

Appendix – The Davis Index

The “Davis index” aims to represent international media attention on the Israeli-Arab conflict and relations, focusing on the Israeli Palestinians conflict. Furthermore, this project also monitors a wider range of topics regarding the Middle East, such as “Diplomacy-Arab World” and “Diplomacy and the Arab World”. The Davis index aggregates a list of general categories, such as, “Israel internal affairs and the Arab world”; and specific categories such as “Palestinian organizations”, “the BDS movement”, and interventions of specific governments or international institutions.

How does our system provide the data?

Our system utilizes a “weak-supervised” text classification method, designed to analyse news articles at the sentence level. By combining unsupervised and supervised methods, we benefit from the reduced start up costs and inductive definitions of topics provided by the former, along with the stability, additivity and simple validity testing of the latter. The method incorporates topic models for its unsupervised component and deep learning for its supervised component. Both take the context into account while focusing on the sentence as the desired unit of analysis. The result is a multi-label text classification method - a classification of each sentence into multiple topics.

What do the axes mean?

The X axis represents the time dimension. It is divided by months, in the course of a year.

The Y axis represents the relative salience of a specific topic (or combined topics for the main index), in a day.

Typical articles for topics

US-foreign affairs and the Arab world	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ it is a preparatory meeting to come up with recommendations in the name of the Arab countries to be presented to the UN general assembly about the recommendations of the population conference , which was held in Cairo in 1994.○ we call for an effective us role to overcome the obstacles and we hope that Mrs. Albright 's visit will give momentum to the negotiations.○ during his meeting with us ambassador David Satterfield today, Al Huss received a message from us secretary of state madeleine Albright, denouncing all forms of violence and attacks on civilian targets.
Diplomacy - Arab world	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ during his visit to Niger , the Libyan justice secretary also held talks in Niamey with the prime minister and interior minister on the strengthening of bilateral ties and cooperation.○ according to a report from Damascus by the central news unit , Egyptian foreign minister Amr Musa , in a meeting with Iranian journalists in Cairo , stressing that Iran is an important and big country in the region , added : relations between Iran and Egypt are expanding with positive strides , as desired by the two countries.○ he expressed the hope of the GCC member states that this trend would have a positive effect on Iran GCC relations...on Qatar 's relations with Israel , his highness the foreign minister of Qatar said : the state of Qatar is part of the Arab world and the GCC.
Israel and Palestinians	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Palestinian sources told reporter Yoni Ben Menahem that Hamas has bolstered its forces in Gaza and that it has been joined by terrorists trained in Arab countries to prepare bombs .○ but then we saw how Gaza became a protector of the occupier, not a Palestinian state.○ it is possible that Barak's comments at the Knesset's foreign affairs and defense committee , where he said that the idf is ready for the eventuality that it will have to thrust deep into Gaza , are a hint that he is close to adopting such a policy .
Diplomacy and politics-Arab world and Israel	<ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Ashton revealed little about what she called a friendly , open and very frank two hour conversation with the deposed president .○ this is what everyone does not want and avoiding it is a priority for us president Bill Clinton and his administration which wishes to see a change in Israel through the elections.○ he noted continuous contacts with president Mubarak and foreign minister Amr Musa and said he is looking forward to holding constructive discussions and talks with them tomorrow , Thursday.

Political talks in the Arab world and Mideast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ according to reports, Rontzki passed Bennett information on orders given to soldiers on how to deal with the tunnels threat. ○ in fact , Netanyahu has agreed to all of Herzog 's demands , apart from his demand for a veto on the fate of settlements that are legally ambiguous. ○ tens of thousands of supporters and opponents of Morsi flocked to squares and streets across the country to show their favor or anger over the president and his declaration.
Israel – Arab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ senior Israeli and Palestinian officials both said that Lerry's telephone calls to Fayyad and Palestinian Authority president Mahmoud Abbas , in which he applied heavy pressure to prevent the resignation , did more harm than good. ○ Ramallah Palestinian president Mahmoud Abbas on Sunday slammed Israel for refusing to present its vision regarding the borders of the future Palestinian state. ○ Palestinian sources told our correspondent Hanan Schlein that Arafat has postponed his visit to Egypt , which was due to take place today , for technical reasons.
Diplomacy and politics in Arab states	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ an official agreement in this field will be signed by Kulikov upon completion of his meeting with Israeli deputy prime minister and foreign minister David Levi scheduled to take place tomorrow 22nd may. ○ the meeting was followed by an expanded round of talks that was attended on the Egyptian side by prime minister dr. Atif Ubayd , defence minister field marshal Husayn Tantawi , information minister Safwat Al Sharif , foreign minister Amr Musa and president Mubarak 's political adviser dr. Ssamah Al Baz. ○ the Yemeni prime minister pointed out in his word that Sino Yemeni ties of cooperation developed greatly during period when Deng led his country .
Israel and the Mideast	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ parallel to this forum is the strategic team set up by Mordekhay , and also headed by Ivri , in order to prepare scenarios for the development of the Iranian threat over the next 5 , 10 , 15 and 20 years. ○ although diplomatic sources in New York expressed doubt about the depth of his commitment ; this could represent a symbolic gesture rather than a real one. next month Obama is embarking on a trip to Asia . ○ a the main points of the draft resolution , which we will present to the Arab foreign ministers ' meeting , will reflect reality as it is , without any additions or deletions .
Israel internal affairs and the Arab world	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 8 text of report by Israel radio on 28th December Israel has reiterated to the Palestinians that it will not release prisoners who have murdered or wounded people in Israel. ○ a senior Palestinian official told our correspondent Hanan Schlein that the team will later discuss the prisoner list name by name. ○ we told Chirac : is it reasonable that the us president , the Palestinian president and the Israeli prime minister spent two days discussing the release of prisoners only to secure the release of criminal prisoners?

Palestinians	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ apart from defense minister Moshe Ya'alon , none of his ministers has been updated on what is happening and what is not happening in the proximity talks between Israel and Hamas in Cairo. ○ this actually means keeping Al Rawabidah out of the Qatari mediation efforts, because his position is considered an obstacle to any solution to Hamas case. ○ as deputy defense minister Zev Boim told Israel radio on Sunday, Damascus remains the headquarters for Islamic jihad and Hamas, where the two groups plan their strategy and issue instructions to their members in the territories to carry out terrorist acts.
Political relations and negotiations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ defence minister Khalil Al Hirawi has stressed that the Lebanese army will not be dispatched to the south before completing the implementation of un resolution 425 and finalizing the peace process. ○ Mr. Powell expressed deep regret at the death of the two American contractors who he said had gone to Iraq to help that country's people, and said his heart goes out to their families, especially given the manner of their deaths. ○ the failure of most of the US plans against Iran over the past years is a good example. i also believe that mr. Clinton 's sacking of the us secretary of state in his second term shows the American people's dissatisfaction with their government 's foreign policy over the past four years.
Mideast and Arab world interstates issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ he also insisted , again naming names, that Syria end its occupation of Lebanon, that Iran abandon its quest for nukes , and that both nations stop supporting terror and democratize. ○ Churkin said the council needs more time to take into account new circumstances in Syria and to reach consensus on a resolution that can contribute to improving humanitarian in Syria, particularly in Aleppo. ○ in its assurances to Syria, the united states said it does not support Israel's annexation of a single inch of the Golan lands occupied in 1967.
Middle eastern security and diplomacy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ to strengthen his hand , Sabahi met the old regime 's candidate , Shafiq , to send a signal to the brotherhood that he could switch sides. Tarek Kahlaoui, head of the institute of strategic studies in Tunis, and a leading analyst on the Ikhwan across the Arab world, said: the brotherhood in Egypt will be making a huge mistake if they insist on being the main face in the presidency and the head of the government. ○ in recent years, Egypt has negotiated a series of truces between Hamas and Israel , chiefly out of the contention that turmoil in Gaza could easily spill over into Sinai and maybe the nation's hinterland. distrust was deep between Hamas leaders and Mubarak 's regime and it remains strong among some in Egypt, particularly among the security forces. ○ he founded the Egyptian initiative for personal rights in 2002 , was honored with a human rights watch Alison Des Forges award in 2011, and just returned to Egypt after spending a year as a visiting fellow at Columbia university 's journalism school in New York. the detention , which caused a wave of uproar on social media and

among activists , is part of a sweeping crackdown on critical media launched in the aftermath of the military overthrow of Islamist president Mohammed Morsi in 2013.

Middle east

conflicts

- they are entitled to that, and they should proceed that way, " he said. Clinton's outline for a settlement expires with his departure; it is not binding on Israel or the Palestinians, both of whom registered reservations to his proposed terms, or on the incoming Bush administration. the Palestinians " are going to want to proceed " on the basis of the U.S. proposals for a state , virtually all of the West Bank and Gaza and part of east Jerusalem , ross said".
 - the scale of the killings in the region, and their predictability, could engage the personal criminal responsibility of those involved, particularly those in a position of command and control, " she said , without directly accusing anyone. in a statement, she expressed " grave concern over the continued killing and maiming of civilians in Lebanon, Israel and the occupied Palestinian territory".
 - since Friday , Israel's military has recorded 14 rockets or mortar shells fired from Gaza toward Israel.
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