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Levels of Interest of Arab Newspaper Websites in Arab-American Relations during Trump's Second Term: An Analytical Study

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ABSTRACT: This study aims to examine the levels of attention devoted by Arab newspaper websites to Arab–U.S. relations through a comparative content analysis of the websites of the Iraqi Azzaman, the Saudi Asharq Al-Awsat, and the Qatari Al-Sharq newspapers, covering the period from 1 May to 31 October 2025. The study is descriptive in nature and employs content analysis using a comprehensive census of all relevant journalistic materials published on the sampled websites. Guided by Agenda-Setting Theory, the study analyzed 619 journalistic items. The findings reveal that political relations received the highest level of attention across the three websites, followed by security and economic relations, whereas humanitarian, cultural, scientific, and technological relations received comparatively lower levels of attention. The results also indicate differences among the sampled websites in prioritizing the topics of Arab–U.S. relations, highlighting key actors and personalities, and relying on information sources. The study concludes that although the three websites shared a common emphasis on political relations, they differed in their prioritization of the remaining topics related to Arab–U.S. relations.

INTRODUCTION

Arab–American relations are an important topic on the Arab political and media agenda, given the political, security, economic, humanitarian, cultural, scientific, and technological domains they encompass, as well as the influence of the United States on many regional and international interactions and issues. These relations have gained increasing importance with President Donald Trump's return to the White House in January 2025 and the political, economic, and security moves toward the Arab region that accompanied the start of his second term.

The first months of President Trump's second term witnessed a series of developments that intensified the media presence of Arab–American relations. These included his visit to Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates, and Qatar in May 2025; the continuing developments in the Palestinian cause and the Gaza war; and the security, economic, and technological files that formed core axes of Arab–American relations.

At the same time, the digital environment has changed the nature of journalistic work and the mechanisms by which issues are ranked within media institutions. Newspaper websites are no longer mere electronic copies of print newspapers; they have become news platforms that operate continuously and on which events and issues compete for varying degrees of prominence. Accordingly, the amount of coverage these websites devote to a given topic can reveal an aspect of their editorial and news priorities.

In this study, media attention refers to the degree of prominence that a media institution gives to an issue or topic within its published content, and it is measured operationally through the frequency of ideas and categories associated with Arab–American relations. A high level of attention does not necessarily imply a high objective importance of the issue itself; rather, it reflects the amount of space the issue occupied within the media agenda.

Although there are studies that have addressed the levels of media attention to various political and humanitarian issues, comparative studies that examine how the websites of Arab newspapers belonging to different political and media environments rank the priorities of Arab–American relations remain limited, particularly during the early period of Trump's second term. This study therefore seeks to uncover the nature of these priorities and to test the extent of similarity and difference among them.

RESEARCH PROBLEM

The research problem derives from the following main question: What are the levels of attention that the sampled Arab newspaper websites devote to the topics of Arab–American relations?

A number of sub-questions emerge from the main question, the most important of which are the following:

- What are the domains of Arab–American relations to which the sampled Arab newspaper websites paid attention, and what are the levels of this attention?
- What are the similarities and differences among the sampled websites in ranking their priorities of attention to the topics of Arab–American relations?
- What are the most prominent formal features employed by the sampled websites in addressing the topics of Arab–American relations, particularly the journalistic genres and the types of images?

Section One: Research Methodology

First: Type and Method of the Research

This study is a descriptive study. The most suitable approach for answering its questions is the survey method, in both its descriptive and analytical forms, using content analysis and its instrument (the analysis form) to collect and classify the data.

Second: Research Population and Sample

The research population consists of the websites of the Arab newspapers that addressed the topics of Arab–American relations during the study period. The researcher selected three Arab newspaper websites (Al-Zaman, Asharq Al-Awsat, and Al-Sharq), as they represent three different Arab media environments in terms of institutional context and editorial policy. The study adopted a comprehensive census approach to data collection, enumerating all content published within the temporal scope of the study. The total number of items reached 619 journalistic items, distributed as 220 items on the Asharq Al-Awsat website, 209 items on the Al-Zaman website, and 190 items on the Al-Sharq website.

Third: Units of Analysis

The study adopted the journalistic item as the natural unit of analysis, while the idea was adopted as the main unit for thematic analysis. Since a single journalistic item may contain more than one idea related to Arab–American relations, the coding system allowed all classifiable ideas within a single item to be recorded. For this reason, the number of journalistic items was 619, while the total frequencies of the thematic categories reached 2,037. This figure does not represent the number of published items; rather, it represents the number of thematic ideas that were identified and classified within the study corpus. Frequency was used as the unit of counting and statistical measurement.

Fourth: Categories of Analysis

The subject categories comprised six main domains: political relations, security relations, economic relations, humanitarian relations, cultural and scientific relations, and technological relations. The study also included form categories, foremost among them the types of journalistic genres and the types of images used. The categories were constructed on the basis of the research objectives, the theoretical framework, and a preliminary exploratory analysis of the content.

Fifth: The Exploratory Study

The construction of the form was preceded by an exploratory analysis of a sample amounting to 25% of the 619 journalistic items, i.e., approximately 155 items, with the aim of identifying recurring topics, testing the validity of the preliminary categories, and developing the operational definitions. This sample did not constitute the final corpus of the study, since, after the design of the instrument was completed, the analysis was applied to all 619 items using the comprehensive census method.

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Sixth: Validity and Reliability Tests

The content analysis form was presented to seven referees[1] specialized in media and scientific research methods in order to verify the clarity of the categories and their suitability to the research objectives; the overall agreement rate among them was 95.28%. Reliability was tested by the re-analysis method over time (test–retest), and the reliability coefficient, calculated using Holsti's formula, reached 0.9381, a value that indicates a high level of consistency in the coding process.

Seventh: Previous Studies

Study by Ghalib Kazim Jiyad Al-Daami (2023)[2]: In his study of the levels of attention that Al Jazeera channel devoted to the topics of Operation Al-Aqsa Flood, Al-Daami found that security topics ranked first, followed by political topics, whereas humanitarian topics received lower levels of attention. The study also showed the channel's reliance on a number of visual tools and persuasion techniques in presenting its coverage.

Study by Asmaa Hassan Abboud (2019)[3]: Abboud's study showed variation among the newspapers Tariq Al-Shaab, Al-Zaman, and Al-Sabah in the volume of attention devoted to the issues under study, and found that the nature of the newspaper and its editorial policies influence the ranking of issues within its agenda.

Study by Hadil Ashraf Jendeya (2022)[4]: The results of this study showed that Arab online newspapers presented the decision (the relocation of the U.S. Embassy) as a violation of Palestinian rights and employed linguistic and visual strategies that highlighted its negative effects, whereas American newspapers focused on presenting President Trump as a decisive leader. The study also showed congruence between texts and images in reinforcing the political discourse adopted by each newspaper, which reflects the difference in media ideologies between the two sides.

Eighth: The Theory Explaining the Research

Agenda-Setting Theory (Priority Ranking)

The study relies on the first level of Agenda-Setting Theory, which assumes that the media give issues different degrees of attention, placing some topics at higher levels of attention than others[5]. The study uses this assumption to analyze the media agenda of the three sampled websites, not to measure the transfer of these priorities to the public, since the study does not include a survey of readers' attitudes. The theory is therefore used here to explain the distribution of attention among different topics within the content of the websites. Attention in this study is measured through the frequency of ideas related to the domains of Arab–American relations: the higher the frequency of a given category, the more it is considered an indicator that the category occupies a more advanced position within the media agenda of the website.

Section Two: Media Attention and Arab–American Relations

First: Media Attention

Media attention is a selective process through which the media give certain topics greater presence than others within the published content. The literature shows that attention is not a fixed state; rather, it changes according to the value of the event,

[1]The analysis form was refereed by the following professors: Prof. Dr. Saad Salman Al-Mashhadani (Journalism), Tikrit University; Prof. Dr. Ali Hassan Nisan (Political Science), Al-Iraqia University, College of Media; Prof. Dr. Hussein Ali Al-Falahi (Journalism), Al-Iraqia University, College of Media; Prof. Dr. Batoul Abdulaziz (Journalism), Al-Iraqia University, College of Media; Prof. Dr. Laith Badr Al-Rawi (Journalism), University of Baghdad, College of Media; Prof. Dr. Othman Mohammed Al-Dulaimi (Journalism), Al-Iraqia University, College of Media; Assist. Prof. Dr. Mohammed Ahmed Al-Zobaie (Journalism), Al-Iraqia University, College of Media.

[2]Ghalib Kazim Jiyad Al-Daami, "Levels of Attention of Al Jazeera Satellite Channel to the Topics of Al-Aqsa Flood: An Analytical Study of Al Jazeera Satellite Channel for the Period from 7/10/2023 to 7/11/2023," Journal of Media Studies and Scientific Research, vol. 4, no. 13 (2023), pp. 252–274 (in Arabic).

[3]Asmaa Hassan Abboud, "Levels of Attention of the Iraqi Press to Human Rights Violations: An Analytical Study at the Local and Arab Levels for the Period from 1/2/2018 to 30/6/2018," unpublished master's thesis, University of Baghdad, College of Media, Department of Journalism, 2019 (in Arabic).

[4]Hadil Ashraf Jendeya, A comparative critical multimodal analysis of Trumps decision of the U.S. Embassy move in Arab and American online newspapers, Journal of Languages and Translation 1, no. 1 (June 2022): 72–96.

[5]Maxwell E. McCombs and Lei Guo, Agenda-setting Influence of the Media in the Public Sphere, in The Handbook of Media and Mass Communication Theory, edited: Robert S, (Published: john Wiley, 2014), p. 251–252.

its developments, and the competition among different issues for media space[6]. Attention does not necessarily coincide with the concept of importance either: some topics may be objectively important yet fail to receive high levels of media attention, while other topics may achieve considerable prominence because of their news characteristics or their ability to attract the public. Likewise, media attention evolves over time and is affected by the nature of the event and by the degree of competition among different issues within the news environment[7]. In the digital environment, the concept of attention gains greater importance because of the continuous flow of information: media institutions face daily choices concerning what to publish and how much repetition to grant to each issue, so that the analysis of frequencies becomes one of the primary indicators for monitoring the editorial agenda.

Second: Arab–American Relations

Arab–American relations have historically passed through stages marked by changes in the issues that formed their main axes. During parts of the twentieth century they were linked to oil and economic interests; the Palestinian cause and the Arab–Israeli conflict then occupied a central position; and issues of security and counterterrorism subsequently came to occupy an important part of the agenda of relations in the following decades[8].

With the succession of American administrations, a set of fundamental interests has continued to shape the relationship, foremost among them regional security, energy, and political and military alliances, in addition to the position toward Israel and Iran and economic issues[9].

With the beginning of Trump's second term in 2025, a clear trend emerged toward employing the economy, investment, and technology alongside political and security instruments. Trump's visit to a number of Gulf states in May 2025 constituted one of the most prominent events during the study period, coinciding with the continuation of the Palestinian cause and the security crises in the region. This overlap among politics, security, and the economy made the period from May to October 2025 a suitable time frame for monitoring how the Arab press ranks the priorities of relations with the United States[10].

Section Three: The Analytical Study and Its Results

Axis One: Analysis and Interpretation of the Results of the Subject Categories (What Was Said?)

First: Types of the Main Categories for Classifying the Domains of Arab–American Relations According to the Levels of Attention of the Websites of the Newspapers Al-Zaman, Asharq Al-Awsat, and Al-Sharq

Table (1): The main categories of the topics of Arab–American relations in the sampled newspaper websites

No.	Main categories	Asharq Al-Awsat		Al-Zaman		Al-Sharq		Total		Rank
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	
1	Attention to political relations	322	43.22	332	48.26	348	57.62	1002	49.19	First
2	Attention to security relations	131	17.58	159	23.11	98	16.23	388	19.05	Second
3	Attention to economic relations	154	20.67	100	14.53	60	9.93	314	15.41	Third

[6]Paul J. Silvia, Interest and Interest: The Psychology of Constructive Capriciousness, Journal Review of General Psychology, vol. 5, no. 3, 2001, p. 277.

[7]Paul J. Silvia, p. 278.

[8]Marwan Qabalan, "The American Approach to Settling the Arab–Israeli Conflict," in Arabs and the United States of America: Interests, Fears, and Concerns in a Changing Environment (Doha: Arab Center for Research and Policy Studies, 2017), pp. 68–69 (in Arabic).

[9]Mohammed Abdulaziz Rabie, "Arab–American Relations," in Abdel-Fattah Al-Rashdan and Nizam Barakat, Arab International Relations: Reality and Prospects (Amman: Middle East Studies Center, 2017), p. 64 (in Arabic).

[10]Brian Katulis, U.S. Policy in the Middle East: Second Quarter 2025 Report Card, Washington: Middle East Institute, July 2025, p. 4.

No.	Main categories	Asharq Al-Awsat		Al-Zaman		Al-Sharq		Total		Rank
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	
4	Attention to humanitarian relations	68	9.13	48	6.98	47	7.78	163	8.00	Fourth
5	Attention to cultural and scientific relations	34	4.56	23	3.34	28	4.64	85	4.17	Fifth
6	Attention to technological relations	36	4.83	26	3.78	23	3.81	85	4.17	Fifth
Total		**745**	**100**	**688**	**100**	**604**	**100**	**2037**	**100**	

F = frequency.

The data in Table (1) show a clear dominance of the political domain over the agenda of Arab–American relations on the three websites, as it accounted for nearly half of the thematic frequencies (49.19%). This trend appears on all the websites, but its intensity was greater on Al-Sharq, which allocated 57.62% of its frequencies to the political domain, compared with 48.26% on Al-Zaman and 43.22% on Asharq Al-Awsat.

Security relations ranked second with 19.05%, with greater prominence on the Al-Zaman website, where their share reached 23.11%. The economic domain came third with 15.41%, but the Asharq Al-Awsat website showed a relatively different trend, as the share of economic topics there reached 20.67%, which is higher than their share on Al-Zaman and Al-Sharq. These results point to a shared Arab priority for the political aspect, accompanied by differences in the secondary agendas: Al-Sharq tends to a greater degree toward a political focus, Al-Zaman gives a relatively wider space to the security domain, while Asharq Al-Awsat reinforces the presence of economic issues. In contrast, humanitarian relations received only 8%, while cultural and scientific relations and technological relations did not exceed 4.17% each.

Second: Sub-categories Falling under the Main Categories

(1) Categories of topics of attention to political relations in the sampled newspaper websites

Table (2): Categories of topics of attention to political relations in the sampled newspaper websites

No.	Categories	Asharq Al-Awsat		Al-Zaman		Al-Sharq		Total		Rank
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	
1	Focus on Arab–American relations in the context of the Palestinian cause	98	30.43	102	30.72	130	37.36	330	32.93	First
2	Highlighting official meetings and gatherings	70	21.74	84	25.30	86	24.71	240	23.95	Second
3	Emphasis on American policies and positions toward Arab countries	52	16.15	47	14.16	27	7.76	126	12.57	Third
4	Focus on mediation and the diplomatic role in resolving crises	18	5.59	32	9.64	42	12.07	92	9.18	Fourth

No.	Categories	Asharq Al-Awsat		Al-Zaman		Al-Sharq		Total		Rank
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	
5	Highlighting joint political agreements and initiatives	42	13.04	20	6.02	25	7.18	87	8.68	Fifth
6	Highlighting Arab positions and reactions toward the United States	22	6.83	25	7.53	17	4.89	64	6.39	Sixth
7	Highlighting protocol and diplomatic manifestations such as official ceremonies and gifts	12	3.73	10	3.01	12	3.45	34	3.39	Seventh
8	Reference to the historical dimension of Arab–American relations	8	2.48	12	3.61	9	2.59	29	2.89	Eighth
Total		**322**	**100**	**332**	**100**	**348**	**100**	**1002**	**100**	

Table (2) shows that the Palestinian cause topped the political topics with 330 frequencies, or 32.93% of the total frequencies of the political domain, which confirms its continued centrality in shaping the media discourse on Arab–American relations. Its presence on Al-Sharq reached 37.36%, compared with 30.72% on Al-Zaman and 30.43% on Asharq Al-Awsat. Official meetings and gatherings came second with 23.95%, reflecting the intensity of the political and diplomatic activity during the study period, particularly the contacts, visits, and meetings involving the United States and the Arab countries. American policies and positions toward Arab countries ranked third with 12.57%, followed by mediation and the diplomatic role in resolving crises with 9.18%, and joint political agreements and initiatives with 8.68%.

(2) Categories of topics of attention to security relations in the sampled newspaper websites

Table (3): Categories of topics of attention to security relations in the sampled newspaper websites

No.	Categories	Asharq Al-Awsat		Al-Zaman		Al-Sharq		Total		Rank
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	
1	Highlighting security tensions and challenges between the United States and some Arab or regional states	22	16.79	51	32.08	14	14.29	87	22.42	First
2	Emphasis on joint security cooperation between Arab states and the United States	23	17.56	29	18.24	28	28.57	80	20.62	Second
3	Reference to measures for protecting American interests, bases, and missions	25	19.08	30	18.87	14	14.29	69	17.78	Third

No.	Categories	Asharq Al-Awsat		Al-Zaman		Al-Sharq		Total		Rank
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	
4	Highlighting American policies related to the military presence	18	13.74	18	11.32	20	20.41	56	14.43	Fourth
5	Attention to issues of disarming factions and armed groups opposed to the American presence	28	21.37	20	12.58	6	6.12	54	13.92	Fifth
6	Emphasis on the role of the United States in supporting security and stability in the region	15	11.45	11	6.92	16	16.33	42	10.82	Sixth
Total		**131**	**100**	**159**	**100**	**98**	**100**	**388**	**100**	

The results of Table (3) indicate that security tensions and challenges ranked first within the security domain with 22.42%, and were most present on Al-Zaman, where they reached 32.08% of the website's security frequencies. This reveals a clear interest in regional tensions and their repercussions for relations with the United States. Joint security cooperation came second with 20.62%, while measures for protecting American interests, bases, and missions ranked third with 17.78%. American policies related to the military presence obtained 14.43%, while the topics of disarming factions and armed groups opposed to the American presence reached 13.92%.

(3) Categories of topics of attention to economic relations in the sampled newspaper websites

Economic agreements and joint cooperation occupied first place with 34.39%, followed by American economic sanctions and their lifting with 25.16%, and then American investments in the Arab countries with 17.20%. These results show that the economic treatment focused mainly on the direct instruments of the economic relationship, such as agreements, investments, and sanctions, more than on development programs or economic conferences.

Asharq Al-Awsat also recorded the highest relative presence of the economic domain overall, which is also reflected in its leading the frequencies of American investments with 33 frequencies.

(4) Categories of topics of attention to humanitarian, cultural, scientific, and technological relations

Despite the low overall presence of the humanitarian, cultural, scientific, and technological domains, the data showed clear priorities within each of them. In the humanitarian domain, American cooperation with Arab institutions and international organizations ranked first with 35 frequencies (21.46%), followed by the focus on relief and emergency programs (20.25%). The positions of the United States on the exchange of prisoners and hostages accounted for 15.95%, while American humanitarian aid reached 15.34%.

In the cultural and scientific domain, the strengthening of cultural cooperation came first with 42.35%, followed by educational programs and scholarships (29.41%), and then scientific and research cooperation among academic institutions (28.24%).

In the technological domain, cooperation in artificial intelligence accounted for nearly half of the frequencies (50.59%), which makes it the most prominent technological topic by a clear margin. The fields of communications and digital media and of training and technological innovation programs were equal, at 17.65% each, while cybersecurity and data protection came last with 14.12%.

Axis Two: Analysis and Interpretation of the Results of the Form Categories (How Was It Said?)

First: Categories of Journalistic Genres

Table (4): Types of journalistic genres adopted in the media treatment of the topics of Arab–American relations in the sampled newspaper websites

No.	Categories	Asharq Al-Awsat		Al-Zaman		Al-Sharq		Total		Rank
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	
1	News item	89	40.45	94	44.98	79	41.58	262	42.33	First
2	Article	50	22.73	66	31.58	60	31.58	176	28.43	Second
3	Report	81	36.82	39	18.66	45	23.68	165	26.66	Third
4	Interview	0	0.00	10	4.78	6	3.16	16	2.58	Fourth
Total		**220**	**100**	**209**	**100**	**190**	**100**	**619**	**100**	

The results show that the news item was the most frequently used genre, at 42.33%, which is consistent with the fast-moving nature of the political, security, and diplomatic events under study. The article came second with 28.43%, reflecting a notable space for interpretation, opinion, and analysis, followed by the report with 26.66%.

A relative difference among the websites appears in this respect: Asharq Al-Awsat relied to a greater degree on reports than the other two websites, as these accounted for 36.82% of its items, whereas Al-Zaman and Al-Sharq showed a relatively greater presence of articles. The interview accounted for only 2.58% and recorded no presence in the Asharq Al-Awsat sample.

Second: Categories of Types of Images

Table (5): Categories of types of images adopted in addressing the topics of Arab–American relations in the sampled newspaper websites

No.	Categories	Asharq Al-Awsat		Al-Zaman		Al-Sharq		Total		Rank
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	
1	News or objective image	170	67.73	135	58.70	150	63.83	455	63.55	First
2	Personal (portrait) images	45	17.93	58	25.22	60	25.53	163	22.77	Second
3	Descriptive image	30	11.95	33	14.35	17	7.23	80	11.17	Third
4	Illustrations and infographics	6	2.39	4	1.74	8	3.40	18	2.51	Fourth
Total		**251**	**100**	**230**	**100**	**235**	**100**	**716**	**100**	

News or objective images topped the types of visual elements with 63.55%, which indicates that the websites relied on images directly linked to events as their main tool of visual documentation. Personal images came second with 22.77%, which is consistent with the political nature of the coverage and the frequent presence of officials, leaders, and influential figures.

Descriptive images did not exceed 11.17%, while illustrations and infographics came last with 2.51%. The marked scarcity of infographics indicates that the websites focused to a greater degree on the documentary function of the image rather than employing visual elements to explain data and complex relationships.

Third: Interpreting the Statistical Differences Using Adjusted Residuals, the Chi-Square Test, and Cramer's V

The researcher used adjusted residuals as a procedure complementary to the chi-square test in order to identify the cells responsible for the statistical differences. An operational classification of the values was adopted: values higher than (+1.96) were considered an indicator of high attention, values between (±1.96) moderate attention, and values lower than (−1.96) low attention. The results showed that the differences among the websites were concentrated in political, security, and economic relations, while the remaining categories recorded no statistically significant differences, which confirms that the websites differ in ranking their priorities of attention to some of the main categories of Arab–American relations.

Table (6): Adjusted residual values for the relationship between the sampled newspaper websites and the main categories

Newspaper	Attention to security relations	Attention to economic relations	Attention to humanitarian relations	Attention to technological relations	Attention to cultural and scientific relations	Attention to political relations
Asharq Al-Awsat	−1.3	5.0	1.4	1.1	0.7	−4.1
Al-Zaman	3.3	−0.8	−1.2	−0.6	−1.3	−0.6
Al-Sharq	−2.1	−4.4	−0.2	−0.5	0.7	4.9

The statistical results showed that the category of attention to political relations obtained, on the Al-Sharq website, a high positive value of 4.9, the highest positive value in this category, which gives it a high level of attention. The adjusted residual confirms that the attention of the Al-Zaman website to this category was at a moderate level, close to the statistically expected level, with a value of −0.6, whereas the Asharq Al-Awsat website obtained a negative value of −4.1, which means that its level of attention to this category was low and below the statistically expected level.

As for the category of attention to security relations, Al-Zaman led with a positive value of 3.3, which is above the expected level, indicating that its level of attention to this category was high. The Asharq Al-Awsat website was at a moderate level of attention, obtaining a negative value of −1.3 that falls within the normal statistical limits, compared with a negative value of −2.1 on Al-Sharq, which is below the statistically expected level and therefore records a low level of attention.

The results also showed that the category of attention to economic relations obtained, on the Asharq Al-Awsat website, a high positive value of 5.0, the highest positive value in the entire table, while it recorded a negative value of −4.4 on the Al-Sharq website and a negative value of −0.8 on the Al-Zaman website, which falls within the normal statistical limits. The adjusted residual confirms that the attention of the Asharq Al-Awsat website was above the statistically expected level, while the attention of the Al-Zaman website was at a moderate level close to the expected level. The Al-Sharq website, by contrast, recorded a low level of attention, below the statistically expected level.

The remaining categories did not obtain the same statistical differences as the preceding ones: the category of (humanitarian relations) received a moderate level of attention on all the sampled websites. The same applies to the two categories (cultural and scientific relations) and (technological relations).

It follows from the above that the categories that were the source of the statistical differences among the sampled newspaper websites were limited to political, security, and economic relations, as the levels of attention to them varied among the websites in a manner that exceeded the expected statistical limits, whereas humanitarian, cultural and scientific, and technological relations were characterized by a clear convergence in the levels of attention, with adjusted residual values falling within the normal statistical limits. Al-Sharq gave high attention to political relations, Al-Zaman focused to a greater degree on security

relations, and Asharq Al-Awsat gave high attention to economic relations, while the three websites maintained a similar level of attention to the remaining main categories, in which no statistically significant differences appeared.

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymptotic Significance (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	54.094a	10	.000
Likelihood Ratio	54.090	10	.000
N of Valid Cases	2037		

a. 0 cells (.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is 25.20.

The results of the Pearson chi-square test confirm that the differences that appeared among the sampled newspaper websites in the distribution of the main categories of the topics of Arab–American relations are statistically real differences, and not differences resulting from random variation in the distribution of topics. The chi-square value was 54.094 at 10 degrees of freedom, with a significance level of 0.000, which is far below the accepted threshold of statistical significance (0.05). This leads to rejecting the hypothesis of independence and accepting the existence of a statistically significant relationship between the websites and the main categories of the topics of Arab–American relations during Trump's second term.

Symmetric Measures

		Value	Approximate Significance
Nominal by Nominal	Phi	.163	.000
	Cramer's V	.115	.000
N of Valid Cases		2037	

The value of Cramer's V was 0.115 at a significance level of 0.000, a value indicating that the relationship between the newspaper websites and the main categories of the topics of Arab–American relations was weak in terms of effect size, although it is statistically significant. This result shows that the difference among the newspaper websites is one of the factors influencing the distribution of topics, but it is not the only factor explaining this distribution.

Research Findings

- The political domain topped the topics of Arab–American relations on the three sampled websites, accounting for nearly half of the thematic frequencies, while the security and economic domains came in the following ranks, and the humanitarian, cultural, scientific, and technological domains recorded lower levels of attention.
- The results showed that the three websites differed in their level of attention to the political domain: Al-Sharq recorded the highest percentage at 57.62%, followed by Al-Zaman at 48.26%, and then Asharq Al-Awsat at 43.22%.
- The results revealed differences in the ranking of the domains of attention among the sampled websites: Al-Zaman recorded the highest percentage of attention to the security domain, Asharq Al-Awsat recorded the highest percentage of attention to the economic domain, while Al-Sharq led in its attention to the political domain.
- The results showed that the news item came at the forefront of the journalistic genres used in addressing the topics of Arab–American relations, at 42.33%, while articles and reports combined accounted for more than half of the analyzed journalistic items.

- The results revealed the broad reliance of the sampled websites on news and objective images in addressing the topics of Arab–American relations, against a limited presence of infographics.
- The results showed statistically significant differences among the sampled newspaper websites in ranking their priorities of attention to the main categories of Arab–American relations: Al-Sharq stood out in political relations, Al-Zaman in security relations, and Asharq Al-Awsat in economic relations, with the websites converging in the remaining domains. The chi-square test confirmed the statistical significance of these differences ($\chi^2 = 54.094$, df = 10, $p < 0.001$), while Cramer's V showed that the strength of the relationship is weak (V = 0.115), which indicates that the difference was concentrated in the ranking of priorities.

CONCLUSIONS OF THE RESEARCH

1. The political dimension dominated the construction of the agenda of Arab–American relations on the sampled websites, which indicates that the relationship was presented primarily from a political and geopolitical perspective.
2. The Palestinian cause constituted the most prominent political axis, which confirms its continued centrality in the Arab media discourse concerning the United States.
3. The humanitarian, cultural, scientific, and technological dimensions remained in lower ranks compared with politics, security, and the economy, which reflects an imbalance in the distribution of the topics of Arab–American relations.
4. Artificial intelligence emerged as the most prominent topic within the technological domain despite the low overall weight of this domain.
5. The dominance of the news item and the news image reflected the direct, news-oriented nature of the coverage, while the use of infographics and explanatory visual forms remained limited.
6. The results are consistent with the assumptions of the first level of Agenda-Setting Theory regarding the variation in the prominence that media institutions give to issues.
7. The sampled websites do not adopt a unified agenda in ranking their topics; rather, their priorities vary among the political, security, and economic dimensions, which reflects the difference in their editorial priorities in constructing the agenda of Arab–American relations. In contrast, the convergence of attention to the humanitarian, cultural, scientific, and technological domains reveals that these did not constitute main axes of differentiation among the websites, which confirms that the difference among them is concentrated mainly in the ranking of priorities of attention, more than in their attention to Arab–American relations in general.

Recommendations of the Research

- The need to achieve a greater degree of balance in the attention of Arab newspaper websites to the topics of Arab–American relations, and not to confine themselves to the political dimension.
- Conducting comparative studies between Arab news websites and international media in addressing the topics of Arab–American relations.
- Conducting future research that addresses the impact of the priorities of media attention to Arab–American relations on shaping the attitudes of the public.

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