



## NPO DETAILED ANALYSIS

2025-10-23\_VPWON\_1360603

Broadcast: NPO broadcast | 2025-10-23 | Analysed on: 2026-05-23 02:27

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

### TOTAL SCORE

**5.4/10**

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

### TENDENCY (L – R)

**4.5 / 10**

*Balanced*

0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

← Left

Right →

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

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



## POLITICAL LANDSCAPE

The Schoof cabinet (since July 2024) is an extra-parliamentary cabinet consisting of PVV (37 seats), VVD (24 seats), NSC (20 seats) and BBB (7 seats). Prime Minister Schoof is non-partisan. The largest opposition parties are GL-PvdA (25 seats), D66 (9 seats), CDA (5 seats) and SP (5 seats). The cabinet fell after 11 months, giving rise to the elections this broadcast is about (29 October 2025).

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, fair sharing
PvdD	2,5	3	Opposition	Animal rights, climate
D66	4,8	9	Opposition	Liberal-progressive, pro-EU
CDA	5,5	5	Opposition	Christian democratic, centre-right
NSC	5,8	20	Government (fallen)	Good governance, economic security
CU	6,0	3	Opposition	Christian-social
VVD	7,0	24	Government	Free market, liberal-right
BBB	7,5	7	Government	Agrarian-populist, asylum stop
SGP	7,8	3	Opposition	Reformed, traditional
PVV	9,2	37	Government (largest)	Anti-Islam, asylum stop, Wilders
FvD	9,5	3	Opposition	Far right, Baudet

The main political fault line is migration: the coalition fell partly over this issue, and virtually all parties position themselves on it. A second line of tension concerns the credibility of NSC after the departure of Omtzigt and the cooperation with PVV, which many former NSC voters experience as a betrayal. The third line is the question of which coalition is possible after the elections: a centre-right coalition without PVV (D66-CDA-VVD) or a new cooperation with Wilders. Finally, the Gaza issue plays a role as a dividing line between parties that approach Israel more critically and parties that do not.

The NPO is the Dutch public broadcaster, legally required to provide pluriform, balanced and independent reporting under the Media Act 2008, Article 2.1. Editorial responsibility lies with the individual broadcasting associations (such as BNNVARA, KRO-NCRV, AVRO), with pluralism assessed across the total output, not per broadcast. PVV leader Wilders has repeatedly criticised the NPO as a "left-wing broadcaster", which increases the political sensitivity of every NPO broadcast.



## CHAPTER 1 — PARTY-POLITICAL BIAS

### Assessment per party

Party	Score (-5..+5)	Broadcast representation vs. party programme
NSC	-1	02:00 "you have zero seats in the polls" / 06:17 "Dissolution says 56 percent" — Party programme: economic security, good governance, migration quota — Core positions are addressed but are consistently surrounded by negative framing about the party's demise; substantive positions are represented correctly but incompletely
PVV	-2	42:06 "PVV leader Wilders participated for the first time in this campaign in an election debate" / 43:15 "The PVV consists of one man with a Twitter account" — Party programme: asylum stop, purchasing power, abolishing the own-risk contribution — PVV positions are presented exclusively through the mouths of opponents; no direct representation of the party programme; quote from Bontenbal about "one man with a Twitter account" is broadcast without rebuttal or nuance
VVD	0	40:45 "D66, CDA and VVD" as possible coalition — Party programme: free market, strict but fair migration — VVD is barely addressed substantively; only mentioned in passing in coalition speculation and the AI debate (28:40 "The VVD has launched a proposal to deploy AI")
GL-PvdA	+1	41:39 "I also do not rule out that GroenLinks-PvdA will play a role" — Party programme: humane asylum, climate, fair sharing — GL-PvdA is presented by Van Hijum as a serious coalition partner; Timmermans appears in the debate report as a substantively credible opponent of Wilders
D66	0	40:45 "D66, CDA and VVD" — Party programme: pro-EU, innovation, liberal-progressive — Only mentioned in passing as a possible coalition participant; no substantive representation of positions
CDA	0	03:14 "your former CDA party colleagues are shooting up in the polls" / 40:45 "D66, CDA and VVD" — Party programme: Christian democratic, centre-right — Only as a reference point for Van Hijum's political past and as a possible coalition participant; no substantive representation
BBB	0	Not addressed substantively — Party programme: agrarian-populist, asylum stop — Absent from the broadcast
SP	0	Not addressed — Party programme: socioeconomically left — Absent from the broadcast

### Summary of party bias

- Most accurate representation: GL-PvdA (score +1) — presented as a serious political force without negative framing
- Strongest distortion: PVV (score -2) — positions are presented exclusively through opponents; derogatory statements about the party are broadcast without rebuttal
- Average deviation from 0: 0.5
- Conclusion: The broadcast focuses almost exclusively on NSC and addresses other parties only in passing. NSC is given substantive space but is consistently framed as a party in decline. PVV is portrayed negatively through



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the debate report without its own speaking time or substantive representation of the party programme. GL-PvdA and D66 are presented relatively neutrally to slightly positively as possible future coalition partners.

### **Left-Right Overall Tendency**

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TENDENCY SCORE: +1.2

QUALIFICATION: Slightly left-favouring

Reasoning: The broadcast treats NSC (centre-right, CHES 5.8) critically and surrounds the party with negative framing about its demise. PVV (CHES 9.2) is presented exclusively through opponents and receives no speaking time or substantive representation. GL-PvdA and D66 are presented as credible future coalition partners without comparable critical questioning. The thematic agenda — lobby register, Gaza human rights, transparency — aligns with progressive political priorities.



## CHAPTER 2 — BROADCAST INFORMATION AND THEMATIC FRAMEWORK

### Broadcast details

- Title: Party leader interview NSC — Eddy van Hijum (TT888 / NPO2)
- Date: 23.10.2025
- Length (estimated from transcript):
- Presenter/reporter: Jeroen (surname not mentioned in transcript); Nynke de Zoeten (voter research); house economist (not named); Mark (debate reporter); Eva Wiessing (political reporter)

Person	Function	Party/Affiliation	Political spectrum
Eddy van Hijum	Party leader NSC	NSC	Centre-right (CHES 5.8)
Jeroen (presenter)	Presenter	NPO (no party)	Neutral (institutional)
Nynke de Zoeten	Voter researcher	NPO/external	Neutral (institutional)
House economist	Economist	NPO/external	Neutral (institutional)
Mark	Debate reporter	NPO	Neutral (institutional)
Eva Wiessing	Political reporter	NPO	Neutral (institutional)

### Main theme

The broadcast is a party leader interview with NSC party leader Eddy van Hijum, one week before the parliamentary elections of 29 October 2025, focusing on the viability of NSC after the departure of Omtzigt and the fall of the Schoof cabinet.



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## CHAPTER 3 — 15 CRITERIA: DETAILED ANALYSIS



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

### 1. EXPERT SELECTION

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*Definition: Who speaks as an expert?*

**Expert 1:** House economist (name not mentioned)

Timestamp: 23:45–32:00

#### Statement

"If you subtract the migrants from that, we immediately hit our heads against the tight labour market. Then the working population shrinks by 10 percent."

#### Framing

Presents economic forecasts about population growth and the labour market as factual substantiation of the NSC migration discussion.

Missing countervoice: An economist with a different view on the relationship between migration and labour productivity (e.g. someone who emphasises the productivity gains from migration or disputes the assumptions of the forecast).

#### Source depth check:

**(a) FUNDING:** NPO house economist; funded by the public broadcaster. No direct commercial interest, but institutionally bound to the editorial choices of the broadcaster.

**(b) MANDATE:** Economic analysis of party programmes; compatible with neutral analysis, provided multiple economic perspectives are presented.

D1 Conflict of interest: +1 — No direct commercial interest, but institutionally bound to NPO editorial

D2 Personal risk: 0 — No demonstrable personal risk in this analysis

D3 Competence: +1 — Economic analysis within field of expertise, but assumptions about population forecasts have not been tested

D4 Opinion consistency: 0 — No previous statements available for comparison

D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +1 — Predominantly data-driven presentation

D6 Source level: 0 — Secondary source (forecasts, no primary research data presented)

• TOTAL: +3 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

**(c) COMPETENCE:** The house economist is presented as a neutral fact-checker, but the selection of the economic question (focus on population decline with less migration) aligns with a specific political narrative that frames migration reduction as economically risky.

**Expert 2:** Nynke de Zoeten (voter researcher)

Timestamp: 06:17–06:26 and 34:25–34:53

#### Statement

"Dissolution says 56 percent." / "also when we look at the people who are now considering voting for NSC, a third finds that you have not contributed to good governance."

#### Framing

Presents voter research as an objective measure of NSC's legitimacy.

Missing countervoice: A methodological expert who assesses the representativeness and question design of the voter research.

#### Source depth check:

**Voorzitter:** Schläpfer, David - **Contact:** [kontakt@SVFAB.ch](mailto:kontakt@SVFAB.ch) - **Adres:** SVFAB, Postfach, CH-8021 Zürich 1



**(a) FUNDING:** NPO's own researcher or external agency commissioned by NPO; funded by the public broadcaster.

**(b) MANDATE:** Voter research for election programming; mandate is compatible with neutral presentation, but the question design of the research has not been made transparent.

- D1 Conflict of interest: 0 — No direct interest, but institutionally bound
- D2 Personal risk: 0 — No demonstrable risk
- D3 Competence: +1 — Voter research within field of expertise
- D4 Opinion consistency: 0 — Not verifiable
- D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: +1 — Data-driven presentation
- D6 Source level: 0 — Secondary source (own research, methodology not presented)

• TOTAL: +2 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

**(c) COMPETENCE:** The research results are presented as objective evidence of NSC's weakness, without the question design, sample size or methodology being explained. This reinforces the negative frame around NSC without the viewer being able to assess the quality of the evidence.

### Expert 3: Eva Wiessing (political reporter)

Timestamp: 43:46–45:44

#### Statement

"The three other party leaders had set out to portray him as someone who ran away and someone who had achieved nothing."

#### Framing

Political analyst of the SBS debate.

Missing countervoice: A reporter or commentator who conveys Wilders' perspective on the debate.

### Source depth check:

**(a) FUNDING:** NPO journalist; funded by the public broadcaster.

**(b) MANDATE:** Political reporting; mandate requires balanced analysis.

- D1 Conflict of interest: 0 — No direct interest
- D2 Personal risk: 0 — No demonstrable risk
- D3 Competence: +1 — Political reporting within field of expertise
- D4 Opinion consistency: 0 — Not verifiable
- D5 Emotionalisation vs. data: -1 — Interpretive analysis without factual substantiation ("had set out")
- D6 Source level: -1 — Tertiary source (interpretation of a debate)

• TOTAL: -1 → SOURCE TRAFFIC LIGHT: YELLOW

**(c) COMPETENCE:** Wiessing presents her interpretation of the debate dynamics as a factual description, without Wilders or his spokesperson being given the opportunity to confirm or refute this.

*Missing expert groups:*

- Independent political scientist for structural analysis of NSC's position
- EU expert for the migration pact
- Anti-corruption expert for the transparency score

### Source traffic light for participants:

Source	D1	D2	D3	D4	D5	D6	Total	Signal
House economist (name not mentioned)	+1	0	+1	0	+1	0	+3	YELLOW
Nynke de Zoeten (voter researcher)	0	0	+1	0	+1	0	+2	YELLOW
Eva Wiessing (political reporter)	0	0	+1	0	-1	-1	-1	YELLOW



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*Summary (matrix result):*

- House economist: YELLOW (+3) — Economic analysis is competent but selectively framed
- Nynke de Zoeten: YELLOW (+2) — Voter research without methodological transparency
- Eva Wiessing: YELLOW (-1) — Interpretive analysis without right of reply from PVV



## 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:** Ministry of Social Affairs (via NOS bureau Brussels)

Timestamp: 12:24–15:04

### Statement

"Our NOS colleague from NOS bureau Brussels made enquiries at the ministry."

**(a) Funding and management:** Central government; funded by the taxpayer.

**(b) Structural conflict of interest:** The ministry has an interest in protecting the minister (Van Hijum) or correcting him depending on the political context; the ministerial statement is presented as objective counter-evidence for Van Hijum's account.

**(c) Missing counter-source:** The European Commission itself or an independent EU correspondent could have confirmed or refuted the actual course of events regarding the distribution key.

**Source 2:** Voter research NSC (Nynke de Zoeten)

Timestamp: 06:17 — Statement: "Dissolution says 56 percent."

**(a) Funding:** NPO or external agency commissioned by NPO.

**(b) Structural conflict of interest:** NPO has an institutional interest in producing current and relevant election programming; a party standing at zero seats is an attractive story.

**(c) Missing counter-source:** Methodological accountability for the research is entirely absent.

**Source 3:** Transparency research NSC ministers

Timestamp: 38:24–39:50

### Statement

"it is concluded that you introduced 39 commitments. But five percent of those were fully implemented."

**(a) Funding:** Not mentioned; the organisation that conducted the research is not named.

**(b) Structural conflict of interest:** Not verifiable because the organisation is not identified.

**(c) Missing counter-source:** Van Hijum cannot verify or refute the conclusions because he does not know the methodology; nor can the viewer.

Rumour check (penalty points):

Rumour 1:

Timestamp: 10:21–10:27

Claim: "We read that the coincidence of the distribution key becoming known during the elections, that this was raised as an issue in Europe."

Word marker: "we read" — no primary source cited

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

Rumour 2:



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Timestamp: 11:08

Claim: "We checked with the ministry and that was Eddy van Hijum."

Word marker: Implicit attribution without direct source reference in the transcript

Primary source present: Partially (ministry cited, but not quoted verbatim) — half penalty point (+0.5)

Summary: The source selection is limited to NPO's own research, an anonymous transparency study and ministerial statements via NOS bureau Brussels. Independent external sources are almost entirely absent, which severely limits the verifiability of the facts presented.



3. TIME ALLOCATION									3/10
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10

*Definition: Distribution of speaking time between different positions.*

Estimated speaking time:

- Eddy van Hijum (NSC): approx. 22 min. (46%)
- Presenter Jeroen: approx. 14 min. (29%)
- Nynke de Zoeten: approx. 3 min. (6%)
- House economist: approx. 4 min. (8%)
- Mark (debate report): approx. 2 min. (4%)
- Eva Wiessing: approx. 3 min. (6%)
- Other (intro, credits): approx. 1 min. (2%)

Summary: The time allocation is structurally acceptable for a party leader interview: the guest receives the most speaking time. However, the presenter takes up 29% of the time, which is relatively high and provides ample room for extensive framing. Other political parties or external experts receive no direct speaking time, which reinforces the one-sidedness of the perspective.



#### 4. OMISSION (Selective omission)

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

##### Omission 1:

###### Context

The positive results of NSC in the cabinet are not presented independently; Van Hijum must name them himself and is interrupted in doing so.

Relevant at: 09:07 — "Let's look at what we have looked up. Otherwise you'll reel off a whole list."

###### Effect

The viewer does not get a complete picture of what NSC achieved in the cabinet; the presenter actively steers away from this information.

##### Omission 2:

###### Context

The methodology and question design of the voter research ("56 percent say dissolve") are not presented.

Relevant at: 06:17 — "Dissolution says 56 percent."

###### Effect

The viewer cannot assess the reliability of this figure; it is presented as an established fact.

##### Omission 3:

###### Context

The name and affiliation of the organisation that conducted the transparency research are not mentioned.

Relevant at: 38:24 — "it is concluded that you introduced 39 commitments. But five percent of those were fully implemented."

###### Effect

Van Hijum and the viewer cannot verify the conclusions; the research is presented as an authority without the source being verifiable.

Summary: There is a pattern of selective omission whereby information that could frame NSC positively is actively cut off, while negative information (polls, research results) is presented without methodological context.

#### Missing voices

- Independent political scientist: Could have provided a comparative perspective on new parties that did not survive their first cabinet participation and on the structural causes of NSC's decline.
- EU expert or European Commission spokesperson: Could have clarified the actual course of events regarding the distribution key and the migration pact, independent of the political spin of Van Hijum and the ministry.
- Representative of trade unions (FNV/CNV): Could have assessed the NSC labour market programme from the perspective of employees.
- Representative of employers' organisations (VNO-NCW): Could have explained the economic consequences of NSC's migration policy for business.
- Former NSC voter: Could have articulated the personal disappointment and the reason for switching to another party.



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- Anti-corruption expert (e.g. Transparency International Netherlands): Could have independently assessed the transparency score of NSC ministers.
- Pieter Omtzigt (or written statement): Could have clarified his actual position on the current course of NSC instead of being repeatedly invoked as an absent symbol.
- International legal scholar: Could have assessed NSC's Gaza votes in the light of international humanitarian law and the genocide convention.



5. STATISTICAL MANIPULATION									5/10
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Complete figures include: absolute number, share (%) and trend

*Definition: Selective or misleading use of statistics.*

#### Finding 1:

Timestamp: 06:17

Figure: "Dissolution says 56 percent."

Dimensions: (a) Absolute value shown — (b) Share shown — (c) Trend missing

<b>Missing context</b>	How has support for NSC developed over recent months? Is 56% stable, rising or falling? What was the sample size and question design?
<b>Effect</b>	The figure suggests an overwhelming consensus for dissolution, while the dynamics and methodology are unknown.

#### Finding 2:

Timestamp: 02:06

Figure: "20 + 0 divided by 2 = 10" (as justification for participation in the interview)

Dimensions: (a) Absolute value shown — (b) Arithmetic method shown — (c) No trend analysis

<b>Missing context</b>	The arithmetic method (average of current seat count and poll) is an editorial choice that is not accounted for; other methods would lead to a different threshold value.
<b>Effect</b>	The method legitimises NSC's participation but simultaneously suggests that the party stands at zero, which reinforces the negative frame.

#### Finding 3:

Timestamp: 19:14

Figure: "How often has NSC voted with motions. In 59 percent of cases with the VVD."

Dimensions: (a) Absolute value shown — (b) Share shown — (c) Trend missing; comparison basis unclear

<b>Missing context</b>	Over what period? On which motions? What is the average voting percentage of other coalition parties with the VVD? Without this context the figure is not interpretable.
<b>Effect</b>	The figure suggests that NSC followed the VVD line on Gaza, but without a comparison basis this cannot be assessed.

Summary: Multiple figures are presented without the methodological context necessary for correct interpretation. The selection of figures consistently reinforces the negative frame around NSC.



## 6. GUILT BY ASSOCIATION

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

### Association 1:

Timestamp: 05:55–05:57

#### Quote

*"The cabinet became one big failure and Omtzigt disappeared from parliament."*

Technique: NSC is directly associated with "failure" as a factual qualification in the introductory film, not as an opinion.

#### Effect

The viewer is conditioned to regard NSC's cabinet participation as a failure before the interview begins.

### Association 2:

Timestamp: 34:04

#### Quote

*"We went into partnership with the PVV, and I take that to heart as well."*

Technique: Van Hijum is implicitly invited by the presenter to qualify the cooperation with PVV as morally problematic; the association PVV = problem is presented as self-evident.

#### Effect

The cooperation with the largest governing party is framed as something to be ashamed of, without this being marked as an editorial choice.

### Association 3:

Timestamp: 43:15

#### Quote

*"The PVV consists of one man with a Twitter account. Beyond that it is absolutely nothing."*

Technique: Statement by Bontenbal (CDA) about PVV is broadcast without rebuttal or nuance as part of the debate report.

#### Effect

A derogatory qualification of the largest governing party is presented as news through the debate report without PVV being given the opportunity to respond.

Summary: There is no classic "guilt by association" in the sense of association with extremist groups, but there is a pattern whereby negative qualifications of NSC and PVV are presented as factual descriptions rather than as political judgements.



## 7. TIMING

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

### Finding 1:

Position: 00:12–01:40 (beginning — introductory film)

Content: "The cabinet became one big failure and Omtzigt disappeared from parliament." / "Dissolution says 56 percent."

#### Timing effect

The introductory film places the negative frame (failure, dissolution, loss of Omtzigt) before the interview begins. Van Hijum must spend the rest of the broadcast responding to an already established negative image, rather than being able to set his own agenda.

### Finding 2:

Position: 38:24 (late in the broadcast)

Content: "it is concluded that you introduced 39 commitments. But five percent of those were fully implemented."

#### Timing effect

The transparency research is presented late in the broadcast, when Van Hijum has little time to respond and the viewer has already formed a negative impression. The finding remains uncontested as a final verdict.

### Finding 3:

Position: 47:50–48:07 (end)

Content: "You are counting on the Eddy effect. That's how it is."

#### Timing effect

The broadcast ends with a slightly ironic note about Van Hijum's optimism, which confirms the negative frame of the introduction and leaves the viewer with an image of unrealistic expectations.

Summary: The structure of the broadcast is built so that negative information about NSC is placed at the beginning and end, while Van Hijum is given space to respond in the middle. This is a classic sandwich structure that reinforces the negative frame.



## 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: 13:33–13:39

Triggering event: Van Hijum states that he raised concerns about the content of the migration pact, not about the timing.

Reaction: "That was not the question. You say: populists must not be allowed to hijack it, so it is better that we do not know what the figures are."

### Comparison

In the debate report (42:06–45:44), the statements of Timmermans, Yesilgöz and Bontenbal about Wilders — including "one man with a Twitter account" — are presented without comparable critical follow-up questioning.

Asymmetry: Van Hijum is sharply corrected on an alleged contradiction, while the statements of other party leaders about Wilders are passed on without critical scrutiny.

Degree of indignation: 2/5

Selectivity: 2/5

### Finding 2:

Timestamp: 07:14–07:16

Triggering event: Presenter establishes that more than 1 million people voted for NSC.

Reaction: "more than 1 million people placed their trust in you at the time. In your party. It is also their judgement."

### Comparison

In the debate report, there is no comparable reference to the 2.5 million PVV voters as a moral benchmark for Wilders' responsibility.

Asymmetry: Moral responsibility towards voters is used as an argument against Van Hijum but not consistently applied to other party leaders.

Degree of indignation: 1/5

Selectivity: 2/5

Summary: There is a mild but demonstrable asymmetry: Van Hijum is questioned more critically on contradictions than other party leaders in the debate report. The selective indignation is not extreme but is consistent in one direction.



## 9. COMPLETENESS (Selective omission — overall picture)

6/10

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

### Finding 1:

Timestamp: 09:07

Missing perspective/fact: The concrete policy results of NSC in the cabinet (benefits simplification, minimum wage, energy bill) are actively cut off.

Relevance: For a fair assessment of NSC's cabinet participation, a complete overview of results is necessary.

#### Effect

The viewer receives a one-sided picture of NSC as a party that has failed, without knowledge of what was actually achieved.

### Finding 2:

Timestamp: 18:14–20:23

Missing perspective/fact: NSC's Gaza votes are presented through a selection of motions on which NSC voted against, without mentioning the motions on which NSC voted in favour or took its own initiative.

Relevance: A complete picture of voting behaviour is necessary for a fair assessment.

#### Effect

The impression arises that NSC was structurally on the wrong side on Gaza, while Van Hijum indicates that NSC voted with the VVD in 59% of cases — a figure that is not contextualised.

### Finding 3:

Timestamp: 41:33–41:43

Missing perspective/fact: Van Hijum names GL-PvdA as a possible coalition partner but this is not critically questioned, while his earlier statements about the PVV cooperation are extensively questioned.

Relevance: A consistent application of critical questioning requires that the GL-PvdA option also be tested.

#### Effect

The impression arises that a coalition with GL-PvdA is self-evidently more acceptable than a coalition with PVV, without this being editorially justified.

Summary: The broadcast systematically lacks information that could frame NSC positively and omits critical questions regarding positions to the left of centre. This results in a structurally incomplete picture of both NSC and the broader political context.



## Soft facts — 6 qualitative techniques

### 10. FRAMING (Setting the frame)

7/10

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

*Definition: How is the subject fundamentally framed?*

#### Finding 1:

Timestamp: 00:12–00:14

<b>Quote</b>	"With a man who either turns the lights off... or leaves a lonely light burning in the parliamentary group room of New Social Contract."
<b>Manipulation</b>	The interview is opened with a metaphor that frames NSC's continued existence as unlikely; the two options are "lights out" or "lonely light" — both negative.
<b>Why problematic</b>	The viewer is conditioned to see Van Hijum as someone fighting for survival, not as a serious political leader with a substantive programme. A neutral opening would take NSC's substantive agenda as its starting point.

#### Finding 2:

Timestamp: 05:55–06:13

<b>Quote</b>	"The cabinet became one big failure and Omtzigt disappeared from parliament. Where are the voters going now? The voters now seem to be switching mainly to CDA and JA21. Does NSC still have a right to exist?"
<b>Manipulation</b>	The introductory film frames NSC's cabinet participation as "one big failure" as a factual qualification, not as a political judgement. The question "does NSC still have a right to exist?" is posed as a rhetorical question, which reinforces the implicit message that the answer is "no".
<b>Why problematic</b>	"Failure" is a value judgement that is presented as fact. A balanced introduction would describe the cabinet participation without normative qualification.

#### Finding 3:

Timestamp: 27:27–27:30

<b>Quote</b>	"But you do choose all forms of migration."
<b>Manipulation</b>	The presenter summarises NSC's position in a way that does not correspond to what Van Hijum has said; Van Hijum has in fact drawn a distinction between different forms of migration.
<b>Why problematic</b>	By incorrectly summarising the guest's position, he is forced to correct himself rather than being able to present his own agenda.



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Summary: The dominant frame of the broadcast is that NSC is a party in decline that must prove its right to exist. This frame is established in the introduction and confirmed throughout the entire broadcast, structurally putting Van Hijum on the defensive.



## 11. WORD CHOICE AND TERMINOLOGY

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

### Finding 1:

Timestamp: 05:55

<b>Quote</b>	<i>"The cabinet became one big failure."</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	"Failure" is a normative judgement that is presented as a factual description in the introductory film.
<b>Why problematic</b>	A neutral alternative would be: "The cabinet fell after 11 months." The qualification "failure" is a political judgement that is not attributed to any source.

### Finding 2:

Timestamp: 00:12

<b>Quote</b>	<i>"leaves a lonely light burning in the parliamentary group room"</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	The metaphor "lonely light" suggests isolation, futility and impending demise.
<b>Why problematic</b>	A neutral alternative would be: "the sole representative of NSC in parliament." The metaphor loads the situation emotionally negatively.

### Finding 3:

Timestamp: 13:12

<b>Quote</b>	<i>"hijacked by populists"</i>
<b>Manipulation</b>	Van Hijum himself uses the word "populists" as a negative qualification for parties that approach the migration pact critically; the presenter lets this pass unchallenged.
<b>Why problematic</b>	"Populists" is a contested political label; by leaving it unchallenged, the connotation (populism = bad) is presented as self-evident.

Summary: The word choice in the introductory film and the presenter's questions consistently loads the broadcast negatively for NSC. Normative judgements are presented as factual descriptions, which influences the viewer without this being marked as an editorial choice.



## 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: 09:07–09:10

Triggering event: Van Hijum begins to list NSC's results in the cabinet.

#### Quote (presenter)

*"Let's look at what we have looked up. Otherwise you'll reel off a whole list."*

#### Comparison

In the debate report (42:06–45:44), the claims of Timmermans, Yesilgöz and Bontenbal about their own achievements are not cut off in a comparable manner.

Asymmetry: Van Hijum is actively prevented from presenting his results; other party leaders are not interrupted in a comparable manner in the debate report.

### Finding 2:

Timestamp: 13:33

Triggering event: Van Hijum gives a different account of his conversation with the European Commissioner than the ministry.

#### Quote (presenter)

*"That was not the question."*

#### Comparison

In the debate report, Wilders' claims about his own achievements ("We as PVV have 11 months...") are interrupted by the audience and other party leaders, but not by the reporter.

Asymmetry: Van Hijum is corrected by the presenter himself; Wilders is corrected by other participants, not by the NPO reporter.

### Finding 3:

Timestamp: 14:07

Triggering event: Van Hijum gives an explanation about his contacts with the European Commissioner.

#### Quote (presenter)

*"Either you or the minister is lying."*

#### Comparison

No comparable direct accusation of lying is directed at other party leaders in the broadcast.

Asymmetry: The term "lying" is a direct accusation of dishonesty directed exclusively at Van Hijum; this is the sharpest intervention in the entire broadcast.



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Summary: The presenter employs a demonstrably asymmetric moderation pattern: Van Hijum is actively interrupted during positive self-presentation, directly accused of dishonesty, and questioned more sharply than other party leaders in the debate report. This pattern is consistent and not incidental.



### 13. QUESTION ASYMMETRY

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

#### Asymmetry 1:

To Van Hijum (NSC), 14:07: "Either you or the minister is lying." — Very hard

To Wilders (PVV) via debate report, 43:46–45:44: No direct question; statements are presented descriptively. — Not applicable (no direct questioning)

#### Comparison

Van Hijum is directly accused of possible dishonesty; Wilders is not directly questioned but is described via the debate report as someone who "had achieved nothing" — a judgement that is presented not as a question but as a finding.

#### Asymmetry 2:

To Van Hijum (NSC), 33:00–33:04: "If I ask you: Has NSC contributed to good governance during the past governing period, you are allowed to hesitate. Do you dare to be self-critical?" — Hard (invitation to self-criticism)

To Timmermans (GL-PvdA) via debate report: No comparable invitation to self-criticism about GL-PvdA's opposition role or previous cabinet participation. — Not applicable

#### Comparison

Van Hijum is explicitly invited to criticise himself; other party leaders are not questioned in a comparable manner in the debate report.

#### Asymmetry 3:

To Van Hijum (NSC), 41:25–41:27: "Would you then for example the PVV... No." — Hard (implicit question about cooperation with PVV as a moral problem)

To Van Hijum about GL-PvdA, 41:39–41:43: No critical question about the ideological tension between NSC and GL-PvdA as a possible coalition partner. — Soft/absent

#### Comparison

Cooperation with PVV is framed as problematic and questioned; cooperation with GL-PvdA is accepted without critical questioning.

Summary: The questions put to Van Hijum are consistently harder than the implicit questions posed to other party leaders through the debate report. The asymmetry is sharpest in the accusation of "lying" and the invitation to self-criticism, which have no equivalent for other parties in the broadcast.



## 14. FALSE BALANCE

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*Definition: Artificial balance despite factual imbalance.*

### Finding 1:

Timestamp: 02:00–02:14

Construction: "you have zero seats in the polls. But we work with averages between polls and current seat count. That gives you  $20 + 0$  divided by  $2 = 10$ ."

### Analysis

The arithmetic method creates an artificial legitimacy for NSC's participation in the interview, while simultaneously the zero-seats fact is prominently mentioned. This is not classic false balance (presenting two equivalent positions as equally strong), but an inverted variant: a party is simultaneously legitimised and delegitimised through the same arithmetic construction.

Summary: There is no classic false balance in the sense of equating scientifically unequal positions. The score is low because the problem lies more in framing and question asymmetry than in false balance as such.



## 15. AGENDA-SETTING

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

### Finding 1:

Agenda element: NSC's right to exist as the central question of the broadcast.

Timestamp: 06:13 — Evidence: "Does NSC still have a right to exist?"

Alternative agenda: NSC's substantive contribution to the political debate (good governance, benefits system, economic security) as the central question.

Explanation: By posing "right to exist" as the central question, NSC's substantive agenda is subordinated to the question of whether the party is relevant at all. This is an editorial choice that structures the broadcast.

### Finding 2:

Agenda element: The cooperation with PVV as a moral problem for NSC.

Timestamp: 34:04 — Evidence: "We went into partnership with the PVV, and I take that to heart as well."

Alternative agenda: The cooperation with PVV as a democratically legitimate coalition choice that is assessed on results, not on moral grounds.

Explanation: By framing the PVV cooperation as something one must "take to heart", the normative agenda is set that cooperation with the largest governing party is morally problematic.

### Finding 3:

Agenda element: Gaza as a touchstone for NSC's integrity.

Timestamp: 17:24–22:35 — Evidence: Extensive questioning about NSC's Gaza voting behaviour.

Alternative agenda: Economic results, benefits simplification, labour market policy as a touchstone for NSC's cabinet participation.

Explanation: Gaza receives relatively much attention ( ) in relation to NSC's economic agenda. This reflects an editorial prioritisation that aligns with progressive political priorities.

Summary: The agenda of the broadcast is structurally focused on NSC's weaknesses (right to exist, PVV cooperation, Gaza voting behaviour, transparency score) rather than on the party's substantive contribution. This is a demonstrable editorial choice that reinforces the image of NSC as a failing party.



## CHAPTER 4 — OVERALL ASSESSMENT

### Overview of individual scores

No.	Criterion	Type	Score	Main finding (1 sentence)
1	Expert selection	H	6	All experts are NPO-internal or institutionally bound; independent external voices are entirely absent
2	Source selection	H	5	Sources are limited to NPO's own research and ministerial statements; methodology is not accounted for
3	Time allocation	H	3	Time allocation is acceptable for a party leader interview but the presenter takes up 29% of the time
4	Omission	H	6	Positive NSC results are actively cut off; negative information is presented without context
5	Statistical manipulation	H	5	Multiple figures are presented without methodological context, reinforcing the negative frame
6	Guilt by association	H	4	Negative qualifications of NSC and PVV are presented as factual descriptions
7	Timing	H	6	Sandwich structure: negative information at beginning and end, Van Hijum responds in the middle
8	Selective indignation	H	4	Mild but demonstrable asymmetry: Van Hijum is questioned more sharply than other party leaders
9	Completeness	H	6	Systematic omission of information that would frame NSC positively
10	Framing	S	7	Dominant frame is NSC as a party in decline that must prove its right to exist
11	Word choice	S	6	Normative judgements ("failure", "lonely light") are presented as factual descriptions
12	Moderation behaviour	S	6	Demonstrably asymmetric moderation pattern: Van Hijum is interrupted and accused of "lying"
13	Question asymmetry	S	6	Van Hijum consistently receives harder questions than other party leaders in the debate report
14	False balance	S	3	No classic false balance; problem lies more in framing and question asymmetry
15	Agenda-setting	S	7	Agenda is structurally focused on NSC's weaknesses rather than substantive contribution

### Results

- HARD FACTS SCORE (average criteria 1-9): 5.0 / 10
- SOFT FACTS SCORE (average criteria 10-15): 5.8 / 10
- TOTAL SCORE (average all 15 criteria): 5.3 / 10

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## Dominant techniques

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- 1. Framing (Score 7):** The broadcast is framed from beginning to end as a story about NSC's impending demise. The introductory film establishes this frame with the qualification "one big failure" and the question "does NSC still have a right to exist?", after which Van Hijum is put on the defensive for the rest of the broadcast. This frame is not neutral but an editorial choice that structures the viewer's image.
- 2. Agenda-setting (Score 7):** The editorial agenda is consistently focused on NSC's weaknesses: right to exist, PVV cooperation, Gaza voting behaviour and transparency score. Substantive NSC themes such as benefits simplification and economic security are only addressed in passing and actively cut off when Van Hijum wants to elaborate on them. This reflects a structural editorial prioritisation.
- 3. Moderation behaviour (Score 6):** The presenter employs a demonstrably asymmetric moderation pattern. The sharpest intervention — "Either you or the minister is lying" (14:07) — has no equivalent for other party leaders in the broadcast. Van Hijum is actively interrupted during positive self-presentation, while other party leaders in the debate report are described descriptively without comparable critical interventions.

## Core messages of the broadcast

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**\*\*MESSAGE 1 (SUBSTANTIVE):** \*\* "NSC has not proven its right to exist and is about to disappear."

**Technique:** Framing via introductory film + agenda-setting via "right to exist" question — Evidence: 05:55, 06:13, 07:04

**\*\*MESSAGE 2 (PERSONAL):** \*\* "Eddy van Hijum is not the credible successor to Pieter Omtzigt."

**Technique:** Repeated references to Omtzigt as an absent symbol + question asymmetry — Evidence: 03:00, 06:27, 08:40, 37:00

**\*\*MESSAGE 3 (SOCIETAL):** \*\* "The cooperation with PVV was a moral mistake that cost NSC its voters."

**Technique:** Guilt by association + selective indignation — Evidence: 34:04, 40:37, 41:25

**Reasoning:** The broadcast scores 5.3/10, indicating clear one-sidedness. The one-sidedness is not the result of one dominant technique but of a consistent pattern of framing, agenda-setting and moderation behaviour that consistently positions NSC negatively. The introductory film qualifies the cabinet as "one big failure" without attribution; the presenter accuses Van Hijum of "lying" without comparable accusations directed at other party leaders; positive NSC results are actively cut off. This pattern is not incidental but structural, which creates a potential tension with the pluralism requirement of Media Act Art. 2.1.

## CONCLUSION

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The broadcast is a party leader interview with Eddy van Hijum (NSC) that is structurally framed as a story about party demise rather than as a substantive political conversation. The dominant frame — NSC as a failing party that must prove its right to exist — is established in the introductory film and confirmed throughout the entire broadcast through framing, agenda-setting and asymmetric moderation behaviour. The presenter directly accuses Van Hijum of "lying" (14:07), actively cuts off his positive self-presentation (09:07) and poses questions that have no equivalent for other party leaders in the debate report. Normative judgements such as "one big failure" are presented as factual descriptions without attribution. In the light of Media Act Art. 2.1, which requires pluriform and balanced reporting, there is a demonstrable editorial imbalance that puts the pluralism requirement under pressure, particularly through the combination of negative framing of a centre-right party and the absence of comparable critical questioning of centre-left positions.



## OVERALL EVALUATION OF THE 15 CRITERIA

### Individual scores — All 15 criteria

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

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

**5.0/10**

*Considerable imbalance*

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

**5.8/10**

*Considerable imbalance*

#### TOTAL SCORE

**5.4/10**

*Considerable imbalance*

*Average of Hard Facts and Soft Facts*



## KEY — Meaning of the scores

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

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

### Aggregated deviation index — Interpretation ranges

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

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

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



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

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

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

#### Violation 1:

Norm: Media Act Art. 2.1 (pluriformity and balance)

Description of facts: The introductory film qualifies the Schoof cabinet as "one big failure" without this judgement being attributed to a source or marked as an opinion.

Evidence: Timestamp 05:55 — Quote: "The cabinet became one big failure and Omtzigt disappeared from parliament."

Assessment: A normative political judgement is presented as a factual description in an editorially produced introductory film. This is not the representation of a political opinion but an editorial position presented as fact, which is contrary to the requirement of balanced reporting.

#### Violation 2:

Norm: Media Act Art. 2.1 (balance and independence)

Description of facts: The presenter directly accuses Van Hijum of possible dishonesty ("lying") without directing comparable accusations at other party leaders in the broadcast.

Evidence: Timestamp 14:07 — Quote: "Either you or the minister is lying."

Assessment: A direct accusation of dishonesty towards a politician of a specific party, without comparable treatment of other parties, is a demonstrable asymmetry that puts the independence requirement of Art. 2.1 under pressure.

#### Violation 3:

Norm: Media Act Art. 2.1 (pluriformity)

Description of facts: The broadcast presents exclusively NPO-internal experts (house economist, voter researcher, reporters) without independent external voices that can offer an alternative perspective on NSC's cabinet participation or programme.

Evidence: Timestamp 23:45–32:00 (house economist) and 06:17 (voter research) — no independent external experts.

Assessment: The absence of independent external expertise on a politically sensitive subject limits the pluriformity of the reporting, which is in tension with the pluriformity requirement of Art. 2.1.

#### Violation 4:

Norm: Media Act Art. 2.1 (balance)

Description of facts: The derogatory statement by Bontenbal about PVV ("The PVV consists of one man with a Twitter account. Beyond that it is absolutely nothing.") is broadcast without rebuttal or nuance as part of the debate report, while PVV receives no direct speaking time or opportunity to respond.

Evidence: Timestamp 43:15 — Quote: "The PVV consists of one man with a Twitter account. Beyond that it is absolutely nothing."

Assessment: Broadcasting a derogatory qualification of the largest governing party without the right of reply is contrary to the balance requirement of Art. 2.1.

### Overall assessment Media Act Art. 2.1

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The broadcast displays a consistent pattern of editorial choices that put the pluriformity and balance requirements of Media Act Art. 2.1 under pressure. The four identified violations are not incidental but structural: they flow from an editorial frame that positions NSC as a failing party and PVV as politically unworthy. Although Media Act Art. 2.1 assesses pluralism across the total NPO output and not per broadcast, the consistent pattern of asymmetric



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questioning, normative qualifications presented as fact and the absence of the right of reply for PVV constitutes a demonstrable tension with the statutory requirement of balanced and independent reporting. In a complaints procedure before the Media Authority, the combination of violation 1 (normative judgement as fact) and violation 2 (direct accusation of dishonesty without equivalent) would provide the strongest legal basis.



## CHAPTER 6 — SOURCE DEPTH CHECK

### 1. Voter research NSC (Nynke de Zoeten / NPO)

- FUNDING:** NPO or external agency commissioned by NPO; funded by the public broadcaster via the national media contribution.
- MANDATE:** Voter research for election programming; mandate is compatible with neutral presentation, but the question design has not been made transparent.
- CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** NPO has an institutional interest in producing current and relevant election programming; a party standing at zero seats is an attractive story. This creates a structural interest in emphasising NSC's weakness.
- CREDIBILITY MATRIX:** D1 Conflict of interest: 0 / D2 Personal risk: 0 / D3 Competence: +1 / D4 Consistency: 0 / D5 Emotion vs. data: +1 / D6 Source level: 0 → TOTAL: +2 → YELLOW
- COUNTERVOICE:** An independent methodologist who assesses the question design and representativeness of the research is absent.

### 2. Transparency research NSC ministers (anonymous organisation)

- FUNDING:** Not mentioned; the organisation that conducted the research is not named in the transcript.
- MANDATE:** Not verifiable because the organisation is not identified.
- CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** Not verifiable.
- CREDIBILITY MATRIX:** D1 Conflict of interest: 0 (not verifiable) / D2 Personal risk: 0 / D3 Competence: 0 (not verifiable) / D4 Consistency: 0 / D5 Emotion vs. data: +1 / D6 Source level: -2 (tertiary source — organisation not identified) → TOTAL: -1 → YELLOW (borderline)
- COUNTERVOICE:** Van Hijum himself indicates that he cannot explain the conclusions; independent verification is absent.

### 3. NOS bureau Brussels (ministerial statement)

- FUNDING:** NOS, funded by the public broadcaster; the ministerial statement originates from the central government.
- MANDATE:** Journalistic verification of political claims; mandate is compatible with neutral reporting.
- CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** The ministry has an interest in confirming the official account of the facts; the ministerial statement is presented as objective counter-evidence for Van Hijum's account without the European Commission itself being consulted.
- CREDIBILITY MATRIX:** D1 Conflict of interest: -1 (ministry has institutional interest) / D2 Personal risk: 0 / D3 Competence: +1 / D4 Consistency: 0 / D5 Emotion vs. data: +1 / D6 Source level: 0 (secondary source) → TOTAL: +1 → YELLOW
- COUNTERVOICE:** The European Commission or an independent EU correspondent could have confirmed or refuted the actual course of events; this voice is absent.

*IMPORTANT: "Recognised" is not a substantive qualification. It is a social attribution that must itself be critically assessed. None of the three cited sources in this broadcast scores GREEN on the credibility matrix; all three score YELLOW, which means that the facts and research results presented must be interpreted with the necessary caution.*

## Legal and methodological notes

### No factual determination

The presented results do not constitute factual determinations about individual persons, editorial teams or broadcasts. They are the product of a standardised operationalisation, not a determination of individual responsibility.



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**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 Media Authority).

**No proof of causality**

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

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#### Act

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Media Act 2008

#### Relevant articles

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- 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 social diversity of the Netherlands.
- Art. 2.88: Editorial independence and journalistic standards are guaranteed. The programmes are made under the editorial responsibility of the broadcasting associations.

#### Core obligations

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

#### Supervisory authority

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

#### Complaints procedure

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1. NPO Ombudsman
2. Media Authority
3. Court (administrative law)



## APPENDIX 2: SCIENTIFIC SOURCES

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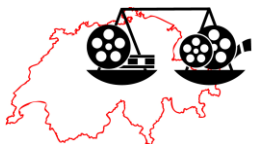
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