CORECON









The Coverage and Reception of the Russian-Ukrainian Conflict

Unconventional Representations of War Actors, Leading Figures and Affected People in the Russian-Ukrainian Conflict:

A Corpus Analysis of the Non-Human Animals in the Romanian and English-Language Media (2022-2024)

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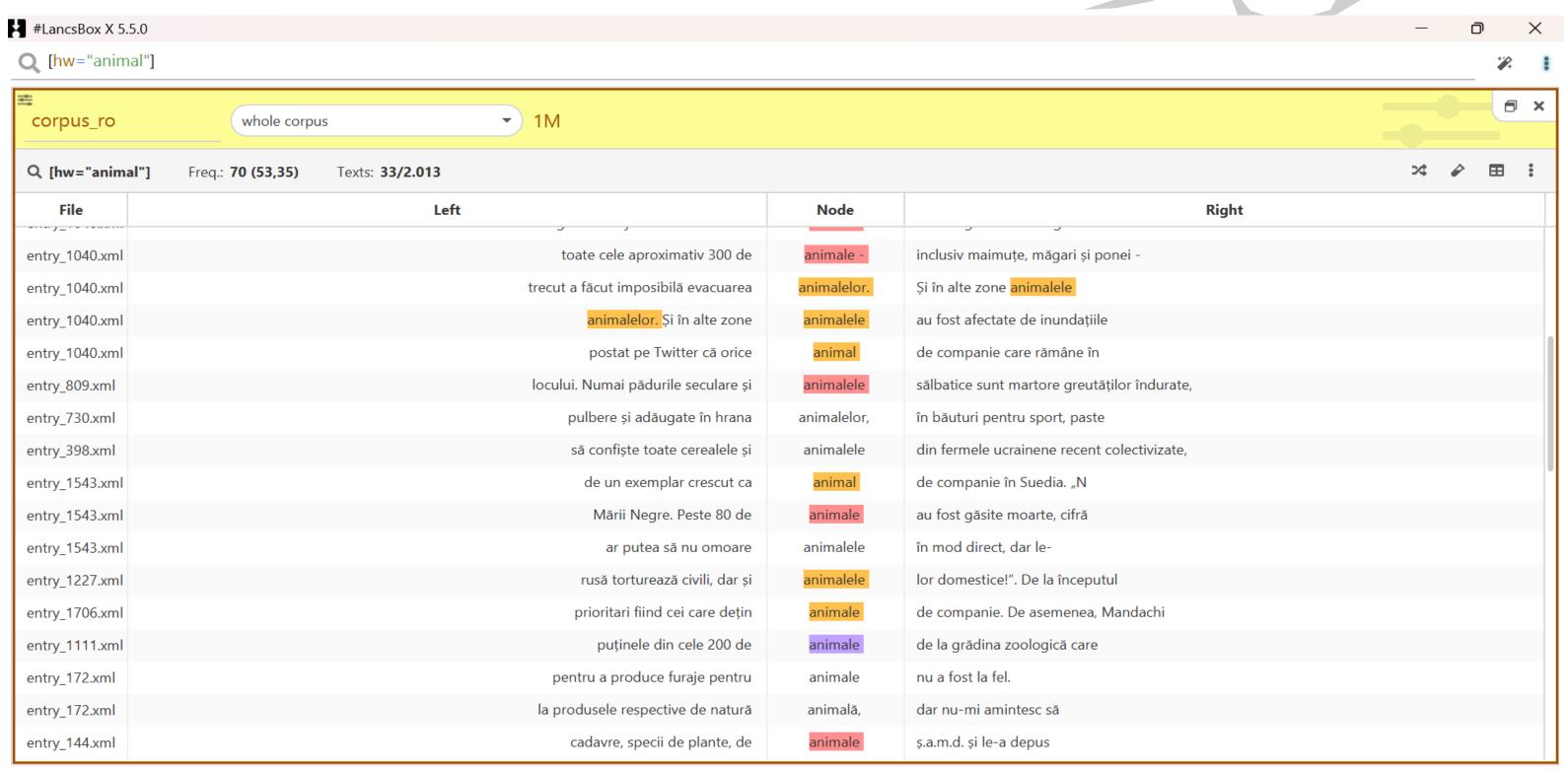
Outline

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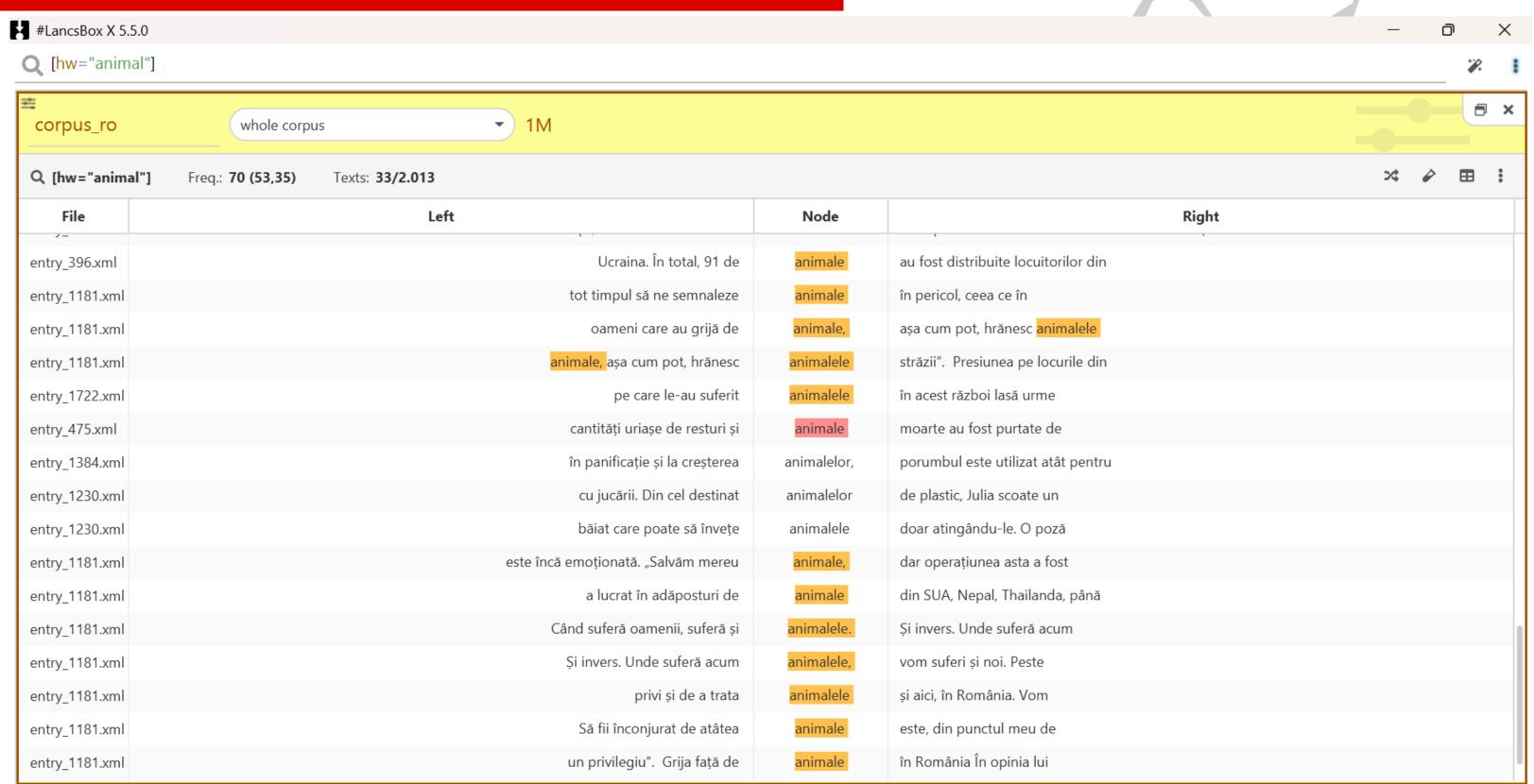
Results & Discussion

Conclusion



Maximized tool.

Maximized tool.

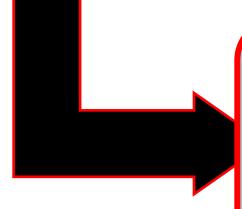


"citizenship theory" (Donaldson & Kymlicka 2011)

Animal belonging and civic inclusion

Functional relevance in media studies => "pathemes" (Greimas and Fontanille 1991)

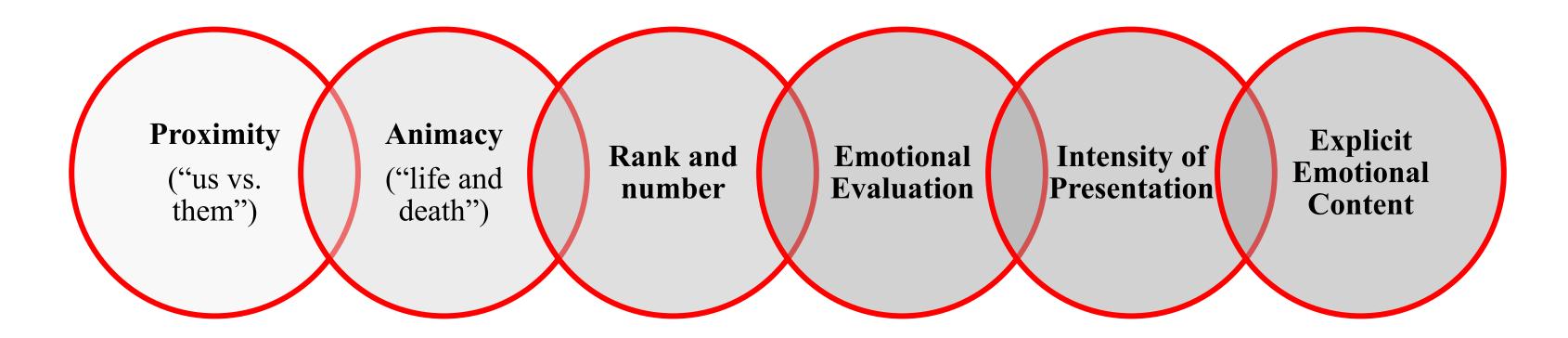
"the set of discursive conditions necessary for the manifestation of a passion-effect meaning" (85)



"Principles of inferencing" (Ungerer 1997) + "STA model of proximization" (Cap 2017)

"Linguistic triggers of emotional inferencing" + deictic labels

The principles of inferencing (Ungerer 1997)



Data & Methodology

The Romanian and English-language corpora

"Emotional inference" + pathemes + linguistic triggers

Qualitative analysis

Examples of linguistic triggers

The Ukrainian dolphins brought to Romania:

Explicit Emotion → Intensity of Presentation: "They adapted surprisingly well. Even we didn't expect them to adjust so quickly. They don't fight for territory, they don't push each other. There's still work to do, but we hope things will get much better."

(Superlatives, negated verbs with negative meaning → positive framing)

"Joint exercises, joint harmony." (Repetition)

"Step by step, each day, we adapt a little more..." (Gradual modal construction)

Examples of linguistic triggers

The dog gnawed off his own paw to avoid being captured by the Russians

Explicit Emotion → Intensity of Presentation: "Believe it or not—a dog gnawed off his own paw to avoid being captured by the Russians after falling into a trap."

The principle of animacy + axiological proximization \rightarrow the dog has a name, Vasyl;

"He was everyone's friend" = a noun marked [+friendship] associated with a determiner denoting totality

Self-mutilation: "He chose to mutilate himself rather than be shot or taken prisoner."

The principle of rank and number → "hero dog"

Examples of linguistic triggers

The dog burned on the head with the V symbol:

The principle of animacy \rightarrow "A dog burned on the head in the shape of the letter V, the symbol of the Russian army in the war against Ukraine."

This pup is **not their only** victim! The Russian army tortures civilians **and their pets as well**. (Similarity between tortured animals and humans)

Examples of linguistic triggers

The bear Masha, who died just two weeks after being brought to Romania:

Principle of animacy: "From a symbol of refugees, she became a symbol of the victims of this cruel and merciless war. The bear was traumatized by the war in Ukraine, just like the country's human inhabitants. All the hardships suffered by animals in this war leave deep scars, just as they do in people."

"The refugee from Ukraine has found peace and quiet, just as I hope the people fleeing Ukraine will find peace and quiet. For now, she is the first refugee, but we hope to help other bears and other animals in this situation as well."

Soft Power Animal Narratives:

- 1. Masha, the bear kept in a circus for 22 years, died two weeks after arriving in Romania;
 - 2. Alicia the bear that still **paces restlessly** in the sanctuary. (The zoo/circus becomes a metaphor for confinement disguised as safety.);
 - 3. Animals named after war protagonists:

At the Cernavodă shelter, "refugee" animals are named **Putin** and **Zelensky**, based on perceived physical and moral traits: Putin, the cat, shows "expansionist" behavior, while Zelensky, the dog, is friendly and curious.

Conclusion

Animals as "victims of war" (citizenship theory)

Solidarity & legitimization

References

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