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New pub is out in Journalism! It's my first on visuals & solutions journalism, with @kmcintyre3, from our presentation in Brussels at the 2016 Constructed / Constructive Journalism conference:

> *doi.org/10.1177/146488...*

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We were surprised to find that, out of more than 1,200 solutions journalism stories, only 63.5 percent of photos reflected the solution(s) discussed in the story. Our analysis found particular topical, proximity and human-related factors that contribute to this.

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Photos that DID reflect the solution typically were features, came from internal sources (like a staff photographer), accompanied culture or education stories and contained graphically/emotionally pleasing content and positive nonverbal expressions.

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Part of the humanity factor: Stories that describe empowering people and embracing the power of relationships were more likely to have a photo reflecting it.

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Photos that DIDN'T reflect the solution typically were spot news (obviously), accompanied public safety and affairs stories and contained mainly informational content.

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Why look at this? Most solutions journalism research to this point has focused on words. We wanted to know about the images, especially given that threatening/conflict news images are often elevated in news value.

conflict is paired with a solutions-oriented news story, as the problem/conflict is sometimes more visually-appealing than the solution. We've got another paper forthcoming on it!

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