The Importance of News Agencies for Turkish News Websites

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Dissertação realizada no âmbito do Mestrado em Ciências da Comunicação, orientada pelo Professor Doutor Fernando Zamith

Faculdade de Letras da Universidade do Porto
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Abstract

The aim of the present study, inserted in the subject “News agencies and news websites”, of the Master’s degree in Communication Science, is to understand the importance and indispensability of news agencies for Turkish web based news sources, especially for news websites. In the last two decades, websites and mobile phone applications with development of web technology have found an important role in our life. People have started to by-pass the traditional mass media formats and use new technologies such as news websites and their mobile applications websites.

With these improvements, news agencies have become crucial sources for news websites. The objective of news websites is, mainly, to present the actual news in an easy and clear way by using richness of the multimedia, instead of creating news. That’s why news agencies are the best sources for news websites.

Furthermore the Turkish news agencies started to generate special news service packages for news websites. Special packages, with low technical quality materials and also cheaper.

Keywords: news agencies, news websites, online news
**Resumo**

O objetivo do presente estudo, inserido no tema "Novas agências e novos websites", do Mestrado em Ciências da Comunicação, é o de salientar a importância e a indispensabilidade das agências noticiosas como fonte para os sites noticiosos da Turquia. Nas últimas duas décadas, os websites e as aplicações para telemóveis, com o desenvolvimento da tecnologia, encontraram um lugar de grande relevo na nossa vida. As pessoas começaram cada vez mais a utilizar estes novos meios em detrimento dos meios de massivos de comunicação tradicionais.

Com estes melhoramentos, as agências noticiosas tornaram-se fontes muito importantes para os sites de notícias. O objetivo dos sites noticiosos é o de apresentar as notícias reais de forma fácil e clara usando a riqueza da multimédia ao invés de as criar. É por isso que as agências de notícias são as melhores fontes para os websites noticiosos.

Com o tempo as agências de notícias começaram a gerar pacotes especiais de serviços de notícias direcionadas para websites noticiosos, pacotes especiais com materiais de fraça qualidade técnica e também mais baratos.

**Palavras-Chave:** Agências de Noticias, Websites Noticiosos, Noticias Online
Introduction

News agencies emerged with the idea of commercialization of information in 1832; Charles Havas opened the first news agency to transmitter current events to people. News agencies are also evaluated with the technological developments. Subscribers of news agencies are expanded; they started with the newspapers and reached until to news websites (digital journals). The teletext, which is the first version of digital journalism, was invented in Great Britain in 1970. It involved displaying words and numbers on television screens in place of regular programming (Carlson, 2003). Then the modern digital journalism started to come out with the invention of the Internet.

The invention of the internet changed the profession of journalism in at least three ways: it has the potential to make the journalist’s role as the essential intermediary force in democracy more or less superfluous; it offers the media professional vast array of resources and sheer endless technological possibilities to work with; and it has created its own type of journalism on the internet: so-called digital or online journalism (Deuze, 1999).

After the newspapers’ and magazines’ online versions, the news websites started to appear in the online journalism area. News websites are based on the idea of offering the current events to readers by using rich multimedia contents, instead of creating news.

After the crises of 2000 in Turkey, the number of news websites as increased (Gurcan, 2005). Lots of Turkish unemployed media professionals could turn the economic crises in to an opportunity and they discovered a new journalistic field to continue to realize their jobs.

This dissertation focuses on the characteristics of the news agencies and the news websites. Furthermore, place of global news agencies on the vitality of news websites.
Chapter I: Literature Review

1.1 Brief History of News Agencies

Mass media are tools for the transfer of information, concepts, and ideas to the audience—the readers, listeners or the viewers. They are important tools in disseminating information; they make possible communication exchange and spread of knowledge, which are vital as far as societies and cultures are concerned. Nowadays this transition of information is generally based on newspapers, TV channels and internet. Even though these media groups can have their own staff in all over their country, they still need another news source to get information about the other countries and about the events that they missed.

In 1832 Charles Havas discovered the idea of commercialization of information and opened Bureau Havas, which was translating news articles from foreign newspapers for the French media. In 1835 his translation agency was transformed into the first news agency, Agence Havas, now gathering its own news as well as translating articles published by the foreign press (Bielsa, 2008). Agence Havas evolved into Agence France-Presse (AFP) (Broderick & Darren, 2008).

Two employees of Havas in turn started other news agencies that would have a strong impact on the world news stage. Bernhard Wolff and Paul Julius Reuter, later set up rival news agencies, Wolfs Telegraphisches Bureau in 1849 in Berlin and Reuters in 1851 in London. Another employee of Havas, Guglielmo Stefani founded the Agenzia Stefani, which became the most important press agency in Italy from the mid-19th century to World War II, in Turin in 1853. The American agency, Associated Press had also just been established in 1848. The new penny press, both in France and in Britain, readily subscribed to the information services of the recently created news agencies to satisfy people’s growing appetite for the latest news.

The expansion of the telegraph network is directly linked to the emergence and consolidation of the news agencies, which became specialized in providing fast and accurate telegraphic information not only to their media clients, but also to commercial clients and to governments. Invented in 1833, the telegraph was maintained as a state monopoly in most European countries except Britain, where private companies with generous government subsidies developed the telegraphic network. In France, in 1850 the state made its network
available to private clients, the most important of which was Agence Havas. The 1850s saw the rapid development of the European cable network. However, in the early days, telegraphic links remained discontinuous, and rail, steamships and pigeons were still widely used for the transmission of information (Menke, 2013).

During the 1860s and 1870s, the telegraph linked British possessions in Asia and Africa to London: India was reached overland across Russia and undersea via Alexandria and Aden in 1870; Hong Kong was reached from India in 1871, Shanghai and Tokyo in 1873. Australia was linked with India via Ceylon in 1872. The 1870s are characterized by the consolidation of British dominance of the submarine cable system, aided by technological improvements and the active policy of the British government, so that by 1900 the British owned 72 per cent of the approximately 190,000 miles of submarine cable in the world and established themselves as information hegemons (Headrick, 1981). London’s position as global news center was not only due to its important role in providing American news to the European continent, but also to British control of the global cable network and is echoed today by its centrality as headquarters of the two biggest global television news agencies, Reuters Television and Associated Press Television (Hugill, 1999).

The global expansion of the telegraphic network during the second half of the nineteenth century was paralleled by the expansion of the news agencies’ international infrastructure to respond to new informative demands. From the beginning, news agencies formed international alliances to ensure global coverage. A first agreement for news exchange between Havas, Wolff and Reuters dates from 1859.

In 1861, Reuters was claiming agents at the main ports of India, China, Japan, Australia and New Zealand, and at the intermediate ports of Pont de Galle (Ceylon), Alexandria and Malta (Read, 1999). Its first office outside Europe opened in Alexandria in 1865. A Bombay office opened in 1866, while in 1878 a general manager for Australia and New Zealand was appointed. In 1876 a full-time agent was sent to Cape Town, which was connected by cable in 1887. In addition, after the laying of a cable across the South Atlantic in 1874, Reuters and Havas established joint offices in Brazil, Argentina and Uruguay.

From the 1960s, information technology and satellite communications provoked a revolution that was similar in scope to that of the telegraph a century earlier. An unprecedented quantitative multiplication of the amount of information that could be circulated was matched
by an equally crucial qualitative change that saw the introduction of customization and interactivity, giving users the freedom individually to select what they needed from an immense information pool.

Since the 1960s, the major agencies were provided with new opportunities in television and magazine, and news agencies delivered specialized production of images and photos, the demand for which is constantly increasing.

1.2 Evolution of news agencies in Turkey

Turkey lagged behind the technological developments on 19th century because of country's internal and external problems. When the European and American countries were developing on communication, technology and defense areas, the Ottoman Empire was trying to hold the country together (Koloğlu, 2006).

First news agency of Ottoman Empire, Ottoman Telegraph Agency opened in 1911. This agency used by Havas and Reuter Agencies as a channel of getting and distributing information from the Ottoman Empire (Topuz, 2003). But after 3 years it was closed because of making propaganda of British and French governments in Turkey (İnuğur, 2005). Second news agency of Ottoman Empire, Ottoman National Telegraph Agency opened by a provisional government (The Committee of Union and Progress), which was close to German government and wanted to be alliance with Germany in World War I. The objective of opening a news agency was to make propaganda of their governance and to control political communication all over the country. Alliance of Ottoman Empire and Germany lost the war, the Committee of Union and Progress resigned and their news agency closed in 1919 (Topuz, 2003).

The Turkish War of Independence was fought between the Turkish nationalists and the proxies of the Allies, namely Greece on the Western front, Armenia on the Eastern, France on the Southern and with them, Great Britain and Italy in Istanbul, after the country was occupied and partitioned following the Ottoman Empire's defeat in World War I. Although present, few British, French, Italian or Georgian troops were deployed or engaged in combat.

The main actor of the Turkish War of Independence, the Turkish National Movement (Kuva-
yi Milliye) in Anatolia culminated in the formation of a new Grand National Assembly by the founder of modern Turkey, Mustafa Kemal Atatürk and his colleagues. Founders of this national movement, decided to open a national news agency to inform and to motivate the Turkish Nation. They founded the Anatolian Agency (AA) in 1920 (Gönenç, 2000). This news agency is the first news agency of modern Turkey.

The AA was the only news agency of the Turkey until 1950. In that year, Turkey’s first private news agency opened, Turkish News Agency (THA). THA passed into other hands in 1958 and became a representative of the United Press International (UPI) in 1970 and was the first agency, which established a communication system by using fax machines between the agency and clients. After Kadri Kayabal, owner of the THA, died, the agency sold to another holding then closed in 1986. Kadri Kayabal’s son, Bedri Kayabal became the represent of the World Wide TV News in Turkey and opened Independent News Agency in 1993 (Ertuğ, 1970).

Then, one of the most important news agencies, ANKA News Agency opened in 1972 by Altan Oymen (İnuğur, 2005). ANKA had an influential role on education of important journalists for the Turkish Press. ANKA still continue to be an important news agency in Turkey. They focused their work on daily news reporting, weekly news reporting in English, daily economy reporting and international news.

In 1976, Mediterranean News Agency (AKAJANS) opened to service news and photograph to newspapers, magazines and the Turkish Radio and Television Corporation (TRT), is the national public broadcaster of Turkey and was founded in 1964. AKAJANS made a corporation with UPI between 1979-1982 and made a big contribution to evaluation of the Turkish Press with their 500 correspondents all over the Turkey. But unfortunately, closed in 1989 because of the economic problems (Atlas, 2013).

Another big news agency of the Turkey, Dogan News Agency (DHA) opened in 1999. The agency was opened as a part of the Dogan News Group, which has TV and radio channels, newspapers and news websites. The objective of opening a news agency was to contribute news and photograph to these media organs.

The Ihlas Holding, which has a TV channel (TGRT) and a newspaper (Turkiye Gazettesi), also opened a news agency to contribute news and photograph to their media organs in 1993, Ihlas News Agency (IHA) (Ertuğ, 1970). IHA could establish a great news network in
Turkey and opened nearly 145 representative offices in other countries. It took an important place between news agencies by contributing video news to TV channels.

The Cihan News Agency established in 1994, is part of Feza Publications, which also owns Zaman newspaper (Turkey's best-selling daily) and Aksiyon, a weekly news magazine. Cihan New Agency is producing news in the fields of current events, politics, economy, foreign news, art-magazine and sports.

Dogan, İhlas and Cihan News Agencies have shown as the news agencies which, have capacity to compete with Anadolu Agency in Turkey.

As a conclusion can be said that the necessity of video news of the private television channels, which opened in the 90s, is the main factor in the development of the private news agency in Turkey (Ertuğ, 1970).

The chronological order of the Turkish news agencies, as follows;

- Ottoman Telegraph Agency (OTA, 1911-1914)
- Ottoman National Telegraph Agency (ONTA, 1915-1919)
- Anadolu Ajansı (AA, 1920 - )
- İktisat Basın Ajansı (İKA, 1952 – 1998)
- Hürriyet Haber Ajansı (HHA, 1963 – 1999)
- Ekonomi Basın Ajansı (EBA, 1969 - )
- Ankara Haber Ajansı (ANKA, 1972 - )
- Ajans TÜBA (TÜBA, 1973 - )
- ABC Basın Ajansı (ABC, 1975)
- Ulusal Basın Ajansı (UBA, 1979 – 1998)
- Milliyet Haber Ajansı (MİLHA, 1989 – 1999)
- Magazin ve Aktüel Haberler Ajansı (MAK AJANS, 1981)
- Türk Ekonomik Basın Ajansı (TEBA, 1981 - )
- Türk Spor Ajansı (TSA, 1983 - )
- Cihan Haber Ajansı (CİHAN, 1992 - )
- İhlas Haber Ajansı (İHA, 1993 - )
- Bağımsız Basın Ajansı (BBA, 1993 - )
1.3 The migration of news to the web and news websites

The first type of digital journalism was invented in Great Britain in 1970. It was called teletext, and it involved displaying words and numbers on television screens in place of regular programming. The British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) patented the invention in 1971 (Carlson, 2003).

Teletext is a noninteractive system for transmission of text and graphics for display on a television set. The set must be equipped with a decoder box or built-in chip in order to capture and display the teletext information. They are not interactive because the viewer cannot send messages directly back to the computer that stores and disseminates the information, but they do enable the viewer to choose certain “pages” of information are constantly cycling in the air on top of the regular TV broadcast signal (Weaver, 2015).

Costumers use a remote control to view and choose pages. Every page has a number combination of 3 numbers. For example punching 200 might bring you to world headlines and entering 202 might bring up a particular news story. It has a very basic look and it is not possible to put images or videos, only text and some graphics.

With the invention of Word Wide Web in 1989, websites are started to enter our life. It was possible to transmitter all the information, images and videos with this new interactive communication system.

People started to read recently actualized news sources instead of daily-actualized ones with the invention of the Internet. And also the concept of time and space lost their meaning. People do not need buy a journal to read a news article. They can use their computer or other devices to receive information about the current events.
As Internet access became more available and cheaper throughout the late 1990’s, the popularity of the World Wide Web increased exponentially. In 1996, the statistical data shows that the Internet had only 30 million users. In 2006 there are estimated to be over a billion users worldwide. With such rapid growth, the media industry has heavily invested in the development of websites to supplement more traditional news mediums (Fusco, 2010). Newspapers and magazine publishers quickly recognized that the Web offered an interface closer to the newspaper model than any form of videotext has offered before. For the first time, it was possible to put headlines, photos, captions, and text together on a single page in a way that closely represented the classic look of newspaper (Carlson, 2003).

As more news consumers throughout the world have access to the Internet, profound changes are occurring in the way people receive their news. Technologies such as the Internet offer the consumer an alternative to traditional mass media and provide a way to bypass traditional media and sometimes government regulations. As opposed to the operation of more traditional news media, new communication technologies such as the Internet provide more of an unstructured flow of news to their consumers. (Christie, 2009)

Some of the most significant steps in the development of online newspapers had come from The Mercury Center. The local paper, The San Jose Mercury News, went online in 1993 and has continued to be on the forefront of electronic news publishing.

The Electronic Telegraph, the online version of The Daily Telegraph, was the web newspaper pioneer in Britain, with its first Internet edition appearing in November 1994. The Times had launched ‘ST: Online’ in the September of the same year, which included an interactive discussion forum, but this was a modest text only service not incorporating the then very new web technology, although it did provide a gateway to the internet. The full web editions of The Times and Sunday were launched in 1 January 1996, and were first UK papers to include (virtually) the full text of hardcopy versions. (Williams & Nicholas, 2009)

Newspapers published on the Internet have big differences from a newspaper published in traditional methods. An online newspaper can have sounds, graphs, and tables, still images, text documents, hyperlinks and motion pictures. This feature of the Internet led to an increase in the depth and breadth of content in newspapers published in the online environment. The content in a newspaper published in traditional methods can be enriched only with pictures
but the content of newspapers published in online can be enriched significantly with the power of the moving images, audios and images. On the other hand, television, print media and radio, which are called traditional media, can transmit restricted media content, due to their technological characteristics and organizational structure.

For example; Television can present sound and image to the viewers in a limited period of time (Webster, 1986); the radio can reach to listeners only with sound in the programmed time interval in the radio (William, 2003). The newspapers and magazines, which are considered as the written press can only provide printed materials to their readers in the page limits. A newspaper has never published an area where there is news, which interests all readers (Carlson, 2005). Nowadays, Internet is considered as the most important example of the new media. It is able to pass audio, images, text and diversified media content from the same channel to users without any restriction.

So, the depth of the news in a newspaper published in the online environment is able to be increase as desired. Many news providers have already taken steps to enhance or add value to their printed product by exploiting the potential of the Internet. The technology allows for enhanced and improved information provision not possible in a printed, or, indeed, passive broadcast medium. Thus websites offer the potential for:

- Comparatively unlimited space availability
  - Permitting greater depth/coverage of news stories, the provision of large archives and the mounting of added value reference services;
- Currency/immediacy;
- Hyperlinking;
- Multimedia;
- Customization;
- Interactivity (Williams & Nicholas, 2009).

As the news websites’ traffic increased throughout the late 1990’s, users began to develop preferences for sites that were regularly updated with a variety of rich multimedia content. Instead of simply replicating a print edition of a newspaper, media websites began to offer expanded coverage of topics combined with interactive elements not available by purchasing
a paper at a newsstand. This “hybrid model,” of supplementing text with added digital media became one of the most successful business plans in the industry. News websites are communication tools, which use all aforementioned richness of the Internet to transmit current events to their readers (Yucedogan, 2002). So, we can say that the news websites need journalists who know how to use the rich multimedia contents to create well-designed news pages to present the current events to readers in a more exciting way.

Advertising is the biggest income source of this kind of websites and they need good web traffic statistics to gain the interest of the people and producers to get more advertising (Dilmen, 2005). So, the news website journalists need to focus on writing readable, clear and well constructed news articles as every journalist must do. Besides of this, the news website journalists have to enrich the news page content by using all the power of multimedia tools.

1.4 News websites in Turkey

Like many other electronic communication technologies, the Internet has transformed the journalism profession in a number of ways in all over the World, also in Turkey. It has changed journalism in regards to the way journalists are able to gain access to news sources, how journalists present news content to readers, and the degree and ease of communication between readers and journalists. Furthermore, the advent and expansion of the Internet has led to the appearance of a new type of journalism called Online Journalism.

Online journals firstly started to appear in 1996 in Turkey. Especially after the economic crisis in 2000, a lot of journalists lost their jobs. There were lots of unemployed journalists and they started to look for a new job or a new job field. Then they realized a new developing area, online journalism, just after the economic crisis (Gurcan, 1999).

So, we can divide Turkey’s online journalism history in to two main parts. First one was in between 1995-2000, the period of the invention and development of the World Wide Web period. So, the Internet was a very recent invention and most of the journalists did not know that. In this period, there were only a few news websites and they were online versions of the
same pioneer journals of the Turkey. These websites were publishing a copy of the printed version of their journals.

The second part of the news websites’ history is the period after the 2000’s. The news websites can be evaluated in this period in real terms. The crisis of the 2000 affected the media sector as the others and nearly 4000 of person, who were working in communication area, lost their jobs (Gurcan, 2005). So, there was a huge group of unemployed journalists and they were looking for a job opportunity. Internet was a very fresh business area and the most of these journalists evaluated this new opportunity very well. They created news websites to publish their own news. Lots of courses were organized in Istanbul to teach these journalists about the creation and the usage of websites.

There was a huge increase in number of these news websites and the Anatolian News Agency (AA) put a news package on the market just for the news websites. This package was containing the most important details of the daily news and the journalist was writing the news articles by using these details (Gurcan, 1999). Full package subscription to news agencies was very expensive for new developing websites. So the creation of a cheaper daily news package made the usage of news agencies possible for news websites. This was the first usage of the news agencies by news websites in Turkey.

However to buy a news agency package was still difficult for some news websites that could not create an enough income from the advertisings. Because of this reason, those websites preferred to use online journals as a news source to copy their news articles.

The answers of what kind of tasks Internet journalists are doing during their working hours, how long they are working on those tasks, are providing important data about how the mechanism of Internet journalism is, in Turkey.

Cevikel (2004) defines the working routine of the Turkish news websites’ journalists’ in his study like this: Internet journalists spent the most important part of their working hours to write news with an average of 3.1 hours and they also spent 2.6 hours to make research on the Internet in an ordinary working day. They spare 1.5 hour of their time to rewriting the news of the others and 1.0 hour to make technical adaptation of their news articles to the Internet environment. Journalists allocate an average of 0.6 hours per day to e-mail exchange
with the their news website users. The most striking data is; the Internet journalists separate only 0.5 hours per day to follow the news on out of the office. These data clearly shows that the online journalism in Turkey, almost totally, is deskwork, in front of the computer.

There are four main sources of the Turkish news websites:

1. National News Agencies
2. Traditional Media Organs
3. Internet and e-mail
4. Special Resources

National news agencies are the most significant sources of Turkish news websites. All of the websites in Cevikel’s (2004) study are subscriber of the Anatolian News Agency or the Ihlas News Agency or both of them. They constitute the vast majority of their content with the news of agencies.
Chapter II: Internship

2.1 Cihan News Agency

I realized my internship as finishing project of Master in Communication Science. The internship was accomplished Cihan News Agency in Turkey.

The Cihan News Agency is a Turkish news agency based in Istanbul.

The agency, established in 1994, is part of Feza Publications, which also owns Zaman newspaper and Aksiyon, a weekly news magazine. The Istanbul 1st Criminal Court of Peace decided at the request of the Istanbul Chief Public Prosecutor's Office to appoint three trustees to Cihan News Agency and Advertising A.S on 3rd March 2016.

Cihan has 500 personnel working in 81 provinces and 284 counties of Turkey. Cihan News Agency also has correspondents in Central Asia, the Middle East, the Balkan States, Europe, South America, Africa and the Far East, totaling 25 offices and 70 correspondents in different countries.\(^1\)

Cihan News Agency defines their mission as; “To become a news agency that provides news second to none. We aim to become the preferred news for local and foreign media. Furthermore, we aim to carve our place among the leading news agencies in the world, establish bridges between countries, cultures, and civilizations with offices around the globe by providing multilingual journalism.”

2.1.1 Organizational Structure

The organizational structure of CHA based on one general manager and two assistant general managers, which are responsible for publishing and selling.

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Assistant General Manager responsible for the sales and works with News Sales Director, Construction and Projects Director, Operational Services Director, Advertising Director, Marketing Director, Technical Support Director, Accounting Manager and Finance Manager.

Other assistant general manager is responsible for publication and works with National News Director, Istanbul Intelligence Service, Video News Director, Photo Editor, Night Editor, Economy News Editor, Editorial, New Media Director, Cihan TV Network Director, Sports Editor, News Camera Manager, Ankara Representative, Ankara Intelligence Service, Foreign News Director, Representatives of Regional Publications, and Foreign Journalists.

Human Resources Unit works with two assistant general managers.²

Organization structure of Cihan News Agency is based on 10 central cities in Turkey. Centers are in Istanbul, Ankara, Adana, Bursa, Diyarbakır, Erzurum, Gaziantep, İzmir, Konya and Samsun. International news sources are based on foreign correspondents, which are nearly in 70 countries.

### 2.1.2 Services

#### 2.1.2.1 News

Cihan New Agency, which is producing news in the fields of current events, politics, economy, foreign news, art-magazine and sports, is daily servicing approximately 450 written news, 800 photos, 250 photo news and more than 100 video news. In addition to Turkish, Cihan also provides news and services in English, Russian and Arabic.

Cihan News Agency provides news services to 78 percent of national newspapers and 53 percent of national televisions in Turkey. The agency is also firmly established on the local level with many subscribers among local TV and radio stations, newspapers and with its numerous local joint-broadcasting projects (Atlas, 2013).

Cihan is broadcasting live and dispatching recordings from these counties to international

media organizations.

Cihan News Agency also took an active role during the last three elections in Turkey by providing the fastest and the most reliable results to the news channels.

2.1.2.2 International News

Cihan News Agency also has correspondents in Central Asia, the Middle East, the Balkan States, Europe, South America, Africa and the Far East, totaling 25 offices and 70 correspondents in 35 countries. Maintaining permanent offices in hot spots like Gaza, Arbil and Kabul. Agency receives news articles, videos and photos from these correspondents about their countries and also about same language speaking countries.

In addition to supplying photo and video news support to leading agencies around the world, CHA provides live transmissions, news, and technical support to over 200 TV stations in 60 countries, among which are: CNN International, BBC, ABC, Globecast, Abu Dhabi TV, ARD, TF1, RAI, TVE, Antenna 3, Nos TV, IRIB, Lider TV, NHK, Sawatel, TVR, Invidex, SVT, LBC Sat, C1R, Sky TG 24, MEN Dubai, Pro TV, Al Manar, Al Alam, Antenna 1, Mediasat .

2.1.2.3 Operation Unit

Operation Unit is a service of Cihan News Agency carried out by hired Satellite News Gathering (SNG) trucks. World media, first checks the infrastructure of a news agency with which they wish to work. Cihan News Agency has a proven record in this area.

With nine SNG trucks in service, Cihan carries out live broadcasts from most any spot around the globe. Cihan places its SNG trucks and technical equipment in accordance with developing stories and requests and also provides live transmission, editing camera and crew services to Turkish and foreign TV channels alike.

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3 Operation Unit. (n.d.). Retrieved 05 26, 2015, from en.cihan.com.tr:
2.1.2.4 Cihan TV Network

The CHA has news studios in their headquarters building in İstanbul. Equip of Cihan TV Network, prepare 6 different news reports per day. Firstly, equip select the important news of the day from the news agency's database and then they put the news in an order to prepare the news flow. Finally, equip record or broadcast the report to their clients. They actualize their news flow for the next report with the actual news.

These 6 programs that take a total of 8 hours per day generally are use by regional TV channels.

2.1.2.5 Marketing Strategy

Cihan News Agency´s marketing processes managed by the general assistant manager and based on 5 groups, which are National, Istanbul, Ankara, Anatolia and International.

Services are expanded or created according to the needs that are generated from the subscribers.

The Cihan News Agency is generating different products for local and national media. This flexible marketing process is one of the reasons of their success. Agency has different news packages for the different sized media organs. As an example, after the technological developments news websites became one of the most important news sources for the public. News websites need written news, photos and videos but in low technical quality. CHA has a special news package, which is the most cheaper package, contains written news, photos and videos in low quality.
2.2 Internship

Internship was based on two main parts. The first part was more theoretical and the second part was more practical and technical. Cihan News Agency has various news departments like, International, sports, economy, local, politics, culture and arts. I had been in all those departments, except the culture and art news departments. Then I started the practical and technical part. I had education about video and photograph machines and also usage technics, technics of tripod, video cutting programs and interview technics. I pasted the last month of my internship by practicing what I have learned during two months.

There is a proofreading and organization center for each news department in headquarters of agency in Istanbul. Each department has 5 or 6 persons to check and publish the news, which are coming from correspondents from 35 countries in the World.

CHA has a platform called “Jupiter”, that works on Internet browsers, for internal news publishing. Correspondents are sending news, videos and photos to the related department for revision by using this platform. When a correspondent publish a news article, that news goes to related department’s computers and the department editors check, change, if needed, and publish the news to clients. But photos and videos do not arrive to editors of news departments, they are directly going to photo and video editors. Photos and videos are only being published if these editors allows.

These edition desks also coordinate the correspondents. They canalize and also accredit their correspondents to important meetings, protests, governmental visit programs, sport events etc. Also one of the most important goals of these desks are check the international and national news sources, governmental or institutional web pages to see if there is something important to send correspondents for creating news about that events.

One of the aims of the news agencies is to be the first publisher of an important event (MacGregor, 2013). But it is also very important to not miss any news. Therefore CHA always makes a daily check of other news sources’ publications to not miss anything.
2.2.1 Theoretical Part

2.2.1.1 How to write a news article

After a welcome meeting with my supervisor and my mentor, we visited the news departments and met with editors. I have started my internship with an education about writing a news article. My mentor was a 16 years experienced correspondent and he taught me lots of things about the agency journalism during my internship.

My mentor gave me a list of information about a speech of a deputy of CHP (Republican People’s Party of Turkey). He was criticizing the government’s Syria policy. He was saying that: “The government is trying to put our country in a war with Syria. We know their supports to Syrian rebels. This is not the right way to help Syrian people. We have to be in contact with United Nations and NATO about our Syria policy.” Besides of this part of his speech, there was more information about the event in my information list (Answers of 5W1H questions).

I started to write an article by using this information. I focused on government’s support to rebels and I choose a title about this issue and then started to talk about the war in the first paragraph then gave more details in the second paragraph about the event, UN and NATO.

Consequently, my article was totally changed by my mentor. He focused on war part. First he wrote the title. He put the deputy’s surname then put a colon and wrote deputy’s sentence, “Logoglo: Government trying to put Turkey in war”. This was the CHA’s quoted title writing style.

Then he wrote the first paragraph. Another important point was to talk about the same issue that you used in the title. He talked about the possibility of a war between Turkey and Syria and gave some detail in the first paragraph, trying to give general information about the deputy’s speech. He said that, the correspondent must transmitter a general view to the reader about the event on the first paragraph. Then, in the second paragraph, he gave the rest of the information and finished the article.

As a final, he gave me a briefing about the agency journalism:
Basis function of a news agency is to deliver up-to-date, impartial and well-written news to the clients. This requires continuous revision of stories. An additional aim is to keep intact as much of each original story as possible, so that material already set in type may be retained. The result is that a basic story will be revised many times in bits ranging from an inserted phrase to a few paragraphs. Generally, only the most timeless features and insignificant sidebars are moved in single neat packages that “stand” for an entire transmission cycle. The stories are revised several times in order to correct errors, add the latest information and improve emphasis, readability and brightness. News agency has its own sources of news including its separate reporting section and foreign-based correspondents.

A separate news section performs the selection and editing process under the supervision of desk in charge and shift in charge. News agency’s writers and editors usually work under time pressure. News agencies have main trunk distribution circuits running across the country.

In the present situation, where electronic media is on top the role and scope of news agencies is increasing. However, the print and electronic media is also increasing their reporters but for the international news they rely on news agencies. Foreign and local news agencies are increasing their sources and appointing professionals to explore the world of news.

News agencies can be corporations that sell news (e.g. Press Association, Thomson Reuters, UPI). Other agencies work cooperatively with large media companies, generating their news centrally and sharing local news stories the major news agencies may chose to pick up and redistribute. Commercial newswire services charge businesses to distribute their news. Governments may also control news agencies: China (Xinhua), Canada, Russia (ITAR-TASS) and other countries also have government-funded news agencies which also use information from other agencies well. The major news agencies generally prepare hard news stories and feature articles that can be used by other news organizations with little or no modification, and then sell them to other news organizations. Corporations, individuals, analysts and intelligence agencies may also subscribe.

Internet-based alternative news agencies as a component of the larger alternative media emphasizes a "non-corporate view" that is independent of the pressures of corporate media,
business media and government-generated news and releases. As the news agencies are the first source of news in the early days of life of newspaper and with the passage of time the print and electronic media is growing faster, however the reliance on the news agencies are somehow is still there.

Basically news agencies are working on quantitative policy. They have agreement with the newspaper’s management against the each news or bulk news. But still news agencies play a vital role in the modern media.

On the other hand to get news from the government department the role of news agency which is government owned agency is very important. For the international news they play a major role. Somehow, we can say the role of news agencies cannot be ignored.

2.2.1.2 Photograph

The photograph editor of the CHA gave me a briefing about the importance of the photograph for journalism and for readers. He also talked about the some technical terms and explained me photograph machine’s working mechanism.

A page without a picture is just a slab of grey text. It looks boring and many people will not bother to read the text.

That is a pity if some of those stories are well researched and well written, but it is true. The clients who pay money for a news package expect their job to be made easy for them. They expect the news to have been sorted out into big stories and little stories, to have been written clearly, and to be presented in a way which is easy to read.

Newspapers without pictures do not make the news easy to read. They make life hard for the clients and readers. A correspondent who makes lots of thing in the same time, must know three basic things about taking photos; shutter, aperture and depth of field.
Shutter is like a door that can control how much light enters into the camera. The longer the door opened, the more the light will enter. Shutter is usual measured in seconds, for example, 1/30s, 1/250s. Some camera even can set the shutter longer than 1 minute or more.

Aperture is also a camera setting that controls the amount of light. The larger the aperture the more the amount of light taken. Aperture is always written in F value, such as F8, F16, F22. The larger the number, the smaller the aperture and aperture are an important factor that affect the depth of field.

Depth of field is the amount of distances between the nearest and farthest objects that appear in acceptably sharp focus in a photograph.

Good news pictures need three qualities:

- to look alive and exciting
- to have a relevant context
- to be meaningful

### 2.2.1.3 Video and Tripod Technique

Quality of video news is very important for a news agency and most of the news agencies have their own standards for recording video. Video director of CHA, Murat Azkeskin told a story about this issue to explain why a news agency needs standards about video recording, “It was in 1991 during the Gulf War. We went to Incirlik to record United State of America’s fighters landing to Incirlik Air Base in Turkey. We prepared our cameras and started to records the planes, during their landing, until they enter to hangars. But there was a guy from Reuters, he did not record the all action. He fixed his camera and recorded 3 fixed frames. Coming, landing and entering to hangar. 3 fixed frames, did not make any tilt or pan. Finally all TV channels used his video, we were shocked.”

So, it is not acceptable to record a news video without a tripod, for CHA. Video editors are very hard about this rule. The video must be record with a tripod to eliminate shake and record a stable, professional-looking image.

General rule is record videos with fixed frames. Pan and tilt are not accepted for news videos except some situations that you really need to do it. Azkeskin, explains CHA’s video standart
like this “When you are going to make news video, first observe that place very well and make a story plan on your mind. Then put your camera with tripod and start to record for 10 or 15 seconds. Your frame is always fixe. Then repeat this process more times until you will get all the detail that you need for your video. If you are recording a press conference or another event like this, you record all the speech. And for the details, do not forget to record frames with working, walking, talking people or another frames related to event”.

Some importing points for getting good news video;

- **Plan Your Shoot**
  Write up a list of shots you need. Write the story beforehand in your head, and list the elements you want to get video of to do that story. Think about what’s going to look good visually, and how your shots are going to come together sequentially. Try viewing your piece as a skeleton, and you’re shooting the flesh for all those bones.

- **Check Your Audio**
  Be sure to plug a set of headphones into the camera and check your audio to make sure you’re getting an audio feed. It’s easy to forget to plug an audio cord into the camera or to properly set the audio level – and wind up with great video but no audio to accompany it.

- **Shoot Selectively**
  Think before you shoot and don’t waste your time. Be aware of what you’re shooting and when recording. Don’t record unless you’re taking a shot.

  For example, don’t record when you’re changing from one shot to another or focusing. Wait until you have the shot you want to record. That way you’ll save a huge amount of time later when you’re capturing your video into a computer and you won’t have to go through a hour-long record with a lot of junk to find the 20 minutes of shots you want.

- **Do not talk when you shoot**
  When you press the record button, do not talk anymore! Keep in mind that when the camera is rolling it picks up all the ambient sound, not just what you’re focusing on. And you won’t be able to separate the unwanted audio out in the editing process.
• **Hold Your Shots**

Hold your shots for at least 15 seconds, before you pan, zoom or go onto another shot. That way you’ll be sure you have enough video of a scene to work with later when you do your editing. When you’re starting out, silently count out the 15 seconds to yourself – “1,000 and one, 1,000 and two, 1,000 and three…” – to make sure you’ve held a shot long enough. Remember that you can always take a 15-second clip and make it a 2-second clip during editing, but you can’t take a 2-second clip and make it into a 15-second clip.

• **Depth Of Field**

Be aware of ways to increase the sense of depth within your shot, since video images are inherently flat. If you’re shooting someone, try to include other objects in the background or foreground that give the viewer a sense of depth. That way the interview subject won’t appear to be just a two-dimensional object on the screen. Also remember that a wide angle shot will provide a much better depth of field than a telephoto shot where you’ve zoomed in on your subject.

• **Change Angles And Perspectives**

Try to change point and/or angle of view after every shot. Look for interesting perspectives. Don’t shoot everything from eye level – it’s boring. Especially try shots where you hold your camera close to the ground and shoot up toward your subject. The small size of digital video cameras makes these shots very easy to take.

For example, if you’re shooting a scene like people walking on a sidewalk, hold the camera low to show their feet moving, rather than straight-on shots of their faces.

Or if you’re shooting someone working at a computer terminal, take one shot from over their shoulder, then another that is a close-up of their hands and fingers using the keyboard and mouse, then a shot from over the person’s other shoulder, then a low angle shot looking up at them and then a facial shot.

Or hold your camera above your head to get a different perspective on a scene.
Do a close up shot, because that often provides a more intimate view of a person. This is especially important with video on the Web, because the video viewers use small windows and wide-angle shots won’t display much detail.

Don’t just rely on zooms to get these different perspectives – move the camera closer or farther away.

If you take shots from these different perspectives, when you edit your video you’ll be able to put together a sequence of 4- or 5-second shots of your subject, rather than one 20-second shot from a single perspective.

- **Get People In Your Scenes**
  Try to get people in your shots, which almost always make the video more interesting. Don’t do a static shot of the front of a building – try to include people walking in and out to animate the scene.

- **Tripods For Steady Shots**
  Use a tripod to get a steady shot, particularly if you’re shooting something that is not moving or a formal interview. If you don’t have a tripod or you’re doing a shot where you’ll have to move quickly, then find something to steady your camera – i.e. lean against a tree, put the camera on top of a trashcan, etc. If you must shoot without a tripod or other support, shoot a wider-angle shot.

### 2.2.1.4 Video editing programs

Before the talk about the editing programs, we have to say something about shooting selectively. Shooting selectively is do not record videos unless taking a shot. If you would record in this way, you will have well recorded scenes and you can easily select parts/scenes to merge to make your final news video.

It is not necessary have a huge knowledge about editing programs for news agency correspondents. Video editing programs have lots of features but the cutting and the merging is enough for correspondents.
Video editing is a creative act. Still, most editing involves working through a well-established, predictable set of steps. The first step is the importing phase. More and more video is file-based so, it is easy to copy files to editor. Just to select videos with import tool and import all videos that you need.

After importing, it’s time to make basic, rough edits to footage. This may entail chopping several long clips into shorter ones, creating more narrowly-defined “in” and “out” points (the beginnings and ends of clips), and deleting imported clips that don’t serve the project.

Sequencing comes next. This involves dragging clips into the timeline where an order can be established. If you made a shooting selectively, this step will be very easy for you. You will only select videos and put in an order into the time line.

One of the final steps involves correcting and grading color. Put simply, grading involves enhancing color and correcting involves fixing color imperfections.

Working with color entails getting skins tones looking natural, making sure colors match across shots and ensuring the overall color is “balanced,” which involves making sure blacks are truly black, whites are truly white, and so on.

The final step is to export the video, which involves selecting a codec and container. Codecs are used to compress video, making otherwise large files suitable for downloading and streaming.

### 2.2.1.5 Interview techniques

To interview someone is one of the hardest works in journalism. Because, maybe you know all the rules about interview but you are working with someone, generally, who will do this for the first time and can be exited and can forget all the things you told him. You have to be patient and try until you will get an interview well recorded.

Some important points and rules about interview;
• **Interviews**

Ask the person you’re interviewing to look at you, not at the camera.

Try to avoid a straight-on shot – shoot the person from a slight angle to the left or right.

Don’t use the zoom feature to get a close-up shot of the person – that accentuates movement.

Instead, move the camera a little closer to the subject.

Don’t have your interviewee sit in a chair with wheels or that squeaks.

And watch out for nervous activity that creates noise – like someone jangling change or keys in their pocket. Stop your shoot, point it out to them, and then start shooting again.

Don’t do a pre-interview off camera where you tell them the questions you’ll be asking beforehand. It makes them sound stilted and canned in their responses when the real interview begins. Just give them a general idea of what you’ll be discussing.

When you start the interview, have the recording for a few seconds before you ask your first question. And during the interview, relax and listen. Don’t nod or make gestures.

• **Sit-Down Interviews**

When doing a sit-down interview with a subject where the reporter will be asking questions of the person, start with a set-up shot from behind and to one side or the other of the reporter that focuses on the person talking while the questions are asked. Because this shot will show the person at an angle, leave extra room in the shot in the direction the person is looking (rather than centering the person in the middle of the frame).

Then do a wider-angle shot from the same position that includes the reporter while the subject of the interview is responding to a question.

Finally, move your camera to get a frontal shot of the reporter listening to the person – which is called a reverse shot or cut-away. This is shot from behind the person being interviewed. And again get both a close-up and a wider-angle shot.

It’s important that in this reverse or cut-away shot, you position the camera on the same side of the room as it was when you did the first shot from behind the reporter.
So visualize that there’s an axis that runs from the interviewee to the reporter. When you are taking your first shot from behind and to one side of the reporter, stay on the same side of that axis when you move the camera to do the front-on shot of the reporter.

You generally do not film the reporter actually asking the questions – just the answers of the interviewee and/or the reporter listening while the questions are answered.

- **Microphones**

If you’re using a handheld microphone, you usually should hold it about 12 - 15 cm below the interview subject’s mouth. Do not hold the microphone right in front of the person’s mouth, but slightly off to the side and tilted toward the mouth. This will help avoid picking up “popping” noises from a person’s lips as he/she speaks.

Tell the interview subject to try to ignore the microphone and concentrate on the camera.
If it’s noisy, then use a lavalier clip-on microphone to reduce the ambient sound.
But watch for necklaces or chains on a person’s neck, or buttons on a shirt, that could rub against the lav microphone and create noise.

With a lav microphone, you’ll need to “dress the microphone” – properly attach it to the person you’re interviewing. Ask the person to run the cord to the lav microphone up the inside of their shirt (so the wire won’t show in your video).

Then clip the microphone to the outside of their shirt, about 12 – 15 cm below their mouth. Try to center the microphone as much as possible. If you have it too far to one side, it won’t pick up the audio well if the person then tilts his/her head to the other side while talking.

Use this same procedure if the person is wearing a t-shirt, running the cord up under the shirt and clipping the microphone near the top of the shirt.
If the person has a necktie, run the wire down the back of the necktie and through the little label on the bottom back of the necktie.
If it’s windy, the lav microphone will pick up the sound of the wind. In this case try to clip the microphone closer to the person’s mouth, or switch to a hand-held microphone with a windscreens on it that muffles the noise of the wind.
• **Avoid High Contrast In Lighting Situations**

Avoid shots of areas that have high contrast such as dark versus light settings, or bright sunlight and shadows.

For example, don’t place an interview subject against a bright window or white wall or with sunlight behind the person.

This backlight is problematic for the automatic exposure feature of the camera. If the camera focuses on the light in the background, then the face of the subject will be darkened and indistinguishable. If the camera focuses on the person’s face, then the background will be washed out in light.

It’s usually best to shoot with the sun to your back.

If the sun is directly overhead, hold your hand over the top edge of the camera lens. This will in effect extend the sunscreen and avoid having the camera misread the amount of sunlight.
2.2.2 Practical Part

My mentor was from international news department and I spent most of my time in international news department. And how I was coming from Portugal, it was more convenient for me.

During my practical internship period, I prepared 32 written news, 2 football matches report, 1 interview and I checked/edited nearly 320 news.

2.2.2.1 Written news

I prepared all of my written news from Portuguese world. Everyday, I was checking Portuguese newspaper, news websites, governmental websites and Portuguese version of Google news.

Portugal and Turkey are two far countries as geographical also as cultural. Turkish people are not very interested in Portuguese world and for this reason; sometimes it was very hard to find news from Portugal, that could be very interesting for Turkish people. Here some news examples which were interesting for Turkish people;

- Portuguese elections 2015

I was in Turkey during the Portuguese elections of 2015. I prepared several news articles about this issue because an election in a EU country is interesting for Turkey. Also it was an interesting election, Coalition of PSD (Social Democratic Party) and CDS-PP (CDS – People's Party), called PaF, won the elections but could not get the majority to establish a government. The President of Portugal did not trust to opposite parties’ coalition and did not want to give the power to them. Then he gave the power to right parties’ coalition but in the end they could not get the vote of confidence from the Parliament. After this, arguments started about the possible repeating of the elections. It was a very interesting and complicated phase for Portugal. After 2 months, The President gave the power to opposite parties to establish a new government on 23\textsuperscript{th} of November 2015. Portuguese elections were an interesting process for Turkish people, because the Turkish people were also passing from the
similar phases. In the summer of the same year, Turkey past an election period and AKP (Justice and Development Party) won the elections but they could not get majority as PaF. The Turkish right parties could not establish a government. The Turkish President also did not want to give the power to left parties. In the end he did not give the power to them and the elections was repeated on November of 2015. As a result AKP got the majority to establish a government.

I prepared 12 news articles only about the elections in Portugal. The articles were focusing on (You can see some examples in Appendix 2.2.2.1.1 - 2.2.2.1.7):

- First results of the elections
- Possibility of an left government after 40 years in Portugal
- The President’s right parties preference and his speech about left parties
- Political crises in Portugal
- After and before the vote of confidence in Parliament
- Arguments about repeating elections
- The President’s conditions to give power to opposites
- Meeting of President with opposites
- In the end opposites get the power

Portuguese elections were very precious for Turkish people because they had chance to compare their democracy with a EU country. My news sources were the Portuguese media and the Official page of the Presidency.

- Turkish police raid media company

Istanbul police used force on Oct. 28, 2015 to enter the headquarters and seize control of media outlets owned by the Koza-İpek Group, dramatically breaking into the main broadcasting room and shutting down two TV stations owned by the group.

The police fired tear gas and water cannons at the crowd gathered in support outside the media group’s office building in Istanbul’s Şişli district at around 7:30 a.m. on Oct. 28. The building was used by Kanaltürk TV, Bugün TV, daily Millet and daily Bugün, all of which are owned by the Koza-İpek Group.
Breaking down the iron gates of the media group’s compound, the police unplugged the wires and halted the TV stations’ live broadcasts, escorting the newly appointed trustees into the building after scuffling with hundreds of employees and supporters of the Koza-İpek Group gathered outside in support.

The raids sparked fresh concern about deteriorating press freedoms on Turkey, which is gearing up for a November legislative election, its second in five months.

CHA international team started get reactions from all over the world about this raid media company critical of government. My supervisor, the editor chief of international news, wanted to me search for critical from Portuguese media. There was not so much news about this event in Portuguese newspapers. This event was an attack to media freedom and CHA decided to share all the information they have with the mass media from all countries. So, I also sent the FTP (File Transfer Protocol) addresses to Portuguese media groups, for sharing agency’s database about this raid. Then RTP (Radio and Television of Portugal) used CHA’s videos and reports in the evening news of the same day. And also published an article on channel’s news website (RTP Notícias), with the CHA’s photos (Appendix 2.2.2.1.8). I wrote an article about RTP’s news to transmit Portuguese perspective about this media freedom attack in Turkey (Appendix 2.2.2.1.9).

Then I contact the Portuguese Journalists Labor Union (Sindicato dos Jornalistas) and Portuguese Press Association (Associação Portuguesa de Imprensa) to get critics about the press freedom in Turkey.

The administration of Portuguese Journalists Labor Union sent me a critical of one paragraph with this title: “The police presence on television stations is a very negative sign” (Appendix 2.2.2.1.11). And National Union of Journalists strongly condemned the attacks on press freedom in Turkey. They also sent a critical of one paragraph about this issue (Appendix 2.2.2.1.10).

I wrote two articles with these two critical and my news articles were published without any changing.
Generally my mentor checked my articles. This was a 2 months process and quality of my articles improved day by day. I did not have difficulties about writing news in international department. In the first weeks, my mentor was editing my news articles, sometimes he was changing titles, sentences and he was putting some subtitles and separating the paragraphs but towards the last weeks he started to publish my articles as I sent to him.

My worst news article was about a corruption investigation. TAP Portugal’s CEO Fernando Pinto was called to testify about the privatization of Groundforce Portugal. It was a complicated event and there were lasts of technical term that I do not know. Also there was some economic terms, it was very hard to understand those terms. I needed to make lots of searching on the Internet for to understand only the news details. Then I wrote an article about it but it was not a very good article. I made some mistakes about the details and I passed some wrong information. We published that article with short information about the event, after lots of editing (Appendix 2.2.2.1.12).

2.2.1.2 Editorial News Editing

Editorial news editing means to re-write a news article by making some changings or by re-writing the news article with a different wording. The aim of this work is to make news articles more clear and make it easier to understand without making any changes in the main subject of the news.

I passed a phase very educational during my internship. It was this, editorial phase. CHA is producing approximately 450 written news per day and every news article is passing the editorial phase for being published. My mentor was sending me daily 7-10 news to make editorial check. I was reading them and trying to understand if there is something wrong. My mentor gave me a checklist for editing the news. I was checking:

- If the news article contains answers of 5W1H questions?
  - What happened?
  - Who did that?
  - When did it take place?
  - Where did it take place?
Why did that happen?
How did it happen?
- If the news article was written clearly, completely and if it is understandable?
- Is there any logical mistake?
- Is there any grammar mistake?
- If the news article was written impartially?
- If it contains any comments?
- Are the news sources trustable?
- Is it necessary to give background information about the event?

I was sending the edited news article with an original version to my mentor after checking these eight important points. At the end of the same day we were comparing my edited articles with the published versions. It was not an easy work to do. The editors are very experienced journalists and I was trying to do their job. I made a lot of mistakes but the aim of this work was to get more experience about writing a news article. The news articles, which were delivered to me for editorial check, were written by good correspondents and nearly they were free of mistaking.

2.2.1.3 Field works

Besides of desk works in the office, my mentor sometimes sent me to the field to make news about some current events. Generally these news were prepared for practice.

There was a game between Portuguese and Turkish teams in Lisbon and CHA decided to sent me to Lisbon for Galatasaray – Benfica, Champions League Group Match with agency’s Galatasaray correspondent. We published 6 written news, 2 press conferences and 2 photo news about the game and also I helped my colleague on the translation.

We arrived to Lisbon on November 2, 2015 just before the Galatasaray SK. I prepared a news article about the first day of the team and we took some photos of the team in the airport and sent to proofreading center to be published (Appendix 2.2.2.1.13). Then we went to Benfica’s stadium (Estadio da Luz) to get our accreditations.
Benfica and Galatasaray completed their last trainings in the same day and there were press conferences of team coaches with players. We went to press conference room one hour before the first conference because there was a small stage for cameras. We put our tripod in the middle of the stage and we stayed close to in front of the stage as much as we can to get a full view of the coaches and the players to guarantee that nobody puts his camera in front of ours. I recorded the press conferences of both Galatasaray and Benfica coaches, which took place at the Luz Stadium in Lisbon. My colleague wrote the coaches’ and players’ comments about the game. Since the last trainings of teams were open to press and we took some photos and recorded the training of Galatasaray (Appendix 2.2.2.1.14). In the end we finished the last day before the game.

The most exiting day was the day of the game. There were lost of Galatasaray supports, which were generally coming from the European countries and there were so much work to do. We started again with the press conference room because again there would be press conferences after the game, so we put our tripod in the stage to guarantee our place. Then we went to the press tribune to write the game. It was November, the press tribune was open and was very windy and cold. After the first half of the match, I started to not feel my fingers.

I had some difficulties during writing the game. You have to write very fast because when you are writing a position another position starts. So you have to be very quick to not miss any position. Another difficulty was the players’ names because I was not very close to players and it is not very easy to see players’ numbers. But there were screens in the press tribune and it helped significantly. I wrote the first and the second half of the game with the help of my colleague (Appendix 2.2.2.1.15). Benfica won the game for 2-1. Before the end of the game we went run to press conference room to prepare our equipments.

First Galatasaray’s coach Hamza Hamzaoglu came to press conference. Again, I recorded the first conference (Appendix 2.2.2.1.16) and my colleague wrote the news article. Then I went to mix zone, where the players pass for exit and give comments about the game. I could get comments from some Galatasaray and Benfica players. It was very difficult to record a video and hold the microphone at the same time.

After the conferences, we prepared the materials, wrote the news articles and sent to proofreading center for publishing. It was a very good experience for me.
2.2.1.4 News websites clients of CHA

CHA has 7 different types of news subscriptions;

- Full News Subscription: This type of subscription of all news produced by the Agency and can be used if any of this news has photos.

- City News Subscription + 3: This type of subscription allows you to use 3 neighbors city's news with your own city news (it will be determined by you). You will be able to use news and photos from the news.

- City News Subscription: You subscript to news of a city and you will be able to use photos.
  * This does not include the provinces of Ankara and Istanbul.

- News Portal Subscription (for websites) - All News: You can reach all of our private news for classified information for this type of subscription. A news photo of long edge is at 3 cm and resolution will be 72 dpi.

- News Portal Subscription (for websites) - Local News: This kind of subscriptions will receive the news in very economical way. Just select a province. A news photo of long edge is at 5 cm and resolution will be 72 dpi.

- Video News Subscription: The entire video news service made by the agency will be received via satellite. Our subscribers will get a password to have access to detail of the news.

- Editing News Subscription: The video news produced by our agency with the dubbing will be received in flash format. This package contains daily news, weather forecast, sport news and also cinema details (CHA, 2010).
The agency has 2 special news packages just for news websites and also has lost of news websites clients. Agency has nearly one thousand of online clients.

Agency is offering news in some different ways, depending on the client’s preference. They offer 3 ways for sending news;

1. All clients have a password for reaching to news details. Subscribers can enter to their account in news agency’s website to get news articles.
2. Agency can import news articles directly to subscribers’ websites as a draft article. So clients can edit or decide to publish the article or not.
3. News article can be directly published in subscribers’ websites without any editing. Clients prefer this type to be the first publisher of a current event. Then they can edit the article if it needed.

Agency is providing approximately 450 daily news and all of these news articles being prepared for news websites subscribers.

The journalists of sales department are making a daily search on the Internet to detect the news websites, which are using agency’s news without subscription. First they send a well-structured email to these websites about the law and the punishments and also they send the subscription conditions to agency’s web portal news packages. Then they try to get in contact with the owners to warn them and try to convince them to subscribe to agency.

The sales department director told me that they could get lots of subscribers (nearly 30% of current subscribers) in this way.
Conclusion

The news agencies were always innovators during their history. They always tried to adapt the new technologies to their systems and tried to be the first ones on transmitting information. They also evolved with the Internet technology and considering the news agencies' history; they reached to an important point.

The communication business world realized the new developing Internet technology and they started to evaluate their products to this new working field. The information transition traditions started to change and also people’ habits changed with the common usage of the Internet technology.

The most obvious characteristic of news agencies is rapidity. The news websites are realizing this characteristic in real terms and they are able to transmit the information to the last consumers (readers) in seconds.

The news websites journalism is deskwork more than a fieldwork in Turkey. The news journalists only spent 0.5 hours per day following news out of the office (Cevikel, 2004). And also we can say that the news website journalism is a presenting journalism type more than an investigating journalism type. The objective is present the current events to readers with the richness of multimedia tools So the news websites need news sources to do this work and the news agencies are the main sources of the news websites in Turkey.

As I saw in the Cihan News Agency case, news websites need fast, reliable and powerful news sources and these characteristics are overlapping with the news agencies characteristics.
Bibliography


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2.2.2.1.1 – Portuguese Government today will start to work with the authorization of President

2.2.2.1.2 – President of Portugal gave the task of forming a government to oppositions
2.2.2.1.3 - Portuguese government at risk of collapse

Portekiz Cumhurbaşkanı, hükümeti kurma görevini muhafaf verdi

2.2.2.1.5 - President asks conditions to commission left parties in Portugal

2.2.2.1.6 - Eyes towards the President in Portugal
2.2.2.1.7 - Portugal steps in to political crisis

2.2.2.1.8 - Turkish police invaded headquarters of media group of imam Fethullah Gulen
2.2.2.1.9 - Portuguese State Television: Turkish Police invaded media group

2.2.2.1.10 – Portuguese Journalists Labor Union: We strongly condemn the attacks on press freedom
2.2.2.11 - Portuguese Journalists syndicate: Police breach in to newspaper building is a very bad sign

2.2.2.12 - TAP CEO answered interrogation for corruption
2.2.2.13 – Galatasaray Landed Lisbon for Benfica Game

2.2.2.14 - Galatasaray completed final training before the Benfica Game
Galatasaray, Benfica maçı öncesi son antrenmanını tamamladı

BURHAN AKALIN | LİZBON/PORTEKİZ | 02.11.2015 23:54:31

Yarış Şampiyonlar Ligi'nde Portekiz'in Benfica takımıyla rövanş maçına çıkacak olan Galatasaray, maç öncesi son antrenmanını yaptı. İlk 15 dakikası başına açık o
2.2.2.1.16 – After Match – Hamza Hamzaoglu
Maçın ardından - Hamza Hamzaoğlu'nun açıklamaları

| LİZBON /PORTEKİZ | 04.11.2015 02:59:06 |

Galatasaray Teknik Direktörü Hamza Hamzaoğlu, UEFA Şampiyonlar Ligi C Grubu'nda Portekiz'in Benfica ekibine deplasmanda 2-1 yenildikleri maçın ardından düzenlenmiş basın toplantısı...

...devamı →