

Methods: News Headline Analysis

We primarily used [Lexis-Nexis](#) to search the news headlines from August 3-8, 2014 with the search terms hlead (Africa!). In Lexis-Nexis “[hlead](#)” is the operator for searching the headline and leading paragraph; while “(Africa!)” searches for mentions of “Africa” and any truncated terms, e.g., “African” or “African.” In the case of *The Wall Street Journal* and the *People’s Daily* (which were not available on Lexis-Nexis) we used a key word search for “Africa” for the same time period and added these headlines to our master list.

After compiling a master list of headlines we searched and removed articles about African-Americans and articles about African-Europeans that did not pertain to the subject of Africa. We also removed articles that did not contain a headline or that were duplicated (including duplicate mentions of articles in news round-ups within the same publication). The master lists were then pasted into the [Tagxedo](#) word cloud generator.

The publications by grouping were selected based on lists compiled by the [4 International Media & Newspapers](#) (4imn) website. The 4imn algorithm uses a publication’s Google rank, its Alexa Traffic rank, and its Majestic SEO Domains to select the top publications by region. For the most part, we chose the top 10 publications for each regional grouping, i.e., Africa, international (i.e., not U.S. and not Africa) and United States. Within the 4imn lists we removed publications that are not available in English (proceeding down the list to the next highest ranking). In terms of the African publications, we only used English language sources available on Lexis-Nexis (due to time constraints for the analysis and availability of news websites on our server).

We used the following groupings and publications:

African Publications:

Al-Ahram Gate (Egypt), *Business Day* (South Africa), *Daily Nation* (Kenya), *The East African* (Kenya), *Mail & Guardian* (South Africa), *The Monitor* (Uganda), *The Namibian* (Namibia), *The Standard* (Kenya), *The Times* (South Africa), *Vanguard* (Nigeria)

Business Publications:

Business Day (South Africa), *The Financial Times* (U.K.), *The Wall Street Journal*

International Publications:

China Daily (China), *Daily Mail* (UK), *The Daily Telegraph* (UK), *Financial Times* (UK), *The Globe and Mail* (Canada), *The Guardian* (UK), *The Independent* (UK), *The People’s Daily* (China), *The Sydney Morning Herald* (Australia), *The Times of India* (India)

United States Publications:

Chicago Tribune, *Daily News* (New York), *The Examiner* (Washington, D.C.), *The Houston Chronicle*, *Los*

Angeles Times, The New York Post, The New York Times, USA Today, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post

For the Topsy twitter analysis we searched in the twitter analytics function for the following terms:

- Ebola OR #Ebola
- (Africa OR #Africa) –Ebola -#Ebola
- #USAfrica OR #USAfricaSummit OR #AfricaSummit