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## **The United States of America—a Nation or a (home)Land?**

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### **Abstract**

The paper draws on the perception of news reports as a special form of discourse the analysis of which is concerned with the derivation of semantic macrostructures of discourse and the microstructure level of analysis. While semantic macrostructure refers to the thematic organization of text (discourse) identified by assigning macropropositions to thematic units within a text, the microstructure level of analysis deals with examining linguistic devices used in the construction of discourse coherence. The paper presents an attempt of such analysis of an op-ed article titled “A War of Words” published in *The Washington Post* on the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the 11 September 2011 attacks. The metatextuality of the headline points to a concern on the side of the author of the newspaper article with meaning-making system constructed for the purpose of waging “the war on terror.”

**Keywords:** *discourse, macroproposition, war on terror, homeland*