



**A pragmatic Study of Appeal to Diplomacy in Political In Press
Conference**

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دراسة عملية حول المناشدة بالدبلوماسية في المؤتمر الصحفي السياسي

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Abstract

This study primarily focuses on approaching diplomacy in a practical manner during press conference addresses, as exemplified by Antony J. Blinken, an American lawyer. He is a diplomat and currently serves as the 7th United States secretary of state. The research aims to analyse the pragmatic aspects that define his diplomatic approach in his press appearances. The study aims to address the inquiry: What are the pragmatic aspects included in Antony Blinken's diplomacy? This implies that the study aims to identify the pragmatic elements that aid Antony Blinken in achieving his press conference objectives. To achieve this goal, we present an eclectic model that scrutinizes the pragmatic aspects of diplomacy in press conferences. In relation to this aim, It is hypothesised that Blinken utilises multiple strategies in order to accomplish shared goals of diplomacy. 2. Identifying the most frequently used speech acts for diplomacy in press conferences; 3. Antony Blinken's use of speech acts appears to align well with the argumentative nature of debates. The data analysis reveals that the pragmatic components of diplomatic language are highly intricate, characterised by delicate and courteous linguistic traits. Diplomacy is characterized by numerous unspoken aspects, achieved through diplomatic discourse, the frequent use of "implicature," and the deliberate suggestion of information not explicitly stated. During diplomatic events, the proper utilisation of speech acts can somewhat improve the credibility of language instead of diminishing the precision of political diplomatic communication.

Keywords: diplomacy, Blinken, speech acts, press conference , promise, commissives

1. Introduction

Diplomacy is a significant aspect of social discourse. In a general sense, "diplomacy" is the art and practice of establishing and sustaining relationships with individuals or nations (Hornby, 1995). The capacity to persuade and influence others to act in accordance with one's desires is a prerequisite for diplomatic skills. specific sociocultural circumstances. In numerous countries, diplomacy is perceived as the science of political means and methods that are used to cultivate affinity between states, establish partnerships, and peacefully resolve any disputes that may arise. It is a theory that pertains to the methodology or science of peaceful, cohesive coexistence between states (Fariza Ismailova et al. 2020:807). Conference diplomacy is a form of multiparty diplomatic negotiation, which is defined as the "exchange of concessions and compensations within a framework of international order that is accepted by sovereign entities" (Meerts 2015: 11).

2.1 Literature Review

Diplomacy is fundamentally concerned with the process of adjusting international political relations through negotiation. Consequently, in order to facilitate harmonious communication and a seamless transaction, language must be employed with precision and skill as a means of bridging disparate cultures. Diplomats are motivated to convene around the table by their fundamental interests. Consequently, the existence of diplomacy is precisely

due to the conflicts and contradictions that result from their pursuance of gains. Diplomacy has become an indispensable instrument for numerous nations as globalisation has intensified the frequency of international interactions. The Oxford English Dictionary defines diplomacy as "the business or the art of diplomatist; the method by which these relations are adjusted and managed by ambassadors and envoys; the management of international relations by negotiation." Conference diplomacy refers to the management of relationships between governments and multilateral bodies that takes place during international conferences. The term 'conference' is now used in its most inclusive sense, eschewing the traditional distinction between a conference and a congress (kaufmann, 2016:7). A press conference is a planned arrangement of information for the mass media. One may infer the source of the information, the method by which it is acquired, and the individual who emphasises it during a press conference. Pragmatic analysis is feasible in diplomatic communication. The message is initially conveyed in a concise manner, and it is presented in a language that is readily comprehensible to those who are well-decided. The aforementioned contest is a result of the field of pragmatics. Pragmatics is primarily concerned with the theory of language and, in particular, the philosophy of speech acts. Its objective is to identify the characteristics of the speech context that facilitate the identification of the propositions that are presented by an assumption (Stalnaker 1972: 383). As a result, the present investigation endeavours to establish a pragmatic perspective on the various pragmatic concerns that are exhibited in press conferences and to determine how diplomats can utilise the appropriate pragmatic issue to accomplish their objectives. Additionally, it endeavours to create a model for the examination of the data under investigation.

2.3 Pragmatics and Diplomacy

Diplomacy is fundamentally concerned with the process of adjusting international political relations through negotiation. Consequently, in order to facilitate harmonious communication and a seamless transaction, language must be employed with precision and skill as a means of bridging disparate cultures. Diplomats are motivated to convene around the table by their fundamental interests. Consequently, the existence of diplomacy is precisely due to the conflicts and contradictions that result from their pursuance of gains. Diplomacy has become an indispensable instrument for numerous nations as globalisation has intensified the frequency of international interactions. The Oxford English Dictionary defines diplomacy as "the business or the art of diplomatist; the method by which these relations are adjusted and managed by ambassadors and envoys; the management of international relations by negotiation." At international conferences, there is an element of diplomacy known as "conference diplomacy" that serves to manage relations between states and between states and intergovernmental organisations.

The term 'conference' is now used in its most inclusive sense, eschewing the traditional distinction between a conference and a congress (kaufmann, 2016:7). A press conference is a planned arrangement of information for the mass media. One may infer the source of the information, the method by which it is acquired, and the individual who emphasises it during a press conference. Pragmatic analysis is feasible in diplomatic communication. The message is initially conveyed in a concise manner, and it is presented in a language that is readily comprehensible to those who are well-decided. The aforementioned contest is a result of the field of pragmatics. Pragmatics is primarily concerned with the theory of language and, in particular, the philosophy of speech acts. Its objective is to identify the characteristics of the speech context that facilitate the identification of the propositions that are presented by an assumption (Stalnaker 1972: 383). As a result, the present investigation endeavours to establish a pragmatic perspective on the various pragmatic concerns that are exhibited in press conferences and to determine how diplomats can utilise the appropriate pragmatic issue to accomplish their objectives. Additionally, it endeavours to create a model for the examination of the data under investigation.

2.4 Diplomacy in Terms of Speech Acts

The speech act theory is a critical method for investigating the intentions of the speaker. Lincea-Haquet and et al (2019:44-56). In diplomatic press conferences, spokespersons evaluate a variety of national interests when they address the audience. The underlying intentions and purposes of speech acts in a diplomatic setting are not solely a matter of words.

Searle (1976: 1-23) has expanded the speech act theory and categorised speech acts into five categories: directives, expressives, declarations, directives, and commissives.

2.6 Diplomacy and Foreign Policy

In international organisations, states have been able to advance themselves as states through diplomacy. In the context of foreign policy, diplomacy can be characterised as a tool that nations employ. Just as diplomacy is regarded as a sub-discipline of international relations, it is the determining factor in foreign policy. This is the primary goal of diplomacy: to prevent tensions and preserve harmony. It is our conviction that the philosophy of diplomacy is an effective method of communication and conflict resolution in international relations that eliminates racial and cultural bias and language discrimination worldwide. The art and science of sustaining peaceful relationships between nations, organisations, or individuals are synonymous with diplomacy. Diplomacy is frequently described as the process of representatives from various organisations engaging in discussions regarding topics such as trade, the environment, technology, or security.

Source: Web (2).

The political, international, and cultural significance of a sovereign state's official language were all decided, as were the stability of the state's development and the unity of the people. Therefore, in the framework of foreign policy relations, the intellectual potential of the national language should be strong in the areas of science, technology, politics, society, economy, and culture.

The study of diplomatic and political speech demands particular focus in this setting. It is not usually acknowledged that language serves as a vehicle for the attainment of international relations goals such as tolerance, success, friendship, partnership, and consensus.

A common misconception is that diplomacy is an exclusive branch of government concerned with furthering national interests and foreign policy goals through the medium of official communications. A balanced aspect, diplomacy stands as the pinnacle of foreign policy tools. To be more precise, diplomacy is the state's use of a variety of tools, techniques, and strategies to advance its foreign policy and international relations.

The study and practice of fostering harmonious relationships between nations is known as diplomacy.

International relations is often thought of as the study of political tactics and techniques for building alliances, developing partnerships, and peacefully settling disputes between states. This holds true in a great number of nations. Negotiations are an integral part of diplomacy in some contexts; in other words, managing international relations via negotiations is one definition of diplomacy. Mediation of competing interests or the dispatch of envoys and representatives is a tool for managing diplomatic ties.

There are three main contexts in which the word "diplomacy" is used:

1. a multi-faceted idea that includes any and all entities representing a state abroad, such as the department of foreign affairs or any foreign political agents; 2. the practice of politics and negotiating on behalf of a state

Thirdly, a diplomat's job during World War II, which evolved into "secret diplomacy," No matter how much food a wolf eats, its jawbone will still be floating around in its blood. Currently, bilateral diplomacy and multilateral diplomacy are used extensively. • The term "bilateral diplomacy" denotes the array of official relationships that exist between two nations.

Multilateral diplomacy is performed within the context of international conferences or organisations through a series of official relations between multiple states and diplomatic methods and means.

Another example of this universal phenomenon is public or people's diplomacy. According to certain authors, it was introduced at the outset of the twentieth century amid the state's foreign policy's complete transparency. In this regard, this concept is analogous to the concepts of democratic or transparent diplomacy. New protagonists in international relations, including nongovernmental organisations, international organisations, transnational corporations, the media, and individuals, were among the primary factors that influenced the development and establishment of public diplomacy.

Alternatively, the doctrine of US foreign policy, which is designed to facilitate cultural exchange and engage community members in the fulfilment of government foreign policy responsibilities, includes people's diplomacy. This form is also referred to as cultural diplomacy. The execution of the nation's cultural, scientific, technical, social, and humanitarian accomplishments abroad is the primary objective of cultural diplomacy.

Occasionally, cultural diplomacy is administered by specialised organisations. There is frequently an opposition between speech and action in a superficial debate. This debate is, of course, artificial and often results in simplistic caricatures. By means of their Verb, the great spirits who enlightened humanity executed a profound and enduring action. In contrast, the great men of action were frequently transported by the force of their thoughts and discourse. In accordance with Pascual (2001:225), all thoughts are actions, and there is no action without thought.

Claims Collin and Packer (2006: 10) that diplomacy The operation of international relations through the

interaction of official representatives of governments or groups is referred to as "diplomacy." Depending on the actors and circumstances, it comprises a diverse array of activities and strategies for exchanging information and negotiating agreements.

Diplomacy is the conduct of nations in international relations that is peaceful. This is conducted by representatives of international organisations, countries, and other international actors (Web Source 1). Hayward (1916:7) adds an additional definition of diplomacy as the aspect of political activity that pertains to the fates of the greatest number of millions of human beings. It governs a human relationship that has been and continues to be the most powerful and prolific in the production of calamities and misery. However, it has the potential to be the most beneficial for each individual among these million.

3. Functions of Diplomacy

There are essentially two main functions of diplomacy. Baldwin (1995, p. 41) and Griffiths and O'Callaghan (2002) state that the first part entails communication and negotiation, while the second part consists of gathering intelligence, managing one's image, and putting policies into action. Based on the information they gather, diplomats can foresee domestic problems and the ensuing shifts in foreign policy. The role of diplomacy extends beyond merely relaying the political and strategic priorities of the sending state. The list goes on to include "ceremonial, management, duty of protection, international negotiation, preservation of international order, and information and communication functions" (Bull 1995, pp. 164-165). Communication is the most important aspect of diplomacy. Diplomacy is essential to the smooth functioning of international relations. According to Siddiqui and Alam (2009), a diplomat needs to be an excellent generalist so they may represent their sending state well and win over interlocutors.

Leguey-Feilleux (2009,3) contends that the functions that diplomacy serves are expanding, which also contributes to the concept's broadening. Fifteen In addition to the functions of representation, communication, negotiation, observation of the political situation abroad, and reporting (which will be discussed in Chapter 7), diplomatic personnel must also engage in a significant amount of public relations in the current era of mass communication.

4. Diplomatic Types The diplomatic landscape is constantly expanding, necessitating the application of distinct methodologies to various situations. This has resulted in the development of various forms of diplomacy. In this regard, there is a wide range of diplomacies. This paper is unable to elaborate on each one; however, the most significant will be examined.

1. secretly Diplomacy It is widely recognised that a significant portion of diplomacy is conducted in concealment. Secret diplomacy is the term used to describe diplomatic interactions that occur without the public's awareness. However, this in no way suggests that secret diplomatic gatherings constitute covert diplomacy. If this were the only way to describe "covert diplomacy," then practically all diplomatic interactions would fall under this umbrella.

The effectiveness of the negotiations is influenced by the pressure exerted on the diplomatic actors by open negotiations. Especially when the subject is a peace negotiation, it is advisable to refrain from disclosing the process, which may involve negotiating and concessions, to the public in order to prevent a reaction that could impede the peace process (Utku, 2018: 18).

2. Conference diplomacy is the term used to describe the multilateral diplomatic negotiations that occur during international conferences. Conference diplomacy can be classified into two categories based on the manner in which it is conducted: through international organisations or ad hoc. A permanent and stable foundation, a defined context, an established structure, experienced and specialised assistance, and a wide range of participation are provided by international organisations. Consequently, it is more probable that the outcomes will be agreed upon and implemented. On the other hand, ad hoc conferences are one-time events that are organised to resolve a specific conflict, as described by Kaufmann, who provides two distinct classifications. (Kaufmann, 1996, 11-16).

The broad conference is distinguished from a deliberative conference, which emphasises general discussions and the exchange of perspectives on specific subjects; a legislative conference, which aims to provide governments with recommendations or make binding decisions; and an informal conference, which is primarily focused on the international exchange of information on specific topics.

5. Diplomatic Language

Certainly, diplomatic language in press conferences considering an interesting topic that touches on aspects of communication, rhetoric, and international relations.

In the context of press conferences, diplomatic language refers to the carefully chosen words and phrases used by government officials, diplomats, and other high-profile individuals when speaking publicly. The goal of diplomatic language is typically to convey information, views, and positions in a measured, tactful, and non-confrontational way.

Some key characteristics of diplomatic language in press conferences include:

1. Avoiding direct or absolute statements: Diplomats often use more tentative or qualified language, such as "it seems that...", "we believe...", or "we hope to..." rather than making firm or declarative statements.
2. Maintaining ambiguity and room for interpretation: Diplomatic language can purposefully leave some aspects vague or open-ended, allowing for flexibility in positions and the ability to back-track or re-frame if needed.
3. Emphasizing shared interests and common ground: Diplomats frequently highlight areas of agreement, cooperation, and mutual understanding, even when there are underlying tensions or disagreements.
4. Tempering criticism and avoiding direct confrontation: When addressing sensitive or contentious issues, diplomats typically use more circumspect phrasing, such as "there are some concerns about..." rather than harsh or accusatory language.
5. Conveying respect and consideration for other parties: Diplomatic language often reflects courtesy, deference, and an effort to preserve the dignity and face of other governments or leaders.

The use of diplomatic language in press conferences serves several important functions, such as:

- Maintaining constructive working relationships between countries and organizations
- Managing public perception and avoiding inflaming tensions
- Leaving room for future negotiation and compromise
- Adhering to established norms and protocols of international diplomacy.

The specific diplomatic language used can vary greatly depending on the context, the parties involved, the issues at stake, and the broader geopolitical climate. But in general, this style of communication represents a carefully calibrated approach to public discourse on sensitive matters of foreign policy and international affairs.

6. Data Analysis

6.1 Data Collection and Data Description

Press conference genre was selected as the subject of this study due to its significant potential to uncover the interaction tactics employed by the participants and the pragmatic characteristics of the generated texts. The paper of this genre has the potential to further develop the diplomacy in political press conferences, as we will attempt to demonstrate. The press conference selected for this purpose is that of "Antony J. Blinken in Part//CNN TV of One Diplomatic currently serving as the 71st United States secretary of state" (Web3). The data is obtained by obtaining the transcript of a press conference from the internet and subsequently having it printed. Antony J. Blinken's perspective on the "war between Israel and Hamas on November 3, 2023" is the subject of the press conference (Web 3).

7.1 Analysis

7.2 Method of Analysis

The press conference transcript is read repeatedly several times, and the study's methodology is used to pinpoint the pragmatic elements that define the information being examined. In addition, the percentage equation serves as an example of statistical technique that will be used to statistically corroborate the pragmatic analysis's conclusions.

4.3 Analyzed Examples :

(1) Locution

"Days after Hamas's attack on October 7th, I came to Israel, followed soon thereafter by President Biden, to make clear that as long as the United States stands, Israel will never stand alone."

"Illocutionary act: Commissive (promising)."

"Perlocutionary effect: Hopefulness and excitement"

(2) Locution

"Today, in my fourth visit to Israel since October 7th, I reiterated that in all my discussions – with Prime Minister Netanyahu, President Herzog, the security cabinet. I reiterated and made clear our support for Israel's right to defend itself, indeed its obligation to defend itself."

"Illocutionary act: Commissive (offering) ."

"Perlocutionary effect: Hopefulness and encouragement."

(3) Locution

“Today, we saw additional images, additional footage collected by the Israeli Government from video cameras – some the terrorists’ own, others in communities that were attacked. It remains almost beyond the human capacity to process, to digest.”

Illocutionary act: Assertive (stating)

Perlocutionary effect: Informed of the fact.

(4) Locution

Thirty-five Americans were murdered that day as well, and more than 200 foreign nationals from 35 countries.

“Illocutionary act: Assertive (reporting).”

“Perlocutionary effect: sadness and sympathy”

(5) Locution:

“There are a number of important steps that we can, indeed we must, take now to help make that possible.”

Illocutionary act: Assertive (ordering)

Perlocutionary effect: Determining and encouraging.

(6) Locution:

“The United States has and we will continue to respond to attacks by Iran’s proxies to defend our personnel in the region, personnel who are here in Iraq and in Syria to help prevent the resurgence of ISIS.”

Illocutionary effect: Commissive (promising).

Perlocutionary effect: Hopefulness.

(7) Locution:

“We will do what is necessary to deter and, as I said, respond to any attacks.”

Illocutionary effect: Commissive (promising).

Perlocutionary effect: Hopefulness and encouragement

(8) Locution:

“Partners throughout the Middle East and beyond have a critical role to play in averting escalation, and that will be a major focus of my conversations throughout this trip.”

Illocutionary effect: Assertive (informing)

Perlocutionary effect: Hopefulness

(9) Locution:

“We’ve provided Israel advice that only the best of friends can offer on how to minimize civilian deaths while still achieving its objectives of finding and finishing Hamas terrorists and their infrastructure of violence.”

Illocutionary effect: Assertive (stating)

Perlocutionary effect: Sadness

(10) Locution

“I also emphasized that the protection of civilians must take place not just in Gaza, but also in the West Bank, where incitement and extremist violence against Palestinians must be stopped – and perpetrators held accountable.”

Illocutionary effect: Directive (requesting)

Perlocutionary effect: Hopefulness

(11) Locution:

“Since we reached agreement with Israel, Egypt, and the United Nations two weeks ago on mechanisms to enable humanitarian aid to begin reaching civilians in need, we have scaled up deliveries. We’ve gone from zero to now over 100 trucks going into Gaza through the Rafah Crossing every day. But this is still not enough.”

Illocutionary effect: Assertive (reporting)

Perlocutionary effect: Hopefulness

(12) Locution:

“In meetings with regional partners, I’ll continue conversations about getting assistance to flow, including with help from the United Nations.”

Illocutionary effect: Commissive (promising)

Perlocutionary effect: Hopefulness

(13) Locution:

“The United States continues to believe that the best viable path – indeed, the only path – is through a two-state solution.”

Illocutionary effect: Assertive (agreeing)

Perlocutionary effect: Confidence

(14) Locution:

“And it’s precisely now, in the darkest moments, that we have to fight hardest to preserve a path of stability, of security, of opportunity, of integration, of prosperity, and of peace – not tomorrow, not after the war, but today.”

Illocutionary act: Directive (appealing).

Perlocutionary effect: Inspiring.

(15) Locution:

Illocutionary act: Directive (appealing).

Perlocutionary effect: Inspiring.

Conclusions

Regarding the speech acts employed by Antony J. Blinken in his diplomacy speeches, it is found that assertives and commissive are used more in his speeches. Directive and commissive SA are used repeatedly. Directive SA is employed to criticize, request, and appeal. The analysis of Antony J. Blinken's press conference in this study reveals that it is not the natural and active event that it is preordained to be in principle. It is exceedingly adept and diplomatic, employing language to obscure reality. Blinken implements a variety of strategies to accomplish mutual diplomatic objectives, thereby illustrating the importance of language in the development of any political strategy. According to Antony Blinken's press conferences, diplomatic language is distinguished by its respectful and delicate nature. Diverse trends are consistently influencing diplomatic discourse. The accounts must be composed in a manner that is both appropriate for their intended purpose and definitively applicable to a variety of circumstances.

What remains for him is to demonstrate potential, provide, arrange, declare, notify, ask, agree, and appeal. The assertive acts provide the largest proportion of illocutionary acts committed, followed by commissive and directive acts. Utilising the Speech Act Theory as a framework allows us to examine the language usage in this political news conference. Antony Blinken's approach to diplomacy is characterised by a focus on practical and realistic features, which are inherently intricate. Undoubtedly, further efforts are required to address the complexities of this field.

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