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Open Access Social Science Journals Indexed in DOAJ: A Critical Analysis

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Abstract:

This study of “Open Access Social Science Journals Indexed in DOAJ. DOAJ is the most recognized and most authoritative list of scholarly open access social science journals indexed in DOAJ. Data is based on open access social science journals indexed on Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). A total of 1069 social science journals were selected from DOAJ database available online at <http://www.doaj.org>.

Keywords: *Open access journals; Social science journals; DOAJ database; Scholarly communication; Journal citation report.*

Introduction:

The Directory of Open Access Journals was launched in 2003 at Lund University, Sweden, with 300 open access journals and today contains more than 10000 open access journals covering all areas of science, technology, medicine, social science and humanities. DOAJ is a community curates list of reputable open access journals and aims to be the starting point for all information searches for quality, peer reviewed open access material. To assist libraries and indexers keep their lists up-to-date, we make public a list of journals that have been accepted into or removed from DOAJ but we will not discuss the details of an application with anyone apart from the applicant. Neither will we discuss individual publishers or applications with members of the public unless we believe that, by doing so, we will be making a positive contribution to the open access community.

The open access journal publishers are willing to provide access to the internet users freely. Authors felt that publishing through the traditional publishing house, gets lot of hurdles like time to taken for publishing, pay per page charges, copy rights, reprint charges,

etc. The research work can be accessed by giving the opportunities to many byway of open access. Open access publications are not free of cost or cheaper than traditional scholarly communication.

Review of Literature:

Tamizhchelvan M and Dhanavandan S (2014) ^[1] this study presents the open access journals in the South Asian countries which have participated / registered with Directory of Open Access Journal. The Open Access (OA) publishing is well accepted mode of publications. Academicians, scholars and researchers have been accepted and contributed their contributions to Open Access publishing mode. There are more than 124 countries registered in DOAJ. In this direction, an attempt has been made to study the contribution of open access journals in directory of open access journal has been analyzed for South Asian Countries. Morrison H. et al. (2015)^[2] in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) listed close to ten thousand fully open access, peer reviewed, scholarly journals. Most of these journals do not charge article processing charges (APCs). This article reports the results of a survey of the 2567 journals, or 26% of journals listed in DOAJ, that do have APCs based on a sample of 1432 of these journals. Nashipudi M and Ravi B (2015)^[3] in their study made an attempt to measure quantitatively the scholarly journals contributed to the universe of knowledge which were produced with full immediate Open Access (OA) from 2003 to 2013. A survey of the open access journals indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) was carried out for this study. India has reached to about 197 journals which show a growth of 15 times the amount of scholarly literature published from India in a year. Kuri, R. (2014) ^[4] Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) makes and analysis of DOAJ provides access to quality controlled Open Access Journals. The aim of the Directory is to increase the visibility and ease of use of open access scientific and scholarly journals thereby promoting their increased usage and impact. The DOAJ which lists the open access scientific and scholarly journals in various subject disciplines was selected to analyze the open access availability of the Library and Information Science discipline.

Objective of study:

- To examine the decade and year wise growth of OA social science journals
- To ascertain the country wise distribution of journals

- To find out different subject categories under social science
- To identify the leading publishers of OA social science journals in DOAJ
- To assess language-wise distribution of OA journals
- To find out article Processing Cost of different Social Science Journals
- To trace out licence terms of OA social science journals
- To discover full text formats of OA social science journals
- To identify peer review process

Methodology:

Some methods or techniques are essentials for successful conduct of any social investigation. Hence, method or techniques are used by the researchers in performing research operations. Research methodology is a way to systematically solve the research problem. In present study, a quantitative observation of secondary data has been followed. In order to have an in-depth study, the investigator found survey method suitable to analyse the growth and status of open access chemistry journals. To fulfil the objectives laid down above, the data was collected from online directory of open access journals i.e. DOAJ. Notably, the directory till 10th March, 2016 has listed 1069 journals across 80 countries in the subject “Social Science”. The data were extracted/ imported from the website in excel format and analysis was carried out on the basis of different parameters viz subject coverage, decade and year, country of origin, publisher, language, format and Indian contribution to OA journals

Growth of Social Science Journals in DOAJ:

Open Access to social science journals across the globe has slowly increased which is reflected from DOAJ. The following table presents the growth of these journals over the years since 2002 when only one journal was indexed.

Table- 1: Year wise analysis social science journals added on DOAJ

Year	Total number of Journals	% of Journals
2002	1	0.09
2003	29	2.71
2004	35	3.27
2005	59	5.51
2006	57	5.33
2007	47	4.39
2008	63	5.89
2009	52	4.86
2010	126	11.78
2011	140	13.09
2012	127	11.88
2013	237	22.17

2014	8	0.74
2015	62	5.79
2016	26	2.43
Total	1069	100

Table-1 revealed that the highest numbers of social science journals were added in DOAJ during 2010-13 in which 630 (58.9%) out of 1069 journals were added. The most productive year in terms of populating journals in DOAJ was 2013 when 237 (22.17%) journals were included. The second highest number of social science journal added in the year 2011(13.09%) followed by 2012 (11.88%) and 2010 (11.78).

Article Processing Cost of Social Science Journals:

Open Access journals publishing adopted a new model with authors paying the article processing cost (APC) of the journals for free access by the end users. APC also known as publication fee is a fee sometimes charged to authors to publish an article in an academic journal. It is very common to open access journals may be hybrid or fully open, or sometimes to closed journals too. Here, in this segment a list of journal-wise APCs have been provided in the concerned country's currency as well as in Indian currency. The analysis of data relating to social science journals in DOAJ exhibits that 26 (2.4%) out of 1069 journals have been charging APC from the authors. The APC of social journals ranged between Rs. 83000 to Rs. 800.

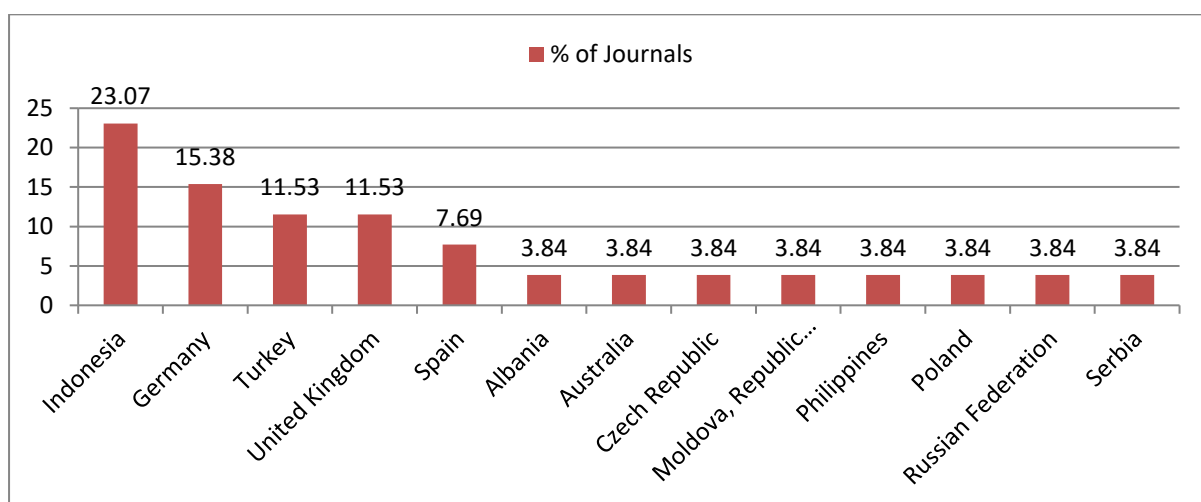
Table -2: OA Social Science journals with Article Processing Cost (APC) on DOAJ

Sl. No	Name of Journals	Country	APC in original currency	APC in Indian Currency
1.	Cogent Business & Management	United Kingdom	1250 USD - US Dollar	82775
2.	Cogent Social Sciences	United Kingdom	1250 USD - US Dollar	82775
3.	Earth Perspectives -- Transdisciplinarity Enabled	Germany	1050 EUR - Euro	79067.02
4.	Infrastructure Complexity	Germany	1000 EUR - Euro	75301.92
5.	Palgrave Communications	United Kingdom	750 GBP - Pound Sterling	71419.1
6.	Health & Justice	Germany	885 EUR - Euro	66642.2
7.	Brazilian Journal of Science and Technology	Germany	500 EUR - Euro	37642.95
8.	Eurasian Journal of Economics and Finance	Turkey	200 EUR - Euro	15057.18
9.	Eurasian Journal of Social Sciences	Turkey	200 EUR - Euro	15057.18
10.	Journal of Industrial Engineering and Management	Spain	200 EUR - Euro	15057.18
11.	Academic Journal of Business, Administration, Law and Social Sciences	Albania	150 EUR - Euro	11292.88

12.	3C Empresa	Spain	146 EUR - Euro	10991.74
13.	OeconomiaCopernicana	Poland	600 PLN - Zloty	10540.7
14.	Evropejskij IssledovatelĖ ¹	Russian Federation	140 USD - US Dollar	9266.66
15.	International Journal of Finance & Banking Studies	Turkey	100 EUR - Euro	7531.68
16.	European Countryside	Czech Republic	95 EUR - Euro	7155.1
17.	International Journal of Education and Literacy Studies	Australia	120 AUD - Australian Dollar	6215.41
18.	Ekonomika	Serbia	80 EUR - Euro	6025.34
19.	Asia Pacific Journal of Multidisciplinary Research	Philippines	70 USD - US Dollar	4635.78
20.	Al-Iqtishad: Jurnal Ilmu Ekonomi Syariah	Indonesia	50 USD - US Dollar	3311.27
21.	Wacana: Jurnal Sosial dan Humaniora	Indonesia	450000 IDR - Rupiah	2264.88
22.	Jurnal Pendidikan Humaniora	Indonesia	300000 IDR - Rupiah	1509.92
23.	E-Jurnal Kajian Budaya	Indonesia	20 USD - US Dollar	1324.51
24.	Harmoni Sosial: Jurnal Pendidikan IPS	Indonesia	200000 IDR - Rupiah	1006.61
25.	Studia Universitatis Moldaviae: Stiinte Sociale	Moldova	250 MDL - Moldovan Leu	843.23
26.	Economica	Indonesia	150000 IDR - Rupiah	754.96

From Table-2 it is very much clear that social science journals from UK have highest APC of Rs. 82775 in Indian currency followed by journals from Germany. Indonesia has highest number of 6 journals which levied APC for publication followed by Germany (4), United Kingdom (3) and Turkey (3).

Figure-1: Country wise distribution of OA Social Science journals with Article Processing Cost (APC) on DOAJ



It can easily be concluded from the data shown in the above table that Indonesia contributes highest number of journals (23.07 %) which charges APC. Countries like Albania, Australia, Czech Republic, Moldova, Republic, Philippines, Poland, Russian Federation and Serbia share the least position with a 3.84% of journals.

Authors holding copyright without restrictions:

Copyright becomes a crucial issue in case of open accessibility of the content is concerned. The publishers of the commercial journals usually impose copyright as a device to restrict the usage of the content freely by the people. In contrast, many of the OA journals permit authors to hold complete copyright of the journal articles without transferring the same to the publishers. This would promote the free accessibility of the journal content.

Figure-2: OA Social Science Journals with author holding copyright without restrictions

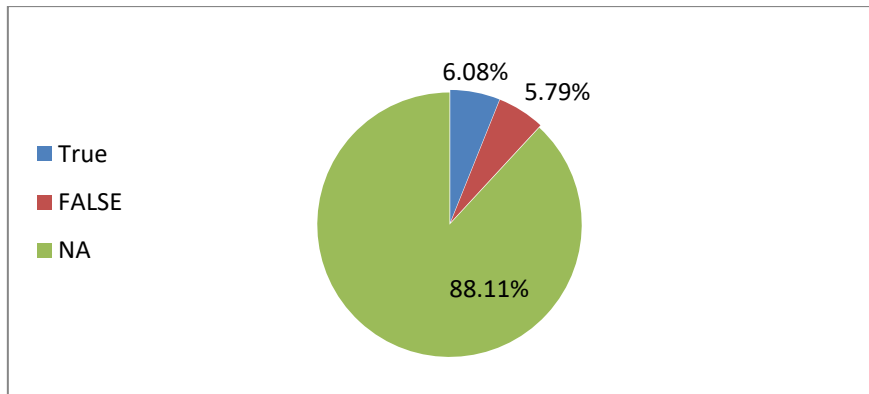
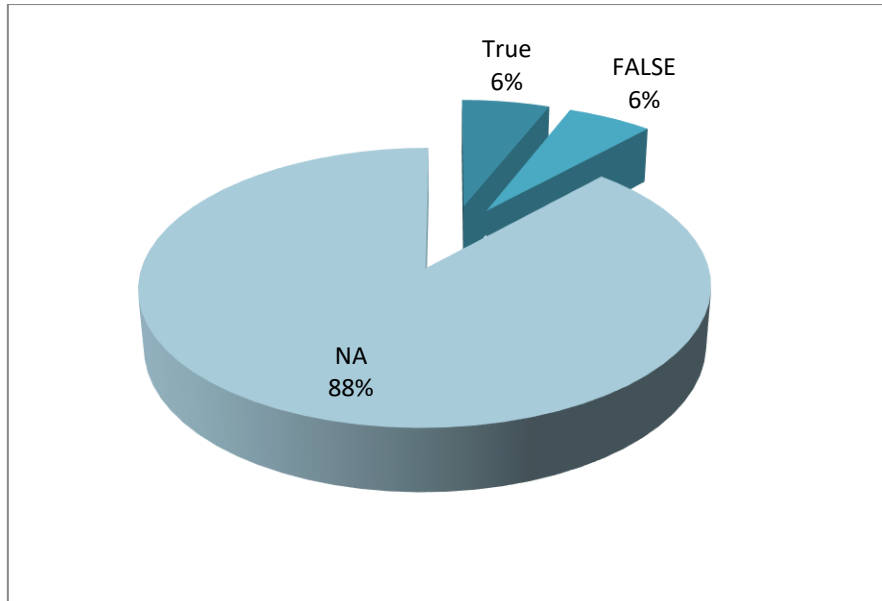


Figure-2 reflects that only 6.08% of OA social science journals have bestowed copy right with the authors, on the other hand 5.79% of journals don't have copyright of author and rest of the 88.11% numbers of journals have not mentioned their copyright policy in clear terms.

Publishing rights without restrictions:

Publishing right permits the journals to be reproduced without any restriction. From below figure-3 shows that 6% of journals are have publishing right without any restriction from the publisher side, also 6% indicated not to have publishing rights and rest 88% numbers of journals have not mentioned anything against their publishing rights.

Figure -3: OA Social Science Journals with publishing rights without restrictions



Country wise distribution of OA Social Science Journals:

It is already perceived that OA has been practiced differently in different countries. Some countries have shown a lot of faith in OA and participating highly in the transaction of open access scholarly content. In the present study, an account of OA journals contributed by different nations has been assessed.

Table –3: Country wise distribution of OA Journals in Social Science indexed in DOAJ

S.L. No	Countries	No. of Publishers	% of Publishers
1	Brazil	141	13.18
2	United States	104	9.72
3	Spain	84	7.85
4	Romania	62	5.79
5	Germany	44	4.11
6	Colombia	42	3.92
7	Turkey	38	3.55
8	Canada	35	3.27
9	Mexico	35	3.27
10	France	34	3.18
11	United Kingdom	33	3.08
12	Argentina	29	2.71
13	India	24	2.24
14	Chile	21	1.96
15	Indonesia	20	1.87
16	Poland	20	1.87
17	Australia	19	1.77
18	Croatia	19	1.77
19	Italy	18	1.68
20	Czech Republic	16	1.49
21	Pakistan	15	1.40
22	Venezuela	14	1.30

23	Russian Federation	10	0.93
24	Serbia	10	0.93
25	Switzerland	9	0.84
26	Ukraine	9	0.84
27	Malaysia	8	0.74
28	Portugal	8	0.74
29	South Africa	8	0.74
30	Denmark	7	0.65
31	Finland	7	0.65
32	Iran,	7	0.65
33	Netherlands	7	0.65
34	Lithuania	6	0.56
35	Slovenia	6	0.56
36	Sweden	6	0.56
37	Austria	5	0.46
38	Costa Rica	5	0.46
39	Norway	5	0.46
40	Peru	5	0.46
41	Ecuador	4	0.37
42	Greece	4	0.37
43	Macedonia,	4	0.37
44	Nigeria	4	0.37
45	Singapore	4	0.37
46	Slovakia	4	0.37
47	Bosnia and Herzegovina	3	0.28
48	Hungary	3	0.28
49	Philippines	3	0.28
50	United Arab Emirates	3	0.28
51	Albania	2	0.18
52	Belgium	2	0.18
53	Bolivia, State of	2	0.18
54	Egypt	2	0.18
55	Ireland	2	0.18
56	Japan	2	0.18
57	Moldova,	2	0.18
58	New Zealand	2	0.18
59	Azerbaijan	1	0.09
60	Bhutan	1	0.09
61	China	1	0.09
62	Cuba	1	0.09
63	Dominican	1	0.09
64	Estonia	1	0.09
65	Guatemala	1	0.09
66	Hong Kong	1	0.09
67	Iceland	1	0.09
68	Israel	1	0.09
69	Kenya	1	0.09
70	Kyrgyzstan	1	0.09
71	Luxembourg	1	0.09
72	Montenegro	1	0.09
73	Nepal	1	0.09
74	Oman	1	0.09
75	Puerto Rico	1	0.09

76	Sri Lanka	1	0.09
77	Taiwan,	1	0.09
78	Thailand	1	0.09
79	Uruguay	1	0.09
80	Moldova	1	0.09
Total		1069	100

Table-3 reveals that 80 countries have contributed OA social science journals to DOAJ platform. The top five countries alone contribute more than 57% of these journals. Brazil contributes highest number of 141 (13.18%) journals followed by United States 104 (9.72%), and Spain 84 (7.85%). India is placed at 13th rank with 24 journals.

File formats of full text articles:

File formats of the journal papers is also an important indicator for the quality and accessibility of the OA Journals. As per the present practice, many e-journals include multiple file formats keeping their usage and accessibility. The OA social science journals in DOAJ indicated to have the following formats as reflected in the table below.

Table-4: Full text file formats of OA Social Science Journals on DOAJ

File format	Nos. of Journals	Percentage
PDF	96	8.9
PDF,HTML	27	2.5
PDF, HTML, XML	3	0.28
PDF, XML	1	0.09
NA	942	88.1

DOAJ have different types of file format of journals as reflected in table-4 which shows that out of 1069 journals only 127 journal metadata contains the file format information. Out of 127 journals, 96(8.9%) journals have PDF Formats, 27 (2.5%) numbers of journals have PDF,HTML Formats , 3(0.28%) numbers have PDF, HTML, XML Formats and 1(0.09%) has PDF, XML Formats for their full text.

Language wise distribution of OA Social Science Journals:

DOAJ Directory indexed journals in multiple languages. Table-5 given below discloses the lingual status of OA social science journals. Out of 127 journals which contain language information in their metadata, highest no of journals 15 (24.59%) are in English language followed by Spanish 14 (22.95%), and Portuguese 11 (18.3%).

Table -5: Language wise distribution of OA Social Science journals

Languages	No Of Journals	% of Journals
English	15	24.59
Spanish; Castilian	14	22.95
Portuguese, Spanish; Castilian	11	18.03
Turkish	5	8.19
Russian	4	6.55
Serbian	4	4.91
German	3	3.27
Portuguese, Galician	1	1.63
Portuguese, Italian	1	1.63
Portuguese, Italian, French	1	1.63
Russian	2	1.63
Thai	1	1.63
Total	61	100

License terms of OA Social Science Journals:

The current version of DOAJ allows publishers to supply license information at the journal level. Because some journals have different licenses from one article to another, the publishers are asked to supply only the most restrictive license. However, DOAJ management is working to give greater granularity to license information. In the present study, the analysis shows that out of 1069 journals only 400 journals have indicated their creative common licensing types as reflected in the table below:

Table- 6: License terms of OA Social Science Journals on DOAJ

Type of license	No. of Journals	% of Journals
CC BY	162	40.5
CC BY-NC	85	21.25
CC BY-NC-ND	98	24.5
CC BY-NC-SA	30	7.5
CC BY-ND	6	1.5
CC BY-SA	12	3
Not CC-like	6	1.5
Total	400	100

Table- 6 mentions here 400 numbers of journals carry different license terms. Out of 400 journals 162 (40.5%) carry CC BY (Attribution only), 85 (21.25%) are carry CC BY-NC (attribution-Non Commercial), 98(24.5%) carry CC BY-NC-ND (attribution-Non Commercial-Non Derivative), 30(7.5%) are coming under CC BY-NC-SA (attribution-Non Commercial-Non Derivative-Share Alike) types License, 6(1.5%) numbers of journals carry CC BY-ND, 12(1.5%) are carry CC BY-SA and 6(1.5%) carry Not CC-like.

Peer Review of OA Social Science Journals:

Scholarly peer review is the process of subjecting an author's scholarly work, research, or ideas to the scrutiny of others who are experts in the same field, before a paper describing this work is published in a journal or as a book. The peer review helps the publisher (that is, the editor-in-chief or the editorial board) decide whether the work should be accepted, considered acceptable with revisions, or rejected. Peer review is generally considered necessary to academic quality and is used in most major scientific journals. Traditionally, peer reviewers have been anonymous, but there is currently a significant amount of *open peer review*, where the comments are visible to readers, generally with the identities of the peer reviewers disclosed as well.

In the present study, OA journals in social science have indicated different types of peer review process involved in their publications as reflected in the table below. Out of 1069 journals, only 127 (11.9%) have peer review system.

Table – 7: Peer reviewed OA Social Science Journals on DOAJ

Types of review journals	No. of Journals	% of journals
Double blind peer review	75	59.05
Peer review	25	19.68
Blind peer review	22	17.32
Open peer review	4	3.14
Editorial review	1	0.78
Total	127	100

Figure – 4: Peer reviewed OA Social Science Journals on DOAJ

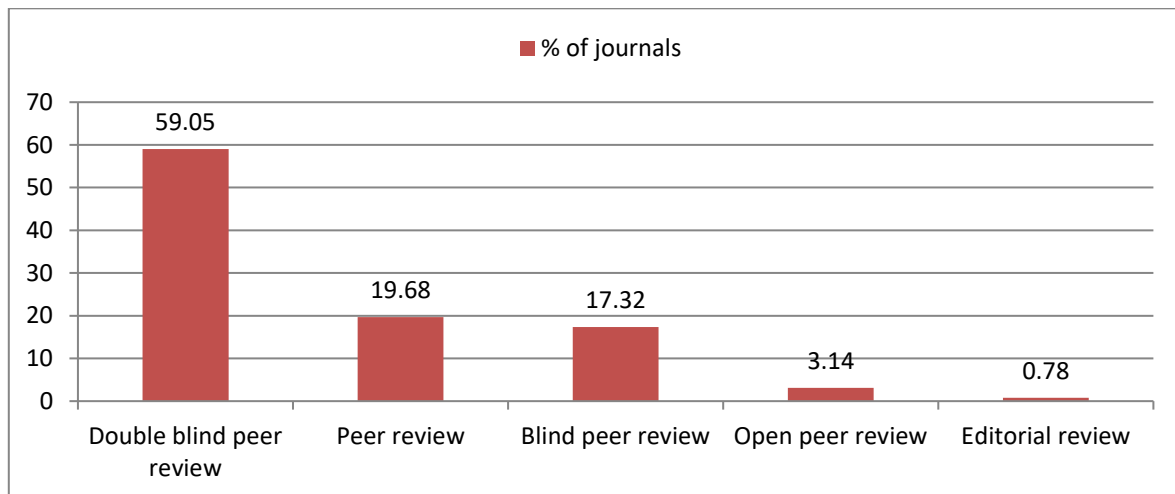


Table-7 and Figure-4 shows out of 127 Open Access Social Science journals 75(59.05%) are Double blind peer review, where the reviewers' and the authors' information are not disclosed to each other. 25(19.68) journals follow simple Peer review, 22(17.32%) Blind peer review where the reviewer does not know the authors information, 4 (3.14%) Open peer review where both the author and reviewer information are disclosed to each other, only 1(0.78%) journal involves Editorial Review where the editor reviews the work.

Subject wise distribution of OA social science journals:

The subject social science has been further sub-categorized into 16 subjects including Commerce, Communities, Finance, Sociology, Statistics, Transportation and communication, etc. The following table carries a detail analysis of subject wise distribution of social science journals.

Table-8: Subject wise distribution of Open Access Social Science Journals in DOAJ

Subject Category	Nos. of Journals	Percentage
Social sciences (General)	293	27.40
Economic Theory and conditions	243	22.73
Commerce	188	17.58
Sociology (General)	80	7.48
Social pathology. Social and public welfare. Criminology	45	4.20
Family. Marriage. Woman	27	2.52
Finance	24	2.24
Statistics	16	1.49
Communities. Classes. Races	15	1.40
Social history and conditions. Social problems. Social reform	15	1.40
Language and Literature	13	1.21
Political science	13	1.21
Technology	13	1.21
Geography. Anthropology.	12	1.12
Philosophy. Psychology. Religion	12	1.12
Education	10	0.93
Transportation and communications	10	0.93
History (General) and history of Europe	7	0.65
Science	7	0.65
General Works	6	0.56
Law	5	0.46
Medicine	5	0.46
Fine Arts	4	0.46
Bibliography. Library science	3	0.28
Agriculture	2	0.18
Music	1	0.09
Total	1069	100

Table-8 describes Subject wise distribution of OA Social Science Journals in DOAJ. it was found that the highest number of social science journals added in DOAJ under subject Social sciences (General) with 293 (27.40%) journals followed by Economics with 243 (22.73%) and Commerce with 188 (17.58%) journals. The lowest number of social science journals added in DOAJ in the subject under Music with only 1 journal.

Table-9: Year wise distribution of Social Science journals from India added on DOAJ

Year	Nos. of Journals added in DOAJ	Percentage
2004	1	4.2
2005	2	8.3
2006	1	4.2
2007	1	4.2
2009	1	4.2
2010	6	25
2011	7	29.1
2012	4	16.7
2013	1	4.2
Total	24	100

Table-5: Year wise distribution of Social Science journals from India added on DOAJ

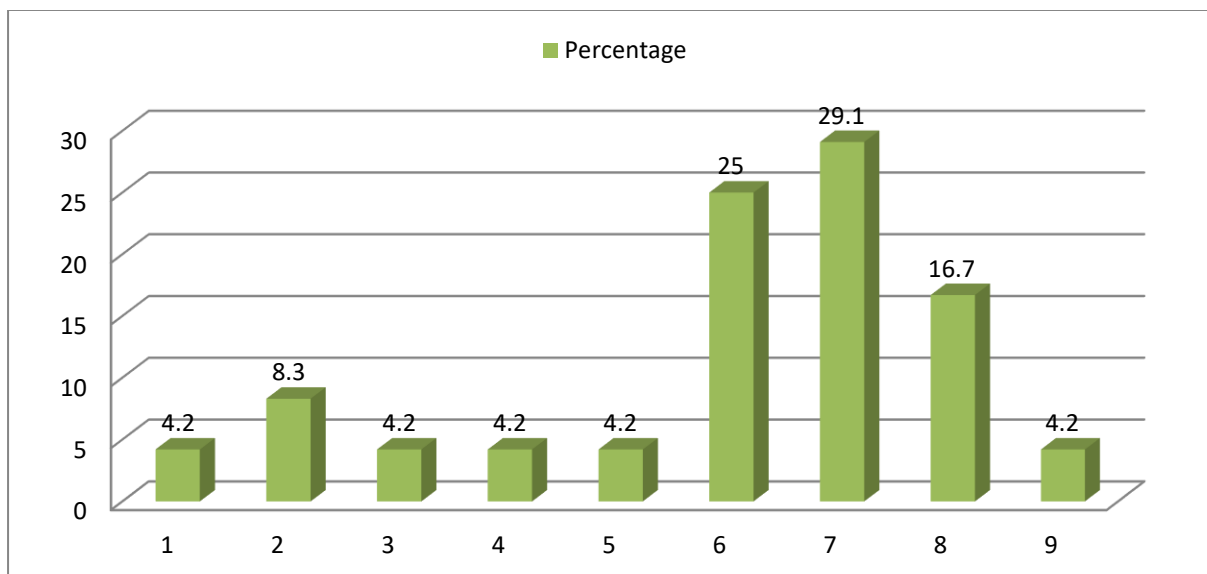


Table 9 and figure 5, here showing Year wise distribution of Social Science journals from India added on DOAJ. Firstly here found that highest number of social science journals from India distribution in the year 2011(29.1) the highest 7 number of journals.

Findings:

As a result a systematic analysis of data obtained for the present study in the previous chapters, the researcher observes the following findings about the Open Access Social science Journals Indexed in DOAJ: A Critical Analysis;

- i. Year wise analysis social science journals added on DOAJ highest numbers of social science journals were added in DOAJ during 2010-13 in which 630 (58.9%) out of 1069 journals were added. The most productive year in terms of populating journals in DOAJ was 2013 when 237 (22.17%) journals were included. The second highest number of social science journal added in the year 2011(13.09%) followed by 2012 (11.88%) and 2010 (11.78).
- ii. Open Access Social Science journals with Article Processing Cost (APC) on DOAJ analysis of data relating to social science journals in DOAJ exhibits that 26 (2.4%) out of 1069 journals have been charging APC from the authors. The APC of social journals ranged between Rs. 83000 to Rs. 800.
- iii. Country wise distribution of OA Social Science journals with Article Processing Cost (APC) on DOAJ that social science journals from UK have highest APC of Rs. 82775 in Indian currency followed by journals from Germany. Indonesia has highest number of 6 journals which levied APC for publication followed by Germany (4), United Kingdom (3) and Turkey (3).
- iv. OA Social Science Journals with publishing rights without restrictions that Indonesia contributes highest number of journals (23.07 %) which charges APC. Countries like Albania, Australia, Czech Republic, Moldova, Republic, Philippines, Poland, Russian Federation and Serbia share the least position with a 3.84% of journals.
- v. OA Social Science Journals with author holding copyright without restrictions 6.08% of OA social science journals have bestowed copy right with the authors, on the other hand 5.79% of journals don't have copyright of author and rest of the 88.11% numbers of journals have not mentioned their copyright policy.
- vi. OA Social Science Journals with publishing rights without restrictions 6% of journals are have publishing right without any restriction from the publisher side, also 6% indicated not to have publishing rights and rest 88% numbers of journals have not mentioned anything against their publishing rights.

- vii. OA social science journals to DOAJ platform top five countries alone contribute more than 57% of these journals. Brazil contributes highest number of 141 (13.18%) journals followed by United States 104 (9.72%), and Spain 84 (7.85%). India is placed at 13th rank with 24 journals.
- viii. Highest number of Open access social science journals indexed in DOAJ are from Brazil followed by United States 104 (16.8%), Spain 84 (13.57%), Romania 62 (10.01%) respectively.
- ix. Total 1069 journals only 127 journal metadata contains the file format information. Out of 127 journals, 96(8.9%) journals have PDF Formats, 27 (2.5%) numbers of journals have PDF,HTML Formats , 3(0.28%) numbers have PDF, HTML, XML Formats and 1(0.09%) has PDF, XML Formats for their full text on DOAJ.
- x. Language status of OA social science journals. Out of 127 journals which contain language information in their metadata, highest no of journals 15 (24.59%) are in English language followed by Spanish 14 (22.95%), and Portuguese 11 (18.3%).
- xi. It was found that 400 numbers of journals carry different license terms. Out of 400 journals 162 (40.5%) carry CC BY (Attribution only), 85 (21.25%) are carry CC BY-NC (attribution-Non Commercial), 98(24.5%) carry CC BY-NC-ND (attribution-Non Commercial-Non Derivative), 30(7.5%) are coming under CC BY-NC-SA (attribution-Non Commercial-Non Derivative-Share Alike) types License, 6(1.5%) numbers of journals carry CC BY-ND,12(1.5%) are carry CC BY-SA and 6(1.5%) carry Not CC-like.
- xii. 127 Open Access Social Science journals 75(59.05%) are Double blind peer review, where the reviewers' and the authors' information are not disclosed to each other. 25(19.68) journals follow simple Peer review, 22(17.32%) Blind peer review where the reviewer does not know the authors information,4 (3.14%) Open peer review where both the author and reviewer information are disclosed to each other, only 1(0.78%) journal involves Editorial Review where the editor reviews the work.
- xiii. Distribution of OA Social Science Journals in DOAJ. it was found that the highest number of social science journals added in DOAJ under subject Social sciences (General) with 293 (27.40%) journals followed by Economics with 243 (22.73%) and Commerce with 188 (17.58%) journals.

- xiv. Year wise distribution of Social Science journals from India added on DOAJ. Firstly here found that highest number of social science journals from India distribution in the year 2011(29.1) the highest 7 number of journals.

Suggestions:

On the basis of the analysis of data and generalization of the findings in the preceding chapter, the following suggestions are structured.

- i. Open access journals should be free for all without any cost and every discipline of journal/articles from DOAJ.
- ii. More and more journals on DOAJ should have CC-BY license terms for greater accessibility.
- iii. The system of peer review should be introduced by more and more journals indexed under DOAJ.
- iv. Language should be English language where as the users will get proper information from DOAJ.

Conclusion:

The Directory of Open Access Journals is a significant resource. DOAJ has developed a well-deserved reputation for quality, and is the world's most authoritative list of fully Open Access, peer-reviewed titles. The size of the title list in DOAJ is very impressive, and compares favourably with commercial options. DOAJ is growing dramatically. The service provided by DOAJ is so obviously important and the membership fees such an incredible bargain, that it seems highly likely that ongoing economic security will be a reality for DOAJ in the not too distant future. Libraries, consortia, universities, and research centres should consider membership vendors serving the library community are well advised to consider DOAJ membership or sponsorship. It also overlaps and lists more than 30% of each of the conventional social science databases' social science OA journal, and has the largest proportion of uniquely listed social science OA journals among the studied databases.. However, less than half of the listed journals have current content indexed in DOAJ. The conventional social science databases each around 50% of relevant social science OA journals and their inclusion of the OA journals listed in DOAJ is sparse and unevenly distributed among the databases

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