

**CORECON**



# **Understanding conflict discourse through participatory research:**

Recommendations for representative and inclusive mediation

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## *Aims*

- to study the **coverage** and **reception** of the Russian-Ukrainian **conflict** in Polish, Romanian and English-language media;
- to undertake **inclusive** media research that takes into consideration the (unfortunate) capacity of the media outlets to **polarize** societies;



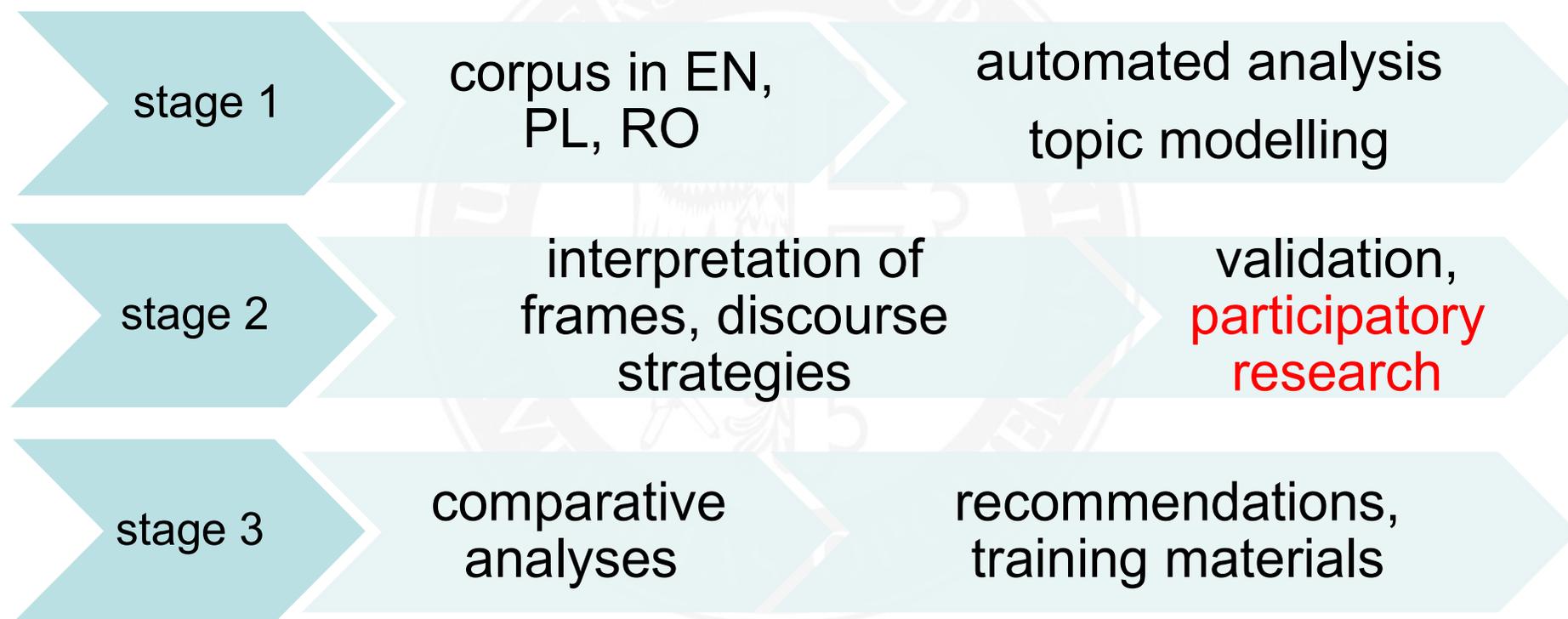
## *Background*

- the **game-changing** status of the RU-UA military conflict with the **spillover effect** to other areas;
- the gap in research on the **variety of media narratives** of the conflict, across national **media spheres**;
- the need to make societies **resilient** through evidence-based recommendations on critical media literacy and journalism training.

# *Journalistic practices – theory in the context of conflict coverage*

- Information war (propaganda, fake news);
- Radicalization vs depoliticization (spiral of silence);
- News values & framing (selection/representation);
- Imagery and storytelling (narrativity);
- Critical media literacy theory.

# CORECON project



## *Participatory research (Nind, 2014)*

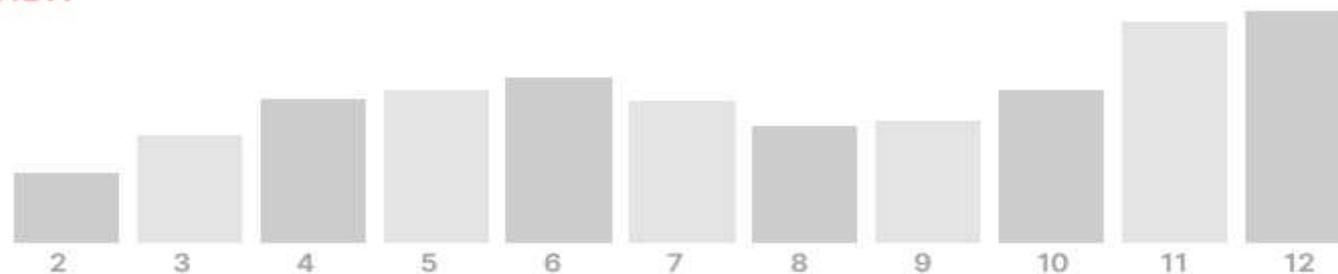
- research problem **owned** by the participants,
- participants' **interests and social capital** furthered,
- **collaborative** to the extent possible (citizen science),
- participants **exert some control** over processes and outcomes.
- research reports are **accessible** to participants.

## *Participatory methods in CORECON*

- compiling the **corpus** based on media consumption reports (70% most viewed mainstream media outlets, 30% most popular social networking sites – X, FB, YT, TT);
- analysing below-the-line **responses** (reactions/comments) pointing to the preferred framing;
- interviewing **journalists** for details on editorial lines, sentiments;
- participatory **coding** of headlines/images (CS for news values, metaphors, stylistic devices);

## *Participatory methods in CORECON*

- **oral histories** (war-induced media usage patterns and reflections, across age groups);
- teenagers' narrative **auto-ethnographies** on sources of conflict news (school, media, family) and current knowledge;
- **interventions** to boost resilience and critical thinking (gamification, spotting propaganda devices);
- **focus groups** (fake news penetration).



FAKES' DYNAMICS, 2022

2022 2023



GENERAL STATISTICS

**Narrative concerning weapons provided to Ukraine by Western countries**

**Allies want to divide Ukraine**

**Black transplantology in Ukraine**

**Narrative concerning reforms in Ukraine**

**Narrative concerning foreign mercenaries**

IT DE UA **EN** RU PL CS SK HU

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