

An interdisciplinary approach of media representation of health concerning migration: The case of Greece

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Introduction

The health of refugees and migrants is an issue of global concern that dictates the need for an interdisciplinary approach in order to be completely understood. One of the factors that has not been adequately researched which appears to impact the health of people on the move is the way that their health-related issues are represented in the media. In this context, the present research focuses on the refugee and migration crisis in Greece in a challenging period of six years from 2015 to 2020, in which the representation of health topics significantly changed as a series of crucial circumstances affecting their health unfolded. The aim of the research is to investigate in a spherical way the media representation of health in the field of migration. At the same time giving special emphasis to the representation of social determinants of health - specifically the living conditions at Greek camps. Hence, an encoding scheme was developed with emphasis on interdisciplinarity. The implementation of this scheme can reveal useful results that will contribute not only to further research in the field of media representations, but also in different areas, such as journalism, policy-making, health diplomacy and advocacy field.

Theoretical Framework: A combination of theories of social constructivism, securitisation and media framing.

Methodology: The research was based on literature review and quantitative content analysis.

Central Research Question: What is the media representation of health in the field of migration during the refugee and migration crisis in Greece (2015-2020) and how an interdisciplinary approach could broaden research in the field?



Contribution of the Research

The main contribution of the research is that it examines multiple aspects of media representation of health in the field of migration. Besides that, the encoding scheme reveals elements as follows: i) the factors that affect the health of refugees and migrants, ii) the representation of those that are affected, iii) the representation of the country in terms of the management of the refugee and migration issue and its impact on a local, national and international level. Above, a succinct description of the scheme is depicted. The emphasis has been given to the eight main axis, including indicatevely, examples of categories for each one of them. The whole scheme is comprised of several categories and subcategories building upon extensive literature. For the selected references please scan the QR Code.

