



NARRATIVES BEFORE & AFTER THE 2018 NORTH KOREA- UNITED STATES SUMMIT

AN ANALYSIS OF CHINESE AND RUSSIAN NEWS MEDIA COVERAGE OF EVENTS ON THE KOREAN PENINSULA

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PRE-SUMMIT AND POST-SUMMIT MEDIA COVERAGE

Figure 1. Shifts in Chinese Narratives: Pre and Post Summit

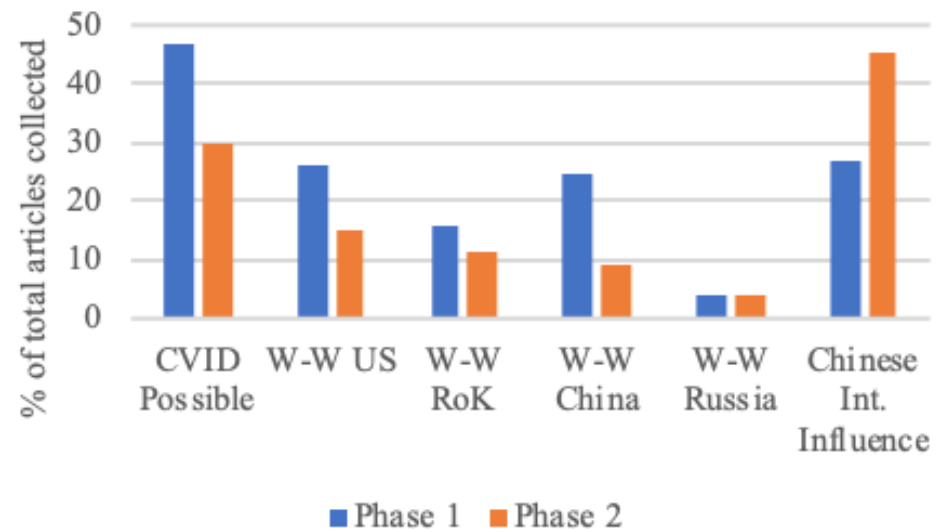
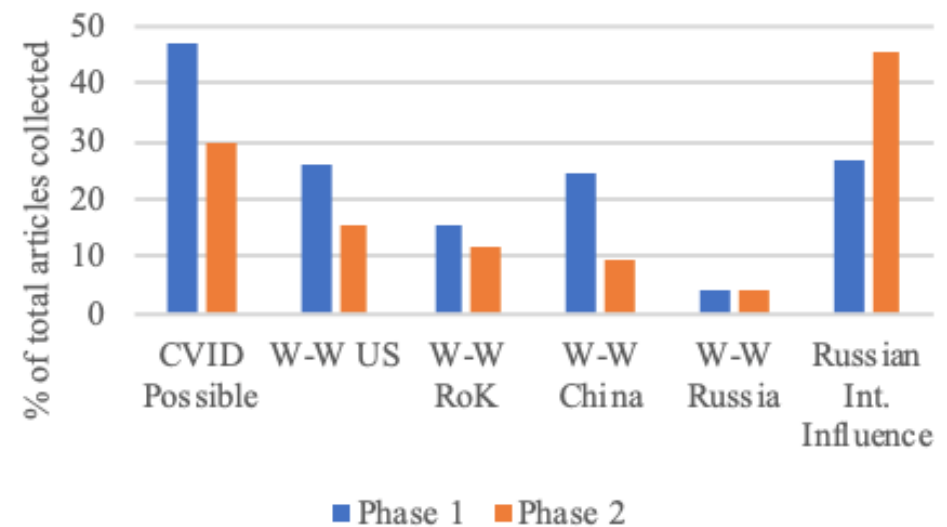


Figure 2. Shifts in Russian Narratives: Pre and Post Summit



RISE IN INTERNATIONAL INFLUENCE

Chinese Media	Pre-Summit	Post-Summit
	Mentioned	Mentioned
Win-Win US	26.2%	15.4%
Win-Win ROK	15.5%	11.6%
Win-Win China	24.4%	9.1%
Win-Win Russia	4.0%	3.9%
National Security Interest	25.6%	25.6%
Economic Interest	18.6%	7.7%
International Influence	27.1%	45.4%
Russian Media		
Win-Win US	25.7%	10.3%
Win-Win ROK	13.5%	6.1%
Win-Win China	2.9%	3.5%
Win-Win Russia	7%	8.8%
National Security Interest	8.2%	0%
Economic Interest	5.3%	12.6%
International Influence	17%	42.9%

PRIMARY FINDINGS & INSIGHTS

Implications: Future CVID demands by the U.S. will be difficult to resonate within the framework of the narratives established in the news media of these nations following the Trump-Kim summit. More importantly, the conveying that U.S. influence and trustworthiness are in decline creates possibilities of justifying and legitimizing new alliances and a recasting of image for existing political actors to their populations. US actions following the summit reduces US influence and bolsters Chinese prestige.

Primary Findings: Kim Jong-un legitimized, CVID long-term process, stability of Korean Peninsula important to both nations, Russia & China cooperative with one another, shifting of regional influence/U.S. decline. Future U.S. actions easily repackaged into narratives of aggression and dishonesty following summit.

Chinese Media Insights: Highlights Chinese regional influence by providing tangible evidence, through the summit, that its approach to dialogue and cooperation leads to a reduction in tensions. Sharp contrast to U.S. concerns of wanting significant and tangible denuclearization of North Korea. U.S. commitments presented in such a way that any resumption of economic or military pressure tactics by the U.S. would appear as contradictory to its previous actions and commitments made. China as commanding strong, and reasoned, regional influence, with the DPRK now acting in good faith.

Russian Media Insights: Russia as in support of a multi-lateral international system and in agreement with positions taken by the PRC toward the DRPK. Presenting of Russian strategic alignment with the PRC, noting a decline in U.S. influence, and attempting to place future U.S. actions in the region within similar narrative constraints as Chinese media. Actual concern for political or economic relations with the DPRK is of seemingly less concern than presenting those aforementioned narrative elements.