

## **Abstract**

This study analyzes the changes in international newsgathering practices by examining the coverage of the COVID-19 outbreak in China by *The New York Times* (NYT) and *The Washington Post* (WaPo), as well as the impacts of these developments on the formats and frames utilized by the two news outlets. The analysis of byline locations revealed that NYT maintained a considerable editorial team in China, whereas WaPo was significantly understaffed on the ground. The impact of this discrepancy is evident. NYT produced a significantly greater number of news stories with first-hand insights. Over half of the coverage produced by WaPo was created in Washington, D.C. The majority of the coverage was at the macro level, focusing on China as a subject of U.S. foreign policy. In general, the coverage was characterized by a prevalence of political commentaries and analysis. The quantity of multimedia coverage is limited in both cases. The study identified five frame dimensions: attribution of responsibility, human interest, economic consequences, severity, and conflict. The observed changes in reporting practices had no impact on the news frames employed. In both instances, the conflict frame was the most pervasive in the news reporting. With regard to opinion and analysis pieces, the conflict frame remained the most prevalent in NYT, whereas WaPo employed attribution of responsibility the most. NYT adopted a more critical stance towards China in its reporting, whereas the WaPo's opinion and analysis sections demonstrated a tendency to favor critical voices on China.