

Georgian People Stand with Ukraine: Emotions within Collective Action Frames

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Abstract

On the day of Russia's invasion in Ukraine, on February 24, solidarity protests broke out in Tbilisi, Georgia. These protests continued for two weeks, and besides strong emotion of compassion for Ukrainian people, they were charged with moral emotions such as anger, shame and affective fear. Some were formed in response to Georgian Government's statements (that were understood as unjust, as they did not express support towards Ukraine) and some in result of collective memory of Georgia's past history with Russia. Following the injustice frame, that was formed around Russia-Ukraine war and statements of Georgia's high ranking officials, each emotion had its own trajectory of development and each had its own influence on emergence of adversarial and agency frames. This paper analyzes role of four emotions: compassion, anger, shame and fear in formation of collective action frames: injustice, adversarial and agency. Social mobilization is explained through proposing new trajectories of emotions and integrating them within collective action frame theories. Results of the research show that while often indignation and anger are understood as the subsequent emotions to unjust circumstances, analyzing various other emotions in response to injustice frame may be equally important.

Keywords: Adversarial Frame, Agency frame, Injustice Frame, Moral Emotions, Social Protest