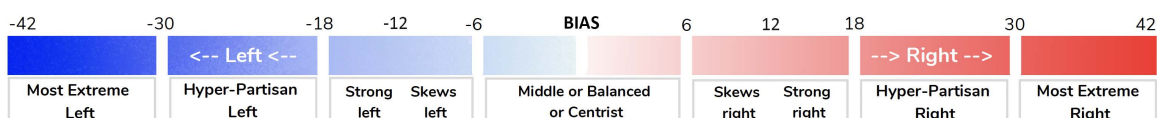# Rating Comparison

Comparison asks you to rate the way that a topic is treated in this article compared to others that you've read on the same topic. You might not be familiar with how other media outlets are treating it, but it's OK to lean on your current knowledge.

-42	-30	-18	-12	-6	BIAS	6	12	18	30	42
	<-- Left <--							--> Right -->		
Most Extreme Left	Hyper-Partisan Left	Strong left	Skews left		Middle or Balanced or Centrist	Skews right	Strong right	Hyper-Partisan Right		Most Extreme Right

Bias by Omission

As you read, you will build up knowledge about the universe of reportable facts, analysis, and opinion on this topic. The more knowledge you have about a topic, the easier it will be to identify when certain information is missing, the presence of which could have made the article fairer and less biased. As you get more experienced at rating articles, your ability to identify this bias by omission will increase.

Most Extreme vs. Middle/Balanced

To determine where you should place an extreme article along the left-right spectrum, consider the level of bias of this article compared to all other articles you have read. If an article strikes you, in your experience, as being one of the most extreme you have ever read, you should rate it in the "most extreme" column.

When considering the articles that you view as the most neutral or balanced of the set, imagine what a perfectly neutral or balanced article on the topic would look like, and place the actual articles in relation to that.

Topic Selection

If you notice that the topic itself tends to be of more interest to the left or right, you can take that into consideration: an article about climate change or civil rights could nudge your rating to the left, while an article about taxes or national security could nudge it to the right.