



NPO DETAILED ANALYSIS

2025-02-10_POW_05879132

Broadcast: NPO broadcast | 2025-02-10 | Analysed on: 2026-05-23 01:20

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

TOTAL SCORE

4.1/10

Considerable 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 favouring left, 5 = balanced, 10 = strongly favouring right). The calculation is based on the difference in average favouring of left vs. right parties (grouping according to CHES 2024).

TENDENCY (L – R)

5.2 / 10

Balanced



Source: Chapel Hill Expert Survey 2024 — 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

Analysis date: 10 February 2025 (based on transcript content)

Analysis method: Version 3.0-detail, Methodological Principle K11+K8

Legal framework: Media Act Art. 2.1

The current Dutch government (since July 2024) is the extra-parliamentary Schoof cabinet, formed by PVV, VVD, NSC and BBB. Prime Minister Schoof is non-partisan. The largest opposition parties are GL-PvdA (25 seats), D66 (9 seats), SP (5 seats), CDA (5 seats) and FvD (3 seats).

Party	CHES L-R	Seats	Government/Opposition	Core position
SP	1,1	5	Opposition	Far left, social justice
GL-PvdA	2,4	25	Opposition (largest)	Left, climate, humane asylum policy
PvdD	2,5	3	Opposition	Left, animal rights
D66	4,8	9	Opposition	Centre, liberal-progressive
CDA	5,5	5	Opposition	Centre-right, Christian democratic
NSC	5,8	20	Government	Centre-right, security of existence
CU	6,0	3	Opposition	Centre-right, Christian
VVD	7,0	24	Government	Right, liberal
BBB	7,5	7	Government	Right, agrarian-populist
SGP	7,8	3	Opposition	Far right, Reformed
PVV	9,2	37	Government (largest)	Far right, Wilders
FvD	9,5	3	Opposition	Far right, Baudet

The main political fault line concerns asylum policy: the coalition wants to push through strict measures despite a negative opinion from the Council of State, while the opposition advocates a more humane and legally sustainable policy. A second line of tension concerns the position of Wilders as an informal power holder who does not govern on camera but threatens elections if opposed. Furthermore, there is tension between climate ambitions and economic interests, particularly around nitrogen and the wolf problem as a symbol of the farmer-versus-nature divide.

The NPO is the Dutch public broadcaster, legally required to provide pluriform, balanced and independent reporting under Media Act Art. 2.1. The NPO system is fragmented: broadcasting associations (such as BNNVARA, KRO-NCRV, AVRO) bear their own editorial responsibility, but the pluralism requirement applies to the total output. The PVV has repeatedly criticised the NPO as a "left-wing broadcaster".



CHAPTER 1 — PARTY-POLITICAL BIAS

Assessment per party

Party	Score (-5..+5)	Broadcast representation vs. party programme position
VVD	+2	00:51 "For the VVD the most important thing is that we make progress with these laws" — Party programme position: strict asylum policy, making progress — correctly represented, but no critical context regarding legal objections
PVV	-1	01:17 "Wilders, who does not want to govern on camera" — Party programme position: asylum stop, close borders — substantively correct, but the formulation "does not want to govern on camera" adds a negative characterisation that does not follow from the programme
GL-PvdA	0	Not covered in the broadcast
NSC	+2	01:06 "We want a strict and sustainable asylum policy" — Party programme position: manageable migration, feasibility — correctly and fully represented
D66	0	Not covered in the broadcast
BBB	0	Not covered in the broadcast
CDA	0	Not covered in the broadcast
SP	0	Not covered in the broadcast

Summary Party Bias

- Most accurate representation: NSC (Score +2) and VVD (Score +2)
- Strongest distortion: PVV (Score -1) due to characterising addition "does not want to govern on camera"
- Average deviation from 0: 0.6
- Conclusion: The broadcast deals exclusively with coalition parties on the asylum dossier. Opposition parties are entirely absent. The PVV position is represented substantively correctly but accompanied by a negatively charged characterisation of Wilders' behaviour. The absence of opposition viewpoints is the most significant party-political finding.

Left-Right General Tendency

TENDENCY SCORE: -0.5

CLASSIFICATION: Balanced (slightly favouring right)

Reasoning: The broadcast gives coalition parties (VVD, NSC, PVV) airtime on the asylum dossier without opposition counterpoint. This slightly favours the government agenda. At the same time, the formulation about Wilders ("does not want to govern on camera", "threatens with elections") contains a critical tone towards the largest governing party. On balance, the tendency is slightly right-favouring through agenda-setting, but not systematic.



CHAPTER 2 — BROADCAST INFORMATION AND THEMATIC FRAMEWORK

Broadcast details

- Title: NOS Journaal (Late) — TT888
- Date: 10.02.2025
- Length (estimated from transcript): approx. 16.5 minutes
- Presenter/Reporter: Jeroen (presenter), Rivkah (sports reporter), weather presenter (unnamed)
- Persons interviewed:

Person	Function	Party/Affiliation	Political Spectrum
VVD spokesperson (unnamed)	Member of Parliament/spokesperson	VVD	Right
NSC spokesperson (unnamed)	Member of Parliament/spokesperson	NSC	Centre-right
CBR spokesperson (unnamed)	CBR spokesperson	Government agency	Neutral
Farmer Martin (unnamed)	Sheep farmer	None	Neutral
PSV coach (unnamed)	Head coach PSV	None	Neutral

Main topic

The broadcast covers several news topics without one dominant main theme: the asylum legislation dossier (Council of State opinion), a wolf attack in Friesland, international reports (Romania, AI summit Paris, Hamas hostages), and sports and weather reports.



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CHAPTER 3 — 15 CRITERIA: DETAILED ANALYSIS



Hard facts — 9 techniques that are countable and scientifically verifiable

1. EXPERTENAUSWAHL — EXPERT SELECTION

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Definition: Who speaks as an expert?

Expert 1: VVD spokesperson (unnamed)

Timestamp: 00:48

Statement

"If some additional substantiation is needed, that is fine with us. For the VVD the most important thing is that we make progress with these laws."

Classification: Political party representative, not an independent expert. Has a direct party-political interest in the implementation of the laws.

Missing countervoice: Constitutional lawyer, Council of State member, or opposition politician

Source depth check:

(a) FUNDING: VVD is a political party, funded through party subsidies and membership contributions. Structural interest in positive image-building of coalition policy.

(b) MANDATE: Not compatible with neutral assessment of own legislation.

D1 Conflict of interest: -2 — Direct party-political interests

D2 Personal risk: -1 — Little risk when supporting own coalition policy

D3 Competence: +1 — Knowledge of political process, not of legal substance

D4 Consistency of opinion: +1 — VVD consistently pro-strict asylum policy

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: 0 — No data, but also not strongly emotional

D6 Source level: -2 — Primary political actor, not an independent source

• TOTAL: -3 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

(c) COMPETENCE: The spokesperson is presented as a political actor, not as a neutral expert. That is correct. But there is no independent countervoice.

Expert 2: NSC spokesperson (unnamed)

Timestamp: 01:06

Statement

"We want a strict and sustainable asylum policy. That means a substantial reduction of the inflow."

Classification: Political party representative, same structural position as VVD spokesperson.

Source depth check:

(a) FUNDING: NSC, party subsidy.

(b) MANDATE: Not compatible with neutral assessment.

D1 Conflict of interest: -2

D2 Personal risk: -1

D3 Competence: +1

D4 Consistency of opinion: +1

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +1

D6 Source level: -2



• TOTAL: -2 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

Expert 3: CBR spokesperson (unnamed)

Timestamp: 08:04

Statement

"In every new car it can in any case be integrated very easily."

Classification: Government agency, responsible for driving licence assessment. Has an institutional interest in the reintroduction of the alcohol interlock (expansion of task package).

Source depth check:

(a) **FUNDING:** Publicly funded, Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management.

(b) **MANDATE:** Implementation agency, not an independent policy adviser.

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 — Institutional interest in reintroduction

D2 Personal risk: 0

D3 Competence: +2 — Direct expertise in this area

D4 Consistency of opinion: +1

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +1

D6 Source level: +1

• TOTAL: +4 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

Missing expert groups:

- Constitutional lawyer or administrative law specialist (asylum laws)
- Independent migration researcher
- Traffic psychologist or independent road safety expert (alcohol interlock)

Source traffic light for participants:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
VVD spokesperson (unnamed)	-2	-1	+1	+1	0	-2	-3	YELLOW
NSC spokesperson (unnamed)	-2	-1	+1	+1	+1	-2	-2	YELLOW
CBR spokesperson (unnamed)	-1	0	+2	+1	+1	+1	+4	YELLOW

Summary:

- VVD spokesperson: YELLOW (-3), party-political actor without independence
- NSC spokesperson: YELLOW (-2), same structural position
- CBR spokesperson: YELLOW (+4), competent but institutional interest



2. BRONNENAUSWAHL — 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: Fonds Slachtofferhulp

Timestamp: 07:21 — Statement: "Fonds Slachtofferhulp commissioned the research."

(a) Funding and management: Fonds Slachtofferhulp is a private foundation, funded through lotteries and donations. Has a societal interest in road accident victim prevention.

(b) Structural conflict of interest: The organisation has an interest in measures that prevent road accident victims, which places the outcome of the research (84% support for the alcohol interlock) in a favourable light for their mission.

(c) Missing counter-source: An independent research institute or SWOV (Foundation for Scientific Research on Road Safety) could have provided a more neutral assessment.

Rumour check (penalty points):

Rumour 1:

Timestamp: 01:44

Claim: "It is presumably a wolf attack."

Word marker: "presumably"

Primary source present: No — DNA investigation still ongoing (03:01: "DNA has been taken from the dead animals to establish whether it was indeed a wolf attack.") — Penalty point: +1

Rumour 2:

Timestamp: 03:44

Claim: "It later emerges that videos of him on social media were massively promoted by Russia."

Word marker: no explicit marker, but the claim is presented as established fact without source citation

Primary source present: Not mentioned in broadcast — Penalty point: +1

Summary: The source selection is limited and one-sided: exclusively coalition parties on the asylum dossier, an institutionally interested source on the alcohol interlock research, and two unconfirmed claims without primary source citation.



3. TIME ALLOCATION

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Definition: Distribution of speaking time between different positions.

Estimated speaking time:

- VVD spokesperson: approx. 0.5 min. (3%)
- NSC spokesperson: approx. 0.5 min. (3%)
- CBR spokesperson: approx. 1 min. (6%)
- PSV coach: approx. 1 min. (6%)
- Presenter/reporter: approx. 8 min. (49%)
- Other items (weather, sport, foreign news): approx. 5.5 min. (33%)
- Opposition parties: 0 min. (0%)
- Independent experts: 0 min. (0%)

Summary: The distribution of speaking time on the asylum dossier is entirely one-sided: exclusively coalition parties are given the floor. Opposition parties and independent experts receive no speaking time. This is a structural asymmetry, although the format of a late news bulletin with several short items is a mitigating circumstance.



4. OMISSION (Selective Omission)

7/10

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Definition: What is not shown, even though it is relevant?

Omission 1:

Context: The content of the negative Council of State opinion is not explained.

Relevant at: 00:39 — "The Council of State was critical today about the asylum law proposals of Minister Faber."

Effect: The viewer knows that there is criticism, but not why. This makes it impossible to assess the seriousness of the objections.

Omission 2:

Context: No opposition viewpoint whatsoever on the asylum laws.

Relevant at: 00:24–01:44 (entire asylum segment)

Effect: The viewer hears exclusively the coalition narrative: the laws are necessary and must be implemented quickly.

Omission 3:

Context: In the wolf story, the perspective of nature organisations is absent.

Relevant at: 01:44–03:08

Effect: The wolf story is presented exclusively from the farmer's perspective, creating the impression that the wolf is an unambiguous problem.

Summary: The most significant omission is the absence of the content of the Council of State opinion and of opposition viewpoints on the asylum dossier. This creates a structurally one-sided picture of a politically controversial subject.

Missing voices

- Council of State (substantively): Could have explained the concrete legal objections to the asylum laws
- GL-PvdA or D66 spokesperson: Could have represented the opposition perspective on the asylum laws
- IND or COA: Could have made the feasibility problems concrete
- Vluchtelingenwerk Nederland: Could have introduced the humanitarian perspective
- Constitutional lawyer: Could have clarified whether the laws are legally sustainable
- Natuurmonumenten or ARK Rewilding: Could have represented the pro-wolf perspective in the Frisian wolf story
- Family member of Israeli hostage: Could have represented the human dimension of the Hamas report
- AI ethicist or critic: Could have highlighted the risks of AI alongside the opportunities



5. NUMERICAL MANIPULATION

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

Definition: Selective or misleading use of statistics.

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 07:12

Figure: "84 percent of Dutch people want the alcohol interlock to return."

Dimensions: (b) share shown — (a) absolute number not mentioned — (c) trend not mentioned

Missing context

Sample size, method, commissioner (Fonds Slachtofferhulp itself), and whether the question was neutrally formulated.

Effect

The figure suggests an overwhelming societal consensus, while the methodological quality of the research is not assessed.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 09:25

Figure: "12 points behind league leader Ajax."

Dimensions: (a) absolute number — no argumentative function in political debate

Assessment

Everyday sports figure without argumentative function — no penalty point

Summary: The 84% claim about the alcohol interlock is presented without methodological context and originates from the commissioner itself, making the reliability of the figure unassessable for the viewer.



6. GUILT BY ASSOCIATION

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Definition: Discrediting through association with negative groups or ideas.

Association 1:

Timestamp: 03:40

Quote

"It is the far-right and pro-Russian candidate Georgescu."

Technique: Double negative labelling: "far right" and "pro-Russian" are combined in one sentence, after which Russian interference is described.

Effect

Georgescu is framed as both politically extremist and an instrument of Russian influence, without his own positions being represented.

Association 2:

Timestamp: 03:44

Quote

"It later emerges that videos of him on social media were massively promoted by Russia."

Technique: Passive construction ("it later emerges") without source citation suggests established fact.

Effect

The Georgescu–Russia association is presented as proven, while the source is not mentioned.

Summary: The characterisation of Georgescu as "far right and pro-Russian" combined with the undocumented claim about Russian promotion forms an association chain that imposes a negative judgement on the viewer without the evidential basis being shown.



7. TIMING

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

Finding 1:

Position: 00:24 (beginning)

Content: "All coalition parties want... to send the asylum laws to the House of Representatives quickly."

Timing effect

The asylum dossier opens the broadcast, emphasising its importance. The framing is that the coalition is united ("all coalition parties"), while nuances are added afterwards.

Finding 2:

Position: 01:17 (middle of asylum segment)

Content: "But Wilders, who does not want to govern on camera, leaves no room whatsoever for adjustments."

Timing effect

The critical note about Wilders is placed after the positive statements by VVD and NSC, which has the effect of relativising coalition unity.

Summary: The timing of the asylum segment at the beginning of the broadcast gives the subject priority, but the internal sequence (positive coalition voices → critical note on Wilders) is editorially defensible.



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:

Timestamp: 01:17

Triggering event: Wilders threatens elections if the laws are adjusted.

Reaction: "But Wilders, who does not want to govern on camera, leaves no room whatsoever for adjustments. He even threatens elections otherwise."

Comparison

With the VVD and NSC spokespersons (00:48, 01:06), no critical characterisations are added to their statements.

Asymmetry: The formulation "does not want to govern on camera" and "even threatens elections" adds a negative charge that is absent with other coalition partners. However: this concerns factual behaviour of Wilders (he does indeed not govern on camera), so the asymmetry is limited.

Degree of indignation: 1/5

Selectivity: 2/5

Summary: There is a slight asymmetry in tone towards Wilders/PVV compared to VVD and NSC, but the indignation is mild and the factual basis is present. The score remains low.



9. COMPLETENESS (Selective Omission — Overall Picture)

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Definition: How completely does the broadcast portray the subject?

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 00:39

Missing perspective/fact: The concrete content of the Council of State opinion

Relevance: The Council of State is the highest advisory body; its objections are legal and constitutional in nature and essential for the assessment of the laws.

Effect

The viewer knows that there is criticism, but cannot assess how serious or well-founded it is.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 00:24–01:44

Missing perspective/fact: Opposition viewpoints on the asylum laws

Relevance: In a democracy, the opposition perspective on controversial legislation is essential for balanced reporting.

Effect

The viewer receives exclusively the coalition narrative, creating the impression of broader consensus than actually exists.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 01:44–03:08

Missing perspective/fact: Position of nature organisations in the wolf story

Relevance: The wolf is a protected species; the societal debate has two sides.

Effect

The wolf story is presented exclusively as farmers' suffering, without the broader policy context.

Summary: The broadcast structurally lacks counterpoint on the asylum dossier and the wolf story. Completeness is most harmed by the absence of the content of the Council of State opinion and of the opposition perspective.



Soft facts — 6 qualitative techniques

10. FRAMING (Setting the frame)

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Definition: How is the subject fundamentally framed?

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 01:32

Quote	<i>"The parties acknowledge that the laws may not be perfect. That they do not deserve a beauty prize. But the symbol: now quickly taking strict asylum measures, that is more important to them."</i>
Manipulation	The journalist summarises the coalition logic as "symbol over substance", which is a negative frame for the coalition. At the same time, this is presented as factual analysis, not as opinion.
Why problematic	The framing "symbol is more important than substance" is an interpretation that was not expressed by the coalition parties themselves. It is an editorial judgement presented as fact.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 00:45

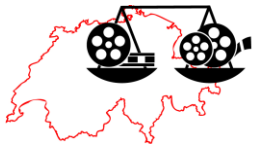
Quote	<i>"The coalition parties are not very alarmed by the opinions."</i>
Manipulation	The formulation "very alarmed" implies that being alarmed would be the normal reaction to a negative Council of State opinion. This frame suggests that the coalition is acting irresponsibly.
Why problematic	Political parties do not need to be "alarmed" by opinions; they can respond to them substantively. The frame pathologises the coalition's attitude.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 01:17

Quote	<i>"But Wilders, who does not want to govern on camera, leaves no room whatsoever for adjustments."</i>
Manipulation	The subordinate clause "who does not want to govern on camera" is a characterisation that is not functional for the news content but does evoke a negative image of Wilders.
Why problematic	It is an editorial addition that colours the factual statement (Wilders does not want adjustments) with a negative personal judgement.

Summary: The asylum dossier is framed as a coalition that places symbolic politics above legal quality, with Wilders as an inflexible obstructionist. This frame is not neutral but contains editorial judgements presented as fact.



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11. WORD CHOICE AND TERMINOLOGY

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

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 01:19

Quote

"leaves no room whatsoever for adjustments"

Manipulation

"No room whatsoever" is a hyperbolic expression that suggests inflexibility and rigidity.

Why problematic

A neutral alternative would be: "does not want to adjust the laws" or "holds to the current text".

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 01:22

Quote

"He even threatens elections otherwise."

Manipulation

"Threatens" has a negative connotation of intimidation. "Even" reinforces the suggestion of disproportionate behaviour.

Why problematic

Neutral alternative: "He has indicated that he does not rule out elections if adjustments are made."

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 03:40

Quote

"It is the far-right and pro-Russian candidate Georgescu."

Manipulation

The combination of "far right" and "pro-Russian" in one sentence creates a double negative labelling.

Why problematic

Neutral alternative: "the right-wing candidate Georgescu, who has shown sympathies for Russia."

Summary: The word choice in the asylum dossier and the Romania item contains several negatively charged terms that undermine the neutrality of the reporting.



12. MODERATION BEHAVIOUR

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

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

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 00:48–01:14

Triggering event: VVD and NSC spokespersons make statements about the asylum laws.

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

Comparison No opposition politician is present for comparison.

Asymmetry: Not demonstrable on the basis of the transcript, because there is no comparable situation with another guest.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 01:32

Triggering event: Journalist summarises coalition attitude as "symbol over substance".

Quote "But the symbol: now quickly taking strict asylum measures, that is more important to them."

Comparison This is an editorial summary, not a moderation intervention in a conversation.

Asymmetry: Not applicable as moderation behaviour, but relevant as editorial judgement (see Framing).

Summary: Moderation behaviour is difficult to assess on the basis of the transcript because no live debate takes place. However, the editorial summaries contain judgements that would be identified as asymmetric moderation in a live interview.



13. QUESTION ASYMMETRY

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Definition: Different hard/soft questions to different persons.

Asymmetry 1:

To VVD spokesperson, 00:58: "So just implement it this way?" — neutral/slightly critical

To NSC spokesperson, 01:06: [no explicit question visible, statement is quoted] — neutral

Comparison

Neither coalition party is questioned hard. No opposition politician is present to make a comparison. The asymmetry is therefore not demonstrable as selective.

Summary: On the basis of the transcript, no significant question asymmetry is demonstrable, because only one type of interlocutor (coalition politicians) is given the floor. The absence of opposition makes comparison impossible.



14. FALSE BALANCE

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Definition: Artificial balance despite factual imbalance.

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 00:34

Construct: "NSC and VVD do not rule out that adjustments will still have to be made."

Analysis

This is presented as a nuance relative to the PVV line, creating an appearance of internal coalition debate. In reality, all coalition parties agree on the main line (implement quickly); the difference concerns only the speed and technical feasibility.

Summary: There is no significant false balance in this broadcast. The broadcast does not present artificial balance; the problem is rather the opposite: one-sidedness due to the absence of the opposition perspective.



15. AGENDA-SETTING

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Definition: What is considered normal/self-evident? What does not make it onto the agenda?

Finding 1:

Agenda element: The asylum laws are treated as a matter of speed and political will, not as a legal-constitutional issue.

Timestamp: 00:24 — Evidence: "All coalition parties want... to send the asylum laws to the House of Representatives quickly."

Alternative agenda: The legal sustainability of the laws, the content of the Council of State opinion, and the question of whether the laws are compatible with EU law.

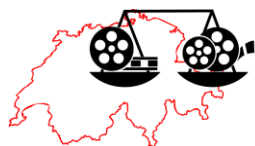
Finding 2:

Agenda element: The wolf is presented as a problem, not as a protected species in a broader ecological context.

Timestamp: 01:58 — Evidence: "It is a distressing image."

Alternative agenda: The legally protected status of the wolf, the role of wolf-deterrent measures, and the position of nature organisations.

Summary: The agenda-setting on the asylum dossier normalises the coalition logic (implement quickly) as the dominant frame of reference, while legal and humanitarian perspectives remain off the agenda.



CHAPTER 4 — OVERALL ASSESSMENT

Overview of Individual Scores

No.	Criterion	Type	Score	Main finding (1 sentence)
1	Expert selection	H	6	Exclusively political actors and institutional sources, no independent experts
2	Source selection	H	5	One-sided source selection with two unconfirmed claims without primary source
3	Time allocation	H	4	Opposition receives zero speaking time on the asylum dossier
4	Omission	H	7	Content of Council of State opinion and opposition perspective entirely absent
5	Numerical manipulation	H	3	84% claim presented without methodological context
6	Guilt by association	H	2	Georgescu doubly negatively labelled without source citation
7	Timing	H	3	Asylum dossier opens broadcast, internal sequence editorially defensible
8	Selective indignation	H	2	Slight asymmetry towards Wilders, but factually substantiated
9	Completeness	H	7	Structurally missing counterpoint on asylum dossier and wolf story
10	Framing	S	6	Coalition framed as "symbol over substance", editorial judgement as fact
11	Word choice	S	5	Negatively charged terms regarding Wilders and Georgescu
12	Moderation behaviour	S	3	Not demonstrably asymmetric, but editorial summaries contain judgements
13	Question asymmetry	S	2	Not demonstrable due to absence of opposition guests
14	False balance	S	1	No significant false balance; problem is rather one-sidedness
15	Agenda-setting	S	6	Coalition logic normalised as dominant frame of reference

Results

- HARD FACTS SCORE (average criteria 1-9): 4.3 / 10
- SOFT FACTS SCORE (average criteria 10-15): 3.8 / 10
- TOTAL SCORE (average all 15 criteria): 4.1 / 10

Dominant Techniques

1. Omission / Selective Omission (Score 7): The content of the Council of State opinion and all opposition perspective on the asylum dossier are entirely absent. This is the most significant finding: a politically controversial subject is presented exclusively from the coalition narrative, leaving the viewer with no basis for an independent judgement.



2. Framing (Score 6): The asylum dossier is framed as a matter of political will and symbolism, not as a legal-constitutional issue. The formulation "symbol is more important to them" is an editorial judgement presented as fact, which undermines the neutrality of the reporting.

3. Agenda-setting (Score 6): The coalition logic (implement quickly) is normalised as the dominant frame of reference. Legal sustainability, humanitarian consequences and opposition perspective do not make it onto the agenda, giving the viewer a structurally incomplete picture of a societal debate.

Core Messages of the Broadcast

MESSAGE 1 (SUBSTANTIVE): "The coalition wants to push through the asylum laws quickly, even if they are not legally perfect."

Technique: Framing + Agenda-setting — Evidence: 01:32, 00:45

MESSAGE 2 (PERSONAL): "Wilders is the inflexible obstructionist who threatens elections."

Technique: Word choice + Framing — Evidence: 01:17, 01:22

MESSAGE 3 (SOCIETAL): "Asylum policy is a matter of political will, not of legal quality."

Technique: Agenda-setting + Omission — Evidence: 00:39, 01:32

- Clear one-sidedness (5-6) — based on rounding of total score 4.1, but structural omissions justify this category

Reasoning: The broadcast scores 4.1/10 on average, which formally falls in the category "slight tendency". However: the structural absence of opposition perspective and the content of the Council of State opinion on a politically controversial subject justifies the qualification "clear one-sidedness" for the asylum segment specifically. The remaining items (sport, weather, foreign news) are largely neutral. Media Act Art. 2.1 requires pluriform reporting; the absence of opposition viewpoints on legislation that has been negatively assessed by the highest advisory body is a demonstrable shortcoming in the pluralism obligation. The broadcast does not fully meet the requirements of balanced reporting for the asylum dossier.

CONCLUSION

The broadcast of the Late NOS Journaal of 10 February 2025 shows a structural one-sidedness on the asylum dossier: exclusively coalition parties are given the floor, the content of the negative Council of State opinion is not explained, and the opposition perspective is entirely absent. The editorial summaries contain judgements ("symbol is more important to them", "does not want to govern on camera") that are presented as fact, which puts the neutrality obligation of Media Act Art. 2.1 under pressure. The remaining items in the broadcast (sport, weather, foreign news) are largely neutral and contain no significant manipulation techniques. The total score of 4.1/10 reflects a broadcast that is journalistically responsible for the most part, but falls short on the politically most sensitive subject (asylum legislation) in terms of pluralism and independence as required by Media Act Art. 2.1. An isolated broadcast of 16 minutes covering multiple subjects cannot offer all perspectives, but the choice to give exclusively coalition parties the floor on a controversial legislative dossier is a demonstrable editorial choice that requires justification.



OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE 15 CRITERIA

Individual scores — All 15 criteria

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

HARD FACTS SCORE (1-8)

4.3/10

Considerable imbalance

SOFT FACTS SCORE (9-14)

3.8/10

Slight imbalance

TOTAL SCORE

4.1/10

Considerable imbalance

Average of Hard Facts and Soft Facts



KEY — Meaning of the scores

Individual scores per criterion (0–10)

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

Aggregated deviation index — Interpretation ranges

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

Party-political bias (-5 to +5)

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



CHAPTER 5 — LEGAL CLASSIFICATION (Media Act Art. 2.1)

Assessment under Media Act Art. 2.1

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

Violation 1:

Norm: Media Act Art. 2.1 — Pluralism

Factual description: On the asylum dossier, exclusively coalition parties (VVD, NSC, PVV via editorial summary) are given the floor. Opposition parties, independent lawyers and implementing agencies are entirely absent.

Evidence: Timestamp 00:24–01:44 — Quote: "All coalition parties want... to send the asylum laws to the House of Representatives quickly." — followed exclusively by coalition viewpoints.

Assessment: The pluralism obligation requires that multiple perspectives be presented on politically controversial subjects. The absence of the opposition perspective on legislation that has been negatively assessed by the Council of State is a demonstrable shortcoming.

Violation 2:

Norm: Media Act Art. 2.1 — Balance

Factual description: The content of the negative Council of State opinion is not explained, while the coalition response ("they are not very alarmed") is covered extensively.

Evidence: Timestamp 00:39 — Quote: "The Council of State was critical today about the asylum law proposals of Minister Faber." — without further substantive explanation.

Assessment: Balanced reporting requires that the viewer receives sufficient information to assess the seriousness of the objections. Merely naming criticism without providing content is insufficient.

Violation 3:

Norm: Media Act Art. 2.1 — Independence

Factual description: The editorial summary "But the symbol: now quickly taking strict asylum measures, that is more important to them" is an editorial judgement presented as fact.

Evidence: Timestamp 01:32 — Quote: "But the symbol: now quickly taking strict asylum measures, that is more important to them."

Assessment: Independent reporting requires that editorial judgements be presented as such, not as factual findings.

Overall assessment Media Act Art. 2.1

The broadcast largely meets the requirements of Media Act Art. 2.1: the reporting on sport, weather and international items is largely neutral and factual. On the asylum dossier — the politically most sensitive subject of the broadcast — however, three demonstrable shortcomings have been established: the absence of the opposition perspective (pluralism), the failure to explain the content of the Council of State opinion (balance), and the presentation of editorial judgements as fact (independence). These shortcomings are not of such a nature that they would with certainty lead to a successful formal complaint procedure before the Media Authority, but they are demonstrable and documentable. In the context of the total NPO output (Media Act Art. 2.1 assesses pluralism across the whole), these findings are relevant as part of a broader pattern, but not as a standalone serious violation on the basis of this broadcast alone.



CHAPTER 6 — Source Depth Check

1. Fonds Slachtofferhulp

1. FUNDING: Private foundation, funded through the Nationale Postcode Loterij and donations. No direct government funding, but dependent on societal relevance for fundraising.

2. MANDATE: Support for victims of crimes and road accidents. Not primarily an independent research institute.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST: The organisation has an institutional interest in measures that prevent road accident victims. A study showing 84% support for the alcohol interlock reinforces the societal relevance of the organisation and its lobbying for preventive measures.

4. CREDIBILITY MATRIX:

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 — Institutional interest in outcome

D2 Personal risk: 0 — No personal risk

D3 Competence: +1 — Experience with victim issues, not with research methodology

D4 Consistency of opinion: +1 — Consistent advocate for victim protection

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: 0 — Figure presented, but methodology not mentioned

D6 Source level: -1 — Commissioner of own research

• TOTAL: 0 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

5. COUNTERVOICE: SWOV (Foundation for Scientific Research on Road Safety) or an independent research institute could have provided a more methodologically independent perspective. Not cited.

2. CBR (Central Office for Motor Vehicle Driver Testing)

1. FUNDING: Public-law independent administrative body (ZBO), funded through examination fees and government subsidy. Falls under the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management.

2. MANDATE: Implementation of driving licence regulations. Not primarily a policy adviser, but an implementing agency.

3. CONFLICT OF INTEREST: Reintroduction of the alcohol interlock expands the task package and societal relevance of the CBR. There is an institutional interest in a positive assessment of the measure.

4. CREDIBILITY MATRIX:

D1 Conflict of interest: -1 — Institutional interest in reintroduction

D2 Personal risk: 0

D3 Competence: +2 — Direct implementation expertise

D4 Consistency of opinion: +1

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +1 — Factual statement about technical integrability

D6 Source level: +1 — Implementing agency with direct knowledge

• TOTAL: +4 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

5. COUNTERVOICE: An independent technical expert or a consumer organisation could have tested the claim about integrability in older cars. Not cited.

Analysis prepared in accordance with Version 3.0-detail, Methodological Principle K11+K8. All findings are based on the submitted transcript. Timestamps refer to the transcript notation. Direct quotes are reproduced in the original language (Dutch).

Source traffic light for participants:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
Fonds Slachtofferhulp	-1	0	+1	+1	0	-1	0	YELLOW
CBR (Central Office for Motor Vehicle Driver Testing)	-1	0	+2	+1	+1	+1	+4	YELLOW



Legal and methodological notes

No factual finding	The presented results do not constitute factual findings about individual persons, editorial teams or broadcasts. They are the product of a standardised operationalisation, not a finding of individual responsibility.
No legal judgement	The aggregated deviation index does not replace a legal assessment under 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 Media Authority).
No proof of causality	Statistical correlations must not be interpreted as proof of causal relationships or editorial intentions. Deviation values may be influenced by subject selection, news environment, political controversiality or format logic.
No judgement on intent	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.
Heuristic comparison instrument	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

Law

Media Act 2008

Relevant articles

- Art. 2.1 (Public media mandate): 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 paragraph 2: The public media service reflects the societal 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

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

Supervisory authority

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

Complaints procedure

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



APPENDIX 2: SCIENTIFIC SOURCES

Literature

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SVFAB Working Papers

- Schläpfer, D. (2026). Systematic AI-Assisted Analysis of Public Broadcaster Impartiality: A Scalable Methodological Framework for Measuring Structural Bias in Public Service Media. [SSRN 6688478](#)
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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](#)

David Schläpfer — ORCID: 0009-0000-5671-9266

SVFAB — Swiss Association for Balanced Reporting | P.O. Box, 8021 Zurich 1 | www.svfab.ch | kontakt@svfab.ch | *Methods report March 2026* | Converter 3.4 (2026-05-20)



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Bank details: PostFinance – POFICHBE

IBAN: CH32 0900 0000 1675 6251 1

Beneficiary: SVFAB, Postfach, CH-8021 Zürich 1



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Unbalanced reporting is the response to the halving initiative in Switzerland: here the manipulation techniques are explained in detail, starting with the selection of staff and source selection. Subsequently, 15 principles are explained: omission, framing, temporal framing, guilt by association, emotionalisation, removal of context and much more, illustrated with numerous examples. Moreover, it becomes visible where we ourselves apply these techniques — this promotes not only insight but also empathy.

Optionally the book is supplied with **playing cards**.

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Those who do not know this provide material. Good quotes that are cut incorrectly. Correct statements that end up in the wrong context. Honest answers that are framed as confessions.

This book is not a media criticism book. It is a toolbox — for everyone who has a microphone in front of them and wants to know what they can do about it. 7 chapters. 7 tools: What an interview really is. The 7 most common pitfalls. The three basic principles of sovereignty — anchoring, reframing, setting limits. Preparation in one hour. Body and voice. What to do when things go wrong. And what counts after the interview.

For politicians, activists, entrepreneurs, whistleblowers — for everyone who is in the spotlight and wants to understand how the game works. So that they stop playing along — and start shaping it. In A5 format. Direct. For preparation, for reference, for debriefing and in difficult situations



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Association suisse pour une information équilibrée
Associazione svizzera per un reporting equilibrato



You think you see the world. In reality you see the frame that someone has placed around it. Framing is the oldest and most elegant manipulation technique in the world. It does not change the facts — it changes what we make of the facts. How we feel. What we believe. How we decide. And it works — because we all participate. Daily. Unconsciously. You too. This book is not a dry textbook. It is a workbook — playful, direct, full of examples from real life. You learn not only how others frame you. You learn how you yourself frame — and how you can use it consciously and fairly.

Because those who understand framing see the world more clearly. Hear news differently. Conduct conversations more confidently. And no longer let themselves be so easily imposed a frame that someone else has chosen.

With many exercises and concrete examples from politics, media and everyday life — and an occasional smile.

Framing with style. Because the frame changes everything.