

# A TRANSITIVITY ANALYSIS OF PUTIN'S IDEOLOGICAL STANCE IN THE "FINANCIAL TIMES" ONLINE

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**Submission date:** 25-May-2023 03:14PM (UTC+0800)

**Submission ID:** 2101453890

**File name:** OF\_PUTIN\_S\_IDEOLOGICAL\_STANCE\_IN\_THE\_FINANCIAL\_TIMES\_ONLINE.docx (31.55K)

**Word count:** 3219

**Character count:** 17010

## A Transitivity Analysis of Putin's ideological stance in the "Financial Times" Online Newspaper In 2019

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### Abstract

*This study aims to unmask ideological stances of Vladimir Putin by using transitivity analysis. The dataset obtained from the transcription of Vladimir Putin Interview in the Financial Times newspaper in 2019. By adopting Transitivity analysis of Halliday and Matthiessen's theory (2014) enable to uncover ideological stances of Putin based on lexicogrammar in the transitivity system of the process types. The findings show that the highest frequency of the Transitivity process used by Putin's interview using the Material process, the Mental and the Verbal process. This process presents that Putin has inclined to present that his the real hard work president as the Material process as process of doing, then he used the Mental process to touch the reader's heart to sympathy to him. While the Verbal process is used to say out in his interview, since the process of Saying is to display that Putin wants to show that he has an authority and has great power to influence the readers and the people of Russia. This is done by Putin to attract the readers to follow at least support his way to run his country.*

**Keywords:** Register, Football terms, and Online News.

### INTRODUCTION

Language is very important for human being to fulfill their needs since it is a communication system (Ningsih & Megah, 2021). Further, language is very effective way to be a tool to communicate among human beings. Cleveland, et al., (2015) that language can function as an indicator of identity for individuals or groups and is more flexible than other more stable indicators such as race, gender, and religion to represent the identity of its speakers. In addition, Andriyanti (2019: 109) communication is essential in almost all areas of life, from home to work. Although people are trained in particular areas of specialization, in economics, management or the like, they do not directly acquire communication skills. It is a social process that begins from childhood to death for us as human beings. It is also a phenomenon that is easily influenced by all kinds of developments and changes that occur in

the course of. In other words, human patients are special communication. Besides, language can be used to a tool of political goals for political leader, such as a nation leader. Therefore, a leader uses a language to be a political tool to influence many people. A nation leader uses a language or a speech to transfer his ideology to be planted to his people. Ideology can be transferred via language. According to Mushtaq et al (2020) ideology can be analyzed via his language. Language use, great emphasis is attached to language features, such as what language is used for, rather than what language structure is all about and how it is constructed (Halliday& Matthiessen, 2014).

By using a language, a political leader such as president, prime ministers, kings, and sultans may apply it to transfer their ideologies. Therefore, it also happens with Vladimir Putin as the nation leader of Russian Federation, he also uses language to influence their people. Putin plants his ideology via his words. The glimpse of Putin as he become one of the most powerful man in the world and very influential around the world because of everything that he do or says could affect the whole world. But before he become someone who is very powerful and respected in his early career Vladimir Putin studied Law at Leningard State University, after that he served 15 years as a foreign intelligence officer for the K6B (committee for state security) including six years in Dresden, East Germany. And Because of his Role as The President of Russia, He will always be giving a lot of speech, interview and a lot of giving information regarding the country's situation and others. His words can be analyzed how he transfer his ideology via his language as mediated via media. By using systemic functional linguistics (SFL), mainly transitivity to analyze his words.

By using Transitivity or Ideational metafunction is about what is happening what will happen, what has happened (Butt, et al., 2010). Transitivity is used to analyze human experience as represented in the texts. So, it can be realized in clause as representation of the Transitivity process which are Processes, Participant, and Circumstances. By using these main elements of transitivity, we will find ideology of Vladimir Putin. As already mentioned previously that ideology is very important for political leader or nation leader. Political leader can be analyzed by using Benazir Bhutto by using the transitivity analysis of her political speech. According to Naz, et al., (2012) stated Findings signal that political leaders use certain words to convince people of their ideology. Ideology can be found through the process and participants of the transitivity since circumstances consists only adverbs (Noor, 2015) and Musthtag et al. (2020).

- 1) What is the most dominant type of transitivity process found in Vladimir Putin Interview?
- 2) What are ideological stances of Vladimir Putin represented in the Interview of "Financial Times"?

## **UNDERLYING THEORY**

Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) is a theory of language which focusing on function of the language itself. Halliday said it himself that grammar and its social function are inseparable, since "... it is demands posed by the series of these function which have molded the shape of language and fixed the course of its evolution" (Halliday 1978). According to Halliday and Matthiesen, (2014) SFL germinate from the foundation that language is an instrument of social interaction, which has evolved to meet our communicative needs in society.

Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) based on the word systemic that refer to the chosen system, that as paradigmatic, the use of language has in a few form. For example in communicating, the language user is faced with a few chosen clauses, is it declarative or indicative and is it active or passive. And for the functional has meaning that is in the context of its usage, and these forms of language carry function. And with that SFL is linguistics that focused in how choosing a few languages in the context of language usage as text.

It is based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that grammar will never be put apart from each other, because in every situation, in every word, in every clause or sentence when you use a language there will be a function in it.

### **Metafunctions**

Meaning in SFL can be divided into three metafunction there are, ideational metafunction or Transitivity, Interpersonal metafunction or Appraisal, And textual metafunction. From Halliday, (1978) that there are a few components meaning that's are called metafunction such as ideational metafunction or Transitivity, interpersonal metafunction or Appraisal, and textual metafunction.

### **Ideational Metafunction**

Ideational Metafunction or Transitivity is meaning created as a result of the realization of lexico-grammatical elements to understand the natural surroundings and to organize the speaker's or writer's experience of the real/fictional world. In the scope of ideonic meaning, these lexicogrammatical elements function to tell people, events, events, actions, circumstances, and so on. Logically, ideational meaning is realized by lingual elements which are related "parts and parts" in a whole with an interdependent structure. Experientially, ideational meaning is realize by lexico-grammatical elements that relate "part and whole" to constituent structures (Martin, 1992: 10-21).

Transitivity or Ideational metafunction is about what is happening, what will happen, what has happened (Halliday, 1978). And the configuration of the clause as representation is

by the structure of Transitivity which are Processes, Participant, and Circumstances. In each aspect there are divided into a few more pieces such as process that have 6 categories of process 1. Material, 2. Process, 3. Verbal, 4. Relational, 5. Behavioural, 6. Existential. For Participant also have its own Category such as People, Things, actors, Sensor, and Sayer. And the last one is Circumstances that can be identified with questions such as when, where, why, how, how much and as what.

### **Ideology**

Ideology is hardly more vague than similar Big Terms in the social sciences and the humanities. According to van Dijk, (1998) that notions of ideology as 'society', 'group', 'action', 'power', 'discourse', 'mind' and 'knowledge', among many others. Or to be simple Ideology is a set of beliefs that have been put in a person or a few people, or groups of people. It is usually a set of ideas that an economic or political system is based on the situational condition.

### **METHODOLOGY**

In this study, the researcher employs the qualitative methods with descriptive approach is to analyse ideological stance of Putin in this research. According to Sugiyono (2017:9) research has natural settings and inductive data analysis, where the result of qualitative methodology only focus of meaning, because meaning is the only pure data. According to Sugiyono (2017:19) he give an example of qualitative methodology is like someone who is trying to go on a picnic. Ordinary people who would go on a picnic would know where he was going after he got there, but he did not know exactly what would happen and what was are there in the place, he will know after he enter the place, by reading information about it, imagining it and asking about that place to others.

The researchers choose Vladimir Putin interview to be analyzed by using of the theory which is based on Suwanti (2015) based on the power period democracy of Vladimir Putin point of view. This study will be from the economic point of view that is given in the interview.

This study employs the qualitative research method with descriptive approach. The qualitative method is chosen because this study aims at providing the information about the certain ideological stance in the Vladimir Putin's Interview. Therefore, this research applies a descriptive qualitative approach. This study focuses attention on the expression of functions in the language which in the end can also determine the ideology of a speaker himself. According to Seixas, et al., (2017:780) a qualitative descriptive approach makes it possible to analyze the data collection not only from the point of view of a traditional qualitative methodology, but also from a more quantitative point of view, allowing an almost - content

statistics, providing an overall summary. From the results In the specific case of some information from different national contexts. Since the material is expressed as strings of words, it is classified as qualitative rather than quantitative research. It depends on how the data is analyzed by the researcher to find certain ideological stances of Putin. The objectives of this study are to analyze ideological stance by using transitivity analysis in the Vladimir Putin Interview published by Financial times.

## DATA FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### Findings

This study is aimed to ideological stances of Putin in the interview of „Financial Times online newspaper“ in 2019. It is to investigate certain ideology of Putin by using Transitivity analysis. As stated in the limitation that this study will use types of participants and processes of Transitivity. Those are as the findings displayed. This table below shows the process of transitivity.

**Table 1: The frequency of the occurrences of the Transitivity Process types**

Types of process	Frequencies	Percentages
<b>Material</b>	31	19%
<b>Verbal</b>	28	18%
<b>Mental</b>	60	38%
<b>Behavioural</b>	5	3%
<b>Relational</b>	27	17%
<b>Existensial</b>	8	5%
<b>Total</b>	159	100%

As shown in the Table 1 above that the most frequency of the of the process types in the Interview of Vladimir Putin with total 159 (100%). The first place is Mental process with 38(%). The second place is Material Process with 19(%). The third place is Verbal Process with 18(%). The Fourth place is Relational Process with 17(%). The Fifth place is Existential process with 5(%). The last place behavioral process is with 3(%).

## Discussion

Based on the findings that material process as the most and the Behavioral as the least frequency occurred. Those analysis are based on mostly process types as more detailed discussion in samples of the data samples found.

### a) Material process

The material process is a process material is an activity, event, or workflow that represents an event. Material processes are realized with verbs denoting physical activity. It can be seen as in datum sample below.

Datum 1

“They take a comprehensive view of the situation”.

As can be seen in the datum 1 above that the process of the clause is “take”, and it is material process. Since the process is the material as the participant must be actor. The used participant of „They“ refers to the actor, „a comprehensive view“ refers to the goal.

### b) Mental process

Mental processes are the processes of the senses, that is, the processes that explain perception, affect, cognition, and desire. It can be seen as in datum sample below.

Datum 2

“to **convince** our US partners not to withdraw from the treaty.”

As can be seen in the datum 2 above that the verb of the mental process is “**convince**”, it constitutes the features of the cognition in mental process which indicates that Vladimir Putin tends to take action about the treaty with the US. The used participant of „(elliptical “Russian government”)“ refers to senser, „our US partners not to withdraw from the treaty“ refers to the phenomenon.

### c) Verbal process

The Verbal process are those in which a notice or declaration is presented. Both Sayer and Verbiage are involved in the language process. It can be seen as in datum sample below.

Datum 3

“I **was** prime minister for four years.”

As can be seen in the datum 3 above that the process of the clause is “**was**”, The used participant of „I“ refers to the Sayer, „prime minister for four years“ refers to the target.

**d) Behavioral process**

Behavioral processes are processes that exhibit behavior, both physically and psychologically, and behavioral processes are similar to participants' processes in terms of performing behaviors, and mental processes and language-like in terms of cognitive tasks. The process by which the participant behaves by speaking. The verbal behavioral process has Behaver and Phenomenon (optional) members, and the mental behavioral process has actions and goals. It can be seen as in datum sample below.

Datum 4

“They cannot simply **dictate** anything to anyone just like”

As can be seen in the datum 4 above that the verb of the behavioral process is “**dictate**”, it constitutes the features of the behavioral process which indicates that Steve Bannon, and Mr Trump try to dictate anything to anyone just like they have been attempting to do over the recent decades. The use of participant is „they“ refers to Steve Bannon, and Mr Trump that shown as the behavior.

**e) Relational process**

The relational process is the process of being that shows the relationship between the strength and extension of meaning. The processing process is divided into two subtypes: attribute relational and identifiable relational. Relational attribution includes what are called bearers and attributes. **On the other hand in the identification relational process**, there are participant tokens or identified and values or identifiers. It can be seen as in data below.

Datum 284

“we **had to** increase VAT from 18 to 20 per cent”

As can be seen in the datum 284 above that the verb of the relational process is “**had to**”, it indicates the attributive relational process of the speaker which shows that the real incomes are affected because of the VAT. The used participant of „we“ refers to the Russian people and government that shown as the carrier.

**f) Relational process**

The existential process is a process that shows the existence of something, and the existential process is similar to the relational process in that both the relational process and the



existential process refer to the existence of something. This existential process does not have any active participant involved as mentioned in the limitation of this study. This part only analyzes process of type found. It can be seen as in datum sample below.

Datum 311

(**There are**) problems in the Middle East and Iran and this aggravates energy problems around the world.

As can be seen in the datum 311 above shows the existential process since it is indicated by "**there are**". So, the "**there are**" is aimed to indicate the existence of the Middle East.

## CONCLUSION

This study can be concluded that the transitivity processes of Halliday's theory which is used to investigate Putin's ideology in the interview by Financial Times in 2019 shows that the findings show that the Mental Process places the highest level of the findings with 60 times (38%). The second place is Material process with 31 times (19%). The third place is Verbal process with 28 times (18%). The Fourth place is Relational Process with 27 times (17%). The Fifth place is Existential process with 8 times (5%). The last place is Behavioral process with 5 times (3%). Thus, the findings the Verbal process exceeds the five other processes. It shows Putin ideological tendency to his power via his speech in order to influences the audiences. This shows his ideological stances as the president who want to persuade his listener. Thus, the ideology has been planted by Putin that he tends show that he is a hard worker president in order to get sympathy and support from his people.

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