

Government Press Release

A government press release is an official written statement issued by a public institution or government agency to inform the media and public about a specific policy, decision, event, or outcome.

□ Characteristics: One-directional communication: It aims to disseminate information, not to debate or discuss it.

Highly polished language: Often uses bureaucratic or optimistic phrasing, regardless of actual impact.

Controlled narrative: Highlights positive outcomes, downplays limitations, and omits controversy.

Intended for public consumption, not expert scrutiny.

⚠ In Critical Context: When someone says a scientific article “reads like a government press release,” it’s not a compliment. It usually means:

The tone is overly enthusiastic or propagandistic

The complexities are ignored

The conclusion is politically convenient rather than scientifically rigorous

□ Example in Use: “The conclusion that DRG reform 'improves efficiency' without reporting clinical outcomes makes the paper read more like a government press release than a serious health policy study.”

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