b>6.1 – 8.0</b>	<b>Serious deviation from the balance requirement. High degree of deviation</b>	Pronounced patterns across broadcasts; high impact.
<b>8.1 – 10</b>	<b>Fundamental systemic one-sidedness. Very high degree of bias</b>	Maximum severity across almost all criteria; systematically one-sided reporting.

### Party-political bias (-5 to +5)

<b>-5 to -3</b>	<b>Strongly disadvantaged</b>	Party is clearly disadvantaged in framing, airtime or presentation.
<b>-2 to -1</b>	<b>Slightly disadvantaged</b>	Recognisable but minor disadvantage.
<b>0</b>	<b>Neutral</b>	No discernible favouring or disadvantaging.
<b>+1 to +2</b>	<b>Slightly favoured</b>	Recognisable but minor favouring.
<b>+3 to +5</b>	<b>Strongly favoured</b>	Party is clearly favoured in framing, airtime or presentation.



## CHAPTER 5 — LEGAL QUALIFICATION (Media Act Art. 2.1)

### Assessment on the basis of Media Act Art. 2.1

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The Media Act requires pluriform, balanced and independent reporting by the public broadcaster.

#### Violation 1: Incomplete source selection — lack of independence

Norm: Media Act Art. 2.1 (independent reporting)

Factual description: The broadcast bases the medication segment exclusively on a survey by NU'91 (partisan professional organisation) and a commercial corporate investigation agency (Hoffmann), without independent scientific verification or a countervoice from employers' organisations or patient representatives.

Evidence: Timestamp 00:56–01:22 — Quote: "Professional organisation NU'91 conducted a survey among its members, 1700 people responded."

Assessment: The presentation of partisan sources as neutral experts without mentioning their institutional interests is in tension with the requirement of independent reporting. The violation is not serious but demonstrable.

#### Violation 2: Selective omission — lack of pluriformity (Russia segment)

Norm: Media Act Art. 2.1 (pluriform reporting)

Factual description: The Russia segment (approx. 38% of broadcast time) addresses exclusively the perspective of dissidents and opposition; the perspective of Russians who support the regime or approve of the war in Ukraine is entirely absent, despite the existence of independent polls (Levada Center) showing considerable domestic support for Putin.

Evidence: Timestamp 26:04 — Quote: "In that, millions of Russians who want change can still draw something and derive hope from it."

Assessment: The presentation of a one-sidedly pro-opposition perspective as representative of "millions of Russians" without mentioning domestic support for the regime is in tension with the pluriformity requirement of Article 2.1.

#### Violation 3: Incomplete information provision — lack of balance (formation segment)

Norm: Media Act Art. 2.1 (balanced reporting)

Factual description: The formation segment addresses the cabinet formation exclusively through voter sentiment and personal relations between party leaders; the substantive agenda of the programme cabinet and the positions of the coalition negotiators themselves are not addressed.

Evidence: Timestamp 06:14–06:33 — Quote: "And then the love between the negotiating party leaders also doesn't seem to be overflowing."

Assessment: The reduction of a complex political formation to interpersonal conflict, without substantive coalition positions, is in tension with the requirement of balanced reporting.

### Overall Assessment Media Act Art. 2.1

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The broadcast of EenVandaag displays three demonstrable tensions with Article 2.1 of the Media Act: incomplete source selection in the medication segment, selective omission of Putin support in the Russia segment, and reduction of the cabinet formation to personality conflict without substantive coalition agenda. None of these tensions reaches the threshold of a serious or deliberate violation; the broadcast contains no demonstrable disinformation and the dominant framing is consistent with prevailing Western journalistic conventions. In an incidental assessment of this broadcast, a formal violation of Article 2.1 is not demonstrable; in the event of structural repetition of the same patterns across multiple broadcasts, an assessment by the Commissariaat voor de Media would be warranted. The pluriformity requirement of Article 2.1 is assessed across the total output of the broadcaster, not per individual broadcast, which raises the legal threshold for a formal violation.



## CHAPTER 6 — SOURCE DEPTH CHECK

### 1. NU'91 (Professional organisation nurses and carers)

**1. FUNDING:** Funded by membership contributions of nurses and carers; no government or church funding. Interest: strengthening working conditions and the position of members.

**2. MANDATE:** Trade union/professional organisation; mandate is to represent member interests, not to conduct independent scientific research.

**3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Institutional interest in framing medication theft as a consequence of poor working conditions and inadequate employer policy; this promotes lobbying for better working conditions and relieves individual members of moral responsibility.

**4. CREDIBILITY MATRIX:**

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 (institutional interest in specific framing)

D2 Personal risk: +1 (reputational damage through publication of negative findings about own members)

D3 Professional competence: +1 (sector knowledge, no independent research methodology)

D4 Consistency: 0 (not verifiable)

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: 0 (mix)

D6 Source level: 0 (own survey, not peer-reviewed)

• TOTAL: +1 → SOURCE LIGHT: YELLOW

**5. COUNTERVOICE:** An independent researcher (e.g. NIVEL, university department) or employers' organisation (ActiZ, NFU) could have tested the findings. Not cited.

### 2. Hoffmann Corporate Investigations

**1. FUNDING:** Commercial private agency; income from assignments from healthcare institutions and companies wishing to investigate fraud.

**2. MANDATE:** Commercial investigation mandate; no independent scientific or public mandate.

**3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Commercial interest in the visibility of the problem (more investigation assignments); interest in framing medication theft as a growing and serious problem.

**4. CREDIBILITY MATRIX:**

D1 Conflict of interest: -2 (direct commercial interest in problem amplification)

D2 Personal risk: 0 (no demonstrable personal risk)

D3 Professional competence: +1 (practical experience, no academic methodology)

D4 Consistency: 0 (not verifiable)

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +1 (predominantly factual)

D6 Source level: -1 (anecdotal, own case studies)

• TOTAL: -1 → SOURCE LIGHT: YELLOW

**5. COUNTERVOICE:** An independent criminologist or occupational psychologist could have scientifically substantiated or nuanced the explanations for medication theft. Not cited.

### 3. EenVandaag Opinion Panel

**1. FUNDING:** AVROTROS/EenVandaag (public broadcaster, NPO); funded from public funds.

**2. MANDATE:** Own research instrument of the editorial team; not an independent polling agency.

**3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Editorial interest in findings that align with the news agenda; the framing of questions determines the outcomes and has not been externally verified.

**4. CREDIBILITY MATRIX:**

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 (editorial interest in confirmation of news frame)

D2 Personal risk: +1 (public broadcaster risks reputational damage from methodological errors)

D3 Professional competence: +1 (journalistic research experience, no academic methodology)

D4 Consistency: 0 (not verifiable per broadcast)

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +1 (predominantly presented numerically)

D6 Source level: -1 (opt-in panel, not random sample)



• TOTAL: +1 → SOURCE LIGHT: YELLOW

**5. COUNTERVOICE:** An independent polling agency (Ipsos, I&O Research, Kantar) could have validated or nuanced the findings. Not cited.

*IMPORTANT: "Recognised" is not a substantive qualification. It is a social attribution that must itself be critically examined. None of the three cited sources reaches green on the credibility matrix; all three are in the yellow zone with demonstrable institutional or commercial interests that are not mentioned in the broadcast.*

### Source traffic light for participants:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
NU'91 (Professional organisation nurses and carers)	-1	+1	+1	0	0	0	+1	YELLOW
Hoffmann Corporate Investigations	-2	0	+1	0	+1	-1	-1	YELLOW
EenVandaag Opinion Panel	-1	+1	+1	0	+1	-1	+1	YELLOW

### Legal and methodological notes

<b>No factual determination</b>	The presented results do not constitute factual determinations about individual persons, editorial teams or broadcasts. They are the product of a standardised operationalisation, not a determination of individual responsibility.
<b>No legal judgement</b>	The aggregated deviation index does not replace a legal assessment on the basis of Media Act 2008 Art. 2.1. The assessment of whether a specific broadcast violates statutory requirements is exclusively the responsibility of the competent authorities (in particular the Commissariaat voor de Media).
<b>No proof of causality</b>	Statistical correlations must not be interpreted as proof of causal relationships or editorial intentions. Deviation values may be influenced by subject choice, news environment, political controversiality or format logic.
<b>No judgement on intent</b>	The analysis measures observable structural characteristics of broadcasts. A score of 7 means that a considerable imbalance has been established — not that the editorial team intended this. The methodology makes no statements about motives or strategic objectives.
<b>Heuristic comparison instrument</b>	The index serves for comparative pattern recognition across thousands of broadcasts, not for precise metric measurement of individual contributions. Threshold values serve as heuristic orientation, not as sharp legal qualification.



## APPENDIX 1: NATIONAL LEGISLATION

### Legal basis Netherlands — NPO

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#### Act

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Media Act 2008

#### Relevant articles

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- Art. 2.1 (Public media remit): The public media service provides independent, pluriform, balanced information of high journalistic quality. The public media service contributes to the democratic, social and cultural needs of Dutch society.
- Art. 2.1 para. 2: The public media service reflects the social diversity of the Netherlands.
- Art. 2.88: Editorial independence and journalistic standards are guaranteed. The programmes are made under the editorial responsibility of the broadcasting associations.

#### Core obligations

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1. **Independence:** Independent information provision
2. **Pluriformity:** Pluriform reporting
3. **Balance:** Balanced information of high journalistic quality
4. **Social diversity:** Reflection of Dutch society

#### Supervisory authority

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- Commissariaat voor de Media (CvdM): Media supervision, compliance with Media Act
- NPO Ombudsman: Internal complaints body

#### Complaints procedure

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1. NPO Ombudsman
2. Commissariaat voor de Media
3. Court (administrative law)



## APPENDIX 2: SCIENTIFIC SOURCES

### Literature

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### SVFAB Working Papers

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- Schläpfer, D. (2026). Source Traffic Light: A Six-Dimensional Credibility Framework for Systematic Source Assessment in Public Service Media. [SSRN 6733880](#)

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