

Note. See the full text Golan\_2009 (pdf).  
This summary is an example of your Writing Assignment 3.

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### 1. Citation (APA style)

Golan, G. (2009). Determinants of International News Coverage In Golan, G., Johnson, T., & Wanta, W. (Eds.), *International media communication in a global age* (pp.125-144). New York:Routledge.

### 2. Hypotheses

The amount of coverage it receives from U.S. television news programs is positively associated with:

- H1. A nation's level of **deviance**
- H2. A nation's **relevance** to the U.S.
- H3. **Cultural affinity** of a nation with the United States
- H4. A nation's **religious affinity** with the United States
- H5. A nation's **position in the hierarchy** of nations

### 3. Sample

Every news program aired on CNN, ABC, CBS, and NBC during 1999 (Total 1,300 evening news). The analysis included 189 nations that are current members of United Nations and Palestinian Authority.

### 4. Main Variables/Measures

#### Deviance

The level of instability in a nation. This coding was based on an international conflict report published by the National Defense Council Foundation (1999).

#### Relevance to the United States

Trade with the United States, geographic distance from the United States, foreign aid from the United States and U.S. private investment in a nation.

#### Cultural Affinity

-*Press Freedom*. Press freedom on data from the Freedom House survey.

-*Religious Composition*. The percentage of Christians, the percentage of Muslims, and the overall level of religious diversity in a nation. Coding is based on religious data from the *CIA World Factbook* (2000).

#### Position in Hierarchy of Nations

-*Gross National Product*. Coding for the GNP variable was based on data from the World Bank (2000) and will reflect a nation's Gross National Product (in U.S. dollars) from 1999.

-*Exports*. Coding of the export variable was based on nations' overall export statistics from the year 1999. Coding will be based on data from the *CIA World Factbook 2000* and will reflect the overall exports from a nation in U.S. dollars.

-*Military Expenditure*. Data from the *CIA World Fact Book 2000*.

-*Population*. Based on data from the World Bank (2000).

- *Geographic Size*. Based on data from the *CIA World Factbook 2000* that indicated the total amount of square kilometers (in thousands) in its domain.

## 5. Findings

H1: Instability was found to have a positive direction and found to be significant in all models. Supported.

H2: Countries close to the United States are more likely to be considered relevant to the United States than nations that are far away. The positive direction of the U.S. investment and U.S. aid coefficients suggest a positive association between U.S. economic involvement in a country (relevance) and the amount of coverage the nation received from US television networks (including CNN). H2 supported.

H3: Press freedom did not produce significant p values. H2 rejected.

H4: The results suggest that nations with lower religious diversity than that of the United States are more likely to receive coverage. H4 rejected.

H5: Population and military size had positive coefficients and significant p-values. H5 supported.

## 6. Summary/Discussion

The results of the Poisson models identify 7 variables that were found to be significant for both the networks and CNN: instability, distance from the United States, U.S. investment, U.S. aid, religious diversity, military expenditures, and population. One specific new value identified by the study was relevance. The results indicate that nations that are relevant to the U.S. were likely to receive coverage. This is supported by the significance of the geographic proximity, trade with the United States and the U.S. investment variables.