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Quality of Publication Output of Scientific Fields in Slovakia: An International Comparison⁴

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Summary

- This study covers in detail the publication output in scientific journals in Slovakia, based on articles published in the years 2010 – 2014 and included in the Web of Science (WoS) database and compares it with the output of 11 different countries. For our comparison, we have used the narrowly defined scientific fields used by the WoS to categorize the journals included in the database.
- The study compares both total publication output and outstanding publication output, i.e. the number of articles published in top scientific journals in the given field, based on their reputation in the academia.
- Each of the scientific disciplines under scrutiny has been analyzed in detail using four charts, showing the number of publications, their distribution based on quality, and the dynamics of the publication output in the given field in relation to the average numbers in all countries under comparison.
- The results indicate that no single scientific discipline in Slovakia produces an above-average, outstanding publication output. Almost all scientific fields, including the major disciplines, lag far behind the average, and usually produce less than half of the average number of articles in top magazines published by scientists from other countries.
- Nearly all of the scientific disciplines under scrutiny have only managed to produce a below-average number of articles, despite the fact that researchers show a strong tendency to focus on quantity rather than quality in their publications.

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