

Propaganda in the Service of Genocide- Case of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant

Wiktor Pastucha, Univeristy of Wroclaw, Poland
Aleksandra Spychalska, University of Wroclaw, Poland

The European Conference on Media, Communication and Film 2015
Official Conference Proceedings

Abstract

The objective of this paper is to examine methods of running propaganda campaigns in facilitating the execution of the genocidal policy by the example of the Islamic State.

The issue of using propaganda as a tool that support the crime of genocide has been a subject of studies before- mostly in regard to Third Reich and the genocide in Rwanda. The propaganda campaigns are designed to identify the enemy, to convince the society, that this enemy poses a great danger and it needs to be destroyed, and finally to persuade the 'audience' to support the extermination. However, it has never been noted in history that an organization so freely calling for genocide had such broad range of means of propaganda at its disposal as ISIS has.

ISIS summons its followers to Jihad understood as a battle with the 'infidels', which ought to be continued until the time, when Islam remains the only religion standing. While the ground for the policy of genocide is the concept of Jihad, the tools used are propaganda and meticulously built brand. ISIS, out of all terrorist organisations, was the first to use modern communication technologies (social media, the internet) so consistently and on such a wide scale, to promote its activities. Based on the analysis carried out by the authors, it becomes clear that the IS creates its image consciously and effectively uses communication to facilitate its plans of genocide. In order to fulfil them, it uses new communication technologies on a scale never witnessed before.

Keywords: genocide, Islamic State, propaganda, ISIS, communication, brand

iafor

The International Academic Forum

www.iafor.org

Introduction

The issue of religious fundamentalism and its negative consequences proves to be a prevailing topic nowadays. The activities of Boko Haram, Al-Shahab, Al-Qaeda or ISIS pose a serious threat to international security. Each of these organizations has a similar background and shares a similar view of the world; each of them is based on the same ideology and uses similar tools to reach their goals. Yet, it is the Islamic State that is the most successful in military actions, conquers new territories, actively develops its terrorist network worldwide, recruits the greatest number of fighters from the Western World and has significant economic accomplishments.

One of the means to reach its goals is the policy of genocide. ISIS summons its followers to Jihad understood, above all, as a battle with the infidels, which ought to be continued until the time, when Islam remains the only religion standing (M. Sadowski, 2013). To ISIS fighters 'Jihad' means armed expansion of the Muslim community- those of the 'infidels', who reject Islam and will not succumb to the Muslim rule are not worthy of living. 'The Infidels' are the Christians, the Jews, the Yazidis or the Copt but also Muslims who deviate from practicing Islam as dictated by the Caliphate. Such understanding of Jihad is dictated by the self-appointed Caliph- Abu Bakr al Bagdhadi¹. This form of 'Holy War' lies thus in fact in the fundamentals of the genocide intent. The Islamic State (currently only on conquered territories) commits mass murders and executions, rapes, women trafficking, mutilations. This has been proven in report from investigation conducted by UN (2015) by collected witness' testimony and discovered mass graves in Iraq and Syria. But ISIS leaders also call their supporters to killing 'infidels' in every other country- in Western Europe or USA- with clear intention of wiping them out of the map of future Caliphate. While the ground for the policy of genocide is the concept of Jihad, the tools used in the process are propaganda and meticulously built brand.

The issue of using propaganda and conscious brand building to assist policy of genocide has been a subject of studies before- it was mostly in regard to Third Reich and the role of the media before and in the aftermath of genocide in Rwanda. Most scholars (D. Yanagizava-Drott, 2014; V. Klemperer, 1983; M. Lower & T. Hauschildt, 2014) pointed towards a clear connection between using means of propaganda and the effectiveness of execution of genocide. The propaganda campaigns are designed to identify the enemy, to convince the society ('brand audience'), that this enemy poses a great danger and it needs to be destroyed and finally to persuade the 'audience' to support the extermination (in case of Rwanda the Hutu propaganda successfully motivated regular people to take part in slaughter). However, it has never been noted in history that an organization so freely agitating for genocide had such broad range of means of propaganda at its disposal. Most often such campaigns were limited to state traditional media, while now IS can use the internet and new communication technologies on global scale with no regard for borders. So far there have been only single articles mentioning this issue written,

¹ There is a discussion among scholars and theologians, whether such interpretation of Jihad is correct (more: M. Sadowski, 2013). However the authors of this paper would like to avoid doctrinal dubiousness and concentrate on the fact that this interpretation of 'holy war' is persuaded by ISIS' leaders, therefore it is crucial for further analyses of ISIS' genocidal intent.

majority of which were of journalistic or popular science nature. In this paper, the authors aimed to present the issue of propaganda campaigns via new communication technologies and role of building the brand of the Islamic State in order to fulfill the plan of genocide.

The authors are of the opinion, that the professional and consciously ran propaganda (understood here as Brand Communication) is the crucial factor, which determines the effectiveness of the Islamic State. It is believed to drive the expressive and clear Brand Image. The resource, which a distinct brand known across the world is, directly and indirectly influences the execution of the goals and postulates of ISIS. It facilitates not only the recruitment of fighters or building a network in the Western countries, but also military actions (i. e. Christians living in neighboring countries leave their households in panic on a first sight of a black flag, having no previous contact with the organization- it is the effect of the communication of terror). ISIS, out of all terrorist organizations, was the first to use social media and internet so consistently and on such a wide scale to promote its activities. Based on the analysis carried out by the authors, it becomes clear, that the Islamic State creates its image consciously (culling from the know-how derived from the world of business) and effectively uses the means of propaganda to facilitate its plans of genocide. In order to fulfill them, it uses modern communication technologies on a scale never witnessed before.

Methodology

Since the authors were of the opinion, that the Islamic State utilizes knowledge gained and gathered in the consumer markets to pursue its genocidal intentions, in the research, the methods of brand analysis, which are applicable chiefly on commercial markets, were used. While analyzing the Brand of Islamic State, the authors applied the methodology of Corporate Identity, understood as conscious and long term planning and management of the communication process within an organization (M. Fleisher, 2003). This scope of research was based on matrix of four pillars (The 'Corporate Identity-mix' Model): Brand DNA, Brand Behavior, Brand Design and Brand Communication (C. B.M. van Riel & Ch. J Fombrun, 2007).

The authors state, that what differentiates ISIS from all of the other terrorist groups and what can be one of the reasons why they are so successful, is consistently built organization's brand based on Brand DNA. Since the goal of the paper is to present how propaganda can be used in service of genocide, authors will concentrate on analyzing ISIS' Brand Communication. The examination of ISIS Brand as a whole is a subject of further research and will be published in the future.

In the research, Brand Communication is understood as a verbal and visual presentation of certain meanings to the specific group of receivers via media or other channels. (M. Fleischer, 2003). According to Merriam- Webster Dictionary, the term 'propaganda' has three basic meanings and can be defined as: 1. ideas or statements that are often false or exaggerated and that are spread in order to help a cause, a political leader, a government, etc., 2. the spreading of ideas, information, or rumor for the purpose of helping or injuring an institution, a cause, or a person, 3. ideas, facts, or allegations spread deliberately to further one's cause or to damage an opposing cause; *also* : a public action having such an effect. Authors recognize that

all of communication activities run by Islamic State have propaganda intent. That is why there is no need for differentiate these two terms- they will be used interchangeably in this paper.

In the study on using propaganda in order to support the policy of genocide, the authors based their research on the model of the crime proposed by Gregory Stanton² (G. Stanton, 2013). By analyzing genocides that occur in XXth and XXIth century, Stanton formulated ten stages of the crime, which are: classification, symbolization, discrimination, dehumanization, organization, polarization, preparation, persecution, extermination and denial. According to Stanton's model, the initial stages precede the other ones, at the same time not finishing in the wake of the following ones. To the opposite, to illustrate, with the start of the process of organization, the level of dehumanization of the persecuted group increases. (Stanton, 1996). Stanton's model is crucial for transnational system of genocide prevention and punishment, since the identification of each stage would enable international community the effective containment of the crime.

ISIS' Brand Communication

ISIS communication is very well planned, professionally executed and used as a strategic asset by the organization. Active communication with massive media reach (according to data form Brand24 even 1/7th every internet users are getting information about IS activities on daily basis) result in lingering influx of new volunteers, donators and supporters. Acting on such scale is possible only through holistic approach to brand communication and usage of various channels based on clear strategy. Numerous communication channels are actively used and professionally ran by ISIS. According to authors' research, the most important ones are: social media, branded gadgets, magazines, news and PR agencies, advertisements, movies, TV and radio and brand ambassadors.

1. Communication Channels

ISIS activities in social media includes creating and running official profiles on Facebook, Twitter or Snapchat and even creating own Facebook – 5elaphabook (closed after few days), but mostly it consist in supporters and members of organization activity in this channel. Due to this fragmentation, it is extremely difficult to react and ban all of ISIS profile. What is even more important, communication itself is in this way more natural and can be properly adjusted to the audience. Since the communication is on “one on one” level (not “brand - customer”) it enables ISIS to create real relationship with receivers of their message.

Branded Gadgets is one of the most interesting channel used by organization. T-Shirts, toys or “IS starter kits” created by Al-Hayat Media Center increase brand awareness and help to build and maintain relationship with supporters that cannot join ISIS in person. Gadgets are distributed by internet shops or can be purchased at numerous markets, for instance in Turkey.

² Gregory H. Stanton is the Research Professor in Genocide Studies and Prevention at the George Mason University in Fairfax County. He is the founder (1999) and president of the think-tank ‘Genocide Watch’, the founder (1981) and director of the Cambodian Genocide Project, and the founder (1999) and Chair of the International Campaign to End Genocide. From 2007 to 2009 he was the President of the International Association of Genocide Scholars. He originally presented his model in a briefing paper “The Eight Stages of Genocide” at the US State Department in 1996. Two stages- discrimination and persecution- have been added in 2013.

Another crucial communication channel widely used by Islamic State refers to information policy. Islamic State created four news and PR agencies including Al-Hayat Media Center, which are responsible for public relations activities of organization (P. Cockburn, 2015). There are also two major magazines published by ISIS and distributed globally: 'Dabiq'- main propaganda tube, the high quality magazine about Caliphate, available online and via Amazon; and 'ISIS Report'- the publication similar to corporate 'Wall Street-reports' that includes information about its activities, performance and future plans.

Al-Hayat Media Center is also responsible for creating set of fairly professional advertisements (Ads of Radio Stations, movies, magazines, etc.) and production of propaganda movies – including short clips (introducing organization, statements of its members and ostentatious decapitations) and full-length movies (for instance 'Flames of War' presenting honorable and courageous mudjahadines destroy 'infidels' army). Traditional media are not dominant in ISIS communication, but the organization uses radio and TV in the process. There are three internet radio stations (in English, French and Arabic) and media coverage about ISIS is regularly occurred in, for instance, Al-Jazeera.

Finally, channel that is frequently neglected, but indicates high supporters' loyalty, is brand ambassadors. ISIS is believed to create global net of its supporters - lately there have been arrests of its members in Spain, Turkey, USA or UK.

Even though organization is using such various set of channels, it is able to create vivid and coherent Brand Image throughout each of them, so it should be concluded, that ISIS Brand Strategy is defined and implemented.

2. Brand's Language

Brand's language is one the main means, by which organizations express their personality. 'Tone of voice' can shape relationships that brand builds with the audience, connotes brand with certain meanings and create new ones. Brand language can also create whole society around the brand and help supporters recognize each other.

The language analysis conducted by authors was based on 'Dabiq' issues- ISIS' main propaganda tube- due to the fact, that those publications present the clearest version of IS's language. During analysis, word frequency and word concordance were examined.

The language of ISIS is based on religion fundament. This is mirrored in word frequency (the biggest group of words appeal to Islam), but also in imperative and judgmental overtone, typical to religious languages. The Islamic State orders its supporters exactly what to do, and how to do it- it doesn't leave any room for interpretation. Also noticeable is the vivid separation of "us" and "them" and extreme polarization. When it comes to describing Caliphate, used words are mostly positive or neutral. When IS introduce opposite side, the set of words is by far pejorative.

Another group of words appeals to military contexts- war and fight that need to be won in order to save the Caliphate. One of the most interesting set of words refers to the paradise that Caliphate is, and community of brothers that was created around it. Usage of words as "brotherhood", "amongst", "numerous", "families" not only suggests that land of ISIS is great place to be, but also shows that a lot of people have already joined it. This attempt to create a feeling of familiar choice is fairly common when it comes to ISIS communication. It creates delusion, that if that so many people think of it as a paradise – it must be true. To enhance this feeling, Islamic State is using storytelling and human stories of people, who converted to Islam (quotes, "he

said” – more believable information, listener can identify with the hero) or territorial marketing to show how life in Caliphate looks like.

3. Communication dualism – Hero archetype

This vivid separation of “us” and “them” is visible throughout whole ISIS communication. Islamic State is building separate, but coherent brand image in these groups. When it comes to building its image inside “our” group – ISIS is presented as the organization that defends Muslims and creates paradise world – the Caliphate. The propaganda presents it as a land of brotherhood, happiness, heroes, justice and peace. In ‘Dabiq’, pictures from hospitals with carrying doctors and nurses, pictures from playground with laughing children eating ice cream may be found. In the propagandist movie- ‘Greetings from land of Aid’, real masterpiece- ISIS warriors spin a tale about wonderful life in caliphate, a place where Prophet’s idea of *Ummah* finally becomes a reality. They have little children in one arm, and machine gun in the other. Small children are yelling the name of God and describe what to do with enemies.

Communication directed to enemies group on the other hand, shows destructive, fearless army of Allah that brings certain death. This message is also aimed to “our” group - it shows what would happen if ISIS supporter would have doubts.

Examination of ISIS communication brings authors to conclusion that ISIS brand could be described as being the closest to the Hero/Warrior brand archetype (M. Mark, 2001). ‘Hero’ wants to prove his worth through courageous acts and improving the world and is driven by ego and honor. He is unforgiving for enemies and protective of his people. That vivid division is noticeable throughout whole ISIS communication system.

Propaganda in a service of genocide

It is crucial to outline first, what the crime of genocide actually is, since the term itself is very often misused. The whole legal concept of the crime was created by polish lawyer of Jewish origin- Raphael Lemkin (R. Lemkin, 2008). Lemkin was also the main architect of the *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide* adopted by the UN in 1948- the basic element of the international system of penalization of the crime. According to article 2 of the Convention, ‘genocide means any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial or religious group, as such : (a) killing members of the group; (b) causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; (c) deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life calculated to bring about its physical destruction in whole or in part; (d) imposing measures intended to prevent births within the group; (e) forcibly transferring children of the group to another group’. The main element that constitutes the crime and distinguishes it from the war crimes or crimes against humanity therefore is the intent to destroy certain protected- religious, national, ethnic or racial- group (*special intent*, so called *dolus specialis*). The special intent means that perpetrators are killing individual not because of their individual characteristic or personal connection with them, but because the victims are the members of certain persecuted group, that should be destroyed.

Genocide is a process, it never happens overnight. The crime is always carefully prepared and planned (R. Lemkin, 2008). It also the crime, in which propaganda plays crucial role. The future perpetrators need to run people’s hearts and minds, have power over their souls, and make them believe in genocidal purpose. The Islamic State activities are designed to achieve that goal. As it was point out earlier, the intent

of genocide is proudly presented by ISIS warriors and ISIS leader, Abu Bakr al Bagdhahdi himself. In his own words, caliphate's warriors should, 'fight them ('infidels'-authors' note) until there is no more strife'. ISIS calls its supporter to fight with infidels in Iraq and Syria, or if they don't have such possibility, in their own countries. This result in more and more brutal terrorists attacks on innocent civilian in France, Denmark, Turkey or Tunis. Propaganda is the crucial tool in this context. Strong brand and active communication help ISIS gather more and more loyal supporters and proceed through the next stages of the crime, as established by Stanton (2013): classification, symbolization, discrimination, dehumanization, organization, polarization, preparation, persecution, extermination and denial.

Stages of the crime

According to above mentioned model, first phase of the crime is a *classification*. It's natural for human to distinguish and classify objects and humans. As Stanton (1998) pointed out, 'all cultures have categories to distinguish people into "us and them" by ethnicity, race, religion, or nationality.

In the case of the Islamic State this division is simple and vivid. The line is drawn between the Caliphate (not generally Muslim world, because Muslims that don't believe or practice in proper way- such as Shiah- or are not radical enough, are automatically excluded from the group of 'us') versus 'the others'- the rest of the world. This line is d fairly clear - black and white.

The next stage after classification is *symbolization*. It is also natural social process that occur in every society – created categories needs to be named. According to Stanton (1998) society puts name to the group, attribute to them some special characteristics or signs. Sometimes physical characteristics - skin color or nose shape – may become the symbols for classifications. Other symbols, like customary dress or facial scars, are socially imposed by groups on their own members. In the case of Islamic State, the language of symbolization is very judgmental, it therefore builds strict separation even on naming level. ISIS tends to distinguish three main categories of enemies; three main categories that constitute the group of 'them'.

First, there are 'crusaders'- so 'infidels' like Christian or Jews, Western Countries, USA and its allies. This designation is strictly referring to historical events from XI and XII century and therefore suggests that 'crusaders' are still planning to subjugate the whole Muslim world.

Second group is composed from the 'apostates'- Muslims that do not support the Caliphate. Semantic of this term is also strongly pejorative and suggests that those Muslims betrayed Prophet and abandoned their religion. It is crucial since, according to Quran, those, who abandoned Islam and become apostates, should be punished with death penalty. Therefore, the way in which not radical enough Muslim are described, may impose serious consequences.

The third group symbolized in IS communication is the Yazidis- a Kurdish religious community whose syncretic religion is linked to Zoroastrianism and ancient Mesopotamian religions. Yazidis are also the most persecuted group. Unlike

Christians or Jews, they are not considered as ‘People of the Book’ - they are seen as polytheists and Satanists.

Next phase is *discrimination*. During this stage, ‘a dominant group uses law, custom, and political power to deny the rights of other groups. The powerless group may not be accorded full civil rights, voting rights, or even citizenship’ (Stanton, 2013). As an example, the ISIS’ *dhimma* policy may be shown. On conquered territories, the Islamic States forces non-believers to conclude the *dhimma* contract and pay special tax- *Jizya*. Such discriminative policy is supported and justified by Muslim theologians on the ground of the sharia law on the one hand, and propaganda on the other (K. Philips Erb, 2014).

As it was mentioned before, classification and symbolization are fundamental operations in all cultures. However, they become steps of genocide when combined with the next phase from Stanton model (1998)- *dehumanization/demonization*³. In this stage future perpetrators of the crime try to persuade other members of the “us” group, that enemies are less than human, so they are not worth living. According to Stanton (1998), ‘denial of the humanity of others is the step that permits killing with impunity. The universal human abhorrence of murder of members of one's own group is overcome by treating the victims as less than human’. To the members of prosecuted groups offensive epithets are ascribed. On the one hand, using demonization, perpetrators builds the ‘besieged fortress syndrome’ in order to show that enemies are extremely dangerous. The ‘them’ group needs to be destroyed- otherwise it eventually destroys ‘us’.

In the case of Islamic State the main enemies- Western Countries and apostates that support them - are presented as spoiled, shirk, without any moral values. They are cold-blooded murders that attack innocent children in Syria. As an example pictures of children bodies burned in bombing runs conducted by US army in one of the ‘Dabiq’s issue may be presented. ISIS’ propaganda also threatens, that ‘crusaders’ and their ‘allies’ pursue to the destruction of the caliphate and aim at subordinating themselves whole Muslim world.

Dehumanization can be also clearly seen in the language used by Islamic State’s media. Yazidis are picked as ‘devil worshippers’, ‘Satanists’ or ‘devil creed’. In her testimony, one of the ISIS victims stated: ‘He told us that Taus Malik — one of seven angels to whom the Yazidis pray — is not God. He said that Taus Malik is the devil and that because you worship the devil, you belong to us. We can sell you and use you as we see fit.’(cited as in R. Callimanchi, 2015). According to the one of the articles from Dabiq (issue no 9): ‘We (ISIS fighters-authors’ note) have indeed raided and captured the *kafirah* (non-believers- author’s note) women and drove them like sheep by the edge of the sword.’

Consequences of this stage are far beyond propaganda, but affect the official IS law itself. According to official fatwa, Yazidi woman can and should be sexually abused,

³ G. Stanton in his paper proposed only the concept of dehumanization, but the others scholars such as W. Schabas, developed the idea pointing out, that in the same time prosecuted groups are very often also demonized. The authors of this paper tilt to this concept, especially due the fact that this mechanism is also vivid in the ISIS’ case.

because they are less than human. As it was pointed out, 'Unbelieving [women] who were captured and brought into the abode of Islam are permissible to us.' (cited as in A. Smith, 2014) 'Infidels' are described as 'cancer', stealthy enemies that deserve only to be destroyed or become slaves. One of the ways, in which perpetrators express denial of humanity of their victims, is also body mutilation. It is also the case of Islamic State.

As it was mentioned earlier, genocide does not happen overnight. Perpetrators need to build organization frames in order to make crime possible. The next phase, after demonization/dehumanization is thus *organization*. As Stanton (1998) points out, 'the social organization of genocide varies by culture. It reached its most mechanized, bureaucratic form in the Nazi death camps. But it is always organized, whether by the Nazi SS or the Rwandan Interahamwe'. In case of ISIS organization stage includes for instance constitution of the Caliphate, creating IS branding (logo, flag, etc.), starting an active communication, building economic background, global recruitment or military training for warriors.

During next stage, *polarization*, organization need to strengthen the group by eliminating mellow parties inside and in this way inflame the conflict so there's no other solution than confrontation possible. According to Genocide Watch Co-Founder, (Stanton, 1998), 'Genocide proceeds in a downward cycle of killings until, like a whirlpool, it reaches the vortex of mass murder. Killings by one group may provoke revenge killings by the other. Such massacres are aimed at polarization, the systematic elimination of moderates who would slow the cycle.' The Islamic State focuses on fighting with moderate leaders. Once again, ISIS propaganda uses judgmental and pejorative sets of words to describe these groups ("hypocrites", "traitors", ect.). The exemplification of this stage in IS communication could be the cover of 8th issue of the 'Dabiq' magazine. The cover alludes to terrorist attack perpetrated in Charlie Hebdo newspaper office and the reaction of certain Muslim leaders. It shows them with palate 'Je Suis Charlie with short sentence as a comment: 'From Hypocrisy to Apostasy'. Moreover, ISIS matches their words with action- on the conquered territories in Syria or Iraq, less radical leaders are immediately killed.

During next stages- *preparation and presecution*- the crime is directly prearranged. Lists of victims are created, houses of the future victims are marked (ISIS marked Christian homes in Mosul), the stage of execution is designed (ancient amphitheater in Palmira was a stage for execution performed by IS) and the men are separated from women and children. Preparation also includes expropriation of the property of the victims. It may include concentration: herding of the victims into ghettos, stadiums, or churches.

The culmination point of Stanton genocide model is *extermination*. According to Stanton (1998), 'it is considered extermination, rather than murder, because the victims are not considered human. [...] Because they are not considered persons, their bodies are mutilated, buried in mass graves or burned like garbage'. In case of ISIS like never before, extermination is not hidden- moreover it's proudly presented and used as a part of brand communication.

The last stage according to Stanton (1998) is *denial*- the perpetrators hide the crime. 'Every genocide is followed by denial. The mass graves are dug up and hidden. The

historical records are burned, or closed to historians. Even during the genocide, those committing the crimes dismiss reports as propaganda'. Using the crime and extermination as a tool in communication process is one of the characteristics of ISIS propaganda. At this point it's hard to determine if this stage would ever appear in case of ISIS genocide, while the pictures of decapitated victims are proudly presented throughout every Islamic State communication channel. Such pride may arise due to strong belief in righteousness of ISIS path and goal but also could appear after the extermination stage is over.

Conclusion

The technological revolution of the cusp of 20th and 21st century brought a boom of new technologies, the development of internet media, social media, mass internet access (e.g. over 50% citizens of Nigeria have internet access on a daily basis) and subsequent democratization of information. As a result, traditional media have decreased in influence (which does not mean they lost it completely). Knowing this, the masterminds behind it changed their ways of leading propaganda campaigns, together with the tools used and ways of using them. As the world is a global village now, it is no longer required to broadcast a program in a major television channel or radio station, to reach millions. It has become much simpler and the message to a single viewer can be concentrated directly at him or her, you can even call it intimate, which makes it that more convincing and attractive. It is a powerful tool in the hands of professionals willing to use it for the purposes of propaganda.

The Islamic State is using technology very skillfully- the daily social media range of the entry 'ISIS' reaches even 720 million people [according to the internet data monitoring via Brand24]- no other propagandist in history had such access to global society. What is more Social Media Monitoring has reported increasing proportion of positive comments according to ISIS brand after next attacks. For instance after attack in Tunis the number of positive comments about ISIS in monitored social media doubled the negative-ones. According to this data, the public opinion support actions of Islamic State. Propaganda is extremely effective and might have an impact on a global scale.

References

- Calimanchi R. (2015, August 13). ISIS Enshrines a Theology of Rape. The New York Times. Retrieved from: http://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/14/world/middleeast/isis-enshrines-a-theology-of-rape.html?smid=pl-share&_r=1&referrer
- Cockburn P. (2015) *The Rise of Islamic State: Isis and the New Sunni Revolution*, London and New York
- Fleischer M. (2003). *Corporate Identity i Public Relations*, Dolnośląska Wyższa Szkoła Edukacji Towarzystwa Wiedzy Powszechnej
- Klemperer V. (1983). *LTI notatnik filologa*, Kraków: Wydawnictwo Literackie.
- Lemkin R. (2008). *Axis Rule In Occupied Europe: Law of Occupation, Analysis of Government, Proposals for Redress*, New Jersey: The Lawbook Exchange. Ltd
- Lower M., & Hauschildt T. (2014). *The Media as a Tool of War: Propaganda in the Rwandan Genocide*. *Human Rights and Conflict Resolution*, Issue 2, No. 1.
- Mark M. (2001). *Hero and the Outlaw: Building Extraordinary Brands Through the Power of Archetypes*, McGraw-Hill Education
- Merriam-Webster Dictionary. Retrieved from: <http://www.merriam-webster.com/>
- Philips Erb K. (2014, July 20). *Islamic State Warns Christians: Convert, Pay Tax, Leave Or Die*. *Forbes*. Retrieved from: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/kellyphillipserb/2014/07/19/islamic-state-warns-christians-convert-pay-tax-leave-or-die/>
- Sadowski, M. (2013). *Dzihad – święta wojna w islamie*. *Przegląd Bezpieczeństwa Wewnętrznego*, 8/13, 29-47.
- Smith A. (2014, September, 12). *ISIS Publish Pamphlet On How to Treat Female Slaves*. *Newsweek*. Retrieved from: <http://europe.newsweek.com/isis-release-questions-and-answers-pamphlet-how-treat-female-slaves-290511>
- Stanton G. (1998). *8 stages of genocide*. *Genocide Watch*. Retrieved from:
- Stanton G. (2013). *8 stages of genocide*. *Genocide Watch*. Retrieved from: <http://genocidewatch.net/genocide-2/8-stages-of-genocide/>
- UNAMI Human Rights Report (2015, March 19). *Report on the Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict in Iraq: 11 September – 10 December 2014*. Retrieved from http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/IQ/UNAMI_OHCHR_POC_Report_11Sep-10Dec2014_EN.pdf
- United Nations. (1948). *Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide*

Van Riel C. B.M., Fombrun Ch.J. (2007) Essentials of Corporate Communication, Routledge London – New York

Yanagizava-Drott D. (2014). Propaganda and Conflict: Theory and Evidence from the Rwandan Genocide. Harvard University

Contact email: aleksandra.spsychalska@prawo.uni.wroc.pl