

The Construction of Social Resistance and Ecological Justice in Detik.com's Coverage of the Opposition to Sand Mining in Pinrang

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ABSTRAKSI

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Abstrak: Artikel bertujuan menganalisis bagaimana Detik.com mengonstruksi resistensi masyarakat dan negosiasi keadilan ekologis dalam pemberitaan penolakan tambang pasir di Desa Bababinanga, Kabupaten Pinrang, Sulawesi Selatan. Dengan menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan metode analisis framing model Zhongdang Pan dan Gerald M. Kosicki melalui empat perangkat analisis, yaitu sintaksis, skrip, tematik, dan retorik. Data penelitian berupa sembilan berita Detik.com yang dipublikasikan pada periode 2023 terkait konflik penolakan tambang pasir di Pinrang. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan tiga temuan utama. Pertama, pemberitaan membingkai aktivitas tambang sebagai ancaman terhadap ruang hidup masyarakat melalui narasi risiko abrasi, kerusakan lingkungan, dan hilangnya sumber penghidupan. Kedua, resistensi masyarakat dikonstruksi sebagai perjuangan yang berkembang dari penolakan ekologis menuju konflik legitimasi hukum melalui laporan, pemeriksaan, dan advokasi masyarakat sipil. Ketiga, konflik tambang diposisikan sebagai arena negosiasi keadilan ekologis antara kepentingan pembangunan, kewenangan perizinan, dan perlindungan lingkungan. Studi menunjukkan bahwa media tidak hanya berfungsi sebagai saluran informasi, tetapi juga sebagai arena produksi makna yang menentukan bagaimana aktor, kepentingan, dan klaim lingkungan memperoleh legitimasi publik. Temuan ini berkontribusi terhadap pengembangan kajian komunikasi lingkungan dengan memperlihatkan peran framing media dalam membentuk diskursus konflik sumber daya alam dan memperkuat pemahaman mengenai hubungan antara media, masyarakat lokal, dan tata kelola lingkungan

Abstract: This article aims to analyse how the digital media outlet Detik.com constructs public resistance and the negotiation of ecological justice in its coverage of the opposition to sand mining in Bababinanga Village, Pinrang Regency, South Sulawesi. This study employs a qualitative approach using Zhongdang Pan and Gerald M. Kosicki's framing analysis model through four analytical frameworks: syntactic, script, thematic and rhetorical. The research data consists of nine Detik.com news articles published in 2023 relating to the conflict over the rejection of the sand mining project in Pinrang. The results of the study reveal three main findings. Firstly, the news coverage framed mining activities as a threat to the community's living space through narratives of the risks of coastal erosion, environmental damage and the loss of livelihoods. Secondly, community resistance was constructed as a struggle that evolved from ecological opposition towards a conflict over legal legitimacy through reports, investigations and civil society advocacy. Thirdly, the mining conflict is positioned as an arena for negotiating ecological justice between development interests, the licensing authority and environmental protection. This research demonstrates that the media functions not only as a channel of information, but also as an arena to produce meaning that determines how actors, interests, and environmental claims gain public legitimacy. These findings contribute to the development of environmental communication studies by highlighting the role of media framing in shaping the discourse on natural resource conflicts and by strengthening our understanding of the relationship between the media, local communities, and environmental governance.

Keywords:

Media Framing
Mining Conflicts
Community Resistance
Ecological Justice
Environmental Communication

I. Introduction

Mining activities over the past two decades have become one of the arenas of socio-ecological conflict, bringing together the interests of economic development, investment in natural resources, environmental protection, and the rights of local communities to their living spaces (Ardiwinata et al., 2026; Salinding, 2026; E. Suwarno & Febryano, 2025). Mining conflicts are no longer understood merely as technical issues concerning mineral exploitation but have evolved into matters of public communication regarding how various actors define risk, legitimacy and environmental justice. In the Indonesian context, the expansion of the extractive industry often creates tension between a development narrative emphasising economic growth and the narrative of local communities seeking to preserve ecological sustainability and their livelihoods (Hasbullah, 2026; Jamaludin, 2026; I. E. Suwarno, 2025). This situation is evident in the conflict over the rejection of a sand mining project in Bababinanga Village, Pinrang Regency, South Sulawesi, which illustrates how communities are resisting plans to exploit natural resources in an area of significant ecological and social importance. This conflict has become increasingly complex as it involves not only the community and the mining company, but also the local government, advocacy organisations, and the media as spaces for the production and distribution of public discourse.

The Bababinanga community's opposition to the sand mining plan stems from concerns about the potential ecological consequences should mining activities take place in the coastal area of the Saddang River. A report by Detik.com in February 2023 indicated that the community rejected the sand mining exploration plans by PT Naura Alam Karya due to concerns about the threat of coastal erosion, damage to residents' plantations, and damage to road infrastructure caused by mining vehicles. The Duampanua Sub-district Government stated that the community remained opposed despite mediation efforts, as previous experiences regarding mining issues had reinforced the community's distrust of mining activities (Abduh, 2023b). This conflict demonstrates that community resistance is not merely a rejection of investment, but rather an articulation of ecological concerns and the protection of living space, which forms the economic basis of the local community.

The dimensions of the conflict subsequently expanded as the issue of sand mining came to involve not only environmental threats but also aspects of public participation, policy legitimacy, and power relations between the community and state institutions. In December 2023, residents of Bababinanga Village, together with the community of Salipolo Village, staged a protest at the Pinrang Regent's Office, demanding the revocation of mining business licences (IUPs) for 13 sand mining companies planned to operate around the Saddang River. The total area covered by these permits amounts to approximately 480 hectares (Abduh, 2023d, 2023c). The community considers this area to have economic significance as it serves as a source of income for residents through the catching of small shrimp (balaeng), an activity reported to generate up to around Rp8 million per night during certain periods (Abduh, 2023e, 2023a). Furthermore, the community considers the Saddang River area to have a conservation function and therefore believes it should be protected and restored, rather than exploited. These facts demonstrate that the sand mining conflict in Pinrang is a conflict concerning the distribution of environmental risks and benefits namely, who reaps the economic benefits from the exploitation of natural resources and who bears the ecological consequences.

In environmental conflicts, the media occupies a strategic position because it functions not only as a conveyor of information but also as an institution that shapes the way the public understands an ecological issue. News reports do not present a fully objective representation of reality; rather, they are shaped by a process of fact selection, choice of sources, use of language, and specific narrative strategies that determine which aspects are deemed important and how a conflict is understood by the public. From the perspective of the social construction of the media, reporting on environmental conflicts can reinforce the legitimacy of certain groups, shape perceptions of which actors are responsible, and determine whether an issue is understood as a development problem, a social conflict, or an ecological crisis. The Pinrang sand mining conflict: Detik.com is one of the national media outlets that has consistently reported on the conflict's developments, from the community's initial rejection to the emergence of legal dynamics. Detik.com's coverage illustrates

the escalating nature of the issue, ranging from community concerns over the impacts of coastal erosion and road damage, through the process of delegating licensing authority to the South Sulawesi Provincial Government, to the legal conflict that arose when a number of residents were reported in connection with alleged forgery of documents rejecting the mine. In the subsequent phase, the coverage also presented the company's perspective, which alleged the forgery of residents' signatures on the mining rejection documents, as well as the legal response to the village head and community members who were questioned. The complexity of this coverage demonstrates that the mining conflict does not only take place in the physical realm, but also in the symbolic realm through a struggle over the narrative regarding who holds the legitimacy to determine the future of the environment.

Previous studies on the relationship between the media, mining conflicts and community resistance have shown a shift from analysing the media's role in raising environmental awareness towards more complex examinations of discourse construction, the representation of actors, and the dynamics of ecological justice. Perdana (2024), drawing on Robert N. Entman's framing analysis of media coverage of the iron sand mining conflict in Seluma Regency, demonstrated that the media played a role in framing the impact of mining on the livelihoods of coastal communities, particularly fishermen, thereby positioning the media as an instrument for mitigating potential ecological disasters. Meanwhile, (Runeckles et al., 2023) expand our understanding of community resistance through an ethnographic approach, demonstrating that resistance to sand mining is not monolithic but is influenced by geographical proximity, experiences of ecological impacts, and the social structure of the community. This resistance manifests through open actions such as public protests, reporting to the government, and engagement with the media, as well as through forms of covert resistance within community spaces. At the level of media discourse, Diamante et al. (2021) employed critical discourse analysis on 224 news articles about mining in the Philippines and found that media coverage tends to be influenced by the contestation between economic narratives, government policy, environmental impacts, and the representation of affected community groups, with national media tending to emphasise economic aspects over the ecological struggles of local communities. Furthermore, Zukas (2020), through a content analysis of community reporting on sand mining, demonstrated a shift in framing from a thematic framework that accommodated the complexity of environmental impacts towards an episodic framework that placed greater emphasis on routine events and the economic interests of the industry.

A study by Wati & Setiawan (2025) demonstrates that alternative media can construct a more critical symbolic representation of mining conflicts by highlighting community voices, licensing issues, and questions of ecological justice through Murray Edelman's framing model. On the other hand, research on community resistance to extractive industries indicates that resistance takes place not only in the form of open collective action, but also through everyday practices and the production of alternative discourses, as demonstrated (Kasim et al., 2026; Siswadi & Yuliadi, 2025) through the perspective of Feminist Political Ecology, as well as Asufie et al. (2026), who examine the resistance of women affected by mining through a normative-contextual approach. Meanwhile, (Kasim et al., 2026) positions the anti-mining movement as a form of resistance against extractive capitalism, emphasising aspects of social memory, power relations, and the struggle to defend communities' living spaces. Overall, this literature indicates that research on mining conflicts has extensively addressed three main trends, namely (1) media framing of ecological impacts and the construction of mining issues, (2) community resistance to the expansion of the extractive industry, and (3) power relations between the state, corporations and local communities. However, there remains a research gap in studies that integrate media framing analysis with the construction of community resistance and ecological justice in the context of local-scale sand mining as reported by national digital media. Most previous research has utilised Entman's or Edelman's framing theories, critical discourse analysis, or ethnographic approaches, whilst studies examining how the structure of news texts—through syntactic, scriptural, thematic, and rhetorical elements within Pan and Kosicki's model—constructs representations of ecological conflict and the position of affected communities remain limited.

This study aims to analyse how Detik.com constructs public resistance and the discourse of ecological justice in its coverage of the conflict surrounding the rejection of a sand mine in Pinrang, Indonesia, using Pan and Kosicki's framing model as an analytical framework to identify syntactic, script, thematic and rhetorical structures in the production of media meaning. This study argues that media coverage of mining conflicts not only reflects the prevailing socio-ecological reality but also actively shapes public interpretations of the legitimacy of actors, environmental risks, and communities' rights to their living spaces. This article seeks to demonstrate that digital media acts as a discursive arena where various economic, political and ecological interests are negotiated, whilst also determining the extent to which the voices of affected communities gain visibility within the discourse on sustainable development and environmental justice.

II. Research Methods

A. Research Design and Approach

This study employs qualitative content *analysis* with a constructivist approach to understand how the reality of environmental conflict is constructed through the reporting practices of digital media. This approach was chosen because the study not only focuses on the manifest content of news texts but also seeks to uncover the processes of meaning-making, the selection of facts, the representation of actors, and the narrative strategies employed by the media in framing the conflict over the rejection of sand mining. Specifically, this study adopts *an environmental communication* perspective by applying the framing analysis model developed by Zhongdang Pan and Gerald M. Kosicki (Munif, 2023; Sucipta & Kurniawan, 2021) to identify how Detik.com constructs narratives regarding community resistance, ecological impacts, and environmental justice issues in its coverage of the sand mining conflict in Pinrang Regency. Pan and Kosicki's framing model were utilised as it enables an analysis of the internal structure of news texts through four key components: syntax, script, theme and rhetoric. Through this approach, this study examines not only what the media reports, but also how the reality of environmental conflict is constructed through the choice of headlines, narrative structure, selection of sources, development of themes, and the use of symbolic language that may influence public interpretation of the mining conflict.

B. Data Sources

The data source consists of news articles published by the national online media outlet Detik.com on its detikSulsel channel, which covered the conflict over the rejection of a sand mine in Bababinanga Village, Pinrang Regency, South Sulawesi. Detik.com was selected on the basis that it is one of the national news portals with a wide readership and plays a significant role in shaping public discourse on social and environmental issues.

The primary research data consists of Detik.com news articles published between February 2023 and December 2023. The articles analysed were selected based on three criteria, namely: (1) the news directly addressed the conflict over the rejection of sand mining in Pinrang Regency; (2) it featured representations of the actors involved in the conflict, such as the community, the government, the company and supporting organisations; and (3) it contained information on the ecological, social, legal and policy aspects related to mining activities.

The primary data sources for this study consist of nine news articles from Detik.com, as follows:

Table 1. News Data Sources

No	News Headline	Publication Date	Focus of the Issue
1	"Fearing Coastal Erosion and Road Damage, Residents in Pinrang Reject Sand Mining" by Muchlis Abduh	February 2023	Concerns over ecological and social impacts
2	"Residents Reject Sand Mining; Pinrang Regent Referred the Case to the South Sulawesi Provincial Government" by Muchlis Abduh	February 2023	Government response to the conflict
3	"Residents Reported to the Police After Rejecting a Quarry in Pinrang, Allegedly for Falsifying Documents" by Muchlis Abduh	February 2023	Community legal conflicts

4	“Miners Accuse Village Head in Pinrang of Forging Residents’ Signatures Opposing the Mine” by Muchlis Abduh	February 2023	Conflict between companies and communities
5	“The Fate of the Village Head and 21 Residents in Pinrang : Reported to the Police After Rejecting the Mine” by Muchlis Abduh	March 2023	Representations of the criminalisation of ’s residents
6	“Residents Storm Pinrang Regent’s Office, Urging the Revocation of 13 Mining Companies’ Licences” by Muchlis Abduh	December 2023	Mobilisation of community resistance
7	“The Main Reason Residents Are Urging the Pinrang Regent to Revoke the Licences of 13 Mining Companies” by Muchlis Abduh	December 2023	Community’s ecological and economic arguments

^a Source: Researcher’s Data Analysis, 2026

C. Data Collection Methods

Data collection was carried out using digital documentation techniques, following these steps: Firstly, the researcher identified and catalogued all Detik.com news articles relating to the conflict over the rejection of sand mining in Pinrang Regency. Secondly, all news articles were collected, archived and classified according to publication date, the actors featured in the reports, and the main issues raised in the texts. Thirdly, the researcher carried out *a close reading* of each news text to identify the framing elements used by the media in constructing the narrative of the conflict. In addition to text documentation, this study also utilised *analytical notes* to record the use of diction, the selection of news sources, the structure of arguments, and patterns of representation regarding the community, the government and the mining company. The data was then analysed using Pan and Kosicki’s framing framework to identify patterns in the media’s construction of environmental conflicts.

D. Data Analysis

Data analysis utilised the framing model developed by Zhongdang Pan and Gerald M. Kosicki (Pan & Kosicki, 1993, 1997). This model views news as a construction of reality shaped through linguistic structure and strategies for presenting information. The analysis was conducted using four framing frameworks: syntactic, script, thematic, and rhetorical.

Table 2. Framing Analysis Using the Pan and Kosicki Model

Framing Structures	Analytical Tools	Analysis Indicators	Focus of the Study
Syntax	Headline, lead, background information, source quotes, news conclusion	How the media presents the facts and selects the actors given a platform	How Detik.com positions the public, the government and companies in the sand mining conflict
Script	The 5W+1H elements (Who, What, When, Where, Why, How)	Patterns of chronological organisation and the sequence of events	How is the conflict over the rejection of sand mining portrayed as an ecological, legal or development conflict
Thematic	Coherence between paragraphs, connections between ideas, the main theme of the news item, use of terminology	How the media connects facts to create a specific interpretation	Dominant themes that emerge: community resistance, ecological risks, investment, policy, or legal conflict
Rhetoric	Word choice, metaphors, symbols, imagery, terminology s and emotional appeal	Linguistic strategies to reinforce a specific meaning	How media language constructs perceptions of society, mining, the environment, and ecological justice

^b Source: Researcher’s Data Analysis, 2026

Based on the table, the analysis process was carried out in three main stages. Firstly, the identification of framing structures, namely identifying syntactic, script, thematic and rhetorical elements in each news item. Secondly, the interpretation of dominant frames, namely analysing patterns of meaning emerging from the news text. Third, contextualisation of the findings, namely linking the framing results to the perspective of environmental communication, particularly regarding the construction of community resistance and ecological justice in mining conflicts.

III. Result and Discussion

A. *The Construction of Ecological Conflict: Mining as a Threat to the Community's Living Space*

Detik.com frames the sand mining conflict in Pinrang not merely as an issue of investment or mining permits, but as an ecological conflict relating to the sustainability of the local community's living space. Within the structure of the news coverage, the media positions the community's concerns regarding erosion, environmental damage, changes to the river ecosystem, and threats to livelihoods as key elements in constructing the narrative of the conflict. This framing suggests that community resistance is not constructed as a form of opposition to development, but rather as a social response to potential ecological risks perceived as threatening the sustainability of their livelihoods.

Headline: "Fearing Coastal Erosion and Road Damage, Residents in Pinrang Reject Sand Mining"

Publication Date: 23 February 2023 URL: <https://www.detik.com/sulsel/berita/d-6584881/khawatir-abrasi-hingga-jalan-rusak-warga-di-pinrang-tolak-tambang-pasir>

Table 3. Analysis of News Article 1

Framing Structure	Framing Devices	Findings of the Analysis in the News	Frame Interpretation
Syntax	Headline	The news headline uses the phrase "Fearing Erosion and Damaged Roads, Residents in Pinrang Reject Sand Mining". The choice of the words "fear", "erosion" and "damaged roads" is placed as the main focus before the reader engages with the body of the news article.	From the outset, the media constructs the narrative that the mining conflict is not merely a matter of business permits, but relates to potential environmental threats and damage to public facilities that directly impact the community.
	News lead	The lead presents the information that residents of Pinrang Regency are rejecting plans for sand mining exploration due to concerns about erosion and road damage whilst mining activities are taking place.	Detik.com uses the community's perspective as the entry point for the report. The residents' opposition is framed as a response to ecological risks, rather than as an obstacle to development.
	Source of the quote	The news report draws on sources from Rustam, Head of Public Order at Duampanua Sub-district, and Munarfa, Head of the Licensing Division at the Pinrang DPMPSTP. Rustam's statement highlights residents' concerns regarding coastal erosion and damage to plantations, whilst Munarfa explains the aspects of authority regarding mining licences.	The choice of sources demonstrates a combination of the community's perspective, represented by the sub-district government, and the administrative perspective, represented by the local government. The media establishes the legitimacy of the residents' opposition by highlighting its social and ecological grounds.
	Conclusion of the news report	The concluding section of the news report emphasises that residents have submitted an official letter to the South Sulawesi Environment Agency regarding their opposition to the mine.	The conclusion reinforces the residents' position as actors who are taking formal and participatory action in championing environmental interests.
Script	5W+1H structure	The news item explains: Who (residents of Baba Binanga Village), What (opposition to sand mining exploration), Where (Baba Binanga Village, Duampanua Sub-district, Pinrang), When (February 2023), Why (concerns about coastal erosion, damage to plantations and damaged roads), and How (through protests and the submission of a letter to the government).	The narrative structure forms a cause-and-effect sequence in which the mining plan triggers the community's ecological concerns. The conflict is framed as a consequence of potential environmental changes resulting from extractive activities.
Thematic	Main themes of the news	The dominant theme that emerges is the environmental threat posed by mining activities. The news item	The media develops the theme that the community's living space is vulnerable to mining activities. The

		highlights the link between sand mining and the potential for coastal erosion, damage to residents' plantations, and disruption to road infrastructure.	conflict is understood as a clash between the exploitation of natural resources and the sustainability of the local environment.
	Coherence between paragraphs	The opening paragraph explains the residents' opposition, which is then reinforced by ecological arguments, experiences from previous mining operations, the mediation process, and issues surrounding permits.	The structure of the paragraphs guides the reader to understand that the residents' opposition is not a spontaneous reaction, but stems from previous experiences and concerns about environmental impacts.
	Relationships between actors	The residents are positioned as the affected party; the government as the mediator and regulator; and the company as the party planning to carry out the exploitation.	The thematic structure reveals the power dynamics between the local community, the government and the company in the conflict over natural resource management.
Rhetoric	Choice of words (diction)	The use of terms such as 'concerned', 'erosion', 'damaged', 'problems' and 'no more mining' places emotional emphasis on the risks perceived by the community.	The diction used reinforces the perception that the mine is viewed as a potential threat to the community's ecological security.
	Metaphors/symbols	The word "erosion" serves as a symbol of environmental damage, whilst "damaged roads" symbolise disruption to the community's socio-economic life.	The media uses symbols of physical damage to illustrate the concrete consequences of mining activities for the community.
	Visual/narrative emphasis	News narratives tend to highlight the community's reasons for opposition rather than the economic benefits of mining.	News framing tends to emphasise the perspective of environmental risks and the protection of the community's living space.

^c Source: Author's analysis using the Pan and Kosicki model

Table 3 shows Detik.com's coverage of the opposition to sand mining in Baba Binanga Village, establishing a dominant frame that mining activities pose a potential threat to the local community's living environment. In terms of syntactic structure, from the news headline onwards, the media has highlighted the issue using the phrases "concerns about erosion" and "damaged roads", thereby positioning the mining conflict within the perspective of ecological risk, rather than merely as a matter of investment or licensing. The selection of quotes from the sub-district government, which conveyed the residents' reasons for rejection, further reinforces the legitimacy of the community's concerns as having both social and environmental grounds. In terms of narrative structure, Detik.com constructs the news story based on a causal link between the planned sand mining exploration and potential environmental damage. The community is portrayed as the actors directly experiencing the consequences of potential ecological changes, whilst the mining company is positioned as the party introducing extractive activities into the community's living space. This narrative structure indicates that the conflict does not arise from a general rejection of development, but from a perceived risk to environmental sustainability and the community's livelihoods.

In terms of thematic and rhetorical structure, Detik.com reinforces the construction of ecological conflict using themes and diction that emphasise the community's vulnerability to the impacts of mining. Terms such as 'erosion', 'residents' farms' and 'damaged roads' serve as rhetorical devices linking mining activities to concrete threats in everyday life. Consequently, this reporting constructs a representation in which the resistance of the Baba Binanga community is a form of *defence of their livelihood space* rather than merely a rejection of an economic project. These findings indicate that, in its initial coverage of the Pinrang sand mining conflict, Detik.com predominantly employed an 'environmental risk frame'—that is, framing mining through its ecological consequences that could potentially affect local communities. This frame served as the initial foundation for the formation of a narrative of ecological justice, as the community was positioned as a group striving to defend their right to a safe, sustainable environment that supports their livelihoods.

Headline: *"The Main Reason Residents Are Urging the Pinrang Regent to Revoke the Licences of 13 Mining Companies"*

Publication Date: 14 December 2023 URL: <https://www.detik.com/sulsel/berita/d-7090750/alasan-utama-warga-desak-bupati-pinrang-cabut-izin-13-perusahaan-tambang>

Table 4. Analysis of News Item 1

Framing Structure	Framing Devices	Findings of the Analysis in the News	Frame Interpretation
Syntax	Headline	The news headline uses the phrase “ <i>The Main Reason Residents Urge the Regent of Pinrang to Revoke the Licences of 13 Mining Companies</i> ”. The main emphasis is not on the existence of the mines, but on the reasons why the community is opposing them.	Detik.com constructs a frame suggesting that the opposition to the mines is based on rational arguments and the public interest, particularly the protection of the local economy and the environment.
	News headline	The lead reports that residents are calling for the revocation of the mining licences (IUPs) of 13 sand mining companies, as mining activities have the potential to disrupt the economic activities of communities living along the Saddang River.	The media links the mining conflict to a threat to the community’s livelihood. Mining is not merely portrayed as an economic activity, but as a factor that could potentially destroy local livelihoods.
	Selection of news sources	The main source is Apandi (a staff member of the Advocacy Division at KPA South Sulawesi), supported by Sudirman, Head of the Pinrang Environmental Agency. Apandi explains the impact on residents’ livelihoods and the conservation function of the Saddang River, whilst the Environmental Agency explains aspects of regulatory authority and permit evaluation.	The choice of sources highlights two main perspectives: the civil society perspective, which emphasises ecological protection, and the government perspective as the regulator responsible for environmental governance.
	Conclusion	The news item concludes with a statement from the Pinrang Environmental Agency (DLH) that it will convey the community’s aspirations to the South Sulawesi Provincial Government and request a review of the conditions in the mining area.	The conclusion reinforces the position that the conflict is an issue of environmental governance requiring a policy review, rather than merely a matter of community opposition to the company.
	Script	5W+1H structure	The narrative structure establishes a cause-and-effect relationship, showing that the existence of mining licences is a factor with the potential to alter the ecological and social conditions of the community. The conflict is understood as a preventative measure taken by the community before damage occurs.
Thematic	Main theme of the news item	The dominant theme is the threat posed by the mine to the sustainability of the local economy and the ecological function of the Saddang River. The news item highlights the activity of catching small prawns (<i>balaeng</i>) as a source of income for the community.	Detik.com broadens the construction of the conflict from issues of the physical environment to issues of socio-ecological sustainability. The environment is understood not merely as a natural space, but as the space in which the community lives and conducts its economic activities.
	Development of ideas	The news narrative moves from residents’ demonstrations, economic reasons, the river’s conservation function, public participation in environmental permitting, to the history of resistance dating back to 2017.	The media builds an understanding that community resistance is not a momentary reaction, but has a long history and is based on collective experiences of land management.
	Interconnections	Mining is linked to the potential loss of residents’ sources of income, the disruption of conservation areas, and an	The frame constructed highlights the interconnection between ecological

Rhetoric	increased risk of disasters such as flooding.		damage and the community's social vulnerability.
	Choice of words (diction)	Words such as 'disrupted', 'lost of its own accord', 'conservation areas', 'must be restored', 'disaster mitigation' and 'unrest' are used in the reporting.	This diction reinforces the narrative that mining activities have serious consequences for the environment and people's lives.
	Use of figures/statistics	The report mentions 13 mining companies, an area of 480 hectares, and the potential for residents to earn up to Rp8 million per night from shrimp catches.	The mention of figures provides factual legitimacy that the conflict has tangible material and ecological dimensions, rather than being merely a matter of public perception.
	Environmental symbolism	The Saddang River is framed as a conservation area possessing ecological and economic value for the community.	The river is not merely positioned as a mining site, but as an ecological asset that serves social and sustainability functions for the local community.

^d. Source: Author's analysis using the Pan and Kosicki model

Table 4 shows that Detik.com's coverage of demands to revoke the licences of 13 sand mining companies in Pinrang reinforces the construction of an ecological conflict by framing the mines as a threat to the sustainability of the community's living environment. At the syntactic level, from the very headline, the media does not directly portray the community as a group opposing development but rather highlights the 'main reason' for this opposition. This strategy establishes the legitimacy that the community's resistance is grounded in arguments relating to environmental protection, the local economy, and the sustainability of natural resources. In terms of narrative structure, Detik.com constructs the conflict narrative through a causal link between mining expansion and the potential loss of the community's livelihoods. In contrast to earlier reports which emphasised concerns about coastal erosion and road damage, this report broadens the scope of the conflict by demonstrating that the Saddang River serves as a vital economic space for the community through small-scale shrimp fishing (*balaeng*). Consequently, the threat posed by the mine is framed not only as a risk to the river's ecosystem, but also as a threat to the economic viability of the local community.

The thematic structure reveals that Detik.com establishes a link between the environment and the social life of the community through three main ideas: the protection of livelihoods, ecological conservation, and public participation in environmental decision-making. The reference to the Saddang River area as a conservation site in need of restoration demonstrates that the community is not only rejecting extractive activities but is also offering an alternative perspective on how the area should be managed. In this context, community resistance can be understood as a form of advocacy for ecological sustainability. From a rhetorical perspective, the use of figures—such as the 13 mining companies, the 480-hectare area, and the potential income for the community of up to Rp8 million per night—serves as a tool for argumentative legitimisation. These figures reinforce the perception that mining activities have significant implications for the community's socio-economic structure. Furthermore, the use of terms such as 'conservation area', 'restored' and 'disaster mitigation' reinforces the ecological narrative that positions the Saddang River as a space that must be protected.

The second news report illustrates a shift in framing from an 'environmental risk' frame to an 'ecological livelihood' frame. Whilst the first report raised awareness of the potential environmental damage caused by mining, the second report broadens the construction of the conflict by demonstrating that ecological damage has direct implications for the loss of the community's livelihoods. From the perspective of *environmental* justice, this reporting demonstrates that the sand mining conflict in Pinrang is not merely a matter of the exploitation of natural resources, but also a matter of the rights of local communities to defend the living spaces that underpin their economic, social and ecological sustainability.

B. Representation of Community Resistance: Public Resistance and Conflicts over Legal Legitimacy

Detik.com frames community resistance as a struggle to gain legitimacy in environmental conflicts. The reporting does not merely portray the community as a group opposing mining

activities, but as social actors employing various political communication strategies, ranging from voicing their aspirations, staging demonstrations and engaging in legal advocacy, to maintaining the claim that opposition to the mine is part of safeguarding the public interest. However, the reporting also reveals a shift in the community's position from a group voicing ecological concerns to one facing legal proceedings, particularly when reports emerged of alleged forgery of documents opposing the mine.

Headline: "Residents Reported to the Police After Rejecting a Mine in Pinrang, Suspected of Forging Documents"

Publication Date: 27 February 2023 URL: <https://www.detik.com/sulsel/berita/d-6591212/warga-dipolisikan-usai-tolak-tambang-di-pinrang-diduga-palsukan-dokumen>

Table 5. News Analysis 3

Framing Structure	Framing Devices	Findings of the News Analysis	Frame Interpretation
Syntax	Headline	The news headline uses the phrase <i>"Residents Reported to the Police After Rejecting a Mine in Pinrang, Suspected of Falsifying Documents"</i> . The headline places the legal action against the residents as the main focus of the news.	Detik.com constructs a frame in which the mining conflict has shifted from an environmental issue to a legal matter. The community is portrayed not merely as a group opposing the mine, but as actors facing legal charges.
	News lead	The lead explains that residents were reported to the police by a businessman after they rejected plans for sand mining exploration. The report relates to allegations of forgery of documents rejecting the mine.	The structure of the lead indicates a shift in the residents' position within the news coverage: from a group voicing their aspirations to one that must face legal proceedings. The conflict over legitimacy is beginning to emerge as the main issue.
	Sources	The news report draws on sources including AKP Muhalis, Head of the Criminal Investigation Unit at Pinrang Police Station; the complainant, PT Pinrang Talabangi, represented by Andi Renreng; and a resident of Baba Binanga, identified only by the initials AM.	The use of various sources highlights a clash of narratives. The police and the company present a legal-formal perspective, whilst the residents present a social perspective based on their experiences regarding the mine's public consultation process.
	Conclusion	The concluding section of the news report reconnects the legal issue with the residents' original reasons for rejection, namely concerns about coastal erosion, damage to plantations, and road damage caused by mining activities.	The conclusion serves to re-establish the context that the legal conflict stems from a prior ecological conflict. The legal allegations do not stand alone, but arise within the context of the community's resistance to mining activities.
Script	5W+1H structure	<i>Who</i> : residents of Baba Binanga Village and PT Pinrang Talabangi; <i>What</i> : a report of alleged forgery of documents rejecting the mine; <i>Where</i> : Baba Binanga Village, Duampanua Sub-district, Pinrang; <i>When</i> : February 2023; <i>Why</i> : the company questioned the documents rejecting the mine; <i>How</i> : through reporting to the police and a clarification process with the residents.	The narrative structure depicts the conflict as a struggle for legitimacy between the company and the community regarding the validity of the mining rejection. The media shows that the environmental conflict has developed into an institutional conflict through legal channels.
Thematic	Main themes of the news	The dominant theme is the criminalisation or delegitimisation of community resistance through legal mechanisms. The news report highlights allegations of document forgery as the main issue, whilst still linking it to the residents' rejection of the mine.	Detik.com frames the community's struggle to defend their living space as having entered a new phase: the struggle to defend the social and legal legitimacy of their stance of opposition.
	Development of the narrative	The news narrative moves from the company's report, through the police investigation, to the residents' clarifications, and finally returns to the	The structure of the narrative reveals two competing realities: the company's claims regarding the legality of the mining process and the residents' claims regarding their

		ecological reasons for their opposition to the mine.	right to reject activities deemed to threaten the environment.
	Representation of actors	The company is portrayed as the party using legal mechanisms to challenge the rejection documents; the police as the investigating authority; and the residents as the group maintaining their stance of rejection.	The media constructs power relations between economic actors, state institutions, and local communities in conflicts over natural resources.
Rhetoric	Choice of words (diction)	The use of terms such as ‘policed’, ‘allegedly forged documents’, ‘rejection’, ‘forcing the mine to operate’, and ‘rejected by residents’.	This diction builds the tension of the conflict by presenting two opposing sides: the company’s legal allegations and the community’s resistance to the mine.
	Emphasis on the legal narrative	The words “report”, “investigation”, “clarification” and “examination” appear repeatedly in the news.	The emphasis on legal language indicates that the environmental conflict has shifted into a conflict concerning the legitimacy of the community’s social actions.
	Symbolic contrast	The news reports highlight the contrast between the “rejection document” contested by the company and the “environmental concerns” cited by the residents.	The media demonstrates that the document has become a key symbol in the struggle for legitimacy between the company’s formal rights and the community’s aspirations.

^c Source: Author’s analysis using the Pan and Kosicki model

Table 5 shows a Detik.com report entitled “*Residents Reported to the Police After Rejecting a Mine in Pinrang, Suspected of Forging Documents*”, which indicates a shift in the framing of the conflict from an ecological issue towards a conflict over legal legitimacy. In terms of syntactic structure, the use of a headline that positions the phrases “reported to the police” and “allegedly forged documents” as key elements indicates that media attention is directed towards the legal consequences faced by the community following their rejection of the mine. Consequently, the residents’ resistance is no longer interpreted solely as an act of environmental protection, but also as a social action whose formal legitimacy is questioned by the company. In terms of script structure, Detik.com constructs the news narrative through a cause-and-effect relationship between the community’s rejection of the mine and the emergence of legal reports from the company. The company PT Pinrang Talabangi is portrayed as the actor questioning the validity of the rejection documents, whilst the residents of Baba Binanga are portrayed as a group defending their reasons for rejection based on social experiences and concerns regarding the mine’s impacts. The presence of the police in the news narrative highlights the involvement of legal institutions as mediators in the conflict, whilst at the same time indicating that the environmental conflict has shifted from the public sphere to the formal legal arena.

Thematically, this news report shows that community resistance to mining has a more complex dimension than mere acts of rejection. This resistance is linked to efforts to uphold the community’s right to voice objections to extractive activities deemed likely to disrupt their lives. However, when the company challenges the rejection documents, the conflict shifts to a question of who has the legitimacy to represent the community’s voice and how those aspirations are accommodated within legal mechanisms. From a rhetorical perspective, the use of terms such as ‘reported to the police’, ‘alleged’ and ‘investigation’ reinforces the framing of the conflict as a legal matter for which no final decision has yet been reached. On the other hand, the repetition of ecological concerns—such as fears of coastal erosion, damage to plantations and roads—indicates that the root of the conflict remains an environmental issue.

Headline: “*Miners Accuse Village Head in Pinrang of Forging Residents’ Signatures Opposing the Mine*”

Publication Date: 28 February 2023 **URL:** <https://www.detik.com/sulsel/berita/d-6594057/penambang-tuding-kades-di-pinrang-palsukan-tanda-tangan-warga-tolak-tambang>

Table 6. News Analysis 4

Framing Structure	Framing Devices	Findings of the News Analysis	Frame Interpretation
Syntax	Headline	The news headline uses the phrase “ <i>Miners Accuse Village Head in Pinrang of Forging Residents’ Signatures Rejecting the Mine</i> ”. The main focus is on the company’s allegations against the village administration regarding the documents rejecting the mine.	Detik.com constructs a frame of legitimacy conflict by positioning the issue of signatures as the central concern. The conflict shifts from opposition to the mine to the question of the validity of community representation.
	News lead	The lead explains that the mining company accused the village head and the Bababinanga Village Council (BPD) of forging the signatures of residents who opposed sand mining exploration and subsequently reported the matter to the police.	The initial structure of the news story presents the company as the actor taking legal action to challenge the validity of the residents’ rejection documents.
	Selection of news sources	The main source was Andi Renreng, Commissioner of PT Pinra Talabangi, whose account was contrasted with that of Aliyas, Chair of the Bababinanga Village Council (BPD), and information from the police.	The selection of sources highlights a clash between two perspectives: the company questioning the legality of the rejection documents and the village government defending the validity of the community’s aspirations.
	Conclusion	The report concludes with the information that the police have received a report from the mining entrepreneur and are still investigating the alleged forgery of documents.	The conclusion maintains the conflict as an unresolved legal issue and leaves room for uncertainty regarding the truth of each claim.
Script	5W+1H structure	<i>Who</i> : PT Pinra Talabangi, the Village Head of Bababinanga, the Village Council (BPD), residents, the police; <i>What</i> : allegations of forgery of signatures on documents rejecting the mine; <i>Where</i> : Bababinanga Village, Duampanua Sub-district, Pinrang; <i>When</i> : February 2023; <i>Why</i> : the company is questioning the validity of the rejection documents; <i>How</i> : through a legal report to the police and a clarification process.	The narrative structure indicates that the environmental conflict has entered the legal arena. The rejection of the mine is framed as a conflict concerning procedural legitimacy and community representation.
Thematic	Main theme of the news item	The dominant theme is the conflict of legitimacy between the mining company and the village government regarding the validity of the residents’ rejection document.	Detik.com frames the issue as not merely whether the community opposes the mine, but whether that opposition is based on legitimate representation.
	Development of ideas	The news presents two narrative strands: first, the company’s claim that residents’ signatures were forged; second, the Village Council’s (BPD) rebuttal that the signatures came from residents who still have family ties.	The thematic structure reveals a competition over claims to the truth between economic actors and local community actors.
	Representation of actors	The mining company is represented as the party defending the legality of its operations through legal channels. The village head and the BPD are represented as the parties defending the residents’ aspirations. The police are positioned as the fact-checking institution.	The media constructs a power dynamic between the company, the ‘ ‘ the village government, and state institutions in determining the legitimacy of the conflict.
	Development narrative	The company states that mining activities will contribute to economic growth and the welfare of the community.	Detik.com presents a counter-narrative suggesting that mining is not only associated with conflict but also brings economic benefits from the company’s perspective.
Rhetoric	Choice of words (diction)	The use of terms such as ‘accusing’, ‘falsifying’, ‘report’, ‘rejection’, ‘public	This diction illustrates a symbolic battle between the narrative of document-based

	awareness campaign' and 'economic contribution'.	criminality and the narrative of development legitimacy.
Contrasting narratives	The company emphasises legal compliance and economic benefits, whilst the BPD emphasises community participation and the aspirations of local residents.	This contrast highlights two models of legitimacy: the company's legal-formal legitimacy versus the community's social legitimacy.
Use of factual details	The news report contains information regarding the mine's public consultation process, documents of objection, residents' signatures, police reports, and clarifications from the BPD.	Factual details are used to create an impression of objectivity whilst demonstrating that the conflict lies within the realm of legal evidence.

^f Source: Author's analysis using the Pan and Kosicki model

Table 6 shows that Detik.com's reporting illustrates how the sand mining conflict has shifted from an ecological conflict towards a conflict over legal legitimacy and social representation. In terms of syntactic structure, the choice of headlines containing the words "accusing" and "forging signatures" positions the company's allegations as the starting point for interpreting the news. This indicates that public attention is directed towards the legality of the rejection document, rather than solely on the substance of the community's opposition to mining activities. In terms of script structure, Detik.com constructs the narrative of the conflict through the relationship between the mining exploration plan, the company's public consultation process, the emergence of the residents' rejection document, and the subsequent legal report to the police. This structure reveals that community resistance to the mine takes place not only in the form of social action but also enters the legal arena as a space for contesting legitimacy. In this context, the rejection document becomes a key symbol as it determines whether the community's voice is regarded as a legitimate aspiration or as an action that is legally contested.

In terms of thematic structure, this news report reveals a contest between two forms of legitimacy. Firstly, formal legal legitimacy constructed by the company through narratives of compliance with regulations, public engagement processes, and the economic benefits of the mine for the community. Secondly, social legitimacy constructed by the village government through the claim that the rejection documents represent residents with a direct stake in the area. The presence of these two narratives indicates that mining conflicts are not merely disputes over natural resources, but also conflicts over who has the right to determine the future of the community's living space. Meanwhile, in the rhetorical structure, the use of terms such as 'forgery', 'report' and 'investigation' reinforces the construction of the conflict within a legal framework. However, Detik.com also provided space for a clarification from the Village Council (BPD), explaining that the similarity in signatures was due to family ties amongst residents. The strategy of presenting these two perspectives shows that the media frames the conflict as an arena for competing claims, rather than simply positioning one side as right or wrong.

Thus, this news report demonstrates that the resistance of the Bababinanga community has undergone a transformation from environmental resistance into a legal and representational struggle. Opposition to the mine is not only fought through arguments regarding ecological risks, but also through efforts to uphold the legitimacy of the community's right to object to extractive activities that affect their living space.

Title: "Village Head and 21 Residents in Pinrang Reported to the Police After Rejecting a Mine"

Publication Date: 15 March 2023 URL: <https://www.detik.com/sulsel/hukum-dan-kriminal/d-6621663/nasib-kades-dan-21-warganya-di-pinrang-malah-dipolisikan-usai-tolak-tambang>

Table 7. News Analysis 5

Framing Structure	Framing Devices	Findings of the News Analysis	Frame Interpretation
Syntax	Headline	The news headline uses the phrase <i>“The Fate of the Village Head and 21 Residents in Pinrang: Reported to the Police After Rejecting the Mine”</i> . The words “fate” and “reported to the police” are the main points of emphasis.	Detik.com constructs the narrative that the community faces legal consequences after opposing the mine. The word “instead” implies a shift in the villagers’ position from being a group voicing their aspirations to one facing legal issues.
	News lead	The lead explains that the Head of Bababinanga Village, Muhammad Taiyeb, and 21 residents were questioned by the police in connection with a report alleging the forgery of signatures on a petition opposing the sand mine.	The media places the legal process at the centre of the reporting, indicating that the environmental conflict has evolved into a conflict over legal legitimacy.
	News sources	The report draws on sources from the police (Ipda Kaharuddin, Head of the Tahban Unit at Pinrang Police Station) and the Makassar Legal Aid Institute (LBH Makassar) (Muhammad Ansar and Ady Anugrah Pramata).	The choice of sources presents two distinct narratives: the police as representatives of legal procedures and the Legal Aid Institute as representatives of the protection of community rights.
	Conclusion	The report concludes with a statement from the Legal Aid Institute (LBH) that the alleged forgery of signatures stems from residents’ opposition to the sand mining operation.	The conclusion redirects the reader’s attention to the root of the conflict, namely the community’s resistance to mining activities.
Script	5W+1H structure	Who: The village head, 21 residents, the police, LBH Makassar, PT Pinra Talabangi. What: An investigation into the alleged forgery of signatures on a petition rejecting the sand mine. Where: Bababinanga Village, Pinrang. When: March 2023. Why: A report by the company regarding the document rejecting the sand mine. How: Through a police investigation and legal assistance.	The narrative structure indicates that the environmental conflict has entered the formal legal sphere. Community resistance does not stop at acts of rejection, but has evolved into a struggle to defend the legitimacy of collective action.
Thematic	Main theme of the news	The dominant theme is the legal consequences faced by residents and the village government following their rejection of the mine.	Detik.com constructs a narrative in which community resistance is pitted against the legal mechanisms used in conflict resolution.
	Development of ideas	The report begins with a police investigation, the number of residents summoned, and the involvement of the Village Council (BPD), before expanding to include the Legal Aid Foundation’s (LBH) perspective on the alleged criminalisation.	The narrative arc shows a shift in the conflict from an administrative issue concerning documentation to a matter of the community’s right to voice their environmental concerns.
	Representation of the community	The village head and residents are portrayed as parties undergoing questioning, but also as a group receiving legal assistance.	The community is portrayed as actors in a legally vulnerable position, yet possessing the capacity to sustain their struggle through the support of civil society organisations.
	LBH’s representation	LBH Makassar stated that the reports filed against the ‘ ‘ residents and the village government constitute a form of criminalisation, as the community had previously opposed the mine.	The involvement of LBH broadens the scope of the ‘ ‘ conflict to encompass issues of civil rights, public participation and ecological justice.
Rhetoric	Choice of words (diction)	The use of the words “fate”, “even reported to the police”, “clarification”, “criminalisation” and “the will of the people”.	This diction conveys an emotional emphasis on the fact that the community faces pressure after fighting for environmental interests.

Emphasis on the number of actors	The headline and body of the news article explicitly mention “the village head and 21 residents”.	The mention of the number of residents reinforces the narrative that the conflict is a collective issue, not an individual act.
Symbolic contrast	There is a contradiction between the company’s report regarding the alleged forgery of documents and the Legal Aid Foundation’s (LBH) claim that the community wishes to reject the mine.	The conflict is framed as a struggle between formal legal legitimacy and the community’s social legitimacy.

^g Source: Author’s analysis using the Pan and Kosicki model

Table 9: Detik.com coverage of the mine highlights the tension between community aspirations and formal legal mechanisms. In terms of syntactic structure, the use of the phrase “even reported to the police” in the headline serves a strong framing function, as it establishes a cause-and-effect relationship between the act of opposing the mine and the emergence of legal consequences. The community is no longer merely positioned as a group facing potential ecological impacts, but as an actor that must be held accountable for their collective actions within the legal sphere. In terms of script structure, Detik.com constructs its reporting through a sequence of investigations into the village head, the summoning of residents, the involvement of the Village Consultative Body (BPD), and legal assistance from the Makassar Legal Aid Institute (LBH Makassar). This structure demonstrates that community resistance has undergone a transformation from a form of social rejection into a struggle within the institutional arena. The legal process has become a new arena where various parties defend their claims regarding truth, legitimacy and rights in the mining conflict.

In terms of thematic structure, this news report presents two competing main narratives. The first narrative stems from a formal legal perspective, which frames the questioning of residents as part of the process of clarifying reports of alleged signature forgery. The second narrative stems from the perspective of LBH Makassar, which views the report as a form of criminalisation against a community fighting for its right to reject mining activities. Both narratives demonstrate that mining conflicts are not merely about natural resources, but also concern issues of representation and the community’s right to voice its interests. In terms of rhetorical structure, the use of terms such as ‘fate’, ‘being taken to the police’ and ‘criminalisation’ reinforces the construction that the community is in a position of being under pressure as a result of the conflict. However, Detik.com maintains a sense of balance by presenting the police’s perspective on the questioning as a process of clarification.

C. *Negotiating Ecological Justice: The Contest over Narratives of Development, Mining Permits and Environmental Protection*

The third finding indicates that Detik.com’s reporting reveals a negotiation of various narratives within the Pinrang sand mining conflict. On the one hand, the mine is framed through narratives of development, investment and regulatory certainty; whilst on the other hand, the community presents narratives of environmental sustainability, the protection of livelihoods and the right to living space. The dominant frame that emerges is not merely a conflict between “pro-mine” and “anti-mine” factions, but a competition between two development paradigms: development based on resource exploitation and development based on ecological sustainability.

Title: “Residents Storm Pinrang Regent’s Office, Demand Revocation of Licences for 13 Mining Companies”

Publication Date: 14 December 2023 **URL:** <https://www.detik.com/sulsel/berita/d-7089772/warga-geruduk-kantor-bupati-pinrang-desak-izin-13-perusahaan-tambang-dicabut>

Table 8. News Analysis 6

Framing Structure	Framing Devices	Findings of the News Analysis	Frame Interpretation
Syntax	Headline	The news headline uses the phrase “ <i>Residents Storm Pinrang Regent’s Office, Demand Revocation of 13 Mining Companies’ Licences</i> ”. The main focus is on the collective action of the community and the demand for the revocation of mining licences.	Detik.com constructs a frame suggesting that the conflict has escalated into a matter of public policy. The community is positioned as an actor demanding a change in the government’s decision regarding the management of natural resources.
	News lead	The lead explains that residents staged a demonstration at the Pinrang Regent’s Office to demand the revocation of the mining permits (IUP) for 13 sand mining companies set to operate around the Saddang River.	The opening structure of the news story frames the conflict as an issue concerning the relationship between the community, the government and mining licensing policy.
	Sources	The main sources were Apandi (a staff member of the Advocacy Division of KPA South Sulawesi) and Sudirman (Head of the Pinrang Environment Agency). Apandi outlined the ecological and social reasons for the opposition, whilst Sudirman explained the ‘aspects of local government authority.	The choice of sources highlights two main perspectives: civil society demanding environmental protection and the government in its administrative role as the policy administrator.
	Conclusion	The news item concludes with a statement from the Pinrang Environmental Agency (DLH) that it will forward the residents’ concerns to the South Sulawesi Provincial Government for a site inspection of the mine.	The conclusion indicates that the conflict remains at the stage of policy negotiation and requires evaluation by the relevant authorities.
Script	5W+1H structure	Who: residents of Bababinanga and Salipolo, the South Sulawesi KPA, the Pinrang District Government, the South Sulawesi Provincial Government. What: demands for the revocation of licences held by 13 sand mining companies. Where: the Saddang River, Pinrang. When: December 2023. Why: concerns over environmental damage and the loss of residents’ sources of income. How: through demonstrations and the submission of residents’ concerns to the government.	The narrative structure indicates that the mining conflict has shifted from local opposition towards a policy-level struggle. The community is using the public sphere to influence decisions on environmental governance.
Thematic	Main theme of the news	The dominant theme is the contest between mining licences and the protection of the community’s ecological space.	Detik.com frames the conflict as a battle between the interests of economic development through mining and the interests of environmental sustainability for local communities.
	Development of ideas	The news narrative unfolds from the demonstrations, the history of opposition dating back to 2017, previous conflicts in 2019, permit issues, the economic impact on the river, and the government’s authority.	The construction of the narrative demonstrates that opposition to the mine has historical roots and is not a spontaneous reaction to new mining plans.
	Economic-ecological theme	The news portrays the Saddang River as a source of income for the community through the catching of small prawns (<i>balaeng</i>), with earnings reported to reach Rp8 million per night.	The media constructs the environment as a living space with economic value, so that ecological damage is understood as a threat to the social sustainability of the community.
	The theme of environmental governance ()	The Saddang River is described as a conservation area that should be restored and subject to disaster mitigation, rather than exploited through mining.	’s framework of ecological justice emerges through the idea that environmental management must take into account sustainability and the interests of affected communities.
	Rhetoric	Word choice (diction)	Words such as ‘urge’, ‘revoked’, ‘reject’, ‘damage the environment’, ‘source of income’, This diction reinforces the framing of the conflict as an issue of environmental protection

	'conservation area' and 'disaster mitigation' are used in the news report.	and communities' rights to their living space.
Use of figures	The news report mentions 13 mining companies, a land area of 480 hectares, and residents' earnings of up to Rp8 million per night.	The use of figures lends factual legitimacy to the scale of the conflict and reinforces the argument that mining activities have significant socio-economic impacts.
Ecological symbols	The Saddang River is framed as a conservation area, an economic resource, and an area at risk of flooding.	The river is not merely represented as a site of mining exploitation, but as an ecological space with social and sustainability functions.

^h. Source: Author's analysis using the Pan and Kosicki model

Table 10 shows a Detik.com report titled “*Residents Storm Pinrang Regent’s Office, Demand Revocation of Licences for 13 Mining Companies*”, indicating that the sand mining conflict in Pinrang has evolved into an arena for negotiations on ecological justice between the community, the government, and mining interests. In terms of syntactic structure, the use of the words “stormed” and “demanded” in the headline portrays the community as a collective actor intervening in the public policy process. The community is no longer merely represented as a group suffering the impacts of mining, but as a group actively demanding changes to licensing decisions. In terms of narrative structure, Detik.com constructs the narrative of the conflict through the interplay between the granting of mining licences, community concerns, and demands for the revocation of licences. This structure demonstrates that the issue of mining is not only related to the presence of companies, but also concerns how decisions regarding the utilisation of natural resources are made and who has the right to be involved in that process. Residents’ demonstrations serve as a form of political communication used to voice objections to policies deemed to potentially threaten environmental sustainability. In terms of thematic structure, this reporting constructs two competing narratives. The first narrative is that of development through mining activities, represented by the existence of mining licences. The second narrative is that of environmental protection, constructed by the community through arguments regarding the function of the Saddang River as a conservation area, a source of income and a living space.

Detik.com demonstrates that the mining conflict is not merely a clash between the company and the community, but a contest over which development model is deemed most suitable for the region. Furthermore, this report demonstrates that ecological issues possess a strong economic dimension. The mention of small shrimp fishing (*balaeng*) as a source of community income highlights that the river environment holds intrinsic economic value within the lives of local communities. Consequently, threats to the river ecosystem are understood not merely as environmental damage, but also as a threat to the sustainability of the community’s livelihoods.

From a rhetorical perspective, the use of terms such as ‘conservation area’, ‘disaster mitigation’ and ‘source of income’ reinforces the framework of ecological justice. The media fosters an understanding that the management of natural resources cannot solely consider economic aspects but must also consider ecological sustainability and the participation of the affected communities. These findings indicate that Detik.com frames the Pinrang sand mining conflict as a contest between the extractive development paradigm and the sustainable development paradigm.

Headline: “*Residents Reject Sand Mining; Pinrang Regent Referred the Case to the South Sulawesi Provincial Government*”
Publication Date: 24 February 2023 URL: <https://www.detik.com/sulsel/berita/d-6587304/warga-tolak-tambang-pasir-bupati-pinrang-limpahkan-perkara-ke-pemprov-sulsel>

Table 9. News Analysis 7

Framing Structure	Framing Devices	Findings of the News Analysis	Frame Interpretation
Syntax	Headline	The news headline uses the phrase “ <i>Residents Reject Sand Mining, Pinrang Regent Refers Case to South Sulawesi Provincial Government</i> ”. The focus of the headline is on the conflict between residents’ opposition and the government’s response through the delegation of authority.	Detik.com constructs a frame in which the mining conflict is presented as a governance issue involving the relationship between the regency and provincial governments.
	News lead	The lead explains that the Regent of Pinrang responded to the residents’ opposition but was unable to make a decision because the authority to grant permits lies with the South Sulawesi Provincial Government.	The initial structure of the news story positions the government as an actor facing limitations on its authority in resolving the mining conflict.
	Sources	The main sources were the Regent of Pinrang, Andi Irwan Hamid, and Rustam, Head of Public Order at Duampanua Sub-district. The Regent provided a perspective on policy and authority, whilst Rustam explained the ecological reasons behind the community’s opposition.	The choice of sources highlights two perspectives: the institutional perspective on licensing regulations and the public perspective on environmental risks .
	News conclusion	The news item concludes with the information that mediation has taken place, but the community remains opposed and the authority to grant permits lies with the provincial government.	The conclusion reinforces the narrative that the conflict is not yet resolved due to issues of coordination and the division of authority between levels of government.
Script	5W+1H structure	Who: the residents of Bababinanga, the Regent of Pinrang, the South Sulawesi Provincial Government, PT Naura Alam Karya. What: opposition to plans for sand mining exploration. Where: Bababinanga Village, Duampanua Sub-district, Pinrang. When: February 2023. Why: concerns over coastal erosion, damage to plantations and road damage. How: through community opposition, government mediation and inter-agency coordination.	The narrative structure presents the conflict as an issue involving the community, the government and the company in the environmental decision-making process.
Thematic	Main theme of the news item	The dominant theme is the conflict between the mining exploration plan and the community’s socio-ecological concerns.	Detik.com frames the mine as an issue requiring a balance between development interests and environmental protection.
	Narrative on government authority	The regent explained that mining permits are issued at provincial level and that the regency government can only provide input regarding the social conditions of the community.	The local government is portrayed as a mediating actor with structural limitations in mining decision-making.
	The development narrative	The government emphasises the need for technical studies before determining the impact of mining, including an analysis of environmental effects.	The media presents the narrative that mining development must be based on scientific studies, not merely on economic interests or community concerns.
	Environmental protection narrative	The community opposes the mine due to concerns about erosion, damage to plantations and damage to roads caused by mining activities.	Residents’ opposition is framed as a form of precaution against potential ecological and social impacts.
	Conflicting interests	News reports highlight three interests: the community defending their living space, the government managing regulations, and the company with exploration plans.	The mining conflict is framed as an arena for the negotiation of various interests in the management of natural resources.
Rhetoric	Choice of words (diction)	Words such as ‘refer the matter’, ‘social conditions’, ‘technical assessment’,	This diction frames the conflict as a policy issue

	'environmental impact', 'sit down together' and 'mediation' are used in the news report.	requiring dialogue and evaluation, rather than merely a conflict between opponents and supporters of the mine.
Use of technical terms	The news report uses terms such as "permit", "technical assessment" and "environmental impact analysis".	The use of technical terms lends legitimacy to the idea that decisions regarding the mine are linked to administrative processes and scientific assessments.
Symbolic contrast	There is a contrast between the public's concerns regarding the impacts of the mine and the government's assertion that technical data is required to substantiate these impacts.	The media highlights the negotiation between community experience (<i>local knowledge</i>) and the government's technocratic approach.

ⁱ Source: Author's analysis using the Pan and Kosicki model

Table 11 shows a Detik.com news report titled "*Residents Reject Sand Mining, Pinrang Regent Refers Case to South Sulawesi Provincial Government*", indicating that the sand mining conflict in Bababinganga is framed as a matter of environmental governance negotiations between development interests, government authority, and the protection of the community's living space. In terms of syntactic structure, the news headline positions two main actors: the residents as the party expressing opposition and the government as the party responding to the conflict by delegating authority to the provincial government. This indicates that the conflict does not merely occur between the community and the company, but is also linked to the decision-making structure within the mining licensing system. In terms of script structure, Detik.com constructs the narrative of the conflict through a sequence of community resistance, local government responses, issues of licensing authority, and the need for technical assessments. This structure demonstrates that the mining issue is understood as a multidimensional problem that cannot be resolved solely through administrative decisions. The conflict involves ecological, social, regulatory and economic interests that must be negotiated by various actors.

In terms of thematic structure, this news report highlights a competition between two ways of understanding development. On the one hand, the existence of mining licences represents a narrative of development based on the utilisation of natural resources. On the other hand, community opposition represents a narrative of environmental protection stemming from direct experiences of the risks of erosion, damage to plantations, and disruption to infrastructure. Detik.com shows that these two narratives have yet to find a resolution because each is based on a different foundation of legitimacy. Interestingly, this news report also highlights a difference between the community's local knowledge and the government's technocratic approach. The community uses ecological experience as the basis for their opposition, whilst the government emphasises the importance of technical assessments to determine environmental impacts. This difference indicates that mining conflicts are not merely a matter of right or wrong, but also a matter of how various forms of knowledge are utilised in the environmental decision-making process. From a rhetorical perspective, the use of terms such as 'technical assessment', 'environmental effects' and 'mediation' constructs the idea that conflict resolution requires a process of evaluation and dialogue. The media does not directly position the mine as either a threat or a solution to development, but rather presents the conflict as an arena for the negotiation of interests between the community, the government and the company. This reporting indicates that Detik.com constructs a framework of '*negotiation of environmental justice*'—a process in which the community seeks to defend its right to its living space, whilst the government endeavours to balance regulatory, development and environmental sustainability considerations. From an *environmental justice* perspective, the Pinrang sand mining conflict highlights the importance of three key aspects: recognition of local communities' experiences (*recognition justice*), community involvement in decision-making (*participatory justice*), and the fair distribution of risks and benefits of development (*distribution justice*).

The findings indicate that Detik.com's coverage of the conflict over the rejection of the sand mining project in Pinrang does not merely represent a clash between the community and the mining company, but frames the conflict as an arena of contestation over who has the right to determine the future of their living space. The emerging framing patterns reveal a transformation of the conflict from an 'environmental risk' frame to an 'environmental justice' frame, in which ecological threats to coastal erosion, livelihoods and the sustainability of the Saddang River gradually evolved into issues of social legitimacy, the law and environmental governance. What is interesting about these findings is the shift in the community's position within the media narrative: initially, they appeared as an affected group defending their living space; subsequently, they evolved into environmental political actors utilising demonstrations, letters of objection and legal advocacy mechanisms to defend their right to participate.

However, an anomaly has emerged: although the media has devoted relatively significant coverage to the voices of the community and narratives of environmental protection, conflict resolution continues to be framed within an administrative-technocratic framework through issues of licensing, government authority and technical assessments. This situation indicates that the media not only reflects ecological conflicts but also highlights the structural tension between the community's local knowledge—rooted in ecological experience—and a development paradigm that relies more heavily on the legitimacy of regulations and formal procedures. Thus, the Pinrang sand mining conflict as reported by Detik.com can be understood as a form of negotiation over ecological justice, where communities seek recognition of their rights to the environment, whilst economic institutions and the state continue to operate within a logic of resource management based on permits and development.

These findings reinforce the relevance of Zhongdang Pan and Gerald M. Kosicki's framing theory by demonstrating that the construction of media reality occurs not only through the selection and emphasis of information within news texts, but also through the negotiation of meaning within complex socio-ecological conflicts. Pan and Kosicki's four framing structures—syntactic, scriptural, thematic and rhetorical—have proven capable of explaining how Detik.com organises the reality of the Pinrang sand mining conflict through the selection of actors, the structuring of the sequence of events, the development of ecological themes, and the use of linguistic symbols that shape public perceptions of community resistance and environmental justice. However, this study also extends the application of this theory by demonstrating that media framing in environmental issues does not stop at textual construction, but is linked to power struggles between communities, companies and state institutions in determining the legitimacy of a claim. Thus, Pan and Kosicki's theory helps to explain how the media functions as an arena for the production of meaning, where environmental conflicts are translated into public discourse concerning ecological risks, community rights, and the governance of natural resources. These findings confirm that framing analysis is not only useful for understanding how the media *defines reality*, but also how such constructions influence the process of social legitimisation of specific actors and interests within environmental conflicts.

The findings of this study are consistent with Perdana's (2024) research, which shows that media coverage of mining conflicts plays a role in raising public awareness of ecological risks and environmental sustainability, particularly when the media prioritises the impact on people's lives as the main issue. However, this study expands upon these findings by demonstrating that mining conflicts are not merely constructed as issues of environmental impact, but evolve into contests over social legitimacy, the law, and the governance of natural resources. These findings also reinforce the research by Runeckles et al. (2023), which found that community resistance to sand mining does not merely take the form of open rejection, but constitutes a practice of defending living spaces through various social strategies and public communication. Unlike that study, which focused ethnographically on community resistance practices, this research demonstrates how such resistance is represented and negotiated through digital media constructions.

This study supports the findings of Diamante et al. (2021) that the media plays a crucial role in shaping the mining discourse through the selection of specific actors, themes and perspectives;

however, this research adds that, in the context of local conflicts in Indonesia, the media also serves as an arena for articulating ecological justice when community voices are pitted against development narratives based on permits. These findings also expand upon Zukas's (2019) research, which identified the dominance of economic frames in mining coverage, by demonstrating that in the Pinrang case, ecological frames and community resistance gained significant prominence through narratives of environmental risk, the right to participation, and the protection of living spaces. Thus, this study contributes to the development of environmental communication studies by demonstrating that media framing in mining conflicts not only shapes understandings of ecological damage but also produces a symbolic arena where communities, the state, and economic actors negotiate the meanings of development and environmental justice.

The findings indicate that digital media play a crucial role in shaping public discourse on environmental conflicts by presenting diverse perspectives on ecological risks, development interests and community rights. In practical terms, the results of this study underscore the importance of environmental journalism that is sensitive to aspects of ecological justice and community participation. Theoretically, this study enriches the field of framing analysis by demonstrating that Pan and Kosicki's model can be used to understand how the media constructs the legitimacy of actors and interests in natural resource conflicts. However, this study is limited to a single online media outlet; therefore, future research could compare various media platforms or examine the impact of framing on public perception.

IV. Conclusion

The conflict over the rejection of a sand mine in Bababinanga Village, Pinrang Regency, demonstrates that mining issues are not merely related to economic activities and licensing, but also involve a struggle over the meaning of living spaces, environmental sustainability, and the community's right to participate in decision-making. Based on an analysis of Pan and Kosicki's framing theory applied to Detik.com's coverage, this study found that the media constructed three main narratives. Firstly, the sand mine is framed as an ecological threat with the potential to disrupt environmental balance and community livelihoods through issues of coastal erosion, land degradation, and the sustainability of the Saddang River. Secondly, community resistance is constructed as a struggle that has transformed from environmental opposition into a conflict over legal legitimacy through reports, community investigations, and support from legal aid organisations. Thirdly, the mining conflict is represented as a negotiation of ecological justice that brings together various interests: the community defending their living space, the government managing licensing authority, and the company promoting a narrative of economic development. This study demonstrates that Pan and Kosicki's framing model not only explains how the media constructs reality through textual structures, but also how news coverage becomes a space for the contestation of meaning in environmental conflicts. In practical terms, these findings underscore the importance of environmental journalism capable of presenting a balanced perspective on development, ecological risks and community participation. Nevertheless, this study has limitations as it analyses only one online media outlet, namely Detik.com, and therefore does not yet capture the variations in the construction of reality across different media with distinct editorial orientations. Future research could expand the scope of this study through comparative cross-media studies, audience reception analysis, or research into the influence of media framing on public perception and environmental policy.

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