

**Citation information.** *in esse: English Studies in Albania*. Volume 8, Issue 1, Page 48-66. ISSN 2078 – 7413.

## **Strategies of political apologies in American presidential speeches**

**Ahmad Kareem SALEM AL-WUHAILI**, *University of Craiova, Romania*

**Email:** [ahmad.alsalim3434@yahoo.com](mailto:ahmad.alsalim3434@yahoo.com)

### **Abstract**

Like the apologies of everyday life, political apologies share the same principle of establishing good relations between members of a society in the narrow sense, and, to a larger extent, between members of different societies. Political apologies help political actors to practise apologies nationally and internationally. To get the offended person(s) to accept the apology, the apologiser tries to follow or apply different strategies to mitigate the offence (s)he has caused to others, depending on the severity of the damage. In our case, the political actor tries to follow a strategy as a method of performing an apology. The present study focuses on the strategies employed during the speech act of apology by American politicians (presidents). The aim is to investigate whether we can identify different strategies of apologising in the field of politics from those listed in the model of apology strategies used for comparison and analysis in this article. For the purpose of this study, five expressed apologies by former presidents Jimmy Carter, George H. W. Bush, Bill Clinton, Barack Obama, and current president Donald Trump have been selected and analysed.

**Keywords:** *apology strategies, political apologies, political apology strategies, presidential speeches*