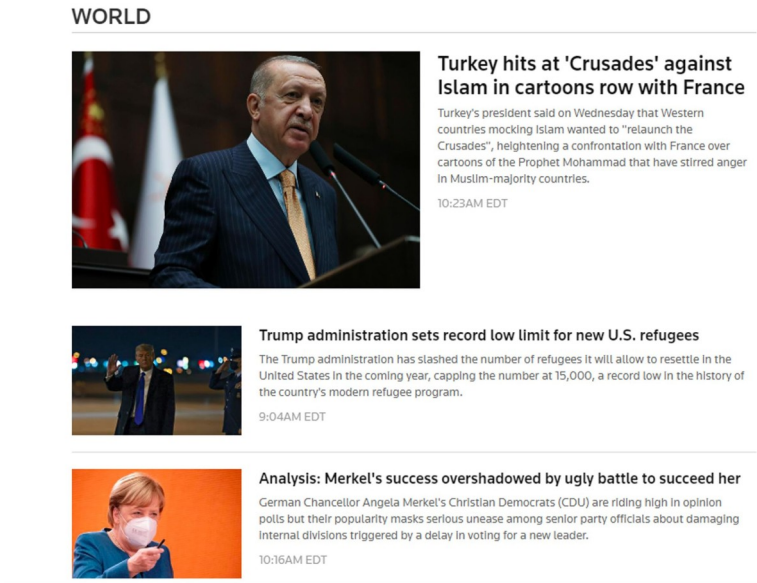


Fig.137 Screenshot showing an example of headlines I face when opening a world news website. The main headlines are related to politicians and their power struggle. This way of curating the news can in itself cause an inner struggle in the readers especially if they lack a way to make meaning of them. I do so by becoming myself a reporter via my project.

NEWS 05

The reading of casualties is my own method of focusing on serious matters without losing much time getting engulfed in political gossip or worldly scandals. Already in the 19th century, David Thoreau was skeptical about the invention of technologies like the telegraph; he claimed that it would only end up sharing silly news such as that the Queen of England has the flu. The internet made Thoreau's prediction even more correct. Daily I have to scavenge through a lot of gossip talking about prime ministers and royal families. In addition to it, media channels feel compelled to present news items only for their own agenda. As a result it takes me quite some digging before I am able to get to important headlines such as the many casualties due to religious and ethnic violence. I am always shocked that such terrible news gets completely neglected. While wishing news and the media channels broadcasting them to be based on facts, I can see that they do not refrain in using their power of affecting the public opinion. Many channels claim to be completely bias-free but it is obvious that even in these channels where bias is less explicit there is an agenda that favors certain topics over others. In this sense the front page of a media outlet is a clear radiography of its agenda and I got used to don't get caught in it.