

Language Use and the Refugee Crisis – an Analysis of Spanish Newspaper Articles

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Nowadays the refugee movement has become one of the most popular topics in the public discourse. Looking at recent newspaper articles, one term that is closely related to the topic of the migratory flow is the term 'crisis'. In Germany, the reception of the refugee movement is widespread but what about Spain? In order to get an overview on the Spanish perception of the refugee movement, four different newspaper articles were analysed with the help of a corpus-based discourse analysis. This corpus-based discourse analysis is based on the theories of Ingo H. Warnke and Jürgen Spitzmüller, who are pioneers in the field of linguistic discourse analysis. In order to see how this linguistic tool can be applied on a specific discourse, the public discourse about the refugee movement in Spain will be analysed. Questions that will be tackled are if and how Spanish newspapers form the public discourse about the refugee crisis linguistically. Therefore a study was conducted on the presentation of the Syrian refugee movement within articles from *El Mundo*, *El País*, *El Confidencial* and *ABC*. An analysis of the individual texts and a comparison of all occurring phenomena helped to answer the questions: Which linguistic means are used in Spanish newspaper articles? How do they affect our perception of the refugee crisis? And finally, is the 'refugee crisis' a linguistic construction?