

CHAPTER 3

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter presents the explanation of the research methodology including research design, data collection, and data analysis. This research aims to answer the following problems: (1) to investigate the elements of interpersonal meanings occurred in Putin's speech regarding a referendum in Crimea on March 16th, 2014 and (2) to analyze Putin's political positioning implied by the use of the elements of interpersonal meaning in the speech.

3.1 Research Design

The present research employs a qualitative approach. Qualitative approach seems suitable for this research because it aims to make sense of and to interpret the phenomena (Denzin & Lincoln as cited in Ospina, 2004). Furthermore, the research uses textual analysis method in analyzing and interpreting the phenomena since Frey, Botan, and Kreps (1999) stated that the purpose of textual analysis is "to describe the content, structure, and functions of the messages contained in the texts".

The research focuses on the analysis of interpersonal meaning in Putin's speech in relation to his attitude and judgment regarding a referendum in Crimea on March 16th, 2014. Furthermore, the research uses the analysis of mood, modality, and personal pronoun to investigate and to reveal the speaker's political positioning implied from the interpersonal meaning analysis in the speech. In addition, the analytical framework used in this research is the theory of interpersonal meaning proposed by Halliday and Matthiessen (2004) which is also elaborated in Gerot and Wignell (1994).

3.2 Data Collection

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The data of this research were collected through searching the transcription of speech on the Internet. The data were the transcription of a speech delivered by President of Russia, Vladimir Putin. The speech was chosen because it covers the issue regarding a referendum in Crimea on March 16th, 2014 in which Crimea and Sevastopol decided on joining the Russian Federation. The transcription of the full speech was taken from eng.kremlin.ru.

The speech entitled *Address by President of the Russian Federation* was delivered in Moscow on March 18th, 2014. The transcription of the speech consists of 5.260 words or 64 paragraphs. The speech was addressed to the Federation Council members, the citizen of Russia, and the citizen of Crimea and Sevastopol. The speech was given a day after Crimea and Sevastopol announced their secession from Ukraine. On that day, the President of Russia, Vladimir Putin, also signed a treaty of accession with Crimea and Sevastopol asserting that both Crimea and Sevastopol themselves requested in joining the Russian Federation. Moreover, Putin – and the Russian Federation – acknowledged Crimea and Sevastopol as sovereign states.

In the speech, Vladimir Putin explained the historical background of Crimea, Sevastopol and Ukraine that were once part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics (USSR) before the USSR fell apart. He also stated that Crimea and Sevastopol are always part of Russia and that they are meant for each other. The speech mostly spoke in favor of Crimea and Sevastopol reunification with Russia. Putin also expressed his support toward Crimea and Sevastopol for their declaration of independence and his good will to maintain good relation with Ukraine.

Putin also mentioned that the referendum was indeed made a bit fuss to the relationship between Russia and Ukraine. In this case, Putin stated, in Russian defense, that the choice of joining Russian Federation was fully in hands of Crimean and Sevastopol people. Therefore, this later explained Putin's attitude toward the Western countries specifically to the United States of America that they did not have rights to 'intervene' the referendum. In spite of who was behind

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the idea of the referendum or who was ‘to blame’ for this matter, Putin expressed his support for the reunification of Crimea and Sevastopol as Russia agreed and signed the treaty of accession for Crimea and Sevastopol to be the new constituent entities of Russia.

3.3 Data Analysis

There were four steps in analyzing the collected data. The first step was done by doing close reading the transcription of Vladimir Putin’s speech. The second step was done by analyzing the mood types, modality, and personal pronoun that were done through identifying and classifying processes using interpersonal meaning theory proposed by Halliday and Matthiessen (2004). In this stage, the analysis began by identifying the clauses. Therefore, the clause was analyzed using mood analysis and presenting it in table of analysis (see Appendix 2 for the complete Mood analysis of Putin’s speech).

The following clauses [24], [276] and [410] are the mood types found in Vladimir Putin’s speech.

[24] Crimea is a unique blend of different peoples’ cultures and traditions.

Crimea	is	a unique blend of different peoples’ cultures and traditions
Subject	Finite	Complement
Mood	Residue	

Mood type : Declarative (unmarked)

[276] Is this a legal argument?

Is	this	a legal argument?
Finite	Subject	Complement
Mood	Residue	

Mood type : Interrogative (Polar: Yes/No Questions)

[410] Please understand us.

Please	understand	us
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	‘present’	understand	
	Finite	Predicator	Complement
	Mood	Residue	

Mood type : Imperatives

Based on the examples of mood analysis above, the mood types found in Putin’s speech are declarative, interrogative, and imperative mood. Therefore, the analysis of declarative mood is available on Appendix 3, the analysis of interrogative mood is available on Appendix 4, and the analysis of imperative mood is available on Appendix 5.

The third step was done by calculating the distributions of data using the formula of relative frequency.

Relative Frequency =

$$\frac{fi}{n} \times 100\%$$

fi = Frequency of an individual item

n = Total number of frequencies

The fourth step was done by investigating Putin’s political positioning in showing his partiality that is implied by the use of interpersonal meaning elements in the speech. Therefore, Putin’s partiality based on the use of interpersonal meaning elements in his speech is available on Appendix 8.

Based on the explanation of the methodology of the research above, this chapter has covered research design, data collection, and data analysis of the present research. The next chapter will elaborate the findings of the research.