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# Intellectual Structure and Publication Pattern in Journal of Money Laundering Control from 2014 to 2020: A Bibliometric Study

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## Abstract

The study comprehends intellectual structure and publication pattern of scholarly articles published in the *Journal of Money Laundering Control* ranging from the year 2014 to 2020 through the prevailing methods of bibliometric analysis. The study finds that the *JMLC* has published the lowest number of 29 papers in 2014 and the highest number of 117 papers in the publishing year 2020. Regarding country wise distribution of research productivity, the UK is the top performer followed by Switzerland, and the USA. The degree of collaboration (DC) in *JMLC publications* is found to be 0.34. The study intends to provide its readers' fundamental knowledge about the most influential contributions, the most prolific authors, country productivity, and bibliographic coupling, co-citation, keyword co-occurrence and related facets. Scholars undertaking bibliometric studies can take benefits from the insights into the intellectual structure of the *Journal of Money Laundering Control*. Moreover, readers and authors of *JMLC* could gain the basic ideas about the editorial objectives and publication traits of the journal.

**Keywords:** Bibliometric study, citation analysis, authorship pattern, bibliographic coupling, co-citation

## Introduction

Since the introduction of the term *bibliometrics* by Alan Pritchard (1969), bibliometricians, information scientists and research scholars have explored various bibliometric measures to study the nature, attributes, properties, and influence of scientific publications in a specific field, of a particular journal, or a given set of literature with a view to comprehending the impact and influence of those publications for a specific period. Bibliometric studies are therefore, conducted across disciplines for studying publications of related bunch of literature or a given journal to reveal authorship pattern, degree of collaboration, the ranking of cited journals, ranking of prolific authors, ranking of country productivity, evaluating the characteristics of citing and cited articles, measuring impact factor and immediacy index of a specific journal, and many such parameters of academic research publications. The present study puts spotlight on *Journal of Money Laundering Control (JMLC)* to examine the influence and impact of this journal upon its readers' community.

*Journal of Money Laundering Control (JMLC)* is specifically designed for all those concerned with the prevention of money laundering. Its objective is to publish analysis, briefings and updates which are of direct relevance to practitioners while meeting the highest intellectual standards. Guided by expert Editors and an eminent International Advisory Board, as per the information on its homepage, "*Journal of Money*

*Laundering Control* is the world's only quarterly, peer-reviewed journal designed to keep subscribers up to date with the latest law, regulation, techniques and best practice in the prevention, identification and prosecution of money laundering". JMLC is published by Emerald. It has received a site score of 1.2 (2020), SJR of 0.292 (2020) and SNIP value of 1.287 (2020). Therefore, a bibliometric study of this unique journal promises to unfold key facets of the publication patterns of this journal that are of paramount importance to the readers' community of this journal in general and scholars undertaking single journal bibliometric studies.

## Objectives

The major objectives of the study are:

- To find out the average length of article published in *Journal of Money Laundering Control*,
- To study the authorship pattern and measure the degree of authors' collaboration,
- To study the country wise distribution of JMLC publications,
- To identify the highly cited papers of JMLC published from 2014 to 2020,
- To study the most frequently used keywords, and
- To study keyword co-occurrence, authors' co-citation and bibliographic coupling.

## Methodology

The study analyses the intellectual structure, growth, and development of publication output of the *Journal of Money Laundering Control* from 2014 to 2020. Keeping the objectives of the study in mind, bibliographic details of a total number of 362 scholarly articles of the source journal published during the stated period were retrieved from Scopus. The retrieved data were arranged and rearranged to examine the year wise distribution of articles, ranking of prolific authors, ranking of highly cited papers, geographical distribution of documents, authors co-citation, keyword co-occurrences, bibliographic coupling and related facets. The gathered data after due scrutiny, were tabulated and processed for analysis and subsequent interpretation. Visualization of similarities (VOS) viewer software was used to draw maps. Subramanyam's formula was used to calculate the year wise degree of collaboration of JMLC from 2014 to 2020. The study employed other required bibliometric measures.

## Literature Review

There have been a fair number of bibliometric studies of individual journals across disciplines. In this respect, Naqvi (2005) conducted a study of *Journal of Documentation* from 1994 to 2003 and found that papers published per year ranged from 16 to 38; the numbers of references used by the authors were high with majority of them citing 21 to 50 references. Young's (2006) study on the journal *Library Quarterly* (LQ) revealed a correlation between the most highly cited authors within LQ corpus. Thanuskodi (2011) made a bibliometric portrait of *Indian Journal of Chemistry* from 2005-2009 and found that most of the contributions are from India obviously due to its origin and majority of articles were contributed by two authors. Swain's (2011) bibliometric study of *Library Philosophy and Practice* (LPP) revealed the major cited journals in LPP that were from the core field of Library Science followed by Education, Medical Sciences, Sociology, Psychology, and Computer Science demonstrating the trend of multidisciplinary research in the journal. Swain and Panda (2012) found that the publications of *Journal of Intellectual Property Rights* are led by the single authored contributions and the average numbers of citations against all published articles are found to be 0.66 per article. The domination of single authored contributions was also reflected in the publications of *The Electronic Library* (Jena, Swain, and Sahu, 2012).

Das (2012) in his bibliometric study of *Nelumbo* (plant taxonomy journal) found that half of the papers published in the journal were contributed by two authors and just one fourth of articles were contributed by single authors. Ratha, et al. (2012) found that majority of contributors of the journal *Information Research* are single authors and most of the authors of this journal explored their literature from *Journal of the American Society for Information Science & Technology*. Singh (2013) studied 179 articles of the journal *Collection Building* from 2005 to 2012 and found that nearly one third of articles recorded between 10-19 range of citations and major portion of publications were contributed by single authors. Regolini and Jannes-Ober (2013) revealed the high degree of transdisciplinarity of the journal *Informing Science*. They considered the impact of 184 articles and found that the h index for those articles was 12. Lokhande (2013) studied the journal *Annals of Library and Information Studies* from 2002 to 2011 through the dynamic approach of content analysis. Das (2013) examined 239 articles published in the inaugural five volumes of *Journal of Informetrics* and found that publication output doubles over the study period as article publications increased significantly; though single-authored contributions were quite considerable, but the collaborative trend of research was bit higher than that of solo research with majority of contributions were collaborated by two-authors.

Swain, et al. (2013) studied *Library Review* from 2007 to 2011 and found that the degree of collaboration in the publications of *Library Review* is 0.36 and the journal accommodated over 22 citations per article. Regarding country productivity, UK led the table, followed by USA and Nigeria. However, Poland occupied the bottom position in the ranking. Barik and Jena (2013) studied the authorship patterns of journal *Trends in Information Management* and found that almost one third of the contributions hailed from foreign authors. Swain (2014) unfolded publication patterns of the journal *International Information and Library Review* from 2004 to 2013. Pandita (2014) conducted a bibliometric analysis of 366 scholarly research articles published in '*DESIDOC Journal of Library and Information Technology*, from 2003 to 2012 and found that a maximum of 147 articles belonged to two-authorship pattern followed by 139 articles in single authorship pattern. Satpathy, Maharana and Das (2014) found that degree of collaboration in open access journals of Library & Information Science ranged from 0.33 to 0.80. Ali, et al. (2015) analyzed 1835 articles published in 90 issues of 15 volumes of the *Journal of Academic Librarianship* and found that more than 80% contributions emanated from the USA. Dabirian et al (2016) provided a glimpse of pattern of publications of the *Journal of Food Products Marketing* published from 1992 to 2014. Kalantari, et al. (2017) made a comprehensive analysis of the publication trends of big data research taking 6572 papers including 28 highly cited papers that were indexed in the Web of Science and developed. Moreover, they developed a mathematical model of multi-regression analysis suitable for citation analysis based on the number of authors, number of pages and number of references. Akhtar (2017) made a meticulous scientometric assessment of the *Journal of King Saud University-Computer and Information Sciences (JKSU-CIS)* and revealed its publication pattern from 2004-2014. Sahoo, Meher and Mohanty (2017) evaluated scholarly articles published in the *Electronic Journal of Knowledge Management (EJKM)* from 2003 to 2013 and revealed the predominance of multi-authored papers with degree of collaboration of 0.70.

Barik and Jena (2018) conducted a bibliometric analysis of 10 LIS open access journals with 5208 publications and found that solo research finds predominance in scholarly publications of the respective journals. Rialp et al. (2019) revealed the publication trends of the *International Business Review* by using the visualization of similarities (VOS) viewer software through co-citation analysis, bibliographic coupling, and co-occurrence of author keywords. Rai, Singh and Varma, A. K. (2019) analyzed 2720 articles published on 'cyber security' from 2001 to 2018 and found that the United States of America has the highest number of publications in the field followed by the United Kingdom, China, and India. Mulet-Forteza et al (2019) comprehended the bibliometric structure of *International Journal of Contemporary Hospitality Management* in its 30 years of publications and found that English-speaking countries are producing the highest number of articles in the journal, followed by Asian institutions, with the Hong

Kong Polytechnic University as the most productive institution. Burton, Kumar and Pandey (2020) revealed twenty-five years of publishing patterns of the *European Journal of Finance (EJF)* by using a range of bibliometric tools and revealed that the journal has fostered a global network of scholars, reflecting the pervasive nature of collaboration that now extends across the world. Singala et al (2021) studied the impact and influence of the *Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management* based on the records of publications of JHTM from 2006 to 2020 and found that the journal has continuously published quality papers original and contemporary topics including: tourism experiences, service quality, hospitality management skills, work-family conflict, sustainability, and responsible tourism. Srivastava, et al. (2021) vividly analyzed the intellectual structure and publication pattern in the *Journal of Global Information Management* from 2002-2020. However, a bibliometric study of *Journal of Money Laundering Control* is still unexplored. Hence, the present study promises to yield some value addition to the corpus of bibliometric literature.

### Analysis and interpretation

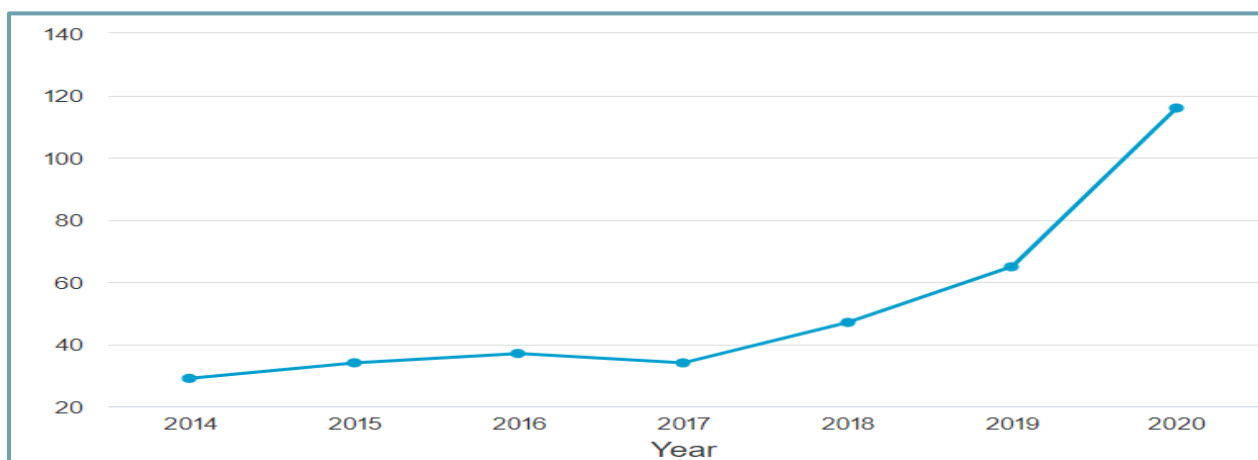
Keeping the objectives of the present study in mind, the collected data were compiled, scrutinized and tabulated under different facets. The analysis and interpretation of the tabulated data is presented in the succeeding sections.

### Year wise distribution of papers

The year wise distribution of articles published in the *Journal of Money Laundering Control* from 2014 to 2020 is depicted in table 1.

**Table 1. Year wise distribution of papers**

Year	Total no. of papers	Cumulative papers	%	Cumulative %
2014	29	29	8.01	8.01
2015	34	63	9.39	17.40
2016	37	100	10.22	27.62
2017	34	134	9.39	37.02
2018	47	181	12.98	50.00
2019	64	245	17.68	67.68
2020	117	362	32.32	100



**Figure 1. Year wise distribution of papers**

Table 2 (figure 1) shows that there has been a steady rise in the number of publications from 2014 to 2020. JMLC has published the lowest number of 29 papers in 2014 and the highest number of 117 papers in the publishing year 2020. It indicates that JMLC has gradually accommodated a greater number of articles may be due to the qualitative growth of literature in this specific field justifying their publications.

### Authorship pattern

Table 2 shows that, almost three-fourth of publications (73.10%) of *JMLC* are contributed by *single authors* and major share of multi-authored contributions are from *two joint authors* (20.81%). However, *three authored*, and *> three authored* contributions in the journal are less visible.

**Table 2. Authorship pattern**

<i>Authorship pattern</i>	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>	<i>2016</i>	<i>2017</i>	<i>2018</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2020</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>% of the total publications</i>
Single	20	24	28	26	33	38	68	237	65.47
Two	6	4	8	6	11	11	28	74	20.44
Three	1	5	0	1	1	8	13	29	8.01
> Three	2	1	1	1	2	7	8	22	6.08
Total	29	34	37	34	47	64	117	362	100

### Degree of collaboration

The degree of collaboration in *JMLC* publications is worked out by using Subramanyam's (1983) formula as:

$$DC = \frac{NM}{NM+NS}$$

Where: DC=Degree of collaboration; NM=number of multiple authored papers; and NS=Single authored papers. Here, NM is 125 and NS is 237. By using the above formula, the degree of collaboration (DC) in *JMLC publications* is found to be 0.34 which is almost identical to that of one of its contemporary journals namely, *Journal of Financial Crime (JFC)* that Jena, Swain and Sahoo (2012) reported DC of JFC to be 0.246. Therefore, it may be deduced that collaborative research in *JMLC* like other similar journals in the field of economics is found less as evident by sheer domination of solo research in these two journals.

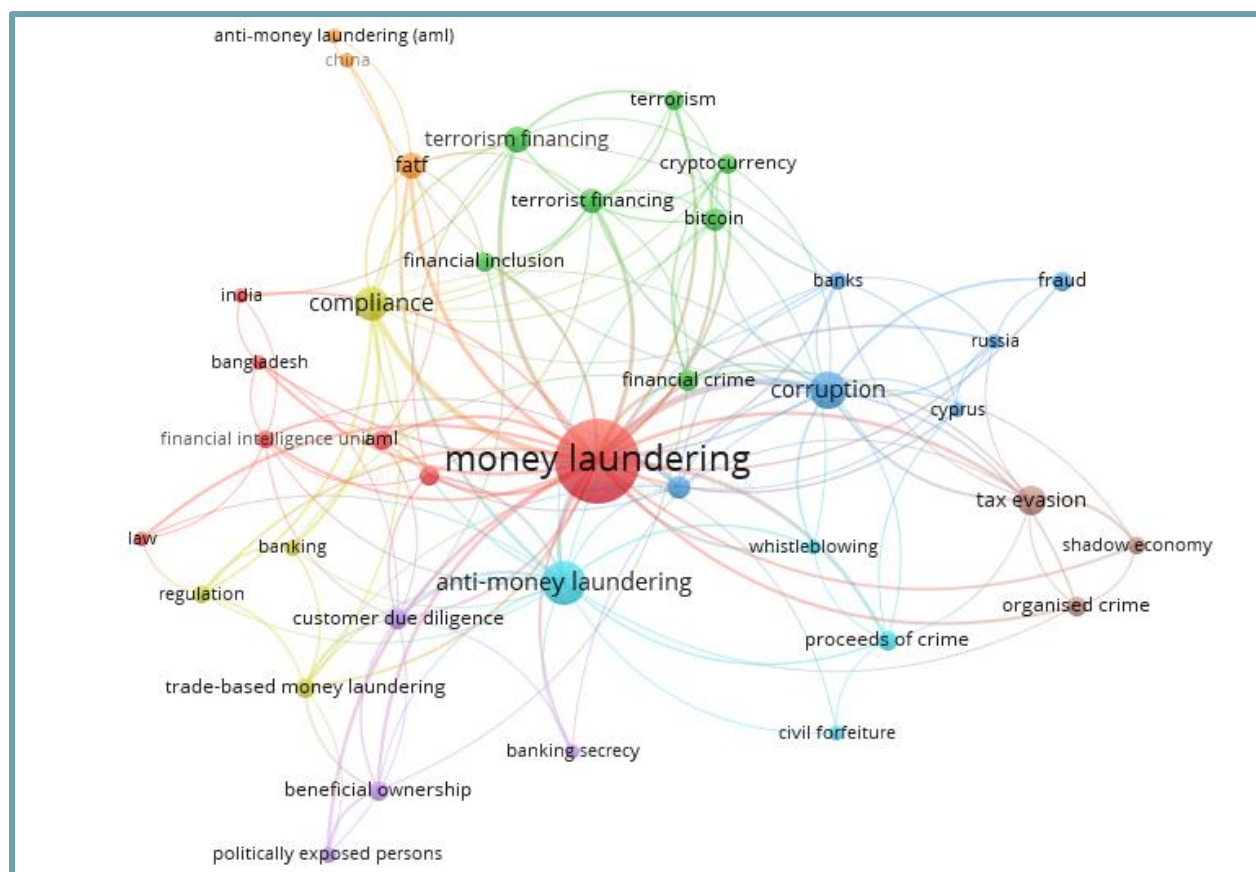
### Ranking of Keywords

Keywords appeared in the publications of *JMLC* from 2014 to 2020 are depicted in table 5. Table 3 reveals that 'Money Laundering' as a keyword, has become the first and foremost choice by the authors and editor, which has occurred as many as 402 times followed by 'Terrorism', 'Laws and legislation', 'Regulation', Anti-Money laundering, Crimes', Financial institutions among others.

**Table 3. Ranking of keywords**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Keywords</i>	<i>Frequency of appearance</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Keywords</i>	<i>Frequency of appearances</i>
1	Money laundering	402	16	China	18
2	Terrorism	81	17	Terrorist Financing	17
3	Corruption	56	18	Organized crime	16

4	Laws and legislation	51	19	Law Enforcement	15
5	Regulation	50	20	Australia	14
6	Anti-money laundering	45	21	Malaysia	13
7	Crimes	36	=21	Proceeds of crime	13
8	Financial institutions	34	22	Customer due diligence	12
9	United Kingdom	33	23	Bit coin	11
10	Compliance	29	=23	Criminal Law	11
11	Banking	28	=23	Lawyers	11
=11	United States of America	28	=23	Organized crime	11
12	International cooperation	26	=23	Russia	11
13	Fraud	25	24	Law	10
14	Banks	22	=24	Risk Management	10
=14	FATF	22	=24	AML	10
=14	Financing	22	=24	Beneficial ownership	10
15	Crime	19	=24	Risk Management	10
=15	Legislation	19	=24	Switzerland	10
=15	Tx Evasion	19	=24	Canada	10



**Figure 2. Co-occurrence of keywords**

Some common keywords occur in the works of many authors signifying the importance of the keywords on the specific field of knowledge. Co-occurrence of keywords traced by VOSviewer is depicted in figure 2. It is found that the keyword, ‘money laundering’ which is the theme of the journal appears at the top.

### Ranking of authors

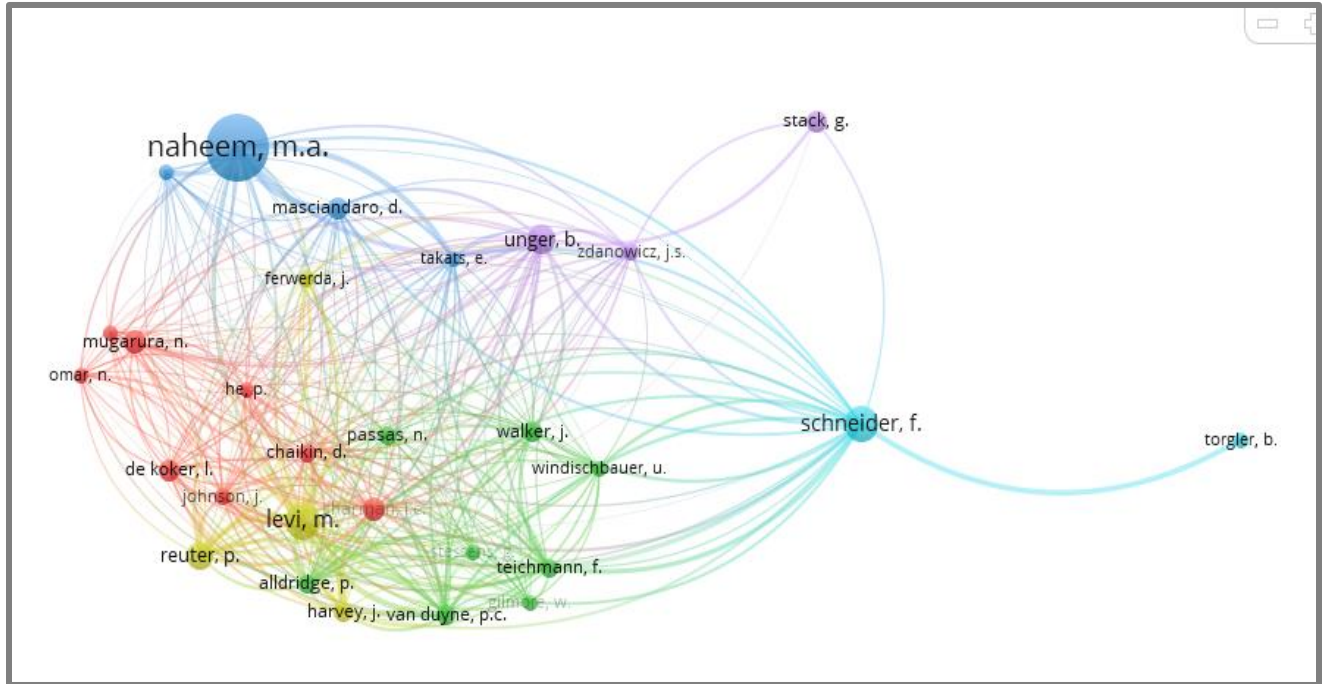
It is observed that, in all 418 authors have contributed a total of 362 articles in *JMLC* from 2014 to 2020. The detail ranking of authors who have contributed articles to *JMLS* during the stated period is depicted in Table 4.

**Table4. Ranking of authors**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Name of the author</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>No of articles</i>
1	Naheem, M.A.	Germany	21
2	Teichmann, F.M.J.	Switzerland	19
3	Repousis, S.	Cyprus	9
4	Esoimeme, E.E.	Nigeria	8
=4	Mugarura, N.	UK	8
=4	Falker, M.C.	Switzerland	8
6	Irwin, A.S.M.	Australia	5
5	Jayasekara, S.D.	Sri Lanka	5
6	Lokanan, M.E.	Canada	5
=6	Omar, N.	Malaysia	5
7	Gikonyo, C.	Kenya	4
=7	Gilmour, N.	New Zealand	4
=7	Hamin, Z.	Malaysia	4
=7	Mniwasa, E.E.	UR Tanzania	4
8	37 authors	-	3 each
9	46 authors	-	2 each
10	321 authors	-	1 each

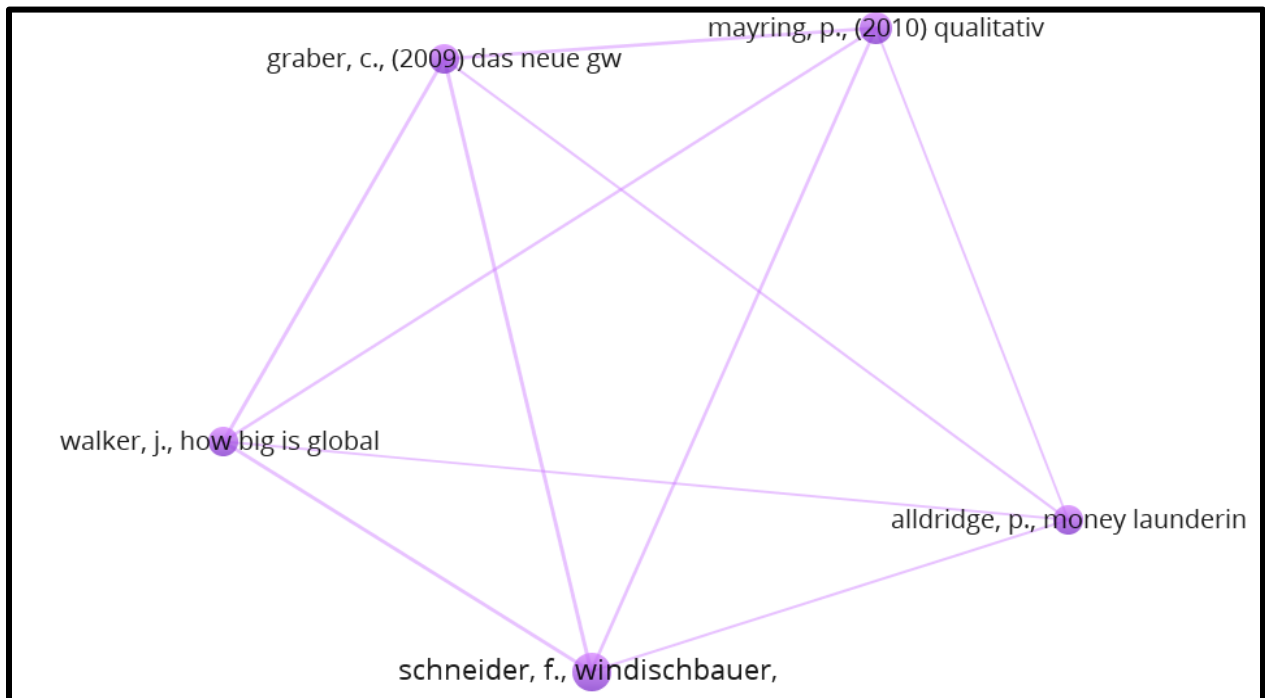
Table 4 shows that Naheem, M.A. of Germany leads the table with highest contribution of 21 articles, followed by Teichmann, F.M.J. of Switzerland with 19 articles, while Repousis, S. of Cyprus (9 articles) occupies the third rank.





**Figure 3. Authors' co-citations map**

Interrelated scholarly works in a particular journal is often co-cited by potential authors. Co-citation of cited authors that meet the threshold as per VOSviewer is depicted in figure 3. It is found that works of Naheem, M.A. of Germany have received significant impact for which many authors have cited his papers.



#### Figure 4. Co-citation of references

Noteworthy references with impact and influence are referred by other authors of the source journal. It is evident from figure 4 that five citations have been co-cited by authors of JMLC reflected in the map.

#### Ranking of countries

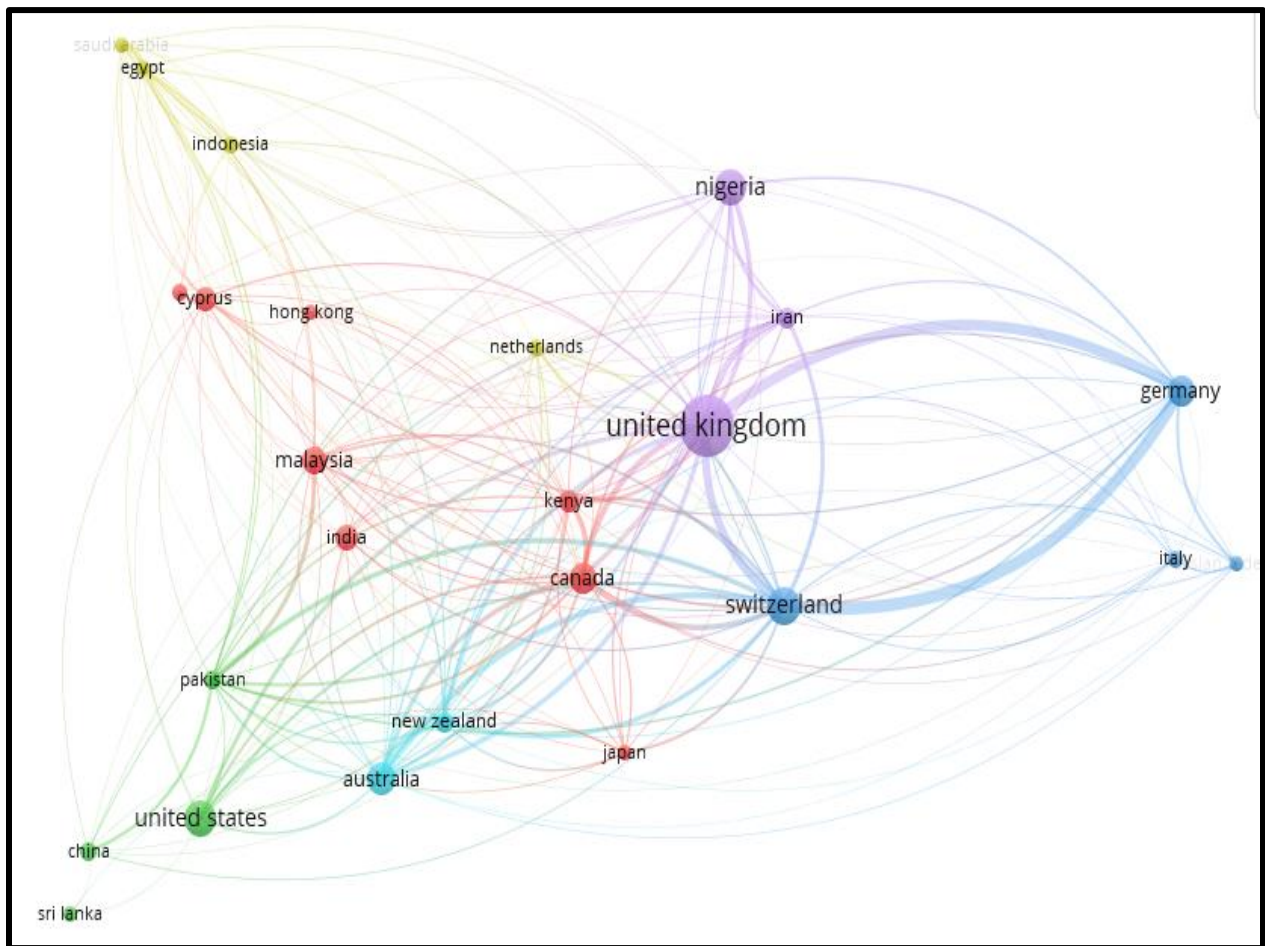
A total of 418 authors representing 71 countries published papers in the *Journal of Money Laundering Control* from 2014 to 2020. Ranking of countries as per number of contributors is depicted in table 5.

**Table 5. Ranking of countries**

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Rank</i>	<i>Country</i>	<i>No. of authors</i>
1	1	UK	66
2	2	Switzerland	26
	3	USA	24
3	4	Nigeria	23
4	5	Australia	20
5	6	Canada	17
6	=6	Germany	17
7	7	Malaysia	14
8	8	India	12
9	9	Cyprus	10
10	10	Kenya	9
11	11	Iran	8
12	=11	New Zealand	8
13	12	China	7
14	=12	Pakistan	7
15	13	Greece	6
16	=13	Indonesia	6
17	=13	Italy	6
18	=13	Netherlands	6
19	14	Egypt	5
20	=14	Hong Kong	5
21	=14	Japan	5
22	=14	Russian Federation	5
23	=14	Soudi Arabia	5
24	=14	Srilanka	5
25	=14	Ghana	4
26	=14	Jordan	4
27	=14	Tanzanya	4
28	=14	Turkey	4
29	=14	Uganda	4
30	15	Brazil	3
31	=15	Denmark	3
32	=15	Jamaica	3
33	=15	Poland	3
34	=15	United Arab Emirates	3
35	16	Croatia	2
36	=16	Mynmar	2
37	=16	Quatar	2
38	=16	South Africa	2
39	=16	Tunisia	2
40	=16	Viet Nam	2
41	=16	Ecuador	2

42	=16	Fiji	2
43	=16	Hungery	2
44	=16	Kuwait	2
45	=16	Macao	2
46	=16	Maxico	2
47	17	1 each from 37 other countries	37
<b>Total</b>			<b>418</b>

Table 5 shows that the UK is the top performer (66 authors) followed by Switzerland (26 authors), and the USA (24 authors). In tandem, the research productivity of the small countries like Kuwait, Macao among others lies at the bottom half. Bibliographic coupling of countries is depicted in figure 6.



**Figure 5. Bibliographic coupling of countries in the map**

Figure 5 shows that though there have been great scholarly contributions emanated from 71 different countries, there are 22 countries in the threshold of bibliographic coupling where the USA takes the leading position in the map of bibliographic coupling. Mention may be made that bibliographic coupling occurs when two works reference a common third work in their bibliographies. It is an indication that a probability exists that the two works treat a related subject matter (Martyn, 1964).

### Highly cited papers

Scholarly papers which are highly cited increase the visibility by augmenting the image and reputation of a specific journal. The ranking of papers published in JMLC is depicted in table 6.

**Table 6. Highly cited papers**

<i>Rank</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Author</i>	<i>Year</i>	<i>Total Scopus Citations</i>
1	Shadow economy and tax evasion in the EU	Schneider, F., Raczkowski, K., Mróz, B.	2015	49
2	Organised crime goes online: realities and challenges	Lavorgna, A.	2015	30
3	Money laundering using investment companies	Naheem, M.A.	2015	26
4	The use of crypto-currencies in funding violent jihad	Irwin, A.S.M., Milad, G.	2016	25
5	Internal audit function and AML compliance: the globalisation of the internal audit function	Naheem, M.A.	2016	23
6	Trade based money laundering: towards a working definition for the banking sector	Naheem, M.A.	2015	22
7	Risk of money laundering in the US: HSBC case study	Naheem, M.A.	2016	20
8	Tracking digital footprints: anonymity within the bitcoin system:	Reynolds, P., Irwin, A.S.M.	2017	19
=8	A critical approach to trade-based money laundering	R.J. Soudijn, M.	2014	19
9	Illicit financial flows: HSBC case study	Naheem, M.A.	2018	18
=9	To be corrupt or not to be corrupt: Understanding the behavioral side of corruption in Indonesia	Yogi Prabowo, H.	2014	18
10	Money laundering and illicit flows from China – the real estate problem	Naheem, M.A.	2017	17
=10	China’s dirty laundry – international organizations posing a risk to China’s AML systems	Naheem, M.A.	2018	17

(Note: The citation data retrieved from Scopus during 1st week of June 2021)

It is evident from table 6 that the article entitled, “Shadow economy and tax evasion in the EU” by Schneider, F., Raczkowski, K., Mróz, B. published in 2015 has so far received 45 scopus citations leads the table. Another article entitled, “Organised crime goes online: realities and challenges” by Lavorgna, A. occupies the second rank received 30 citations. Concurrently, the article entitled, ‘Money laundering using investment companies’ is ranked third with 26 citations.

## Conclusion

The study vividly analyses the key dimensions of publishing trends of *Journal of Money Laundering Control* that has accommodated scholarly articles emanating from different parts of the world pertaining to the cause and effect of money laundering. The journal is gradually getting its impact and influence all around as evident from the fair number of citations so far received by the source articles. From among 71 contributing countries, authors from the UK, Switzerland, and the USA have immensely contributed towards the publication productivity of the journal, however contributions from developing countries need to be crept into the journal. It is expected that the journal will solicit rich contributions on the area of money laundering from other different countries in future to come. In a nutshell, the journal is doing exceedingly well to check and control money laundering in all parts of the world. It is hoped that the editorial policy of the journal will be further augmented through its prudent editorial board and expert panel of reviewers to produce its high-quality research output in the wake of providing effective guidance to bankers, financial institutions, and general public as to how to handle the matters of money laundering successfully and effectively.

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