



KIROVOHRAD JUNIOR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

VERBAL REPRESENTATION OF UKRAINIAN REFUGEES IN BRITISH NEWS PUBLICATIONS

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1. WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

Operational Data Portal

SITUATIONS COUNTRIES REGIONS PARTNERS ✓

Ukraine Refugee Situation / Select location

Refugees from Ukraine recorded in Europe

6,357,600

Last updated 17 April 2025 - Source: UNHCR collation of statistics made available by the authorities

Refugees from Ukraine recorded beyond Europe

560,200

Last updated 17 April 2025 - Source: UNHCR collation of statistics made available by the authorities

Refugees from Ukraine recorded globally

6,917,800

Last updated 17 April 2025 - Source: UNHCR collation of statistics made available by the authorities

Nearly 7 million Ukrainians fled their homes after the 2022 invasion.

Media plays a critical role in shaping public opinion and policies.

Key Question: How has the representation of Ukrainian refugees in British newspapers changed since the invasion?

MATERIALS



206 articles / 175,794 words / 200,222 tokens

2022 → 148 articles / 126,433 words / 143,402 tokens

2023 → 34 articles / 29,387 words / 34,060 tokens

2024 → 24 articles / 19,974 words / 22,760 tokens

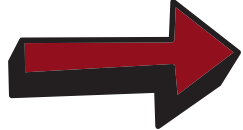
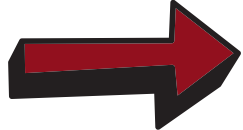
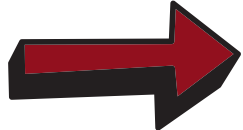




2. ARE THESE REPORTS OBJECTIVE?

Means of Achieving Informativeness

- **Toponyms** (3,696): *Ukraine, UK, US, Poland, Europe, Liverpool, Dublin, Glasgow;*
- **Anthroponyms** (1,342): *Priti Patel, Boris Johnson, Joe Biden, Anna Tysovska;*
- **Chrononyms** (2,513): *days of the week, months, year, day, hours;*
- **Numerals** (1,536): *seven hundred, twenty, six, million;*
- **Quoting** (2,446): the frequency of quotations has increased from 1.3% to 2.5%;
- **Age categories** (679): *children, adults, babies, elderly, teenagers, toddlers;*
- **Abbreviations** (365): *UN, UNHCR, NATO, BBC.*

3. WHAT TOPICS ARE DISCUSSED?

MEDIA TOPICS

"The British Government's Actions"		22%
"Public Opinion"		20%
"Government Responses to Refugee Reception"		18%
"NGOs, Charity Organizations, and Citizens' Efforts"		11%
"Material Challenges"		10%
"Potential Social Issues"		6%
"Official Response from Kyiv"		2%

4. HOW WAS THE RESEARCH CONDUCTED?

TOOLS OF CORPUS ANALYSIS



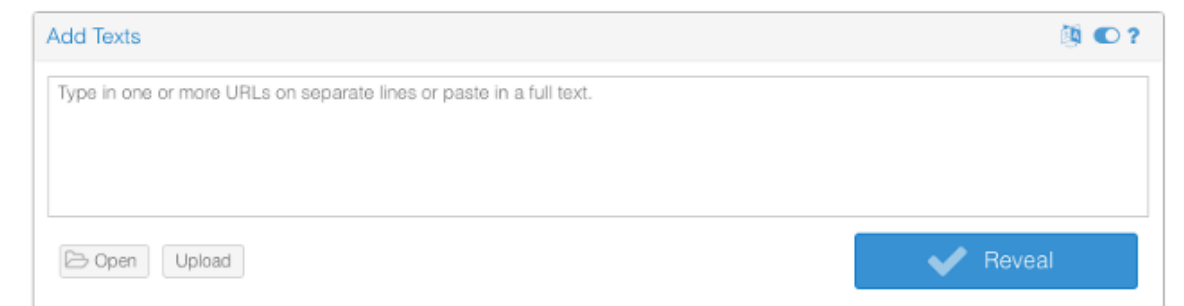
WordSmith Tools

<https://www.lexically.net/wordsmith>



**SKETCH
ENGINE**

<https://www.sketchengine.eu>



Voyant Tools is a web-based reading and analysis environment for digital texts.

<https://voyant-tools.org>

SENTIMENT ANALYSIS

The analyzed media texts are highly emotional,
with 4.2% of the words carrying emotional connotations

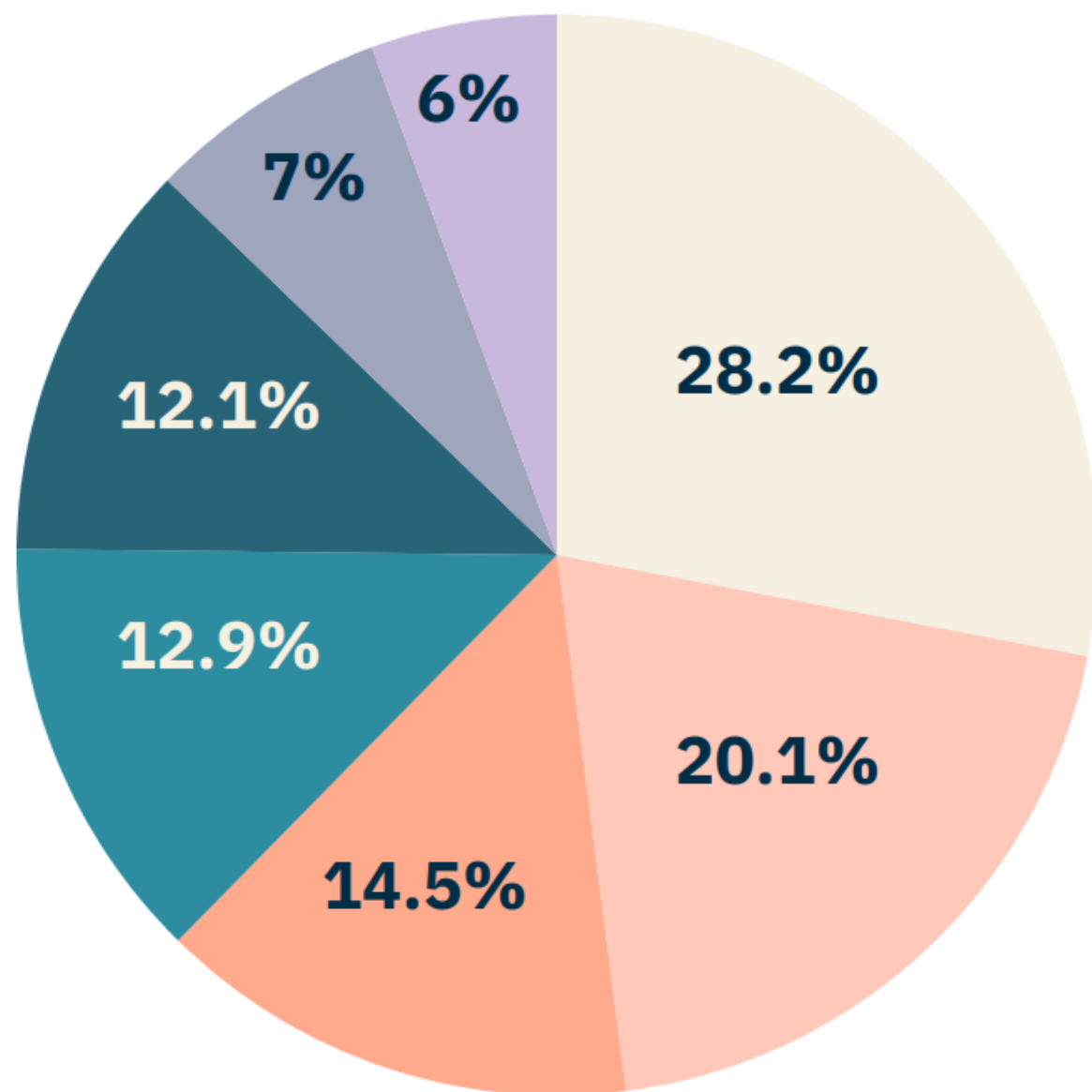
Cirrus		Terms	Links
			Term
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	96	including
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	97	safe
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	98	protection
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	99	living
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	100	we're
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	101	temporary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	102	according
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	103	welcome
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	104	trying
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	105	sponsor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	106	mother

Cirrus		Terms	Links
			Term
<input type="checkbox"/>	360	problems	
<input type="checkbox"/>	361	places	
<input type="checkbox"/>	362	person	
<input type="checkbox"/>	363	letter	
<input type="checkbox"/>	364	legal	
<input type="checkbox"/>	365	lack	
<input type="checkbox"/>	366	helped	
<input type="checkbox"/>	367	executive	
<input type="checkbox"/>	368	crossing	
<input type="checkbox"/>	369	criminal	
<input type="checkbox"/>	370	costs	

Cirrus		Terms	Links
			Term
<input type="checkbox"/>	481	job	
<input type="checkbox"/>	482	immediate	
<input type="checkbox"/>	483	heard	
<input type="checkbox"/>	484	gone	
<input type="checkbox"/>	485	generous	
<input type="checkbox"/>	486	france	
<input type="checkbox"/>	487	form	
<input type="checkbox"/>	488	fighting	
<input type="checkbox"/>	489	faced	
<input type="checkbox"/>	490	exploitation	
<input type="checkbox"/>	491	experience	

Samples of sentiment analysis results
(Voyant Tools)

LEXICAL-SEMANTIC FIELDS



- Names of refugees' actions: *arrive, flee, stay, move, escape, run; start, hope, wait.*
- Names of individuals: *people, Ukrainians, refugees, children, relatives.*
- Geographical names and territories: *Ukraine, Kyiv, country, homeland, UK, Poland, Europe.*
- Names of aid acts and methods of providing assistance: *charity, funding, home, shelter, job, visa.*
- Names of causes and factors of displacement: *war, invasion, bombing, occupation, problem, fear.*
- Names of states and conditions: *desperate, forced, safe, temporary.*
- Abstract nouns: *future, success, peace, generosity.*

COLLOCATIONS

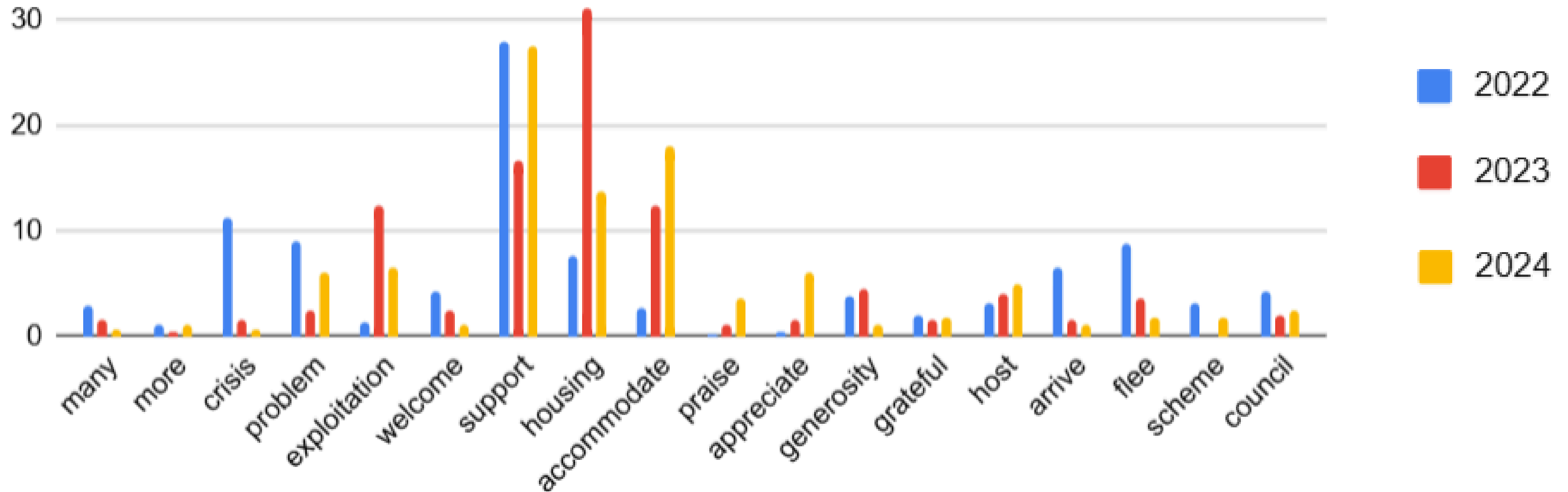
Concordance		
1	and the Britons who took them in? 1>People all over the UK welcomed refugees into their homes under a government scheme. ••The c	
2	for only a couple of days in early March before resolving to host Ukrainian refugees . •There was a community of people in and around the	
3	which became one of the matching organisations helping hosts to find refugees in need of homes. ••"This is a global gamechanger in t	
4	have told the council they need help to find somewhere new for the refugees they are hosting. ••Nationally, 2,175 Ukrainian househ	
5	where households have the time, money and space to devote to hosting refugees , but which are difficult places in which to find affordab	
6	council will put down a deposit and a month's rent on behalf of Ukrainian refugees . •Why, they ask, isn't a similar approach being rolled c	
7	with those coming from Afghanistan," said Lord Harrington, the former refugees minister, in September. 1>Newspapers have printed th	
8	British husband falls in love with the Ukrainian guest, cruel hosts ordering refugees to leave immediately. ••In Saffron Walden, the strains	
9	prices (triggered by the same conflict that created more than 7 million refugees) coincided with the extra cost of more people in the h	
10	something good. ••"It's made me very unromantic about the notion of refugees . •They are just normal people with different motivati	
11	and not in Ukraine. ••Nothing matters more than that." 50,000 1> Ukrainian refugees in UK facing homelessness 'disaster' next year <>No n	
12	placements is set to come to an end <A 1>"shocking" 50,000 Ukrainian refugees in the UK could be made homeless next year, the gov	
13	the government's Homes for Ukraine scheme will unravel next month when refugees' initial six-month placements with hosts end without a	
14	crisis could prompt a "disastrous rise in homelessness". A 1>total 1of 83,900 refugees have arrived under the Homes for Ukraine scheme sin	
15	have arrived under the Homes for Ukraine scheme since it began in March . •• Refugees were matched with sponsors who agreed to house th	
16	winter, rising to more than 50,000 by the middle of next year. 1>One group , Refugees at Home, said the figure could be even higher becaus	
17	on Saturday for the projected rates of homelessness among Ukrainian refugees , it declined to offer a figure. 1>James Jamieson, chairm	
18	because of a lack of sponsors or other options," he said. 1>Last week , refugees minister Lord Harrington said monthly payments to U	
19	should be offered for three years- the length of visas given to Ukrainian refugees . 1>"The government's commitment was for three years,	
20	no more sticking plasters- we need a proper plan to house and support refugees ." 1>Robina Qureshi, chief executive of Positive Action ir	

Collocates of the lemma 'REFUGEE'
(WordSmith 9.0)

modifiers of "refugee"	nouns modified by "refugee"	verbs with "refugee" as object
Ukrainian 427 ... Ukrainian refugees	crisis 67 ... the refugee crisis	welcome 31 ... welcome Ukrainian refugees
many 20 ... many refugees	Council 28 ... executive of the Refugee Council , said	host 28 ... hosting refugees
Ukraine 17 ... Ukraine refugees	agency 25 ... the UN refugee agency	help 34 ... help refugees
Afghan 10 ... Afghan refugees	status 15 ... refugee status in the	support 23 ... to support Ukrainian refugees
other 13 ... of other refugees	charity 12 ... Refugee charities	house 15 ... to house Ukrainian refugees
Syrian 9 ... Syrian refugees	scheme 20 ... refugee scheme	accept 10 ... accept Ukrainian refugees
housing 9 ... on housing refugees	family 13 ... Ukrainian refugee families	arrive 10 ... newly arrived refugees
more 9 ... more refugees	program 9 ... refugee program	take 12 ... take refugees
first 7 ... first refugees to use the	Action 8 ... Refugee Action , said	accommodate 7 ... poorest country has accommodated about 100,000 refugees , the most
war 6 ... to admit war refugees	programme 6 ... refugee programmes	resettle 6 ... resettling Afghan refugees
desperate 5 ... the desperate refugees	minister 7 ... Harrington , the refugees minister , said	receive 7 ... receiving refugees
vulnerable 5 ... inevitably traumatised and vulnerable refugees , the vast	centre 6 ... refugee centres	leave 8 ... leaving refugees

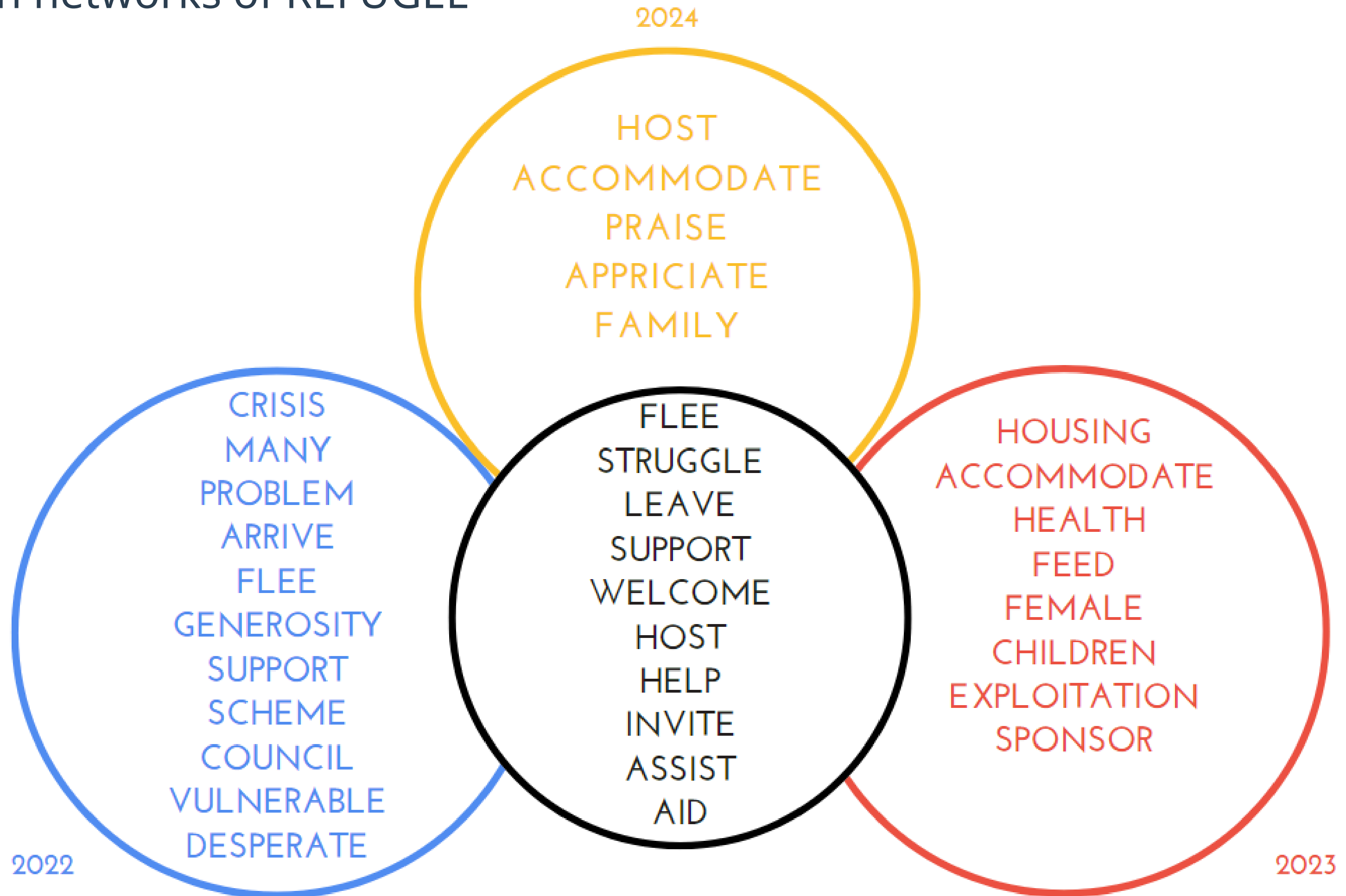
Collocates of the lemma 'REFUGEE'
(SketchEngine)

5. HOW HAS THE REPRESENTATION CHANGED?



Comparing common collocates of the lemma 'REFUGEE' by frequency

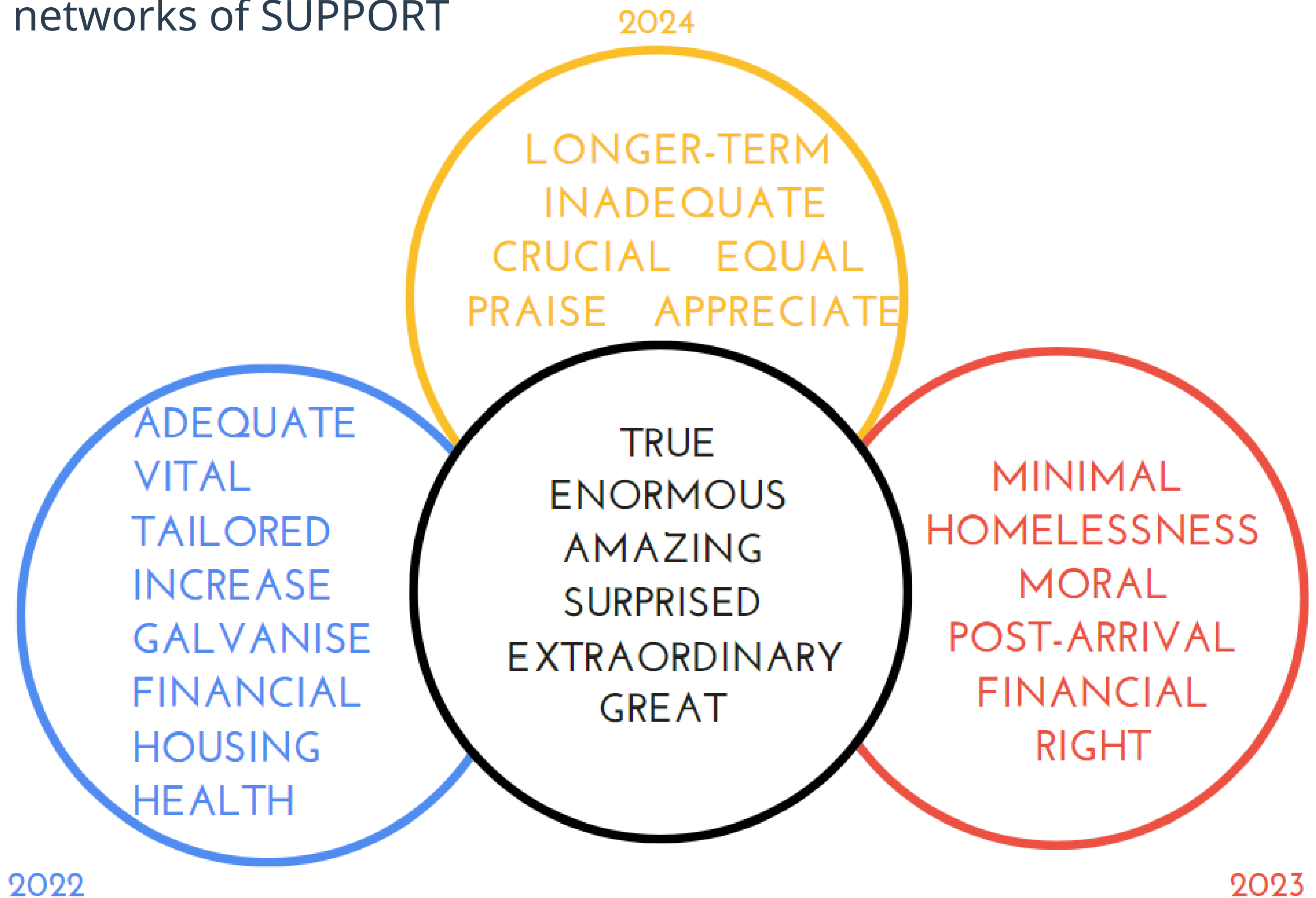
Collocation networks of REFUGEE



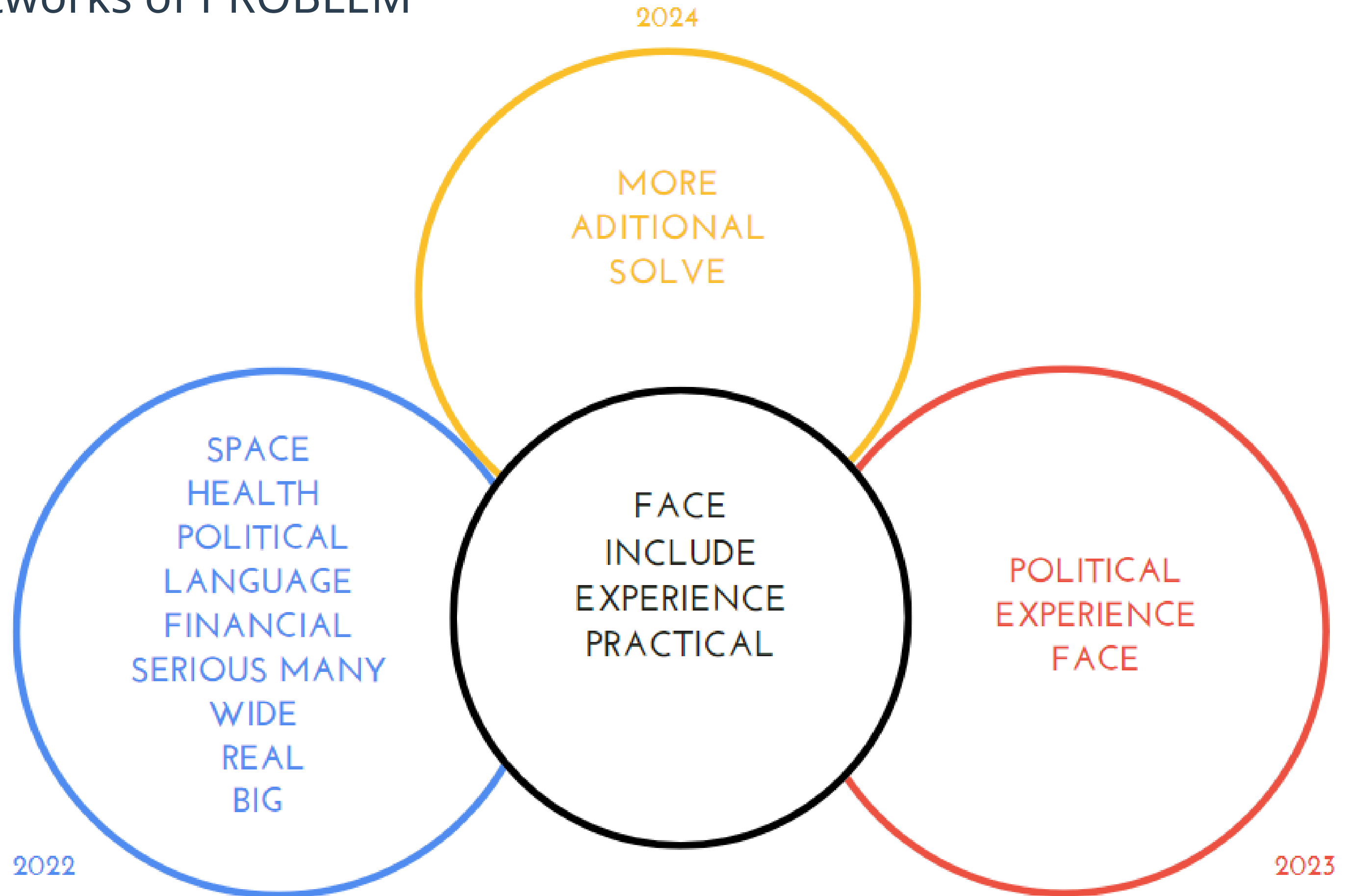
Collocation networks of GENEROSITY



Collocation networks of SUPPORT



Collocation networks of PROBLEM



CONCLUSIONS

- In 2022, media coverage focused on the scale of the crisis, emphasizing the need for emergency measures.
- By 2024, attention shifted to long-term social challenges, highlighting the development of a more strategic approach to assistance.
- Additionally, collocations increasingly reflected refugees' gratitude, indicating a shift in focus from aid providers to recipients.

DISSEMINATION AND EXPLOITATION OF RESEARCH RESULTS

- XIX International scientific and practical conference “Languages and the world: research and teaching”



- Scientific article



<http://filol.dspu.in.ua/index.php/filol>

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4. www.theguardian.com
5. www.independent.co.uk
6. <https://voyant-tools.org>
7. <https://www.sketchengine.eu>



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