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## EVOLUTIONARY STUDY OF BUREAUCRACY RESEARCH FROM 2014 TO 2024

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### **Abstract**

*The aim of this study was to analyse the bibliographic characteristics and content of articles on Bureaucracy published in journals indexed by Scopus written by researchers from throughout the world. We conducted a bibliometric and content analysis of publication in the Scopus database. We only retrieved articles written in English. We conducted content analysis using the VOSviewer software and visualized the co-occurrence of keywords and bibliographic coupling of sources and countries. Following the study protocol, we found 1910 articles on Bureaucracy over the past 10 years. The most productive journal that published these articles was Research Handbook On Street Level Bureaucracy The Ground Floor Of Government In Context (n=26). The most productive country were United States (n=515). Based on citations, The most influential document was Policy Implementation, Street-level Bureaucracy, and the Importance of Discretion with 316 citations. The keywords of research on Bureaucracy formed 6 clusters (e.g Bureaucracy, Human, Humans). From a global perspective, Bureaucracy research in the past one decades has increased significantly.*

*Keywords: : Bureaucracy, Evolutionary Study, VOSViewer.*

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## INTRODUCTION

This article discusses the discourse Bureaucracy. The discourse understanding is inseparable from bibliometric analysis (Lee, 2020, Mifrah, 2020, Omoregbe et al., 2020, Saravanan & Dominic, 2014), referring to the incorporation of various frameworks and methods to analyze citations from scientific publications. Such attempt leads to the development of different metrics to gain insight into the intellectual structure of a broad academic discipline and to evaluate the impact of a particular field of study (Akhavan et al., 2016, Putera et al., 2020).

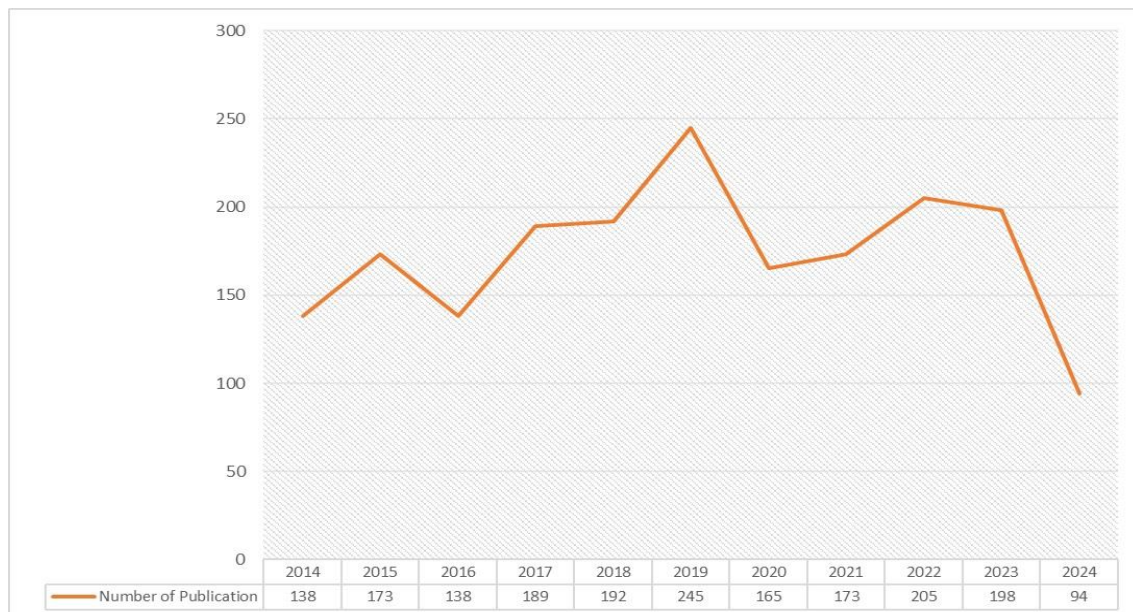
Although some researchers have produced Bureaucracy articles, we have not found research in bibliometric articles on Bureaucracy utilized social network analysis. This aim of this article was to provide useful data for understanding global publication trends regarding Bureaucracy. This study aimed to analyze the bibliographic characteristics and trends of articles on Bureaucracy published in journals indexed in Scopus written by researchers from throughout the world and to conduct an analysis of keyword co-occurrence using VOSviewer.

## METHOD

This study did not involve human subjects; therefore, neither institutional review board approval nor informed consent was needed. This study was a descriptive and bibliometric analysis based on a literature database. The data in this study were retrieved from the Scopus database. To obtain the necessary data, this study used the keyword "Bureaucracy" in the title. In this step, we found 1910 articles. In the next step, we downloaded the articles from the Scopus database and analyzed the 1910 articles that had been sorted by relevance. In this study, the metadata and refined Scopus result values were retrieved in the Csv dataset format. However, before the bibliometric analysis, the consistency and reliability of the data were checked to address issues such as a lack of consistency in country names and keywords. The data were also standardized to ensure consistency regarding key words that sometimes appeared in singular or plural, abbreviations, or other forms. The data obtained from the Scopus database were analyzed using VOSviewer software, and simple statistics were calculated using Microsoft Excel

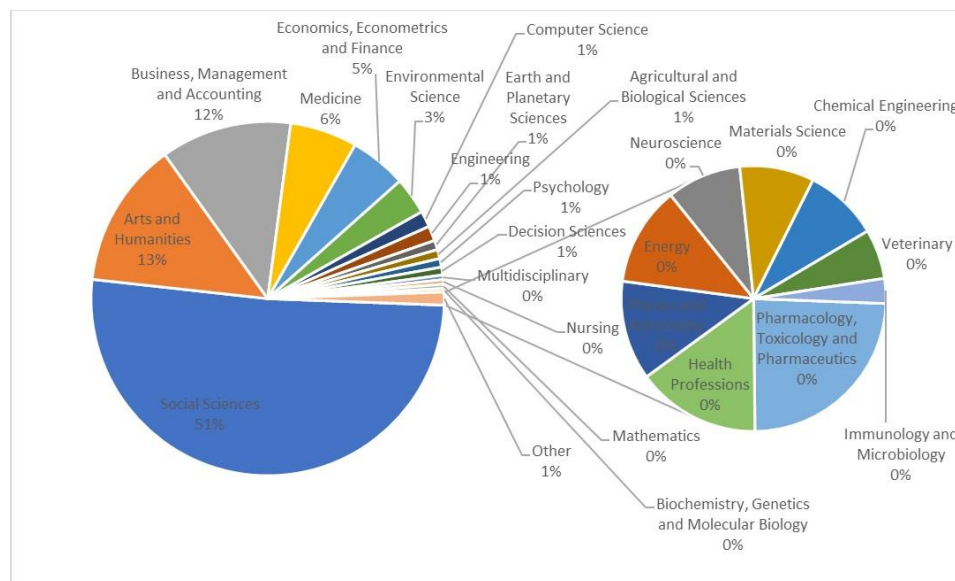
## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The development of 'Bureaucracy' publications indicates an increase, from 2018 to 2019. The trend analysis (see Fig. 1). Based on a search with the keyword "Bureaucracy", the result showed approximately 1910 documents. Most articles were listed under Social Science (n=1428, 51%), Arts and Humanities (n=373, 13%), Business, Management and Accounting (n=335, 12%), Medicine (n=172, 6%), and Economics, Econometrics and Finance (n=145, 5%). The full distribution of Bureaucracy articles across subject areas is shown in Fig. 2.



**Fig. 1. Publication Trend "Bureaucracy".**

Source : Processed by authors



**Fig. 2. Publication Trend "Bureaucracy" based on Subject Area**

Source: Processed by authors

According to VOSViewer, the articles were published in 1379 different sources. The highest number of articles were published in *Research Handbook on Street Level Bureaucracy The Ground Floor of Government in Context*, with 26 publications, followed by *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory* (n=23), *Deutsche Apotheker Zeitung* (n=23), *Administration and Society* (n=23), and *Public Administration Review* (n=19). The other most productive journals with the most publications are shown in Table 1.

**Table 1.** The most production source based on the number of publications

Rank	Source	Number of Publication
1	Research Handbook on Street Level Bureaucracy The Ground Floor of Government in Context	26
2	Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory	23
3	Deutsche Apotheker Zeitung	23
4	Administration and Society	23
5	Public Administration Review	19
6	Handbook of Bureaucracy	19
7	Governance	18
8	Deutsches Arzteblatt International	18
9	American Review of Public Administration	18
10	International Review of Administrative Sciences	16

Table 2 lists the most influential document based on citations from the Scopus database. The most influential document was Policy Implementation, Street-level Bureaucracy, and the Importance of Discretion with 316 citations, followed by Representative Bureaucracy in Policing: Does it increase perceived legitimacy? (n=241), The Empire Is Dead, Long Live the Empire! Long-Run Persistence of Trust and Corruption in the Bureaucracy (n=232), Interest Group Access to the Bureaucracy, Parliament, and the Media (n=218), A Public Service Gap: Capturing contexts in a comparative approach of street-level bureaucracy (n=212).

**Table 2.** The most influential document based on citation analysis.

No	Title	Year	Source title	Cited by
1	Policy Implementation, Street-level Bureaucracy, and the Importance of Discretion (Tummers & Bekkers, 2014)	2014	Public Management Review	316
2	Representative bureaucracy in policing: Does it increase perceived legitimacy? (Ricucci et al., 2014)	2014	Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory	241
3	The Empire Is Dead, Long Live the Empire! Long-Run Persistence of Trust and Corruption in the Bureaucracy (Becker et al., 2016)	2016	Economic Journal	232
4	Interest Group Access to the Bureaucracy, Parliament, and the Media (Binderkrantz et al., 2015)	2015	Governance	218
5	A Public Service Gap: Capturing contexts in a comparative approach of street-level bureaucracy (Hupe & Buffat, 2014)	2014	Public Management Review	212

6	Representative Bureaucracy: A Lever to Enhance Social Equity, Coproduction, and Democracy (Ricucci & Van Ryzin, 2017)	2017	Public Administration Review	201
7	Street-Level Bureaucracy and E-Government (Buffat, 2015)	2015	Public Management Review	180
8	Representative Bureaucracy and the Willingness to Coproduce: An Experimental Study (Ryzin, 2015)	2016	Public Administration Review	174
9	Paper tiger: Law, bureaucracy and the developmental state in Himalayan India	2015	Paper Tiger: Law, Bureaucracy and the Developmental State in Himalayan India	163
10	E-government and organizational change: Reappraising the role of ICT and bureaucracy in public service delivery (Cordella & Tempini, 2015)	2015	Government Information Quarterly	158
11	Making Bureaucracy Work: Patronage Networks, Performance Incentives, and Economic Development in China (Jiang, 2018)	2018	American Journal of Political Science	153
12	Theoretical Frontiers in Representative Bureaucracy: New Directions for Research (Meier, 2019)	2019	Perspectives on Public Management and Governance	144
13	The "Representative Bureaucracy" in Education: Educator Workforce Diversity, Policy Outputs, and Outcomes for Disadvantaged Students (Grissom et al., 2015)	2015	Educational Researcher	130
14	Democracy and Bureaucracy: How their Quality Matters for Popular Satisfaction (Dahlberg & Holmberg, 2014)	2014	West European Politics	129
15	Understanding street-level bureaucracy	2015	Understanding Street-Level Bureaucracy Politics, Power, and	123
16	Politics, power, and bureaucracy in France: The administrative elite	2015	Bureaucracy in France: The Administrative Elite	120
17	Unraveling Representative Bureaucracy: A Systematic Analysis of the Literature (Kennedy, 2014)	2014	Administration and Society	117
18	Ensuring political responsiveness: politicization mechanisms in ministerial bureaucracies (Hustedt & Salomonsen, 2014)	2014	International Review of Administrative Sciences	112

19	Artificial Intelligence, Discretion, and Bureaucracy (Bullock, 2019)	2019	American Review of Public Administration	112
20	International bureaucracies and their influence on policy-making: a review of empirical evidence (Eckhard & Ege, 2016)	2016	Journal of European Public Policy	110

In the period 2014 to 2024, United States was the country with the most publications on Bureaucracy, with 515 articles, followed by United Kingdom with 243 articles. Indonesia and India were the Asian countries ranked in the top 20 countries in terms of the most Bureaucracy publications. These two Asian countries ranked ten and nineteen. The top 20 countries can be seen in Fig. 3.

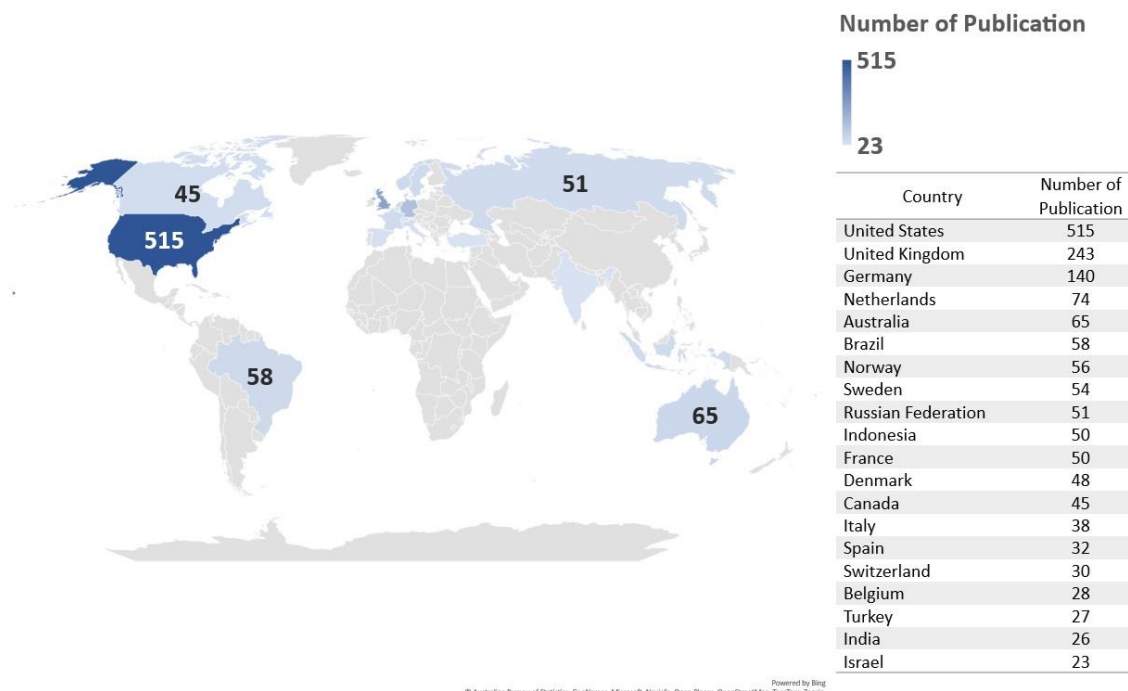


Fig. 3. Top 20 countries with publication of Bureaucracy

Source : Processed by Authors

A content analysis was performed of the 1910 publications sorted by relevance. Next, we performed a co-occurrence analysis with VOSviewer, using the “all keyword” analysis unit and the “full counting” method. We limited the frequency of keyword occurrence to 5 times; out of 4767 keywords VOSviewer found 261 keywords that met the threshold. The results of this analysis are presented in Fig. 4. Bureaucracy (490), Human (140), and Humans (75) were the top three keywords that appeared most frequently. Moreover, we found eight clusters in this analysis. Fig. 4 shows these keywords divided into 6 clusters (each with a different number of keywords), which are represented by colors. The first cluster (red, 70 keywords) focused on street-level bureaucracy, representative bureaucracy, public policy, e-government, and gender. The second cluster (green, 66 keywords) centered on bureaucracy, governance, efficiency, new public management, and authority. The third cluster (blue, 52 keywords) related to human, government regulation, practice guideline, organization, and research ethics.

The fourth cluster (yellow, 37 keywords) related to humans, organization and management,



Based on data from Scopus, the publication trends, journal performance, content analysis, and bibliographic coupling of countries and sources were analysed for research on Bureaucracy issues throughout the world. The current study focused on articles published in Bureaucracy. This study aimed to provide information on the status of publications in these fields. A total of 1910 studies published were recorded in the scopus database. The data showed the rapidity of article publications and the responsiveness of researchers in analyzing on Bureaucracy around the world. However, limited research from a global perspective on Bureaucracy in the past 3 years has discussed "covid-19", "trust", and "authoritarianism" and its relationship with Bureaucracy within the scope of social science.

Based on Fig. 3, the most productive and influential country was United States followed by United Kingdom. Although country from Europe dominated the top 20 countries with the most publications by affiliated researchers, Indonesia and India is the country from Asia in the top 20. The current study has limitations, we only retrieved studies from Scopus and did not use other source such as Web of Science, Crossref, or PubMed Central. Finally, we did not use other analyses in VOSviewer, such as co-citation or co-authorship. Thus, we hope that bibliometric research on this topic will expand in terms of the databases used, the subject areas, and the analyses conducted in order to provide a broader overview of the issue.

## CONCLUSION

In the past 10 years, global research on Bureaucracy has increased significantly. The theme of research on Bureaucracy related to local government could be interesting for future discussions. There are also opportunities to foster discussion about Bureaucracy in social science journals related to public administration. Finally, Europe dominated this field in terms of publications, while research from Asia on this topic remains limited, and further research is therefore necessary.

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