

CONSISTENCY OF PUBLICATION TYPES AND COSTS AMONG CROATIAN SOCIAL SCIENCES JOURNALS

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Introduction

This study provides an analysis of Croatian scholarly open access journals and funding scheme. It presents an integrated approach to the general journal properties, types of publications and applied business model, looking at (1) criteria for funding, (2) structure and frequency of different publication types, and (3) the price per peer-reviewed paper.

Methods

61 journals from the field of social sciences funded by the Croatian Ministry of Science and Education and included in the repository of Croatian open access journals HRČAK were analysed.

For each journal information on the title, ISSN (print and online), field, discipline and branch, publisher, DOI, frequency, publication formats, and funding received in 2017 were collected.

According to HRČAK categorization the attribute „type of paper“ was assigned to each of 8623 papers published during the years 2013-2017.

The data was collected in July 2018.

Types of papers

There are six peer-reviewed publication types (original scientific paper, short communication, preliminary communication, review article, professional paper, conference paper) and 14 additional, non-peer-reviewed publication types (conference abstract, editorial, biography, essay, bibliography, news, reminiscence, obituary, book review, letter to the editor, erratum, acknowledgement, index, other) available on HRČAK to be assigned to each paper.

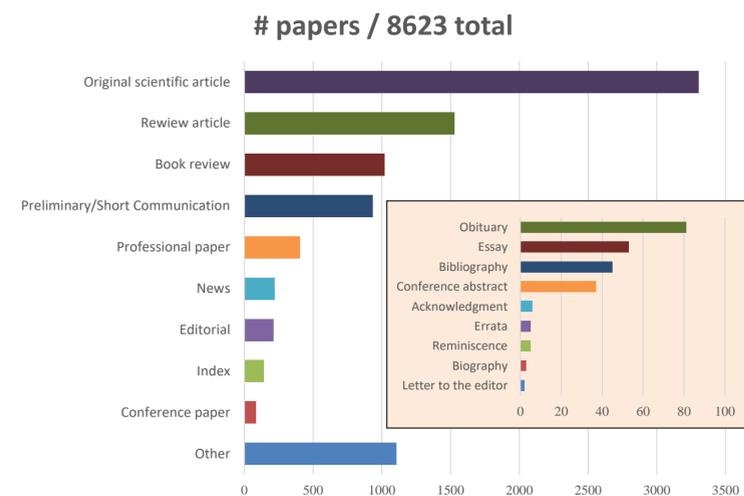


Chart 1. Distribution of papers according the type of paper

The most represented types of papers are original scientific articles and review articles (Chart 1).

Publishing frequency

Publishing frequency / year

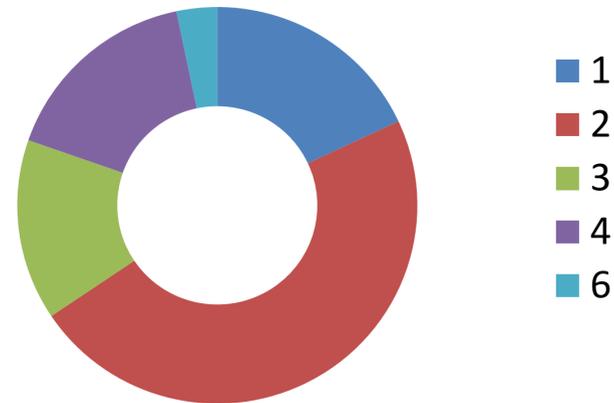


Chart 2. Distribution of journals by publishing frequency

Language

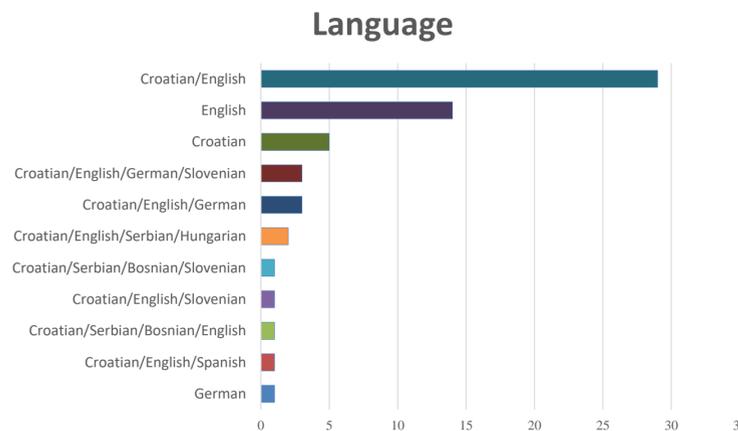


Chart 3. Distribution of journals by language

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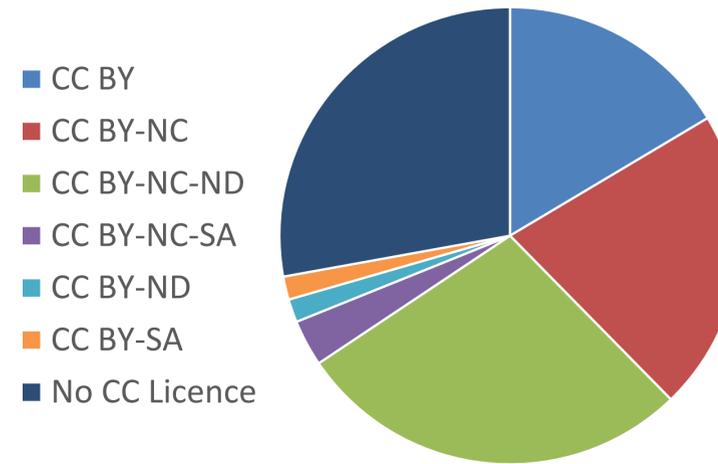


Chart 4. Distribution of journals by CC licence

Usage statistics

Average # visits/paper

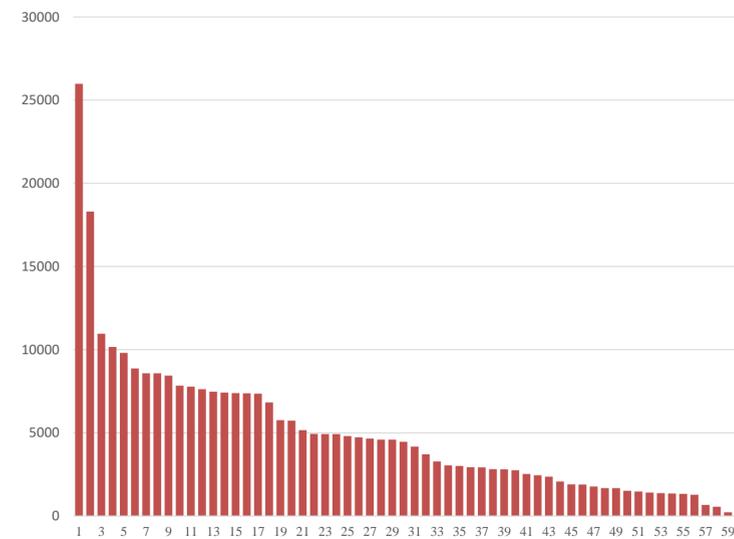


Chart 5. Distribution by visits/paper

Funding by the Ministry of Science and Education

Each journal eligible for funding is required to satisfy set of necessary conditions (peer-review, open access and availability on HRČAK, indexing in international bibliographic databases, the proportion of articles in which at least one author is from Croatia, editorial processes according to international standards, regularity in publishing). All eligible journals are evaluated every year by criteria grouped as general criteria, indexing and citations, peer-review and editorial work.

Distribution of funding by journal

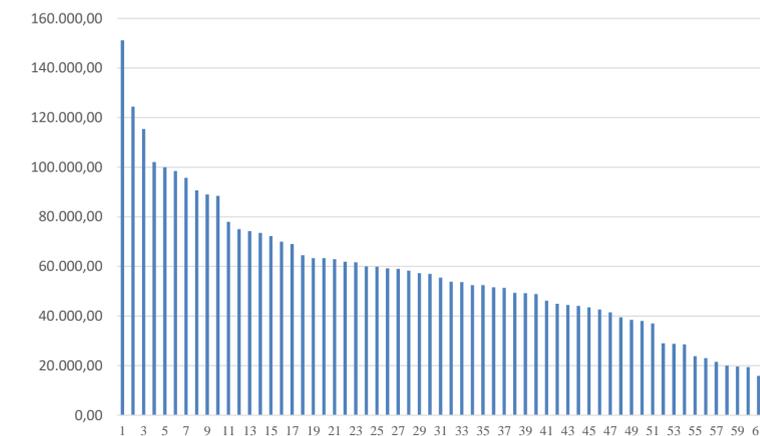


Chart 6. Distribution of funding by journal

Conclusion

Our findings revealed the consistency in most common publication types: original scientific paper and review article. Analysis of other types of publications, peer-reviewed, and non-peer-reviewed, revealed inconsistency across various sources. Publication type is an essential part of the research assessment criteria, and more consistency is needed at international level. Average price for peer-reviewed papers in 2017 was 445 EUR ranged from 1213 EUR to 162 EUR per paper.