

## Content analysis of the media reporting on the Fukushima nuclear accident in three European countries

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## Content analysis of 720 articles in three different countries







### "Fukushima " and "nuclear" March 11th - May 11th, 2011







# Content analysis of 720 articles in three different countries



### Belgium 260 articles









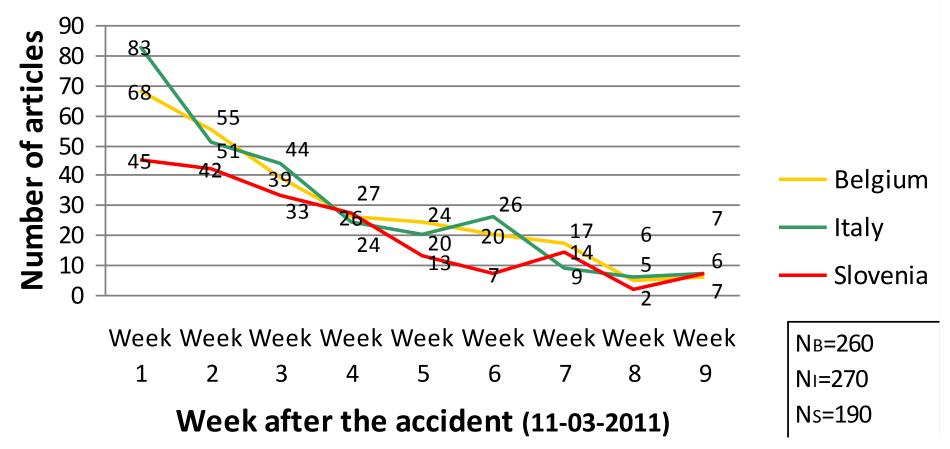


#### Slovenia 190 articles

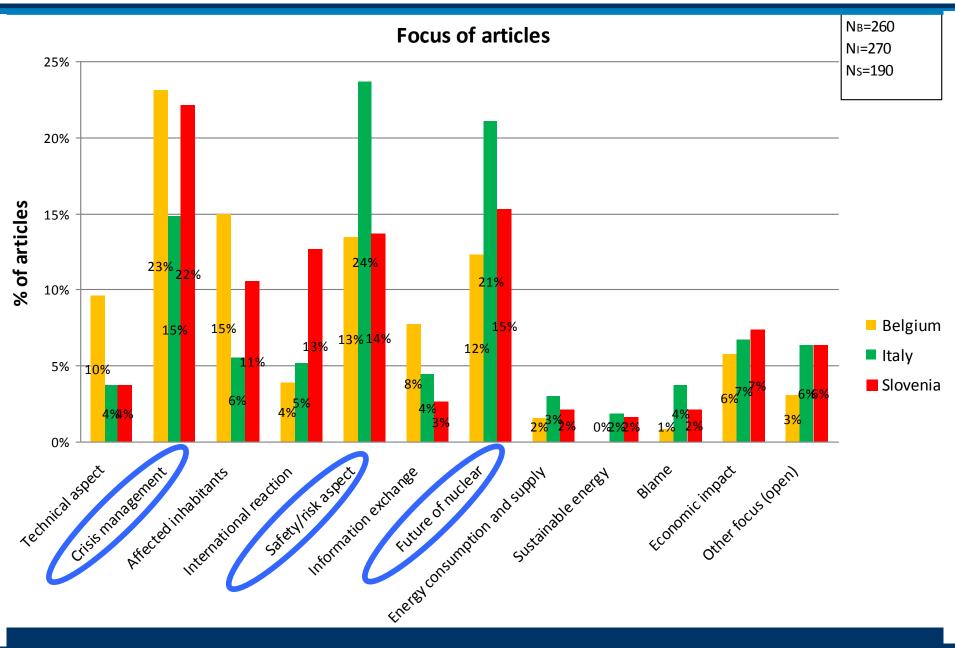


### Great attention to Fukushima at early beginning In the first week highest in Italy

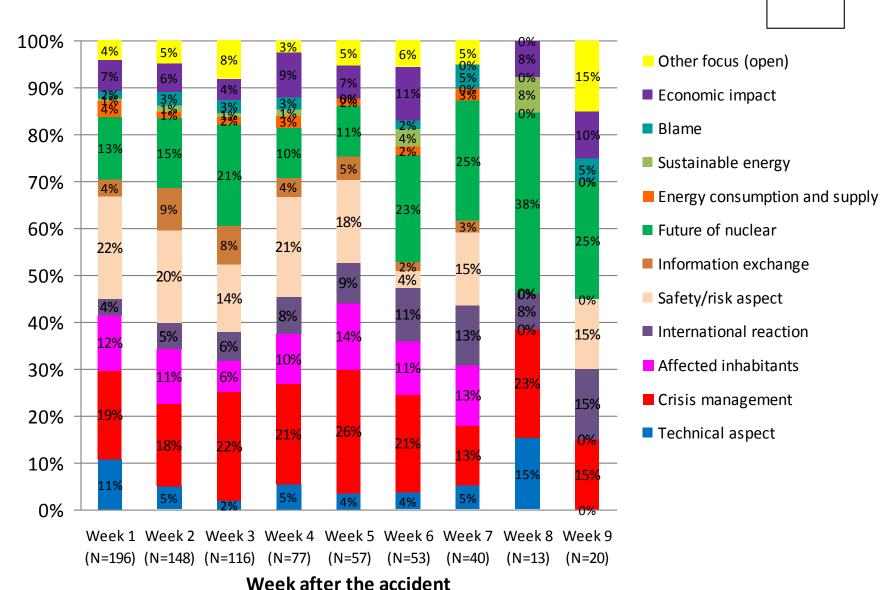
#### Number of articles published per week



#### The main topics at the time of the event



#### How has the main topic changed ?

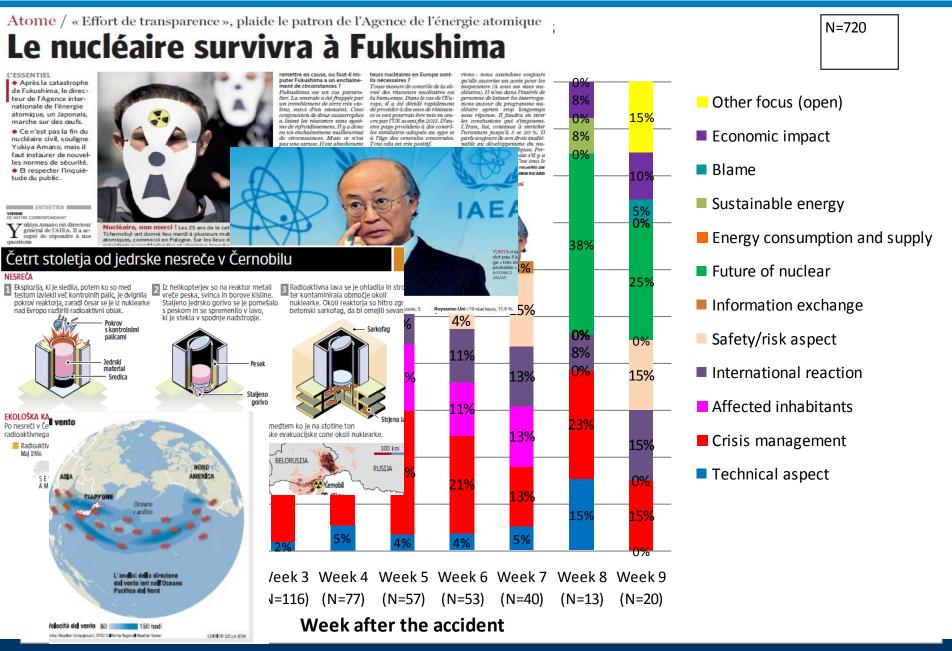


Focus of articles

N=720

% of articles published in a week

#### An increasing focus on the future of nuclear energy



In nuclear events media do not report only the basic questions W (who, what, where, why)

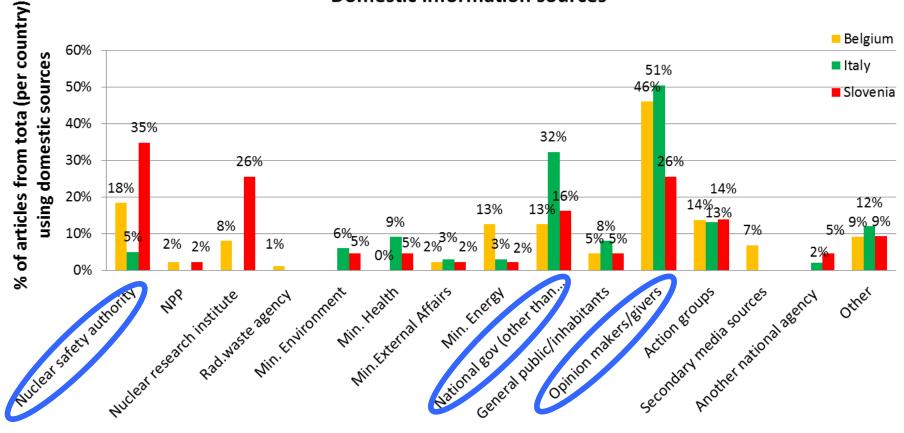
they also bring light to safety, risks, technical aspects of other nuclear installations and policy regarding nuclear energy



Obrazi po volitvah povedo vse (od leve): član Zelenih Winfried Kertschmann, kanclerka Angela Merkel (CDU) in liberalec Guido Westerwelle (Reuters)

## Sources of information credible journalism → more sources

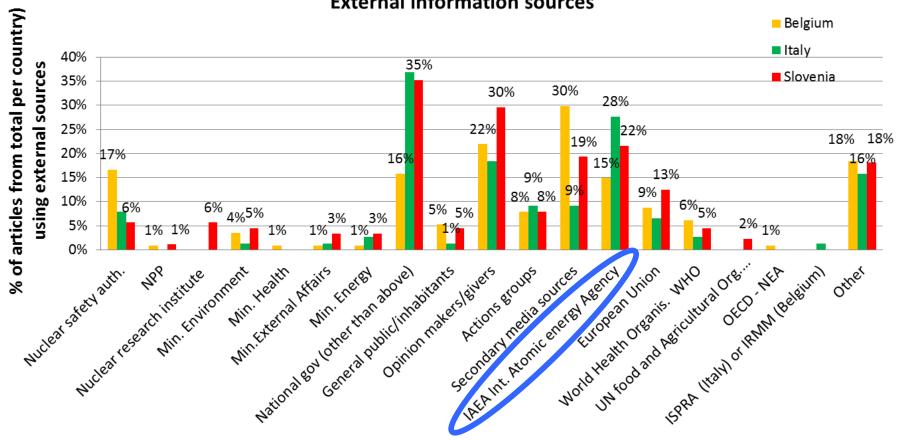
#### Who got the voice in the media related to the Fukushima nuclear ?



**Domestic information sources** 

#### Sources of information credible journalism $\rightarrow$ more sources

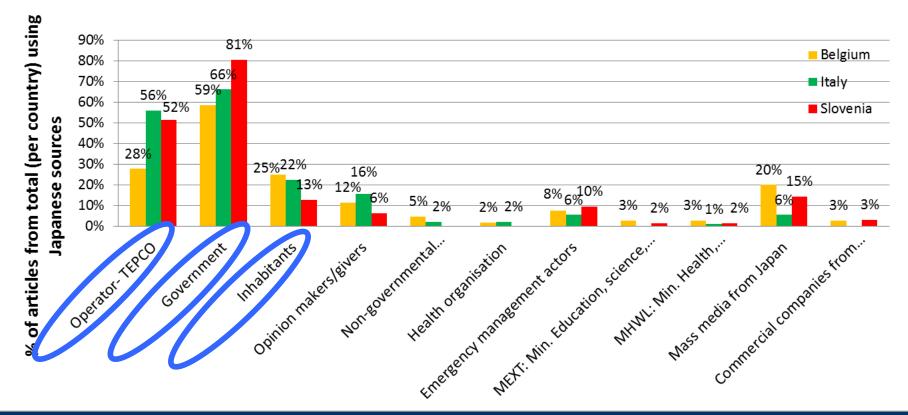
#### Who got the voice in the media related to the Fukushima nuclear?



**External information sources** 

#### Sources of information credible journalism → more sources

#### Who got the voice in the media related to the Fukushima nuclear ?



#### Japanese information sources

The content analysis shows that newspapers acted as an arena for discussion, voicing the opinions of a plurality of stakeholders with different values and interests.

Media reported more than only about the accident. The accident was often framed in its broader context ( of international information exchange in case of emergency, of nuclear safety, of energy needs ...)

News and features prevail in the reporting about accident, but a large number of articles about 25% is a subjective opinion.

#### Media transmit voices related to a nuclear accident

IAEA is one of the most quoted external source
Japanese inhabitants are also an important voice
NGO's are not among the strongest voices

Although the media attention was focused on radiation risks and danger, only 10% of all the articles contain radiation units

This part of the work provides a testimony of the dynamic which oriented the mass media in case of nuclear accidents

