Mapping Arab-Israeli Conflict: A Bibliometric Analysis

Pemetaan Konflik Arab-Israel: Analisis Bibliometrik

AINUL ASYRAF LOKMAN[1*], MOHD ROSLAN MOHD NOR[1] & KHALID EL-AWAISI[2]

[1]Department of Islamic History and Civilization, Academy of Islamic Studies, University Malaya, 50603, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

[2]Department of Islamic History and Arts, Social Sciences University of Ankara, Ankara, Turkiye

*Corresponding Author; email: asyraflokman@um.edu.my

ABSTRACT

The Arab-Israeli conflict and the circumstances in the region were significantly impacted by the 1967 conflict, often known as the Six-Day War. This study attempts to offer recommendations by exploring the trend and characteristics of Arab-Israeli conflict as the conflict become increasingly multiplex. Thus, the main objective of this study is to visualize trends in research on Arab-Israeli conflict from 1967 to 2022. This study examined quantitative and qualitative bibliometric data using descriptive and visual methods. The bibliometric data was retrieved from the Scopus database (the largest inter-disciplinary database in social sciences), and the authors ran a number of analyses on it using Biblioshiny via the R-Studio and VOSviewer software. As a result, this article will shed light on the most recent trend and features of Arab-Israeli research published in the Scopus database. The analysis shows that Israel and the United State of America (USA) have become the top countries that have played a major role in creating collaborative research on Arab-Israeli conflict. Furthermore, the study highlights the increase in publication on this topic over the past decade and the growing interdisciplinary approach among scholars including psychological aspect and normalization aspect in terms of conflict management. To the authors' knowledge, this is the first bibliometric study of Arab-Israeli conflict materials in Scopus. As a result, it will assist academics in broadening and deepening their studies on Arab-Israeli relations, so raising their chances of attaining a permanent peace.

Keywords: Arab-Israeli; conflict; bibliometric analysis; SCOPUS database; visualization

ABSTRAK

Konflik Arab-Israel dan keadaan di rantau ini telah terjejas dengan ketara oleh konflik 1967, yang sering dikenali sebagai Perang Enam Hari. Kajian ini cuba menawarkan cadangan dengan meneroka trend dan ciri-ciri konflik Arab-Israel apabila konflik menjadi semakin multiplex. Justeru, objektif utama kajian ini adalah untuk menggambarkan trend dalam penyelidikan konflik Arab-Israel dari tahun 1967 hingga 2022. Kajian ini mengkaji data bibliometrik kuantitatif dan kualitatif menggunakan kaedah deskriptif dan visual. Data bibliometrik telah diambil daripada pangkalan data Scopus (pangkalan data antara disiplin terbesar dalam sains sosial), dan pengarang menjalankan beberapa analisis mengenainya menggunakan Biblioshiny melalui perisian R-Studio dan VOSviewer. Hasilnya, artikel ini akan memberi penerangan tentang trend dan ciri terkini penyelidikan Arab-Israel yang diterbitkan dalam pangkalan data Scopus. Analisis menunjukkan bahawa Israel dan Amerika Syarikat (AS) telah menjadi negara teratas yang memainkan peranan utama dalam mewujudkan penyelidikan kolaboratif mengenai konflik Arab-Israel. Tambahan pula, kajian ini menyerlahkan peningkatan penerbitan mengenai topik ini sejak sedekad yang lalu dan pendekatan interdisipliner yang semakin berkembang dalam kalangan sarjana termasuk aspek psikologi dan aspek normalisasi dari segi pengurusan konflik. Untuk pengetahuan penulis, ini adalah kajian bibliometrik pertama bahan konflik Arab-Israel di Scopus. Hasilnya, ia akan membantu ahli akademik dalam meluaskan dan mendalami kajian mereka tentang hubungan Arab-Israel, sekali gus meningkatkan peluang mereka untuk mencapai keamanan yang kekal.

Kata kunci: Arab-Israel; konflik; analisis bibliometrik; pangkalan data SCOPUS; visualisasi

INTRODUCTION

The history of the Arab-Israeli conflict is lengthy and complicated, and the dynamics of the conflict have evolved throughout the course of time. There have been a great deal of investigations carried out regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict. The political tension, military battles, and disputes that exist between a number of Arab countries and Israel are collectively referred to as the Arab-Israeli conflict. The origins of the war may be traced back to the beginning of the 20th century, when Jewish immigrants began flocking to Palestine in large numbers in order to build a Jewish homeland (Siniver 2008). At that time, Palestine was still a part of the Ottoman Empire (Nor et al. 2015). According to Bickerton and Klausner (2002), this immigration, also known as the Zionist movement, led to tensions between the local Jewish population and the local Arab population, as well as between the Jewish community and the Ottoman government.

Following the conclusion of World War I and the disintegration of the Ottoman Empire, the British took control of Palestine and imposed a mandate there (Zakariah 2022). During this time, Jewish immigration to Palestine was still going strong, but by the late 1930s, the Arab population of Palestine, which had always been generally opposed to Jewish immigration, started to actively resist it. According to Brecher (2017), this opposition manifested itself in the form of violent attacks on Jewish colonies as well as on British officials. Following World War II and the Holocaust, which resulted in the deaths of six million Jews, the number of Jews immigrating to Palestine dramatically increased, which led to an increase in tensions between the Jewish population and the Arab population (Blakenship 2018). In 1947, a vote was held at the United Nations to divide Palestine into two independent Jewish and Arab governments. However, the Arab states and the Palestinian Arab leadership opposed this plan and voted to overturn the decision (McAlexander 2023). After Israel's proclamation of independence in 1948, its Arab neighbors launched an immediate offensive against the new nation. Israel emerged victorious from this war, which is commonly referred to as the Arab-Israeli War of 1948, and as a consequence, hundreds of thousands of Palestinian Arabs were uprooted from their homes (Halamish 2021). The 1967 war, often known as the Six-Day War, is another notable date. This war had a tremendous impact on the region as it led to the occupation of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, both of which remain key sources of contention in the Arab-Israeli conflict to this day. The date of this war is another important one.

However, because this is a conflict that has been going on for a long time, the issues involved are complicated. These issues include disagreements regarding borders and security as well as the status of Jerusalem and the rights of Palestinian refugees (Mehrzad 2016). The struggle has persisted up until the current day, with multiple manifestations of violence, additional conflicts, and ongoing disagreements. The environment is frequently tense, and there have been scattered incidents of violence here and there. In recent years, the war has frequently been characterized by low-level violence. One example of this is when Israel conducted airstrikes on Gaza, and in response, Palestinian terrorist organizations launched rockets into Israel (Nwotite 2002). On both sides, there have been reports of scores of deaths and injuries, and the situation is still quite tense.

The main hypothesis of this academic article posits that, over the course of the last decade, there has been a noteworthy escalation in scholarly endeavors focused on the Arab-Israeli conflict. Furthermore, it is postulated that these scholarly pursuits have increasingly embraced an interdisciplinary approach. Additionally, it is hypothesized that Israel and the United States have exerted a substantial influence in fostering collaborative research endeavors pertaining to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Because of this, the primary objective of this study is to highlight trends of research in the Arab-Israeli conflict from 1967 through 2022. This covers the analysis of research conducted on the Arab-Israeli conflict, as well as collaboration networks and publication patterns in a variety of fields. This article's goals are to (1) provide a complete review and historical context on the Arab-Israeli conflict, and (2) indicate future research trends on the subject of the conflict. In addition, thanks to this research, we are able to pinpoint the publications with the most sway, as well as the authors, journals, sources, countries, and organizations with the most output, as well as the patterns of cooperation that exist between these

entities. Last but not least, it enables us to establish the level of globalization that exists in the industry, the themes that are the most important, and the gaps that exist in the future (Karolien van Nunen; Jie Li; Genserik Reniers & Koen Ponnet 2018).

MATERIALS AND METHODS

SOURCE OF DATA

Bibliometric analysis has emerged into a crucial tool for analyzing the work of scholars (Singh et al. 2021). This research note's bibliographical information was collected from Scopus, the most comprehensive abstract and citation database, in May of 2021. In order to conduct the bibliometric analysis, this study takes into account data from the articles included in the Scopus database. When compared to other scientific databases, such the Web of Science, Scopus has a wider variety of journals (WoS). Scopus database which is published by Elsevier and is often used as a reference in the academical works (Abidin 2022). More than 21,500 scholarly journals, 83,000 conference proceedings, 530 book series, and 120,000 books are all available through the Scopus database (To & Billy 2020).

Additionally, the author selected English as the selection criterion since it is extensively utilized as the language of science and technology, widely spoken and understood internationally, and thus became the default language for majority of scientific databases (Salih et al. 2014). Consequently, the use of English in a scientific database facilitates access to a vast amount of scientific material. The Arab-Israeli conflict is extensively studied in the fields of social science, humanities, and even the arts, and it is a widely understood and recognized concept among academics and researchers (Shlaim 1977).

In the identification phase, the search terms were devised by referring to prior research, utilizing a thesaurus, and seeking guidance from experts in order to subsequently create a search string (Harizan & Mustafa 2020).

The following search string was used to compile a sample of relevant documents for analysis:
(TITLE-ABS-KEY(arab-israel* OR palestin*-israel*) AND conflict* AND (LIMIT-TO (LANGUAGE,"English")) AND (LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA,"SOCI") OR LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA,"ARTS") OR LIMIT-TO (SUBJAREA,"MULT")))

ANALYTICAL METHOD

This research examines every article about the Arab-Israeli conflict that was located in the Scopus database. The resultant 1635 scientific materials, which span the years 1967 to 2022, are comprised of articles, books, book chapters, conference papers, notes, reviews, and brief surveys. Three phases went into creating the dataset. The data was first given a descriptive analysis. Second, for content analysis, we searched for terms like "Arab-Israel" and "Conflict" in the title, abstract, or keywords in accordance with past bibliometric surveys (Batistič 2017). Third, we presented density maps or network visualizations where the size of the circle for each data point indicates the number of citations, the color indicates the cluster the publication belongs to, and the lines between the circles indicate the relative link strength. We visualized clusters using VOS viewer and R for text mining (Van Eck & Waltman 2010).   The utilization of bibliometric analysis in this research can be elucidated by referring to the Figure 1 below:
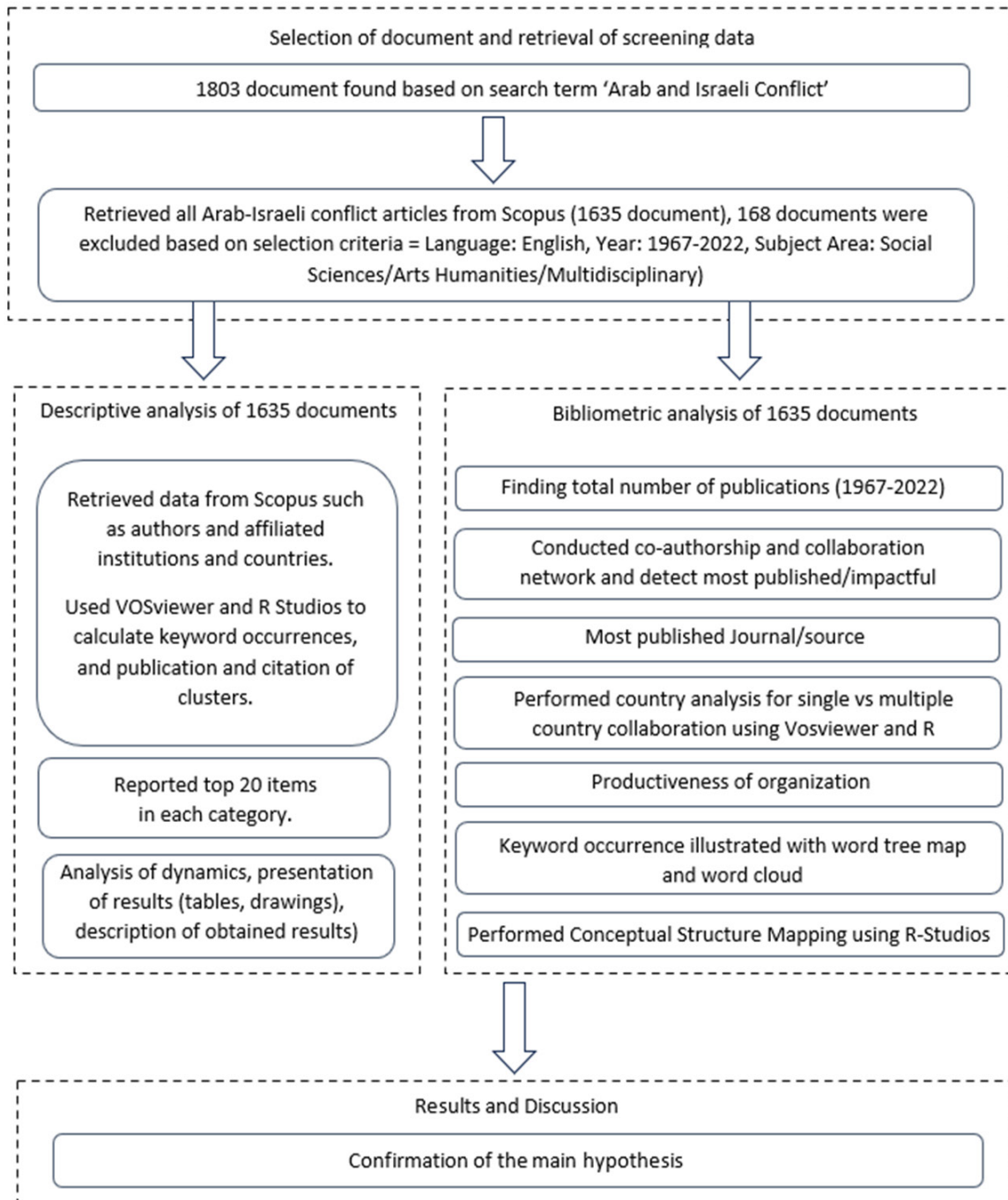
Selection of document and retrieval of screening data

1803 document found based on search term 'Arab and Israeli Conflict'

Retrieved all Arab-Israeli conflict articles from Scopus (1635 document), 168 documents were excluded based on selection criteria = Language: English, Year: 1967-2022, Subject Area: Social Sciences/Arts Humanities/Multidisciplinary)

Descriptive analysis of 1635 documents

Retrieved data from Scopus such as authors and affiliated institutions and countries.

Used VOSviewer and R Studios to calculate keyword occurrences, and publication and citation of clusters.

Reported top 20 items in each category.

Analysis of dynamics, presentation of results (tables, drawings), description of obtained results)

Bibliometric analysis of 1635 documents

Finding total number of publications (1967-2022)

Conducted co-authorship and collaboration network and detect most published/impactful

Most published Journal/source

Performed country analysis for single vs multiple country collaboration using Vosviewer and R

Productiveness of organization

Keyword occurrence illustrated with word tree map and word cloud

Performed Conceptual Structure Mapping using R-Studios

Results and Discussion

Confirmation of the main hypothesis

FIGURE 1. Bibliometric Analysis Research Design

RESULTS

DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS

According to Table 1, there were a total of 1635 papers relating to the Arab-Israeli conflict between the years 1967 and 2022. The most prevalent form of document is an article, which accounts for 62.39% of all documents, followed by a book chapter (15.23%), a book (13.13%), and a review (6.42%).

TABLE 1. Descriptive analysis of Arab-Israeli conflict publication (1967-2022)

Document Types	Results
Article	1020
Article In Press	2
Book	213
Book Chapter	249
Conference Paper	18
Editorial	11
Letter	1
Note	14
Review	105
Short Survey	2
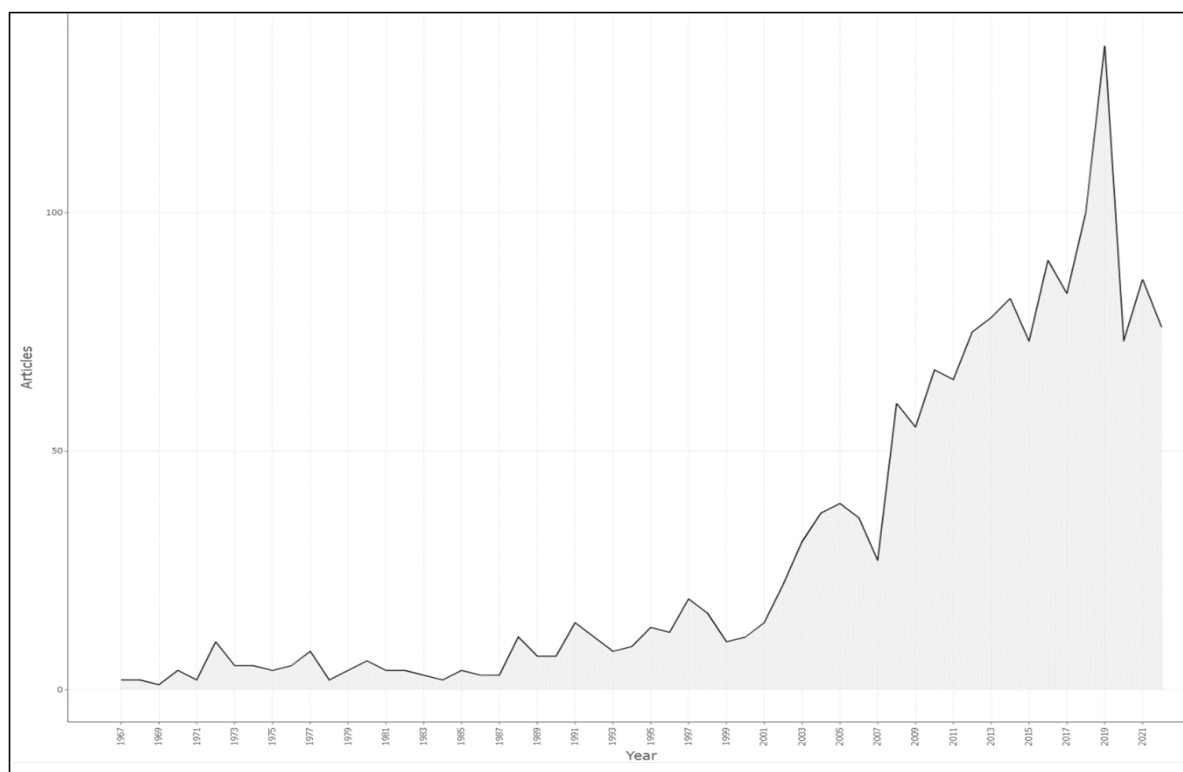
FIGURE 2. Total number of publications: 1967–2022

ANALYSIS BY YEAR

In Figure 2, which displays patterns of yearly development, it is possible to see that the number of articles on the Arab-Israeli conflict has risen since 1987. This can be seen in the context of the figure. In the past, there was a relatively limited number of papers regarding the issue, which indicates that scholars are becoming increasingly interested in Arab-Israeli disputes. Additional research indicated that the number of publications was considerably larger at the end of each year beginning in 1999, with an average of 8.035 citations per document and a growth rate of 6.84% for the yearly publication rate. This trend began in 1999. The total number of yearly publications went through a range of values, with 2019 reaching the greatest point with 135 articles and 1969 reaching the lowest point with only one item. Since 2019, when it reached its highest point, the total number of publications on the subject has gradually decreased: from 135 in 2019, it dropped to 73 in 2020, 86 in 2021, and 76 in 2022.

AUTHOR ANALYSIS

The authors listed in Table 2 have had the most significant published work and impact on the Arab-Israeli conflict. According to the more extensive review that is provided in Table 2, there are 20 authors who have produced the most work in this topic. The first publication in this topic was not made until 1973, and there was a gap of 15 years before the following publications.

TABLE 2. The Most Published and Impactful Authors

Author	h_index	Total Citation	Total Publication	Year Started
Bekerman Z	4	109	9	2002
Pressman J	3	114	9	2005
Bar-on D	5	306	7	2002
Bahgat G	2	18	7	2003
Edreich L	6	79	6	2005
Gavrielly-Nuri D	4	48	6	2009
Rabinowitz D	4	177	6	2000
Abadi J	3	33	6	1998
Berger R	3	26	6	2017
Caplan N	2	25	6	2010
Freedman RO	2	8	6	2010
Ghanem A	2	25	6	2013
Goodman G	2	12	6	2016
JR	2	22	6	1973
Frankel N	1	4	6	1989
Slone M	5	101	5	2011
Telhami S	4	72	5	1995
Waage HH	4	36	5	2011
Bar-Joseph U	3	20	5	1988

Bekerman Z came up on top of the list with nine works that garnered a total of 109 citations, whilst the majority of authors had generated only 6 publications each. However, with 306 citations from his 7 published publications, Bar-on D ranks top in terms of the biggest amount of citations, followed by Rabinowitz D with 177 citations, Pressman J with 114 citations and Bekerman Z with 109 citations. Additionally significant authors include Slone M. Eidreich L., Telhami S., and Gavrielly-Nuri D., who have received 101, 79, 72, and 48 citations respectively.

Figure 3 depicts the network of co-authorship and collaboration among the writers. This figure illustrates the authors who are co-cited the most frequently and gives light on the network of authors who collaborate with one another. According to the connection network, Bar-on D. has the most broad and wide-ranging network, and he is also one of the most mentioned authors after Maoz I. Following him in this category are Steinberg S., Ross L., Kassem F. and Katz M.
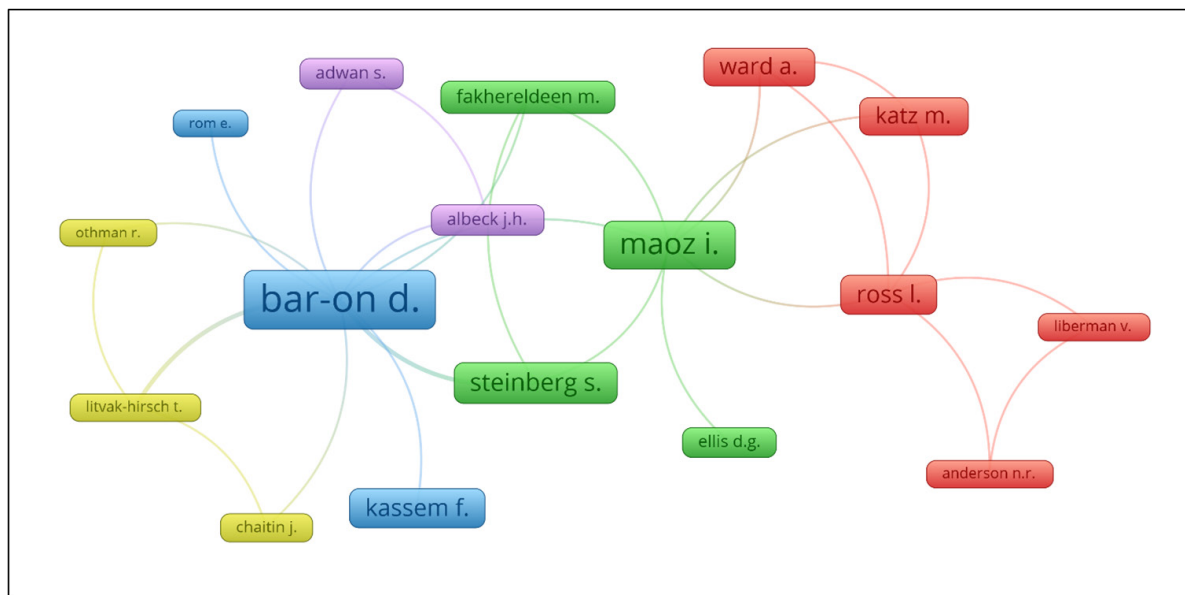
FIGURE 3. Co-authorship and Collaboration Network by Author

ANALYSIS BY JOURNAL OR SOURCE

The periodicals and other sources that publish research on the Arab-Israeli conflict the most regularly are summarized in Table 3, which can be found below. According to Table 3, Israel Affairs is the most influential journal because it has published 57 papers that date back to 1995 and have been cited 90 times. This is followed by the Journal of Palestine Studies, which has published 56 articles. Both journals have published a total of 90 times. The next highest number of articles was found in Middle Eastern Studies with 28, followed by Journal of Peace Research with 17, Journal of Conflict Resolution with 16, International History Review with 15, Mediterranean Politics with 14, Middle East Journal with 13, and Peace and Conflict with 12 pieces of writing.

TABLE 3. Journals or sources that published most often on Arab-Israeli conflict

| Sources	h_index	Total Citation	Total Publication	Year Started
Israel Affairs	5	90	57	1995
Journal Of Palestine Studies	9	232	56	1972
Middle Eastern Studies	8	164	28	1984
Journal Of Peace Research	11	342	17	1967
Journal Of Conflict Resolution	11	440	16	1972
International History Review	4	51	15	2011
Mediterranean Politics	4	100	14	1997
Middle East Journal	7	112	13	1984
Peace And Conflict	8	174	12	2002
British Journal of Middle Eastern Studies	6	82	9	1997
Survival	5	54	9	1970
Journal Of Holy Land and Palestine Studies	2	13	9	2015
International Interactions	5	67	8	1976
Holy Land Studies	3	19	8	2010
Mediterranean Quarterly	3	21	8	1998
Orient	1	2	8	1993
Studies In Conflict and Terrorism	6	159	7	1996
International Journal of Intercultural Relations	5	131	7	1980
International Journal of Middle East Studies	5	147	7	1994
Journal of Strategic Studies	4	33	7	1988
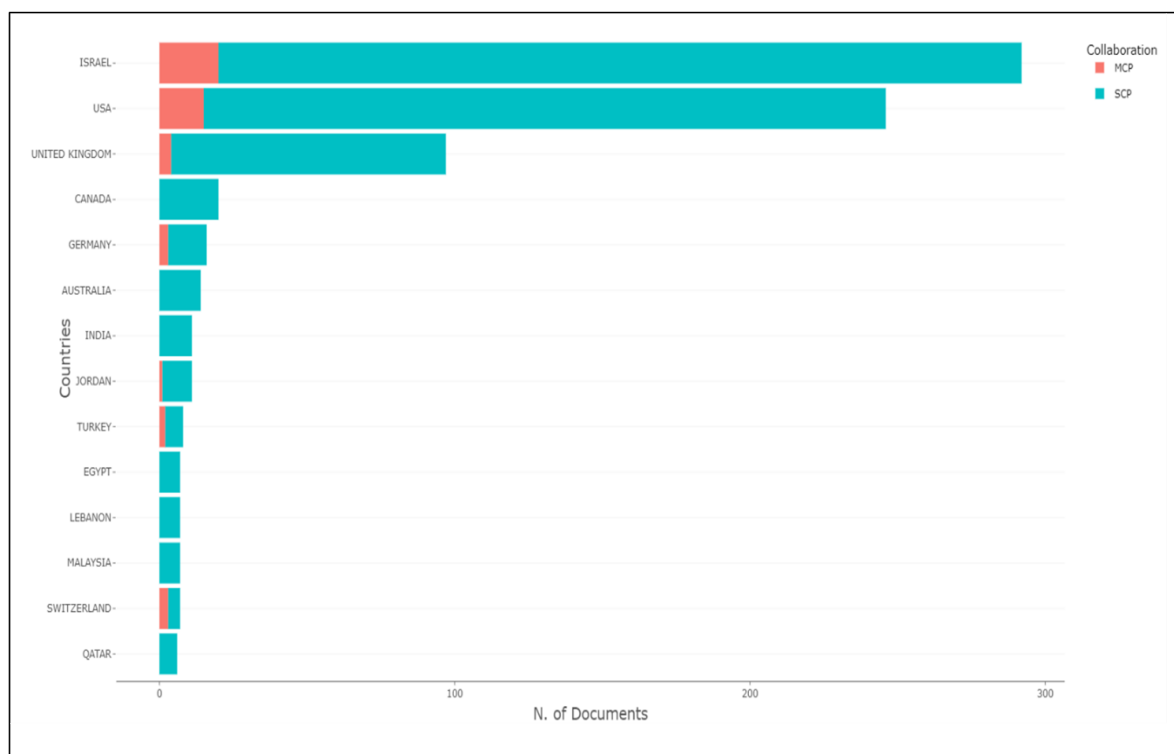
FIGURE 4. Single vs multiple country publications

ANALYSIS BY COUNTRY

The most prominent countries in both single and multiple country publications are presented in Figure 4. Israel holds the top spot on the list of nations that have written articles on the Arab-Israeli conflict, with a total of 292 articles published between 1967 and 2022. It is then followed by the United States of America (USA), which has 246 articles, the United Kingdom (UK), which has 97 articles, India and Jordan, both of which have 11 articles, Turkey, which has 8, and Egypt, Lebanon, Malaysia, and Switzerland, each of which has 7 articles. It is evident from the figure that Israel and the United States have a significant lead over the competition.
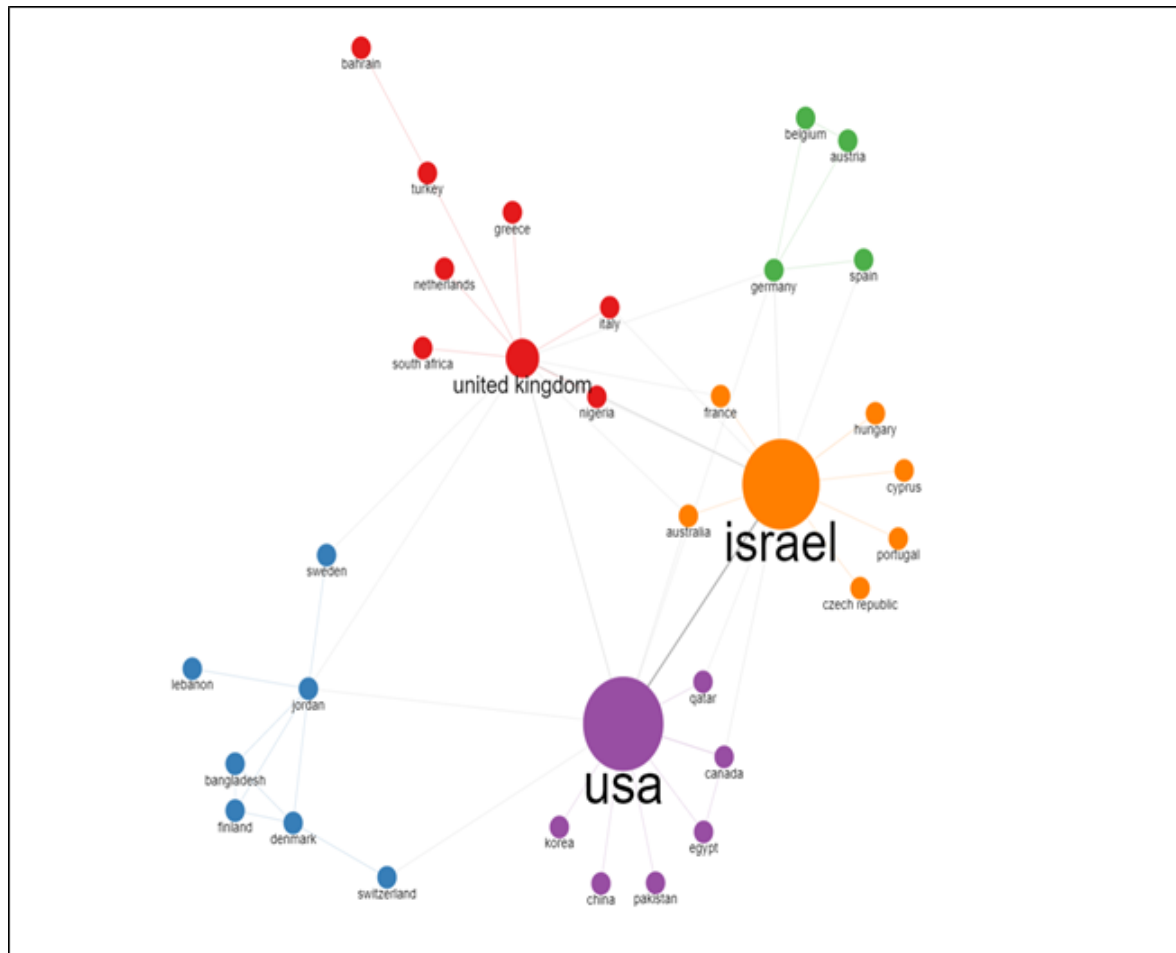
FIGURE 5A. Country collaboration network using R

The collaborative networks that exist between countries are illustrated in Figure 5a (using R). The country-to-country collaboration networks are depicted in Figure 5b (using VOSviewer). The data shown in Figure 5a, which can be seen below, demonstrates that international cooperation is contributing greatly to the advancement of research on the Arab-Israeli conflict. This can be seen by looking at the graph. The network's nodes highlight the fact that the most significant links are those that exist between the United States of America and Israel. Recent years have seen a number of countries, including Malaysia, Qatar, Egypt, and Belgium, amongst others, make important new contributions to the field. Figure 5b shows how authorship patterns might shed light on transnational collaborative networks that span numerous countries. There are four primary clusters, and the nodes of these clusters are denoted by the colors green, red, blue, and purple, in that order. The importance of the node can be seen as an indication of the publication's position in terms of frequency. The working connection between the government of the United States of America and the government of Israel is particularly close. The United Kingdom has strong ties with a number of other countries, including France, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, the Netherlands, Qatar, Sweden, and Turkey, to name a few of those countries. The third group of nations includes a variety of countries, including Belgium, Germany, India, and Spain, to name just a few of them. Palestine has a powerful network in the fourth cluster, which is especially strong with Malaysia and Switzerland. This network is particularly strong with Malaysia.
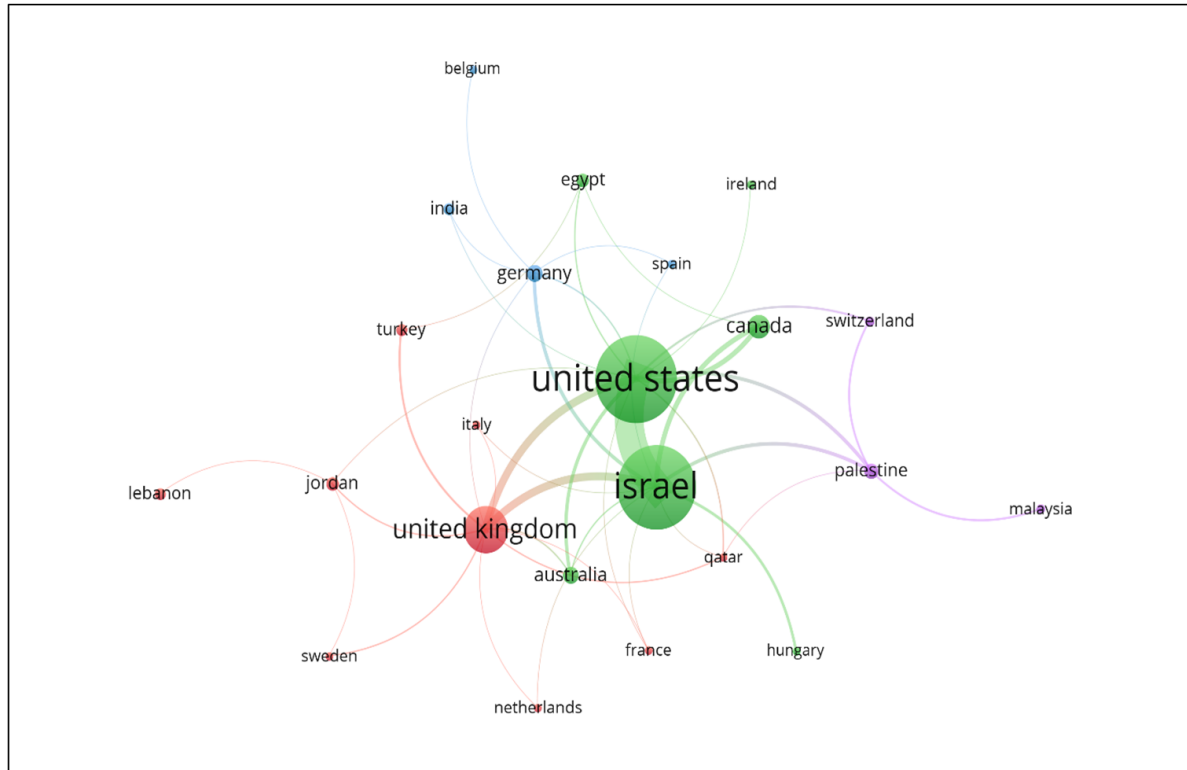

FIGURE 5B. Collaboration network using VOSviewer

ANALYSIS BY ORGANIZATION

Figure 6 illustrates the groups that have made the most significant contributions to the study of the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University are in first and second place, respectively, with 109 and 94 publications, followed by the University of Haifa (87 articles) and Bar-Ilan University (67 articles). The Ben-Gurion University and Harvard University are the two universities that have produced the next most articles, with 38 and 18 respectively.
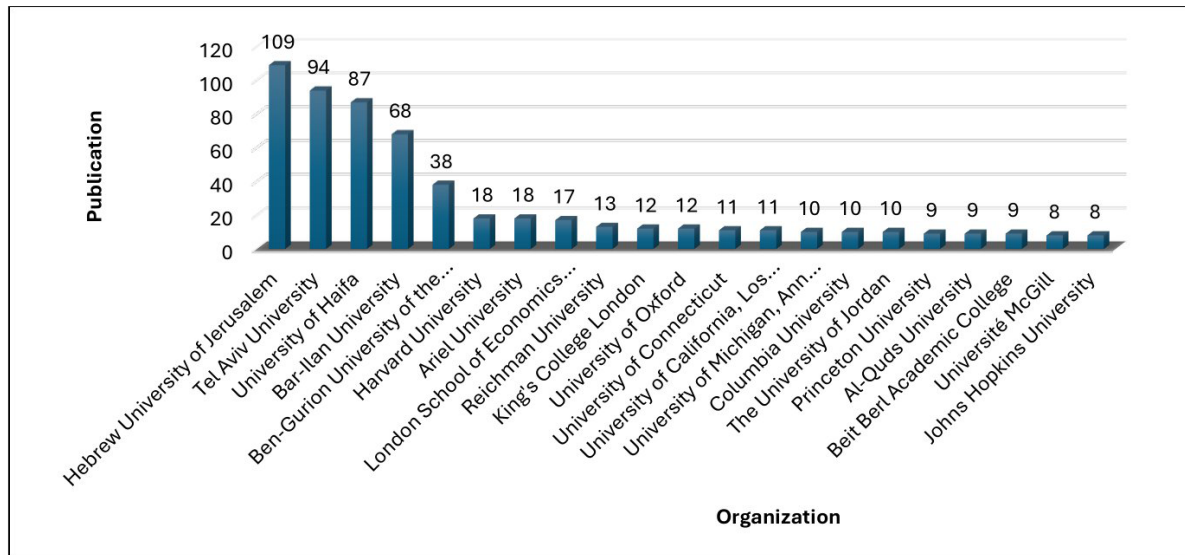

FIGURE 6. Productiveness of organizations

KEYWORD CO-OCCURENCE ANALYSIS

We were able to find rising themes and new research horizons in the Arab-Israeli conflict by employing a technique called word co-occurrence analysis. This technique was utilized over the course of the conflict. It is vital to note out that the findings of this research illustrate the frequency with which particular keywords appear in close proximity to other terms in published texts. Figures 6a and 6b depict the word tree map and word cloud that emerged from conducting R text analysis while keeping a broad range of considerations in mind, respectively.
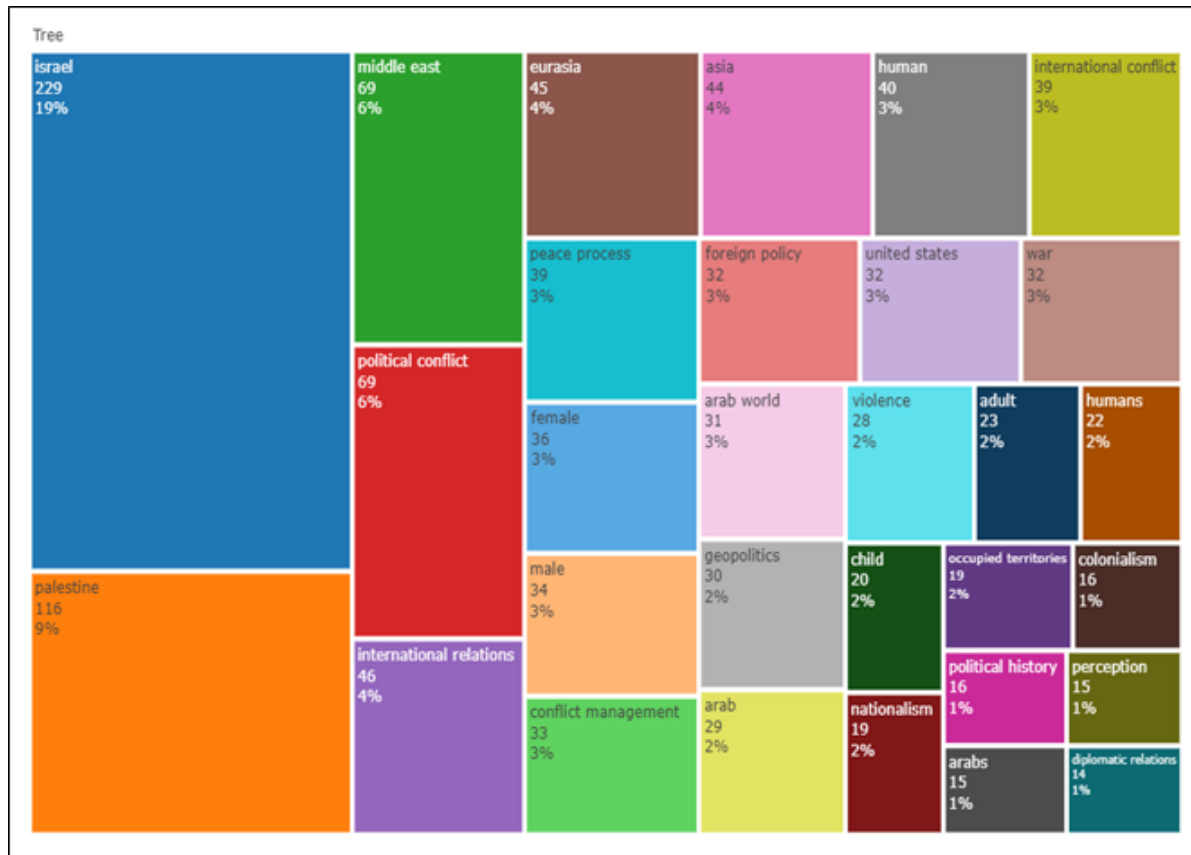

FIGURE 7A. Word tree map

FIGURE 7B. Word cloud of most frequently used keyword

CONCEPTUAL STRUCTURE MAPPING

The nodes that had significant co-occurrence frequencies over the time period of the study are reflective of the primary themes that were explored on the Arab-Israeli conflict. over the time period of the study. Figure 7a uses a tree map that depicts the data as a collection of nested rectangles to display the most significant keywords that were used in the articles. These keywords were found by searching through all of the articles. In research on the Arab-Israeli conflict, it sheds light on the hierarchical datasets that are contained within the data, in addition to the natural word clusters that are found there. Different aspects of the nodes' correlation and importance are represented, depending on their size as well as the color patterns that they have. When looking at Figures 6a and 6b, it is easy to see that the term "Israel" is the one that is used the most frequently. After this comes the section on Palestine, then the middle east, then political conflict, and finally international relations.

A conceptual framework was constructed by doing textual analysis and making advantage of the recurrence of key terms throughout the text. The process of picking words for analysis can begin with the extraction of terms from abstracts or titles, followed by the usage of author keywords and KeyWords Plus. After that, the process can continue with the selection of words from the body of the text. The research was carried out with the assistance of the R software in order to produce a conceptual structure map of the domain that the study focused on. The conceptual structure map is illustrated in Figure 8 with two clusters, one of which is marked in red, and the other of which is identified in blue. The red cluster contains the most keywords overall (including, but not limited to, conflict management, diplomatic relations, political conflict, peace process, international relations, Arab world, and others), whereas the blue cluster contains the second most keywords (including, for example, psychology, female, human, controlled study, major clinical study, etc.). The red cluster also contains the most keywords related to conflict management.
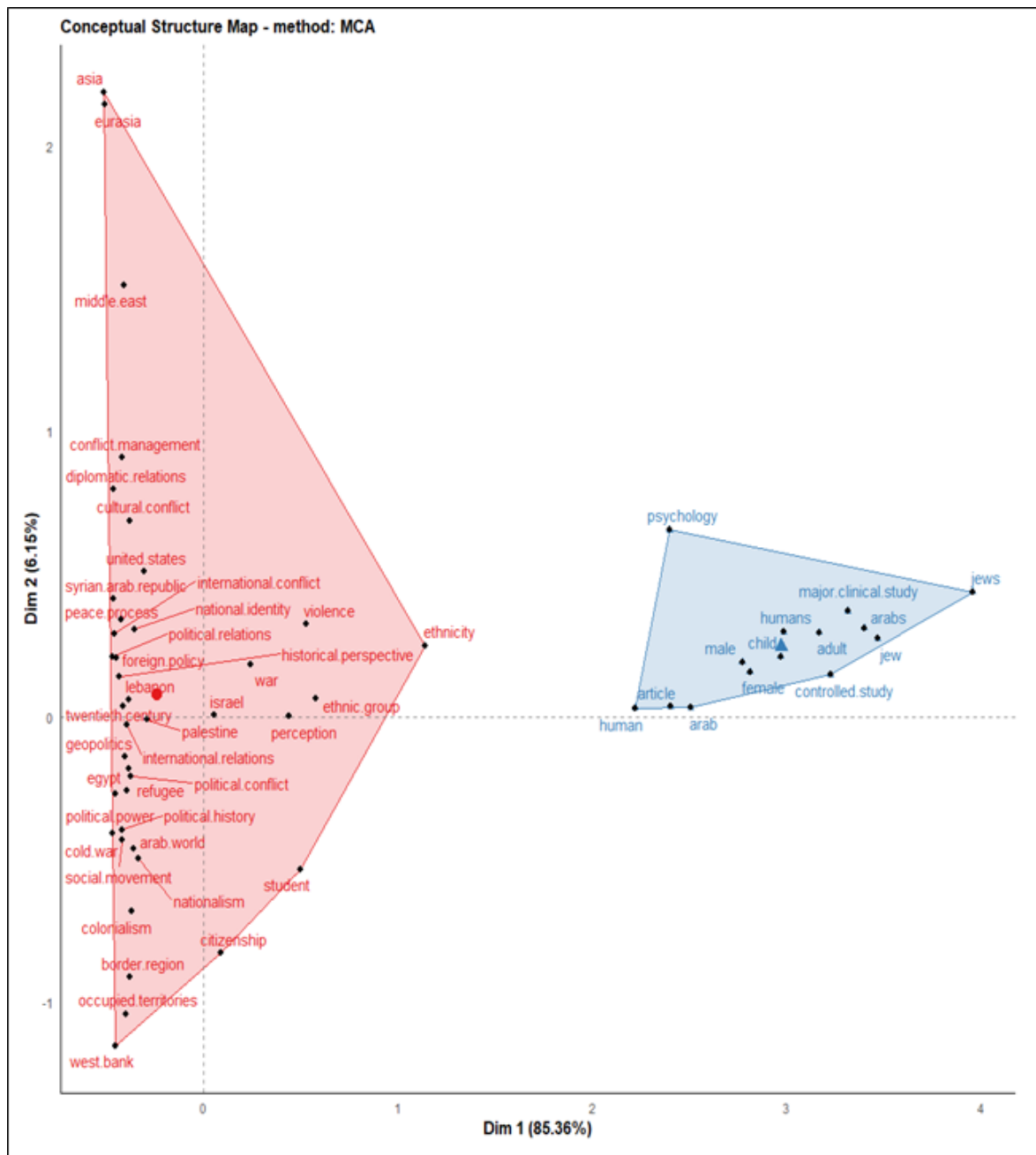
FIGURE 8. Conceptual Structure (Multiple Correspondence Analysis)

DISCUSSIONS

It was discovered that roughly 63% of the publications on the Arab-Israeli conflict were in journals (Table 1), which is a finding that pertains to the document type. This is most likely due to the fact that educational institutions of higher learning place a greater priority on publication in academic journals as opposed to other kinds of publications, such as conference proceedings or chapters in books. It's possible that this is related to the widespread belief that the process of peer review for journal articles is more stringent than it is for other kinds of papers.

Figure 2 illustrates the increase in the number of publications on Arab-Israeli conflict after 2015. This number has grown by approximately 35% (from 7 publications in 2015 to 25 in 2020). The rise in the number of publications may be due to rising interest in Arab-Israeli conflict among researchers. There are a number of different aspects that have led to an increase in the amount of writing that has been done on the Arab-Israeli conflict:

1. The ongoing nature of the conflict: The Arab-Israeli conflict has been going on for decades and does not appear to be ending any time soon (Winter 2022). Due to the fact that the fight is still going on at the present time, there is a continual interest in comprehending the underlying causes and dynamics that led to the conflict. This interest was brought about as a result of the fact that the conflict is still going on.

2. Political and strategic significance: The conflict is of tremendous political and strategic relevance to the international community, particularly to the United States of America and other Western nations (Abrams 2014). As a result, there has been a significant amount of research and analysis conducted on the topic.

3. Influence on the region and the world: According to Makdisi (2018), the conflict has had a considerable impact on the surrounding area of the Middle East as well as the international community. As a result, there is a growing interest in the conflict's causes as well as potential solutions. Moreover, the very concept of the "Middle East," coined by Western powers, is intrinsically tied to military strategy, political dominance, and the spread of Western civilization, highlighting the complex interplay between regional dynamics and international interests (Hamat 1982).

4. The advancement of technology: The appearance of the internet and digital media has made it easy for scholars and academics to collect and distribute knowledge about the war (Williams & Beam 2019), which has resulted in a rise in the number of publications on the subject.

5. A multidisciplinary approach: The conflict can be analyzed from a variety of perspectives, including those of the economy, politics, society, culture, and religion. In recent years, many academics and researchers have shifted to an interdisciplinary approach in an effort to better comprehend the multifarious nature of the war (John et al. 2020). One of the primary motivations for this shift has been to better understand how the war affects civilians.

6. New developments and events: Due to the fact that the war is always evolving and adopting new forms, there is an ongoing interest in comprehending and evaluating the most recent developments and their impact on the ongoing conflict (Harkabi 2021).

Despite this, there has been a general decrease in the quantity of publications beginning in the year 2020. This decline in publication is primarily attributable to the pandemic caused by the COVID-19 virus (Raynaud et al. 2021).

With that being mentioned, Bekerman Z has the most publications (Table 2), despite the fact that he has only begun publishing on topics related to the Arab-Israeli conflict since 2002. This is because Bekerman Z has written on a wider variety of topics. The other authors that were investigated and who released their works at an earlier time had a total of fewer than six publications to their names. These authors include Frankel N., who made his first publication on the topic in 1989; Telhami, who began writing about it in 1995; and Bar-Joseph U., who began writing about it in 1988. In addition, the data presented in Table 2 demonstrates that Bar-on D was the author who was cited the most times by other researchers. It is probable that this is due to the focus he has in this particular area of study. He focused in psychology and the impact that war has on humans' psychological well-being, whereas Bekerman's work focuses mostly on the promotion of education and peacebuilding.

The data that are shown in Table 3 indicate that the field of Israel Affairs contains the most substantial concentration of study on the Arab-Israeli conflict. This should not come as a surprise given that the title of the journal indicates that its contents include topics surrounding Israel, such as their conflict with Arab nations and the predicament that faces the Palestinian people. In addition to this publication, there are two other journals, namely the Journal of Palestine Studies and Middle Eastern Studies, which, as their respective names imply, focus on subjects connected to the Middle East. This publication is one of the three publications. It is conceivable to come to the conclusion that any future investigation into the Arab-Israeli conflict should make reference to articles that have been published in Israel Affairs; nevertheless, this should be done with the utmost caution in order to avoid becoming a victim of bias.

Table 3 also illustrates that a rising number of scholars have started publishing on the Arab-Israeli conflict in publications that are not focused on the politics of the Middle East. Some examples of these types of journals include 'Studies in Conflict and Terrorism' and 'Peace and Conflict,' among others. This is evidenced by the fact that Table 3 has entries for both of these magazines. Despite the fact that the conflict between Arabs and Israelis is explored in the articles that were published in both publications, the contexts of these research are the insurgency and the interaction of peace and conflict, respectively.

The fact that the United States of America and Israel have the biggest combined number of publications should not come as a surprise to anyone. Because of the strong political and strategic relationship that exists between the two countries, there is a significant interest in getting an understanding of the dynamics of the war from their points of view (Gilboa 2023). This interest is a direct outcome of the fact that there is currently a conflict between the two countries. A substantial number of scholars and policymakers in the United States have carried out in-depth research on the subject, and the United States has played a key role in mediating attempts to try to resolve the dispute (Nor & Ibrahim 2023). Since Israel is directly involved in the conflict, the topic is also of considerable interest to Israel. As a direct consequence of this, a significant amount of investigation and study on the subject has been carried out in Israel. In addition, the Palestinian

people are extremely concerned about this matter. Both countries, as a result of this, have increased their participation in published works that are related to the Arab-Israeli conflict over the course of the years. These works may be found online and in print.

There are publications that originate from both non-Muslim countries, such as the United States of America and Israel, and Muslim countries, such as Turkey, Egypt, Lebanon, Malaysia, and Qatar. Some publications originate from non-Muslim countries, while others originate from Muslim ones. This illustrates that the Arab-Israeli conflict is a global problem, and research on it is being carried out not only by nations that are mostly Muslim but also by nations that are predominantly not Muslim. Another element that contributes to the high level of interest in publications regarding the Arab-Israeli conflict in Muslim countries is the fact that academics from different Muslim nations collaborate in order to publish their findings. This is one of the factors that contributes to the high level of interest. For instance, some researchers from the United States collaborate with researchers from Qatar and Egypt, and some researchers from the United Kingdom collaborate with researchers from Jordan and Turkey. Both groups of researchers are involved in the study.

According to Figure 6, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv University are the two educational institutions that have created the greatest number of written works relating to the Arab-Israeli conflict. This is demonstrated to be the case by the data presented in the figure. This finding should not come as a shock given that both of these colleges are consistently regarded as being among the most prestigious educational establishments in Israel. Despite the fact that it is located in the midst of the conflict itself, the University of Tel Aviv is considered to be the most prestigious university in Israel due to the fact that it ranks first in research output in the country (QS Top Universities 2022). In addition, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem is home to the largest Jewish studies library in the entire world.

Given that "Israel" was the term that was used to extract the data, it was anticipated that "Israel" would have the highest frequency of occurrence among the nodes that are displayed in Figures 6a and 6b. This prediction was based on the fact that "Israel" was the term that was used to extract the

data. The search query was followed by the terms "Palestine," "middle east," "political conflict," "international relations," "eurasia," and "asia," therefore this was accurate. This is evidence that an increasing number of academics are focusing their attention, when conducting research on the Arab-Israeli conflict, on international events that involve continents other than their own. In addition, the structure map of the field analysis (Figure 8) demonstrated that when discussing the Arab-Israeli conflict, authors have a tendency to concentrate on topics that are associated with conflict resolution (such as the peace process, conflict management, diplomatic relations, and foreign policy), in addition to issues that are related to the humanities. These findings imply that the Arab-Israeli conflict has been researched from a wide variety of viewpoints and issue areas, which is likely the source of the expanding number of publications referring to it. These findings suggest that the conflict has been investigated from a wide variety of perspectives and topic areas. Despite the fact that normalization processes have already been performed in the Arab-Israeli conflict since the 1990s and have played a significant role in the field of conflict resolution (Hitman & Kertcher 2018), there is still a lack of "normalization" issue that has been brought to light in the publications.

CONCLUSION

The research conducted on the Arab-Israeli conflict reveals fairly definite tendencies that continue to develop into a variety of disciplines across a number of countries. Research on the Arab-Israeli conflict has made significant strides in the past decade toward the goal of building a coherent body of ideas that might serve as the foundation for a peaceful resolution to the Arab-Israeli conflict. This study reveals certain consequences from the standpoint of academic thought. These outcomes can assist academics working in the subject of Arab-Israeli conflict to detect underlying dynamics in a more nuanced manner, which has considerable implications for a variety of research fields that are connected. We were able to visualize and track the evolution of the field of study into the Arab-Israeli conflict by utilizing bibliometric analysis on the research that was conducted in that field. Additionally, we were able to identify the most productive authors, years, journals, articles, nations,

and institutions. In comparison to study done on other conflicts in the Middle East, such as the civil war in Syria, research on the Arab-Israeli conflict has been going on for a long time; as a result, it should not come as a surprise that the field is strong.

The results of the study also closely align with the research questions that guided the investigation. The study aimed to discern trends in Arab-Israeli conflict research from 1967 to 2022 using bibliometric data from the Scopus database. It revealed that there has been a significant increase in research publications on the Arab-Israeli conflict over the past decade, accompanied by a notable shift toward interdisciplinary research approaches. Moreover, the study highlighted that Israel and the United States have emerged as major contributors to collaborative research in this field. Overall, these findings shed light on the evolving landscape of Arab-Israeli research, emphasizing increased scholarly activity, growing interdisciplinary cooperation, and the central role played by certain countries in fostering collaborative endeavors within the realm of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

One of the factors that may be credited with contributing to the expansion of research into the Arab-Israeli conflict is the ever-changing political landscape that has been brought about by the foreign policies that have been implemented by the Arab world, Israel, and ultimately the United States. The current body of literature on the Arab-Israeli conflict offers researchers and academics who wish to delve deeper into this topic with essential guidance. This can be in the realm of philosophy, such as nationalism, colonialism, Zionism, terrorism, and Islamism; or in the realm of conflict management, such as the normalization process, the two-state solution, reconciliation, dispute resolution, and so on.

The research has important implications for academics, policymakers, and stakeholders who are interested in understanding the Arab-Israeli conflict and promoting peace and stability in the region. However, like any other study, this study has a number of caveats and restrictions. First, the research solely focuses on the term "Arab-Israeli conflict" (in addition to the names of the countries involved in the conflict, "Israel" and "Palestine"); however, future research may expand the scope to include aspects of potential solutions, such as "normalization" and "two-state solution." Second, the research exclusively looks at materials that have

been published in publications that are indexed in the SCOPUS database. To get results that are more complete and to expand on the contribution made by this paper to our understanding of the subject, it is recommended that future studies use a methodology that is both more methodical and that also includes additional online databases.

AUTHORS' CONTRIBUTIONS

Conceptualization, Ainul Asyraf Lokman; Methodology, Ainul Asyraf Lokman; Software, Ainul Asyraf Lokman; Validation, Ainul Asyraf Lokman, Mohd Roslan Mohd Nor and Khalid El-Awaisi; Formal Analysis, Ainul Asyraf Lokman; Investigation, Ainul Asyraf Lokman; Resources, Ainul Asyraf Lokman; Data Curation, Ainul Asyraf Lokman; Writing—Original Draft Preparation, Ainul Asyraf Lokman; Writing—Review and Editing, Ainul Asyraf Lokman, Mohd Roslan Mohd Nor and Khalid El-Awaisi; Visualization, Ainul Asyraf Lokman; Supervision, Mohd Roslan Mohd Nor and Khalid El-Awaisi; Project Administration, Mohd Roslan Mohd Nor; Funding Acquisition, Mohd Roslan Mohd Nor. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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