

# การวิเคราะห์บรรณมิติของสิ่งพิมพ์สโกปัสเพื่อการวิจัยเกี่ยวกับการศึกษาการย้ายถิ่นฐานในยุโรป พ.ศ. 2557-2565

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## A Bibliometric Analysis of Scopus Publications for Research on European Migration Studies, 2014-2022

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### คำสำคัญ

การย้ายถิ่นในทวีปยุโรป, การทบทวนบรรณมิติ, การทบทวนอย่างเป็นระบบ วิสาหกรรม, โครงสร้างทางสติปัญญา

### บทคัดย่อ

ผลกระทบของการย้ายถิ่นฐานจำนวนมากทำให้เกิดการเปลี่ยนแปลงที่ส่งผลกระทบต่อสหภาพยุโรป (EU) และประเทศอื่น ๆ ในยุโรปนับตั้งแต่วิกฤตผู้ลี้ภัยในยุโรป ปี 2558 โดยเฉพาะนักวิชาการและสถาบันการศึกษาในยุโรปศึกษาและวิจัยเพื่อช่วยให้ผู้กำหนดนโยบายและองค์กรด้านมนุษยธรรมเข้าใจและจัดการกับการเปลี่ยนแปลง การประเมินการศึกษาระบบทามมิตินี้พิจารณาเอกสาร 845 ฉบับที่จัดทำด้วยสโกปัสเกี่ยวกับการย้ายถิ่นในยุโรประหว่างปี 2557 ถึง 2565 เป้าหมายของการทบทวนคือการอธิบายขอบเขต บริมาณและการจัดจำหน่ายาระบบทาม วารสารและสิ่งพิมพ์เกี่ยวกับการย้ายถิ่นของยุโรป ระบุผู้เขียนที่โดดเด่น ตรวจสอบ โครงสร้างทางสติปัญญาของฐานความรู้นี้ และเน้นหัวข้อการวิจัยที่กำลังเกิดขึ้น การวิเคราะห์การอ้างอิงร่วมของผู้เขียนเน้นย้ำขอบเขตการวิจัยสองประการ การกำกับดูแลการย้ายถิ่นและการศึกษาการเปลี่ยนแปลงและการผสมผสาน เช่นเดียวกับการศึกษาทางเศรษฐศาสตร์ของปัญหาการย้ายถิ่นฐาน ข้อค้นพบของการทบทวนนี้ (ก) ความเป็นไปได้สำหรับการทบทวนการวิจัยการศึกษาการย้ายถิ่นฐานในอนาคต (ข) โครงสร้างทางสติปัญญาในปัจจุบันและการพัฒนาของสาขาวิชาสาขาวิชาการนี้ และ (ค) จุดอ้างอิงสำหรับนักวิชาการเพื่อตรวจสอบปัญหาการย้ายถิ่นฐานในยุโรปเพิ่มเติม

### Keywords:

European Migration, Bibliometric

Review, Systematic Review,

VOSviewer, Intellectual Structure

### Abstract

The implications of mass migration have caused changes impacting the European Union (EU) and other European nations since the European refugee crisis in 2015. Scholars and academic institutions in Europe, in particular, have performed studies and research to help policymakers and humanitarian organizations comprehend and manage the changes. This bibliometric evaluation of studies looked at 845 Scopus-indexed documents about migration in Europe from 2014 to 2022. The review's goals are to describe the scope, volume, and distribution of European migration literature, journals, and publications, identify prominent authors, examine the intellectual structure of this knowledge base, and highlight emergent research topics. Author co-citation analysis found five study clusters that underpin this knowledge base, and author keyword analysis highlighted two research scopes: migration governance and transition and acculturation studies, as well as economic studies of migration issues. The findings of this review provide (a) possibilities for future reviews of migration studies research, (b) the present and evolving intellectual structure of this inter-disciplinary area, and (c) reference points for scholars to further investigate the issue of European migration.

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## 1. Introduction

The European Migrant/Refugee Crisis, triggered by the 2015 Syrian Refugee Crisis, has led to significant changes in Europe. Prior to the crisis, migration to Europe was lower, but in 2015, over 911,000 refugees and migrants arrived, resulting in 3,550 deaths (UNHCR - The UN Refugee Agency, 2022). The crisis accelerated EU asylum policy reforms (Buchanan, 2000), with the UNHCR registering over 4.1 million Syrian refugees since 2011 (Syrian Refugees Impact on the European Migrant Crisis - Edubirdie, 2021). The war in Syria has contributed to the crisis, with the EU providing aid and increasing border security (UNHCR France -, n.d.).

Studying European Migration Crisis publications helps understand Europe's failure to manage forced migrations (UNHCR - The UN Refugee Agency, 2022), assess national security strategies, and understand existing research, analyses, and policies (United Nations, n.d.). This research aims to explore sociology literature on European migrants between 2014-2022, focusing on economics, social psychology, political science, urban and rural sociology. It seeks to understand how Europe can cope with societal change and identify practical solutions. This research utilizes bibliometric review to cluster issues, identify authors, and analyze intellectual structure to address migration problems, with the aim of answering key questions. In particular, this research focuses on an attempt to answer the following questions:

**RQ 1: What is the volume and trajectory of academic publications on the issue of European migration?**

**RQ 2. What is the scope of European migration literature between 2014-2022?**

**RQ 3: What is the intellectual structure of the research base underlying the European migration research?**

**RQ 4. What journals, authors, organizations and research articles have had the greatest influence on European migration research?**

The review identified 845 Scopus-indexed documents on migration issues, focusing on strong academic studies with a peer-reviewed process. Data were analyzed using Scopus, Excel, and VOSviewer software packages, including descriptive statistics, direct citation analysis, co-citation analysis, and keyword co-occurrence analysis.

## 2. Materials and Methods

The bibliometric analysis of European migration research aims to document its landscape, scope, and intellectual structure, requiring preliminary preparation for an effective dataset from Scopus. Therefore, the data downloaded from Scopus in '.csv' format was reviewed for some missing data, incorrect punctuations, foreign names and missing fields before being used in VOSviewer and Excel programs.

### 2.1 Identification of Sources

Google Scholar, Microsoft Academic, Scopus, Dimensions, Web of Science, and COCI are academic databases that offer publications for researchers. All of them generally have similar features and small differences in subject coverages. The details were discussed that some databases provided better coverages of some topics in terms of citations (Martín-Martín et al., 2020, pp. 871-906). For this research, in the scope of sociology and specifically migration study, a focus on well-reviewed articles and characteristics of dataset's details, Scopus was chosen. The Scopus dataset covers a wide range of areas considered relevant to European migration and provides access to bibliographic data used in bibliographic software (Župič & Čater, 2014, pp. 429-472).

Scopus was selected for this study because it has several advantages in comparison to other databases, including Web of Science and Google Scholar (Falagas et al., 2007, pp. 338-342; Bakkalbasi et al., 2006; Kulkarni et al., 2009; De Groote & Raszewski, 2012, pp. 391-400). Furthermore, Scopus's most significant attribute is its capacity to offer

bibliometric indicators in a simple and uncomplicated fashion (Sweileh et al., 2018). Also, it can be seen that the study methodology targets educational research by highlighting the limits of the Web of Science database for bibliometric analyses in education, and advising researchers to remain conscious of its limited article coverage. Scopus is the optimal solution for sourcing resources for systematic reviews of Education Administration research (Hallinger & Kovačević, 2019, pp. 335-369). Therefore, the Scopus dataset offers major differences in coverage compared to the Web of Science. Scopus also works practically with VOSviewer. Especially since VOSviewer requires complete coverage data, for which Google Scholar is not able to download bibliographic data. The time frame of 2014-2022 was also determined to focus on research generated after the European Refugee Crisis in 2015.

Regarding the issue of subject area, as this article focuses on identifying consequences and problems of European migration the subject areas defined in Scopus subject areas; 'SOCI' (sociology), 'BUSI' (business), 'ECON' (Econometrics/Economics) and 'ARTS' (Arts & Human) were sufficiently covered by the sociological scope of publications that reflected the cases we need to understand about the migrants. Furthermore, within the field of social sciences, some journals have multiple subject areas which are naturally intertwined in sociology. One major subject area which is left out is the medical field which mainly focuses on medical knowledge while related societal healthcare issues are usually published in social science journals.

Therefore, in this study, the scope of journals collected is constrained to this advanced search criteria:

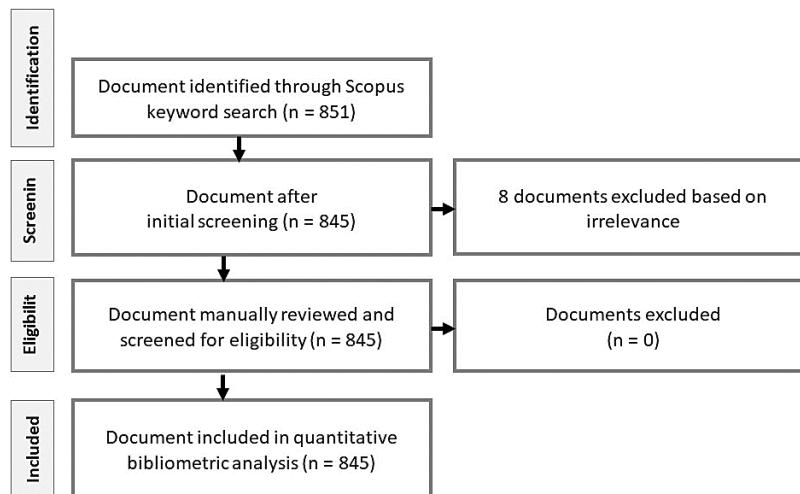
( KEY ( refugee\* ) OR KEY ( migrant\* ) OR KEY ( immigrant\* ) AND KEY ( europe\* ) OR KEY ( "European Union" ) ) AND PUBYEAR > 2013 PUBYEAR < 2023 AND ( LIMIT-TO ( SRCTYPE,"j" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( OA,"all" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( PUBSTAGE,"final" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA,"SOCI" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA,"ECON" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA,"BUSI" ) OR LIMIT-TO ( SUBJAREA , "ARTS" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( DOCTYPE,"ar" ) ) AND ( LIMIT-TO ( LANGUAGE,"English" ) )

The use of keywords selected covers the terms; 'refugee(s)', 'migrant(s)', 'immigrant(s)', 'Europe', 'European(s)' and 'European Union' in order to cover the scope. As mentioned earlier, some authors prefer 'migrant' over 'refugee' and some authors have their own specific definitions of these words. In terms of 'types of documents', the review included only published articles ('SRCTYPE,"j"') as they were properly reviewed and mostly supported by renowned organizations. In addition, the researcher included papers from sources other than Scopus for analysis and verification. This provided further support for the substance of the selected articles. Furthermore, the rationale was that the issue was sensitive to political bias and specific ideologies. Therefore, other types of documents show the author's perceptions and suggestions which are not in the scope of this study. Moreover, the co-citation analyses used in this review enabled the authors to capture highly-cited papers via analysis of the reference lists of the review documents.

The data were downloaded from Scopus in Excel's csv format (comma-separated-value). In the process of screening, some data set was corrupted and then fixed. This data set used in this research, 'European Migration Studies' (2014-2022) will be called EMS dataset. Scopus provides various methods to retrieve data. For the case of VOSviewer, the interactive diagram or map can be saved. All VOSviewer maps in this study are saved and available to reader as it is more convenient to examine the map themselves.

It can be seen that the process of bibliometric review follows the PRISMA systematic review research method (Moher et al., 2009).

**Figure 1** PRISMA Diagram Describing the Collection of ‘European Refugee Migration’ Documents from the Scopus Index (Moher et al., 2009)



## 2.2 Data Extraction and Analysis

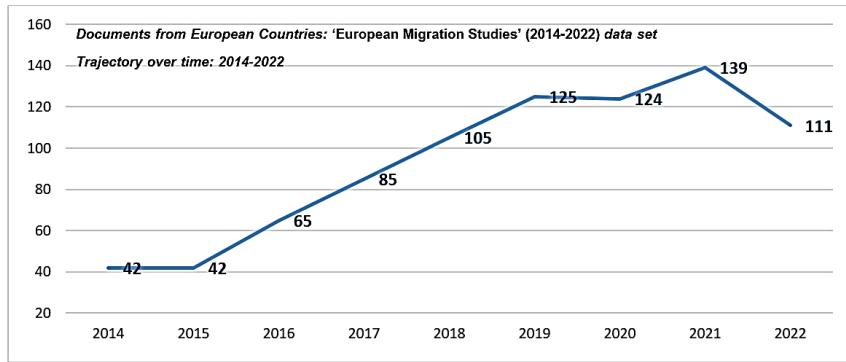
With the criteria defined above, 851 documents were found in Scopus database. There are 783, 192, 72 and 39 articles in Social Sciences, Arts & Humanities, Economics and Business subject areas respectively. As there are some articles defined in two or more subject areas, as Scopus’ definition of ‘topic area’ was based on the journals scope, the total numbers are understandably higher than 845. Bibliographic data were downloaded in ‘.csv’ Excel format data file which included ‘meta data’ related to each article, such as the authors name(s), affiliations, article title, sources, references, keywords, abstracts, and various citation data. A thesaurus file was created for this analysis in filtering some duplicated terms, terms with the same meaning and some abbreviations. Use of a thesaurus file increases the accuracy of findings in bibliometric reviews (Van Eck & Waltman, 2014, pp. 285-320). Quantitative data analysis relied on a combination of descriptive statistics, citation analysis, co-citation analysis, words from abstract analysis and social network analysis. Descriptive statistics were used to document basic features of the knowledge base (e.g., size, growth trajectory, paper type, research methods). Descriptive analyses were conducted using Scopus analytical tools and MS Excel software programs. VOSviewer, a bibliometric analysis tool, has a capability to analyze any text data (citations, co-citations, authors, etc.) by creating clusters of text data using its frequencies of words and co-occurrences with other words. Then, all the clusters are rearranged as a network diagram showing the density and connections. The visualization of the data provides qualitative data that allows an estimation of distributions and connections of authors, journals and organizations.

## 3. Results

All four research questions will be answered sequentially in each sub-topic.

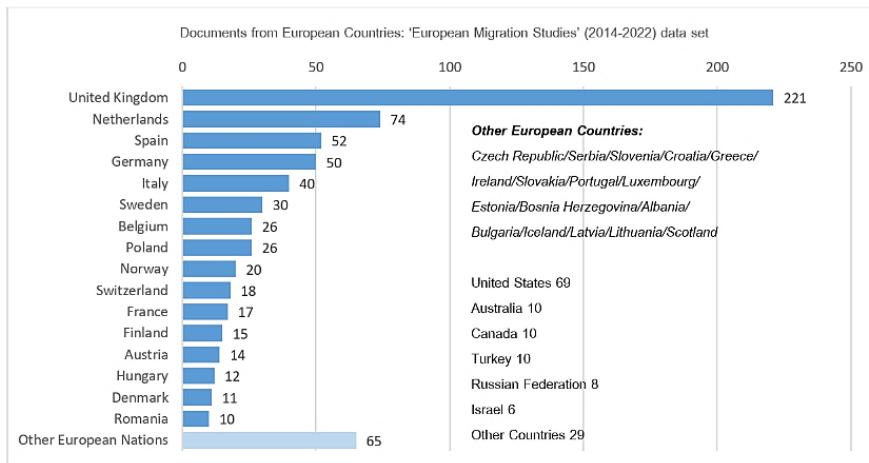
### 3.1 Volumes/Trajectory of Publications

For the first research question, Scopus provides a comprehensive analysis tool of the acquired data set. However, MS Excel is also used to further explore the data set. Within the scope of the study, 845 articles are summarized in Figure 2 showing the increasing number of publications on the European refugee issue after 2015, which is believed to be a result of a swift change of EU reaction to the Mediterranean incident that year. During the last three years, 44.6% of the article were produced. These trends confirm that the issue of migration was in the interest of European nations since the end of 2014.

**Figure 2** The Numbers of Publications on European Refugees: 2014-2022

Even though the Syrian refugees and other countries' migrants continuously came to Europe throughout the decade (2005-2010) (UNHCR - The UN Refugee Agency, 2022), the 2015 incident in the Mediterranean brought attention and great concern to the EU and other European nations. UNHCR and humanitarian organizations had been dealing with the issue with difficulty due to lack of funding, various countries immigration laws and informal border crossing. The mass influx of migrants in 2015 initiated the major changes in Europe. The matter was taken seriously and research on the consequences was increased with support from EU, European Nation's governments and academic institutions.

Most of the articles were produced within the European continent. There were 142 articles produced outside Europe which accounts for 16.8% while 703 studies were conducted by European nation researchers. The United Kingdom has the highest number of articles with 221 (26.2%) and the Netherlands has 74 articles (8.8%).

**Figure 3** Numbers of Documents and the Originating Countries (Most of European Nations)

Preparatory screening showed that the center of most articles was within the scope of acculturation of previous migrants from the year earlier to 2014. Additionally, the observations showed that most of the research was conducted within the European nations, focusing on intra-European migration and in specific scope and areas of acculturation.

### 3.2 Scope of European Migration Studies between 2014-2022

The second research question concerned the identification of the most researched topics in relation to the European refugee issue. In bibliographic analysis, usually, bibliographic coupling analysis shows the 'shared topics' or 'shared interests' of the authors and reveals the trend and topics in the discipline. However, in this study, the issue of migration study has diversified topics and multidisciplinary scope varying and combining issues from politics, policies,

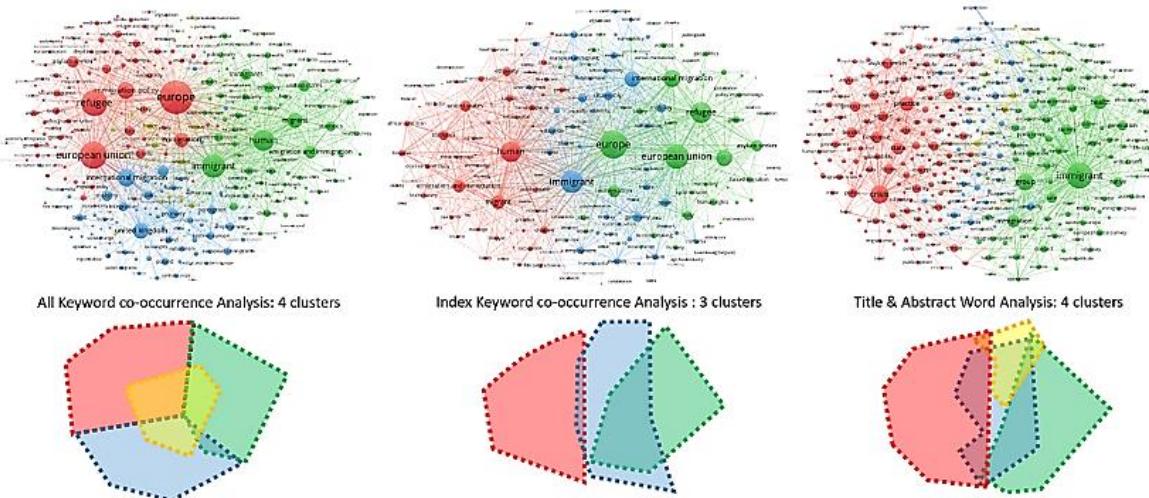
acculturation, healthcare and employment. In addition, there are only 845 articles in this study within a 9-year time period, which is considered impractical to use bibliographic coupling analysis to define topics. Instead, keyword analysis (Van Eck & Waltman, 2014; Bani-Ahmad, S., Cakmak, a., Ozsoyoglu, G. and Al-Hamdani, a., 2005, pp. 21–28) was used to identify the main current scope of interest in the European migration knowledge base.

An important difference between co-word analysis and citation analysis is that co-word analysis examines the actual content of documents (i.e. keywords) as a means of synthesizing trends or subjects of interests. In this case, Scopus dataset provided three groups of ‘keywords’: author keyword, indexed keyword and all keywords.

### 3.2.1 Preliminary Analyses of Words

Three approaches to analyze clusters of essential words; all keywords, indexed keywords and title and abstract keywords, showed that these three approaches are quite similar as there are too many common words occurring. Figure 4 shows the similar shapes and small number of clusters.

**Figure 4** All Keywords/Index Keywords Co-occurrence Analysis / Word Analysis of Title and Abstracts



When the clustering algorithm was adjusted to reach the optimal point (when decreasing the number of minimum numbers in the cluster to the certain range and it does not create more clusters), the results created groups of words that are meaningful for identifying focuses of the studies. Five common words that occurred the most were, ‘Immigrant’, ‘Human’, ‘Europe’, ‘Refugee’ and ‘European Union’. Even though there are words indicating the details of studies which are grouped or clustered together meaningfully, the clusters do not efficiently explain the real scope. Three main clusters cover: 1. the issue of migration from a politics and policies perspective, 2. the problems of acculturation and integration and 3. the well-being and healthcare aspect of migrants. The fourth clusters (mainly the name of the countries and unique words) exists as an extra group of words.

Initially, the topics of studies can be generally summarized into three scopes: politics, policy and governance of migration, problems in acculturation, and well-being of migrants and refugees. To gain more focus of the studied topics, the use of author keywords will be employed in the next section.

### 3.2.2 The Analysis of Authors’ Keywords

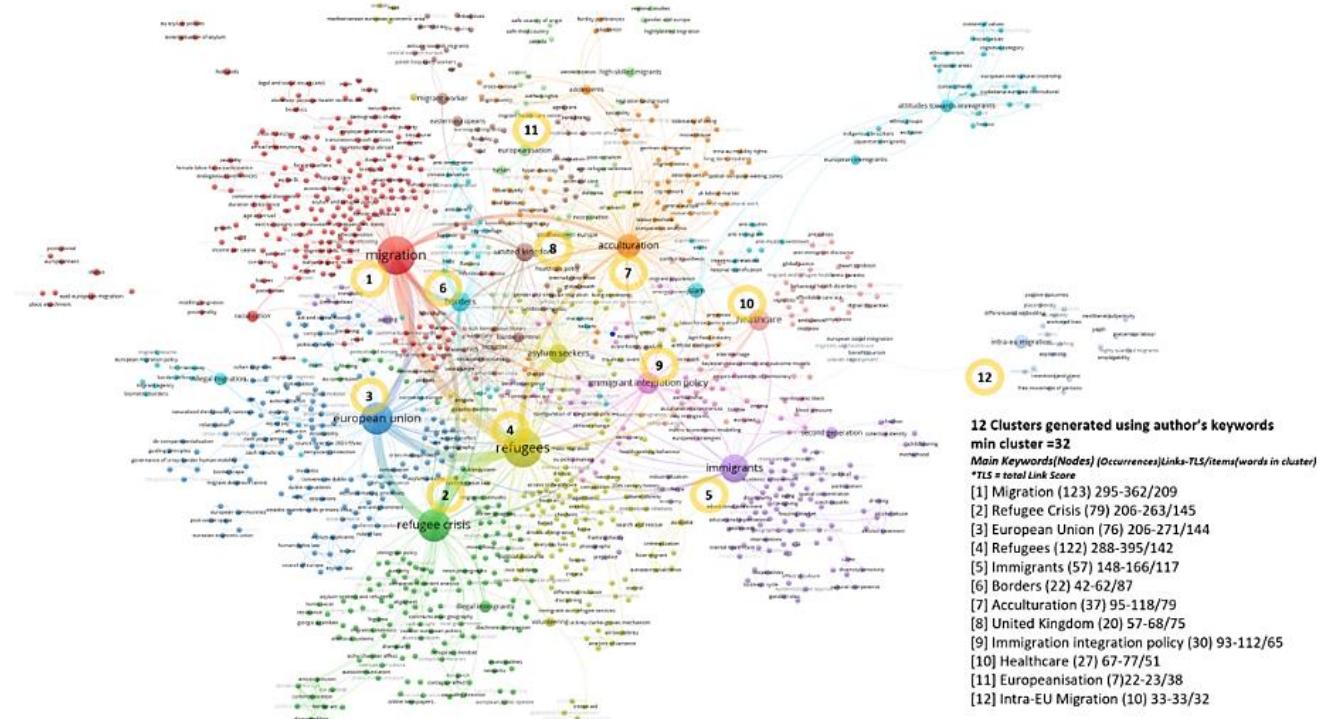
As authors tend to describe the article using keywords, the analysis of author’s keywords is expected to show the topics, scope and author’s interests. Some authors put compound specific words to emphasize the essence of the article such as ‘Identity acculturation’, ‘racial/ethnic disparities’, ‘fortress Europe’ or ‘spatial-temporal waiting zones. The

frequency of these words will be minimal when VOSviewer tries to compute the clusters and they will get lost with 'all keywords' analysis. Some new words that are not commonly used such as 'Socio-laboural exclusion' or 'Geostrategic position', will be lost with word analysis computer programs. Therefore, to understand the context the author wants to convey, the use of authors' keywords seems to be more practical. However, the screening shows that 9.7% or 82 articles have author's keywords field blank. Thus, this method has its understandable limitations. The analysis of author's keywords reveals the top 12 words with the most occurrences and these words, or main nodes, expanded a network with its own specific words in its domain in Figure 5.

The topology of the network map in Figure 5 is also informative. It shows that there are at least two areas of the studies; migration governance and acculturation or integration domains. Keywords clusters on the left (1, 2, 3, 6 and 4) represent studies done within the domain of 'Migration handling or governance' as the cluster consists of the words; 'European Union', 'refugee crisis', 'border control', 'policy' and 'west African migrant'. While on the right side of the map, nodes (5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12) represent the words related to 'Acculturation' and 'Integration' such as 'Healthcare', 'Immigrant Integration Policy', 'anti-Migrant Prejudice' and 'Health Policy'. It is quite sufficient to conclude that the conclusion from the previous section is acceptable if 'acculturation' and 'wellbeing of migrants' can be grouped together as the issues of both are overlapped in nature.

**Figure 5** Keyword Map of the Literature on European Refugee Migration (Author's Keywords) 2014-2022

(threshold 1 occurrence) Display 1180 Keywords



Network Map generated by VOSviewer using author keywords also provides details and scope of research. Twelve words were mentioned frequently representing the 'common words' of the studies, while all small nodes connecting to these 12 nodes are 'scope', 'problem' and 'details' keywords based on the occurrences of the words. Even though information obtained from the dataset cannot precisely determine how many articles fall into each category of migration-study themes, as a result of sociology's nature, the topics of studies can be pinpointed by the 'detailed' words provided

by authors. The following table summarizes general topics extracted from author's keywords (Martín-Martín et al., 2020, pp. 871-906).

**Table 1***Occurrences of Words Determine the Scope and Details of the Studies*

'Common' words	occur.s	'Scope' Words	occur.s
migration	123	acculturation	37
refugees	122	immigrant integration policy	30
refugee crisis	79	healthcare	27
european union	76	borders	22
immigrants	57	asylum seekers	21
		United Kingdom	20

'Problems' Words	occur.s	'Detail' Words (1 occur.)*
islam	12	uk labour market
intra-eu migration	10	policy inconsistency
attitudes towards immigrants	9	attitude towards migrants
illegal migration	8	border in/security
second generation	7	children's protection against sexual abuse
migrant worker	7	ethnic minority
europeanisation	7	gender and generation survey
illegal immigrants	7	immigrant citizens survey (ics)
racialization	6	labour market regulation
high-skilled migrants	5	lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender migrants
eastern europeans	5	resistance towards muslim immigrants
border control	5	smuggling and trafficking in human beings

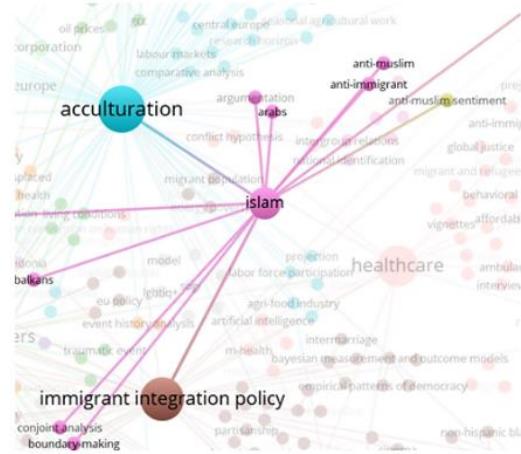
\* Examples of keyword with 1 occurrence

**Table 2***Occurrences of Words Determine the Scope and Details of the Studies*

Migration Governance	EU Policy	Acculturation/Integration	Healthcare
The scope covers the handling of migrants, policies and managing refugees	Humanitarian Aids	The scope covers legal migrants in the workforce and communities, the welfare and integration	Europeanisation
	Border Control		Labor Market
	Political Conflicts		Economics of Migration
	Migrant Workers		Immigrant Integration Policy
	Medical Care		Attitudes towards Immigrants
	Illegal Immigrants		Intra-EU Migration
	Living Conditions		Islam

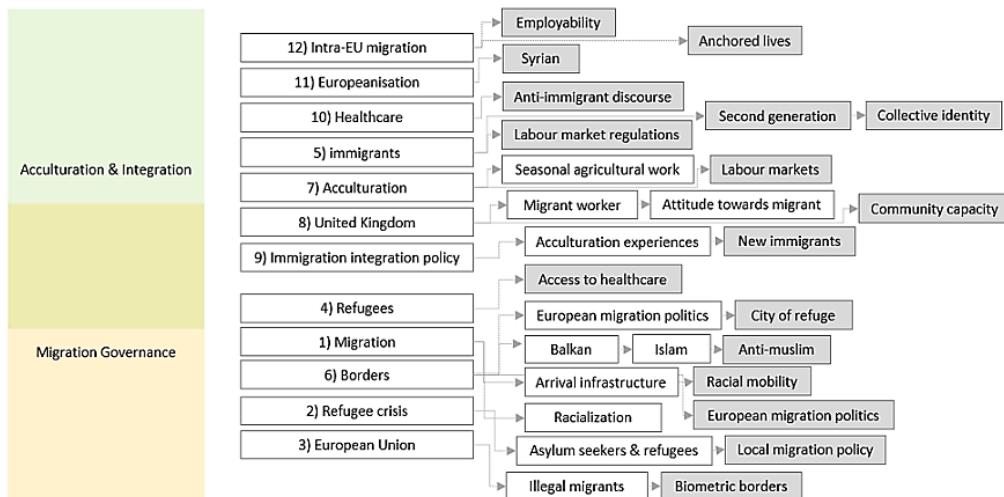
The network map also provides the landscape of the studies by representing the 'closeness' of each keyword that supports the grouping of 'migration governance' and 'acculturation and integration'. The overlapping of clusters indicates the studies covered the issues in both its own and neighboring clusters. Therefore, to answer Research Question 2, research topics in these data sets varied within two categories; 1) governance of migration which includes politics and policy implementation and 2) the acculturation scope which includes integration and migrant welfare. The diversity of topics can be illustrated with keyword analysis, and more precisely, by authors' keywords.

**Figure 6a** Example of Topical Analysis using Author's Keyword Analysis



Another example (Figure 6a) was with the word ‘islam’, with 12 occurrences. ‘islam’ word node (between node 7 and 10) connected to ‘arabs’, ‘anti-muslim’ and ‘national identification’ which implied that there are studies covering the issue in the acculturation domain. By counting the ‘scope’ word occurrences with the two domains mentioned earlier, it is appropriate to conclude that, approximately 60% of the studies done in this data set are in the area of migration governance and 40% are in the area of acculturation. In order to identify the topic of study in this case, the interactive map in VOSviewer is essential. The use of the network map file allows readers to explore any specific keywords or topics. The following is the diagram showing some topics which were studied in this data set by the use of the network map.

**Figure 6b** Example of Topical Analysis Using Author's Keyword Analysis



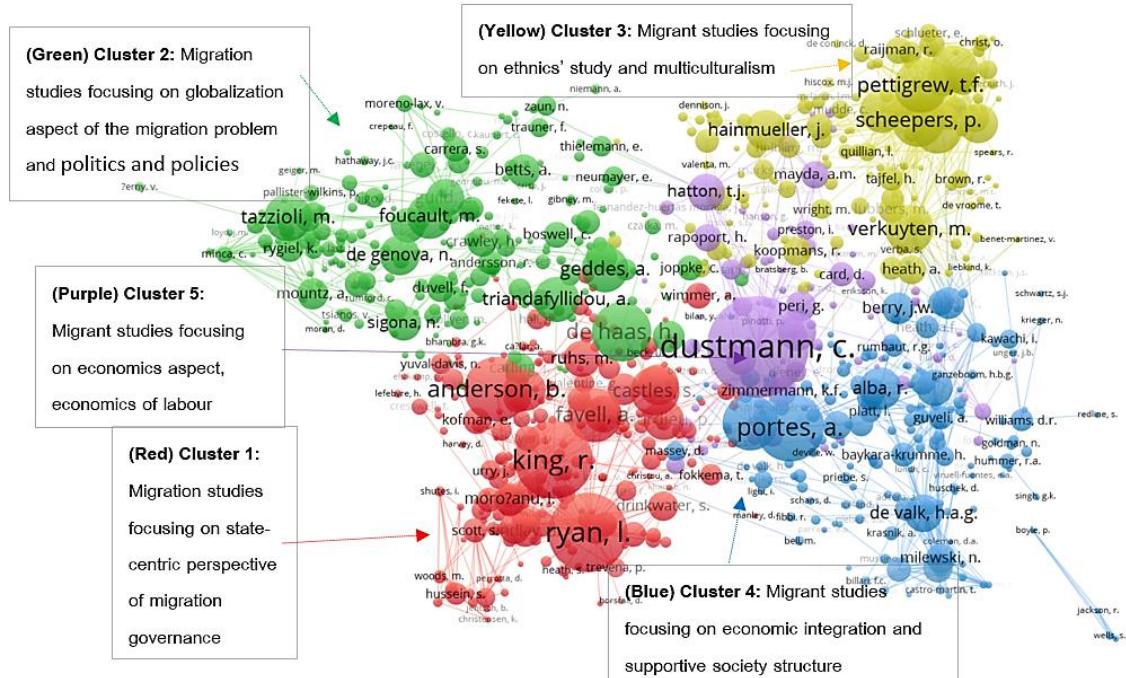
Based on the authors' keywords, the network map provides precise topics and issues related. For example, the issue of anti-immigrant occurs in both the topic of border management and in healthcare. The conventional topical analysis with the use of co-citation and bibliographic coupling approaches are impractical to define topics in this particular case as the number of articles are only 845, the nature of the migration study, and a 9-year timeframe also results in a limitation to determine the trend of the issue using the temporal map conventionally.

### 3.3 The Intellectual Structure of the Research Base Underlying the European Migration

Author co-citation analysis was employed to reveal the intellectual structure of the knowledge base in European Migration Studies. This was accomplished in VOSviewer which generated an author co-citation map that visualizes similarities among the highly co-cited scholars in this literature. Within two domains of migration governance and acculturation, the co-citation analysis network diagram showed 5 distinct clusters with particular focuses (Figure 7). Clusters 1 and 2 (red and green) on the left, dominated by Tazzioli M., Crawley H., Ryan L. and King R. represent two schools of thought on migration governance while three clusters on the right 3, 4 and 5 (yellow, purple and blue) cover three schools of thought on acculturation and integration dominated by Pettigrew T.F., Portes A. and Dustmann C. (Figure 7). One unique group which exists in the middle of all the studies were scholars in Sociological Economics dominated by Dustmann C. (based on total link score and numbers of citation). Scholars in sociological economics (Cluster 5) studied, mainly, the issue of labor migration and the impact of migration on labor markets and the economy, and this purple cluster represents the domain of 'Economics of Labor Migration' which intrinsically lies between migration management and migrant acculturation.

Looking at the issue of 'migration governance' (Clusters 1 and 2, the red and the green clusters) which discussed the problems and implementation of EU policies, reception centers, humanitarian aids and some European countries' ways of handling the problems, there are two 'schools of thought' underlying the studies. In Cluster 1, Ryan, L., King, R., and Anderson, B., adopt a critical stance towards the neoliberal policies of globalization and their impact on migration. They argue that policies have increased inequality, leading to a global demand for low-wage labor, while preventing migrants from accessing their rights and opportunities for social mobility (Ryan et al., 2015; Ryan, 2015, pp. 114–132). They suggest that labor migration policies should prioritize the admission of skilled workers, who are in demand in host countries' labor markets. This approach prioritizes the economic benefits of immigration over other social or political concerns and the migration should be controlled and regulated in order to protect the interests of the receiving society.

**Figure 7** Intellectual Structure Network Analysis, Co-citation and Cited Authors Network Analysis



In Cluster 2, the sociology theorists Tazzioli, Geddes, and de Hass, focus on migration as a key globalization issue, arguing for a political approach focusing on human rights and creating a more just world (Natter et al., 2020). Similarly, Geddes emphasizes the significance of understanding the political context in which migration policies are designed and implemented to effectively address the domestic politics of host countries (Geddes et al., 2020). This group emphasizes the need to understand the complexities of migration policies and their effects on migrants.

Portes' Cluster 3 and Pettigrew's Cluster 4 views on welfare and integration of migrants differ. For example, Pettigrew emphasizes intergroup contact, active participation, and policies supporting integration. In addition, Scheepers and Semyonov argue that negative attitudes towards immigrants stem from prejudice and stereotypes, perpetuated by media and political discourse. Both perspectives highlight the importance of intergroup interaction and cooperation (Pettigrew et al., 2018, pp. 431–455).

On the other hand, Portes views integration as a process of incorporation that is largely determined by the structural opportunities and constraints faced by the migrant group (Portes, 1995, p. 328). It can be seen that the integration of a migrant group depends on factors like education, skills, social networks, labor market conditions, and policies. Maintaining transnational ties is crucial. Acculturation, the process of immigrants adapting to their host country, involves negotiation and impacts social cohesion (Portes et al., 2019, pp. 2219–2238).

From a topological perspective, the distances between clusters indicate that each 'school of thought' has its own domain of knowledge. Nodes within other clusters and links across clusters suggests the related contents that are relevant to the node's owner clusters. A good example is Cluster 5 (purple). It focuses on the economic impacts of migration, including labor market outcomes and native-born workers' effects. Policies should maximize benefits and minimize costs, considering both positive and negative impacts (Dustmann et al., 2020, pp. 885-944).

In sociology, specifically migration study, this network map represents the ideologies, perceptions and beliefs of renowned scholars rather than the scope of research practices. Most scholars in this map do not have publications in this dataset. However, their concepts, methods and approaches are reflected in the studies by researchers who have similar opinions. The positions of nodes with the links to these renowned scholars on the map also show the authors' perspective of the issue that will be reflected in their studies.

In summary, the following are 'schools of thought' derived from co-citation analysis or simply put, the expected scope of studies in this data set are as follows:

Cluster 1 (red): Migration studies focusing on state-centric perspective of migration governance

*most cited authors:* Ryan, L. (124), King, R. (121) and Anderson, B. (101)

Cluster 2 (green): Migration studies focusing on globalization aspect of the migration problem and politics and policies

*most cited authors:* de Haas, H. (92), Tazzioli, M. (74) and Geddes, A. (73)

Cluster 3 (blue): Migrant studies focusing on ethnics study and multiculturalism

*most cited authors:* Portes, A. (107), Massey, D.S. (87) and Alba, R. (66)

Cluster 4 (yellow): Migrant studies focusing on economic integration and supportive society structure

*most cited authors:* Pettigrew, T.F. (83), Scheepers, P. (82) and Semyonov, M. (77)

Cluster 5: Migrant studies focusing on economics aspect, economics of labour migration

*most cited authors:* Dustmann, C. (158), Borjas, G.J. (59) and Hatton, T.J. (58)

\*number in parentheses are numbers of citations

**Table 3***Sociologists in Intellectual Structure*

Author	Citations*	TLS*	Cluster	Ranking*	h-Index ***	Subject Area ***
Massey, D.S.	87	83.29	1	13	89	SOS,AAH,EEF,MUL,ENV,EPS,PSY,BMA,NUR,MAT,NEU,ENG,CHM,PHA,DES,MED
Portes, A.	107**	104.26	1	12	63	SOS,AAH,EEF,ENV,EPS,MUL,BMA,DES,NUR,ENG,CSC,ENE,BGM,
Dustmann, C.	158	145.74	1	11	52	EEF,BMA,SOS,MTH,ENV,DES
Geddes, A.	73	70.2	2	23	25	SOS,ENV,BMA,EEF,AAH,ENE,MED
Tazzioli, M.	74	69.45	2	22	18	SOS,AAH,ENV,EPS,CSC,PSY,DES
de Haas, H.	92**	88.14	2	21	29	SOS,AAH,DES,ENV
Anderson, B.	101	97.58	3	33	20	SOS,AAH,EEF,EPS,BMA,PSY
King, R.	121	115.58	3	32	25	SOS,AAH,EPS,ENV,MED,EEF,BMA,ABS,DES,PSY,BGM,VET,IAM
Ryan, L.	124	114.62	3	31	32	SOS,AAH,PSY,MED,EEF,PSY,BMA,DES,NUR
Semyonov, M.	77**	73.49	4	43	37	SOS,AAH,BMA,EEF,BGM,PSY,MTH,ABS,PHA,MED,ENV
Scheepers, P.	82**	78.33	4	42	39	SOS,PSY,AAH,MED,BMA,MTH,NUR,BGM,NEU,PHA,EEF,EPS,HEP,ENG,CSC
Pettigrew, T.F.	83**	79.17	4	41	48	SOS,PSY,AAH,ENE,MED,BMA,ENV,EPS,MTH,NUR,BGM,PSY

\*The statistics was derived from this specific dataset (TLS = Total Link Scores)

\*\*The authors did not have publications within this dataset

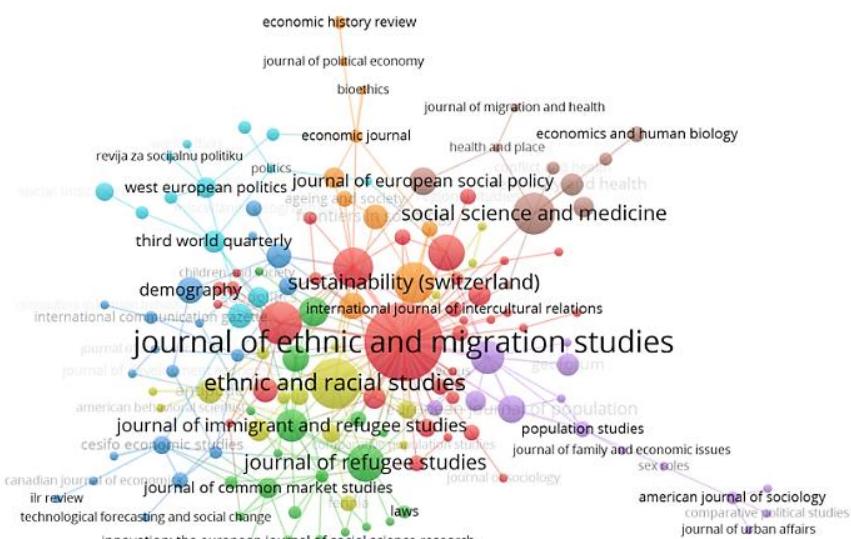
\*\*\*Scopus Ranking January 28

Even though the results are based on this dataset which consists of only 845 documents over the past nine years, and focusing on the European continent, the intellectual structure of migration is sufficiently identified. This study examines a list of scholars in migration and concludes that they represent the body of knowledge on the subject. A network map was generated, which covered the major scope of ideologies, beliefs and perspectives of migration. This intellectual structure helps to explain the directions of research in the field. Although different sociologists may have various approaches to solving migration-related problems, this intellectual structure offers a deeper understanding of the subject and provides a wealth of ideas for further exploration.

**3.4 Influential Journals, Authors, Organizations and Research Articles**

The total number of 845 documents in the scope of this study were published in 364 sources (\*scopus database 28 January 2023). Only 11 sources had more than 10 articles published. Journal of Ethics and Migrant Studies has the most articles with 67 in this field of study. From the previous topical analysis, the articles in sociology on migration were diversified in major four branches of sociology; political sociology, economic sociology, sociology of race and ethnicity and demography. These branches are reflected in the network map and the following graph of top 11 journals with the most publications (Figure 8).

Journal of Ethics and Migrant Studies has the most articles with 67 articles in this field of study while others have less than 50 articles between 2014-2022 (Figure 8). It can be concluded that after the European migration crisis in 2015, there are more studies on the issue of migrations in various aspects, mainly, migration governance and acculturation as they were discussed earlier.

**Figure 8** Cited Sources Network Analysis, Citation-sources min 1/ 359 >131/ min cluster size 5 > 8 clusters

Eight clusters on the map show the groups of journals with their own sociological scope identified by their names while Journal of Ethnic and Migration studies was referred as the main source of most of the disciplines. Most of the journals, institutions, supporting organizations and countries of origins are mainly based in Europe. The 279 and 101 articles from the United Kingdom and the Netherlands were cited the most. There are also 90 articles from the United States which ranked third when compared to the rest of the countries on the list with more than 15 articles in Europe.

Most of the top 20 journals in this dataset (based on citations) are in the first quartile with some subject areas in the second quartile. The citation per document varied while most of them have the minimum number of 10.

**Table 4**

*Top 10 Journals in European Migration Studies Dataset*

Quartile	Sources	Number of Documents	CITE			
			2021	SJR 2021	SNIP2021	Citation/document*
Q1	Journal of Ethnic and Migration Studies	67	6.9	1.471	2.514	26.970
Q1	Ethnic and Racial Studies	29	3.9	0.968	1.974	10.621
Q1	International Migration	21	2.9	0.675	1.334	10.857
Q1	Social Science and Medicine	20	6.9	1.806	2.249	18.100
Q1-Q2	Sustainability (Switzerland)	19	5	0.664	1.310	6.053
Q1	International Migration Review	18	4.6	1.373	2.702	12.167
Q1-Q2	Journal of Refugee Studies	16	2.6	0.710	1.490	13.563
Q1-Q2	Journal of International Migration and Integration	15	2.1	0.461	1.083	3.800
Q1	Population, Space and Place	13	4.5	1.111	1.793	11.385
Q1	Journal of Immigrant and Refugee Studies	12	4.8	1.111	2.478	16.167

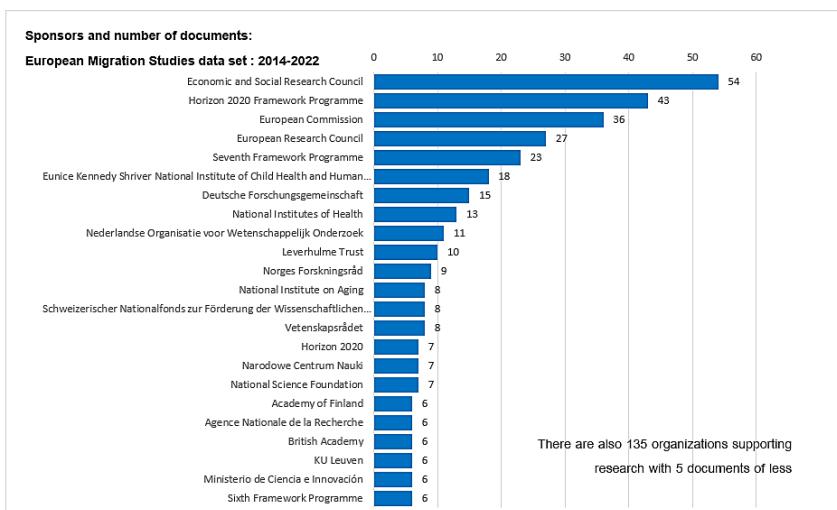
Scopus Ranking

\*calculated from ERM dataset 2014-2022

\*\*there are also 354 sources with less than 12 documents published between 2014-2022 (246 sources had only one publication in this data set)

These journals defined themselves to be in sociology combined with other areas. Scopus' comprehensive analysis online module provided a big picture of all articles and organizations involved. However, Scopus' subject areas scheme has its own classification based on the aims and scope of the title, and on the content, it publishes. Therefore, one article or a journal might have more than one subject area. Scopus has its own analytical tool for generating comprehensive analyses of the publications identifying numbers of articles by authors, funding sponsors, affiliations, and subject areas. As the original scope of this research is focusing on SOCI, ARTS, BUSI and ECON, the search result yielded 851 results which was screened out to 845 articles.

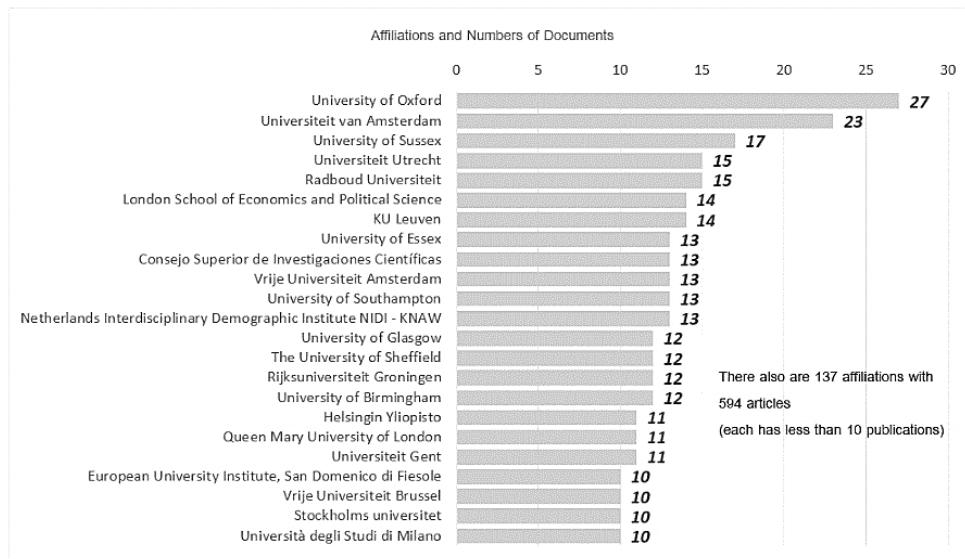
**Figure 9** The Numbers of Funding Sponsors of Publications on European Refugees: 2014-2022



The dataset shows that ESRC (The Economic and Social Research Council) in 2014 had supported 54 articles between 2014-2022. It supports independent, various sectors in doing research for societal development. EU's European Commission also sponsored 43 articles, as one of its objectives is developing policies and managing migration (European Commission, Official Website, n.d.). Also, The Seventh Framework Program (FP7) (Press Corner, n.d.), which works closely with the EU, sponsored 36 articles. Besides these three main sponsors, other organizations in Europe participated in supporting research in various topics and scope such as, German's DFG (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft), Netherlands' NOW, (The Dutch Research Council) and Academy of Finland. As the issue of migrants' welfare and health was a major concern, medical-oriented organizations also supported some of the research such as NIH (National Institute of Health) and Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human development.

The large number of sponsors correspond to the surge in the number of the documents, which implied that after the 2015 European Migration Crisis, various organizations were aware of the seriousness of the problems, and tried to understand the situation through research for creating better policies, (understanding the situations) and preparing for changes. 83% of the articles in the data set were generated by European organizations and institutions. From preliminary scanning of the 845 articles, most of the articles are from the United Kingdom in various topics covering both qualitative studies of immigrants' acculturation to the quantitative economic models of the migrant workforce, while other countries' articles cover their own local qualitative studies of societal problems such as xenophobia and irregular migrants at the borders.

**Figure 10** The Numbers of Academic Affiliations' Publications on European Refugees: 2014-2022 (November)



\* Scopus statistics; \*\* Only the ones with more than or equal to 10 documents are displayed

The field of migration study is highly diversified, and identifying experts in specific areas such as migration can be challenging. This is due to the specialized nature of their work and the varying ideologies that they may hold. To identify well-known scholars, certain factors such as the number of articles they have published in a particular field, citations from those articles, and co-citations must be considered. When it comes to the study of European migration, theoretical scholars and sociology researchers may have different levels of recognition in publications. Therefore, a careful examination of these factors is necessary to gain a more comprehensive understanding of the experts in this field.

Table 5 shows the top 13 authors which have the highest numbers of citations in Scopus over the 9 years (2014-2022). They are all well-known scholars in various sociological fields.

**Table 5***The List of Authors and Citation Statistics*

Author	Number of Documents	Number of Citations	Total Link Strength	Average Citation per Document
<b>Greussing E.</b>	1	214	22	214
<b>Dhesi S.</b>	1	181	10	181
<b>Abel G.J.</b>	1	175	0	175
<b>Brottrager M.</b>	1	175	0	175
<b>Crespo Cuaresma J.</b>	1	175	0	175
<b>Muttarak R.</b>	1	175	0	175
<b>Trauner F.</b>	1	162	34	162
<b>Abramitzky R.</b>	1	161	5	161
<b>Boustan L.P.</b>	1	161	5	161
<b>Eriksson K.</b>	1	161	5	161
<b>Dustmann C.</b>	2	315	20	157.5
<b>Rzepnikowska A.</b>	1	154	26	154
<b>Boomgaarden H.G.</b>	2	260	22	130
<b>Skleparis D.</b>	3	383	21	127.67
<b>Oeppen C.</b>	1	120	1	120
<b>Niemann A.</b>	1	110	10	110
<b>Zaun N.</b>	1	110	10	110
<b>Smets K.</b>	1	107	9	107
<b>Danewid I.</b>	1	97	3	97

These European scholars and their articles have covered most of the problems of European migration. In two main aspects; migration governance and acculturation. Table 6 lists the authors and their articles.

**Table 6***The List of Authors and Articles*

	Author	Citations	Article Title
1	<b>Crawley H. (2018)</b>	360	<i>Refugees, migrants, neither, both: categorical fetishism and the politics of bounding in Europe's 'migration crisis'</i>
2	<b>Dustmann C. (2014)</b>	224	<i>The Fiscal Effects of Immigration to the UK</i>
3	<b>Greussing E. (2017)</b>	209	<i>Shifting the refugee narrative? An automated frame analysis of Europe's 2015 refugee crisis</i>
4	<b>Davies T. (2017)</b>	180	<i>Violent Inaction: The Necropolitical Experience of Refugees in Europe</i>
5	<b>Abel G.J. (2019)</b>	168	<i>Climate, conflict and forced migration</i>
6	<b>Trauner F. (2016)</b>	159	<i>Asylum policy: the EU's 'crises' and the looming policy regime failure</i>
7	<b>Abramitzky R. (2014)</b>	158	<i>A nation of immigrants: Assimilation and economic outcomes in the age of mass migration.</i>
8	<b>Rzepnikowska A. (2019)</b>	147	<i>Racism and xenophobia experienced by Polish migrants in the UK before and after Brexit vote</i>
9	<b>Erdal M.B. (2018)</b>	113	<i>Forced to leave? The discursive and analytical significance of describing migration as forced and voluntary</i>
10	<b>Niemann A. (2018)</b>	108	<i>EU Refugee Policies and Politics in Times of Crisis: Theoretical and Empirical Perspectives</i>
11	<b>Kulu H. (2014)</b>	105	<i>Family Dynamics Among Immigrants and Their Descendants in Europe: Current Research and Opportunities</i>
12	<b>Leurs K. (2018)</b>	103	<i>Five Questions for Digital Migration Studies: Learning from Digital Connectivity and Forced Migration In(to) Europe</i>

\* Citations were calculated within the ERM dataset

The study of migration has evolved over time, with changing trends in research focus. Between 2014 and 2016, research articles primarily focused on the acculturation process and economic impact of intra-European migrants. However, after the 2015 European migration crisis, there was an emergence of more articles on EU migration governance, EU policy and migrant governance were discussed more extensively, starting in 2016, as EU and European nations started implementing their migration and asylum policies. After 2016, there was an increase in the number of articles that dealt with problems related to refugees, such as racism and xenophobia. Scholars also began studying foreseen problems in policy loopholes and acculturation. Following the arrival of refugees in receiving countries, more studies were conducted. However, there is a need for more research on migrants at different stages, the effectiveness of asylum policies, the handling of irregular migrants, and societal changes caused by the European migration crisis.

#### 4. Discussion

The review has provided sufficient answers to the four main questions posed, namely the scope of research, the most influential journals, the most prolific authors and institutions, and the trends in publication over time. To answer the first research question, data of the volume and trajectory of publications of European migration, was directly derived from the database and shows the increasing numbers of articles with reputational journals and sponsors. Scopus has created built-in analytical tools to provide basic statistics of the articles that researchers are investigating, such as trajectory, percentage of documents by subject areas, and documents by funding sponsors. However, these statistics are sufficient for descriptive explanation of the articles. MS Excel (or other data management software) is needed to generate more in-depth information such as a combination of the sponsors, scope of the studies and time. The use of cross tabulation is useful for in-depth studies of publications. For example, it might be useful to identify corresponding sponsors and specific organizations or affiliations, or it could be informative to find the focus of research in any particular organizations. Interestingly, there were 142 studies conducted and defined to be from outside Europe which implied that the interests of European migration are significant to other migration study researchers.

Sociology approaches migration as a social phenomenon that is shaped by structural and cultural factors, such as inequality, social networks, institutional arrangements, and cultural norms. Therefore, it is not the field, discipline or topic that can be categorized. Various theoretical perspectives were developed to understand migration, such as network theory; social capital theory; world systems theory; globalization theory; and intersectionality theory. With a range of methods to study migration, including qualitative and quantitative methods, such as interviews, surveys, ethnography, and statistical analysis, sociologists also have to focus on sociological factors covering their scope of studies. Migration study is a rapidly evolving field that is influenced by current events, policy debates, and social movements. This can lead to the emergence of new topics and research questions that may not fit into existing classification systems.

The intention of this research is to understand what scope of European migration were studied from 2014 to 2022. By focusing on 'Europe' and the word 'migration', the search criteria covered effective scope that the review intended. The results for the second research question were as expected as the scope can only be generalized into two; 1. migration governance (studies of problems before the migrants were received into the countries) and 2. acculturation, when migrants were in the European nation's system. In 'migration governance' there were various studies conducted, mainly, on policies and migration management processes including people in each country's responses to the migration while in 'acculturation' scope, the studies focused on how migrants adapted and how receiving countries responded. By looking into authors' keywords, the focuses were clearer in each group of 'problem' and 'detail' words. Words like

'xenophobia' and 'racism' showed up along with 'European migration politics' and 'illegal migrants'. Even though the number of occurrences could not identify the numbers of articles, the occurrences implied that these problems were studied and the results could be useful for future implementation. Therefore, the topical analysis for this study was different to conventional analysis as a result of migration's nature. The exploratory process of using word analyses with index and abstract keywords explains the importance of author's keywords. Index and abstract keywords were generally excessive for topical analysis while author's keywords allow VOSviewer to extract 'keywords' of the article. In this case, it is possible to track each word and find the article but not with VOSviewer. For this more data mining techniques in Excel are required. The example in this study will be useful for future research with more specific scope and questions.

In the process of answering Research Question 3, the citation and co-citation analyses revealed interesting facts and the intellectual structure of these groups of, mainly, European researchers. It also showed the underlying principles and concepts these researchers used in their studies. Considering only the scope of 'European migration' in this study and only the Scopus database, some renowned scholars in migration study are excluded from intellectual structure. Tacit knowledge and extensive research on these scholars are essential to determine their expertise, principles and ideologies contributing to the 'school of thought' in the field.

VOSviewer uses science mapping to create a network map based on the co-occurrences of citations among authors. The only reference used to determine 'the leaders' of the school of thoughts is the high numbers of citations. In this case, the co-citation map in Figure 8 was adjusted using lin/log calculation focusing on the citation occurrences with a minimum number of nodes equal to 32. The map was interpreted to have five clusters partially overlapping each other. The extensive search of these scholars led to a visually qualitative conclusion that these authors belong to these clusters. After the top four authors in each cluster were researched and the conclusions drawn from various sources, the coverages of 'schools of thought' were concluded. However, within the clusters, there were small multidisciplinary differences, showing the variations within school of thought, especially with the authors situated at the border of the clusters.

Furthermore, the citation analysis presented quite accurate information as it covers only authors within the scope of the study. Scholars' social network represented by the citation analysis map showed connections, co-authorship relations and clusters of similar research topics. Given the complexity of the issue and the difficulties in conducting research in this field, information from this review such as intellectual structure and descriptive data on journals and researchers will be useful. The research in this dataset will be the basis for future studies, and this review could be a starting point and provide guidelines for future research on what researcher should deem worth investigating in their scope of interests.

The growing issue of European migration and its complexity will inevitably affect more migration study research. At the same time, new knowledge databases such as Scopus and WOS, and analytical tools such as VOSviewer provide more flexibilities in doing a bibliographic review which is crucial to the study of references. The technology is evolving to better standards when compatibility, in-depth analysis and data presentation have more features and more details for researchers to explore. Also, researchers are required to learn more about data sciences and new algorithms on order to take advantage of these new data sciences tools such as VOSviewer.

## 5. Conclusion

The review has provided sufficient answers to the four main questions posed, namely the key topics of research, the most influential journals, the most prolific authors and institutions, and the trends in publication over time. With some

limitations and restrictions, the results are adequate for other researchers to identify essential information in proposed research questions. However, when it comes to topical analysis, it is difficult to precisely determine the topics of the studies as they are diverse, with only the broad scope of migration governance (politics and policies) and acculturation and integration. The intellectual structure provides us and other scholars the ability to, at least, start in the right area of European migration research.

The 'limited scope of literature and probably incomplete data of the scope' might alter the results in analyzing intellectual structure. Therefore, any conclusions of intellectual structure in this study are limited to this data set and an interpretation of this particular map. The interpretation of topology which can be altered by different map layout and calculations, was solely based on the reviewer's subjectivity. This is another limitation in this study, as the reviewer has limited tacit knowledge on the 'schools of thoughts' and was unaware of the plausible clusters.

Furthermore, the interpretation of the map as a result of subjective map adjustment and calculations also depended on the tacit knowledge of the field. These three limitations of limited scope (only European migrant between 2014-2022), incomplete data (only Scopus dataset used) and subjectivity in map creation algorithm and interpretation (Rafols, I., Porter, A. L., & Leydesdorff, L., 2012, pp. 1873-1887) were of concern. However, the last issue was carefully adjusted to come up with the results presented. The intellectual structure concluded was considered sufficient within the limited scope.

Another limitation is that the Scopus database, while encompassing various fields, does not index particular peer-reviewed publications (Sweileh et al., 2018). This is especially true for publications that are published in Asian and African countries. Consequently, several articles in European Migration Studies were overlooked due to their publication in unindexed journals. Furthermore, the bibliometric analysis of European Migration Studies is limited to Asians and non-Europeans while examining various decades. Hence, this discussion will encompass more comprehensive literature studies and diverse contexts, with a specific focus on Asia and the United States.

In the field of European migration studies, this study deviates from conventional analysis, because of it from on the topical analysis. Using index and abstract keywords for word analysis during the exploratory phase helps to clarify why the author selected the particular keywords they accomplished. Index and abstract keywords were frequently overused for topical analysis, whereas the author's keywords enabled VOSviewer to extract significant 'keywords' from the text. It is possible in this scenario to trace and identify each individual word in order to locate the corresponding article. Nonetheless, VOSviewer lacks this capability. Both the future study plan and the discussion of migration challenges require the use of additional data mining tools in Excel and a deeper integration of economic studies into migration studies.

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