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Dhule, Subhash Shankarrao, "EVALUATIVE STUDY OF OPEN ACCESS LAW JOURNALS IN DOAJ" (2021).

Library Philosophy and Practice (e-journal). 6233.

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EVALUATIVE STUDY OF OPEN ACCESS LAW JOURNALS IN DOAJ

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***Abstracts:** The present study is based on the data taken from the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), a database of fully open access peer-reviewed scholarly journals. The prime objective of the study is to explore quantitatively the inclusion of Law Journals from several perspectives. It is found that there are 626 Law journals indexed in DOAJ published from 62 countries in 38 different languages. While English is the dominant language of publication, 394 journals in the English language. The researcher also studies the types of the license of journals, and the maximum number of law journals published in the year 2017 and Double-Blind Peer review journals are more.*

Key Word: DOAJ, E-Journals, Law Subjects, Open Access Journals.

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. In the present study, DOAJ has 626 Law subjects open access journals with 62 countries of 38 languages, and maximum English languages journals are available in DOAJ up to 6th August. 2021.

Directory Of Open Access Journals (DOAJ) :

The DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals) was launched in 2003 with 300 open access journals. Today, this independent database contains over 16 500 peer-reviewed open access journals covering all areas of science, technology, medicine, social sciences, arts, and humanities. Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), maintained by Lund University Libraries in Sweden, provides directory service to the users of open access journals. DOAJ is considered the most comprehensive directory for peer-reviewed open access journals published worldwide. DOAJ is financially supported by many libraries, publishers, and other like-minded

organizations. Supporting DOAJ demonstrates a firm commitment to open access and the infrastructure that supports it.

Review of Literature

According to Reyaz Rufai, Sumeer Gul and Tariq Ahmad Shah (2011) explored the status of open access titles in the field of Library and Information Science (LIS). A systematic method for characterizing the open access titles in the field of Library and Information Science was carried out by analyzing the data from the Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ), Open J-Gate, and Ulrichsweb.com. The results clearly reveal an expounding growth of open access titles in the field of Library and Information Science. Pranali M. Petel, Vaishali P. Gudadhe (Choukhande) (2015) Evaluative Study Of Research Articles Published In Social Science Journal Available In Directory Of Open Access Journals Dr.B.Jeyapragash, A. Muthuraj & T. Rajkumar (2016) Research Publications In Open Access With Special Reference To Directory Of Open Access Journals (Doaj): An Analysis. Jyotshna Sahoo, Tuni Birtia, and Basudev Mohanty (2017) Open Access Journals in Library and Information Science: A Study on DOAJ in this study researcher studies the library and information science subject.

Objectives of the study

1. To study the present status of Law Journal in DOAJ.
2. To examine the licensing model of Law Journals in DOAJ.
3. To Know Language coverage of Law Journals in DOAJ.
4. To study the year of publication of Law journals.
5. To study the country-wise distribution of Law Journal in DOAJ.
6. To study Peer reviewed type of Journals.

Scope and limitation of the study

1. Present study is limited to Law subjects in DOAJ.
2. Present study is limited to up to 5 Aug.2021.
3. Scope of the present study is 626 Law Journals.

Research Methodology

The present data were collected by visiting the URL (<https://doaj.org/>) of DOAJ period coverage up to 08 August 2021. It is found that 626 Law 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 the view given the above-mentioned objectives of the study the researcher first study the 626 Open Access Law E-Journals from DOAJ and after analyzing the e-Journals in the field of LAW subject found in DOAJ, the following result has been prepared.

Table no.01 Country-wise distribution of Law Journals in DOAJ

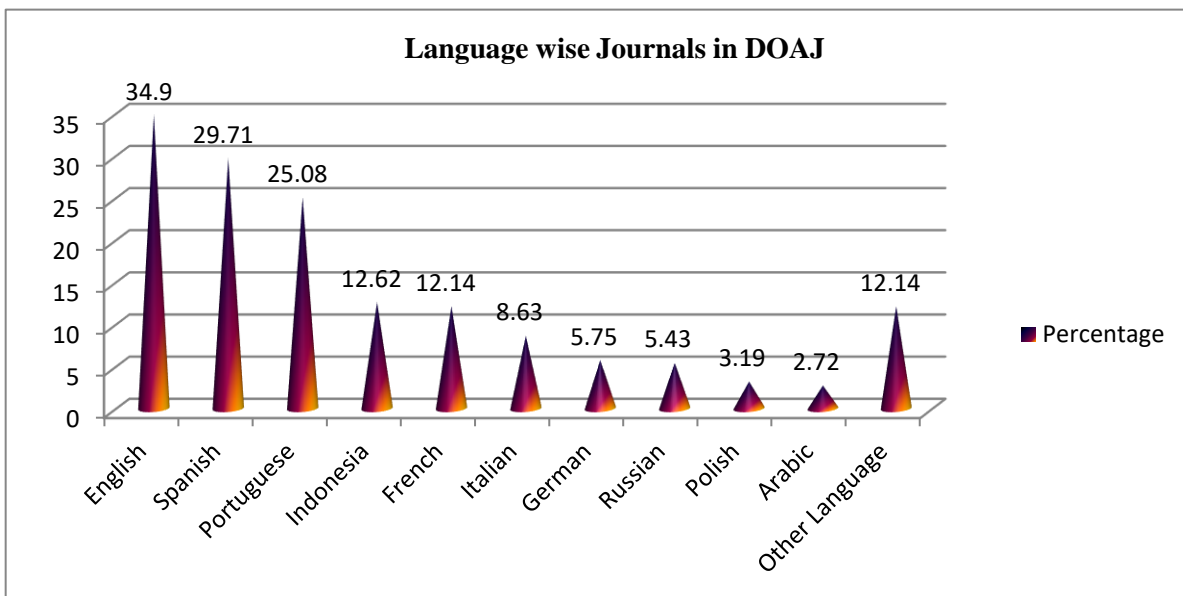
SN	Country-wise distribution	Number	Percentage
1	Brazil	128	20.45
2	Indonesia	98	15.65
3	Spain	47	7.51
4	Colombia	34	5.43
5	Poland	31	4.95
6	Italy	30	4.79
7	United Kingdom	28	4.47
8	Russian Federation	22	3.51
9	Romania	15	2.40
10	Ukraine	12	1.92
11	Iran, Islamic Republic	11	1.76
12	United State	11	1.76
13	Chile	10	1.60
14	Netherlands	10	1.60
15	2 Countries having, 9, Journals	18	2.88
16	2 Countries having, 8, Journals	16	2.56
17	Peru	7	1.12
18	5 Countries having 6 Journals	30	4.79
19	Mexico	5	0.80
20	2 countries having, 4, Journal	8	1.28
21	3 countries having ,3 ,Journals	9	1.44
22	14 countries having, 2,Journals	28	4.47
23	18 countries having ,1, Journals Including INDIA	18	2.88
	Total	626	100

From above table no.1 it reveals that the Contribution of Law E-Journals in DOAJ from different countries such as Brazil has a maximum contribution of 128 (20.45%) of Law journals and Indonesia's contribution has 98 (15.65%), Spain 47 (7.51%), Colombia 34 (5.43%), Poland 31 (4.95%), Italy 30 (4.79%), United Kingdom 28 (4.47%), Russian Federation 22 (3.51%) Romania 15(2.40%), Ukraine 12 (1.92%), Iran Islamic Republic 11 (1.76%), United State 11 (1.76%), respectively and other countries have 138 (22.04%) and India Contribution is 1 (0.15%) respectively.

Table no.02. Language of publication of Law Journals in DOAJ.

SN	Language	No	Percentage
1	English	394	34.90
2	Spanish	186	29.71
3	Portuguese	157	25.08
4	Indonesia	79	12.62
5	French	76	12.14
6	Italian	54	8.63
7	German	36	5.75
8	Russian	34	5.43
9	Polish	20	3.19
10	Arabic	17	2.72
11	Other Language	76	12.14
	Total	1129	100.00

Figure no.01



From the above table no.02, it is found that most of the journals are published in more than one language, hence the total publication of journals are 1129 language. It found that Maximum number of law journals are published in English language 394 (34.90%) and Spanish 186 (29.71%) , Portuguese 157 (2.5.08%) , Indonesia 79 (12.62%), French 76 (12.14%), Italian 54 (8.63%),German 36 (5.75%),Russian 34(5.75%),Polish 20 (3.19%), Arabic 17(2.72%) respectively and Other Languages having 76 (12.14%) respectively.

Table no.3 Licenses wise distribution of Law Journals in DOAJ.

SN	Type of License	Number	Percentage
1	CC-BY	221	34.75
2	CC-BY-NC	129	20.28
3	CC-BY-NC-ND	130	20.44
4	CC-BY-NC-SA	52	8.18
5	CC-BY-ND	12	1.89
6	CC-BY-SA	69	10.85
7	Publishers Own License	23	3.62
	Total	636	100.00

From the above table no. 03, it is found that Maximum Law Journals are CC-BY License, 221 (34.75%) and CC-BY-NC, 129 (20.28%) , CC-BY-NC-ND, 130 (20.44%), CC-BY-NC-SA, 52 (8.18%), CC-BY-ND, 12 (1.89%), CC-BY-SA , 69 (10.85%), and Publishers own license 23 (3.62%) respectively.

Table No.4. Year of Publication Law Journals in DOAJ.

Sn	Publication Year	Number	Percentage
1	2021 (up to 5 th August 2021.)	69	11.02
2	2020	104	16.61
3	2019	79	12.62
4	2018	90	14.38
5	2017	114	18.21
6	2016	54	8.63
7	2015	38	6.07
8	2014	8	1.28
9	2013	17	2.72
10	2012	19	3.04
11	2011	10	1.60
12	2010	10	1.60
13	2009	4	0.64

14	2008	1	0.16
15	2007	2	0.32
16	2006	3	0.48
17	2005	3	0.48
18	2004	1	0.16
	Total	626	100.00

From table no 4 it is found that publication of law e-journals in DOAJ from the year 2004 to 2021, that the maximum number of E-Journals are published in the year 2017, 114 (18.21%) year 2020, 104 (16.61%), and up to 5 August 2021, 69 (11.02%) and very less publication in the year 2008 and 2004 (0.16%) respectively.

Table No 5. To study Peer review types of Journals.

SN	Peer Review Type Journals	Number	Percentage
1	Blind Peer Review	87	13.72
2	Double- Blind Peer review	477	75.24
3	Editorial Review	06	0.95
4	Open Peer Review	02	0.32
5	Peer Review	62	9.78
	Total	634	100.00

From table no. 5 it reveals that the peer reviews law E-journals in DOAJ Double-Blind Peer Review 477 (75.24%) are maximum and Blind Peer Review is 87 (13.72%), Peer Review 62 (9.78%), and Editorial Review 06(0.95%), Open Peer Review is 02 (0.32%), peer Review 62 (9.78%) respectively.

Findings:

1. Form the above objectives and analysis of data it is found that Country wise Contribution of E-Journal in the field of Law in Brazil is maximum contributions.
2. It is found that the Maximum numbers of Law E-Journals are published in the English language.
3. It is found that Maximum E-Journals in DOAJ are CC-BY Licenses.
4. It is found that the Maximum Number of Law E-Journals in DOAJ is in the year 2017 and very few e-journals were published in the year 2004.
5. It is found that the maximum number of E-Journals in law subject is Double-Blind Peer Review and very few are Open Peer Review.

Conclusions:

From the above study it is concluded that the DOAJ has registered almost 626 journals in the field of Law published by academic institutions, different organizations, varied societies, renowned research centers, and also by commercial publishers. It has 62 countries contributed to publishing Law Journal in 38 different languages and a maximum contribution of law journals in the English language. About licenses CC-BY licenses journals are maximum. DOAJ started functioning in 2004 when there were only 01 Law journals included and then there has been a steady rise in the inclusion of Law journals in the open access domain and the number reached 144 in the year 2017. In DOAJ Double-Blind Peer review Law journals are maximum. The maximum contribution of Law journal in DOAJ are Barzil Country and India's contribution of Law Journals in DOAJ, 1 (0.16%).

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