

**A Stylistic analysis of Figurative Devices  
in Putin and Zelensky's Speech**

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## ABSTRACT

Language aims to provide meaning and its components are developed to fulfill its communication function. Its communication is not solely based on its form but also on hidden meanings within it. The traditional definition of language as expression of thought is too broad, as people are interested in the meaning behind word forms rather than their form. The study explores the issue of figurative meaning in Zelensky and Putin's speeches, which is difficult to reveal and often misunderstood due to different educational levels. It highlights the need for urgent research to address this issue, as it can lead to incorrect interpretation of sentences due to ignorance of hidden meanings. The study aims to identify the types and dominant figurative devices in Zelensky and Putin's speeches, their usage and characteristics, and their function and role. Understanding the leaders' perspectives is crucial for comprehending their meaning. The study examines the role of figurative devices, primarily metaphors, in speeches, hypothesizing that these devices are used to persuade the audience to accept the speaker's viewpoint, with metaphor being the most prominent.

## 1. An Introduction

The purpose and objective of any language is to provide meaning, and its components and elements are developed to fulfill its communication function. This communication is not solely based on the form of the language's components but also on the hidden meaning within them.

The traditional definition of language as the expression of thought is too narrow or broad to be useful. Language serves various functions in specific contexts, and people are interested in the meaning behind word forms rather than their form. This definition overlooks the wide range of thought expressions within language.

This study analyzes four speeches of two famous readers, Putin and Zelenskyi, using both written and spoken data. Paralinguistic features are used to clarify implied meanings. The researcher focuses on the written form of the speeches, selecting two speeches from each to analyze their length. The spoken data aids in the analysis of the written data. Different educational levels can lead to incorrect interpretation of sentences due to ignorance of hidden meanings, particularly in the use of figurative meaning, a concern that requires urgent research.

## 2. Stylistics

Stylistics emerged in the 19th and 20th centuries from rhetoric and literature interpretation. It is a broad discipline that involves methodical analysis of texts, normative directives on language usage, and descriptive text linguistic analysis. It provides an explanation of a text's style and its relation to other text features, establishing a clear understanding of the text's overall style.

Functional stylistics is crucial for understanding the relationship between style and text function, as it identifies the fundamental properties of style in rhetorical texts. It often overlaps with its roots and the modern discipline of rhetoric, making its results essential for research.

Stylistics is the study of language style, focusing on why authors use distinctive linguistic features to create a specific style. Leech and Short (2007: 11) define it as the linguistic study that investigates the artistic value of language and the reasons behind an author's use of a specific style, related to a specific objective they aim to achieve.

Verdonk (2002) asserts that stylistics primarily focuses on describing an individual's manner in speaking, writing, and performing, referring to how they use a specific style or artistic value to achieve specific audience effects.

Simpson (2004) defines stylistics as not just studying language style for a specific purpose but also revealing the motives behind a speaker's use to answer or present a revelation about the underlying idea. Literary texts are the earliest texts studied in this field, as each piece has its distinctive feature and style that differentiates it from other language use.

Simpson (2004) affirms that Stylistics has expanded its scope to include non-literary texts like speeches, sermons, news texts, and advertisements. It focuses on the use of style in language, determining the purpose and function of these texts. The science is influenced by the author's intention and the circumstances surrounding their creation, making it an essential tool for understanding and analyzing language. This broadening scope allows for a deeper understanding of language's unique style.

Stylistics is a field that examines the linguistic aspects of language and the linguistic features within a language style, focusing on the author's intention to create style and the distinctive linguistic feature used in their work.

Stylistics is often derived from the word "style," which is a way language is expressed or used by a specific person to achieve a specific purpose. Leech and Short (2007) define style as the way people dress in their daily lives, with neat attire for work, casual attire for holidays, and loose clothing for home.

The term "style" refers to the natural actions and behaviors that occur naturally in human everyday life, such as dressing. Verdonk (2002) explains that "style" does not solely refer to language but also encompasses non-language usage, such as the example of a dress, which is an example of "style" in non-language contexts.

The language style is evident in conversations between professors and students or students with friends. In the first conversation, students use "sir" to express respect, considering the person, context, and purpose. In the second conversation, they use "bro or guys" considering the same aspects.

Style refers to the way language is used by speakers or users, considering specific aspects and variations. It is the realization of these variations, and various features of style can be analyzed through stylistics.

Leech and Short (2007: 61) identify four style features: lexical category, grammatical category, figure of speech, and cohesion and context. Lexical category analysis involves examining the speaker's choice of vocabularies and word classes (noun, verb, adjective, adverb). The grammatical category can be studied by examining its class (sentence, phrase, clause), complexity (simple, complex, compound), and structure (coordinative, comparative, etc.) to analyze its meaning.

The figure of speech can be analyzed by examining the language code within the work, its manifestation, and purpose. Cohesion and context can be studied by examining the logical connectors between sentence components, the cross-reference of pronouns, and the author's application to the audience through certain language use.

### 3. Figurative style

Figurative language uses words to convey different meanings, often focusing on creating a vivid picture in the recipient's mind. For instance, "This man is about to explode" doesn't necessarily mean the man will actually explode, but rather, the verb "explode" is used to reflect the situation in anger he is experiencing. This figurative approach helps convey a more interesting or impressive description.

Bossman (1999) defines figurative language as imaginative language used for deep thinking and interpretation, rather than literary ones. It appeals to the imagination and provides new ways of understanding specific words, allowing people to view their meaning in different ways, despite the literal sense being neglected in this phenomenon.

Figurative language encourages readers to rely on connotations rather than denotations, allowing poets to create concrete, condensed, and interesting poems.

Figurative language uses words differently from their usual meanings, creating a more interesting or impressive description. It aims to create a picture in the recipient's mind, such as describing someone as "he is about to explode!" This figurative approach conveys intense anger rather than the actual explosion, as seen in the example of "He is about to explode!"

Figurative language, as defined by Warinner (in Tarigan, 1985:179), is a form of communication that relies on imagination rather than literary interpretation. It involves using words to describe something else, creating interesting meanings that require deeper thinking from the audience, rather than being interpreted in a literal sense.

The speaker uses figurative language to explore the new world, utilizing imagination to create new meanings through comparisons. This language phenomenon is analyzed as a product of creative imagination, appealing to the audience's interest in understanding and analyzing the various aspects of the world.

Figurative language relies on connotations, causing the reader to rely on them rather than denotations, resulting in concrete, condensed, and interesting poems.

#### **4. Speaker and Listener's Characteristics and Figurative Language.**

McMullen and Conway (1996) and Williams-Whitney et al. (1992) state that conversational interaction enhances understanding and collaboration, with many joint productions containing figurative language. Speaker and listener characteristics influence emotional communication, metaphors, and idiom use, often overlooked in research.

Tannen (1990) suggests gender differences in emotion communication, but this hypothesis has not been tested in an experimental paradigm. Figurative language, used by writers for special effects, deviates from literal meanings for comparison, emphasis, clarity, or freshness. Understanding these types can enhance prose effectiveness.

Figurative language, a type of writing that uses exaggerations or alterations to convey a specific linguistic point, is prevalent in poetry, prose, and nonfiction writing.

Writers employ figurative language to describe things, people, or ideas, as it cannot be taken literally. Common uses include comparison, emphasis, clarity, new ways of

saying something, helping readers form pictures, and making stories or poems interesting.

## 5. Types of figurative language

The researcher explores figurative language, focusing on Perrine's (1977:61-109) twelve types: simile, metaphor, personification, apostrophe, synecdoche, metonymy, symbol, allegory, paradox, hyperbole/overstatement, understatement, and irony. They will detail these types in speeches and provide commentary on their rates and functions, analyzing their role in conveying meaning.

### 5.1. By Comparison

#### 5.1.1. Simile

Perrine (1977, p.61) states that simile and metaphor are both similar in their comparison of two things that are completely different. Simile uses words like( like, as, similar, resemble, or seems) to express explicit comparisons between these two things.

Pradopo (2003:62) mentions that simile is a simple figurative language used by poets to compare two things using "like" or "as." Shakespeare's example of a simile is provided in Siswantoro (2002: 25), showcasing its use in poetry.

- 1- How like a winter hath my absence been, From thee, the pleasure of the  
fleeting year! What freezing have I felt, what days seen. What old December's  
bareness everywhere.

Shakespeare uses simile to symbolize the cold and dark winter season when a lover is far from their beloved, highlighting the warmth and less of love.

#### 5.1.2. Metaphor

Metaphor, is an ancient rhetorical concept, has been studied by rhetoricians, critics, and linguists since the era of Aristotle. Originating from the Greek word metaphor, it has been borrowed into French. While defining metaphor is challenging, citing an example can help clarify its meaning. It is easier to provide an example than a definition, as suggested by Childs & Fowler (2006).

Metaphor is a poetic tool used for comparison with personification and simile, but it can interfere with other rhetorical devices. The Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary defines metaphor as "the use of words to indicate something different from the literal meaning," as it provides an example of metaphor.

Knowles and Moon (2006) explained metaphor as the use of language to signify something different from its literal meaning, aiming to create a link between two entities by drawing or making a comparison between them.

Metaphor is a rhetorical tool used to suggest a resemblance or analogy between two or more entities or actions, as defined by Britannica Concise Encyclopedia (2006). It involves using an expression or word to represent a specific entity or action.

#### 5.1.2.1. Metaphors in Political Discourse

Charteris-Black (2004) argues that recent studies have explored the role of metaphor in political language, focusing on discourse metaphors. These metaphors are conceptually grounded but shaped by their use in a specific context and debate. Source concepts refer to real or fictitious objects in interactional space, and their importance is highlighted by the importance of cultural conceptual models, root metaphors, and ideologies.

Charteris-Black (2004) highlights that discourse metaphors are universal, but they evolve with ongoing discourses and serve specific purposes. This is crucial in our study, as we aim to demonstrate how the former Russian president utilized path and building to achieve culturally and historically specific strategic goals.

Lakoff (2004) argues that metaphor in political discourse legitimizes policies by examining the underlying social and cultural value system.

Charteris-Black (2004, p.56) emphasizes that the role of discourse metaphors in shaping shared narratives of politics, emphasizing their role in discursive formations and power networks. It highlights the interaction of various source domains in creating myths, and the analysis of legitimization and delegitimization strategies related to Self and Other construction in political speeches.

Cap (2006, p.13) explains that legitimization signals a speaker's authority through acknowledging the addressee's needs, reinforcing global ideologies, and promoting charismatic leadership, while delegitimization involves negative presentation of opposition through blaming, scape-goating, marginalizing, excluding, and attacking the adversary's moral character.

Charteris-Black (2007, p. 76) examines Putin's use of path and building metaphors to promote his policies, oppose others', and create a political narrative. He argues that these metaphors serve his primary rhetorical objective, creating a "valiant leader myth" that portrays his actions as good and stable.

### 5.1.3. Personification

Personification is the act of assigning a human characteristic to an animal, object, or non-human entity.

- 2- “My pen was flying across the page”. Here, the verb ‘fly’ is used to refer to the process of writing in fast way.

Another example is:

- 3- “The leaves danced in the wind”

The writer uses the verb 'dance' to describe the speed of wind, referring to the human aspect of the subject. Pradopo (2003, p. 75) affirms that personification, a technique used by ancient poets and contemporary poets, aims to make language alive by comparing inanimate things with people, thereby enhancing clarity in the reader's mind about a specific object.

### 5.1.4. Apostrophe

Perrine (1977, p.65). argues that Apostrophe is a writing technique where the writer addresses or speaks with someone absent, either alive or nonhuman, allowing the addressee to respond to the message.

Apostrophe is a form of personification where nonhuman or inanimate things are addressed directly as if they were human or animate, as illustrated by William Wordsworth in Siswantoro (2002: 32):

- 4- Sweet Thames! Run softly till I end my song.

In the above line above, the writer speaks with Thames River in London and asks it to flow gently until the poet finishes his song.

## 5.2. By Association

### 5.2.1. Synecdoche

Synecdoche is a rhetorical trope that involves using a more comprehensive term for a less comprehensive one, or vice versa. It is used indirectly, either by naming only a part or constituent of something, such as 'hands' for manual laborers, or by using a more comprehensive term for a less comprehensive one. (Baldick, 2001, p. 254).

Sloane (2001, p.837) mentions this example:

5- "The Americans have landed on the moon,"

where "the Americans" refers to astronauts who are considered part of the American people, and "the Americans" is a broader term used to describe the astronauts.

Another example is:

5- "New Blood in Congress Inspires Hope"

Enos (2013, p. 712) uses the terms "New Blood" and "Americans" to describe individuals who are part of a larger group, such as astronauts who landed on the moon, as an example.

Minkova, Curzan, & Stockwell (2004, 117) define synecdoche as a semantic shift where words are used to refer to something different from their literal meaning.

Gibbs (2008, p. 457) discusses the synecdoche, where "Sail hoy" refers to the entire ship and "sail" denotes something separate from its literal sense.

6- "There are ten complete sails coming this way"

The speaker misinterprets the literal meaning of ten complete boats, which is a strong fabric that the wind blows against to enable a boat or ship to travel through the water. Soanes & Stevensons (2006) define synecdoche as the association of ideas between words, not similarity, based on the literal sense and intended sense. Understanding synecdoche types is crucial, but examining their variation is best before identifying them.

### 5.2.2- Metonymy

It is a term used when a word is closely related to the intended meaning, such as:

17- "He is addicted to the bottle" or "he drinks too much whiskey."

It involves replacing a word naming an object with a word closely associated with it.  
(Tirajoh (1988: 48)

### 5.2.3. Symbols

They can have meaning beyond their literal meaning, often acting as implied metaphors. For instance, the phrase:

18- "You cannot teach an old dog new trick"

It refers to an old man who cannot think as young as he used to, implying that a symbol can represent living creatures of any species.

### 2.8.2.4. Allegory

is a narrative that has a deeper meaning than its surface description. It can be described as a story with another meaning, which differs from the actual meaning. For instance, the sentence:

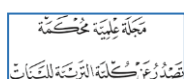
19- "He threw a pine cone at a jovial squirrel and he ran with chattering fear"

It is an allegory where the real meaning is different from the description. The man felt guilt when he left his regiment for his own salvation.

## 5.3 By Contrast

### 5.3.1. Paradox

It is an apparent contradiction that is still true, either as a situation or statement. It is often self-contradictory or opposed to what is commonly held to be true, but still contains a truth. For example, in Siswantoro's example:



20- "And death shall be no more; earth thou shalt die,"

The poet believes that death will no longer exist, as the poet will wake up forever and sleep forever, causing no more death to pass by. This paradox highlights the importance of recognizing and embracing contradictions in order to find truth and truth in situations.

### **5.3.2. Hyperboles**

They are exaggerations used to make a point, often used in conjunction with other sentences. They cannot be taken literally and can be used to convey a sense of urgency or excitement. For instance:

21- "I am so hungry I could eat a horse"

It can be translated as "I am very hungry." Hyperboles are often used by overloaded poets to convey a sense of urgency or excitement, as seen in the example from Siswanto (2002: 34). We waited in line forever, and the coffee was so hot that I was spitting flames. Hyperbole is used to exaggerate truth, as seen in the example from Siswanto (2002: 34). Hyperbole is often used by poets overloaded with emotion, as seen in the example of a dry river filled with tears.

### **5.3.3. Understatement**

It is a form of overstatement that is less than the intended meaning, often found in the way one says it. It is the opposite of overstatement, which is more overt. For example, in a poem, the speaker uses a quarrel between sword-armed men to convey a heroic calm, drawing the reader into the writer's message.

### **5.3.4. Irony**

It is a technique used by authors to convey the opposite of what is meant, revealing their confidence and uncertainty in their plot. For example, in Fadhliah's sentence:

22-"It is my first and last battle old boy,"

The author uses an irony to suggest that no one is going to the first and last battle, as the subject is in a nervous condition. This contrasts with the expected outcome of the story, making the subject's words more remarkable than expected.

## 6. The Functions of Figurative Language

Perrine and Arp (1978, p. 67) define Figurative Language as a creative method for expressing ideas beyond the ordinary, aiming to enhance literary works' vibrancy and clarity. It can be categorized into four categories: imaginative pleasure, imagery enhancement, emotional intensity, and brief summary.

### 6.1. To afford imaginative pleasure

Authors use figurative language in literary works to evoke imaginative pleasure, allowing readers to swiftly move from one point to another. For example:

23-"She is drowning in a sea of grief"

The metaphor in this sentence portrays a character in distress, causing her to cry, enhancing the reader's comprehension of the text. (Perrine and Arp,1978, p. 67).

### 6.2. To bring additional imagery

Perrine and Arp (1978, p. 67) assert that figurative language in certain works can enlarge the reader's imagination, as seen in the sentence:

24-"The sun greeted me this morning"

The image symbolizes the sunny weather that energizes the spirit to endure life until the moon at night.

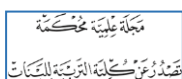
### 6.3. To add emotional intensity

Figurative language creates emotional sense and informative statements, like this example:

25-He was a roaring lion when he was in anger.

It portrays the person as horrific in anger, symbolizing strength, power, intimidation, and dominance. (Perrine and Arp,1978, p. 67).

### 6.4. To say much in brief compass



The following example clarifies what is meant by saying much :

*26-Time sure runs quick.*

The author uses personification to convey the idea that time runs quickly and that wasting time on futile tasks will result in regret. The reader is depicted as expressing the intended meaning in a brief way, allowing the author to convey the intended meaning without providing detailed explanations.

## 7. Language and Power.

Mayr (2008:1) explores the connection between language and power in various institutional settings, focusing on how discourse shapes institutions and their capacity to create and impose discourse. Institutions significantly influence our routine, world experience, and classification of the world. Power and politics are often expressed through member discourse, where people assume they must provide important political and social events. Large organizations operate as well-oiled machines to maintain their position and maintain their position, focusing on creating an impression and maintaining their position. This influence is reflected in the discourse of their members. Large corporations often own these organizations, with their own agendas and goals for increasing shareholder revenue. These aims limit news events and create opportunities for organizations that can respond. Understanding the strong relationship between language and power within institutions is crucial, as it reflects the power dynamics within these organizations.

The media's legitimization of news is influenced by the opinions, values, and actions of dominant groups in society. This ideological function leads to media blame or attack certain social groups for economic and social decline, neglecting issues of social deprivation that marginalize certain people and increase crime rates. Institutions aim to legitimize their interests and existence through specific discourses, recontextualizing and transforming social practice. Weber (1914) states that in democratic systems,

institutions must be legitimized and justified to be accepted by the people. Weber (1914) as stated in (Mayr, 2012:11)

Chomsky (1999: 20) argues that the Iraqi invasion was justified by the government's military humanism rhetoric to free the oppressed people of Iraq from dictatorship.

Mumby and Clair's (1997, 194) research identifies three strands that clarify the connection between discourse, institution, and power.

These three strands are as follow:

1- the study of how members of oppressed groups can discursively penetrate the institutionalized form of their oppression.

2- how subordinate individuals 'discursively frame their own subordination' thereby perpetuating it.

3- analysis of how dominant group 'discursively construct and reproduce their own position of dominance.

The third area is the focus of this study.

## 8. Discourse

Brown and Yule (1983:1) emphasize that Discourse, in the formalist or structuralist paradigm, is viewed as "language above the clause," focusing on structural properties and organization, but neglecting social ideas influencing language use and interpretation. The functionalist paradigm, on the other hand, views discourse as the analysis of language in use, arguing that language analysis is intertwined with cultural and social organization.

Richardson (2007:24) defines discourse as the use of language to convey meaning and action, which is influenced by the context of its usage.

Talbot (2007:9) emphasizes the importance of comprehending a text's speaker's discourse and its connection to broader contexts, viewing it as a result of interaction.

Fairclough (1992:62) posits that discourse is a social practice that involves a two-way interaction with the situation, institution, and social structure.

Foucault's (1972:29). discourse theory differs from traditional textual analysis as it posits that discourse practices systematically shape the objects they discuss.

Hall (1992:291) asserts that Foucault's perspective views discourse as a collection of statements that express knowledge about a particular topic at a particular historical era.

## **9. Political Discourse**

Fairclough and Fairclough (2012) emphasize that political discourse is distinct from other types as it involves practical argumentation based on circumstances and goals.

Chilton (2004:23) emphasizes the interplay between cooperation and conflict in politics, asserting that political speakers must safeguard their audience from "cheater detectors" and uphold the truth of their statements.

Wadak's Discourse Historical Approach (DHA) (2009:1) emphasizes the role of language in shaping power relationships, emphasizing the interplay between shaping, thinking, and doing in politics.

Schaffner (1996:202) defines political discourse as a subcategory of discourse, influenced by political activities, cultural and historical factors, based on functional and thematic criteria.

Rousseau (2004) (as cited in the New Fontana Dictionary Modern Thought 1999:678) emphasizes the importance of language in social life, arguing that power and obedience are transformed into duty and that the strongest can only be mastered by transforming their power into right.

Wareing (2004:9) and Jones and Peccei (2004:44) emphasize the importance of effective rhetoric in politicians' success, highlighting its affective function linked to power and social status.

## **10. Data Analysis**

The researcher chose two speeches to be analyzed. These two speeches were chosen intentionally to be within the same period and address the same topic that attracts the attention of the world.

### **10.1. The Analysis of Putin's Speech**

**I consider it necessary today to speak again about the tragic events in Donbas and the key aspects of ensuring the security of Russia. I will begin with what I said in my address on February 21, 2022. I spoke about our biggest concerns and worries, and about the fundamental threats which irresponsible Western**

politicians created for Russia consistently, rudely and unceremoniously from year to year. I am referring to the eastward expansion of NATO, which is moving its military infrastructure ever closer to the Russian border.

It is a fact that over the past 30 years we have been patiently trying to come to an agreement with the leading NATO countries regarding the principles of equal and indivisible security in Europe. In response to our proposals, we invariably faced either cynical deception and lies or attempts at pressure and blackmail, while the North Atlantic alliance continued to expand despite our protests and concerns. Its military machine is moving and, as I said, is approaching our very border.

Why is this happening? Where did this insolent manner of talking down from the height of their exceptionalism, infallibility and all-permissiveness come from? What is the explanation for this contemptuous and disdainful attitude to our interests and absolutely legitimate demands?

The answer is simple. Everything is clear and obvious. In the late 1980s, the Soviet Union grew weaker and subsequently broke apart. That experience should serve as a good lesson for us, because it has shown us that the paralysis of power and will is the first step towards complete degradation and oblivion. We lost confidence for only one moment, but it was enough to disrupt the balance of forces in the world.

As a result, the old treaties and agreements are no longer effective. Entreaties and requests do not help. Anything that does not suit the dominant state, the powers that be, is denounced as archaic, obsolete and useless. At the same time, everything it regards as useful is presented as the ultimate truth and forced on others regardless of the cost, abusively and by any means available. Those who refuse to comply are subjected to strong-arm tactics.

What I am saying now does not concerns only Russia, and Russia is not the only country that is worried about this. This has to do with the entire system of international relations, and sometimes even US allies. The collapse of the Soviet

Union led to a redivision of the world, and the norms of international law that developed by that time -- and the most important of them, the fundamental norms that were adopted following WWII and largely formalized its outcome -- came in the way of those who declared themselves the winners of the Cold War. Of course, practice, international relations and the rules regulating them had to take into account the changes that took place in the world and in the balance of forces.

However, this should have been done professionally, smoothly, patiently, and with due regard and respect for the interests of all states and one's own responsibility. Instead, we saw a state of euphoria created by the feeling of absolute superiority, a kind of modern absolutism, coupled with the low cultural standards and arrogance of those who formulated and pushed through decisions that suited only themselves. The situation took a different turn.

There are many examples of this. First a bloody military operation was waged against Belgrade, without the UN Security Council's sanction but with combat aircraft and missiles used in the heart of Europe. The bombing of peaceful cities and vital infrastructure went on for several weeks. I have to recall these facts, because some Western colleagues prefer to forget them, and when we mentioned the event, they prefer to avoid speaking about international law, instead emphasising the circumstances which they interpret as they think necessary.

Then came the turn of Iraq, Libya and Syria. The illegal use of military power against Libya and the distortion of all the UN Security Council decisions on Libya ruined the state, created a huge seat of international terrorism, and pushed the country towards a humanitarian catastrophe, into the vortex of a civil war, which has continued there for years. The tragedy, which was created for hundreds of thousands and even millions of people not only in Libya but in the whole region, has led to a large-scale exodus from the Middle East and North Africa to Europe.

A similar fate was also prepared for Syria. The combat operations conducted by the Western coalition in that country without the Syrian government's approval or UN Security Council's sanction can only be defined as aggression

and but the example that stands apart from the above events is, of course, the invasion of Iraq without any legal grounds. They used the pretext of allegedly reliable information available in the United States about the presence of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. To prove that allegation, the US Secretary of State held up a vial with white power, publicly, for the whole world to see, assuring the international community that it was a chemical warfare agent created in Iraq. It later turned out that all of that was a fake and a sham, and that Iraq did not have any chemical weapons. Incredible and shocking but true. We witnessed lies made at the highest state level and voiced from the high UN rostrum. As a result we see a tremendous loss in human life, damage, destruction, and a colossal upsurge of terrorism.

Overall, it appears that nearly everywhere, in many regions of the world where the United States brought its law and order, this created bloody, non-healing wounds and the curse of international terrorism and extremism. I have only mentioned the most glaring but far from only examples of disregard for international law.

This array includes promises not to expand NATO eastwards even by an inch. To reiterate: they have deceived us, or, to put it simply, they have played us. Sure, one often hears that politics is a dirty business. It could be, but it shouldn't be as dirty as it is now, not to such an extent. This type of con-artist behaviour is contrary not only to the principles of international relations but also and above all to the generally accepted norms of morality and ethics. Where is justice and truth here? Just lies and hypocrisy all around.

### 10.1.1. Metaphor:

The phrase "talking down from the height of their exceptionalism" uses metaphor to describe the perceived arrogance of Western politicians.

This device comes to be within the function of saying much in brief compass, What reflects this device is the word 'exceptionalism' which can be replaced by many vocabularies or even by many pages.

### 10.1.2. Irony:

The speaker uses irony when referring to the "height of their exceptionalism, infallibility, and all-permissiveness," suggesting a critical perspective on Western attitudes.

Saying much in brief is the function of this device where this phrase, 'height of their exceptionalism' which should be a phrase that is said to praise the others not to criticize them can be said in more than one page,.

### 10.1.3 . Hyperbole:

The phrase "talking down from the height of their exceptionalism, infallibility, and all-permissiveness" includes hyperbole, exaggerating the perceived arrogance of Western politicians.

Hyperbole is reflected by the word 'highest' which is said to be a function of saying much in brief.

### 10.1.4. Personification:

The phrase "the powers that be" personifies those in control, emphasizing their influence and decision-making authority.

The speaker resorts to the word 'power' to be a manifestation to the function of saying much in brief where the word ' power' which is the characteristic of human beings includes all the words the refer to the high position in the state

**Table (4): Frequencies of Figurative Devices and their Functions in Putin's Speech**

| Figurative Devices | Frequencies | Percentages | Function of Figurative Devices | Frequencies | Percentages |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Metaphor           | 1           | 25%         | say much in brief              | 4           | 100%        |

|                 |   |     |                            |  |  |
|-----------------|---|-----|----------------------------|--|--|
| Personification | 1 | 25% | to add emotional intensity |  |  |
| Irony           | 1 | 25% | bring additional imagery   |  |  |
| Hyperbole       | 1 | 25% |                            |  |  |

## 10.2. The Analysis of Zelensky Speech

"I wish you health, fellow Ukrainians"!

It was a productive week. Very productive. We have many good defense and other decisions. Defense packages. From the United States – including artillery, necessary shells, HIMARS munitions, air defense missiles, additional air defense systems, tactical vehicles. And some other types of weapons that will prove themselves on the battlefield. From Canada, we have a decision on long-term defense support worth half a billion U.S. dollars. In particular, these are medevac vehicles, which are very much needed at the front. We have agreed on their production and supply.

There is a historic decision by the United States to jointly produce weapons and defense systems. In particular, air defense. This is something that was an absolute fantasy until recently. But it will become a reality. We will make it a reality. Everyone who works for the state. And this is the new quality of Ukraine's defense industry – much more powerful. And this is also the economy. Protection for our cities. Enterprises, new jobs for both our peoples – for Ukrainians and Americans. We have a clear perspective of a new resilience of Ukraine that will prevent the recurrence of Russian aggression – this is what we have already agreed on. I am grateful to President Biden, his entire team, and everyone in America who values freedom and supports Ukraine.

I held very important meetings in Washington, in Congress – both parties, both houses. There were a lot of questions, a lot of dialog. Equally sincere answers, absolute frankness and sincere understanding. And we specifically requested a format of meetings and communication in Congress that would allow for the most detailed conversation. This resulted in more trust, and I heard that support for

Ukraine will persist. In general, many morally robust and important positions were voiced at different levels in the United States – from the top level to all those involved in negotiations with the Ukrainian delegation. The same is true for Canada. There is a clear unity. There are new sanctions against Russia, and there will be even more sanctions pressure. We have reached economic agreements with both governments and businesses. There is a decision on a free trade area with Canada. A memorandum on energy cooperation was signed in Washington. An agreement was reached in Ottawa to rebuild Kakhovka HPP and reconstruct Kaniv HPP. There is an obvious interest of large companies in the U.S. and Canada to work in Ukraine.

At the level of the Ministry of Strategic Industries, there is mutual understanding with defense companies. And there is a very important mutual understanding at the level of societies – at the level of ordinary people who really care about Ukraine and really wish us victory and all Ukrainians protection from Russian terror. When ordinary people in America say they pray for Ukraine, it is truly touching and makes our relations stronger.

Separately, I would like to thank the Government of Canada for its readiness to allocate funding for the Holodomor Genocide Museum, for the completion of this museum. It is symbolic that Canada will be the one to support Ukraine in preserving its historical memory. Thank you, Canada!

We have agreements of the First Lady of Ukraine regarding support for the rehabilitation of veterans, there is a corresponding Ukrainian-Canadian medical partnership. Olena is expanding access of Ukrainian culture to the world's leading museums, and now there is an agreement with the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York. Olena also had important meetings and speeches on the sidelines of the UN, in particular, regarding the protection of Ukrainian children during the war.

This year, Ukraine presented to the UN a vision of reforming the key UN institution the Security Council. The Security Council is currently not able at all to stop aggression and actually restore peace because of the obsolete veto system, when there is no restriction on the aggressor's abuse of the veto. This needs to be

changed, and in general, all nations that respect other nations and peace should be given more rights and opportunities in the UN. I am sure the world supports this Ukrainian position.

And of course, this week was also fruitful in terms of bilateral meetings with the leaders of other countries. Thank you all for your support! And for your willingness to work with Ukraine. Yes, this is a different scope of cooperation. Different areas. But this is a clear recognition that Ukraine has a future. Its own future. Powerful and free.

And our warriors. I am extremely grateful. I am proud of you! This week, there are grounds to praise the brigades fighting both in the east and in the south. 5th separate assault brigade and 80th separate airborne assault brigade. Thank you for your fortitude in the battles near Klishchiivka! 93rd separate mechanized brigade. Guys, thank you! 15th operational brigade of the National Guard and 71st separate hunting brigade – thank you for the true Ukrainian power in the battles near Verbove... 116th separate mechanized brigade – well done, guys!

Thank you to everyone who is fighting for Ukraine, who is on combat posts, in combat missions! Thank you to everyone who helps! Every week brings Ukraine more strength and opportunities. Hence, every week brings our victory closer.

### 10.2.1 Metaphor

**a - "the Security Council is currently not able at all to stop aggression and actually restore peace because of the obsolete veto system"**

The metaphor of the "obsolete veto system" conveys the idea that the current structure of the Security Council impedes its ability to effectively address conflicts, highlighting the need for reform.

The function of this device is to say much in brief compass where the writer used ‘obsolete veto system’ to say the all the world reject the idea of the war.

**b - "This is the new quality of Ukraine's defense industry..."**

- The phrase 'new quality of Ukraine's defense industry' serves as a metaphor to convey a significant improvement or advancement in the defense sector, emphasizing progress and enhanced capabilities.

Metaphor is a figure of speech that is a fundamental aspect of poetry, describing one thing in terms of another. Comparisons are usually implicit, while similes are explicit.

The function of this device is to say much in brief because the writer says a brief phrase that can be replaced by more than one page.

### 10.2.2. Personification:

**a- "Ukraine presented to the UN a vision of reforming the key UN institution – the Security Council."**

The personification of Ukraine presenting a vision imbues the nation with agency and intention, emphasizing its proactive stance in advocating for change within the United Nations.

The function of this device here is to add emotional intensity because of the use of the word vision which is usually related to the emotions that are responsible for designing our visions.

**b - "And some other types of weapons that will prove themselves on the battlefield."**

The personification of weapons 'proving themselves on the battlefield' endows the weaponry with human-like attributes, suggesting effectiveness and success in combat scenarios.

Personification is the attribution of human qualities to inanimate objects, often found in literature, particularly in poetry, and is inherent in many languages through gender use.

The function of this device is to say much in brief because the word 'weapons' is used here to refer to the most important ambition of the human being which is 'success' that all human beings dream to prove it.

### 10.2.3. Symbolism:

**a - "This needs to be changed, and in general, all nations that respect other nations and peace should be given more rights and opportunities in the UN."**

The reference to granting more rights and opportunities to nations symbolizes fairness, equity, and inclusivity within the UN, suggesting a broader vision of international cooperation and mutual respect.

The function of this device is to say much in brief where the writer wants to say that all the countries must have the same rights and opportunities because all the human beings are born equal.

**b - "when ordinary people in America say they pray for Ukraine, it is truly touching and makes our relations stronger."**

The reference to prayers symbolizes goodwill, empathy, and solidarity, underscoring the emotional connection and mutual support between ordinary people in both countries.

Symbol is a trope that combines a literal and sensuous quality with an abstract or suggestive aspect but it is not literal meaning but use that meaning to suggest another. A symbol is something that is itself and also stands for a particular objective reality, for example: Some *dirty dogs* stole my wallet at the bus.

The function of this figurative device is to add emotional intensity because the speaker intentionally mentioned the word 'pray' and the word 'touching' to move the addressees' emotions.

#### 10.2.4. Verbal Irony:

The implicit irony in challenging the current structure of the Security Council while expressing confidence in the world's support for Ukraine's position underscores the speaker's critical view of the existing system's limitations and the need for change.

Irony is a technique that contrasts the meaning of something with the sense of it.

Verbal irony refers to a speaker's disparity in expression and intention, where they say one thing but mean another, or their literal meaning contradicts their intended effect.

The function of this device is to say much in brief compass because the speaker did not talk about the limits and the pressures that might taken by the strong countries to stand beside Russia in details but he hinted at the weakness of the Security Council.

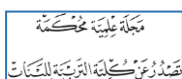
#### 10.2.5. Hyperbole:

**"There is a historic decision by the United States..."**

The use of hyperbole to describe the decision as 'historic' emphasizes its profound significance and impact, suggesting a momentous shift in the relationship between countries.

The function of this device is say much in brief where the speaker mentions the phrase 'historical decision' to replace the past events that reflect the positions in which USA stand with new countries not because it wanted to help them but it did that for its interests.

#### 10.2.6- Apostrophe:



### "Thank you, Canada!"

The direct address and gratitude to Canada through apostrophe convey appreciation and acknowledgment, fostering a sense of partnership and goodwill between nations. The function of this device is to say much in brief compass because the phrase 'thank you' implies many similar vocabularies.

Table (1): Frequencies of Figurative Devices and their Functions in Zelensky's Speech

| Figurative Devices | Frequencies | Percentages | Function of Figurative Devices | Frequencies | Percentages |
|--------------------|-------------|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Metaphor           | 2           | 22.22%      | say much in brief              | 7           | 77.77%      |
| Symbolism          | 2           | 22.22%      | bring additional imagery       |             |             |
| Personification    | 2           | 22.22%      | to add emotional intensity     | 2           | 22.22%      |
| Irony              | 1           | 11.11%      |                                |             |             |
| Hyperbole          | 1           | 11.11%      |                                |             |             |
| Apostrophe         | 1           | 11.11%      |                                |             |             |

## 11- Conclusion

The researchers conclude that the two presidents were aware of the use of figurative devices which were manifested in the two speeches but with different rates. The two presidents resorted to the metaphor which should be contained in such genre to convey the intended meaning that may cause a problem for them it is said directly. They also resorted to the device of personification to be in the second rank in the two speeches. They also concluded that the two presidents used some of these devices and neglected the others. The useable devices in the two speeches are metaphor, symbolism, personification, irony, hyperbole and apostrophe.

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