

Bibliometric Analysis of Global Policy: A Scholarly Journal of Durham University, UK

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Abstract:

This study seeks to evaluate the corpus of work published in the peer-reviewed Journal Global Policy, associated with Durham University, UK. Employing bibliometric techniques, the research analyzes publications from 2010 to 2021. Bibliometric analysis encompasses various facets of scholarly work, including authorship patterns, leading institutions, and the geographical distribution of contributing authors. The study identifies that 159 authors produced a total of 1139 papers across 12 volumes and 75 issues within the specified timeframe. The findings highlight that authors from the United States were the most prolific, contributing 306 articles (21.11%) during this period. Among institutions, the London School of Economics and Political Science emerged as the most active, with 74 articles published. This research represents the inaugural bibliometric analysis of Global Policy, with no prior studies applying such techniques to this Journal. The scope of this study is confined to publications from 2010 to 2021. The findings offer valuable insights for stakeholders, editors, and researchers contributing to the Journal and will aid librarians and research scholars in planning future bibliometric analyses on related subjects.

Keywords: *Global policy; Scholarly work; Bibliometric analysis; Research journals; Durham university.*

Introduction

Durham University is renowned for its exceptional teaching and research, holding a global ranking of 89th in the QS World University Rankings. Within Europe, it is ranked 27th. The university provides a diverse array of 330 undergraduate and postgraduate programs across 17 collegiate systems. It excels in research across various disciplines, with its flagship journal, Global Policy, standing out as a premier scholarly publication that draws significant research contributions from around the world. The School of Government and International Affairs, Durham University, has initiated a new journal in 2010 named Global Policy (G.P.), a fully refereed scholarly Journal.

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Global Policy is an interdisciplinary journal that brings together leading scholars, practitioners, and policymakers to analyze public and private solutions to the global issues and problems the scholarly world faces. It also brings innovative ideas that have a global impact on policy responses. It covers global discourses about global risks and policy responses. Global Policy covers a wide range of subject themes that are helpful for global politics, international law, international political economy, and so many other disciplines. The Journal's mission is to engage senior policymakers working in a governmental and non-governmental organization. Its main objective is to stimulate policy learning that is helpful for key scholars in the relevant field. The Journal has a vibrant editorial team, a Global policy Editorial board, and a practitioner's Advisory Board of experts from around the world who deal with global policymaking.

Bibliometric analysis involves the quantitative evaluation of written communications. This methodology highlights the progression of literature and identifies connections across various fields of study. It examines aspects such as author productivity, collaboration, and publication trends. The term "bibliometric" was introduced by Alan Pritchard in 1969, combining the Latin word "biblio" (relating to books) and the Greek word "metrics" (measurement) to describe the application of mathematical and statistical methods to bibliographic data. Bibliometric analysis, though formally named in the late 1960s, has roots extending back to the 1950s. Wallin (2005) noted that the practice has seen a significant rise in recent years, becoming increasingly relevant across various domains, including commerce, accounting, management, economics, library and information science, and policymaking (Haq et al., 2021). The advent of extensive scientific databases like the Web of Science and Scopus has facilitated the acquisition and analysis of vast amounts of bibliometric data, making it easier to quantify scholarly output. Modern bibliometric studies often utilize specialized software such as Leximancer, Gephi, and VOSviewer. These tools organize and analyze bibliometric data efficiently, allowing for comprehensive evaluations of entire journal records in a short time (Hussain, A. 2022). Citation analysis and publication metrics are among the quantitative techniques used to assess the influence and reach of academic work.

The primary goal of bibliometric research is to explore the intellectual structure of scholarly output, providing retrospective insights into journals. This method helps in understanding the research landscape, guiding policymakers, academics, and librarians in enhancing the scope and impact of specific journals. The current study aims to evaluate the body of work published in the peer-reviewed journal "Global Policy" associated with Durham University, UK. This research represents the first bibliometric analysis of "Global Policy," offering novel insights for stakeholders, editors, and contributors. The findings will support librarians and researchers in planning future bibliometric analyses and contribute to the strategic development of the Journal.

Research Objectives The present research addresses the following Objectives

- To assess the quantitative progress of published articles
- To analyze the most frequent authors in the Journal
- To quantify the most frequent institutions that contributed their scholarly works
- To highlight the citations of authors and the geographical locations of their institutions

Literature Review

The word bibliometric coined the word "bibliometrics" to describe "the application of mathematical and statistical methodologies to books and other media" (Prichard, 1969, p. 348). Bibliometric, in other words, is "Statistical Bibliography," and this word was coined by E.W. Hulme (Hulme, 1923). The word bibliometric is not a new term; although formally used in the late 1960s, it has roots extending back to the 1950s. Wallin (2005) noted that the practice has seen a significant rise in recent years. The use of bibliometric analysis plays a significant function in measuring academic publishing creation and accurately defining characteristics using statistics (Van Eck & Waltman, 2014). It can be used to quantify published records of a specific journal (Broadus, 1987, p. 373).

Garfield (1955) postulated that several years ago, scholars used manual data collection to conduct bibliometric analysis. The advent of advanced technology par, particularly the Internet, has made it possible to facilitate accurate and fine-tuned data for research scholars to conduct a bibliometric study (Merigo et al., 2015). The bibliometric is considered a branch of science that can be used to investigate many features of the published record, like the total number of articles contributed by the authors, total citations of articles, institutions who contribute their scholarly works, etc. (Haq et al. 2011). Bibliometric analysis has brought tremendous revolutions in modern librarianship, and it can be used to put forth the archival records of specific journals in a few easy tables (Jacobs & Pichappan, 2001). The scholarly realm has used numerous words for the quantification of statistical records of specific journals like scientometrics, webometrics, citation metrics, citation analysis, etc. (Hood & Wilson, 2001). These methods are employed to evaluate the number of total published articles, authors' contributions, geographical locations of the authors, and institutions that contributed research work in a journal. Thus, the use of bibliometric analysis has increased alarmingly across various disciplines.

In librarianship, the use of bibliometric analysis got immense recognition in order to promote a huge volume of published records, enhance the scope of trade journals, and cultivate a culture of publishing agencies in a holistic approach. (Bar-Ilan, 2008). The use of bibliometric analysis encompasses the authorship trends, subject organization, and other associated criteria (Hazarika, Goswami, & Das, 2003). This method can be used in librarianship to quantify the published records of journals (López-Muoz et al., 2003). As per the historical assessment of bibliometric studies, the first study was conducted in 1960 (Hung, 2012). In the last few decades there occurred a surge of bibliometric studies in different disciplines of social and management sciences.

As mentioned earlier, bibliometrics helps scholars organize and analyze a large amount of data in short forms. Similarly, it helps journal editors to know the scope of their journals and inform decision-makers of a particular discipline to identify their strengths and weaknesses (Daim et al., 2006). In their research, Albort-Morant et al. (2017) have investigated that the bibliometric analyses allow the development of future lines of research through its indicators and make it possible to know the past and understand the advances of investigations at the same time.

Social science is a vast field that brings innovative scholarly research. Policy analysts and experts produce a handsome amount of research in global policymaking. The Global Policy Journal of

Durham University has been selected to scrutinize its published work for scholars, editors, and stakeholders to get its scope more reliable and to find the weak areas that need to be addressed in the future. The current study aims to evaluate the body of work published in the peer-reviewed journal "Global Policy" associated with Durham University, UK. This research represents the first bibliometric analysis of "Global Policy," offering novel insights for stakeholders, editors, and contributors. The findings will support librarians and researchers in planning future bibliometric analyses and contribute to the strategic development of the Journal.

Research Methodology

To analyze the published records of the "Global Policy" journal from Durham University between 2010 and 2021, we adopted a systematic approach. Data were extracted from the Scopus Database as well as the Journal's official website. In this data, preference were given to research articles and research reports. Other items like book reviews, articles in other languages, and non-research articles were excluded to undertake this research. Different research employs different analytical techniques to align the research objectives. This research employs a technique of bibliometric analysis. Such a technique has had immense recognition since its introduction in 1969. This kind of research gained significant traction. Under this technique, the scholars examine the patterns of publications across different dimensions such as topics of the research, authors, institutions countries, etc. Modern bibliometric studies often utilize specialized software such as Leximancer, Gephi, and VOSviewer. These tools organize and analyze bibliometric data with a pragmatic approach. The present study employs and utilizes VOSviewer and Scopus databases as a tool for conducting this research. The VOSviewer was used to generate a map of different countries that contributed research in global Policy.

The Excel sheet was brought into use to organize a table of extracted data like total articles, yearwise contributions of different volumes, authorship patterns, and collaboration metrics. Using such tools made it easy for scholars to provide a detailed overview of the publication landscape of the Global Policy. Data analysis is yet another techniques that provide comprehensive modules to produce research result. In this study, each article was meticulously reviewed in order to present a metrics of the total number of publications year-wised.

Similarly, the scholar aimed to identify trends and patterns in the journals' publication history. The data from Scopus and the Journal's website were combined in Excel sheets, and research was produced to ensure a comprehensive understanding of the publication trends within the "Global policy," its key contributors, and collaborative networks. The result of this study will help the policymakers of the organizations, journal editors, librarians, and the scholarly realm of bibliometric analysis conduct research in the social sciences.

Table 1. Quantitative Progress of Articles

Volume Number	Years	No. of issues	No of articles	Percentage	Avg. articles per issue quarterly
1	2021	12	139	12.20%	11.58
2	2020	8	105	9.21%	13.125
3	2019	6	136	11.8%	22.66
4	2018	7	92	8.07%	13.14
5	2017	10	143	12.55%	14.3
6	2016	5	85	7.46%	17
7	2015	5	89	7.81%	17.8
8	2014	5	85	7.46%	17
9	2013	5	80	7.02%	16
10	2012	5	78	6.84%	15.6
11	2011	4	63	5.53%	15.75
12	2010	3	44	3.86%	14.66
Total	12	75	1139	100%	188.74

According to Table 2, Anheier, H.K., was in first position, publishing 15 papers, followed by Held, D. of G.P., with 11 articles, and Coicaud, J.M., a (G.P.) researcher, with eight publications. Bolton, M., and Klasen, A. both produced seven articles out of 12 volumes.

Table2. Most Frequent Authors

Rank	Author name	No. of papers
1	Anheier, H.K.	15
2	Held, D.	11
3	Coicaud, J.M.	8
4	Bolton, M.	7
4	Klasen, A.	7
5	Acuto, M.	6
5	Gallagher, K.P.	6
5	Hale, T.	6
5	Hoekman, B.	6
5	Kaldor, M.	6
5	Sumner, A.	6
6	Florini, A.	5
6	Goldthau, A.	5
6	Kanavos, P.	5
6	Prakash, A.	5
6	Price, E.	5
6	Wade, R.H.	5
7	142 Others	1030 OTHERS
Total		1139

Table 3 contains the data for the most productive institution. The London School of Economics and Political Science remained in first place with 74 (6.49 percent) publications published between 2010 and 2021. The University of Oxford remained in second place with 31 (2.72 percent) research papers.

Figure 1: Most Dynamic Institutions worldwide

Most Dynamic Institutions



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TABLE 3. MOST FREQUENT INSTITUTIONS' RANK LIST

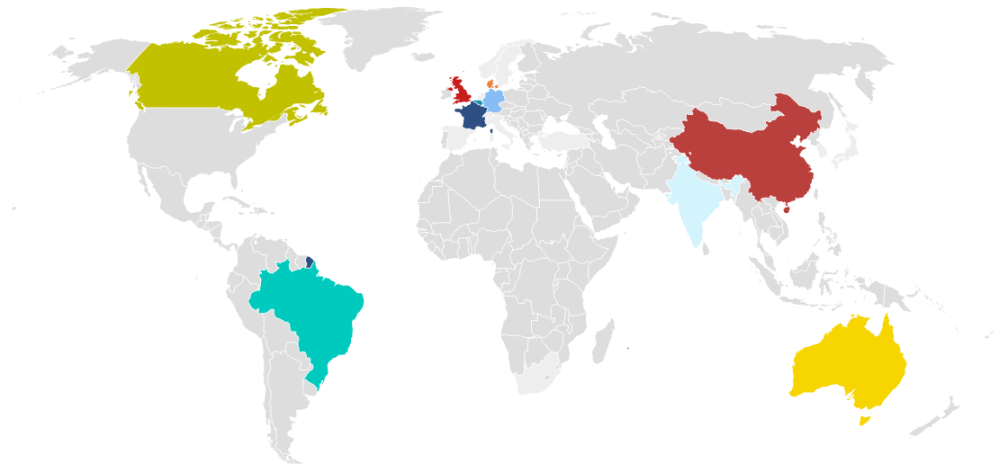
Rank	Institutions	Frequency of Occurrence	% Of 1139
1	London School Of Economics and Political Science	74	6.49%
2	University Of Oxford	31	2.72%
3	Durham University	22	1.93%
4	Columbia University	20	1.75%
5	Louis University	18	1.58%
6	The Australian National University	16	1.40%
6	Harvard University	16	1.40%
6	University College London	16	1.40%
6	University Of Melbourne	16	1.40%
7	King's College London	14	1.22%
8	The University of Sydney	13	1.14%
9	Hertie School Of Governance Gmbh	13	1.14%
10	Universitases I Oslo	12	1.053%

10	National University of Singapore	12	1.053%
11	The University of Sheffield	11	0.96%
11	Universiteitvan Amsterdam	11	0.96%
11	European University Institute, San Domenico Di Fiesole	11	0.96%
	143 Others	813 OTHERS	71.44
TOTAL		160	1139
			100

The geographical distribution is shown in Table 4. The United States of America is the top-ranking country, with a handsome amount of research: 306 articles (21.11 percent). The United Kingdom is in second place with 209 (20.33%) articles. Germany is in third place with 76 (5.2%). The lowest in the top ten is Japan with 10(0.69%).

Figure 2: Geogrphical Distribution of Institutions

■ Australia
 ■ Belgium
 ■ Brazil
 ■ Canada
 ■ China
 ■ Denmark
 ■ France
 ■ Germany
 ■ H
 ong Kong
 ■ India
 ■ Italy
 ■ Japan
 ■ Netherlands
 ■ Norway
 ■ Singapore
 ■ South Africa
■ South Korea
 ■ Spain
 ■ Sweden
 ■ Switzerland
 ■ Turkey
 ■ United Kingdom



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Table 4. Geographical Distribution of Institutions

Rank	Country	Frequency	Percentage
1	United States	306	21.11%
2	United Kingdom	299	20.63%
3	Germany	135	9.31%
4	Australia	76	5.24%
5	Canada	66	4.55%

6	Italy	53	3.65%
7	Netherlands	49	3.38%
8	Switzerland	40	2.76%
9	Spain	35	2.41%
10	Belgium	33	2.27%
11	China	32	2.20%
12	France	26	1.79%
13	Denmark	20	1.38%
14	India	20	1.38%
14	Norway	20	1.38%
15	Singapore	19	1.38%
16	South Korea	13	1.31%
16	Sweden	13	0.89%
17	Brazil	12	0.89%
18	South Africa	11	0.82%
18	Turkey	11	0.75%
19	Hong Kong	10	0.69%
19	Japan	10	0.69%
20	Undefine	30	2.07%
TOTAL	80	1449	100%

Table no 5. Shows the category distribution of an article. In (JGP), there are 550 open-access articles with a percentage of (48.20%). In the hybrid gold category, there are at least 99 articles with the percentage of (8.69%)

Table no 5. Category distribution of article

Category	Article	% Percentage
All Open Access	550	48.20%
Hybrid Gold	99	8.69%
Bronze	315	27.65%
Green	255	22.38%
Total Articles	1,139	100%

Table 6 shows the Subject area publication of the Global Policy. It has been noticed that Economics, Econometrics and Finance, Environmental Science, and Social Sciences were the largest research areas of the Global Policy, with 1139 articles.

Table no 6. The Subject area publication

Subject Area	Article
Economics, Econometrics and Finance	1139
Environmental Science	1139
Social Sciences	1139

The data on the Form of Document submissions in the Global Policy) is presented in Table 7; it has been noticed that a total of 965(84.72%) articles and 118 (10.35%) Editorial reviews, 16 (1.40%) were recorded during the whole period from 2010 to 2012.

Table 7. Document Form

Document Form	Frequency	Percentage
Article	965	84.72%
Note	118	10.35%
Letter	19	1.66%
Editorial	16	1.40%
Review	12	1.05%
Erratum	7	0.61%
Conference Paper	2	0.17%
Total	1139	100%

Conclusion Global Policy is one of the key journals of Durham University U.K., published since 2010. The Journal attracts experts and scholarly people in economics, econometrics, and global policy making. The Journal is highly well-versed and indexed in top databases. The Global Policy journal was selected for this study to identify the ratio of publications between 2010-2021. The study reveals that there were a total of 1139 articles in 12 volumes, and 75 issues were published between 2010 and 2021. After thorough scrutinizing, it has been found that the majority of the articles were covered in Economics, Econometrics, social sciences, and global policy making. It has also been identified that the majority of contributions among institutions were made by the London School of Economics and Political Science, with 74 articles. The most dynamic authors were also from the United States. Anheier, H.K. was the most prolific author with 15 publications. It has also been found that the majority of authors were from the United States of America, with 306 (21.11 %) papers, while authors from other countries who contributed rich collections were recorded from the United Kingdom, with 299 (20.63 %) publications.

The Global Policy (GP) is a valuable resource for disseminating relevant research and fostering collaboration in the social sciences. The number of articles published has been steadily increasing; it is a source of study for various scholars and institutions. Stakeholders and the appropriate authorities are passionate about making this Journal one of the best publications in the social sciences. Following are some recommendations based on the findings:

Recommendations

1. Researchers from underdeveloped regions should be given additional opportunities.
2. Articles from top authors should be included to make this Journal more prominent.
3. To avoid a backlog, the number of articles may be raised.
4. Global topics should be addressed to grab the attention of foreign researchers.
5. Complete information on the online journal system (website) should be provided to the writers.
6. The Journal should be indexed in Global databases for enormous outreach.
7. The authors who contributed informative articles should be rewarded a handsome amount.

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