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Research trends on law subject during 2005 – 2019: A biblio-profile

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Abstract:

This study aims to evaluate the research productivity published in fifteen law journals. Data of the survey downloaded from the Scopus-Elsevier database, store, and tabulated in MS Excel to determine the frequency of printed documents, and figure out the number of articles, conference papers, editorials, erratum, letters, notes, review articles, and short surveys yearly. Total 8789 documents published in fifteen law journals from 2005 - 2019, the 6483; 74% of documents published in article format, followed by review 1372; 16%, and note 387; 4%. The Journal of Advanced Research in Law and Economics published 1240; 14.1%, documents as maximum, and minimum 235; 2.6% by American Law and Economics Review journals. The research productivity of 8789 documents shows that these fifteen law journals published 586 documents annually and 1.6 papers daily. This colossal contribution of law personals indicated the attachment, affiliation, and association with thinking ideas for society's betterment.

Key words: Law, academic research, law journals, bibliometrics, documents.

Introduction and literature review: Scholars of any discipline create, preserve, and communicate their ideas and thoughts in intellectual terms and places on journals that affiliated with the academic world. Zarosylo, V.O., et al. (2018) thanked that education developed instincts in human beings as a spiritual substance, support abilities in intellectual thoughts, and qualitative approaches with rethinking's in sociocultural conditions. With this approach, LaPlaca, P., et al (2018) focused and support researchers to write significantly to improve their scripts for approval in publications. They suggested that their writings must be purposed to readers of the disciplines, sketching the references, applied knowledge in the discussion, and justified their answers of hypotheses.

Academic conferences provide spaces to discuss new ideas, questions, and solutions by researchers. Before presenting in the forum, every document scrutinizes, evaluates, and reviews carefully for acceptance by a group of scholars during a precise time. In 1999, Rowley-Jolivet, E. (1999), claimed that conference papers played a vital role in academic writings because reading research in front of audiences gets a prompt response. That reaction helps in redesign the structure of disciplines, facts, knowledge, and process of reasoning.

Tan, Z.-Y., et al. (2019) present a paper on quality of journals and the ratio of submissions, process of review, and acceptance of manuscripts at ACM International Conference Proceedings Series, Donghua University, Shanghai, China. The journal's overall standard grows steadily when it receives submissions according to the journal's requirements that published the research paper. Wilhite, A., et al. (2019) discussed the role of editorials in the corporation and interconnected with the development of journal impact factor; effective policy of editors tied content of script with the system of journal associate with one discipline or multidiscipline.

Lin, W.-Y.C. (2020) pointed out editors' efforts in identifications of self-plagiarisms and their effect on scholarly works of literature submitted for publications by researchers from 1990 - 2015. Editors categorized this problem into; harm of copy wright, overlapping, and detection-software, and suggested drawing consideration extent of devotion to re-read, recheck, and analyze the manuscript by authors. Erratum is an error in writings and printings, pointed by writer, editor, publisher, and or a reader to rectify the mistake, misconduct, or disinformation communicate to a community of receivers, readers, and achievers.

The bibliometric study facilitates researchers in gauging the ratio of development, progress, growth of intellectual ideas, thoughts, and the making of law and litigations in the discipline. In addition, bibliometric can help evaluate the numerical strength of published literature on a specific word, term, subject, institute, and country. Lv, H. (2017) assessed the out-put in research on global law and psychiatry published from 1993 – 2012. The data acquired from the Web of Science (WoS) database; to analyze the frequency of research, an association of authors and institutes, and the most productive journal in means published global law and psychiatry. Alhibshi, A.H. et al. (2020) conducted a study on research in neurosciences limiting to Saudi Arabia, published in journals affiliated with Scopus-Elsevier database from 2013 - 2018. This study found that analysis in terms of original articles associated with old and new institutes rise and increased from 123 to 332 in the studied period.

Methods: The frequency of data of documents, associated with the discipline of law, published in fifteen law journals enlisted in Scopus-Elsevier database from 2005 – 2019, download to analysis the yearly productivity of articles, conference papers, editorials, erratum, letters, notes, review articles, and short surveys, the list of journals:

1. American Journal of International Law.
2. American Law and Economics Review.
3. Frontiers of Law in China.
4. International Journal of Constitutional Law.
5. International Review of Law and Economics.
6. Journal of Law and Economics.
7. Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization.
8. Law Library Journal.

9. The European Journal of Law and Economics.
10. The European Law Journal.
11. The Harvard Law Review.
12. The Journal of Advanced Research in Law and Economics.
13. The Journal of International Economic Law.
14. The Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization, and
15. The quarterly Journal of Legal Education. Research data segregated into three spells: a) 2005 – 2009, b) 2010 – 2014, and c) 2015 – 2019.

Results: Figures 1 and table one shows that 8789 documents were published in fifteen law journals from 2005 – 2019. Articles 6483; 74% are top in publications, followed by review articles 1372; 16%, and notes 387; 4% out of total documents.

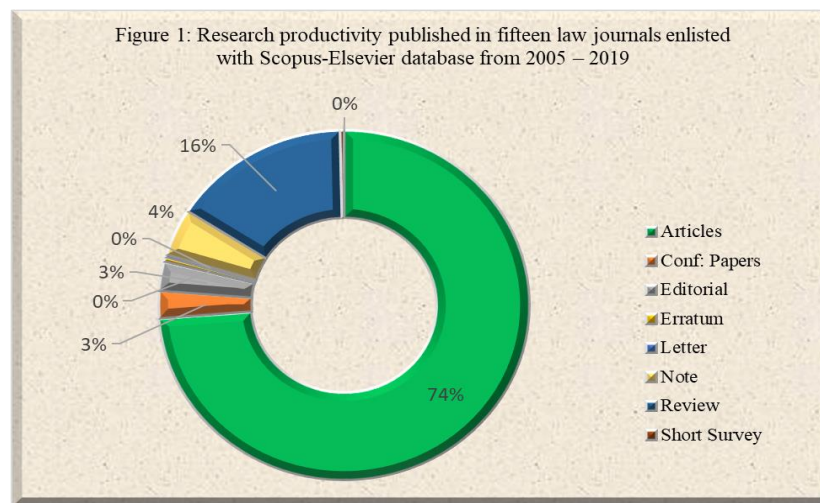


Table 1: Research productivity published in fifteen law journals enlisted with Scopus-Elsevier database from 2005 – 2019.

S. No	Name of Journal	Articles	Conference Papers	Editorial	Erratum	Letter	Note	Review	Short Survey	Total
1	American Journal of International Law.	189	4	7		11	28	281	22	542
2	American Law and Economics Review.	217		1	6			11		235
3	Frontiers of Law in China.	338		21			16	69	2	446
4	International Journal of Constitutional Law.	597	22	44	5	3	16	52		739
5	International Review of Law and Economics.	545	1	8	4	4		1		563
6	Journal of Law and Economics.	426	1	3	1			16		447
7	Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization.	302	8	7	2			56		375

8	Law Library Journal.	150	15	7	3	3	2	252	1	433
9	The European Journal of Law and Economics.	565	2	9	8			36		620
10	The European Law Journal	572		31	5		8	4		620
11	The Harvard Law Review	518	2	11		2	307	236		1076
12	The Journal of Advanced Research in Law and Economics.	1232						8		1240
13	The Journal of International Economic Law	308	45	23	1		1	144	1	523
14	The Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization	307	5	4	1			48		365
15	The quarterly Journal of Legal Education	217	116	59		2	9	158	4	565
16	Total	6483	221	235	36	25	387	1372	30	8789
17	Minimum	150	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	235
18	Maximum	1232	116	58	8	11	307	281	22	1240
19	Average	432.2	20	16.7	3.6	4.1	48	91.4	6	586

Table 2 is explaining the breakdown of publications of documents in three spells (each spell existing on five years) from 2005 – 2019 by fifteen law journals.

S. No	Table 2: Name of Journals	Documents								
		Articles	Conference Papers	Editorial	Erratum	Letter	Note	Review	Short Survey	Total
1	American Journal of International Law									
A	2005 - 2009	23		4		9	8	91	17	152 (28%)
B	2010 - 2014	97	1	2		1	6	54	5	166 (30.6%)
C	2015 - 2019	69	3	1		1	14	136		224 (41.3%)
		Total 542								
2	American Law and Economics Review									
A	2005 - 2009	69		1	2			10		82 (34.8%)
B	2010 - 2014	78			2					80 (34%)
C	2015 - 2019	70			2			1		73 (31%)
		Total 235								
3	Frontiers of Law in China.									
A	2006 - 2009	90					1	33		124 (27.8%)
B	2010 - 2014	145		3			8	13		169 (37.8%)
C	2015 - 2019	103		18			7	23	2	153 (34.3%)
		Total 446								

4	International Journal of Constitutional Law.									
A	2005 - 2009	121	22	6	4		6	11		170 (23%)
B	2010 - 2014	228		19	1	2	9			259 (35%)
C	2015 - 2019	248		19		1	1	41		310 (42%)
Total 739										
5	International Review of Law and Economics									
A	2005 - 2009	190		4	1		4	1		200 (35.5%)
B	2010 - 2014	149		2	2					153 (27.1%)
C	2015 - 2019	206	1	2	1					210 (37.3%)
Total 563										
6	Journal of Law and Economics.									
A	2005 - 2009	122	1					16		139 (31.1%)
B	2010 - 2014	168		1						169 (37.8%)
C	2015 - 2019	136		2	1					139 (31.1%)
Total 447										
7	Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization.									
A	2005 - 2009	71		2				34		107 (16.8%)
B	2010 - 2014	139		3	1			10		153 (24%)
C	2015 - 2019	92	8	2	1			12		375 (59%)
Total 635										
8	Law Library Journal.									
A	2005 - 2009	31	11	2	2	2	1	117	1	167 (38.5%)
B	2010 - 2014	84	2	4			1	64		155 (35.8%)
C	2015 - 2019	35	2	1	1	1		71		111 (25.6%)
Total 433										
9	The European Journal of Law and Economics.									
A	2005 - 2009	126	2	1	1			35		165 (26.6%)
B	2010 - 2014	229		2	5			1		237 (38.2%)
C	2015 - 2019	210		6	2					218 (35.1%)
Total 620										
10	The European Law Journal									
A	2005 - 2009	199		6			3	2		210 (33.8%)
B	2010 - 2014	195		7	3					205 (33%)
C	2015 - 2019	178		18	2		5	2		205 (33%)
Total 620										
11	The Harvard Law Review									
A	2005 - 2009	50	2				12	178		242 (22.4%)
B	2010 - 2014	202		3			135	57		397 (37%)
C	2015 - 2019	266		8		2	160	1		437 (40.6%)
Total 1076										
12	The Journal of Advanced Research in Law and Economics.									

A	2015 - 2019	1181						8		1189 (95.8%)
B	2011 - 2014	51								51 (4.1%)
Total 1240										
13	The Journal of International Economic Law									
A	2005 - 2009	68	16	6				70		160 (30.5%)
B	2010 - 2014	122	8	8	1		1	34		174 (33.2%)
C	2015 - 2019	118	21	9				40	1	189 (36.1%)
Total 523										
14	The Journal of Law, Economics, and Organization									
A	2005 - 2009	71		2					34	107 (28.5%)
B	2010 - 2014	139		3	1				10	153 (40.8%)
C	2015 - 2019	92	8	2	1				12	115 (30.6%)
Total 375										
15	The quarterly Journal of Legal Education									
A	2005 - 2009	57	23	20		2	1	72	2	177 (31.3%)
B	2010 - 2014	89	48	20		6		23	2	188 (33.2%)
C	2015 - 2019	71	45	19			2	63		200 (35.4%)
Total 565										

Discussion and Conclusion:

This study's limitation focused on research productivity published from 2005 – 2019 in fifteen law journals indexed in the Scopus-Elsevier database. All publication data for the analysis retrieved and divided into three yearly segments, and every component consists of five years. The first spell 2005 – 2009 of every journal (Except the Journal of Advanced Research in Law and Economics) published 3391; 38.5%), the second spell 2010 – 2014 contributed 2927; 33.3% of documents, and third spell 2015 – 2019 added 4148; 47.2% of papers out of 8789 papers.

Song, J. et al. (2020) conducted a study on publishing data of original articles in the field of Radiomics, published in PubMed affiliated journals from 2013 - 2018. The study evaluated 553 original articles with annual growth of 177.8%. Like this reference, Cooper I. D. (2015) discussed the basic components of original articles that what is going to investigate, how much known by the researcher through their hypothesis. Our study reveals that articles 2469; 38.3%, 2325; 35.8%, and 3075; 47.4%, out of 6483 published in fifteen law journals.

Cooper I. D. (2015) explained that an analysis conducted on previously published literature with specific, critical, and constructive comparisons shows the summary called review articles. In this analysis, review articles 678; 49.4%, 256; 18.6%, and 398; 29% got second position out of 1372 numbers. Shapiro, F. R., & Pearse, M. (2012) conducted a study of 100 well-cited of all times, and the last twenty years on law and litigation disciplines. The research in law and litigation enhances the knowledge, value, and impact of truth on society, ultimately developing the core values of responsibilities.

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