

Local Leader Tenure and Socio-Political Resilience: A Preliminary Study

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Abstract: Changes in policy related to the term of office of village heads, such as term extensions, have the potential to cause various negative impacts. On the one hand, this policy can be a step toward strengthening the stability of village administration. The term of office of local leaders and socio-political resilience seeks to explore research trends regarding local leadership and socio-political resilience. This analysis provides a comprehensive overview of the intellectual structure, key contributors, influential publications, and collaborative networks that shape this field. The study adopts bibliometric analysis to conduct a comprehensive and systematic search of the formal characteristics of the scientific domain, using quantitative and qualitative data from previous publications. This study found that the keywords "study" and "governance" play an important role in the tenure of local leaders and socio-political resilience. In-depth governance studies play an important role in the tenure of local leaders and socio-political resilience. This is because governance studies emphasize the importance of social and political studies of governance. Current trends show that the tenure of local leaders and social-political resilience are most frequently written about in social research topics (44%), followed by art and humanities topics (24%), and environmental topics in third place (7%).

1. Introduction

Policy dynamics related to the tenure of village heads, such as the extension of the term of office, have the potential to cause various negative impacts (Purwanti, 2022; Rahardian & Zarkasi, 2021). These risks include abuse of authority and position, social jealousy, and the emergence of leadership dynasties that hinder healthy regeneration (Ghufron, 2020; Haya & Khusnuridlo, 2020; Muhsin et al., 2021). In addition, the potential for misuse of village funds and nepotism in village government structures also increases, narrowing the opportunities for other village head candidates. If the incumbent village head is not of good quality, the community can be harmed, while the transparency of budget utilisation can also be threatened, potentially triggering social turmoil (Hu et al., 2017; Junita & Agilitas, 2021; Yaminah et al., 2023).

On the one hand, this policy could be a step towards strengthening the stability of village governance. Literature on village leadership, local governance, and socio-political resilience has been widely developed, both in the context of Indonesia and other countries with village governance structures (Chu et al., 2009; Trevisan et al., 2023). However, not many studies have systematically mapped how tenure of local leaders is associated with social and political stability. This research aims to map the development of academic studies on village leadership and socio-political resilience through a bibliometric approach (Grindle, 2007; Leonard, 2019; Muenjohn et al., 2018).

This paper presents a bibliometric analysis of research trends related to local leader tenure and socio-political resilience, by examining a range of academic publications over a specific period. The findings of this study will contribute to the understanding of how local leader tenure and socio-political resilience have evolved and will provide valuable insights for future research and practice. Publications presenting bibliometric analyses of trends in local leader tenure and socio-political resilience are limited in the literature. This limitation is understandable as the majority of leadership studies are about leadership in general and not many discuss local leadership and sociopolitical resilience (Arief et al., 2018; Latip et al., 2024; Leonard, 2019; Lussier & Achua, 2010; Saunders, 2020).

The study of local leadership focuses more on the individual or national macro level, which only focuses on the content and not on the implementation process, in contrast to leadership in Negeria the community (local) leaders have a good understanding of the implementation of community dynamics that exist in their area (Okechi et al., 2025). For them it is important to identify the different types of leadership roles that exist in local communities, as this helps in understanding their role and influence in socio-political resilience. (Leonard, 2019; Okechi et al., 2025). Community chiefs and security chiefs or vigilante leaders are the most common categories of leaders found in almost all local communities. Other leaders include trade/market union leaders, elected political officials, traditional cabinet members, and politically appointed leaders (Okechi et al., 2025) . The role of these local leaders influences the socio-political resilience of local leadership in different countries. To address this gap, this study aims to systematically review articles identifying local leadership topics indexed in the Scopus database.

This comprehensive study focuses on providing insights into intricate aspects including directions, patterns, relationships, and contextual characteristics inherent in the exploration of local leadership through careful bibliometric methods. Bibliometric analysis has emerged as a powerful tool for mapping the landscape of academic research, providing insights into the evolution, key themes, and future directions of a particular field. Using bibliometric methods, this study aims to explore research trends on local leadership and socio-political resilience. The analysis provides a comprehensive overview of the intellectual structure, key contributors, influential publications, and collaborative networks that shape the field. In addition, the study also identifies gaps and opportunities for future research, thus enabling a more targeted and strategic approach to local leadership in different countries. This article will further describe and analyse publication trends, actors involved by author, the most frequently occurring keywords, as well as the most frequently discussed research topics in local leader tenure and socio-political resilience: a preliminary study.

Recent debates regarding changes in village head tenure in Indonesia have generated significant academic and policy discussions concerning local governance stability, leadership accountability, and socio-political resilience at the village level. These policy dynamics have stimulated increasing scholarly attention from various disciplines such as public administration, governance studies, political science, and community development. However, despite the growing body of literature, a systematic mapping of

the intellectual development of research on local leadership tenure and socio-political resilience remains limited.

Therefore, a bibliometric approach is employed in this study to systematically examine the intellectual structure, research trends, key contributors, and influential publications within this field. Bibliometric analysis enables the identification of dominant research themes, collaborative research networks, and emerging research clusters, which can provide a comprehensive understanding of how scholarly discussions related to village leadership tenure and socio-political resilience have evolved over time.

2. Literature Review

Local leadership tenure in this study is the period or time a leader leads an organisation or region. Where effective leadership at the local level can accelerate the progress of a region's development, because leaders in the area have an affinity with the issues faced by the community and can make relevant decisions and provide solutions (Grindle, 2007). In addition, leadership at the local level contributes significantly to increased community involvement in the decision-making process. Research conducted by (Antlöv, 2003) shows that local leaders who are inclusive and involve others can create trust in the eyes of the public, strengthen social cohesion, and reduce the likelihood of conflict at the local level.

However, the performance of local leaders is strongly influenced by the length of the leadership period and local political conditions. Short leadership periods often result in the implementation of policies that do not last long and are weak in the implementation of development programmes. On the other hand, a long term of office without accountability can lead to deadlock and strengthen the political patronage system (Crook & Manor, 1998). Socio-political resilience is closely related to social justice, equitable access to public services, and people's contribution to political affairs. When people feel that their voices are considered and that they are involved, the likelihood of conflict is reduced and social resilience becomes more robust.

Social and political resilience is one of the foundations of national resilience that reflects the changing circumstances in the social and political life of a country when facing various challenges, both from within and outside. This resilience shows stability in the socio-political system, community involvement, and how effective political institutions are in maintaining national unity and integrity (Andriyani et al., 2021; Hidayah et al., 2017; Sulastri et al., 2020). In the situation of Indonesia, which is a country with various cultures and democratic systems, socio-political resilience plays an important role in maintaining national stability. This is especially needed to overcome challenges such as radicalisation, misinformation, intolerant attitudes, and inter-group disputes. Therefore, socio-political development that is inclusive and involves community participation is key (Molan & ajková, 2023).

In this situation, Indonesia, a country with various cultures and democratic systems, socio-political resilience plays an important role in maintaining national stability. This is especially needed to overcome challenges such as radicalisation, misinformation, intolerant attitudes, and inter-group disputes. Therefore, socio-political development that is inclusive and involves community participation is key (Hidayah et al., 2017).

In the Indonesian context, the function of local governments in maintaining socio-political stability has become increasingly crucial following the decentralisation process. Regional autonomy gives local leaders the freedom to manage resources and shape local policies, but it can also create opportunities for political competition and identity conflict if not managed well (Aspinall & Berenschot, n.d., 2019). The relationship between local leaders and socio-political resilience is mutually supportive. Resilient,

transparent and inclusive local leaders can build a stable social and political environment. This increases the ability of communities to cope with crises, whether political, economic or disaster-related (Frengkiy, 2020; Harsoyo, 2022; Vang & Hein, 2015).

3. Research Methods

Metode This study adopts bibliometric analysis to conduct a thorough and systematic search of the formal characteristics of the scientific domain, using quantitative and qualitative data from previous publications (Donthu et al., 2021; Mukherjee et al., 2022). This methodology is divided into two categories, namely science mapping and performance analysis. Therefore, bibliometric analyses are conducted using indicators such as the number of authors, papers, citations, institutions, and countries examined in the data (Aziz et al., 2023; Herrera-Franco et al., 2020). This research has many purposes, such as assessing journal performance and new trends in an article, generating collaboration patterns and reporting systems, and investigating the intellectual structure of certain themes in the current literature. The findings from this bibliometric analysis significantly contribute to other researchers in obtaining scientific information regarding the trends of certain topics, so that it can be the basis for future study efforts (Bakir & Gunduz, 2020).

The use of bibliometric analyses has extended to various scholarly fields, including public administration. George et al. (2023) assert that many public administration scholars often use diverse frameworks in reviews that incorporate human intelligence and artificial intelligence as research subjects. This methodology has been prevalent in public administration over the past two decades, with studies such as Vogel (2014) examining the role of organisational articles, Goyal (2017) and Azizatun et al. (2021) focusing on policy science, Hsieh et al. (2019) exploring emotional labour, and Ni et al. (2017) investigating the scholarly contributions of journals including *Public Administration Review*. In addition, contemporary issues in public administration such as e-government (Dias, 2019; Roziqin et al., 2022), big data in public service (Xia et al., 2022), and smart cities (Principale et al., 2023; Sulistyaningsih et al., 2023; Vujkovi et al., 2022) are also the subject of recent research.

Search Strategy

This study used the Scopus database to conduct bibliometric analyses relevant to local leadership tenure and socio-political resilience. This database is recognised as the world's largest scholarly source for peer-reviewed studies, including books, chapters, reviews, conference proceedings and journal articles. The database consists of more than 25,862 thousand items in various fields as of July 2025. The search was conducted based on certain criteria, such as articles published in English and containing the theme "Local Leadership Tenure and Socio-Political Resilience" in the title, keywords, and abstract. As a result, 144 documents fulfilled these selection criteria. Keywords such as "Local Leadership" or "Socio-political Resilience" were added to the titles and abstracts to narrow down the specific focus on local leadership and socio-political resilience. Furthermore, this study concerns local leadership studies published in the field of public administration.

Figure 1 outlines the steps of the article selection process, which follows the principles of the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA). The bibliometric data in this study was collected over the period 2004 to 2024. After various inclusion and exclusion criteria were applied, a total of 131 documents remained.

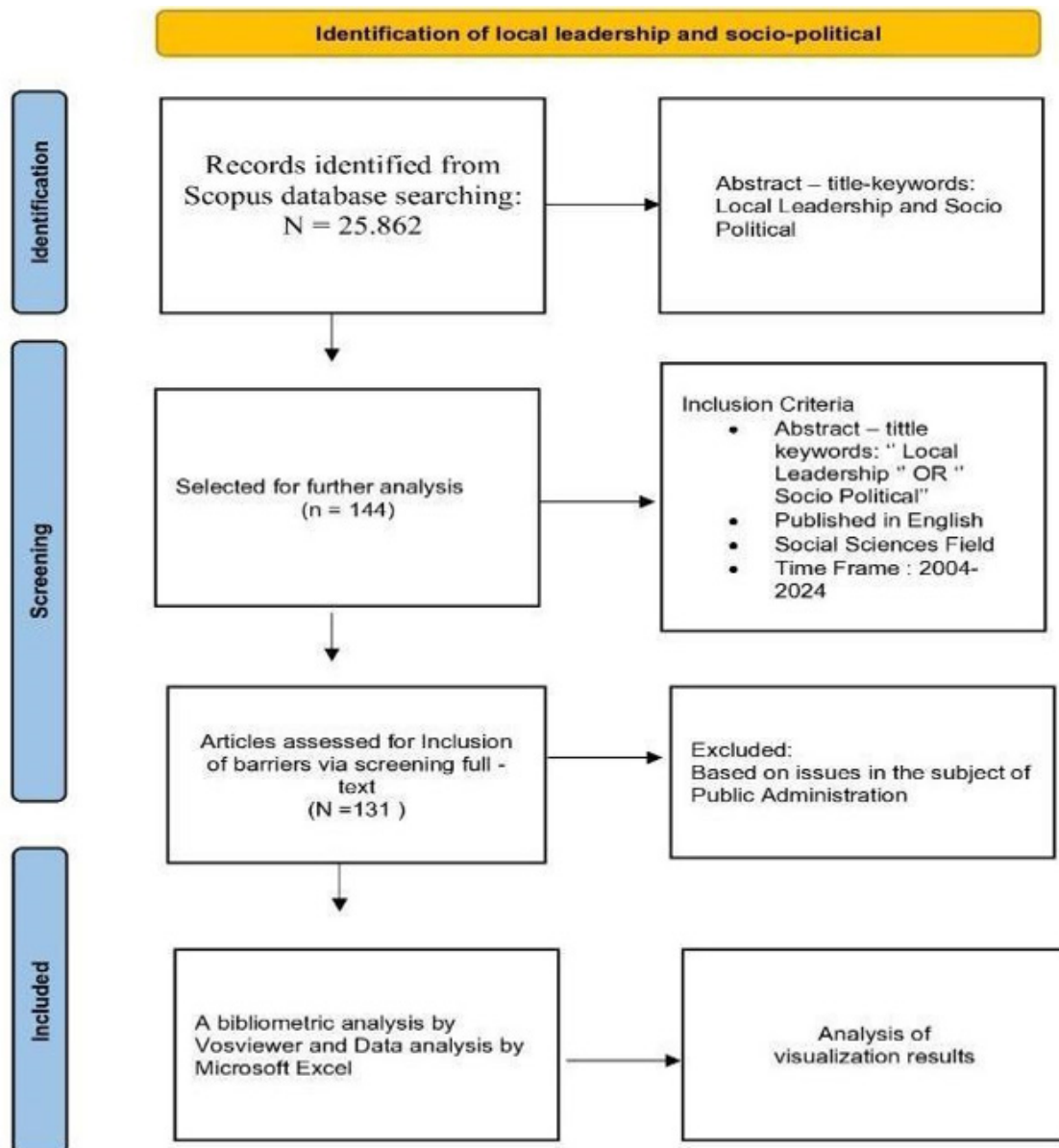


Figure 1: PRISMA for the Article Selection Process
Source: Prisma Analyze, 2025

VOSviewer software is used in bibliometric analyses, focusing on co-occurrence aspects and bibliographic merging for network analysis (van Eck & Waltman, 2010) which is an important method (Aziz et al., 2023; Hsieh et al., 2019). The co-occurrence feature in VOSviewer represents the relationship between keywords in a collection of papers. When the relationship between words strengthens, the proximity and distance measures between items increase. The co-occurrence characteristic is also used to map concept clusters, which are indicated by a specific colour for each cluster. A total of 131 articles were downloaded and the bibliographic data was extracted into a Comma-Value-Separated (CSV) file. Subsequently, the file was analysed using bibliometric analysis to map and visualise scientific evidence. VOSviewer allows authors to create and view bibliometric visualisation maps (Nees Jan van Eck & Ludo Waltman, 2014). In addition, bibliographic merging was used to examine the relationships between references by author, affiliation, source/journal, and country.

4. Results and Discussion

a. Publication Trend by Document

The trend of publications on local leadership and social resilience from 2004 to 2024 shows a fluctuating but upward trend. At the beginning of 2004, there was not much written about the tenure of local leaders and socio-political resilience. There was only (1) document that wrote about local leaders and socio-political resilience. The document was “Reducing disparities in behavioural health services: A report from the American College of Mental Health Administration”. This article provides an overview of the socio-political context and key issues involved in reducing inequalities, and provides momentum for change. The agenda for change should include efforts at the national, state, and local levels involving consumers, providers, purchasers of services, watchdog organisations, and researchers. ACMHA is committed to advancing this field and assisting national efforts in reducing inequality. Examples of potential projects include: Training: Much has been done to develop effective cultural competence training modules and guide states in their implementation. There is no need to repeat what already exists. Funds should be targeted to incentivise states to disseminate existing training curricula and document their effectiveness to all service providers and administrators (Dougherty, 2004).

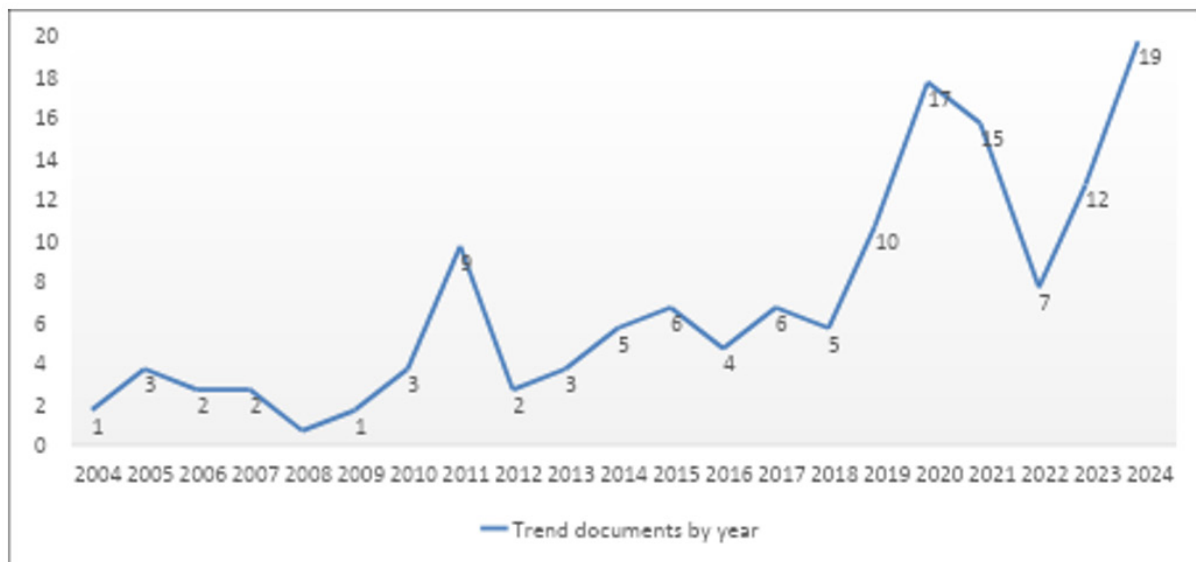


Figure 2 Publication trend by document
Source: Scopus Analyze, 2025

Data: Nationally, the field would benefit from data standards for systems inequality collection and reporting. AMCHA could play a role in coordinating these projects, especially at the state and possibly local level. State efforts could benefit from the presentation of best practices from other states and a better understanding of the nature and scope of changes needed at the programme and local levels. Local efforts need to clearly incorporate the views and perspectives of community members and consumers. The 2003 ACMHA Summit provided a foundation and framework for continuing work at all levels of the behavioural health service delivery system (Dougherty, 2004) .

The proliferation of writing on local leader tenure and socio-political resilience continued to increase in 2011 with (9) documents addressing this issue. The most frequently discussed and cited article was one entitled ““Truth be told”: 1Some problems with historical revisionism in Kenya” This article discusses how historical revisionism was equally attractive to state and non-state actors during a period

of intense socio-political change, particularly after the civil conflict, when the need for unity was a top priority (Hughes, 2011) . After 2011 the number of documents discussing local leadership tenure and socio-political resilience declined, until it rose again in 2020 (17). In 2020, of the 17 documents, researchers and academics mostly discussed the article " The cycle of distrust in health policy and behaviour: Lessons learned from the Negev Bedouin" This article discusses health systems around the world facing declining public trust. For marginalised minority populations, who generally suffer from poverty and political exclusion, the roots of this trend run much deeper, creating a two-way state of distrust between them and health institutions (Hermesh et al., 2020) . After 2020 the number of documents addressing local leader tenure and socio-political resilience continued to decline until it peaked in 2024 with (19) documents addressing these issues.

In 2024, among 19 documents, academics and researchers cited the article "Proactive understanding of the multi-level stakeholder acceptance of a novel renewable energy technology: Chemical storage of solar energy", in general this article addresses a dual contribution: identifying nine factors that can promote or hinder acceptance applicable to new energy storage technologies, as well as presenting 18 stakeholder entities. Recommended stakeholder management strategies are provided for each entity at the development and implementation stages. The findings illuminate the complexities of stakeholder management, socio-political resistance, market acceptance, and community integration. Policy makers and industry leaders can utilise this study to navigate the risks and opportunities of new technology implementation from a stakeholder acceptance perspective (Kadenic et al., 2024) .

The proliferation of discussions on local leadership tenure and socio-political resilience from 2004 to 2024 reflects the dynamic nature of research on this subject over time. Starting in 2004, there was only one document and then increasing to 19 documents by 2024. This development reflects the dynamic nature of international scholarship on local leadership tenure and socio-political resilience. Where the country that has the most discussions on this matter is the United States with (24) documents (Klossek, 2020; Lippman et al., 2007; Marshall et al., 2024; Mousavi Mojab et al., 2021a; Zhu et al., 2025) and Indonesia in eighth position with (5) documents (Bush & Fealy, 2014; Pangemanan et al., 2024; Pribadi, 2018; Situmorang & Aslam, 2020) .

b. Publication Trend Based on Author

The development of publications based on authors from 2004 to 2024 shows the dominance of the author Fotouhi, F in the first rank while Mousavi Mojab, S.Z. is ranked second followed by Pribadi, Y in the third rank from the top. Meanwhile, the bottom third is occupied by authors Ackermann, F, Adgo, E, Alamirew, T in seventh to last place. Fotouhi, F is the author who wrote the most about the tenure of local leaders and socio-political resilience with Mousavi Mojab, S.Z.

The interesting thing here is that there are (2) articles co-authored by these two top authors (Fotouhi, F and Mousavi Mojab, S.Z.), even both authors are in the same department, affiliation and country, namely the Department of Computer Science, Wayne State University, USA (Mousavi Mojab et al., 2021b, 2021a) . The first article they wrote was a discussion on "Epistocracy Algorithm: A Novel Hyper-heuristic Optimisation Strategy for Solving Complex Optimisation Problems" was published in Lecture Notes in Networks and Systems Conference Paper in 2021 and the second article discussed about "Epistocracy Algorithm: A Novel Hyper-heuristic Optimisation Strategy for Solving Complex Optimisation Problems" published in Intelligent Computing - Proceedings of the 2021 Computing Conference.

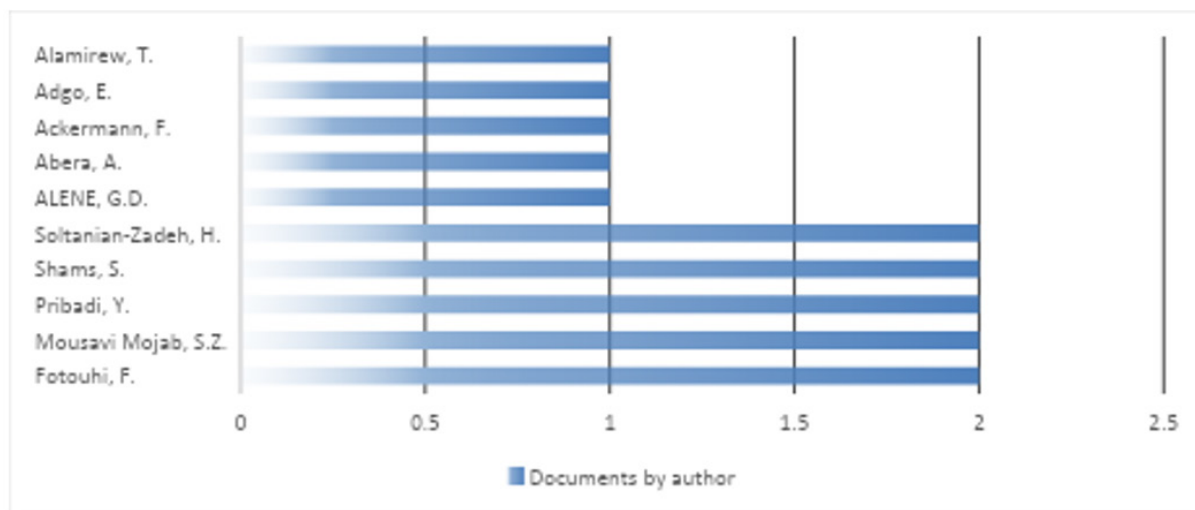


Figure 3 Publication trend by author
 Source : Scopus Analyze, 2025

Another interesting thing found is that the third author position is not dominated by developed countries from the United States, but is dominated by authors from developing countries, namely Indonesia. The author is Pribadi Yanwar who has become the sole author of (2) Scopus indexed documents. This author is from the State Islamic University (UIN), Sultan Maulana Hasanuddin, Banten, Indonesia. The first article was published in 2013 under the title “Another side of Islam in Banten: The socio-political roles of jawara during the new order era 1966-1998” discusses the socio-political roles of jawara in Banten as traditional and modern leaders during the New Order period 1966-1998. The paper shows that Banten is not only a religious region, but also a region of tradition and violence in various forms. During the colonial period, the jawara together with the ulama carried out resistance aimed at overthrowing not only the existing political regime, but also the prevailing socio-cultural order of the time. During the New Order period, this development changed with the co-optation of ulama and jawara by Golkar. By becoming involved in the state and adjusting to the new political atmosphere, the jawara and ulama created new positions in which they gradually expanded their power, status and wealth. During Suharto’s rule, they demonstrated a patron-client relationship with the government (Pribadi, 2013). Meanwhile, his second article, “Identity contested: Cultural resilience in the midst of Islamisation of politics” in 2018 discussed how contemporary local-level leaders in Indonesia have been involved in the country’s turbulent politics. The Regent of Purwakarta (2008-2018), Dedi Mulyadi, largely relied on his culture-based political preferences to develop his region. In doing so, he often faced various forms of political Islamisation, which hindered his strategies to achieve personal goals, display his socio-political identity, and strengthen his socio-cultural resilience. The regent appears to challenge rampant political Islamisation by “waging war” against Islamist groups in the name of indigenous Sundanese culture (Personal, 2018) .

c. Publication Trend by Keyword

The publication trend based on keywords mostly discusses the keywords “study”, “governance”, “development” and “politics”. The lighter the colour of a keyword, reflecting that the keyword is most searched and discussed by many people. In the figure, it is clear that the keywords “study” and “governance” are the brightest and most frequently discussed keywords related to local leadership tenure and socio-political resilience. The keyword “study” was most frequently mentioned in the search category of

local leader tenure and socio-political resilience, one of the articles that discussed this was “Turning a Blind Eye to African Refugees and Immigrants in a Tourist City: A Case-study of Blame-shifting in Cape Town” It further discusses what role do municipalities play in curbing xenophobia in all its forms, and what should these institutions do to promote the integration of African immigrants? This paper analyses a case study of the City of Cape Town’s policies and programmes related to African immigrants and refugees after the 2008 xenophobic crisis, up to 2016 (Ruiters et al., 2020).

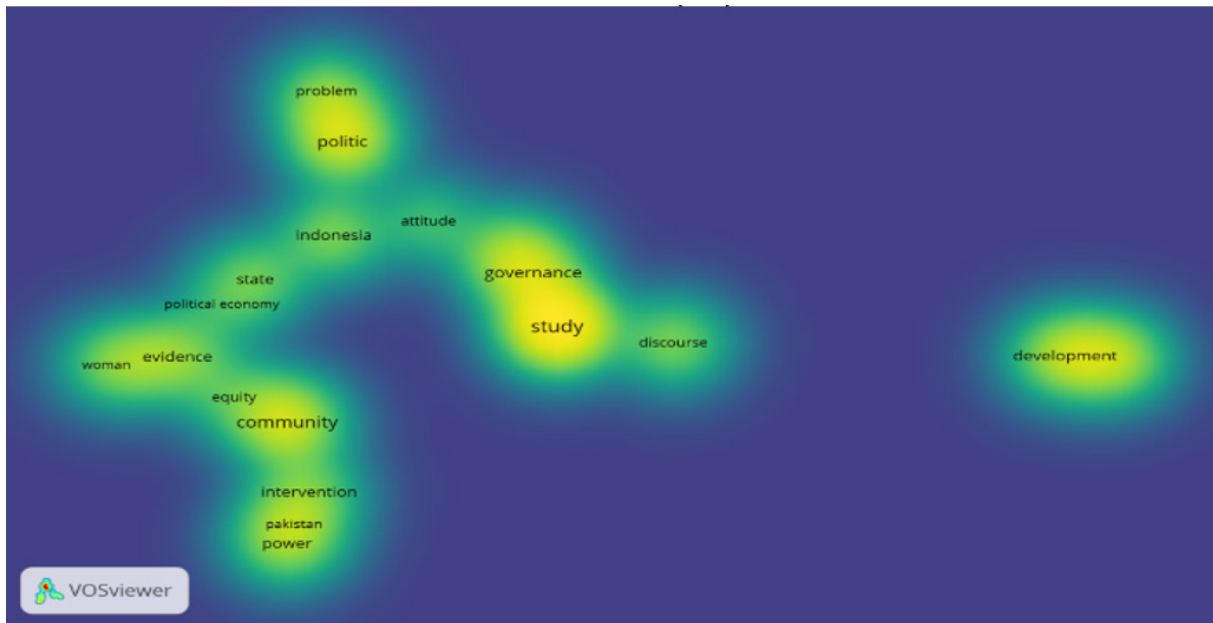


Figure 4 Publication trend by keyword
Source: Scopus VOSviewer Analysis Results, 2025

The co-occurrence analysis further reveals several dominant thematic clusters in the literature. The first cluster relates to governance and institutional arrangements, focusing on how leadership tenure influences governance stability and policy continuity. The second cluster is associated with community resilience, social trust, and public participation, highlighting the role of local leaders in maintaining socio-political stability. The third cluster concerns political legitimacy and leadership dynamics, particularly in contexts of decentralisation and local democracy.

Municipal government as a separate sphere of government has its own space to address socio-political issues and form local alliances and urban life. Although Cape Town is a tourism-driven city undergoing gentrification, which significantly relies on vulnerable African immigrant labour, leaders and businesses in Cape Town do not have explicit policies or programmes to address xenophobia, a ticking time bomb ready to explode, and tend to blame others. City leaders and employers view African immigrants instrumentally as mere labour; a financial burden, and not as potential citizens (Ruiters et al., 2020).

This paper focuses on local government’s definition of the “foreign immigrant problem” and its poor record in mitigating xenophobic conflict drivers in South African cities, recognising that while cities are not the only players, they are certainly closest to the problem. The paper concludes that cities need a proactive and comprehensive approach, recognising migrants and their organisations, especially foreign workers, legal immigrants, and refugees, as city builders, stakeholders, and potential citizens in the city. This paper is based on interviews with city officials, migrants, and asylum seekers in the City of Cape Town (Ruiters et al., 2020).

The keyword “*governance*” is the most discussed keyword in the tenure of local leaders and socio-political resilience, one of the articles discussing this is “Drivers of collaborative governance for the green transition” by Øjvind Nielsen in 2024, this article further discusses theoretical and empirical studies praising the role of collaborative governance in driving the green transition, but we still know little about how a constellation of competing governance factors can support local collaboration between public and private actors. This article uses Qualitative Comparative Analysis of 22 local cases of collaborative governance in green transitions. The analysis identifies two distinct pathways for collaborative scaling up of the circular economy that can enable public leaders in different socio-political contexts to use collaborative governance in networks and partnerships as a tool to improve environmental sustainability and mitigate the climate crisis (Øjvind Nielsen et al., 2024) .

Behind the two keywords “study” and “governance” there is a deep meaning that in the tenure of local leadership and socio-political resilience both of these play an important role in the process of local leadership and social resilience. Study is the activity of learning or acquiring knowledge, either from books or through observation of the world around (Oxford Dictionary, 1993) . Study is important in local leadership tenure and socio-political resilience. This may indicate that the tenure of local leaders and socio-political resilience requires an in-depth study of governance as it relates to social and political issues. Governance is the process by which society directs itself, and the collective mechanisms that guide political and administrative action (Pierre & Peters, 2020) . Another opinion reveals that governance is the patterns that arise from government activities by social, political, and administrative actors (Kooiman, 1993) . Through the arguments of these experts, it can be concluded that the study of governance plays an important role in the tenure of local leaders and socio-political resilience cities are not the only players, they are certainly closest to the problem. The paper concludes that cities need a proactive and comprehensive approach, recognising migrants and their organisations, especially foreign workers, legal immigrants, and refugees, as city builders, stakeholders, and potential citizens in the city. This paper is based on interviews with city officials, migrants, and asylum seekers in the City of Cape Town (Ruiters et al., 2020) .

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d. Publication Trend by Topic Area

The development of topics on “local leadership tenure and socio-political resilience” from 2004 to 2024 continues to grow. These topics are discussed in the *social* topic area by 44% then *arts and humanities* by 24%, the third position is occupied by the *environmental* topic area which discusses local leadership tenure and socio-political resilience. In the topic cluster “social”, the period of local leadership and socio-political resilience is discussed in the form of a discussion article, namely “The Relationship between Government and Civil Society in the Era of COVID-19” by Kövér, Ágnes in 2021 which discusses COVID-19 which has created an extraordinary social situation, where the government is struggling to mitigate the adverse effects of the pandemic. These difficult times demonstrated the resilience of society, its ability to consolidate and unite, the government’s ability to deal effectively with the emergency, the stability and inclusiveness of the political system, and its ability to respect democratic values. It is important to examine this period from the perspective of civil society and civil society organisations (CSOs), as civil society played a key role in mitigating and addressing social problems associated with the epidemic, and even a vital role in curbing the spread of the virus (Köver, 2021) .

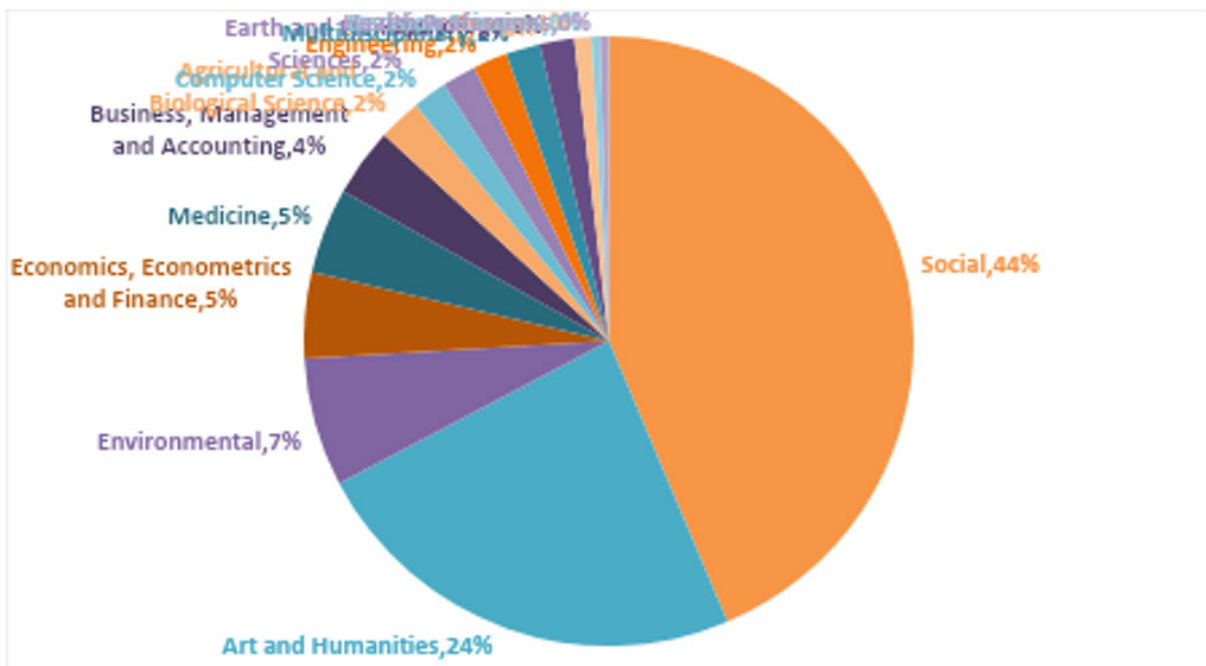


Figure 5 Publication trend by topic area
Source : Scopus analyses, 2025

The strength and resilience of the civil sector was put to the test. As the studies in this Special Issue show, harnessing the potential of civil society is an option that only a few countries have been able to utilise, allowing them to successfully reduce the impact of disasters while increasing a sense of solidarity and belonging within their societies. However, other countries failed to recognise the importance of civil society and interpreted the situation as a “one-man stage show”. Neither solidarity nor cohesion mate-

realised as values in these latter cases; instead, single government actors seized the opportunity to play heroic saviours and exclusive problem-solvers, claiming symbolic benefits and increasing the concentration of power. Citizens are expected not to trust anyone or any organisation except the charismatic leader (or party). Thus, vertical and hierarchical chains of control are established, rather than horizontally connected networks of trust and co-operation (Kövé, 2021).

On the other hand, in the topic cluster *“arts and humanities”* the tenure of local leaders and social resilience are discussed in the form of the article *“Socio-political change on a slave-raiding frontier: War, trade and ‘big men’ in nineteenth century Sisalaland, Northern Ghana”* by Swanepoel, Natalie in 2005 which discusses how life in northern Ghana in the nineteenth century was characterized by insecurity, as residents experienced frequent slave raids (Swanepoel, 2005). Local villages formed alliances with the raiders as a way to shift the local political balance in their favour. Early research suggests that many of the local influential figures who emerged as war leaders in this period also occupied easily defensible locations or strong villages with access to trade routes. Archaeological investigations at the hill site of Yalingbong revealed that the community was strategically positioned to take advantage of increased trade opportunities, but that status differences within the site were less pronounced (Swanepoel, 2005).

On the other hand in the *“environment”* topic cluster the discussion on local leadership tenure and social health is reflected in the article *“Why people matter in ocean governance: Incorporating human dimensions into large-scale marine protected areas”* written by Christie, Patrick et al in 2017 which discusses the best management practices identified for the human dimension of LSMPAs including: integration of culture and tradition, effective public and stakeholder engagement, maintenance of livelihoods and well-being, promotion of economic sustainability, conflict management and resolution, transparency and appropriate institutions, legitimate and appropriate governance, and social justice and empowerment (Christie et al., 2017).

The jointly developed human dimensions research agenda includes prioritised topics under the themes of human dimensions scoping, governance, politics, social and economic outcomes, and culture and traditions. The authors discuss future directions for researching and integrating human dimensions into the design and management of LSMPAs, reflect on this global effort to co-produce knowledge and guide practice on the human dimensions of LSMPAs, and invite others to join the emerging community of practice on the human dimensions of large-scale marine conservation (Christie et al., 2017).

5. Conclusion

The study of local leader tenure and socio-political resilience has become a topic of interest in scholarly practice and development. This study aims to examine current trends in local leader tenure and socio-political resilience research. The analysis provides a comprehensive overview of the intellectual structure, key contributors, influential publications and collaborative networks that make up the field. In addition, it identifies gaps and opportunities for future research, enabling a more targeted and strategic approach to local leadership in different countries.

It was found that the first article addressing local leader tenure and social resilience was published in 2004, titled *“Reducing disparities in behavioural health services: A report from the American College of Mental Health Administration”*. This article provides an overview of the socio-political context and key issues involved in reducing inequalities, and provides momentum for change. Starting from this article, there have been various other articles that discuss similar issues. Among them is an article by Fotouhi, F and Mousavi Mojab, S.Z. published in 2021, followed by another article in 2024 by Marshall et al.

Other findings reveal that “study” and “governance” play an important role in local leaders’ tenure and socio-political resilience. In-depth governance studies play an important role in local leader tenure and socio-political resilience. This is because governance studies play an important role in the social and political study of governance. Recent trends have found that tenure of local leaders and socio-political resilience is most commonly written on social research topics at 44 per cent followed by arts and humanities topics at 24 per cent and environmental topics in third place with 7 per cent.

This reflects that the tenure of local leaders is still mostly written about in the social topics cluster but not in the scientific sciences cluster. This could be unique if writers from the scientific community can see their science from a social and political perspective. In the future, it is hoped that there will be more writings that discuss the tenure of local leaders and socio-political resilience from other perspectives, for example from the perspective of science and technology. It could be about local leadership in natural environment management or the role of local leadership in the chemical industry.

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