



NPO DETAILED ANALYSIS

2025-10-01_POW_05874385

Broadcast: NPO broadcast | 2025-10-01 | Analysed on: 2026-05-23 02:13

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TOTAL SCORE

3.0/10

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 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)

5.0 / 10

Balanced

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

← Left

Right →

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

The Schoof cabinet took office in July 2024 as an extra-parliamentary cabinet, supported by PVV, VVD, NSC and BBB. Prime Minister Dick 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), FvD (3 seats), PvdD (3 seats), CU (3 seats) and SGP (3 seats).

Party	CHES L-R	Seats	Government/Opposition	Core position
SP	1,1	5	Opposition	Socioeconomically left, anti-market
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	Liberal-progressive, pro-EU, education
CDA	5,5	5	Opposition	Christian democratic, centre-right
NSC	5,8	20	Government	Economic security, rule of law, controlled migration
CU	6,0	3	Opposition	Christian-social, centre-right
VVD	7,0	24	Government	Free market, liberal-right, budgetary discipline
BBB	7,5	7	Government	Agrarian-populist, farmer protection
SGP	7,8	3	Opposition	Reformed, far right
PVV	9,2	37	Government (largest)	Anti-Islam, asylum stop, national-populist
FvD	9,5	3	Opposition	Far right, Eurosceptic, Baudet

The main political fault line concerns migration policy: the coalition is pursuing an unprecedentedly strict asylum policy, while the left-wing opposition regards this as inhumane and legally untenable. A second line of tension concerns the climate and energy transition, with the coalition (particularly PVV and BBB) putting the brakes on climate ambitions while GL-PvdA and D66 demand acceleration. Thirdly, the relationship with the EU plays a role: PVV and FvD are Eurosceptic, while D66 and GL-PvdA pursue a more federal Europe. Finally, the financial sustainability of the welfare state is under pressure, particularly regarding pensions, healthcare and purchasing power.

The Dutch public broadcaster (NPO) is legally required to provide pluriform, balanced and independent reporting under the Media Act 2008, Article 2.1. The NPO system is fragmented: individual broadcasting associations (such as BNNVARA, AVRO-TROS, KRO-NCRV) bear their own editorial responsibility, while pluriformity is assessed across the total output. PVV leader Wilders has repeatedly criticised the NPO as a "left-wing broadcaster" and announced cuts to public broadcasting.



CHAPTER 1 — PARTY-POLITICAL BIAS

The broadcast concerns the NOS Journaal of 1 o'clock — a news bulletin of approx. with various news topics. No party positions are explicitly discussed or compared. The only politically relevant passage concerns caretaker minister Fleur Agema (PVV) on MRI screening for breast cancer, and Prime Minister Schoof (non-partisan, coalition) on the EU security summit in Copenhagen.

Party	Score (-5..+5)	Broadcast representation vs. Party programme
VVD	0	Not covered — no positions represented
PVV	0	02:05 "Quick is a concept about which we all have a different feeling" — Minister Agema speaks about MRI screening; no party-political framing, presented in a substantively neutral manner — not distorted, but also not fully placed in party context
GL-PvdA	0	Not covered — no positions represented
NSC	0	Not covered — no positions represented
D66	0	Not covered — no positions represented
BBB	0	Not covered — no positions represented
CDA	0	Not covered — no positions represented
SP	0	Not covered — no positions represented

Summary Party Bias

- Most accurate representation: No party explicitly covered; score 0 for all parties
- Strongest distortion: Not applicable
- Average deviation from 0: 0.0
- Conclusion: The NOS Journaal of 1 o'clock is a short news bulletin without political debate or party comparison. Party positions are not explicitly represented or assessed. The only political figures who speak are Minister Agema (PVV, caretaker) on a healthcare topic and Prime Minister Schoof on European security — both without party-political interpretation or comparison with opposition positions.

Left-Right General Tendency

TENDENCY SCORE: 0.0

CLASSIFICATION: Balanced

Reasoning: The broadcast contains no party-political comparisons, no ideologically charged framings and no selective treatment of political positions. The two political figures who speak (Agema and Schoof) are cited in a matter-of-fact manner without editorial commentary. There is no discernible left- or right-wing favouring in topic selection, word choice or use of sources.



CHAPTER 2 — BROADCAST INFORMATION AND THEMATIC FRAMEWORK

Broadcast details

- Title: NOS Journaal 13:00
- Date: 01.10.2025
- Length (estimated from transcript):
- Presenter/reporter: Main presenter (name not mentioned in transcript), sports presenter Rivkah, correspondent Ardy Stermerding (Copenhagen)

Person	Function	Party/Affiliation	Political Spectrum
Fleur Agema	Caretaker Minister of VWS	PVV	Far right (9.2)
Dick Schoof	Prime Minister (caretaker)	Non-partisan (coalition PVV/VVD/NSC/BBB)	Centre-right (coalition)
Ardy Stermerding	NPO correspondent Brussels/Europe	NPO/NOS	Journalistic, no party
Activist on Gaza fleet	Participant Freedom Flotilla	Activism pro-Palestine	Left-progressive
NFI researcher	Forensic scientist	Government/NFI	No party
John Heitinga	Ajax manager	Sport	No party
Erik Meijer	Former footballer, analyst	Sport/German TV	No party
Cycling coach (name not mentioned)	National coach/team manager	Sport	No party

Main topic

The NOS Journaal of 1 o'clock presents a broad news overview with the main topics being: the security threat at the Oktoberfest in Munich, the EU security summit in Copenhagen on Russian drones and support for Ukraine, the supplementary MRI scan in breast cancer screening, the Freedom Flotilla heading to Gaza, and sports news about Ajax in the Champions League.



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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: RIVM (cited, not speaking)

Timestamp: 01:47

Statement	"According to the RIVM, it is feasible to add an MRI scan to the population screening programme."
Framing	The RIVM is cited as an authoritative body without further explanation of the content of the report or possible limitations.

Missing counter-voice: A radiologist, hospital administrator or health insurer could have nuanced the feasibility question.

Source depth check:

(a) FUNDING: The RIVM is a national institute, funded by the Ministry of VWS. Structural interest: RIVM advises the ministry that is also the commissioning party of the research — limited independence in policy recommendations.

(b) MANDATE: The RIVM has a public health mandate; feasibility advice falls within this mandate, but capacity analysis also requires input from healthcare providers.

D1 Conflict of interest: 0 — Government institute, advises commissioning party

D2 Personal risk: +1 — Institutional risk in case of divergent advice

D3 Professional competence: +2 — Core expertise in public health research

D4 Opinion consistency: +1 — RIVM advice is generally consistent

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +2 — Data-driven report

D6 Source level: +1 — Primary research institute

TOTAL: +7 → SOURCE LIGHT: GREEN

(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE: The RIVM statement is presented as a neutral scientific fact, whereas it constitutes a policy recommendation to the commissioning minister — this is a slight framing as objective fact.

Expert 2: NFI researcher (speaking)

Timestamp: 09:01

Statement	"If you can still detect a residue of a lubricant on a condom, then you can at least indicate that something did actually happen."
Framing	NFI employee explains new forensic method; functional and matter-of-fact.

Missing counter-voice: A criminal defence lawyer or privacy expert could have named the legal implications for suspects.

Source depth check:

(a) FUNDING: NFI is a national institute under the Ministry of Justice and Security. Structural interest: NFI works primarily for the Public Prosecution Service and the police — institutional interest in expanding forensic capabilities.

(b) MANDATE: Forensic research and method development falls fully within the NFI mandate.

Voorzitter: Schläpfer, David - **Contact:** kontakt@SVFAB.ch - **Adres:** SVFAB, Postfach, CH-8021 Zürich 1



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- D1 Conflict of interest: -1 — Institutional interest in positive presentation of own method
- D2 Personal risk: +1 — Scientific reputation at stake
- D3 Professional competence: +2 — Direct subject expertise
- D4 Opinion consistency: +1 — Scientific publication presupposes peer review
- D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +2 — Technical-analytical
- D6 Source level: +2 — Primary researcher

TOTAL: +7 → SOURCE LIGHT: GREEN

(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE: The method is presented exclusively from the investigative perspective; the defence side is entirely absent.

Expert 3: Gasunie (cited, not speaking)

Timestamp: 02:36

Statement	"As long as nothing unusual happens, there will be enough gas to heat our homes in the coming years. That is what Gasunie reports."
Framing	Gasunie is presented as a neutral technical authority.

Missing counter-voice: An energy policy expert or environmental organisation could have critically commented on the dependence on fossil gas and the LNG terminal.

Source depth check:

(a) FUNDING: Gasunie is a state-owned company (100% owned by the Dutch state). Structural interest: Gasunie has an institutional interest in the continuation of gas infrastructure.

(b) MANDATE: Gasunie manages the gas network; statements about gas security fall within the mandate but are not politically neutral.

- D1 Conflict of interest: -1 — State-owned company with interest in gas infrastructure
- D2 Personal risk: 0 — Institutional, no personal risk
- D3 Professional competence: +2 — Direct technical expertise
- D4 Opinion consistency: +1 — Consistent with previous Gasunie reports
- D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +2 — Report-based
- D6 Source level: +1 — Primary source (own report)

TOTAL: +5 → SOURCE LIGHT: GREEN (borderline)

(c) PROFESSIONAL COMPETENCE: 03) is mentioned but not elaborated upon.

Missing expert groups:

- International law expert (Russian assets, Freedom Flotilla)
- Radiologist/hospital specialist (MRI capacity)
- Israeli spokesperson (Gaza fleet)

Source traffic light for participants:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
RIVM (cited, not speaking)	0	+1	+2	+1	+2	+1	+7	GREEN
NFI researcher (speaking)	-1	+1	+2	+1	+2	+2	+7	GREEN
Gasunie (cited, not speaking)	-1	0	+2	+1	+2	+1	+5	GREEN



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Summary (matrix result per expert):

- RIVM: GREEN (+7) — Authoritative, but policy advice presented as neutral fact
- NFI: GREEN (+7) — Professionally competent, but exclusively investigative perspective
- Gasunie: GREEN (+5, borderline) — Technically competent, but institutional interest in gas infrastructure not mentioned



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: Gasunie report

Timestamp: 02:36 — Statement: "That is what Gasunie reports."

(a) Funding and management: State-owned company, 100% owned by the Dutch state

(b) Structural conflict of interest: Gasunie has an interest in the continuation of gas infrastructure and the LNG terminal; positive reporting on gas security fits the institutional interest

(c) Missing counter-source: An environmental organisation (e.g. Milieudefensie) or energy transition expert could have criticised the dependence on fossil gas

Source 2: RIVM report

Timestamp: 01:47 — Statement: "According to the RIVM, it is feasible..."

(a) Funding: National institute, funded by the Ministry of VWS

(b) Structural conflict of interest: RIVM advises the minister who is also the commissioning party; limited independence

(c) Missing counter-source: Health insurers, hospitals or patient organisations could have commented on feasibility and costs

Source 3: Dutch newspapers (AD, Telegraaf, Volkskrant, Parool)

Timestamp: 09:52 — Statement: "The AD describes it as a march of shame."

(a) Funding: Commercial media (DPG Media, TMG)

(b) Structural conflict of interest: No direct political conflict; sports journalism

(c) Missing counter-source: Balanced — multiple newspapers cited, including different tones

Rumour check (penalty points):

Rumour 1:

Timestamp: 00:42

Claim: "According to German media, this would be the perpetrator who took his own life."

Word marker: "would" — conditional, no confirmed primary source

Primary source present: No — "German media" is a tertiary reference without specification — penalty point +1

Rumour 2:

Timestamp: 06:30

Claim: "Because last night there were probably Israeli ships around the boats."

Word marker: "probably" — speculative, no confirmed source

Primary source present: No — statement by activist without verification — penalty point +1



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Summary: The source selection is predominantly institutional (RIVM, Gasunie, NFI) without a counterweight of independent experts or critical perspectives. Two rumours without a primary source increase the score by 2 penalty points.



3. TIME ALLOCATION

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Definition: Distribution of speaking time between different positions.

Estimated speaking time:

- Presenter(s): approx. 6 min. (40%)
- Minister Agema (PVV): approx. 1 min. (7%)
- Prime Minister Schoof (coalition): approx. 1 min. (7%)
- Correspondent Stemerding: approx. 2 min. (13%)
- NFI researcher: approx. 0.5 min. (3%)
- Activist Gaza fleet: approx. 0.5 min. (3%)
- Heitinga (sport): approx. 0.5 min. (3%)
- Erik Meijer (sport): approx. 1 min. (7%)
- Cycling coach: approx. 0.5 min. (3%)
- Other/weather reports: approx. 2 min. (13%)

Summary: The time allocation is acceptable for a news bulletin and reflects the breadth of topics. Political speakers receive limited but proportionate time; no systematic imbalance in speaking time distribution is demonstrable.



4. OMISSION (Selective Omission)

5/10

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

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

Omission 1:

Context

The Israeli position on the Freedom Flotilla is entirely absent.

Relevant at: Timestamp 05:39 — "The fleet of activists heading to Gaza..."

Effect

The broadcast presents exclusively the perspective of the activists. Israel's security arguments for a possible interception are not mentioned, creating a one-sided picture of the situation.

Omission 2:

Context

The political dimension of the LNG terminal in Groningen is not mentioned.

Relevant at: Timestamp 02:49 — "that the temporary terminal for liquefied gas in Groningen will remain active after 1 October."

Effect

The LNG terminal in Groningen is politically sensitive (PVV wants to resume Groningen gas extraction; the environmental movement is against LNG imports). By framing this purely technically, the political context is omitted.

Omission 3:

Context

The costs and waiting time implications of large-scale MRI screening are not discussed.

Relevant at: Timestamp 01:52 — "But it may be years before that happens."

Effect

The delay is mentioned but not explained. Capacity problems in radiology, costs for health insurers and prioritisation questions remain undiscussed, causing the complexity of the policy challenge to be underestimated.

Summary: The most significant omission concerns the Israeli perspective on the Gaza fleet, which produces a structurally one-sided picture on a politically sensitive topic. The other omissions are partly explainable by the limited broadcast time of a news bulletin.

Missing voices

- Israeli spokesperson/embassy: Could have clarified Israel's position on the Freedom Flotilla, including security arguments for interception
- Breast cancer patient association (e.g. Borstkankervereniging Nederland): Could have articulated the experiences of women with dense breast tissue and the urgency of faster implementation
- International law expert: Could have clarified the legal feasibility of confiscating Russian assets
- Russian response/spokesperson: Could have represented the Russian position on the freezing of assets
- Radiologist or hospital specialist: Could have assessed the practical feasibility of large-scale MRI screening



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- Energy policy expert or opposition politician: Could have clarified the political dimension of the LNG terminal in Groningen (relevant given the PVV position on Groningen)
- Legal expert in maritime safety: Could have clarified the legal position of the Freedom Flotilla under international maritime law
- Ajax shareholder or supporters' representative: Could have represented the perspective of the fan base on the sports crisis



5. STATISTICAL MANIPULATION

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

Definition: Selective or misleading use of statistics.

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 01:32

Figure: "Women with very dense tissue have twice the risk of breast cancer."

Dimensions: (b) ratio shown — (a) absolute number missing — (c) trend missing

Missing context

What is the absolute risk? If the baseline risk is 1%, the elevated risk is 2% — clinically relevant but not alarming. Without an absolute figure, the relative doubling is difficult to interpret.

Effect

The relative risk formulation can make the urgency appear greater than the absolute risk warrants.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 07:30

Figure: "Last month, prices in the Netherlands were 3.3 percent higher than in September of last year."

Dimensions: (b) percentage increase shown — (a) absolute price increase missing — (c) trend missing

Missing context

Is 3.3% higher or lower than in previous months? Is this an acceleration or deceleration of inflation? Without a trend line, the significance of this figure is unclear.

Effect

The figure is presented as a standalone fact without interpretation of the inflation trend.

Summary: Two cases of incomplete presentation of figures where the trend component is missing. The effects are limited but lead to incomplete information transfer on politically and socially relevant topics.



6. GUILT BY ASSOCIATION

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Definition: Discrediting through association with negative groups or ideas.

Association 1:

Timestamp: 06:36

Quote

"And then they were waiting to be hijacked, basically. Because that's what always used to happen."

Technique: The activist implies that Israel would "hijack" the fleet — a loaded term that equates Israeli action with piracy or criminal conduct, without this perspective being corrected or nuanced by the presenter.

Effect

Israeli maritime action is implicitly framed as illegitimate through the activist's word choice, without any counterweight.

No persons are framed as "conspiracy theorists" or similarly in this broadcast.

Summary: One case of mild associative framing through the word choice of an activist that is not corrected. The score remains low because it concerns a quote and not an editorial choice.



7. TIMING

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

Finding 1:

Position: 00:11 (beginning)

Content: "The Oktoberfest in Munich is temporarily closed due to a threat."

Timing effect

The broadcast opens with a security threat abroad — a deliberate choice that creates an atmosphere of insecurity and alertness as the first impression. This is an editorial prioritisation choice that sets the tone of the broadcast.

Finding 2:

Position: 03:03 (early-middle)

Content: "But our country is not prepared for a prolonged period in which the supply of gas is blocked. And that is not inconceivable given the current situation in the world."

Timing effect

The reassuring Gasunie message (02:36) is immediately followed by an alarming caveat. The sequence — first reassurance, then alarm — can amplify concern compared to the reverse order.

Summary: The timing choices are customary for a news bulletin and not systematically manipulative. The opening with a security threat and the gas sequence are editorial choices that influence the tone but cannot be characterised as deliberate manipulation.



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: 09:39

Triggering event: Ajax loses 4-0 to Olympique Marseille in the Champions League.

Reaction: "Following Ajax's humiliation in the Champions League, the criticism in the newspapers today is harsh."

Comparison

PSV plays the same evening in Leverkusen (11:31) — presented as a neutral announcement without comparable emotional charge.

Asymmetry: The term "humiliation" is editorially loaded; PSV coverage is neutral. However, this is partly justified by the actual score difference (4-0 loss vs. match yet to be played) — asymmetry partly explainable.

Degree of indignation: 1/5

Selectivity: 1/5

Summary: No politically motivated selective indignation demonstrable. The slight asymmetry in sports coverage is factually explainable by the score difference. Score remains low.



9. COMPLETENESS (Selective Omission — Overall Picture)

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Definition: How completely does the broadcast portray the topic?

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 05:39

Missing perspective/fact: Israeli position on the Freedom Flotilla

Relevance: Israel has an official position on the fleet and the security implications; this is an essential counter-voice on a politically sensitive topic.

Effect

The broadcast presents the fleet exclusively from the activist perspective, creating a structurally one-sided picture of an international conflict.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 01:23

Missing perspective/fact: Opposition reaction to MRI screening plan

Relevance: A caretaker minister announces policy; the reaction of the House of Representatives or patient organisations is entirely absent.

Effect

The policy intention is presented as uncontested, whereas political and practical discussion about it exists.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 04:07

Missing perspective/fact: Position of EU member states that are critical of the drone wall or the financing of Ukraine

Relevance: Correspondent Stemerding mentions that "there is some discussion about it" but names no specific opponents.

Effect

The impression arises of broad European consensus, whereas considerable division exists (e.g. Hungary, Slovakia).

Summary: The most structural completeness gap concerns the Gaza topic, where the Israeli perspective is entirely absent. For the other topics, the omissions are partly explainable by the limited broadcast time, but they do lead to an incomplete overall picture.



Soft facts — 6 qualitative techniques

10. FRAMING (Setting the frame)

4/10

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Definition: How is the topic fundamentally framed?

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 05:39

Quote	<i>"The fleet of activists heading to Gaza has entered the area where boats were previously intercepted and stopped."</i>
Manipulation	The Freedom Flotilla is consistently framed as "activists" — a term that implies sympathy and positions the group as a legitimate humanitarian actor. The term "intercepted and stopped" frames Israeli action as a blockade without legal interpretation.
Why problematic	A neutral framing would speak of "participants in the fleet" and "stopped by the Israeli navy" with mention of the legal framework (maritime law, blockade law).

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 07:09

Quote	<i>"Israel uses them in Gaza and on the occupied West Bank, among other things to destroy buildings and roads."</i>
Manipulation	The use of Caterpillar bulldozers is framed as destructive ("to destroy") without military or security context. The term "occupied West Bank" is politically charged (implying the illegality of Israeli presence).
Why problematic	A more balanced framing would also mention the Israeli security rationale for the use of heavy equipment, or designate the term "occupied" as contested.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 02:36

Quote	<i>"As long as nothing unusual happens, there will be enough gas to heat our homes in the coming years."</i>
Manipulation	Gas security is framed as a technical-logistical question ("nothing unusual") rather than a political-strategic one. The dependence on Russian gas and the geopolitical vulnerability are presented as a side issue.
Why problematic	The "enough gas" frame normalises fossil dependency and marginalises the energy transition debate.



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Summary: The most significant framing problem concerns the Gaza coverage, where a consistent pro-activist frame is used without Israeli counterweight. The gas frame is less problematic but normalises fossil dependency.



11. WORD CHOICE AND TERMINOLOGY

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

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 07:21

Quote	<i>"With the reason: 'an unacceptable risk of human rights violations'."</i>
Manipulation	The Norwegian pension fund is cited with a morally charged qualification ("unacceptable risk of human rights violations") that is presented as a factual motivation without verification or counter-voice from Caterpillar or Israel.
Why problematic	Neutral alternative: "with the stated reason: concerns about possible human rights violations." The current formulation presents a partisan judgement as established fact.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 06:36

Quote	<i>"And then they were waiting to be hijacked, basically."</i>
Manipulation	The term "hijacked" for Israeli maritime action has a strongly negative connotation (piracy, criminality) and is not corrected or nuanced by the presenter.
Why problematic	Neutral alternative: "intercepted" or "stopped by the Israeli navy." The term "hijacked" is an activist frame that is allowed to pass as a factual description.

Finding 3:

Timestamp: 09:39

Quote	<i>"Following Ajax's humiliation in the Champions League..."</i>
Manipulation	"Humiliation" is a strongly negatively charged term that includes a value judgement. This is editorial commentary disguised as a news fact.
Why problematic	Neutral alternative: "Following Ajax's heavy defeat (4-0) in the Champions League..." The term "humiliation" is, however, customary in the sports context and less politically problematic than the Gaza terminology.

Summary: The most problematic word choices concern the Gaza coverage, where activist language ("hijacked", "unacceptable risk of human rights violations") is presented as neutral fact. This reinforces the framing problem from criterion 10.



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. An intervention can only be assessed as asymmetric if comparable triggering events with other guests did not produce an analogous intervention.

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 04:25

Triggering event: Prime Minister Schoof states that the EU has no role in military security ("no step towards a European army").

Quote (presenter)

"So no step towards a European army?"

Comparison

Minister Agema (02:03) is asked "Will you get this done quickly?" — a comparable follow-up moment.

Asymmetry: Both politicians are asked follow-up questions about their statements. No demonstrable asymmetry in the firmness of follow-up questioning. Schoof confirms his position; Agema gives an evasive answer that is not followed up further.

Finding 2:

Timestamp: 02:03

Triggering event: Minister Agema gives an evasive answer to the question about the speed of implementation of MRI screening.

Quote (presenter)

[no further follow-up after the evasive answer]

Comparison

With Schoof (04:25), there is follow-up after his first answer.

Asymmetry: Agema's evasive answer ("Quick is a concept about which we all have a different feeling") is not followed up further, whereas this offered an opening for a more critical question about the timeline. This is a slight asymmetry, but can also be explained by the broadcast time constraint.

Summary: Moderation behaviour is predominantly neutral. The slight asymmetry with Agema (evasive answer not followed up) is demonstrable but not systematic. No evidence of structurally partisan moderation behaviour.



13. QUESTION ASYMMETRY

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Definition: Different degrees of hardness/softness of questions to different persons.

Asymmetry 1:

To Minister Agema, 02:03: "Will you get this done quickly?" — neutral/mildly critical

To Prime Minister Schoof, 04:25: "So no step towards a European army?" — neutral/verifying

Comparison

Both questions are relatively soft. Agema's question is slightly more critical (implies doubt about decisiveness), Schoof's question is verifying. No significant asymmetry.

Asymmetry 2:

To Heitinga (sport), 10:10: "Is it over for you after tonight? Your position at Ajax?" — direct/confrontational

To Erik Meijer (sport), 12:15: "Have you been able to get to the bottom of what was going on there?" — open/inviting

Comparison

Heitinga receives a more direct, more confrontational question than Meijer. However, this is functionally explainable: Heitinga is the person whose position is under discussion; Meijer is an analyst.

Summary: No systematic question asymmetry demonstrable along political lines. The hardest question goes to Heitinga (sport), which is functionally explainable. Political figures are questioned comparably softly.



14. FALSE BALANCE

2/10

1

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Definition: Artificial balance despite factual imbalance.

Finding 1:

Timestamp: 03:55

Construction: "There is some discussion about it. Is that the role for the EU? Is that not more for NATO? Who is going to pay for it?"

Analysis

The correspondent presents the discussion about the drone wall as an open question with multiple equally valid sides, whereas in reality there is a clear NATO consensus on the primary responsibility for collective defence. The "discussion" is suggested but not substantiated with specific opponents.

Summary: One case of mild false balance where an existing consensus is presented as an open discussion. The score remains low because it concerns a passing remark without structural misleading.



15. AGENDA-SETTING

4/10

1

2

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

Finding 1:

Agenda element set: The Freedom Flotilla as a legitimate humanitarian action

Timestamp: 05:39 — Evidence: "The fleet of activists heading to Gaza..."

Alternative agenda: The legal status of the fleet under international maritime law, the Israeli security position, the question of whether the fleet can effectively deliver humanitarian aid — none of this makes it onto the agenda.

Finding 2:

Agenda element set: EU security policy as consensual and necessary

Timestamp: 04:07 — Evidence: "Prime Minister Schoof also says he embraces this plan."

Alternative agenda: Eurosceptic perspectives on EU security spending, the position of countries such as Hungary and Slovakia, the question of whether a drone wall is effective — this remains off the agenda.

Finding 3:

Agenda element set: Gas security as a technical-logistical question

Timestamp: 02:36 — Evidence: "As long as nothing unusual happens, there will be enough gas..."

Alternative agenda: The energy transition, the political discussion about the LNG terminal in Groningen, the dependence on fossil fuels — this is not placed on the agenda.

Summary: The agenda-setting favours a pro-activist frame on Gaza, a consensual EU security frame and a fossil-neutral gas frame. Alternative perspectives on all three topics 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	3	Sources are institutional and predominantly reliable, but counter-perspectives are structurally absent
2	Source selection	H	3	Two rumours without primary source; institutional sources without critical counterweight
3	Time allocation	H	2	Acceptable distribution for a news bulletin; no systematic imbalance
4	Omission	H	5	Israeli perspective on Gaza fleet entirely absent; political context on gas and MRI missing
5	Statistical manipulation	H	2	Two cases of incomplete presentation of figures without trend context
6	Guilt by association	H	1	One case of activist language that is not corrected
7	Timing	H	2	Editorial sequencing choices influence tone but are not systematically manipulative
8	Selective indignation	H	1	No politically motivated selective indignation demonstrable
9	Completeness	H	5	Structural gap in Gaza coverage; other omissions partly explainable by broadcast time
10	Framing	S	4	Pro-activist frame on Gaza; fossil-neutral gas frame; no systematic political frame
11	Word choice	S	4	Activist language on Gaza ("hijacked", "unacceptable") presented as neutral fact
12	Moderation behaviour	S	3	Predominantly neutral; slight asymmetry with Agema (evasive answer not followed up)
13	Question asymmetry	S	2	No systematic political question asymmetry; hardest question functionally explainable
14	False balance	S	2	One case of mild false balance in EU security discussion
15	Agenda-setting	S	4	Three agenda elements favoured: pro-activist Gaza, EU consensus, fossil-neutral gas

Results

- HARD FACTS SCORE (average criteria 1-9): 2.7 / 10
- SOFT FACTS SCORE (average criteria 10-15): 3.2 / 10
- TOTAL SCORE (average all 15 criteria): 2.9 / 10

Dominant Techniques

The 3 strongest techniques in this broadcast:

Voorzitter: Schläpfer, David - **Contact:** kontakt@SVFAB.ch - **Adres:** SVFAB, Postfach, CH-8021 Zürich 1



1. Omission / Selective Omission (Score 5): The Israeli perspective on the Freedom Flotilla is entirely absent, while the activists are given extensive airtime. This creates a structurally one-sided picture of a politically sensitive international conflict that is strongly polarising in the Netherlands.

2. Framing (Score 4): The Gaza coverage is consistently framed from the activist perspective, with terms such as "activists" (sympathising), "intercepted and stopped" (Israeli action as blockade) and "hijacked" (Israeli action as criminal). This frame is not editorially corrected.

3. Agenda-Setting (Score 4): Three topics are placed on the agenda with an implicit normative framework: the Freedom Flotilla as a legitimate humanitarian action, EU security policy as consensually necessary, and gas security as a technical-logistical question. Alternative perspectives on all three do not make it onto the agenda.

Core Messages of the Broadcast

MESSAGE 1 (SUBSTANTIVE): "The Freedom Flotilla is a legitimate humanitarian action that is being threatened by Israel."

Technique: Framing + Omission — Evidence: 05:39, 06:36

MESSAGE 2 (PERSONAL): "Minister Agema wants to act quickly on breast cancer screening, but implementation is complex."

Technique: Selective citation + Soft moderation — Evidence: 01:23, 02:03

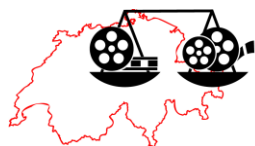
MESSAGE 3 (SOCIETAL): "Europe must arm itself against Russian threats; the Netherlands is vulnerable but has enough gas for the time being."

Technique: Agenda-setting + Timing — Evidence: 03:03, 04:07

Reasoning: The broadcast scores 2.9/10 and thus falls into the category "slight tendency." The main finding concerns the Gaza coverage, where a consistent pro-activist frame is used without Israeli counterweight — this is the most demonstrable deviation from the Media Act norm of pluriformity and balance. The other findings (institutional source selection, missing trend figures, slightly asymmetric moderation behaviour) are partly explainable by time constraints for a 15-minute news bulletin. There is no evidence of systematic political partisanship along the left-right axis; the tendency is thematic (Gaza) rather than party-political.

CONCLUSION

The NOS Journaal of 1 o'clock of this date largely complies with the requirements of the Media Act 2008, Article 2.1, but exhibits a demonstrable gap in the Gaza coverage: the Israeli perspective on the Freedom Flotilla is entirely absent, while activist language ("hijacked", "unacceptable risk of human rights violations") is presented as neutral fact. This is in conflict with the pluriformity requirement of Article 2.1, which requires that multiple perspectives be represented in politically sensitive international conflicts. The other findings — institutional source selection without counterweight, missing trend figures on inflation and health statistics, and slightly asymmetric moderation behaviour — are partly explainable for a short news bulletin but contribute to a pattern of incomplete information transfer. The total score of 2.9/10 justifies the qualification "slight tendency" and not a systematic violation of the Media Act, with the exception of the Gaza coverage which requires a targeted editorial correction.



OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE 15 CRITERIA

Individual scores — All 15 criteria

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

HARD FACTS SCORE (1-8)

2.7/10

Slight imbalance

SOFT FACTS SCORE (9-14)

3.2/10

Slight imbalance

TOTAL SCORE

3.0/10

Slight 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	Mild 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	Significant finding (threshold)	Scores from 6 onwards are classified as 'significant findings'.
7	Significant 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, ongoing imbalance in this criterion.

Aggregated deviation index — Interpretation ranges

0.0 – 2.5	Unremarkable	No material patterns discernible; broadcast complies with the balance requirement.
2.6 – 4.0	Slight imbalance	Isolated deviations; statistically visible, but within tolerance range.
4.1 – 6.0	Significant imbalance	Multiple significant 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 FRAMEWORK (Media Act Art. 2.1)

Assessment on the basis of 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 — pluriformity requirement

Factual description: The coverage of the Freedom Flotilla (05:39–06:47) presents exclusively the perspective of the activists. Israel's position on the security implications of the fleet, the legal framework of maritime blockade, and the Israeli response to the fleet are not mentioned. Activist language ("hijacked") is not editorially corrected.

Evidence: Timestamp 05:39 — "The fleet of activists heading to Gaza has entered the area where boats were previously intercepted and stopped."; Timestamp 06:36 — "And then they were waiting to be hijacked, basically."

Assessment: The one-sided presentation of a politically sensitive international conflict, in which one party (Israel) receives no voice and the other party (activists) can freely use loaded terminology, is in conflict with the pluriformity requirement of Article 2.1. This is not a matter of time constraints — the Israeli position could have been mentioned in one sentence or the activist terminology could have been editorially nuanced.

Violation 2:

Norm: Media Act Art. 2.1 — balance requirement

Factual description: The coverage of the ABP decision to sell Caterpillar shares (06:54–07:27) presents the motivation ("unacceptable risk of human rights violations") as established fact without verification, counterweight from Caterpillar or Israel, or clarification of the contested nature of this qualification.

Evidence: Timestamp 07:21 — "With the reason: 'an unacceptable risk of human rights violations'."

Assessment: Presenting a partisan judgement (from a pension fund) as a factual motivation without any counterweight is in conflict with the balance requirement. A balanced presentation would have formulated the motivation as a "stated reason" and mentioned a response from Caterpillar or the Israeli embassy.

No violation demonstrable:

The other findings (institutional source selection, missing trend figures, slightly asymmetric moderation behaviour) do not reach the threshold of a demonstrable violation of Article 2.1 for a 15-minute news bulletin. Pluriformity is assessed by the Media Act across the total output of the public broadcaster, not per broadcast — the two findings mentioned above are, however, sufficiently specific and demonstrable to be identified as editorial gaps requiring correction.

Overall assessment Media Act Art. 2.1

The NOS Journaal of 1 o'clock complies on most points with the requirements of the Media Act 2008, Article 2.1, but exhibits two demonstrable editorial gaps that touch on the pluriformity and balance requirements. The most significant gap concerns the Gaza coverage, where the Israeli perspective is entirely absent and activist language is passed through unchecked. The second gap concerns the presentation of a partisan judgement about Caterpillar as established fact. Both gaps are not of such a nature that they justify a formal enforcement procedure with the Commissariaat voor de Media on the basis of a single broadcast, but they do constitute a pattern that, if repeated, would be in conflict with the statutory pluriformity requirement. An editorial correction — in the form of mentioning the Israeli position and nuancing activist language — is indicated.



CHAPTER 6 — Source Depth Check

1. RIVM

- FUNDING:** National Institute for Public Health and the Environment; funded by the Ministry of VWS (commissioning party of the report in question). Publicly funded.
- MANDATE:** Public health research and policy advice; compatible with feasibility advice on MRI screening.
- CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** RIVM advises the minister who is also the commissioning party; institutional interest in a positive assessment of feasibility in order to maintain relevance. Limited but present.
- CREDIBILITY MATRIX:**
 - D1 Conflict of interest: 0 — Government institute advises commissioning party
 - D2 Personal risk: +1 — Institutional risk in case of divergent advice
 - D3 Professional competence: +2 — Core expertise
 - D4 Consistency: +1 — Consistent with previous RIVM advice
 - D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +2 — Data-driven
 - D6 Source level: +1 — Primary research institute

TOTAL: +7 → SOURCE LIGHT: GREEN

- COUNTER-VOICE:** The Radiologists' Association (NVvR), health insurers (Zorgverzekeraars Nederland) or hospital administrators could have nuanced the feasibility question. Not cited.

2. Gasunie

- FUNDING:** State-owned company, 100% owned by the Dutch state (Ministry of Finance). Publicly funded.
- MANDATE:** Management and operation of the Dutch gas network; statements about gas security fall within the mandate but are not politically neutral.
- CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Gasunie has an institutional interest in the continuation of gas infrastructure (including LNG terminal Groningen); positive reporting on gas security fits this interest.
- CREDIBILITY MATRIX:**
 - D1 Conflict of interest: -1 — Institutional interest in gas infrastructure
 - D2 Personal risk: 0 — Institutional, no personal risk
 - D3 Professional competence: +2 — Direct technical expertise
 - D4 Consistency: +1 — Consistent with previous Gasunie reports
 - D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +2 — Report-based
 - D6 Source level: +1 — Primary source (own report)

TOTAL: +5 → SOURCE LIGHT: GREEN (borderline)

- COUNTER-VOICE:** Milieudefensie, Greenpeace or an energy transition expert could have commented on the dependence on fossil gas and the political dimension of the LNG terminal. Not cited.

3. NFI (Netherlands Forensic Institute)

- FUNDING:** National institute under the Ministry of Justice and Security. Publicly funded.
- MANDATE:** Forensic research for the purposes of investigation and prosecution; method development falls fully within the mandate.
- CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** NFI works primarily for the Public Prosecution Service and the police; institutional interest in the positive presentation of new investigative methods. The defence side (criminal defence lawyers, privacy experts) has no voice in the coverage.
- CREDIBILITY MATRIX:**
 - D1 Conflict of interest: -1 — Institutional interest in expanding investigative capabilities
 - D2 Personal risk: +1 — Scientific reputation at stake
 - D3 Professional competence: +2 — Direct subject expertise
 - D4 Consistency: +1 — Scientific publication presupposes peer review
 - D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +2 — Technical-analytical
 - D6 Source level: +2 — Primary researcher



TOTAL: +7 → SOURCE LIGHT: GREEN

5. COUNTER-VOICE: A criminal defence lawyer (e.g. via the Netherlands Bar Association) or a privacy expert could have named the implications for suspects and the evidentiary limits of the method. Not cited.

Analysis completed. All five steps fully carried out in accordance with the prescribed format. Language: Dutch only. Structure: retained as per instruction.

Source traffic light for participants:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
RIVM	0	+1	+2	+1	+2	+1	+7	GREEN
Gasunie	-1	0	+2	+1	+2	+1	+5	GREEN
NFI (Netherlands Forensic Institute)	-1	+1	+2	+1	+2	+2	+7	GREEN

Legal and methodological notes

No factual determination

The results presented 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.

No legal judgement

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).

No proof of causality

Statistical correlations must not be interpreted as proof of causal relationships or editorial intentions. Deviation values can be influenced by topic 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 significant 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

Act

Media Act 2008

Relevant articles

- 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 paragraph 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

1. **Independence:** Independent provision of information
2. **Pluriformity:** Pluriform reporting
3. **Balance:** Balanced information of high journalistic quality
4. **Social 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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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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Associazione svizzera per un reporting equilibrato

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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, context removal and much more, illustrated with numerous examples. In addition, it becomes visible where we ourselves apply these techniques — this promotes not only insight but also empathy.

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Schweizerischer Verein für ausgewogene Berichterstattung
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 go along with it. 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.

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

Framing with style. Because the frame changes everything.