

2014 in the World Media

Co-occurrence of Key Word Analysis

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Préface

Dans les années 1980 et au début des années 1990, le Centre de sociologie de l'innovation de l'École des Mines de Paris était une ruche d'activité scientifique sur la sociologie des sciences et en particulier sur l'innovation scientifique (M. Callon, P. Laredo, P. Mustar, « La gestion stratégique de la recherche et de la technologie – L'évaluation des programmes », *Economica*, 1995). Une grande partie de ce travail était centrée sur le développement de « l'analyse de co-occurrences de mots-clés » de vastes bases de données d'articles scientifiques (M. Callon, J.-P. Courtial, W. A. Turner, S. Bauin, « From translations to problematic networks - An introduction to co-word analysis », 1983, *Social Science Information*, 1983): « Des études empiriques récentes sur les laboratoires de recherche et le mécanisme d'élaboration des politiques dans le domaine de la science et de la technologie ont remis en question certaines des hypothèses de base guidant la sociologie des sciences au cours des dix dernières années. » On peut aussi voir M. Callon, J.-P. Courtial, F. Laville, « Co-word analysis as a tool for describing the network of interactions between basic and technological research – The case of polymer chemistry », *Scientometrics*, 1991.

Comme décrit dans cette dernière référence, l'objectif était de « montrer comment les techniques d'analyse de co-occurrences de mots peuvent être utilisées pour étudier les interactions entre la recherche académique et technologique » sur la base d'une analyse systématique du contenu des publications dans tout un domaine sur des périodes longues, voire plusieurs années. Quand j'ai commencé à travailler avec le Centre de sociologie de l'innovation, j'ai proposé d'appliquer l'approche de l'analyse de co-occurrences de mots à l'étude d'un domaine scientifique naissant pour pouvoir suivre et décrire son développement à travers l'analyse de ses publications scientifiques. Un collègue américain et bon ami, Leo Chall, le directeur fondateur de *Sociological Abstracts*, avait proposé de donner libre accès à son incroyable base de données dans le cadre d'un tel projet de recherche. J'ai proposé ensuite d'étudier un domaine scientifique entièrement nouveau : la sociologie du SIDA, puisque le SIDA n'existait officiellement que depuis 1983, date de son copyright formel. William « Bill » Turner et moi avons alors décidé d'analyser toutes les entrées de *Sociological Abstracts* entre 1983 et 1990 (inclus) qui contenaient le mot-clef en anglais pour le SIDA, « AIDS » (*Sociological Abstracts* analysait des publications dans plusieurs langues, mais les mots-clés retenus étaient toujours en anglais). Leo Chall ne fut pas content d'apprendre que nous avons trouvé dans sa base de données quelques articles sur l'AIDS datant d'avant 1983. Il s'est avéré que c'étaient des articles sur des « AIDS VISUELS » (aides visuelles) utilisés dans l'enseignement et *Sociological Abstracts* avait oublié de supprimer ce mot de l'index des mots-clés après l'inclusion du terme « AIDS » pour « Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome », ou SIDA en français !

Le projet « Sociologie de la recherche sur le SIDA » avec Bill Turner et d'autres a abouti à la publication de plusieurs articles de recherche (K. van Meter, W. A. Turner, J.-B. Bizard, « Cognitive Mapping of AIDS Research 1980-1990 – Strategic Diagrams, Evolution of the Discipline and Data Base Navigation Tools », *Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, 1995, n° 46, pp. 30-44; K. van Meter, W. A. Turner, « Representation and Confrontation of Three Types of Longitudinal Network Data from the Same Data Base on Sociological AIDS Research », *Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, 1997, n° 56, pp. 32-49; K. van Meter, « Managing a Plague – Channelling the 'Spread' of AIDS Research », *Current Sociology*, 2001, vol. 49, n° 6, pp. 57-65). Entre autres résultats scientifiques, ces articles ont montré que les nouveaux domaines de recherche généraient deux types de « carrières » ou de « trajectoires » scientifiques. D'une part, les « poids lourds » qui publient beaucoup et capturent une part importante du financement de la recherche du domaine tout en poursuivant des évolutions assez linéaires caractérisées par les mêmes mots-clés tels que « sexualité et SIDA » et « homosexualité et SIDA », par exemple ; d'autre part, les « artistes » qui capturent une plus petite partie du financement, qui publient souvent autant que les « poids lourds » mais avec des mots-clés variables révélant leur facilité d'adaptation aux changements de thématiques et au soutien financier dans le domaine. Nous avons découvert plus tard que dans d'autres domaines, ces deux formes d'activité, ou même deux types de personnalités, sont désignées respectivement par les termes « hérissons » (qui « vont droit devant » et « poursuivent un objectif unique ») et « renards » (qui « bougent beaucoup » et « poursuivent plusieurs objectifs »).

La possibilité d'étudier la naissance et le développement d'un champ scientifique en se fondant sur sa production scientifique a été une occasion extraordinaire mais a néanmoins semblé se répéter dans des circonstances différentes lorsque l'ancienne et dormante société académique fondée par Émile Durkheim, la Société de sociologie, a finalement été dissoute au début des années 2000 et remplacée par l'Association française de sociologie (AFS), très ouverte et dynamique. Immédiatement, mon ami et collègue, Philippe Cibois, également un des co-fondateurs de la revue scientifique bilingue, le *Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique* (ou *BMS*), a décidé avec moi de créer une section « Méthodologie » de l'AFS, le Réseau thématique 20 (RT20), « Méthodes », et nous avons demandé à Didier Demazière d'en devenir le président, ce qu'il a accepté. Nous avons organisé les sessions du RT20 du premier congrès AFS en 2004 à Saint-Denis près de Paris. Pendant le congrès, et après avoir parcouru le volume impressionnant de résumés de présentation, Philippe et moi avons décidé d'analyser tous les résumés pour générer une description empirique de la sociologie française contemporaine. Philippe a proposé sa méthode de correspondance factorielle Trideux et j'ai proposé la méthode de l'analyse par co-occurrences de mots. Ce projet a débouché sur un numéro thématique du *BMS* (n° 85, janvier 2005), une conférence du RT20 à l'Université de Nanterre, près de Paris, et un livre sous la direction de Didier Demazière (D. Demazière, C. Brossaud, P. Trabal, K. van Meter, *Analyses textuelles en sociologie – Logiciels, méthodes, usages*, 2006, Presses universitaires de Rennes).

Le « suivi » de ce projet n'a pas été moins impressionnant puisqu'il a permis d'analyser et de comparer les congrès AFS 2004, 2006 et 2009 (M. de Saint Léger, K. M. van Meter, « French Sociology as Seen Through the Co-Word Analysis of AFS Congress Abstracts – 2004, 2006 & 2009 », *Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, 2009, n° 102). Cela a été suivi par l'analyse et la comparaison avec la conférence de la *Deutsche Gesellschaft für Soziologie* allemande de 2004 (K. M. van Meter et M. de Saint Léger, « German & French Contemporary Sociology Compared – Text Analysis of Congress Abstracts », *Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, 2009, n° 104) et plusieurs congrès de l'American Sociological Association (2003 à 2006, K. M. van

Meter, M. de Saint Léger, « American, French & German Sociologies Compared through Link Analysis of Conference Abstracts », *Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, 2014, n° 122), fournissant ainsi une comparaison empirique de ces sociologies nationales et de leur attachement ou de l'influence, voire des biais, dus aux cultures nationales spécifiques.

Mais il était évident que la méthode de « l'analyse par co-occurrences de mots » ne se limitait pas à l'analyse d'articles ou de présentations scientifiques. La méthode pourrait être appliquée à toute grande base de données textuelles, et nos recherches antérieures avaient montré que cela pouvait se faire en anglais, en français et même en allemand, bien que l'analyse dans cette dernière langue présentât de sérieux obstacles. Dans cet esprit, j'ai demandé à l'Association pour le Droit à l'Information (ADI) si cette méthode pouvait être appliquée à leur base de données textuelle des entrées quotidiennes en langue anglaise de la presse internationale sur les grands conflits politiques et économiques. La première analyse de ce type a été réalisée avec des données de 2006 et a abouti à un article dans le *BMS* (K. M. van Meter, M. de Saint Léger, « Co-Word Text Analysis Applied to Political Science – 2006 International Political & “Parapolitical” Headlines », *Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, 2008, n° 97), et un livre publié par l'Harmattan (K. M. van Meter, M. de Saint Léger, *World Politics and Parapolitics 2006 – Computer-assisted Text Analysis of International Media Headlines*). Ce projet s'est poursuivi jusqu'à aujourd'hui avec la publication des résultats 2007-2008 en anglais (K. M. van Meter, M. de Saint Léger, « 2007-2008 – The End of Bush & the Rise of the UN – Link Analysis of World Media Headlines », *USAK Yearbook of International Politics and Law*, 2011, vol. 4) à Ankara, en Turquie. Les résultats 2009-2012 et 2013 ont également été publiés sous forme de livres par l'Harmattan. Les résultats 2014 qui suivent sont publiés dans la série *Études et documents* sur le site du Centre Maurice Halbwachs. Plus récemment, un document Internet que j'ai écrit et intitulé « Trump's First 100 Days », a été mis à disposition sur le Web par l'ADI (https://www.academia.edu/34443870/TRUMPS_FIRST_100_DAYS), et des travaux sont en cours pour comparer et contraster ces résultats de 2006 à 2017.

Preface

In the 1980s and early 1990s, the *Centre de sociologie de l'innovation* at the Paris *Écoles des mines* was a beehive of scientific activity concerning the sociology of science and particularly scientific innovation (M. Callon, P. Laredo, P. Mustar, "La gestion stratégique de la recherche et de la technologie - L'évaluation des programmes", *Economica*, 1995). A lot of this work was centered around the development of "co-word analysis" of vast data bases of scientific articles (M. Callon, J.-P. Courtial, W. A. Turner, S. Bauin, "From translations to problematic networks - An introduction to co-word analysis", *Social Science Information*, 1983): "Recent empirical studies on research laboratories and the mechanism of policy elaboration in the field of science and technology have called into question some of the basic hypotheses guiding the sociology of the sciences over the past ten years." One can also see M. Callon, J.-P. Courtial, F. Laville, "Co-word analysis as a tool for describing the network of interactions between basic and technological research – The case of polymer chemistry", *Scientometrics*, 1991.

As described in the latter reference, the goal was "to show how co-word analysis techniques can be used to study interactions between academic and technological research" based upon a systematic content analysis of publications in a field over a period of time, even several years. When I started working with the *Centre de sociologie de l'innovation*, I proposed to apply the co-word analysis approach to the study of nascent scientific fields to follow and describe their development through the analysis of their scientific publications. An American colleague and good friend, Leo Chall, the founding director of *Sociological Abstracts*, had proposed to give free access to this incredible data base in the framework of such a research project. I soon proposed studying an entirely new scientific field: the sociology of AIDS (since AIDS only existed formally since 1983, the date of its formal copyrighting). So William "Bill" Turner and I decided to analyze all *Sociological Abstracts* entries between 1983 and 1990 (included) that contained the term "AIDS". Leo Chall was not happy to learn that we found a few "AIDS" articles dating from before 1983. They turned out to be articles on "Visual Aids" in teaching and *Sociological Abstracts* abstracters had forgotten to delete that term from the key word index following the inclusion of the term AIDS for "Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome".

The "sociology of AIDS research" project with Bill Turner and others resulted in the publication of several research articles (K. van Meter, W. A. Turner, J.-B. Bizard, "Cognitive mapping of AIDS research 1980-1990: Strategic diagrams, evolution of the discipline and data base navigation tools", *Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, 1995, n° 46, pp. 30-44; K. van Meter, W. A. Turner, "Representation and confrontation of three types of longitudinal network data from the same data base on sociological AIDS research", *Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, 1997, n° 56, pp. 32-49; K. van Meter, "Managing a plague – Channelling the 'spread' of AIDS research", *Current Sociology*, 2001, vol. 49, n° 6, pp. 57-65.). These articles showed, among other scientific results, that such new fields of research generated two types of scientific "careers" or "trajectories". On one hand, the "heavyweights" who publish a lot and capture a major portion of the domain's research financing while pursuing rather linear evolutions characterized by systematically the same key words such as "sexuality and AIDS" and "homosexuality and AIDS", for example. On the other hand, there are the "artists" who capture a smaller portion of the financing, who often publish just as much as the "heavyweights" but with varying keywords that reveal their agile adaptation to major varying interests and financial support in the domain, such as "immigrants and AIDS", "college students and AIDS", etc. We later discovered that in other fields, these two forms of activity, or even personalities, are referred to respectively as "hedgehogs"

(who “go straight ahead” and pursue a single objective) and “foxes” (who “move around a lot” and pursue multiple objectives).

The possibility of studying the birth and development of a scientific field based on its scientific production was an extraordinary occasion and nonetheless seemed to repeat itself under different circumstances when the old and dormant academic *Société de sociologie*, founded by Émile Durkheim, was finally dissolved in the early 2000s and replaced by the much more open and dynamic *Association française de sociologie* (ASF). Immediately, my friend and colleague, Philippe Cibois, also a co-founder of the bilingual scientific quarterly, the *Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique/Bulletin of Sociological Methodology* or *BMS*, decided with me to create a “Methodology” section of the ASF, the *Réseaux thématique 20* (RT20), “Méthodes”, and we asked Didier Demazière if he would be RT20 president, which he accepted. We three organized the RT20 sessions for the first AFS congress in 2004 in St. Denis near Paris. During the congress, and after having run through the rather impressive volume of abstracts of presentation, Philippe and I decided we should analyze all the abstracts to generate an empirical description of contemporary French sociology. Philippe proposed his Trideux factorial correspondence method and I proposed the co-word analysis method. This project resulted in a thematic issue of the *BMS* (n. 85, January 2005), a RT20 conference at the University of Nanterre, near Paris, and a book of the Presses universitaires de Rennes under the editorship of Didier Demazière (Demazière Didier, Brossaud Claire, Trabal Patrick, van Meter Karl, 2006, *Analyse textuelles en sociologie – Logiciels, méthodes, usages*, Presses universitaires de Rennes).

The “follow-up” of this project wasn’t less impressive since it resulted in the analysis and comparison of the 2004, 2006 and 2009 ASF congresses (Mathilde de Saint Léger, Karl M. van Meter, “French Sociology as Seen Through the Co-Word Analysis of AFS Congress Abstracts - 2004, 2006 & 2009”, *Bulletin of Sociological Methodology/Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, N. 102, 2009). This was followed with the analysis and comparison of the German Deutsche Gesellschaft für soziologie conference of 2004 (Karl M. van Meter and Mathilde de Saint Léger, “German & French Contemporary Sociology Compared - Text Analysis of Congress Abstracts”, *Bulletin of Sociological Methodology / Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, N. 104, 2009) and several American Sociologic Association congresses (2003 to 2006; Karl M. van Meter, Mathilde de Saint Léger, “American, French & German Sociologies Compared through Link Analysis of Conference Abstracts”, *Bulletin of Sociological Methodology/Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, N. 122, 2014), thus providing an empirically-based comparison of these national sociologies and their specific national cultural attachment and influence, or even bias.

But it was obvious that the method of “co-word analysis” was not limited to the analysis of only scientific articles or presentations. The method could be applied to any large textual data base and our previous research had shown that this could be done in English, in French and even in German, although analysis in this latter language did present some serious obstacles. With this in mind, I asked the French *Association pour le Droit à l’Information* or *ADI* if this method could be applied to their textual data base of daily English language entries from the international press on major political and economical conflicts. The first such analysis was done with 2006 data and resulted in a *BMS* article (Karl M. van Meter, Mathilde de Saint Léger, “Co-Word Text Analysis Applied to Political Science – 2006 International Political & ‘Parapolitical’ Headlines”, *Bulletin of Sociological Methodology/Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, N. 97, 2008) and a book published by Harmattan (Karl M. Van Meter, Mathilde de Saint Leger, *World politics and parapolitics 2006 – Computer-assisted text analysis of international media headlines*). This project has continued up until today with the

publication of the 2007-2008 results in English (K. M. van Meter & M. de Saint Léger, "2007-2008 – The End of Bush & the Rise of the UN – Link Analysis of World Media Headlines", *USAK Yearbook of International Politics and Law*, Volume 4, 2011) in Ankara, Turkey. The 2009-2012 and 2013 results were published also as books by Harmattan. The 2014 results which follow below are published by *Études et documents* under the direction of André Grelon of the Centre Maurice Halbwachs at the École Normale Supérieure of Paris. More recently, an Internet document that I have written and is titled "Trump's First 100 Days", has been made available by the ADI (https://www.academia.edu/34443870/TRUMPS_FIRST_100_DAYS), and work is underway to compare and contrast these results from 2006 to 2017.

Introduction

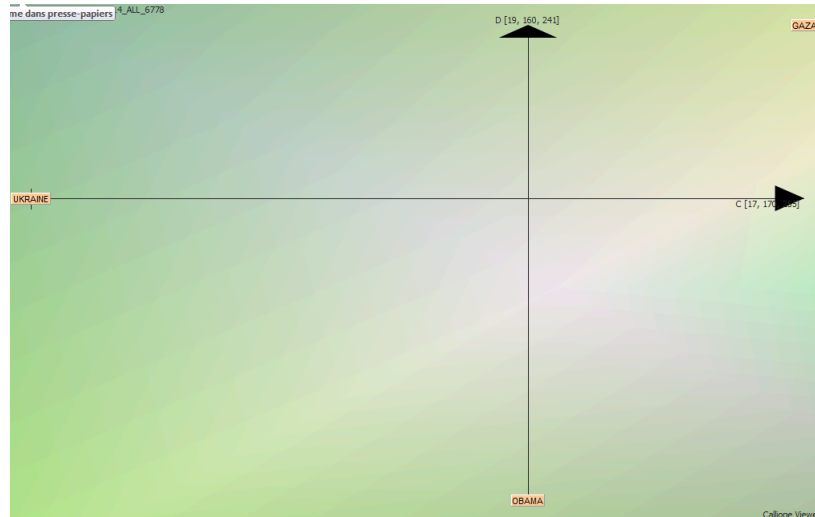
Since 2006, we have been analyzing daily reports of the international media in English concerning major conflicts in the world. Most recently, we have published results of such analyses in *2013 Parapolitics & World Media* (2016, Harmattan) and *2009-2012 Obama's First Term, Bush's 'Legacy', Arab Spring & World Jihadism* (2016, Harmattan). With Mathilde de Saint Léger, we have also analyzed and published results from 2007-2008 ("2007-2008 – The End of Bush & the Rise of the UN: Link Analysis of World Media Headlines", *USAK Yearbook of International Politics and Law*, 2011, vol. 4, pp. 1-21), and 2006: *World Politics & "Parapolitics" 2006: Computer-Assisted Text Analysis of International Media Headlines* (2009, Harmattan); and "Co-Word Text Analysis Applied to Political Science: 2006 International Political & 'Parapolitical' Headlines", *Bulletin of Sociological Methodology/Bulletin de Méthodologie Sociologique*, 2008, vol. 97, pp. 18-38). In these books and research articles, we have described in detail the Calliope computer program of analysis of texts by co-occurrence of key words in textual data which is often more than 20 news reports per day, or some 6,000 to 7,000 entries per year.

Calliope is a hierarchally ascending classification program that constructs classes or "clusters" by putting together the key words that appear the most often together in these news reports. In short, co-occurrence of key words in units of text is the similarity measure used in Calliope's classification sub-program to construct classes. These classes are then analyzed to measure the number of internal ties ("in-ties") between the key words of the same class, and also to measure the number of external ties ("out-ties") between the classe's key words with key words in other classes. The out-ties are used to construct a first horizontal axis of "centrality" and the in-ties to construct a second vertical axis of "density". Each class or cluster is given a label corresponding to the cluster's most central key word. Then the mean "centrality" (out-ties) and the mean "density" (in-ties) for all the labeled clusters is calculated, and this permits us to place each cluster in the two-dimensional centrality/density diagram, which we call the Strategic Diagram. Thus the upper right or first quadrant of the Strategic Diagram contains the central and dense clusters or "main stream" classes, and they are those that we will analyze in most detail. The upper left or second quadrant contains dense but less central clusters which we call "ivory tower" classes. The lower left or third quadrant includes less dense and less central classes that we tend to call "unstructured". The lower right or fourth quadrant includes clusters which are central but less dense, and we call them "band wagon".

Two 2014 Strategic Diagrams & Their Main Stream Clusters

The data we use has been provided by the ADI or French Association for the Right to Information (“Association pour le Droit à l’Information”) and, in the case of 2014, we analyzed 595 pages of data, which means 6,797 entries consisting of 324,217 words and 1,718,719 characters. This data produced the Strategic Diagram below which is a first and “automatique” analysis of the 2014 ADI data, where “automatique” means here that the computer program Calliope chose the most simple parameters for constituting clusters of co-occurring key words in the media entries we analyzed.

Figure 1. Strategic Diagram of the first and “automatic” analysis of 2014 ADI data



There are only three clusters – “Gaza”, “Ukraine” and “Obama” – which is probably the simplest representation of 2014 world events. “Gaza” is the dominant cluster which is both central and dense, and therefore in the first quadrant. “Ukraine” is not at all central (completely to the left on the first or centrality axis), which means it’s hardly associated with other 2014 world events, or more simply just “isolated”. It is also mid-range on the second or density axis. The “Obama” cluster is exactly the opposite: the least dense and mid-range centrality. The key word composition of these three clusters is given in the diagrams below.

Figures 2, 3, 4. Key word structure of the “automatic” 2014

Figure 2. “Gaza” cluster

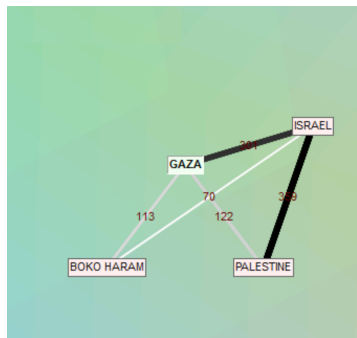


Figure 3. “Ukraine” cluster

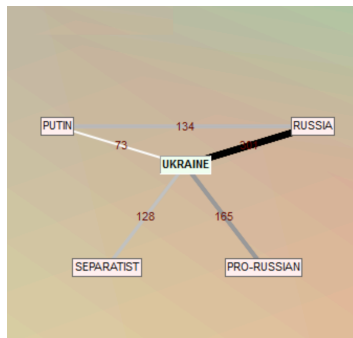
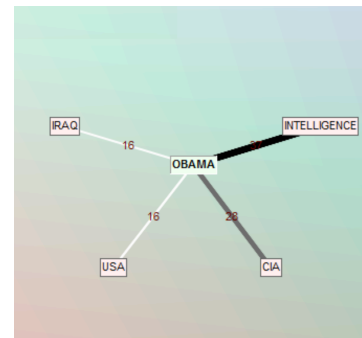
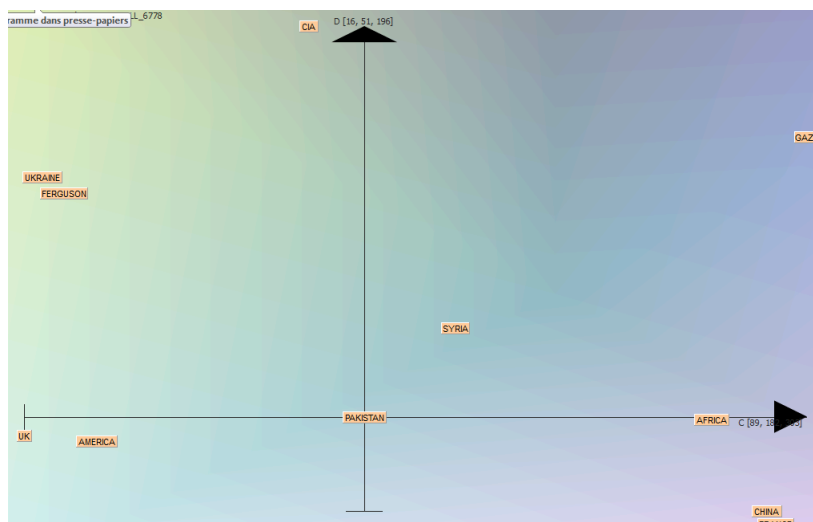


Figure 4. “Obama” cluster



After obtaining these rather simplistic “automatic” results, we reanalyzed the data in Calliope’s “expert” mode with a specialized choice of parameters which we have found in the past to perform very well in distinguishing major world events as described by the international media. Those parameters are: single key words are retained when there are 20 or more occurrences in the corpus; two-word key words such as “United Nations” are retained when there are 5 or more occurrences in the corpus; and the same goes for three-word and four-word key words. These parameters produce the following 2014 Strategic Diagram.

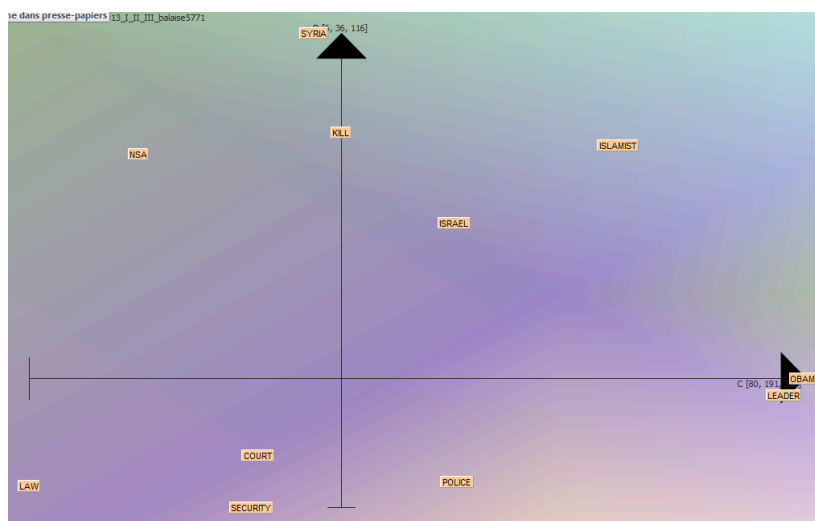
Figure 5. “Expert” mode 2014 Strategic Diagram



One can easily note the similarity of position and content (see below) for the “Gaza” clusters and the similarity of position of the “Ukraine” clusters in the two 2014 Strategic Diagrams. However, the “Obama” cluster has disappeared and in fact “exploded”, creating primarily the “CIA” cluster, but also the “Syria” cluster that here shares “Iraq” with the previous “Obama” cluster (see the “Syria” cluster below). There are a total of 11 clusters in this “expert” mode 2014 Strategic Diagram. We will look at all of them, and particularly the two main stream “Gaza” and “Syria” clusters which will be treated in separate sections later.

With this general situation in mind, let’s quickly look back at the 2013 Strategic Diagram below.

Figure 6. 2013 Strategic Diagram (see *2013 Parapolitics & World Media*, Harmattan, 2016)



Here in 2013, we have a “Syria” and an “Obama” cluster. Their positions are not the same as in 2014 and the key word content of the 2013 and 2014 “Obama” clusters is not the same, but that of the “Syria” cluster has changed little, thus indicating little evolution in the situation in that country. The 2013 “NSA” cluster is rather similar in content to the 2014 “America” cluster, but the latter is no longer only centred on the Snowden affair. The 2013 “Israel” cluster was that year’s representative of the rather stable and persistent “Israel”/“Palestine” complex that we have identified for several years now in our previous publications. The year 2014’s representation of that complex is the “Gaza” cluster. The 2013 “Islamist” cluster disappeared in the 2014 Strategic Diagram but the 2013 “Kill” cluster (largely to do with jihadist attacks, Pakistan and Iraq) has become the 2014 “Pakistan” cluster situated at the origin of the diagram. “Pakistan”/“Afghanistan” is another stable and persistent key word complex that we have also identified in our previous publications.

The Main Stream 2014 “Gaza” Cluster

In 2014, “Gaza” is the most dominant cluster, being both central and dense. It is obviously the new 2014 configuration of the persistent “Israel”/“Palestine” complex described in our previous publications. In the 2013 Strategic Diagram above, one can see that “Israel” is also both central and dense, and not far from where “Gaza” is situated in the 2014 Strategic Diagram. External ties with “France” are of major importance (50%), followed by “Pakistan” (19%). As we will see later in the “Gaza - Portrait of a Typical Israeli Military Campaign” section, the key word structure presented below in Figure 7 covers the entire year of 2014 and does not distinguish between the three different periods of that year (January-May, June-August and September-December) and the very distinctive characteristics of those three periods.

Figure 7. Key word structure of the “expert” 2014 “Gaza” cluster

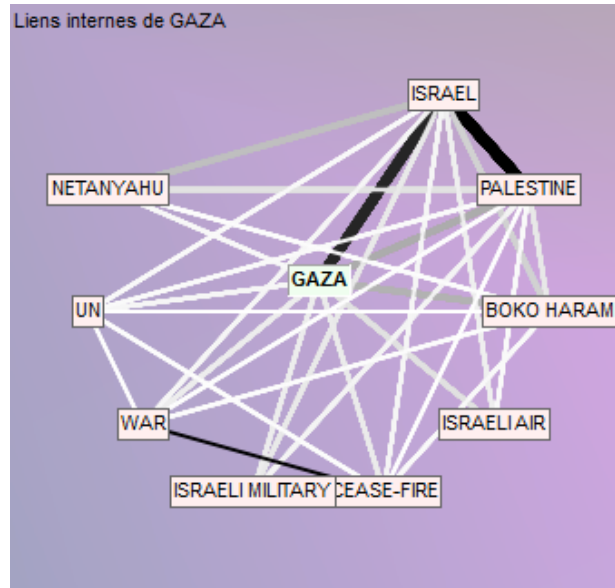


Table 1. External ties & internal ties of “Gaza” cluster’s key words

EXTERNAL TIES (out-ties)	INTERNAL TIES (in-ties)
France ~ 50,0%	GAZA 100,0% (200/200) 95,7% (200/209)
Conflict	ISRAEL 86,5% (173/200) 73,0% (173/237)
Pakistan ~ 18,8%	PALESTINE 42,0% (84/200) 71,8% (84/117)
Air Strike	BOKO HARAM 34,5% (69/200) 88,5% (69/78)
Terrorist	WAR 22,0% (44/200) 50,0% (44/88)
China ~ 9,4%	UN 19,5% (33/200) 35,5% (33/93)
Fox/	OBAMA 13,0% (26/200) 3,2% (26/823)
CIA ~ 9,4%	CEASE-FIRE 12,0% (24/200) 68,6% (24/35)
Obama	CONFLICT 10,5% (21/200) 21,9% (21/96)
America ~ 6,3%	NETANYAHU 7,0% (14/200) 82,4% (14/17)
USA	USA 7,0% (14/200) 3,8% (14/373)
UK ~ 6,3%	ISRAELI AIR 6,5% (13/200) 86,7% (13/15)
Europe	ISRAELI MILITARY 6,5% (13/200) 92,9% (13/14)
	EGYPT 5,5% (11/200) 7,4% (11/149)
	HUMAN RIGHT 5,0% (10/200) 14,7% (10/68)
	FOX/ 5,0% (10/200) 6,3% (10/160)
	JAMES M 4,0% (8/200) 42,1% (8/19)
	WEST BANK 4,0% (8/200) 40,0% (8/20)
	ISLAMIC 4,0% (8/200) 11,1% (8/72)
	AIR STRIKE 3,5% (7/200) 20,6% (7/34)
	TERRORIST 3,0% (6/200) 4,9% (6/122)
	EUROPE 3,0% (6/200) 6,7% (6/89)
	BOMB 2,5% (5/200) 3,5% (5/143)
	WSJ/ 2,5% (5/200) 5,7% (5/88)
	CONGRESS 2,5% (5/200) 6,0% (5/83)
	WOMEN 2,0% (4/200) 2,4% (4/168)
	BLOOMBERG/ 2,0% (4/200) 4,0% (4/100)
	ISLAMIST 2,0% (4/200) 4,7% (4/86)
	INTELLIGENCE 2,0% (4/200) 2,3% (4/177)
	IRAN 2,0% (4/200) 2,6% (4/152)
	VOA/ 1,5% (3/200) 2,6% (3/115)

The Main Stream 2014 “Syria” Cluster

Also in the main stream first quadrant and between “Gaza” and the graph’s origin, one finds the “Syria” cluster. In 2013, “Syria” was the densest cluster, but only of medium centrality, which means it was near the vertical second axis and at the top. In 2014, “Syria” moved closer to a main stream position in losing some density, but gaining in centrality, which is a rather succinct but correct description of the situation in Syria as it evolved from a “well-developed” but contained civil war to a regional war involving its neighbors and major world powers. The key word structure of this cluster offers no surprises, neither in content, nor in intensity of ties, as one can see in the graphic below and in the following table of internal ties. Although its external ties are mainly with the “Gaza” cluster, and that may seem somewhat surprising, it is less so when one sees that the ties are with the key words “UN”, “war” and “Israel”, and not with “Gaza”, per say. Of course, its internal ties are mainly with “Islamic State”, “Iraq” and “Assad”. Again, as in the case of the “Gaza” cluster, the figure of the “Syria” cluster’s key word structure is based on coverage of the entire year of 2014 and does not differentiated between the very distinct periods of January-May, June-September and October-December, as we will see in the section “Syria - From Civil War to Regional War”.

Figure 8. Key word structure of the 2014 “Syria” cluster

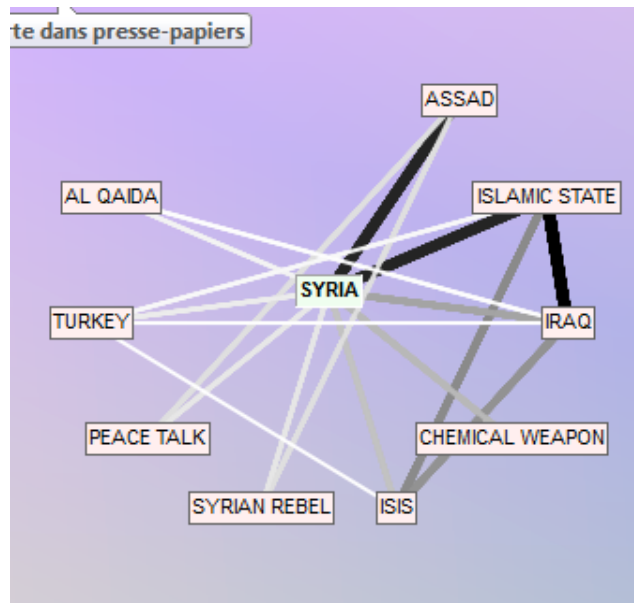


Table 2. External ties & internal ties of “Syria” cluster’s key words

EXTERNAL TIES (out-ties)		INTERNAL TIES (in-ties)	
Gaza ~ 25,5%	CIA ~ 16,4%	SYRIA	100,0% (276/276) 86,5% (276/319)
UN	Obama	ISLAMIC STATE	32,2% (89/276) 90,8% (89/98)
War	Intelligence	IRAQ	28,6% (79/276) 49,7% (79/159)
Israel	Africa ~ 16,4%	ASSAD	19,6% (54/276) 87,1% (54/62)
France ~ 16,4%	Islamist	OBAMA	18,5% (51/276) 5,8% (51/874)
Iran	Pakistan ~ 10,9%	ISIS	4,1% (89/276) 75,0% (39/51)
Conflict	Terrorist	WAR	12,7% (35/276) 13,6% (35/257)
France	Air Strike	UN	12,7% (35/276) 12,7% (35/276)
	Bomb		
	Suicide Attack		

Three Near-Main Stream Clusters

The “CIA” cluster is the densest of 2014 and clearly associated with CIA torture policy and the “Torture”/“Bush” complex that already existed in 2006 when we began these analyses and has persisted even after the arrival of Obama at the White House in 2009. However, the 2014 “CIA” cluster is only of medium centrality, a little like the “Syria” cluster in 2013, as mentioned above.

Figure 9. Key word structure of the 2014 “CIA” cluster

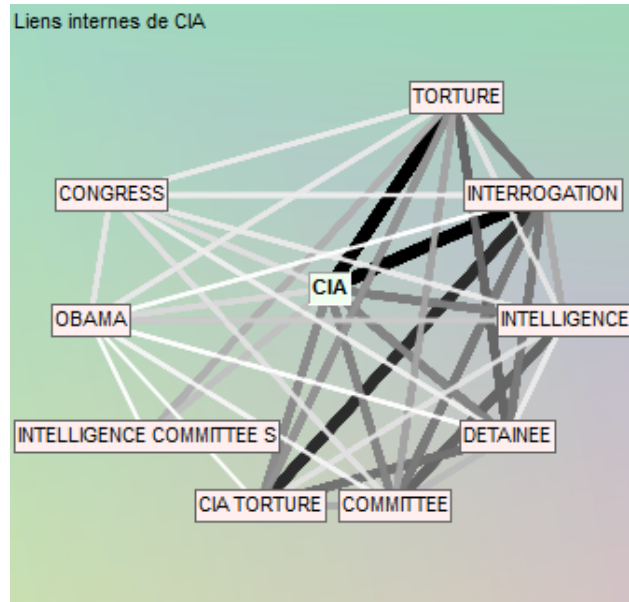


Table 3. External ties & internal ties of “CIA” cluster’s key words

EXTERNAL TIES (out-ties)	INTERNAL TIES (in-ties)	
Pakistan ~ 23,1%	CIA 100,0% (150/150)	86,2% (150/174)
Terrorist	OBAMA 45,3% (68/150)	23,2% (68/293)
Drone	TORTURE 41,3% (62/150)	59,7% (62/89)
Bomb	INTELLIGENCE 36,0% (54/150)	62,8% (54/86)
Afghanistan	COMMITTEE 24,7% (37/150)	55,2% (37/67)
America ~ 20,5%	INTERROGATION 22,7% (34/150)	89,5% (34/38)
USA	DETAINEE 20,7% (31/150)	62,0% (31/50)
Washington	USA 16,0% (24/150)	7,2% (24/334)
America	CIA TORTURE 15,3% (23/150)	79,3% (23/29)
Spying	CONGRESS 13,3% (20/150)	40,8% (20/49)
NSA	WAR 12,7% (19/150)	7,9% (19/239)
GAZA ~ 17,9%		
War		
UK ~ 15,4%		
Journalist		
Terror		

The “Africa” cluster is one of the most central 2014 clusters, but it is of only medium density, implying “everyone talks about it”, but it lacks a solid structure. Indeed, there is only one strong in-tie, which is between the key words “Sierra Leon” et “Ebola”, and only two triangular in-ties.

Figure 10. Key word structure of the 2014 “Africa” cluster

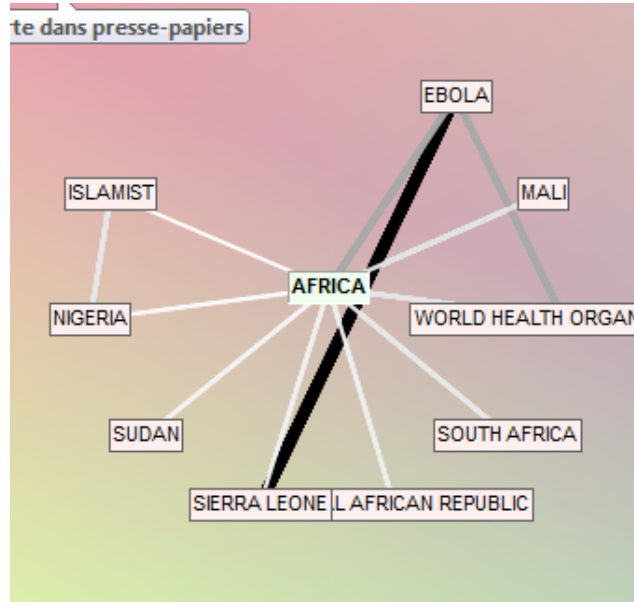


Table 4. External ties & internal ties of “Africa” cluster’s key words

EXTERNAL TIES (out-ties)	INTERNAL TIES (in-ties)	
Gaza ~ 41,7%	AFRICA	100,0% (79/79) 55,6% (79/142)
Boko Haram	EBOLA	36,7% (29/79) 43,9% (29/66)
UN	NIGERIA	17,7% (14/79) 26,4% (14/53)
CIA ~ 25,0%	BOKO HARAM	15,2% (12/79) 10,2% (12/118)
Obama	CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC	13,9% (11/79) 35,5% (11/31)
	ISLAMIST	11,4% (9/79) 13,2% (9/68)
	MALI	11,4% (9/79) 47,4% (9/19)
	OBAMA	11,4% (9/79) 1,0% (9/940)
	UN	10,1% (8/79) 3,1% (8/261)

The “Pakistan” cluster is situated at the origin of the Strategic Diagram, which means it is of medium centrality and medium density compared to the other 2014 clusters.

Figure 11. Key word structure of the 2014 “Pakistan” cluster

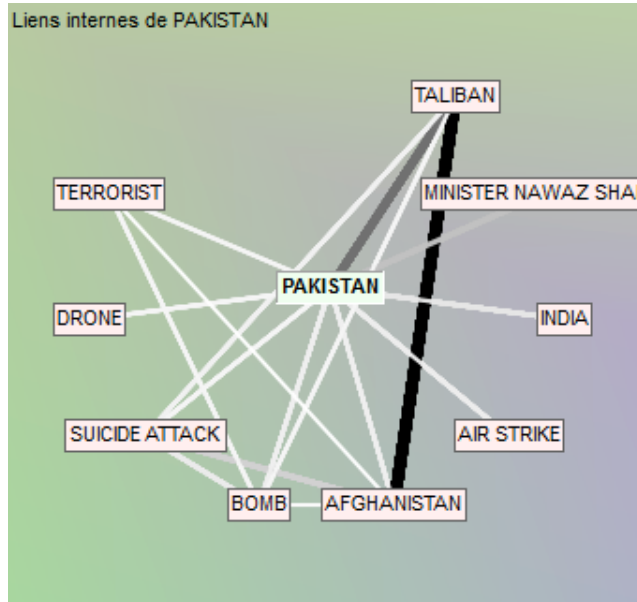


Table 5. External ties & internal ties of “Pakistan” cluster’s key words

EXTERNAL TIES (out-ties)	INTERNAL TIES (in-ties)		
	PAKISTAN	100,0% (166/166)	76,9% (166/216)
SYRIA ~ 35,3%	TALIBAN	30,7% (51/166)	92,7% (51/55)
PEACE TALK	OBAMA	22,3% (37/166)	4,5% (37/817)
CHINA ~ 23,5%	POLICE	18,1% (30/166)	5,2% (30/574)
TIMES/	AFGHANISTAN	15,7% (26/166)	38,1% (26/72)
VOA/	INDIA	15,1% (25/166)	27,2% (25/92)
FOX/	BOMB	14,5% (24/166)	53,3% (24/45)
CIA ~ 20,6%	TERRORIST	10,2% (17/166)	39,5% (17/43)
OBAMA			
INTELLIGENCE			

Other Second, Third & Fourth Quadrant Clusters

Once we clearly leave the area of the main stream first quadrant, the significance of the clusters diminishes in an important manner as they are less central and/or less dense. In the case of the clusters “Ukraine” and “Ferguson”, situated side by side more or less in the middle of the ivory tower second quadrant, they are much less central – have less external ties – than all the clusters further to the right, an indication that these two theaters of intense conflict are nonetheless relatively isolated in the universe of 2014 international conflicts.

Figure 12. Key word structure of the 2014 “Ukraine” cluster

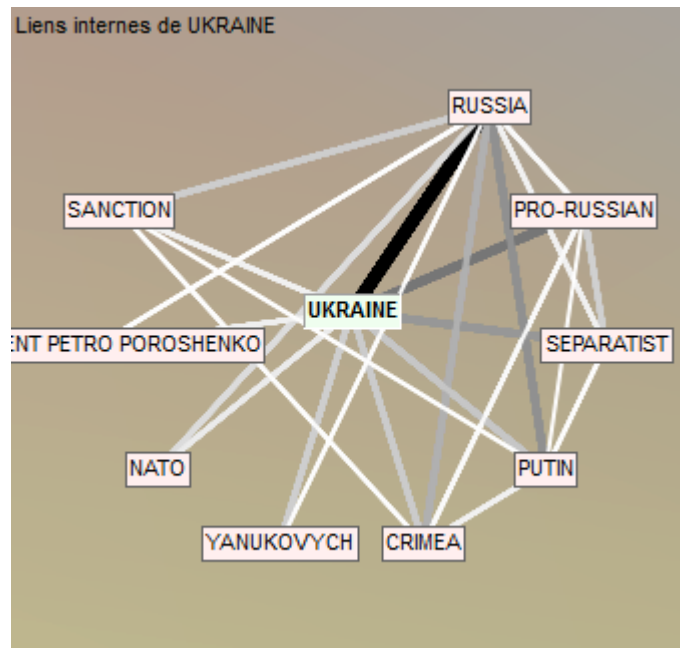
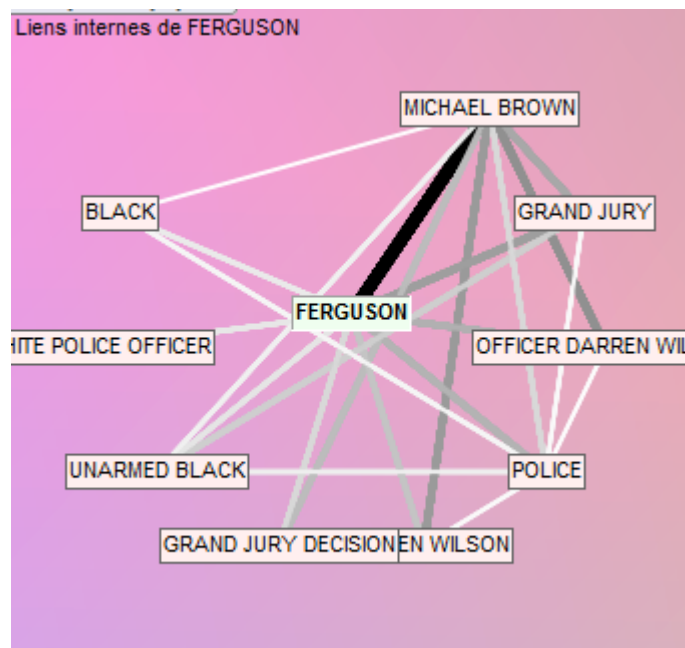


Figure 13. Key word structure of the 2014 “Ferguson” cluster



In the less central, less dense “unstructured” third quadrant, we find the clusters “America” and the “UK”.

Figure 14. Key word structure of the 2014 “America” cluster

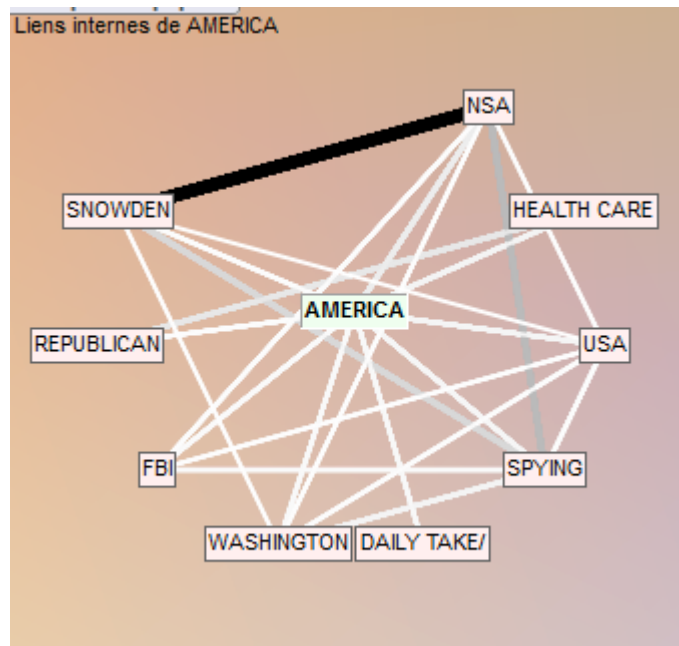
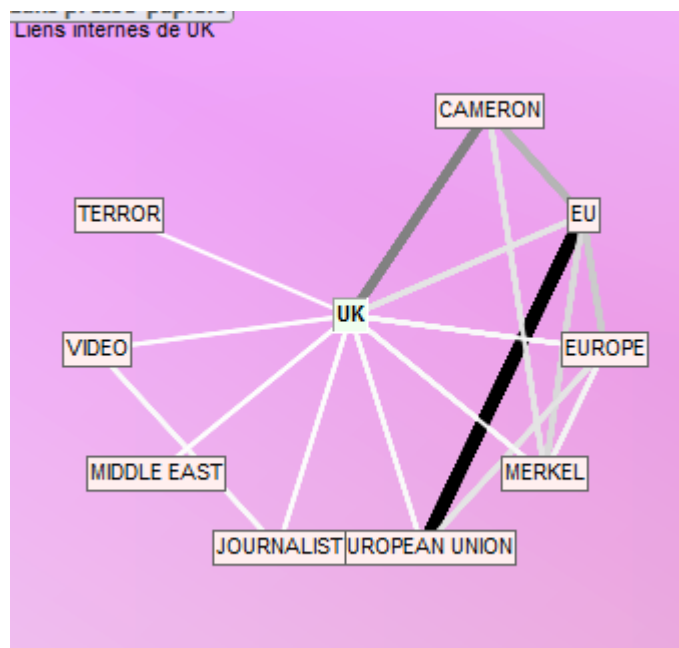


Figure 15. Key word structure of the 2014 “UK” cluster



In the most central but least dense “band wagon” fourth quadrant, we find the clusters “China” and the “France”.

Figure 16. Key word structure of the 2014 “China” cluster

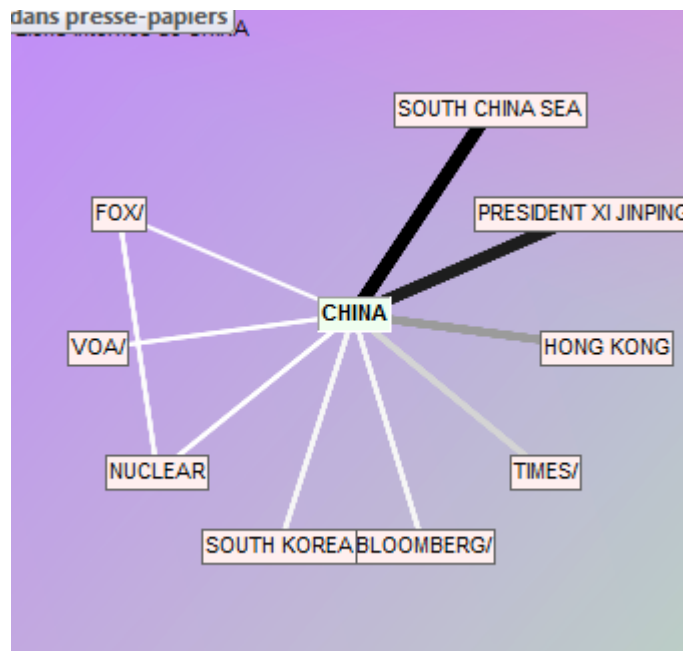
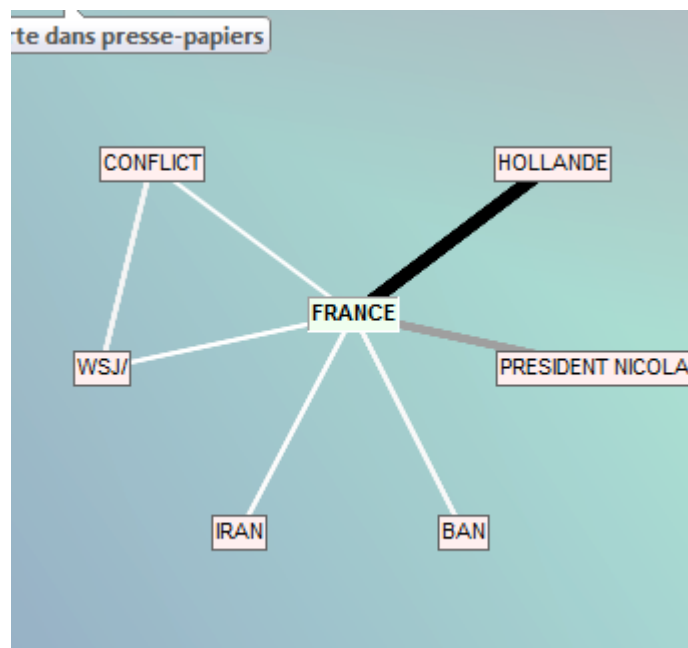


Figure 17. Key word structure of the 2014 “France” cluster



Gaza - Portrait of a Typical Israeli Military Campaign

In 2014, the number of monthly international media reports associated with the Gaza cluster, which means the persistent “Israel”/“Palestine” complex, are respectively: JAN 24X, FEB 14X, MAR 22X, APR 15X, MAY 14X, JUN 31X, JUL 93X, AUG 76X, SEP 36X, OCT 24X, NOV 24X, DEC 20X. The number and content of the January to May reports can be more-or-less considered typical or “standard” for this conflict, but that changes suddenly in June and reaches a climax in July and August with the 2014 Israeli invasion of Gaza, before returning to a more habitual situation in September, October, November and December. The “crux” of that June-August crisis and its development is clearly and relentlessly described by the chronology of selected press reports below.

The Gaza Cluster “Crux”

June (31X entries)

- 0601 BBC/ Israel PM warns against Hamas-Fatah “terror” cabinet
- 0602 Reu/ Abbas swears in Palestinian unity government shunned by Israel
- 0603 Israel Hayom/ Israel furious at US support for Palestinian unity government
- 0604 UN/ UN praises formation of Palestinian government [and therefore doesn’t listen to Israeli and American catastrophe predictions]
- 0605 ABC/ Israel Advances 1500 Settlement Homes
- 0606 NYT/ Israel Expands Settlements to Rebuke Palestinians
- 0609 Miami Herald/ Netanyahu seeks law to allow force-feeding of hunger strikers
- 0612 Haaretz/ East Jerusalem shuts down in solidarity with Palestinian hunger-strikers
- 0613 NYT/ 3 Israeli Teenagers Said to Be Kidnapped in West Bank
- 0613 Truthout/ Presbyterians Poised for Historic Vote against Israel’s Occupation of Palestine
- 0614 IPS/ Israel in Political Isolation over New Palestinian Government
- 0615 CNN/ Israeli PM Netanyahu says Hamas abducted 3 teenagers
- 0616 BBC/ Israel “expects Abbas’ help to find missing teenagers”
- 0616 Truthout/ Anti-Apartheid Archbishop Tutu Calls Presbyterians to Back Divestment from Israeli Occupation
- 0617 Huff Post/ Israel Missing Teens - Soldiers Arrest 41 More Palestinians in West Bank
- 0617 JP/ In response to kidnappings, Israel to stiffen conditions of Hamas prisoners
- 0619 NBC/ West Bank Clashes Erupt as Israel Hunts for Missing Teens
- 0621 Haaretz/ Prolonged Israeli operation risks violence with Palestinian citizens
- 0621 NYT/ Israeli Troops Kill Palestinian Teenager Protesting Arrests in the West Bank
- 0621 NYT/ Presbyterians Vote to Divest Holdings to Pressure Israel
- 0625 JP/ Majority of Palestinians now oppose two-state solution, new poll finds
- 0627 Zee News/ UN rights office questions Israeli crackdown amid teen hunt
- 0628 24news/ Over 400 arrested in West Bank kidnapping search
- 0629 Reu/ Rocket from Gaza sets factory ablaze in southern Israel
- 0630 ABC/ Israeli Army - 14 Rockets Fired From Gaza

July (93X entries)

- 0701 CNN/ As Israel mourns, prepares to bury three teens, leader warns “ Hamas will pay”

0701 NYT/ Israel's Search for 3 Teenagers Ends in Grief

0702 WP/ Israeli military clash with Palestinians after body of Arab teenager found

0703 Huff Post/ Israel Moves Troops toward Gaza as Tensions Soar (NYT/ Trading Fire with Militants, Israeli Troops Mass at Gaza)

0703 NYT/ Arab Boy's Death Escalates Clash over Abductions [Israel now has death squads just like authoritarian Third World countries]

0704 Gulfnews/ Palestinian fury at Israel erupts during funeral

0705 Fox/ Autopsy shows Palestinian teen was burned to death as violence spreads

0706 NYT/ Autopsy Suggests Palestinian Teenager Was Burned to Death after Abduction [Israel descends into death squads and barberry]

0706 Time/ Israel Arrests 6 Suspects in Kidnap and Murder of Palestinian Teen

0707 NYT/ 6 Israelis Held Over the Killing of Palestinian

0707 USA Today/ Israeli air strikes kill Hamas militants

0708 LAT/ More than 100 rockets hit Israel as its forces strike back at Gaza (CBC/ Israeli offensive against Hamas in Gaza kills 10, Palestinians say) [who besides right-wing Israeli think that another military campaign will solve the problem instead of making it worse]

0709 CNN/ Rockets and missiles fly; Israel prepares for possible Gaza ground operation (Haaretz/ Missing - A responsible power to broker Israel-Hamas cease-fire)

0709 NYT/ Israel and Hamas Trade Attacks as Tension Rises

0709 NYT/ Israel Warns Gaza Targets by Phone and Leaflet ["Dear resident, your home is about to be destroyed"]

0710 LAT/ Israel, Hamas exchange fire for third day as Gaza death toll climbs

0710 NYT/ Israeli Leader Vows to Intensify Gaza Attacks on Hamas

0711 Jewish Journal of Greater LA/ UN rights boss doubts legality of Israel's Gaza offensive

0711 Just Foreign Policy/ Thousands Gather for NYC Protest for Palestine [will NYC Jews join in]

0711 NYT/ Israeli Leader Says He Feels No Pressure to Quit Bombing Gaza (JP/ Liberman says Israel must "go all the way and eradicate Hamas regime in Gaza"; G&M/ Gaza death toll tops 100 as Netanyahu vows to press on)

0711 NYT/ Killing of Palestinian Youth Puts an Israeli Focus on Extremism [successive Israeli government have been right-wing to the point of being anti-Arab racists so all Israelis have learned from that]

0711 Today's Zaman/ Turkey rebukes Israel, warns not to launch land operation in Gaza

0711 Truthout/ Netanyahu's War - What It Is Good For

0712 Fox/ UN calls for Israeli-Palestinian cease-fire

0713 Electronic Intifada/ ABC News Tells Viewers That Scenes of Destruction in Gaza Are in Israel

0713 NYT/ No Support for Cease-Fire Seen Among Israel's Leaders or Palestinian Militants

0713 VOA/ Israel Makes First Ground Incursion in Gaza

0714 Haaretz/ Israel - Police - Suspects planned Palestinian teen's death in advance

0714 Vox/ Netanyahu - This is why Israel can never unilaterally withdraw from the West Bank

0715 Fox/ Israel resumes air strikes on Gaza after Hamas rejects cease-fire proposal

0715 Fox/ Senate panel votes for defense bill that doubles money for Israel's Iron Dome

0715 NYT/ A Focused Hunt for a Victim to Avenge Israelis' Deaths

0715 NYT/ Egypt Presents Proposal to Israel and Hamas for a Cease-Fire in Air Attacks

0715 ProPublica/ US Taxpayers Are Subsidizing Defense [by controversial Honenu] of Alleged Killers of Palestinian Teen

0715 Truthout/ In Our Collective Name [Israel exterminating Gazans], David Theo Goldberg

0716 WSJ/ Israeli Ground Offensive in Gaza Increasingly Likely, Official Warns

0717 Consortium/ The Periodic Slaughter of Palestinians

0717 Reu/ Israel orders ground offensive in Gaza; heavy shelling on border

0717 UN/ Temporary cease-fire held in Israeli, Palestinian areas

0718 Calgary Herald/ Turkish PM accuses Israel of terrorism, genocide; protesters pelt consulate

0718 NYT/ Israeli Military Invades Gaza, With Sights Set on Hamas Operations

0718 NYT/ Netanyahu Warns of Wider Israel Operation in Gaza

0719 Bloomberg/ Israel Army Foil Cross-Border Raid as Gaza Deaths Rise Past 340

0719 Chron.com/ Turkey - Erdogan says Israel more barbaric than Hitler

0719 Foreign Policy in Focus/ "Mowing the Lawn" in Gaza

0719 IPS/ Why No Vetoed Resolutions on Civilian Killings in Gaza

0719 JP/ Israel says Gaza has used up or lost half its rockets

0719 NYT/ A Push into Gaza, but the Ground Has Shifted

0719 NYT/ Hamas Fighters Slip Through Tunnels, Killing 2 Israeli Troops

0720 Haaretz/ Kerry slams Gaza incursion - "It's a hell of a pinpoint operation"

0720 History News Network/ Israel's Groundhog Day - Reverse Snowballs and the Horror of "Lawn-Mowing", Juan Cole

0720 LAT/ Dozens of civilians, 13 Israeli soldiers killed in Gaza fighting

0720 NYT/ Despite Israeli Push in Gaza, Hamas Fighters Slip Through Tunnels

0721 NYT/ Israel - Neighborhood Ravaged on Deadliest Day So Far for Both Sides in Gaza

0721 WP/ Palestinian death toll rises in Gaza fighting; Israel thwarts infiltration attempts

0722 NYT/ Israel Confirms One Soldier Is Missing in Gaza

0722 NYT/ To Talk With Hamas, US Needs Help from a Testy Trio of Nations

0723 NYT/ Hamas Gambled on War as Its Woes Grew in Gaza [having entered a joint Palestinian government with Fatah, other less pro-Israel analyst than the NYT would say Hamas was doing well and causing political trouble for Israel and it's only ally, the US]

0724 Firstpost/ India's pro-Gaza UNHRC vote leaves foreign policy hawks howling in protest [Israel loses one of its last allies]

0724 Fox/ Hamas resists Kerry's attempts at Gaza cease-fire deal [the US is in a very poor position to broker a deal since it is the only nation in the world not criticizing the Israeli invasion of Gaza]

0724 NYT/ Civilians as Human Shields? Gaza War Intensifies Debate

0724 Truthout/ In Gaza-Israel Coverage, The "New York Times" Purveys Pro-War Propaganda on Page One

0724 UN/ Rights Council to investigate Gaza violations; UN school hit by shells

- 0725 BBC/ Israel - Gaza UN shelter shelled, "killing 15"
- 0726 New York Magazine/ It Turns Out Hamas Didn't Kidnap and Kill the 3 Israeli Teens After All
- 0726 NYDN/ Israel - At least 18 Palestinian family members, including 10 children, killed in Israeli tank attack
- 0726 RT/ Human rights ad listing dead Gaza children barred from Israeli radio (NYT/ Opinion - To Save Gaza, Destroy Hamas [Hamas, which has won the only internationally recognized democratic vote ever in Gaza])
- 0727 LAT/ Violence resumes in Gaza; Hamas calls for new truce (BBC/ Hamas announces new 24-hour Gaza ceasefire with Israel; JP/ Netanyahu - Future funds to rebuild Gaza must be linked to its demilitarization; Daily Mail/ Israel extends truce for another 24 hours despite Hamas refusal to stop rockets).
- 0727 NYT/ Israel Extends Cease-Fire in Gaza, a UN Request Rejected by Hamas
- 0727 Speakout/ Leading doctors and scientists in the Lancet sign an open letter condemning the Israeli military assault on Gaza
- 0728 NYT/ Israel Says Its Forces Did Not Kill Palestinians Sheltering at UN School [just like several years ago in a UN shelter in southern Lebanon, it's never Israel's fault]
- 0729 Reu/ Gaza's sole power plant knocked out by Israeli strike (WSJ/ Israel Hits Hamas Infrastructure in Gaza; WP/ Israel steps up bombardment of Gaza; Netanyahu warns of long conflict; JP/ Belgium pushes for labeling products from West Bank settlements; Haaretz/ Opinion)
- 0729 UN/ UN workers reportedly among dead in Gaza
- 0730 BBC/ UN Informed Israel 17 Times About Civilians in Gaza School Shelter Before Attack Which Killed at Least 15 Palestinians
- 0730 Truthout/ Soft Edges, Hard Core - A Media Tilt to Israel in Gaza ["New York Times"]
- 0730 WSJ/ Israel Bombards Hamas Symbols, Power Plant in Gaza
- 0731 JP/ Netanyahu - Israel won't agree to a truce that doesn't allow IDF to destroy all Gaza tunnels [as if new tunnels couldn't be dug immediately] (Gulf News/ UN official Chris Gunness sobs on live TV over deaths of Palestinian children; CBS/ Netanyahu)
- 0731 Middle East Eye/ 16000 reserves called up in Israel as US provides more arms for Gaza offensive
- 0731 NYT/ Israeli Shells Are Said to Hit a UN School
- 0731 Other Words/ Violating International Law in Gaza
- 0731 UN/ UN's Pillay seeks "accountability" in Gaza violence

August (76X entries)

- 0801 Haaretz/ Goldin in captivity - Third act of Gaza op begins
- 0801 NYT/ Cease-Fire in Gaza Conflict Takes Effect as Talks Are Set
- 0801 Saudi Gazette/ King - World silence on Israeli "war crimes" is inexcusable
- 0801 UN/ Latest cease-fire in Gaza fails
- 0802 NYT/ Gaza Fighting Intensifies as Cease-Fire Falls Apart
- 0802 NYT/ In Tunnel War, Israeli Playbook Offers Few Ideas [you should note the NYT's use of the term "gunfighters" instead of "terrorists" or "militants" for Hamas soldiers]
- 0802 USA Today/ Israel bombards Gaza as it searches for soldier

- 0802 Waging Nonviolence/ "If Not Now, When?" Jewish-American Peace Activists Organize to Oppose War on Gaza
- 0803 Mediaite/ Israel Spied on John Kerry during Last Year's Peace Talks [could this be German intelligence showing the NSA that others can eavesdrop and cause difficulty for the US]
- 0803 NYT/ Missing Soldier Killed in Battle, Israel Confirms
- 0803 Time/ US Condemns Gaza School Attack as Israel Says "Battle Is Ongoing"
- 0804 Electronic Intifada/ Israel Uses Palestinians as Human Shields but US Lawmakers Condemn Hamas
- 0804 NYT/ Airstrike near UN School - Kills 10 as Israel Shifts Troops in Gaza
- 0804 NYT/ Questions of Weapons and Warnings in Past Barrage on a Gaza Shelter [poor old "New York Times" just can't get it up to condemn Israel for killing kids]
- 0804 Telegraph/ Israel-Gaza conflict - A child and at least 29 were injured after a [Israeli] strike on Shati refugee camp
- 0804 UN/ Ban - Sunday's shelling of UN school is "a criminal act"
- 0805 Democracy Now/ Likely Solution for a Lasting Cease-Fire Was on the Table before Israeli Assault and More Than 1,800 Dead
- 0805 James M. Dorsey/ Gaza War - New Palestinian Resolve Changes Paradigm
- 0805 NYT/ Israel Says It Will Withdraw All Ground Forces from Gaza
- 0805 NYT/ US Diplomacy on Gaza Has Little Sway on Israel
- 0805 UN/ Truce begins in Gaza - A 72-hour truce between Israel and Palestinian groups went into effect this morning.
- 0805 UN/ UNRWA "adamant" about Gaza neutrality
- 0806 Bloomberg/ Israel Says Tunnel Mission Complete as Cease-Fire Starts
- 0806 NYT/ Israel Exits Gaza as Truce Begins
- 0806 Truthout/ Black Caucus - #StandWithKeith to End Gaza Blockade
- 0807 Buzz Flash/ Former Israeli Prime Minister [Yitzhak Shamir] Committed Assassinations and Massacres - Wasn't He a Terrorist [many, if not most, Israeli high officials have been directly involved in assassination operations, see Vincent-Manour Montiel's "Dossier secret sur Israël - Le terrorisme"]
- 0807 Democracy Now/ As Palestinians Go to ICC, Human Rights Watch Alleges Israeli War Crimes for Shooting Fleeing Gazans
- 0808 Electronic Intifada/ US Senator Filibusters Live Coverage of Powerful Palestinian Testimonies
- 0808 Haaretz/ Foreign press - Hamas didn't censor us in Gaza, they were nowhere to be found (WP/ Hamas could have chosen peace. Instead, it made Gaza suffer; Fox/ Hamas backers spend fortunes on rockets and tunnels while Gazans live in misery)
- 0808 Nation Books/ The Massacre of Civilians in Gaza Is Deja Vu All Over Again, Max Blumenthal
- 0808 NYT/ Israeli ["Hannibal"] Procedure Reignites Old Debate
- 0808 Truthout/ The War over the War - Israel, Gaza and American Protest [Israel has lost its last ally - the US]
- 0808 UN/ Fighting returns to Gaza as cease-fire expires
- 0809 Haretz/ IDF resumes Gaza airstrikes, five killed
- 0810 Renseignor-Radio Iran (0805)/ In Israel, a military officer has been arrested for threatening on Facebook to reveal secrets concerning the Israel attack on Gaza
- 0810 USA Today/ Palestinians to quit Gaza talks if Israel no-show
- 0811 UN/ Newest cease-fire in Gaza appears to be holding

0811 USA Today/ Israelis' quandary - How to aid Gazans but not Hamas [when Hamas is the winner of the last democratic election in Gaza]

0812 UN/ Gaza truce holds; UN names panel of inquiry

0814 NYT/ Rocket Fire Casts Doubt on Truce in Gaza

0815 JTA/ Ban Ki-moon meets with Jewish leaders [who didn't like criticism about shelling a UN school]

0816 NYT/ Resisting Nazis, He Saw Need for Israel. Now He Is Its Critic

0819 Ind/ Israel Bars Amnesty International and Human Rights Watch from Entering Gaza, Hindering Investigations

0819 Reu/ Gaza truce collapses, fighting erupts, Israel orders negotiators home

0820 BBC/ Gaza conflict - Israel "targets Hamas leader Deif"

0821 Kuwait News Agency/ Israel expands onslaught on Gaza as Al-Qassam missiles hit Tel Aviv

0821 NYT/ After Strike on Family, Fate of Hamas Commander Is Unknown

0821 UN/ Israel kills Hamas leaders in airstrike on house

0822 Irish Times/ Israel PM - Hamas will pay "heavy price" after boy (4) killed by rockets (Reu/ Palestinians watch as Hamas militants execute Palestinians suspected of collaborating with Israel in Gaza City today; NBC/ Gaza Mortar Strike Kills Israeli Boy, 4).

0822 NYT/ Israel Kills 3 Top Hamas Leaders as Latest Fighting Turns Its Way

0823 CNN/ Hamas urges Palestinian leadership to seek ICC justice

0825 Marjorie Cohn's Blog/ National Lawyers Guild, Other Legal Organizations Urge International Criminal Court to Investigate War Crimes by Israeli, US Leaders in Gaza

0825 WP/Israel strikes kill 2 in Gaza; official's home hit

0826 Time/ Israel Destroys 2 Gaza High-Rises in Escalation

0826 UN/ Officials - Israelis, Palestinians agree to Gaza cease-fire

0827 NYT/ Cease-Fire Extended, but Not on Hamas's Terms

0827 USA Today/ Gaza cease-fire holds as sides weigh gains

0828 CTV/ Poll - Many Israelis skeptical of Netanyahu's claim of victory in Gaza war

0828 NYT/ As Truce Holds, Dazed Gazans Get to Work

0829 NYT/ With Gaza War, Movement to Boycott Israel Gains Momentum in Europe [it's also gaining momentum in the US, but the NYT doesn't want to talk about it]

Syria - From Civil War to Regional War

The number of monthly media reports associated with the Syria cluster and having to do directly with that ongoing military conflict are respectively: JAN 35X, FEB 21X, MAR 12X, APR 8X, MAY 11X, JUN 33X (5X Syria, 28X Iraq & ISIS), JUL 11X (Syria, Iraq & ISIS), AUG 38X, SEP 42X, OCT 39X, NOV 21X, DEC 16X. From January to May, there are very few reports concerning Iraq instead of only Syria. In June, with the ISIS offensive, it was no longer possible to separate reports between Syria, Iraq and the Islamic State of Iraq and Greater Syria (ISIS).

During January, it was a bloody war between the Assad regime and Qaida-linked rebels, with suggestions of cease-fires, negotiations and the role Iran. During February, the war continued and a new arrival on the scene, the Islamic State of Iraq and Greater Syria, quickly disavowed by Qaida-Linked rebels. In March, again the war continued but with less intensity and the "UN reports mass executions by ISIS". April and May, it was more of the same, but little or no ISIS news.

Then, suddenly, in early June, the ISIS overran Mosul, the second-biggest city in Iraq in a surprise assault as the Iraqi army folded and an international anti-ISIS coalitions started forming. It was no longer possible to separate or isolate events in Syria from those in Iraq. The civil war in Syria continued, but was completely overshadowed by the international war against the ISIS. In July, despite the major ISIS offensive, there is a noticeable "summer break" in international media reports concerning the Middle East war.

In August, ISIS exactions on the civilian populations of Syria and Iraq became widely known, causing the beginning of massive movements of people (200,000) fleeing the ISIS in September as an organized air attack campaign was organized and led by the US. In October, Kurd and Iraqi troops make their first significant gains against the ISIS, as the US and its allies continued their air campaign against the ISIS. This continued into November and December, but with decreasing intensity as judged by international media reports.

The Syria Cluster "Crux"

June (33X entries, of which 5X for Syria, and 28X for Iraq & ISIS)

0603 UN/ Syrians head to the polls for presidential election

0605 UN/ Assad named winner of Syria election

0609 Times/ Syria - Assad offers to free his jailed rivals

(0610 NYT/ Militants Seize Second-Biggest City in Iraq in Surprise Assault)

(0611 BBC/ Battle for Mosul - Critical test ahead for Iraq)

(0611 NYT/ Sunni Militants Drive Iraqi Army Out of Mosul)

(0612 Miami Herald/ Iraq - Militias become Iraq's only defense against ISIS advance)

(0612 NYT/ Sunni Fighters Gain as They Battle 2 Governments, and Other Rebels)

(0612 UN/ Security Council holds closed session on Iraq today)

(0612 UN/ Sunni insurgents head toward Baghdad as Kurds take over Kirkuk)

(0613 CNN/ Iran sends forces to Iraq as ISIS militants press forward, official says)

(0613 NYT/ Iraqis Who Fled Mosul Say They Prefer Militants to Government [so it's a sectarian civil war])

(0613 Tracterrorism.org/ TRAC Briefing - Was ISIS Siege of Mosul an Insider Bank Heist)

(0613 UN/ UN - Insurgents in Iraq have killed hundreds this week)

0615 Reu/ Syrian government pushes into border town in Assad coastal heartland
 (0616 NYT/ Militants Claim Mass Execution of Iraqi Forces)
 (0617 CNN/ Iraq - ISIS advances on Baquba as US moves firepower to region)
 (0617 NYT/ US Is Exploring Talks with Iran on Crisis in Iraq)
 (0617 UN/ Iraq's Maliki focused on war, not support of Kurds, Sunnis)
 (0617 UN/ Sectarian violence rages in Iraq as US, Iran consider action)
 (0618 UN/ Insurgents clash with Iraqi troops for control of oil refinery)
 (0619 NYT/ Uneasy Alliance Gives Insurgents an Edge in Iraq)
 (0619 UN/ Battle over Iraq refinery heads into second day)
 (0621 NYT/ Iraq's Hold on Border Crossings Weakening as at Least 34 Are Killed in Battle)
 (0622 NYT/ Sunnis in Iraq Make Some Gains in Fighting in the North and West)
 (0623 CNN/ John Kerry holds talks in Iraq as more cities fall to ISIS militants)
 (0623 UN/ Iraq insurgents capture towns, border posts)
 0623 UN/ Syria completes chemical-weapons shipments
 (0624 Fox/ Shiite villagers describe ISIS "massacre" in northern Iraq)
 (0624 International Business Times/ Iraq Isis Crisis - Judge Who Sentenced Saddam Hussein to Death Executed by ISIS)
 (0629 Daily Beast/ Iraq - The Paper Tiger of the Tigris - How ISIS Took Tikrit without a Fight)
 (0629 Fox/ Iraqi forces reportedly pull back from Tikrit amid fierce fighting with ISIS militants)
 (0630 G&M/ Iraq - ISIS stakes claim to caliphate as Baghdad battles for Tikrit)

July (11X entries, Syria, Iraq & ISIS)

0703 Reu/ Fresh gains and new enemies for Islamic State in Syria
 0703 UN/ Islamic State captures Syrian oilfield, towns from rivals
 (0705 Xinhua/ "Islamic State" top leader makes first public appearance in Iraq in on-line video)
 (0713 NYT/ US and Iraqis Try to Fragment Extremist Group)
 0713 Renseignor-Radio Vatican (0709)/ 100 Americans under investigation and suspected of cooperating with extremist organisations in Syria and Iraq
 (0719 CNN/ Facing fines, conversion or death, Christian families flee Mosul)
 0719 VOA/ "Islamic State" Kills 270 in Syria Gas Field Takeover
 (0724 Think Progress/ No, ISIS Isn't Ordering Female Genital Mutilation in Iraq)
 (0727 Daily Star/ Shiite militia display jihadist bodies in Iraq city)
 0727 Gulf News/ Isis seizes Syrian army position in Hasakeh
 0729 The Australian/ Warrants issued for Aussie jihadists Mohamed Elomar and Khaled Sharrouf

August (38X entries)

08010 Reu/ Iraq Says the Islamic State Killed 500 Yazidis, Buried Some Victims Alive
 0804 Dawn/ Militants seize Iraqi towns, dam in victory over Kurds
 0804 NYT/ Sunni Extremists in Iraq Seize 3 Towns from Kurds and Threaten Major Dam
 0807 UN/ Thousands reportedly flee as militants overrun Iraq towns

0808 ABC/ US Carries Out More Airstrikes against ISIS in Iraq

0808 NYT/ Obama Allows Limited Airstrikes on ISIS

0810 Economic Times/ Report - Militants abandoning al-Qaida to join Islamic State [the "Next Big Thing" in fashionable extremism]

0810 Financial Express/ US airdrops food to civilians stranded on mountain in Iraq

0810 Zee News/ As US drones pound ISIS targets, President Barack Obama sets out on summer vacation

0811 Daily Mail/ Islamic militants crucify two and execute 23 in brutal crushing of rebellion in Syria

0811 Huff Post/ Former Deputy CIA Director Disagrees With Hillary Clinton on Syria

0811 UN/ Maliki rejects nomination of Al-Abadi for prime minister

0812 UN/ Syria drops barrel bombs, while Islamic State puts down village uprisings

0813 UN/ Syria Kurds rescue Yazidi refugees; Maliki says only court can oust him

0815 Fox/ ISIS massacres 80 Yazidis in northern Iraq town, say Iraqi officials

0816 Reu/ Officials - Islamic State "massacres" 80 Yazidis in north Iraq

0817 Fox/ US airstrikes helping Kurdish, Iraqi forces retake Mosul dam from Islamic State

0818 Chron.com/ Reports - Islamic State group kills Syria tribesmen

0818 NYT/ Kurds Move to Retake Dam as US Bombs Weaken ISIS

0818 VOA/ Iraq - US Expands Air Strikes near Mosul Dam

0819 Time/ Iraq - US Continues Airstrikes near Iraq's Mosul Dam

0820 AP/ Obama, allies vow firm response to Islamic State

0820 Gua/ Islamic State militants seize four more foreign hostages in Syria

0820 NYT/ Militant Group Says It Killed American Journalist in Syria

0820 Reu/ France seeks international meeting to tackle Islamic State

0821 CSM/ Why did US refuse Islamic State ransom demand for James Foley

0824 BBC/ Syria conflict - Islamic State seizes Tabqa airbase

0824 WP/ US strikes in Syria against Islamic State would be hindered by intelligence gaps

0825 Fox/ Joint Chiefs chairman says ISIS not a direct threat to US, won't recommend Syria strikes yet

0825 NYT/ US Writer Held by Al Qaida Affiliate in Syria Is Freed after Nearly 2 Years

0827 NYT/ American Fighting for ISIS Is Killed in Syria

0827 Truthout/ Let's Treat Assad Fairly - Like Any Other Pro-West Dictator in the Middle East

0828 NYT/ Military Skill and Terrorist Technique Fuel Success of ISIS

0829 NYT/ ISIS Said to Kill 150 Syrian Captives in 2 Days, Videotaping the Horror

0829 NYT/ US Identifies Citizens Joining Rebels in Syria, Including ISIS

0830 NYT/ Iraqi Kurds Expand Autonomy as ISIS Reorders the Landscape

0830 Telegraph/ Coalition talks over increased measures against extremists

0831 USA Today/ Iraqi forces break militant siege after US airstrikes

2014 Clusters Compared to “Yearbook Tops” & ADI “Tops”

In this study, 2014 data has been summarized in the 2014 Strategic Diagram above with its main stream, ivory tower, unstructured and band wagon clusters. These results also give the most importance to the main stream “Gaza” and “Syria” clusters, and there are also the three “almost main stream” clusters “CIA” (Torture), “Africa” (Ebola and Nigeria-Islamists) and “Pakistan” (Afghanistan and Terrorism). The two ivory tower clusters are “Ukraine” and “Ferguson” (Police Kill Michael Brown). The two unstructured clusters are “UK” (Cameron and European Union) and “America” (NSA and Snowden). The two band wagon clusters are “China” (South China Sea) and “France” (Hollande). These are topics that our co-occurrence of key word analysis defines as “important”, but this form of “importance” is based on the formal calculation of ties between words in this particular corpus of 2014 international media reports on major conflicts. It is important to compare these results with those of other forms of analysis of major events or developments that are often published at the end of each year by several major organizations such as the United Nations, the European Union, the CIA and many media organizations, results that are often called the “Tops” of the year. In previous studies concerning other years, we have compared certain of these “Yearbook Tops”, and for 2014 we decided to look at and compare our results with the “Yearbook Tops” of *Le Courrier du Vietnam* (<http://lecourrier.vn/les-dix-evenements-les-plus-marquants-du-monde-en-2014/131626.html>) and those of the Web site *Wikipedia* (<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2014>).

For *Le Courrier du Vietnam*, the “10 Most Significant Developments of 2014” were (translated from the French by the author):

1. China multiplies its actions that threaten regional security
2. The crisis in Ukraine
3. Cuba and the United States decide to normalize bilateral relations
4. The rise of the extremist group “Islamic State”
5. Dramatic fall in world crude oil prices
6. The Ebola epidemic in West Africa
7. Air and Marine Catastrophes of the World MH370, MH17, GE222, AH5017, AirAsia, “Sewol”, Italian Ferry
8. The 20th UN Climate Conference (COP-20) reaches an agreement
9. Bloody Conflict in the Gaza Strip (Israel attacks Gaza for 50 days, 2,100 dead)
10. The probe Rosetta drops a robot on the comet Churyumov-Gerasimenko

For *Wikipedia*, the most important events of 2014 were the following, listed by month and by day (asterisks indicate association with topics in *Le Courrier du Vietnam* list above).

January

January 1 – Latvia officially adopts the euro as its currency and becomes the 18th member of the Eurozone.

February

*February – The Ebola virus epidemic in West Africa begins, infecting over 28,000 people and killing at least 11,000 people, the most severe both in terms of numbers of infections and casualties.

February 7-23 – The XXII Olympic Winter Games are held in Sochi, Russia.

February 13 – Belgium becomes the first country in the world to legalize euthanasia for terminally ill patients of any age.

*February 22 – The Ukrainian parliament votes to remove President Viktor Yanukovich from office, replacing him with Oleksandr Turchynov, after days of civil unrest left around 100 people dead in Kiev, Ukraine.

*February 26 – The pro-Russian unrest in Ukraine leads to the annexation of Crimea by the Russian Federation and an insurgency in the Donetsk and Luhansk oblasts.

March

March 5 – Nicolás Maduro, the President of Venezuela, severs diplomatic and political ties with Panama, accusing Panama of being involved in a conspiracy against the Venezuelan government.

*March 8 – Malaysia Airlines Flight 370, a Boeing 777 airliner en route to Beijing from Kuala Lumpur, disappears over the Gulf of Thailand with 239 people on board. The aircraft is presumed to have crashed into the Indian Ocean.

*March 16 – A referendum on the status of Crimea is held.

*March 21 – Russia formally annexes Crimea after President Vladimir Putin signed a bill finalizing the annexation process.

*March 24 – During an emergency meeting, the United Kingdom, the United States, Italy, Germany, France, Japan, and Canada temporarily suspend Russia from the G8.

*March 27 – The United Nations General Assembly passes Resolution 68/262, recognizing Crimea within Ukraine's international borders and rejecting the validity of the 2014 Crimean referendum.

March 31 – The United Nations International Court of Justice rules that Japan's Antarctic whaling program is not scientific but commercial and forbids grants of further permits.

April

*April 7 – The Donetsk People's Republic declares its independence from Ukraine.

*April 10 – In response to the 2014 Crimean crisis, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) passes a resolution to temporarily strip Russia of its voting rights; its rights to be represented in the Bureau of the Assembly, the PACE Presidential Committee, and the PACE Standing Committee; and its right to participate in election-observation missions.

*April 14 – An estimated 276 girls and women are abducted and held hostage from a school in Nigeria.

*April 16 – Korean ferry MV Sewol capsizes and sinks after an unmanageable cargo shift, killing 304 people, mostly high school students.

April 27 – The Catholic Church simultaneously canonizes Popes John XXIII and John Paul II.

*April 28 – United States President Barack Obama's new economic sanctions against Russia go into effect, targeting companies and individuals close to Russian President Vladimir Putin.

May

May 5 – The World Health Organization identifies the spread of poliomyelitis in at least 10 countries as a major worldwide health emergency.

*Boko Haram militants kill approximately 300 people in a night attack on Gaboru Ngala.

*May 12 – The Luhansk People's Republic declares its independence from Ukraine.

May 22 – The Royal Thai Army overthrows the caretaker government of Niwatthamrong Boonsongpaisan after a failure to resolve the political unrest in Thailand.

*The Donetsk People's Republic and the Luhansk People's Republic declare the formation of Novorossiia, also referred to as the Union of People's Republics.

June

*June 5 (ongoing) – A Sunni militant group called the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (also known as the ISIS or ISIL) begins an offensive through northern Iraq, aiming to capture the Iraqi capital city of Baghdad and overthrow the Shiite government led by Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki.

June 12 – July 13 – The 2014 FIFA World Cup is held in Brazil, and is won by Germany.

June 19 – King Juan Carlos I of Spain abdicates in favor of his son, who ascends the Spanish throne as King Felipe VI.

*June 23 – The military intervention against ISIL begins.

*June 29 – The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant declares itself a caliphate.

July

*July 8-August 26 – Amid growing tensions between Israel and Hamas following the kidnapping and murder of three Israeli teenagers in June and the revenge killing of a Palestinian teenager in July, Israel launches Operation Protective Edge on the Palestinian Gaza Strip starting with numerous missile strikes, followed by a ground invasion a week later. In seven weeks of fighting, 2,100 Palestinians and 71 Israelis are killed.

*July 17 – After a five-hour humanitarian ceasefire, Israel confirms the beginning of a ground offensive in Gaza.

*Malaysia Airlines Flight 17, a Boeing 777, crashes in eastern Ukraine after being shot down by a missile. All 298 people on board are killed.

*July 21 – The United Nations Security Council adopts Resolution 2166 in response to the shoot down of Malaysia Airlines Flight 17.

*July 24 – Air Algérie Flight 5017 crashes in Mali, killing all 116 people on board.

August

August 7 – Khmer Rouge leaders Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan are found guilty of crimes against humanity and are sentenced to life imprisonment by the Khmer Rouge Tribunal.

*August 8 – The United States military begins an air campaign in northern Iraq to stem the influx of ISIS militants.

September

*September 22 – The United States and several Arab partners begin their airstrike campaign in Syria.

September 26 – The 2014 World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates, to be held in Cape Town from 13 to 15 October, is suspended after a boycott of Nobel Laureates to protest the third time refusal of a visa to the 14th Dalai Lama by a South African Government “kowtowing to China”.

October

October 19 – The Roman Catholic Church beatifies Pope Paul VI.

October 31 – Burkina Faso President Blaise Compaoré resigns after widespread protests in response to the attempt in abolishing presidential term limits.

November

*November 2 – The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) releases the final part of its Fifth Assessment Report, warning that the world faces “severe, pervasive and irreversible” damage from global emissions of CO₂.

*November 12 – The Rosetta spacecraft’s Philae probe successfully lands on Comet 67P, the first time in history that a spacecraft has landed on such an object.

December

*December 17 – US President Barack Obama announces the resumption of normal relations between the US and Cuba.

*December 28 – Indonesia AirAsia Flight 8501 from Surabaya, Indonesia to Singapore crashes into the Java Sea just southwest of Borneo, killing all 162 people on board.

Out of the 10 *Le Courrier de Vietnam* entries, there are only two that are not associated with *Wikipedia* entries:

1. China multiplies its actions that threaten regional security
5. Dramatic fall in world crude oil prices

Vice versa, there are only 14 *Wikipedia* entries out of a total of 44 that do not correspond to *Le Courrier du Vietnam* entries:

January 1 – Latvia officially adopts the euro as its currency and becomes the 18th member of the Eurozone.

February 7-23 – The XXII Olympic Winter Games are held in Sochi, Russia.

February 13 – Belgium becomes the first country in the world to legalize euthanasia for terminally ill patients of any age.

March 5 – Nicolás Maduro, the President of Venezuela, severs diplomatic and political ties with Panama, accusing Panama of being involved in a conspiracy against the Venezuelan government.

March 31 – The United Nations International Court of Justice rules that Japan’s Antarctic whaling program is not scientific but commercial and forbids grants of further permits.

- April 27 – The Catholic Church simultaneously canonizes Popes John XXIII and John Paul II.
- May 5 – The World Health Organization identifies the spread of poliomyelitis in at least 10 countries as a major worldwide health emergency.
- May 22 – The Royal Thai Army overthrows the caretaker government of Niwatthamrong Boonsongpaisan after a failure to resolve the political unrest in Thailand.
- June 12 – July 13 – The 2014 FIFA World Cup is held in Brazil, and is won by Germany.
- June 19 – King Juan Carlos I of Spain abdicates in favor of his son, who ascends the Spanish throne as King Felipe VI.
- August 7 – Khmer Rouge leaders Nuon Chea and Khieu Samphan are found guilty of crimes against humanity and are sentenced to life imprisonment by the Khmer Rouge Tribunal.
- September 26 – The 2014 World Summit of Nobel Peace Laureates, to be held in Cape Town from 13 to 15 October, is suspended after a boycott of Nobel Laureates to protest the third time refusal of a visa to the 14th Dalai Lama by a South African Government “kowtowing to China”.
- October 19 – The Roman Catholic Church beatifies Pope Paul VI.
- October 31 – Burkina Faso President Blaise Compaoré resigns after widespread protests in response to the attempt in abolishing presidential term limits.

For all of the above topics that do not appear in one or the other of the two “Yearbook Tops” lists, there is only one that appears as a topic of a 2014 cluster in our analyses and that is “China multiplies its actions that threaten regional security” mentioned by *Le Courrier du Vietnam*, which clearly corresponds to our “China” (South China Sea) band wagon cluster. So on this topic, our analysis and that of *Le Courrier du Vietnam* are in agreement, but not *Wikipedia*. On the other hand, none of the *Wikipedia* topics not mentioned by *Le Courrier du Vietnam* correspond to one of our clusters.

In the other direction, our most important main stream “Gaza” and “Syria” clusters are clearly associated with *Le Courrier du Vietnam* and *Wikipedia* topics. Among the three “almost main stream” clusters “CIA” (Torture), “Africa” (Ebola and Nigeria-Islamists) and “Pakistan” (Afghanistan and Terrorism), there is clear disagreement since only Africa (Ebola and Nigeria-Islamists) figures among *Courrier du Vietnam* and *Wikipedia* topics. It seems rather shocking that both sources seem to ignore the topics of “CIA” (Torture) and “Pakistan” (Afghanistan and Terrorism). There is similar disagreement with the two ivory tower clusters “Ukraine” and “Ferguson” (Police Kill Michael Brown) with the former cluster or topic being clearly designated by both sources as important. Our analysis considers both topics to be dense (numerous in-ties) but not central (few out-ties), but *Le Courrier du Vietnam* and *Wikipedia* consider the conflict in Ukraine to be much more central than the killing in Ferguson by the police of unarmed black man Michael Brown.

As for our two unstructured clusters, “UK” (Cameron and European Union) and “America” (NSA and Snowden), neither figures among the important topics of the two other sources. The two band wagon clusters, “China” (South China Sea) and “France” (Hollande), are treated differently with the former figuring as an important topic in the two other sources, while both drop the latter from consideration. Clearly there are indeed major differences between various “Yearbook Tops”, at least for the year 2014, although there seems to be agreement on a “core” of important topics.

In this current study, the corpus of 2014 data has been summarized by us in the 2014 Strategic Diagram with its main stream, ivory tower, unstructured and band wagon clusters presented above. Those results also give the most importance to the “Gaza” cluster and the “Syria” cluster, which corresponds well with the importance given these topics by *Le Courrier du Vietnam* and *Wikipedia*, and therefore can be considered the “core” of 2014 developments. But besides our structured results, the ADI has also organized what it considered the most significant 2014 entries by topic and by number of significant entries (see Annex – ADI’s Summary of Most Significant Developments by Topic, in <http://intelligenceadi.wordpress.com/> and <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/intelligence-secrecy-power-adi/>). These topics, with their descriptive key words, and ordered according to the number of significant entries, gives another and rather different perspective on the events of 2014 which is that of the ADI and its specialized interest in peacekeeping, security and intelligence. Indeed, “US Spooks” (American Security and Intelligence) comes first with 99X entries.

Here are, in order by number of significant entries (as considered by the ADI), the major topics, each with its list of key words describing the content of the associated media reports classified under that topic:

- US Spooks (99X) FBI against Ecologists but not against Jihadists, Indian Diplomat Dustup, Feds Take Part in Terror Plots, CIA Dirty Work, Very Low DHS Morale
- Israel/Palestine (85X) US Academic Boycotts, “Incitements” against Abbas, AIPAC Blocked, NATO Patrols, Attack Iran, Gaza Invasion, Gaza School Attack
- US Politics (77X) Obamacare & GOP, US Threat to World Peace, US Capital Punishment System, Detroit Water Cut-Off, Ultra Right-Wing, US-Cuba Ties
- US Cops (58X) Handcuffed 9-Year-Old Girl, FBI Forensic Errors (Again), Police Violence in Ferguson, Military on Main Street, Shoot A Reporter, Excessive Force, LAPD Kills One per Week, “Cop Watch” Legal
- Eastern Europe (46X) Ukraine Protests, Crimea & Eastern Ukraine Rebellion & Annexation
- Economics (45X) US Mortgage Crisis Fallout, Income Gap, 1% Blowback, Longevity Gap, 80 Percent US Adults Face Precarity
- NSA Scandal – Snowden (44X) NSA Surveillance Doesn’t Stop Terrorism, “We Kill People Based on Metadata”
- US Torture Policy (37X) CIA Misled Senate Inquiry, European Court on CIA “Torture”, UN Wants Torture Trial, Time for Accountability
- Middle East (29X) Syrian Civil War Goes Regional, ISIS, Mosul Lost, Allied Air Campaign against ISIS
- Western Europe (27X) Vatican Sex-Abuse Scandal, Cameron’s UK May Lose Scotland & Leave Europe
- Pakistan/Afghanistan (24X) 10-Year-Old Girl Kamikaze, Baby Charged, Pakistan as a Failed Jihadist State
- Tech (23X) 2.1Bn Obese, “Crime Genes”, Surrogates Babies, Anti-NSA Typewriting
- Africa (20X) Nigeria’s Boko Haram, South Africa’s Political Turmoil
- Environment (15X) Vermont GMO Law, Doing Something about Climate Change, Industrialized Farming
- Asia (13X) North Korea Stories, Hong Kong Protests, Virgin Indonesian Policewomen
- Latin America (12X) Protest in Venezuela, Cuban Twitter
- US Guns (11X) Mass Shootings, Critics Threatened or Silenced
- Pentagon (3X) Suicides, Missile Defense & Drunken General

Despite the specialized orientation of the ADI selection, one can easily identify the clusters that are associated with the major topics, except perhaps for US Spooks and for the more minor topics such as Economics, Tech, Environment, Asia (South China Sea missing here), Latin America, US Guns, and Pentagon, which also do not have equivalences in the lists of *Le Courrier du Vietnam* and *Wikipedia*. This again stresses that there are different ways of looking at the same material and that all can be criticized. However, we hope to have provided a formal system of analysis that more easily allows modification or adjustment according to acquired experience and further knowledge.

