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## DOAJ Indexed Open Access Social Science Journals: An Evaluative Study

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### Abstract:

The primary purpose of this study is to provide a comprehensive view of social science open-access journals indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (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 in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). A total of 996 social science journals were selected from the DOAJ database available online at <http://www.doaj.org>. This study found Indonesia is the highest productive country Maximum number (139) of open-access Journals added to DOAJ in the year 2022, Most of the access social science journal publications are in English (45.39%) language.

**Key Words:** DOAJ, Social science Journals, Open Access journals.

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### Introduction:

Open access (OA) is an innovative way of providing access to scholarly journal literature through the Internet which has gained momentum in recent years. In the context of scholarly publishing, Open Access is a term that refers to unrestricted online access to articles published in scholarly journals. Generally, Open Access (OA) journals are freely available online. Open access (OA) has widened the possibilities both for disseminating one's research and at the same time accessing the research work of others.

### About DOAJ-

DOAJ is a unique and extensive index of diverse open-access journals from around the world, driven by a growing community, committed to ensuring quality content is freely available online for everyone. **The mission** of DOAJ is to increase the visibility, accessibility, reputation, usage, and impact of quality, peer-reviewed, open-access scholarly research journals globally, regardless of discipline, geography, or language. DOAJ is committed to being 100% independent and maintaining all of its primary services and metadata as free for everyone. **A vision** of DOAJ is that DOAJ works to build an equitable and diverse scholarly ecosystem where trusted research can be accessed globally without barriers. The Contribution of DOAJ is an independent, non-profit organization.

### Review of Literature:

**Maharana and Mishra** (2020) this study presents the Open-access social science journals indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). A total of 1069 social science journals were selected from the DOAJ database available online at <http://www.doaj.org>. This study found that

there are 630 social science journals out of 1069 were added during the period 2010-13 and year-wise distribution of Social Science journals from India added on DOAJ. Firstly, the highest number of social science journals from India was distributed in 2011(29.1) the highest 7 number of journals. **Bijayananda Pradhan** (2021) this study presents the open-access social science journals indexed in the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). A total number of social science journals 995 were selected for study this study found Indonesia is the highest productive country; 2012-16 is the most productive year and most of the journals were published under CC-BY license for the last ten years. **Rupak Chakravarty** (2022) this study presents the Adoption of open access in Social Science Journals: An Analytical Study of DOAJ. **Midhat Mehraj** and others (2019) study the Open Access Computer Science Journals in the DOAJ: An analytical study. The number of OA journals is increasing day by day showing a positive sign towards this concept. DOAJ has registered almost 168 journals in Computer Science/Electronic Computers, which are published by academic institutions, different organizations, varied societies, renowned research centers, and commercial publishers. Prominent publishers have taken part in OA publication of journals which belong to 51 Yes, 134 No, 34 FIG.2 DOAJ SEAL countries of the world and Indonesia tops the list followed by the United Kingdom and Romania. The journals in Computer science are published in 7 languages with English language being the most preferable one.

### Objectives of Studies:

1. To study the present status of social science Journals Indexed in DOAJ.

2. To know language coverage of social science Journals in DOAJ.
3. To study the year of publication of social science journals.
4. To examine the licensing mode of social science journals.
5. To study the country-wise distribution of social science journals.
6. To study peer-reviewed journals.

#### Scope and Limitation of the Study.

1. The present study is limited to social science journals indexed in DOAJ.
2. The present study is limited to the period up to 10 Nov. 2023.
3. The scope of the present study is 974 Journals.

**Research methodology:** The present data were collected by visiting the URL (<https://doaj.org/>) of DOAJ period coverage up to 10 Nov.2023. It was found that 996 Social science open access Journals have been listed under DOAJ After that, the retrieved data was tabulated and analyzed by using a simple percentage and presented in tabular and graphical form to represent the data.

#### Analysis and Interpretation of data:

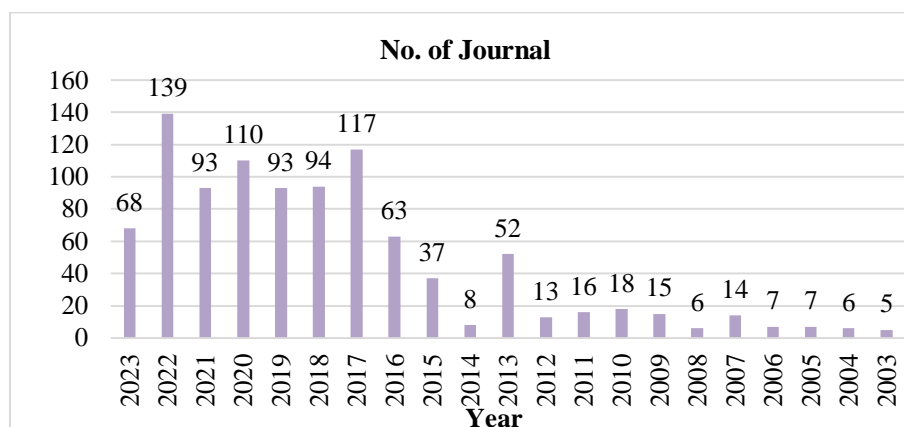
Keeping in view the above-mentioned objectives of the study the researcher first studied the 996 Open Access Social science E-Journals from DOAJ, and after analyzing the e-Journals in the field of Social science subject found in DOAJ, the following result has been prepared.

**Table no.1. Year-wise social science Journals added in DOAJ.**

SN	Publication Year	No. of Journal	Percentage
1	2023( As on 10/11/2023)	68	6.93
2	2022	139	14.17
3	2021	93	9.48
4	2020	110	11.21
5	2019	93	9.48
6	2018	94	9.58
7	2017	117	11.93
8	2016	63	6.42
9	2015	37	3.77
10	2014	08	0.82
11	2013	52	5.30
12	2012	13	1.33
13	2011	16	1.63
14	2010	18	1.83
15	2009	15	1.53
16	2008	06	0.61
17	2007	14	1.43
18	2006	07	0.71
19	2005	07	0.71
20	2004	06	0.61
21	2003	05	0.51
	<b>Total</b>	<b>981</b>	<b>100</b>

From the above Table no 01 it is found that the maximum number of 139 (14.71%) social science Open Access Journals were added to DOAJ during the year 2022. The second-highest journals

added 110 (11.21%) in the year 2020. Open-access journals added 117 (11.93%) in the year 2017 respectively. The lowest number of Social science journals was added in the year 2003 05(0.51%).



**Figure No. 01**

Table No.2. Country-wise distribution of Social Science Journals in DOAJ.

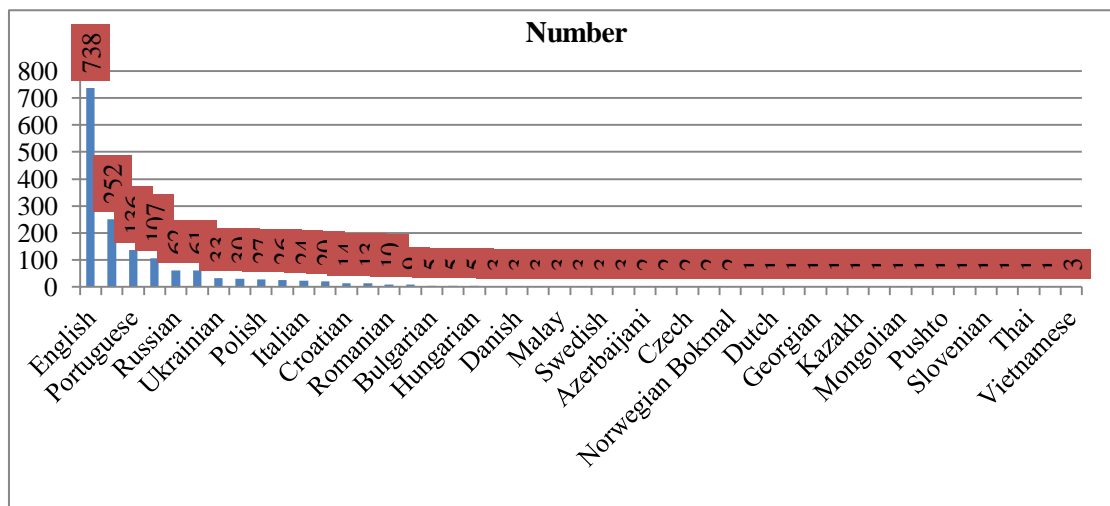
SN	Name of Country	Number	%	SN	Name of Country	Number	%
1	Indonesia	141	14.64	44	Albania	03	0.31
2	Brazil	86	8.93	45	China	03	0.31
3	Colombia	47	4.88	46	Costa Rica	03	0.31
4	Poland	46	4.78	47	Czechia	03	0.31
5	Romania	43	4.47	48	Morocco	03	0.31
6	United Kingdom	41	4.26	49	Slovakia	03	0.31
7	Turkey	38	3.95	50	Australia	02	0.21
8	Russian Federation	35	3.63	51	Bosnia & Herzegovina	02	0.21
9	Argentina	34	3.53	52	Egypt	02	0.21
10	Spain	39	4.05	53	Ethiopia	02	0.21
11	United State	33	3.43	54	Greece	02	0.21
12	Ukraine	32	3.32	55	Nicaragua	02	0.21
13	Mexico	31	3.22	56	North Mandeni	02	0.21
14	Italy	25	2.60	57	Paraguay	02	0.21
15	Croatia	16	1.66	58	Qatar	02	0.21
16	Iran, Islamic Republic	14	1.45	59	Singapore	02	0.21
17	Serbia	14	1.45	60	Slovenia	02	0.21
18	France	13	1.35	61	Taiwan Province of China	02	0.21
19	Chile	10	1.04	62	Uruguay	02	0.21
20	Hungary	10	1.04	63	Afghanistan	01	0.10
21	Pakistan	10	1.04	64	Angola	01	0.10
22	Switzerland	10	1.04	65	Belgium	01	0.10
23	Bulgaria	09	0.93	66	Bolivia's Pluractional state of	01	0.10
24	Cabada	09	0.93	67	Cordeliere	01	0.10
25	Ecuador	09	0.93	68	Dominican Republic	01	0.10
26	Netherland	09	0.93	69	Georgia	01	0.10
27	Peru	09	0.93	70	Iraq	01	0.10
28	Philippines	08	0.83	71	Japan	01	0.10
29	Cuba	07	0.73	72	Kazakhstan	01	0.10
30	Lithuania	07	0.73	73	Koria Republic	01	0.10
31	South Africa	07	0.73	74	Latvia	01	0.10
32	Venezuela Bolivarian Republic of	06	0.62	75	Mongolia	01	0.10
33	Austria	05	0.52	76	Montenegro	01	0.10
34	Finland	05	0.52	77	Nepal	01	0.10
35	India	05	0.52	78	Oman	01	0.10
36	Malaysia	05	0.52	79	Panama	01	0.10
37	Moldov Republic of	05	0.52	80	Syria Arab Republic	01	0.10
38	Portages	05	0.52	81	Thailand	01	0.10
39	Vietnam	05	0.52	82	Turkistan	01	0.10
40	Algeria	04	0.42		<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>963</b>	<b>100%</b>
41	Denmark	04	0.42				
42	Estonia	04	0.42				
43	Norway	04	0.42				

From the above table, no 02 reveals that a total of 82 countries contributed open-access social science journals to DOAJ. The top six countries contributed more in DOAJ out of which the maximum number of Open access journals in Social

science contributed by Indonesia 141 (14.64%), Brazil 86 (8.93%), Colombia 47 (4.88%), Poland 46 (4.78%), Romania 43(4.47%), United Kingdom 41(4.26%) respectively.

**Table No. 3. Publication Language of Open Access Social Science Journal in DOAJ.**

SN	Language	Number	%	SN	Language	Number	%
1	English	738	45.39	25	Swedish	03	0.18
2	Spanish	252	15.50	26	Terbang	03	0.18
3	Portuguese	136	8.36	27	Azerbaijani	02	0.12
4	Indonesian	107	6.58	28	Bosnian	02	0.12
5	Russian	62	3.81	29	Czech	02	0.12
6	French	61	3.75	30	Galician	02	0.12
7	Ukrainian	33	2.03	31	Norwegian Bokmal	02	0.12
8	Turkish	30	1.85	32	Belarusian	01	0.06
9	Polish	27	1.66	33	Dutch	01	0.06
10	German	26	1.60	34	Estonian	01	0.06
11	Italian	24	1.48	35	Georgian	01	0.06
12	Arabic	20	1.23	36	Hindi	01	0.06
13	Croatian	14	0.86	37	Kazakh	01	0.06
14	Persian	13	0.80	38	Modern Greek	01	0.06
15	Romanian	10	0.62	39	Mongolian	01	0.06
16	Serbian	09	0.55	40	Nepal	01	0.06
17	Bulgarian	05	0.31	41	Pushto	01	0.06
18	Catalan	05	0.31	42	Slovak	01	0.06
19	Hungarian	05	0.31	43	Slovenian	01	0.06
20	Chinese	03	0.18	44	Swahili	01	0.06
21	Danish	03	0.18	45	Thai	01	0.06
22	Lithuanian	03	0.18	46	Urdu	01	0.06
23	Malay	03	0.18	47	Vietnamese	03	0.18
24	Serbo-Croatians	03	0.18			0	0
					<b>Total</b>	<b>1626</b>	<b>100</b>

**Figure No.02**

From the above table no.3, it is found that most of the open-access journals are published in more than one language; hence the total publications of the journals are 1626. It is found that the maximum number of open-access social science

Journals is published in the English Language 738 (45.39%). And Spanish 252 (15.50%) Portuguese 136 (8.36%), Indonesian 107 (6.58%) Russian 62 (3.81%) respectively

**Table No. 04. License-wise distribution of Social Science Journals in DOAJ.**

SN	Type of License	Number	Percentage
1	CC-BY-	409	40.38
2	CC-BY-NC	181	17.87
3	CC-BY-NC-ND	192	18.95

4	CC-BY-NC-SA	123	12.14
5	CC-BY-ND	12	1.18
6	CC-BY-SA	79	7.80
7	CCO	01	0.10
8	Publishers Own License	16	1.58
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1013</b>	<b>100</b>

From the above table no. 04 it reveals that the maximum number of social science open-access journals are CC-BY License 409 (40.38%), CC-BY-NC License 181 (17.87%), CC-BY-NC-ND 192

(18.95%), CC-BY-NC-SA License 123 (12.14%), CC-BY –SA license 79 (7.80%) CC-BY-ND license 12 (1.18%) and CCO 01 (0.10%) and Publishers own License 16 (1.58%) respectively.

**Table No.5. Peer Review type Open Access Journals in DOAJ.**

S N	Peer Review Type Journals	Number	Percentage
1	Anonymous Peer Review	135	13.55
2	Double anonymous Peer Review	741	74.40
3	Educational Review	13	1.31
4	Open Peer Review	10	1.00
5	Peer Review	93	9.34
6	Post Publication Peer Review	03	0.30
7	Triple Blind Peer Review	01	0.10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>996</b>	<b>100</b>

From the above table no.5 reveals that peer reviews social science open access journals in DOAJ Double anonymous Peer Review 741 (74.41%) are maximum and Anonymous Peer Review 135 (13.55%), peer review 93 (9.34%), Educational Review 13 (1.31%), Open Peer Review 10(1.00%) respectively and Triple Blind Peer Review 1 (0.10%) is the lowest.

#### Findings:

1. From the above objectives and analysis of data it is found that country-wise contribution of open access social science journals in DOAJ Maximum contribution of Indonesia (14.17%) and other countries' contribution is much less as compared to Indonesia.

2. As we analyze Year year-wise contribution of open-access social science journals in DOAJ maximum journals were added in the year 2022 and very few journals were added in the year 2003.

3. A Maximum Number of open-access Social science journals is added in DOAJ in the year 2022(14.17%) and year 2017 (11.93%) respectively.

4. It is found that the maximum number of social science journals is published in the English language.

5. The License is contribution of open access (OA) social science journals in DOAJ are CC-BY is maximum (40.38%) whereas CC-BY-NC (17.87%) and CC-BY-NC-ND (18.95%) and others are below 15%. 5. It is found that Double anonymous Peer Review (74.40%) journals are maximum.

6. Peer review type open access Journals are Double anonymous peer review journals are

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maximum (74.40%) and triple-blind peer review are very less (0.10%) respectively.

#### Conclusions:

From the above study, it is concluded that the DOAJ is open access journals access by research scholars DOAJ (Directory of Open access journals) is a significant resource for researchers. The present study is open-access social science journals indexed in DOAJ. It has 82 countries contributed to publishing social science journals in 47 different languages and the maximum contribution of social science journals in the English language. About the license, CC-BY is the maximum license and Double Anonymous Peer Review is also the maximum. A maximum number of journals will be added to DOAJ during 2022.

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