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The Construction of a Global Energy Crisis in News Coverage of the Strait of Hormuz Conflict: A Critical Discourse Analysis Using the Fairclough Model

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ABSTRACT
The conflict in the Strait of Hormuz is a geopolitical issue with significant implications for global energy and economic stability. As a primary distribution route for the world's oil and gas, the Strait of Hormuz is frequently represented as a strategic region that determines the continuity of international energy supplies. This study aims to analyze how a global energy crisis is constructed within news coverage concerning the conflict in the Strait of Hormuz. The research employs a descriptive qualitative approach, utilizing Norman Fairclough's model of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), which encompasses the dimensions of text, discursive practice, and social practice. The data consist of news texts from BBC News, SindoNews, HeyGotrade, and Journal Arta that discuss the Strait of Hormuz conflict and its impact on the global economy. The findings indicate that the media consistently represents the Strait of Hormuz as a vital global energy artery through the use of terms such as "critical," "vital," "strategic," and "crisis," as well as through the presentation of quantitative data that reinforces the perception of global dependency on the region. At the level of discursive practice, the construction of an energy crisis is shaped by the dominance of institutional sources—such as the International Energy Agency (IEA), the Energy Information Administration (EIA), the World Bank, and other global economic institutions—which serve to legitimize the narrative of a crisis. Meanwhile, at the level of social practice, the resulting discourse reflects an international political-economic structure characterized by the dominance of market logic and the ideology of "energy security." This study concludes that news coverage of the Strait of Hormuz conflict does not merely reflect geopolitical reality; rather, it constructs and reproduces public understanding of a global energy crisis through the interplay between the media, global economic institutions, and the international political-economic structure.

Keywords: global energy crisis, conflict reporting, Strait of Hormuz, critical discourse

Konstruksi Krisis Energi Global dalam Pemberitaan Konflik Selat Hormuz: Analisis Wacana Kritis Model Fairclough

ABSTRAK
Konflik di Selat Hormuz merupakan salah satu isu geopolitik yang memiliki dampak signifikan terhadap stabilitas energi dan ekonomi global. Sebagai jalur distribusi utama minyak dan gas dunia, Selat Hormuz sering direpresentasikan sebagai wilayah strategis yang menentukan keberlangsungan pasokan energi internasional. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis bagaimana krisis energi global dikonstruksi dalam pemberitaan mengenai konflik Selat Hormuz. Penelitian menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif deskriptif dengan metode Analisis Wacana Kritis (AWK) model Norman Fairclough yang meliputi dimensi teks, praktik diskursif, dan praktik sosial. Data penelitian berupa teks berita dari BBC News, SindoNews, HeyGotrade, dan Journal Arta yang membahas konflik Selat Hormuz dan dampaknya terhadap ekonomi global. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa media secara konsisten merepresentasikan Selat Hormuz sebagai jalur energi vital dunia melalui penggunaan diksi seperti *critical*, *vital*, *strategic*, dan *crisis*, serta melalui penyajian data kuantitatif yang memperkuat persepsi ketergantungan global terhadap wilayah tersebut. Pada tingkat praktik diskursif, konstruksi krisis energi dibangun melalui dominasi sumber-sumber institusional seperti International Energy Agency (IEA), Energy Information Administration (EIA), World Bank, dan lembaga ekonomi global lainnya yang berfungsi melegitimasi narasi krisis. Sementara itu, pada tingkat praktik sosial, wacana yang terbentuk merefleksikan struktur ekonomi politik internasional yang ditandai oleh dominasi logika pasar dan ideologi keamanan energi (*energy security*). Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa pemberitaan konflik Selat Hormuz tidak hanya merefleksikan realitas geopolitik, tetapi juga mengonstruksi dan mereproduksi pemahaman publik mengenai krisis energi global melalui relasi antara media, institusi ekonomi global, dan struktur ekonomi politik internasional.

Kata kunci: krisis energi global, pemberitan konflik, selat Hormuz, wacana kritis

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INTRODUCTION

In the contemporary global economic structure, energy occupies a fundamental position that not only determines the continuity of economic activity but also serves as a strategic instrument in international power relations. The world's dependence on oil and gas makes energy distribution routes a crucial point highly vulnerable to geopolitical dynamics. One of the regions that plays a central role in this system is the Strait of Hormuz, which serves as the main route for energy delivery from the Middle East to various major consumer countries worldwide.

From the perspective of international political economy, Robert Gilpin asserts that the global economy cannot be separated from political power structures, because countries controlling strategic resources hold a dominant position in the international system. In this context, the Strait of Hormuz not only functions as a trade route but also as a geopolitical space reflecting the struggle for interests among global actors. Tensions in the region show that global economic stability heavily depends on the configuration of political power in energy-producing regions. (Gilpin, 1989)

The concept of *energy security* further strengthens the urgency of this issue. Daniel Yergin explains that energy security relates to the availability of stable, sustainable, and accessible supply at reasonable prices within the global economic system. Under these conditions, disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz can be understood as systemic risks that have the potential to trigger oil price surges, global inflation, and cross-border economic instability (Yergin, 2006).

Previous studies show that the Strait of Hormuz is one of the most vital points in the global energy supply chain. emphasizes that the Strait of Hormuz is a strategic oil chokepoint that has a direct impact on the stability of world oil trade and the strategic interests of major countries like the United States. Meanwhile, it shows that the Strait of Hormuz is the only sea route connecting the Persian Gulf with the global energy market, making it a crucial point in international maritime security. (Hansen, 2023) Damayanti dkk . (2022)

Meanwhile, it found that disruptions along this route could cause oil price spikes that lead to global inflation and the potential for a global economic recession. These findings show that the Strait of Hormuz is not only understood as a geographical space but also as a crisis hub in the global economic system (Hartini & Daulay, 2026).

In the media context, news coverage of the Strait of Hormuz shows a strong tendency to frame the conflict as a threat to global economic stability. Studies show that geopolitical risks have a significant impact on global energy trade, so the media tends to emphasize market uncertainty aspects in reporting on energy conflicts. This is reinforced by findings stating that financial media use Li et a. (2021) Zhang (2023) *a market consequence frame*, where geopolitical conflicts are reduced to impacts on oil prices and financial markets.

Within the framework of Norman Fairclough's Critical Discourse Analysis, language is not viewed as neutral, but rather as a social practice that represents and simultaneously shapes power relations within society. Thus, news coverage of the Strait of Hormuz not only reflects geopolitical events but also constructs public understanding of the global energy crisis through language choices, narrative structures, and representation strategies (Fairclough, 1995).

The social construction theory of Berger & Luckmann asserts that social reality is formed through processes of externalization, objectivation, and internalization that occur continuously within society. In this context, the media acts as an institution that objectifies geopolitical events into public knowledge considered as objective reality (Shepherd & Luckmann, 1966).

Meanwhile, Robert Entman in framing theory explains that the media selects and highlights certain aspects of reality to form a particular perspective on an issue. In the reporting on the Strait of Hormuz, the dominant framing is the energy crisis, oil price surges, and recurring global

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geopolitical risks in various national and international media (Entman, 1993).

Recent studies also show that the construction of global energy discourse is heavily influenced by institutional authority and market logic. shows that the use of data from institutions such as the International Energy Agency (IEA) serves to strengthen the legitimacy of crisis discourse and create an impression of objectivity in global energy reporting. Furthermore, it found the existence of Teneva (2026) Rail dkk . (2013) *a discursive reinforcement loop*, where various media and economic institutions reinforce the same narrative, resulting in a pseudo-consensus about the energy crisis.

Another study shows that global media tend to create Cao & Lin (2024) *a "trap of neutrality,"* that is, the illusion of neutrality through the use of statistical data and quotes from official institutions, even though the narrative constructed remains within a certain socio-political framework. Based on these various theories and previous research, it can be understood that the Strait of Hormuz issue is not only a geopolitical issue but also a complex discourse production space, where the media, global economic institutions, and political actors interact in shaping public understanding of the global energy crisis. Therefore, this study focuses on the construction of the global energy crisis in reporting the Strait of Hormuz conflict using Norman Fairclough's Critical Discourse Analysis approach. Based on this focus, the research questions are: (1) how is the global energy crisis represented through the use of language in reporting the Strait of Hormuz conflict in the text dimension? (2) how do media discursive practices and the use of institutional sources play a role in shaping the construction of the global energy crisis? and (3) how do social practices related to global political economy, market logic, and energy security influence the construction of the global energy crisis in the reporting of the Strait of Hormuz conflict?

In line with these problem formulations, this study aims to analyze the representation of the global energy crisis in the text dimension, identify the role of discursive media and institutional sources in shaping the crisis discourse, as well as reveal the relationship between social practices, global political economy, market logic, and energy security in the construction of the global energy crisis.

METHOD

This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach with Norman Fairclough's *Critical Discourse Analysis* method. This approach was chosen because language in media texts is not understood merely as a means of communication, but as a social practice that reflects and simultaneously shapes broader power relations, ideology, and social structure. Fairclough emphasizes that discourse is always closely related to social practice, so language analysis needs to be placed in the context of the production, distribution, and consumption of texts in society (Fairclough, 1995).

The data in this study were analyzed using documentation techniques, namely by identifying and selecting parts of news texts that contain constructs of meaning related to the global energy crisis, geopolitics, and energy economic dynamics. The analysis process was carried out gradually, focusing on Fairclough's three main dimensions: text analysis, discursive practice, and social practice. At the text level, the research focuses on the use of lexical choices, sentence structure, metaphor, nominalization, and representation of social actors in reporting. At the discursive practice level, the analysis is directed at how texts are produced and distributed through patterns of intertextuality, the use of authoritative sources, and the strategies of information legitimacy used by the media. Meanwhile, at the social practice level, the analysis is directed at the relationship between discourse and the context of global political economy, including market logic dominance, energy security concepts, and power relations between countries in the international energy system.

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This approach is also reinforced by a qualitative research perspective that emphasizes that data analysis is not only descriptive but also interpretative, aiming to uncover the hidden meanings behind the use of language in the text (Creswell & Creswell , 2018). Thus, the analysis process does not stop at what appears on the surface of the text, but also explores how social reality is constructed through the language of the media.

To maintain interpretation accuracy, this study uses the principle of triangulation, both theory and source triangulation, by comparing various findings from Critical Discourse Analysis studies, framing theory, and international political economy perspectives. This approach aligns with Entman's view that the media not only reflects reality but also selects and highlights certain aspects to shape the public's perspective on an issue (Entman, 1993).

Overall, this method is used to understand how the discourse on the global energy crisis in reporting on the Strait of Hormuz is constructed through language, how it is produced in media practices, and how it relates to broader global social and political economic structures.

RESULTS

This study uses data in the form of online news texts obtained from various international and national media discussing the conflict in the Strait of Hormuz and its impact on the global economy. The research data consists of words, phrases, sentences, and paragraphs containing constructs of meaning related to the global energy crisis, oil price fluctuations, and the global economic system's dependence on strategic energy distribution routes.

The selection of news sources was purposively by considering the relevance of the issue, media credibility, and relevance to the research focus, namely the construction of the global energy crisis discourse in reporting on the Strait of Hormuz conflict. The selected media included BBC News, SindoNews, HeyGotrade News, and Journal Arta, each representing international, national, and financial economic media perspectives.

The research data consists of four main news sources, namely: (1) BBC News titled *"Why the Strait of Hormuz matters so much in the Iran war*"; (2) SindoNews titled *"Strait of Hormuz Crisis & oil prices could reach USD 100"*; (3) HeyGotrade News titled *"Iran and Strait of Hormuz Conflict Push Oil Prices Up"*; and (4) Journal Arta titled *"Strait of Hormuz Conflict Heats Up, Oil Prices Surge"*. These four news stories were chosen because they contain strong representations regarding the interconnection between geopolitical conflicts and global economic stability, especially in the energy sector. The titles, sources, and news links are presented below.

1) Why the Strait of Hormuz matters so much in the Iran war (BBC Newa): https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c78n6p09pzno
2) Strait of Hormuz Crisis & Oil Prices Could Break USD 100 (SindoNews): https://ekbis.sindonews.com/read/1711205/33/krisis-selat-hormuz-harga-minyak-dunia-bisa-tembus-usd100-per-barel-bertahun-tahun-1779847546
3) The Iran and Strait of Hormuz Conflict Drives Oil Prices Up (HeyGotrade): https://www.heygotrade.com/id/news/konflik-iran-selat-hormuz-harga-minyak-saham-energi/
4) Strait of Hormuz Conflict Heats Up, Oil Prices Surge (Stuart O'Neill): https://journalarta.com/news/2026/05/29/konflik-selat-hormuz-memanas-harga-minyak-melonjak/

Based on initial observations, news coverage about the Strait of Hormuz shows a tendency to use vocabulary related to the global energy crisis, international geopolitics, oil markets, inflation, and global economic security. These vocabulary repeatedly appears in various media with different contexts, yet still shows consistent interrelated meanings, namely that the conflict in the Strait of Hormuz has a direct impact on global economic stability.

In addition, terms such as *"mo oil transit choke point," "global oil supply disruption,"*

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"price surge," "geopolitical risk," and *"energy crisis"* are found, which function to build the representation of the Strait of Hormuz as a strategic area within the global energy system. The use of these terms is not only descriptive but also indicates a construction of meaning that global economic stability heavily depends on the security of these energy routes.

In the analysis process, the data obtained were then classified into certain discourse categories based on the interrelation of themes and meaning functions within the text. Classification was carried out by identifying text segments related to the representation of the Strait of Hormuz, global economic impacts, energy market reactions, and the role of international institutions in responding to crises. After the classification process was carried out, the data were analyzed descriptively-interpretively to observe the discourse construction patterns constructed by the media.

In general, the data collection results show that reporting on the Strait of Hormuz conflict not only functions as information on geopolitical events but also as a means of constructing meaning about the global economic system's dependence on energy. Through word choice, quantitative data, and citations from international institutions, the media builds a narrative that the disturbances in the Strait of Hormuz have broad implications for global economic stability.

Based on the data collection, classification, and analysis processes carried out, it was found that all news sources form a consistent discourse pattern regarding the global energy crisis. In accordance with Norman Fairclough's Critical Discourse Analysis approach, the relationship between texts, discursive practices, and social practices in news reporting shows that the meaning of crisis not only emerges linguistically but is also shaped through media structures and global political economy relations.

The analysis results show that there are several main tendencies in the news, namely the representation of the Strait of Hormuz as a vital global energy route, the construction of geopolitical risks as triggers of the global economic crisis, and the dominance of market logic in assessing the impact of conflicts. These three tendencies consistently appear across all news sources and form mutually reinforcing discourse patterns.

The following are the results of the research data analysis, covering forms of discourse representation, linguistic patterns, as well as the tendencies of themes and meanings constructed in the reporting of the Strait of Hormuz conflict on the global economy.

DISCUSSION

Representation of the Strait of Hormuz as a Vital Economic Corridor of the World

In a BBC News report titled Why the Strait of Hormuz Matters So Much in the Iran War, the Strait of Hormuz is represented as *"one of the world's busiest oil shipping channels."* This representation places the Strait of Hormuz not just as a geographical area but as the main infrastructure supporting global energy distribution. The choice of language that emphasizes the busy shipping lanes shows that the value of the Strait of Hormuz is built through its role in the global trading system. Thus, the conflict occurring in the region is not positioned as a regional issue between Iran and Western countries, but as a threat to international economic interests.

A similar representation is also found in the official International Energy Agency report calling the Strait of Hormuz " *one of the world's most critical oil transit chokepoints"* with about 20 million barrels of oil per day passing through the strait. The use of the word critical shows a stronger intensification of meaning compared to the word important or significant. The term carries an emergency nuance that places the Strait of Hormuz as the decisive point for the continuity of the global energy system. Through this lexical choice, global energy institutions construct the Strait of Hormuz as an irreplaceable space in the global energy supply chain. (International Energy Agency, 2026)

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Furthermore, the IEA states that about 25% of the world's *seaborne oil trade* passes through the Strait of Hormuz. From the perspective of Critical Discourse Analysis, the use of such quantitative data not only serves as statistical information but also as a strategy for legitimizing discourse. The presence of large numbers builds the perception that the world has a very high level of dependence on the Strait of Hormuz. As a result, readers are led to accept the assumption that disruptions in the region will automatically impact the global economy. (International Energy Agency, 2026)

These findings align with the U.S. Energy Information Administration report calling the Strait of Hormuz " *the world's most important oil transit chokepoint."* (U.S. Energy Information Administration, 2019) The use of the superlative most important shows that the Strait of Hormuz is placed at the highest hierarchical position compared to other energy routes in the world. In other words, the reality constructed is not merely about the importance of the Strait of Hormuz, but about the dominance of the Strait of Hormuz in the global energy distribution system. Through this construction, the media and international energy agencies reinforce the view that global economic stability heavily depends on the security of the region.

According to HeyGotrade, the Strait of Hormuz is represented as *a "strategic route that transports about 20 percent of global oil and LNG supplies."* The use of the term strategic route shows that the value of a region is not only determined by its geographical position but also by its role in supporting global economic activity. Thus, the Strait of Hormuz is constructed as a space with high economic and geopolitical value for both energy-producing and energy-consuming countries.

Additionally, HeyGotrade uses the phrase *"a sharply increasing geopolitical risk environment"* to describe a conflict situation. The use of the word sharp serves as an intensification strategy that reinforces the impression of threat. The phrase encourages readers to view conflict as a situation experiencing escalation and potentially producing greater impacts in the future. In this context, the media not only report the conditions occurring but also build expectations about the possibility of a broader crisis.

In SindoNews reports, the conflict in the Strait of Hormuz is represented by the term *"crisis in the Strait of Hormuz,"* which is linked to the possibility of world oil prices breaking USD 100 per barrel. The use of the term crisis is a form of nominalization that simplifies various complex political, military, and diplomatic processes into a single concept. As a result, readers' attention is more directed towards the economic impacts caused rather than the factors causing the conflict itself. In this way, the media forms the understanding that the most important aspect of the conflict is its consequences on the global energy market.

The focus on oil price projections also shows the dominance of economic perspectives in the news. Conflict is reduced to issues of energy commodity price fluctuations and market instability. Within this framework, the reality of war is more understood through changes in economic values than the accompanying social or humanitarian impacts. This shows the strength of market ideology in media construction regarding the Strait of Hormuz conflict.

Meanwhile, Journal Arta refers to the Strait of Hormuz as *"a strategic route that channels one-third of the world's oil supply."* The phrase flowing is a metaphorical form that describes energy as something moving through a single main channel. The metaphor builds the image that the global energy system works like the circulatory system in the human body. In this construction, the Strait of Hormuz is represented as the main artery that maintains the continuity of global economic life. Therefore, disruptions to the Strait of Hormuz are understood as threats that can disrupt the entire global economic system. In the context of reporting on the Strait of Hormuz, the same pattern is seen through the repetition of the terms *critical, vital,*

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strategic, risk, and *crisis* that consistently shape perceptions of threats to global economic stability. Overall, text-level analysis shows that international media and energy institutions consistently represent the Strait of Hormuz as the main hub in the global energy system. Through lexical choices such as *critical, vital, most important, strategic, and crisis,* as well as through quantification strategies in the form of data on 20 million barrels per day and 25% of world oil trade, the constructed reality is not only about the importance of the Strait of Hormuz but also about the global economy's dependence on a specific geographic point. This construction reproduces the view that global economic stability heavily depends on the security of international energy routes located in the Strait of Hormuz region.

Discursive Practices in the Construction of the Global Energy Crisis

In the discursive practice dimension, discourse production in news cannot be understood as a neutral process, but as a social practice that always exists within a certain power relationship within the global media system. From the perspective of Critical Discourse Analysis, source selection, citation strategies, and intertextuality patterns not only represent reality but also help shape boundaries about what is considered "truth" in global energy issues. Previous research shows that media on energy issues tend to rely on authoritative institutions such as *the International Energy Agency* (IEA) and *Energy Information Administration* (EIA) to build an impression of objectivity, thus forming what is called *the "trapping of neutrality"* in global energy discourse. Thus, neutrality in news reporting is not a natural condition, but rather the result of construction through certain institutional authorities. (Cao & Lin, 2024)

In BBC News reports, the use of data from the Energy Information Administration (EIA) such as *"about 20 million barrels of oil pass through the Strait of Hormuz per day"* not only functions as factual information but also as a form of epistemic legitimacy that locks certain interpretations of reality. The use of numbers and statistics creates an effect of objectivity that seems value-free, whereas discursively it guides readers to understand that the Strait of Hormuz is a vital node inseparable from the global energy system. Framing studies in energy media show that the use of quantitative data from official institutions serves to close the space of meaning contestation and reinforce the dominant narrative about global dependence on strategic energy pathways. In this context, numbers are not only informative but also act as naturalization instruments, making global dependence on the Strait of Hormuz appear (Denver, 2026) *"normal"* and unquestionable. Thus, the crisis reality is constructed through technocratic language that appears neutral but actually reflects the economic-political perspectives of dominant institutions in the global energy system.

Meanwhile, in HeyGotrade, the discursive construction is dominated by financial market logic that turns geopolitical conflicts into economic variables. The conflict in the Strait of Hormuz is no longer understood as a political or regional security event, but rather as a factor influencing global oil prices, risk premiums, and the stock performance of energy companies like Exxon Mobil and Chevron.

This approach shows that the reality of crisis undergoes a commodification process, where geopolitical events are reduced to measurable indicators within market systems. This aligns with the finding that financial media tend to use *a "market consequence frame,"* a framing method that assesses the significance of an event based on its impact on investors and market stability, rather than on broader socio-political dimensions. Thus, crises are not only represented but also (Zhang, 2023) *"translated"* into market language oriented toward financial profit and risk.

In SindoNews reporting, the use of quotes from the International Energy Agency (IEA) and the World Bank shows the dominance of global institutional sources in producing energy crisis

discourse. This shows that the definition of crisis is not constructed plurally, but is more determined by global economic institutions that hold authority within the international economic system.

Previous research has shown that the media tend to reproduce global institutional authority to reinforce the legitimacy of energy narratives, thus forming a hierarchy of knowledge where global actors are more dominant than local actors or affected countries. In this context, crisis discourse is not only informative but also reflects epistemic power distribution, where only certain actors are considered legitimate to define the global energy reality. (Carril et al., 2013)

Furthermore, the use of projections from Wood Mackenzie and the Brookings Institution shows that discourse does not stand alone but reinforce each other within a reproductive intertextual network. In CDA studies, this phenomenon can be understood as *a "discursive reinforcement loop,"* a condition where various institutions repeat and reinforce the same narrative to produce a pseudo-consensus on certain issues. As a result, energy market uncertainty is produced as something that appears objective and unavoidable (Carril et al., 2013).

In Journal Arta, discursive constructions show a more dramatic narrative tendency through the use of language such as *"systemic risks to the world economy."* This choice of language not only serves as a description but also as a rhetorical strategy that builds urgency and expands the scale of threats from the regional level to the global economic system.

Previous findings show that the media often use emotional rhetorical strategies to reinforce crisis perceptions, especially in global energy issues heavily influenced by market uncertainty. In this context, quotes from the Federal Reserve not only reinforce legitimacy but also show that global monetary institutions have a central position in defining what is considered systemic risk in the world economy. Thus, crisis discourse is not only informative but also performative in shaping perceptions of global instability. (Denver, 2026) Overall, discursive practices in the four sources show that the construction of the global energy crisis is not plural but concentrated on a network of international economic and financial institutions that have epistemic authority in defining energy reality. Through the use of institutional data, market logic, and mutually reinforcing intertextuality, the media not only report the crisis but also contribute to forming a regime of truth about global dependence on the Strait of Hormuz. This shows that the production of discourse on energy issues cannot be separated from global power relations, where international economic and financial institutions act as dominant actors in determining the boundaries of meaning about what is called *the "global energy crisis."*

Social Practices in the Construction of the Global Energy Crisis

In the social practice dimension, the discourse on the global energy crisis in the reporting of the Strait of Hormuz operates within an international economic-political structure characterized by systemic dependence on fossil energy and the imbalance in power distribution between producing and consuming countries. From the perspective of international political economy, energy is not only an economic commodity but also a strategic instrument in global power relations.
In the context of the Strait of Hormuz, the construction as *a global "choke point"* shows that disruptions at a single geographic point can have systemic impacts on the global economy. This shows that energy functions as a structural mechanism that maintains hierarchy within the global economic system. The concept of *energy security* in social practice functions not only as a technical concept but also as an ideological framework regulating how the global system understands energy risks.

In global discourse, disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz are always understood as threats to international economic stability. However, from a critical perspective, this shows that energy security

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operates as the dominant rationality prioritizing the stability of the global economic system over the distribution of energy justice globally.

From a social construction perspective, the reality of the energy crisis is not objective but is shaped through repeated institutional and discursive processes. Studies on energy geopolitics show that energy crises are often the result of interactions between media narratives, state policies, and global market dynamics that reinforce each other (Graaf & Colgan, 2016).

In this context, the media plays a role in constructing public understanding that disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz are systemic threats to the global economy. This process is reinforced by the repetition of cross-institutional narratives, creating a collective perception that the energy crisis is a *"natural" condition* within the global system.
Recent studies on energy geopolitics show that the transformation of the global energy system does not eliminate structural inequality, but rather creates new forms of geopolitical dependency and vulnerability Kuzemko et al., 2025).

However, in media discourse, this inequality is rarely framed as a structural problem. Instead, crises are more often reduced to issues of oil price stability and global supply security. As a result, the dimension of energy distribution injustice does not appear as a main issue in media representation. Furthermore, empirical research shows that geopolitical risks have a significant impact on global energy trade, reinforcing energy's position as a strategic variable in the international economy (Li et al., 2021).

Overall, social practices in reporting on the Strait of Hormuz show that the global energy crisis is the result of an international economic-political structure dominated by the ideology of energy security and global market rationality. In this structure, energy functions not only as an economic commodity but also as an instrument that maintains the global hierarchy of power.

Thus, the discourse on the energy crisis not only reflects objective reality but also plays a role in reproducing the structure of global inequality through the normalization of energy dependence, dominance of industrial states, and marginalization of local actors in crisis representation.

The Ideological Construction of the Global Energy Crisis in the Reporting of the Strait of Hormuz

At the ideological level, overall coverage of the Strait of Hormuz conflict shows that the media not only convey information but also shape certain perspectives on the relationship between geopolitics and the global economy. Through language choices, narrative structure, and strengthening authoritative sources, the media consistently guides readers to understand that global economic stability heavily depends on the security of the energy routes in the Strait of Hormuz.

One of the most prominent forms of ideological construction is the naturalization of global dependence on the Strait of Hormuz. In various news sources, it is shown that about 20% of the world's oil supply passes through the strait, and millions of barrels of oil are traded daily through that strait. This quantitative representation not only functions as data but also as an ideological mechanism that makes global dependence on a single geographic point appear " *natural"* and inevitable. Thus, the global economic system is positioned as something naturally vulnerable to geopolitical disruptions in certain regions.

Furthermore, crisis ideology is also constructed through the repeated use of diction such as *"crisis," "price surge," "systemic risk,"* and *"market instability."* The use of these terms creates a framework that every disruption in the Strait of Hormuz must automatically be understood as a threat to the global economic system. From the perspective of Critical Discourse Analysis, this indicates the existence of an ideological framing process where complex realities are simplified into a narrative of crisis that is continuously reproduced.

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In SindoNews reporting, for example, the projected oil price that could reach USD 100 to even USD 200 per barrel in extreme scenarios shows how the future of the global economy is constructed as something full of uncertainty. This narrative reinforces the idea that the global energy market is vulnerable and highly sensitive to geopolitical dynamics in the Middle East. Thus, the ideology of instability becomes a continuously produced part of media discourse.

Meanwhile, in BBC reports, the Strait of Hormuz is represented as *a "vital oil transit choke point,"* which ideologically reinforces the view that certain points in the global system play a dominant role in determining world stability. This representation indirectly confirms the existence of a global spatial hierarchy, where certain regions have much greater influence than others. This reflects *centrality ideology*, which is the view that world stability depends on certain strategic locations.

Overall, the ideological construction in the reporting on the Strait of Hormuz shows that the media play a role in shaping the understanding that the world is in an interdependent system, vulnerable to geopolitical disruptions, and heavily influenced by global energy market dynamics. Through the naturalization of dependency, crisis framing, institutional legitimacy, and market logic dominance, the discourse formed not only represents reality but also reproduces certain perspectives on the global economy and global energy security.

The Relationship Between Media Discourse, Global Political Economy, and Energy Security

In this section, the analysis is directed to examine how the discourse built in the reporting of the Strait of Hormuz relates to the global political economic structure as well as the concept of energy security. Within the framework of Fairclough's Critical Discourse Analysis, discourse does not stand alone but is always connected to broader social practices, including power relations, economic interests, and the underlying global structures.

From all news sources, it is clear that the conflict in the Strait of Hormuz is not only represented as a regional issue among countries in the Middle East but is constructed as an event that has a direct impact on the global economic system. This is evident from the emphasis that about 20% of the world's oil supply passes through the Strait of Hormuz, and even the slightest disruption can trigger a surge in oil prices and global inflation. Thus, media discourse places the Strait of Hormuz as a strategic point in the world economic system that greatly determines global stability.

From the perspective of international political economy *(International Political Economy),* as explained by Robert Gilpin, the relationship between political and economic power is interconnected and inseparable. This is reflected in reports showing that political decisions, military conflicts, and geopolitical tensions directly affect energy prices, financial markets, and the economic stability of oil-consuming countries. Thus, media discourse strengthens the understanding that energy is not merely an economic commodity but also an instrument of power within the international system (Gilpin, 1989).

Furthermore, the concept of *energy security* becomes the dominant framework in all the news coverage analyzed. From Daniel Yergin's perspective, energy security relates to the availability of stable, accessible, and affordable energy supplies. In news texts, disruptions in the Strait of Hormuz are consistently linked to risks to global energy supply, oil price surges, and potential economic crises in various countries. This shows that the media reproduce the logic of energy security as global and highly dependent on the stability of major distribution routes such as the Strait of Hormuz.

Furthermore, the relationship between media discourse and global political economy is also seen in how the market is used as a key indicator of conflict impacts. Oil price changes, stock movements of energy companies, as well as bond responses and inflation are used as the main measures in explaining geopolitical impacts. This

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shows the dominance of market logic in understanding global reality, where global economic stability is measured through price fluctuations and investor reactions. In this context, the media not only report on the market but also strengthen the market's position as the center for assessing global reality.

From Fairclough's social practice perspective, this shows a reciprocal relationship between media discourse and the global economic structure. Media not only represents the world's dependence on energy but also strengthens the understanding that the global economic system is highly sensitive to disruptions at strategic points. Thus, the discourse on the global energy crisis becomes part of the reproduction of the international political economic structure, marked by energy dependence, global market dominance, and geopolitical competition among major countries.

Overall, the relationship between media discourse, global political economy, and energy security shows that reporting on the Strait of Hormuz cannot be understood merely as reports of events, but as part of knowledge production about how the global economy works. Through the integration of geopolitics, energy markets, and the concept of energy security, the media forms the understanding that global economic stability heavily depends on the continuity of strategic routes like the Strait of Hormuz.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of Norman Fairclough's critical discourse analysis model on the reporting of the Strait of Hormuz conflict, it can be concluded that the media not only convey information about geopolitical developments in the Middle East region but also actively construct public understanding of the global energy crisis. In the textual dimension, the Strait of Hormuz is represented as a vital global energy route through the use of lexical choices such as critical, vital, strategic, and crisis, which build the perception that global economic stability heavily depends on the security of the region. The use of quantitative data and technical terms also functions as legitimacy strategies that reinforce the narrative of the world's dependence on the Strait of Hormuz. In the discursive practice dimension, the construction of the global energy crisis is shaped through the dominance of institutional sources such as the International Energy Agency (IEA), Energy Information Administration (EIA), World Bank, and other economic institutions. The use of these authoritative sources creates an impression of objectivity while reinforcing the narrative that places the disturbance in the Strait of Hormuz as a serious threat to the global economy. Moreover, market logic becomes the dominant framework in the news, so geopolitical conflicts are more interpreted through their impact on oil prices, inflation, and financial market stability.

In the social practice dimension, the discourse on the global energy crisis reflects the structure of the international political economy characterized by dependence on fossil energy, dominance of industrial countries, and the importance of energy security in maintaining global economic stability. The discourse constructed by the media shows that energy functions not only as an economic commodity but also as a strategic instrument in global power relations.

Overall, this study shows that news coverage of the Strait of Hormuz reproduces energy security ideology and global market logic through the naturalization of the world's dependence on strategic energy distribution routes. Thus, the global energy crisis in media coverage is not merely a reflection of objective reality, but rather the result of discourse construction shaped by the relationship between the media, global economic institutions, and the structure of the international political economy.

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