

Peer Review

Review of: "Evaluation of Indonesia's Scientific Publication Performance: Quantity, Quality, Open Access, and Comparison with ASEAN Countries"

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Review of Manuscript on Indonesian Science Output and Citation Metrics

The manuscript investigates Indonesia's scientific output by analyzing citation data from Scilit.com, concluding that while countries such as the United States maintain high citation averages alongside large publication volumes, others like India, China, and Indonesia show a lower citation-per-article ratio, suggesting an imbalance between quantity and quality for Indonesia.

Assuming the reliability of the Scilit.com dataset and accepting citations as indicators of quality and impact, the authors' conclusions may appear reasonable. However, the manuscript does not sufficiently engage with the extensive critical literature on citation metrics. It overlooks well-documented issues such as the systemic underrepresentation of research from developing countries in major citation indexes, the influence of disciplinary field size on citation counts, and the bias favoring high-income countries in citation visibility.

By failing to address these concerns, the manuscript risks reinforcing simplistic and potentially misleading narratives about scientific quality and impact. A substantially deeper literature review is required, and the authors should critically assess the limitations of citation-based evaluations. As a starting point, they are encouraged to consult the **San Francisco Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)**, which outlines key problems with overreliance on citation metrics.

In its current form, the manuscript does not meet the standards for publication and requires major revision.

Recommendation: Reject.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.