




Review of public space studies in Indonesia: Research identification and future social agenda

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Abstract: The objective of this systematic literature review model research is to ascertain, characterise, and evaluate the evolution of public space study trends in Indonesia concerning the evolution of its utilisation. The author uses scientific research to support his claims that this study trend is an expression of societal concern for the value of urban public space. The information gathered includes the extent of the trend in scientific publications on public space in Indonesia, the identities of the scholars who work on the subject, and the most recent research questions pertaining to the topic. According to the findings, joint investigations with scholars from other nations worldwide have resulted in a notable increase in the number of publications on public space in Indonesia. A number of factors affect the annual increase: availability of research data, financing support for study, and the interest of researchers in public space. Twenty-first-century publications peaked in 2021, according to the Scopus database. In particular, the construction and revitalisation of new representational public places, are among the strategies that the results of this study help shape for Indonesian municipal governments. This is very important because now and in the future, the needs of urban communities for public spaces, especially green open spaces, are increasingly urgent. For this purpose, the development of public spaces is on the future social agenda of the government and urban development planners.

Keywords: evaluation, Indonesia, public space, systematic literature review, urban area

INTRODUCTION

In the opinion of Low (2017), public space has played a significant role in the evolution of urban society and the dynamics of cities worldwide, including in Indonesia (Stren and Polèse, 2000). In some situations, public spaces are linked to the way of life and customs of urban populations that make use of their free time after work (Ahmadin, 2024). The concept of the public sphere is used by Jurgen Habermas to conceptually introduce public space in his seminal work “The structural transformation of the public sphere: An inquiry into a category of bourgeois society” (Habermas, 1989). This idea came into being as a result of the existence of a spatial reality made by a group of German bourgeoisie individuals in the 18th century who yearned for freedom of expression and opinion (Mooers, 1991). Public spaces

are supposed to foster a democratic environment in state affairs by providing access to public opinion for all citizens (Mitchell, 1995; Shapiro, 1998).

Habermas defines public space as an autonomous area distinct from the government and the market (Habermas, 1989) using the paradigm of citizen freedom (Bohman, 2001). Because public space serves as a forum for political subjects to express their interests, Habermas views it as a political representation in the context of politics (Brennan and Hamlin, 1999). In Kohn’s opinion, accessibility is just as important as any public space’s relationship to social or aesthetic concerns (Kohn, 2004). Throughout its evolution, the term “public space” has been defined as any area where people congregate and can include places like coffee shops, city parks, lobbies, waiting rooms, fields, exhibition halls, walkways, and more (Smith and Low, 2006).

As indicated by Mandeli (2019), the phenomena of entrepreneurial action in the process of establishing and maintaining urban public space highlight the nature, function, and importance of space for modern city growth. Next, public space has a crucial role in resolving conflicts and fostering urbanism that promotes the development of social cohesion and acceptance (Madanipour, 1999; García-Doménech, 2015). Carr *et al.* (1992) argue that the nature of the activity, its location, and its development process establish public space. Passive and active engagement are the two components of experience that citizens produce via the process of interaction through the utilisation of space.

According to Wilde de (2012), a representative public place is one that fosters interactive social interaction and communication. According to Carr *et al.* (1992), a public place has to have three key characteristics, to be meaningful, democratic, and responsive. Many academics are encouraged to examine public space using a broad disciplinary approach because of its relevance for urban residents (Miller and Nicholls, 2013) and its function (Reyes, 2016; Pouw and Gupta, 2017). There are definitely several fascinating topics related to public spaces, including spatial design, patterns of usage, purposes and uses, and government rules regarding public spaces in Indonesia. These topics will be investigated via the growth of urban public space research trends in Indonesia, utilising a database of study findings in the form of scholarly publications.

The objective of this research is to ascertain the present state of public space in Indonesia based on data sharing (Eckartz, Hofman and Veenstra van, 2014) and variables related to it based on publications that are available through the Scopus database (Burnham, 2006). Data from 230 publications in the Scopus database that contain the keywords “public space” and “Indonesia” are the basis of this research. Some of the research questions are the following: how prevalent is the trend of Indonesian scientific papers focusing on public space, which are the researchers that write about this subject in scholarly publications, what are the newest research questions or subjects pertaining to Indonesia’s public space issue. An analysis of 30 papers on the subject indicates a substantial body of work on public space in Indonesia from a variety of perspectives.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

STUDY DESIGN

This research was conducted using a systematic literature review analysis approach, collecting data sources from a number of literature studies in various scientific journals indexed in the Scopus database on March 15, 2024 (Tiwari and Gupta, 2015; Lame, 2019; Paul and Barari, 2022). Since the Scopus database is one of the best-rated databases across a range of scientific disciplines and contains comprehensive data, it was selected. Furthermore, a variety of literature studies are added to it in order to improve the research’s correctness and produce the most accurate results. The VOSviewer version 1.6.17 analysis tool from the Scopus Database was used in the discussion and conclusion part as the suitable data processing tool for identification and analysis (Batini *et al.*, 2009; Bano and Zowghi, 2015; Abdillah

et al., 2022). In Scopus database, “search result analysis” is also used by other analytical tools.

Finding patterns in Indonesian public space studies and focusing research on the most prevalent features are two major goals of this survey of the literature. The basis for evaluating the study’s uniqueness for other pertinent academics will be certain public space characteristics that have not been examined or are yet understudied. It will also serve as a guide for the local government as it develops plans and tactics for public space development.

DATA COLLECTION METHODS

On March 15, 2024, 230 documents were found with the keywords “public space” and “Indonesia.” The research publications on “public space” and “Indonesia” in Scopus were searched, and the trend of data search results led to the mapping and analysis that produced the documents. Any information or resources that are presented in the analysis were retrieved using the “analyze search results” feature of the Scopus database. Furthermore, the analysis necessitates the visualisation function of VOSviewer version 1.6.17 (Eck van and Waltman, 2014; Dissanayake, Johar and Ubeysekara, 2023; Costa da *et al.*, 2024). The data in the visualisation follows the computed weights and looks at current data trends that come from the acquired data search. This also affects the research by preventing data visualisation from being shown on less important items. Three criteria were employed to identify and investigate public places in Indonesia: (1) the degree to which the spaces aligned with the research issue, (2) the degree to which the spaces were connected to the research topic, (3) the findings or recommendations on research implications (Batini *et al.*, 2009).

Inside this point, at least two authors independently review each abstract. Meetings were held to discuss and settle minor disagreements, and agreements were reached. Based on the aforementioned criteria, 30 studies were eliminated and 200 studies were recovered from the 2013–2023 timeframe. Then, the complete articles were read in order to evaluate the quality and relevance of the 200 studies. Subsequently, 40 papers were screened for eligibility and evaluated independently using the criteria listed below, which included correctness, consistency, completeness, and precision (Bano and Zowghi, 2015). The independent dimension quality standards (Batini *et al.*, 2009) are the following: (1) accuracy: the goals of the research project were well-articulated, and the techniques for gathering data were sufficiently detailed; important claims made in the article are backed up with references; (2) consistency: the goals of the research are aligned with the research design; either the research objectives are met or the research questions are addressed by the study; (3) completeness: the report offers a thorough explanation of the methodology; (4) timeliness: the research was released between 2013 and 2023. As a result, precisely 30 research projects from 2013 to 2023 that specifically addressed the issue of Indonesian public space development were ultimately chosen (see Fig. 1). Our thorough search of the pertinent literature produced a small number of works that met our inclusion and exclusion criteria. This finding emphasises the rising body of research on public space in Indonesia, as shown by the Scopus database.

Clear quality criteria, including accuracy, consistency, completeness, and timeliness, guided this selection process,

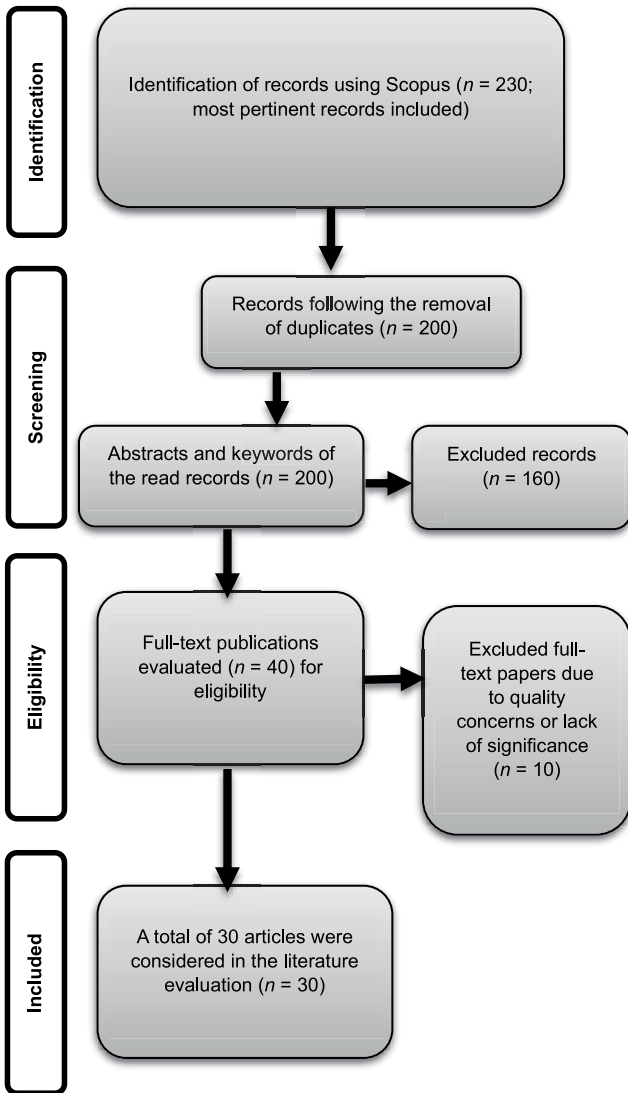


Fig. 1. VOSviewer of visualisation is used to illustrate the study selection, assessment, and inclusion; source: own elaboration

ensuring the reliability and validity of the analysis results. These criteria help to ensure that only research capable of making a significant contribution to the understanding of Indonesia’s public space development will be considered. By focusing on 30 verified and evaluated works, the authors were able to delve more deeply into the context, findings, and implications of these studies. This also highlights the importance of quality over quantity in academic research, where selecting studies that truly meet stringent criteria can yield more meaningful and applicable insights into public space issues in Indonesia. The authors emphasise that they used a bibliographic analysis approach as part of their methodology to ensure that the retrieved studies were not only relevant but also of high quality, thereby providing a deep

and accurate understanding of Indonesia’s public space development. We also disclose the limited number of analysed publications to provide a clear context for the scope and depth of this research, and to enhance the reliability of the analysis results.

DATA ANALYSIS

For this study, the keywords “TITLE-ABS-KEY(“Public Space”)” and “TITLE-ABS-KEY(“INDONESIA”)” were used in the data analysis. Furthermore, “LIMIT-TO [PUBYEAR, 2023] OR LIMIT-TO [PUBYEAR, 2022] OR LIMIT-TO [PUBYEAR, 2021] OR LIMIT-TO [PUBYEAR, 2020] OR LIMIT-TO [PUBYEAR, 2019] OR LIMIT-TO [PUBYEAR, 2018] OR LIMIT-TO [PUBYEAR, 2017] OR LIMIT-TO [PUBYEAR, 2016] OR LIMIT-TO [PUBYEAR, 2015]”. The VOSviewer program version 1.6.17 is used to process and analyse the CSV (Excel) files including all search result data. An instrument for visualising and evaluating patterns in systematic literature review maps is called VOSviewer (Eck van and Waltman, 2010; Kemeç and Altınay, 2023). By recognising and evaluating the different kinds of analysis that VOSviewer may visualise, the application can create and provide a visual bibliometric map with unique data, as seen in Figure 2 below.

Policymakers, scholars, and other interested parties can use the data set that is produced by this systematic literature review analysis approach to help raise the calibre of upcoming research (Wang *et al.*, 2021; Abdillah *et al.*, 2022; Vaio di *et al.*, 2022). In order to comprehend the evolution of a certain research topic, a thorough and trustworthy approach to reviewing and assessing scientific papers is the systematic literature review method (Wagner *et al.*, 2011; Snyder, 2019; Moral-Muñoz *et al.*, 2020). Additionally, this research investigation aims to examine the impact of public spaces’ existence and use, particularly in metropolitan populations (Ahmadin, 2024), amid their hectic schedules that necessitate a more laid-back ambience, and analyse and investigate the ways in which the government might support the future development of new public spaces as well as the revitalisation of current ones.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

SYSTEMATIC LITERATURE REVIEW – MAPPING OF RESEARCH TOPICS: AN OVERVIEW

Applying VOSviewer (Eck van and Waltman, 2010) and the “analyse search results” feature on the Scopus database, we located and examined 230 documents as part of the research topic mapping and review for this study in order to ascertain the trend of research publications on the subject of public space in

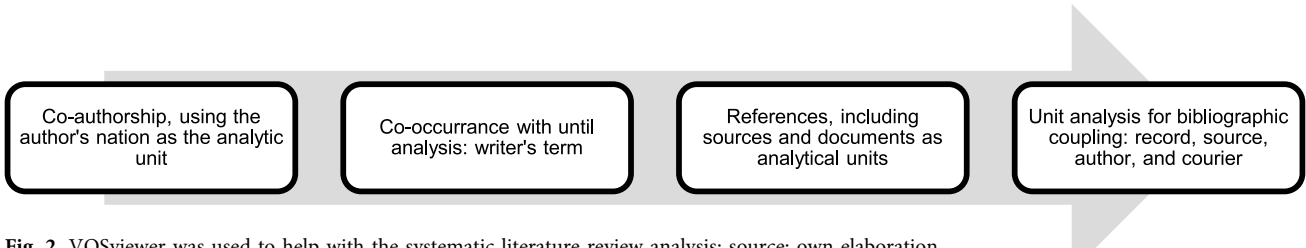


Fig. 2. VOSviewer was used to help with the systematic literature review analysis; source: own elaboration

Indonesia inside the database. Every year, the mapping and analysing results demonstrate a growing tendency, but one that is still rather dynamic. Urban community settlements, urban villages, the role of city parks as play areas, the significance of public space in connection to the tourism sector, and other challenges are the main causes of this development. The Figure 3 shows the trend.

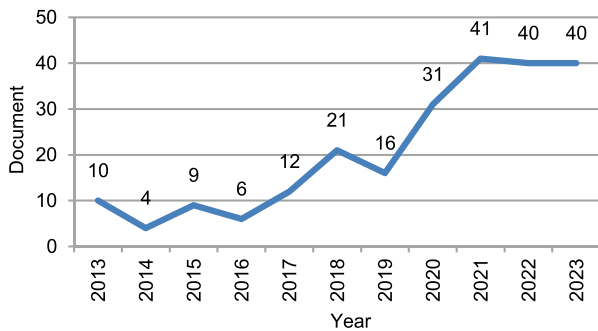


Fig. 3. Indonesian public space document publications in 2013–2023; source: own elaboration using Scopus database

The rising number of publications is the result of international cooperation in research projects on Indonesian public space. Numerous reasons, including financing support for the study, access to research data, and researcher interest in Indonesian public space, all contribute to the annual trend of increase. According to the Scopus database, 2021 will thus have the most publications in the previous 10 years.

The top 10 countries of origin of various authors who studied and published multiple scientific papers on the study of public space in Indonesia are displayed in Figure 4. These include: (1) Indonesia, with 180 documents (376 citations); (2) Australia, with 12 documents (112 citations); (3) United States, with 10 documents (179 citations); (4) Japan, with 8 documents (31 citations); (5) Netherlands, with 7 documents (51 citations); (6) United Kingdom, with 6 documents (45 citations); (7) Malaysia, with 5 documents (42 citations); (8) Singapore, with 5 documents (59 citations); (9) Germany, with 3 documents (3 citations); (10) New Zealand, with 3 documents (14 citations). The author's country of origin, as determined by a number of scientific documents, is Indonesia, with 180 documents, followed

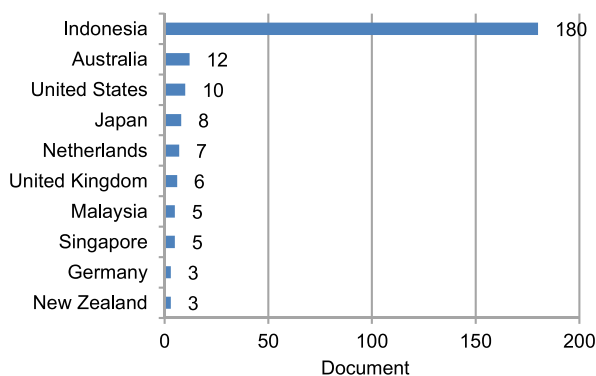


Fig. 4. Top 10 countries among those with the greatest number of papers in the Scopus database on public space in Indonesia; source: own elaboration using Scopus database

by Australia with 12 documents and the United States with 10 documents. This demonstrates that research on public space in Indonesia has been conducted in a number of international locations.

This analysis is important because it helps identify global contributions to the study of public space in Indonesia, showing that this issue is not only of interest to local researchers but also to scholars from other countries. With Indonesia being the largest contributor (180 documents), it is only natural that this study thrives in the country due to the relevance of the local context. However, contributions from countries such as Australia, the United States, and Japan indicate a significant international engagement, indicating that the issue of public space in Indonesia is part of a broader global academic discourse, especially in the fields of urban studies, architecture, and public policy. This analysis also serves as a tool to map potential academic collaborations between countries.

Recognising the countries that contribute the most to this study can help educational institutions and researchers in Indonesia strengthen their networks of collaboration with international academics. For example, researchers from Australia and the United States who have many citations on their documents indicate strong research quality, which could be an opportunity to share resources, research methods, or even conduct collaborative projects. With a better understanding of the scientific contributions of different countries, this analysis can also encourage the improvement of local research quality through cross-border cooperation.

The author, who has conducted extensive research and composed several scholarly publications on the topic of public space in Indonesia, originates from the same nation. Figure 5 displays a variety of published study documents, including (1) articles with a total of 147 documents, (2) conference papers with 64 documents, (3) book chapters with 9 documents, (4) conference reviews with 5 documents, (5) books with 2 documents, (6) reviews with 2 documents, (7) erratum with 1 document. Based on the seven categories of document publications reviewed in the Scopus database, it can be inferred that the diverse range of materials related to the study of public space in Indonesia establishes this matter as a worldwide concern.

The diagram reveals that the publication of a variety of documents not only piques the interest of local researchers but also extends to the global scientific community. This shows that public space in Indonesia is part of the global discourse and is

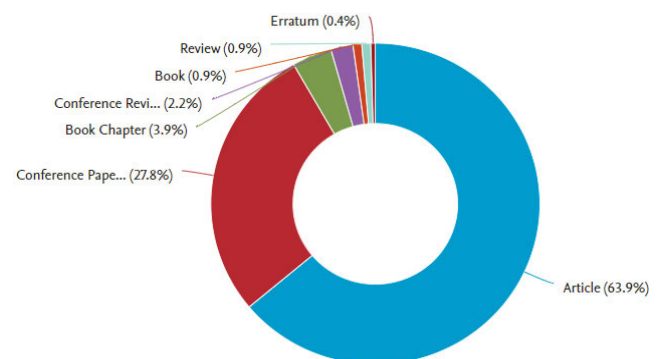


Fig. 5. Document categories that have the highest number of publications concerned with public space in Indonesia; source: own elaboration using Scopus database

a cross-disciplinary topic of study that is of interest to researchers from various countries and academic contexts. This analysis also aims to measure researchers' involvement in exploring the issue of public space in Indonesia. With various platforms, such as articles, conference papers, and book chapters, this shows the level of engagement of researchers in communicating their research results through various platforms.

It is necessary to show the dynamics of academic discussions and the contributions of researchers in this field. We can evaluate the achievements in public space studies in Indonesia and identify gaps or opportunities for further research using this data. For instance, the publication of only a few book chapters or reviews presents an opportunity for researchers to either write a more comprehensive book or conduct a meta-analysis of existing research. The aim of this analysis is to show that the study of public space in Indonesia is not only relevant in academic circles but also important for public policy formulation. The publication of various types of documents serves as a compelling argument for policymakers, architects, urban planners, and the general public to prioritise the development of public space in Indonesia.

In Figure 6, the interconnections between different subject areas are illustrated including social science (114 documents), environmental science (63 documents), arts and humanities (61 documents), engineering (55 documents), earth and planetary sciences (45 documents), computer science (17 documents), business, management, and accounting (11 documents), energy (11 documents), materials science (11 documents), and agricultural and biological sciences (9 documents). Within the realm of subject areas, the following are the 10 most extensively documented subject areas. These findings suggest that the area of public space studies in Indonesia is being examined from several viewpoints, methodologies, and academic disciplines. To fully understand the study of public space concerns, it is necessary to examine not only social issues but also considerations pertaining to urban spatial engineering, the urban environment, art, humanity, and other interconnected domains. The objective is to tackle current urban challenges.

The diagram shows that the study of public space in Indonesia is multidisciplinary, involving various fields such as social science, environmental science, art, engineering, computer science, and business. This analysis, which lists the top 10 fields of study, emphasises the need to view public space issues from multiple perspectives, including social aspects, urban spatial engineering, environmental sustainability, art, and humanity. This multidisciplinary approach is important because complex

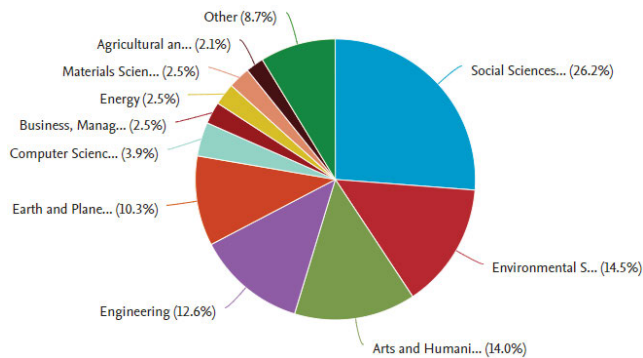


Fig. 6. Displays the predominant subject areas of publications on public places in Indonesia; source: own elaboration using Scopus database

urban and public space issues require comprehensive solutions involving various disciplines to ensure optimal planning, management, and utilisation of public spaces that meet the needs of modern society. As a result, this analysis illustrates how the issue of public space in Indonesia has become an important part of a global study that encompasses various disciplines in order to address contemporary city challenges.

In Figure 7, the top 10 authors who have discussed the topic of public space in Indonesia the most are displayed, including: (1) Aulia, D.N. (2020) with 4 citations; (2) Sir, M.M. (2022) with 1 citation; (3) Adianto, J. (2020) with 4 citations; (4) Fuad, A.H. (2018) with 1 citation; (5) Martini (2018) with 16 citations; (6) Padawangi, R. (2014) with 16 citations; (7) Radja, A.M. (2023) with 0 citations; (8) Riyanto, I. (2018) with 16 citations; (9) Widjajanti, R. (2019); (10) Asyari, S. (2017) with 3 citations. In 2019, materials pertaining to public spaces in Indonesia have become authoritative sources, and research has been undertaken in many regions of the globe. The majority of reference materials are sourced from publications authored by Indonesian writers. The impact of published papers on the publishing of other documents may be observed through the citation number. A higher number of citations for a document indicates a stronger influence on the study topic under investigation.

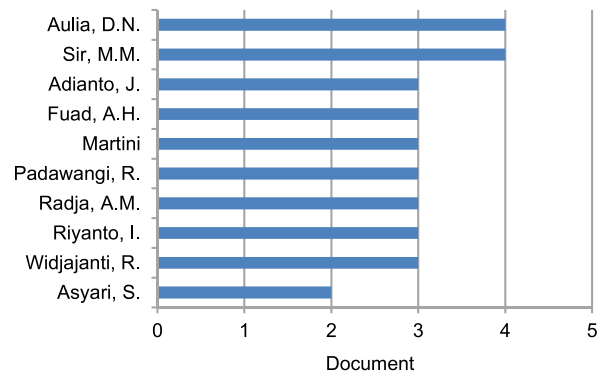


Fig. 7. Top 10 authors in the Scopus database who have the greatest amount of publications pertaining to public space in Indonesia; source: own elaboration using Scopus database

The authors aim to highlight the global impact of certain scholarly works, particularly those published by Indonesian researchers, by identifying the top 10 authors. This analysis is crucial for comprehending the role of scientists in shaping the global academic discourse on public space in Indonesia, where a document's influence on subsequent studies increases with its number of citations. It also gives an idea of the academic networks and collaborations that may form based on the works of influential authors on this topic. This demonstrates the significance and influence of prominent authors in Indonesian public space studies, as measured by the number of citations their documents receive.

The present study's comprehensive literature evaluation reveals that the investigation of public space in Indonesia is a persistent matter with projections of future expansion. Consistent patterns in this study have been apparent since 2013 and are projected to persist until 2023, when it is published in the Scopus database. The topic of public space studies in Indonesia has been examined from distinct viewpoints, methodologies,

and variations of academic fields. The Scopus database contains a diverse range of writings that chronicle public space studies in Indonesia, encompassing at least six distinct areas of research.

Knowing the trends in research on public space in Indonesia, including the identification of top authors and the number of citations, is important because it provides insights into the direction of the issue and the scholarly impact of published works. The increased research from 2013 to 2023 allows researchers to understand that public space is becoming an increasingly significant and relevant topic in academic studies, especially in Indonesia. In addition, knowing the most cited authors shows who is making major contributions to the discourse, as well as demonstrating which works are the most influential and frequently referenced by other researchers. It also assists academics and practitioners in finding important references and determining potential collaborations based on key authors' influence and contributions.

RESEARCH TOPIC MAPPING: CONTENT ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH ISSUES

Based on a compilation of published papers in the Scopus database, the following study subjects are closely associated with public space in Indonesia. Research difficulties pertaining to this topic are depicted in Figure 8.

Figure 8 displays a VOSviewer evaluation that utilised 30 research documents obtained from the Scopus database. The results indicated that five clusters have developed as a dominant trend in study issues connected to public space in Indonesia. These subjects have garnered international recognition and are

currently being rigorously examined within the nation. The five clusters are categorised as follows: the first cluster (red) primarily focuses on the greater Sunda Islands, encompassing topics such as housing, religion, Sunda Isles, tourism, and tourist behaviour; the second cluster (green) is inclined towards studying grassroots movements, Jakarta, neighbourhoods, social movements, and urban areas; the third cluster (blue) is more inclined towards exploring citizenship, empowerment, urban society, and Yogyakarta; the fourth cluster (yellow) is more likely to delve into language, open space, public space, and urban planning; the fifth cluster, represented by the colour purple, has a higher propensity for acquiring knowledge pertaining to cities, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the country of Indonesia.

Within each cluster, the primary concerns of public space research in Indonesia are extensively examined and documented in the Scopus database. These study topics can be used as a point of reference for future academics who are working on creating themes related to challenges in Indonesian public spaces. This research makes practical and theoretical contributions to the existing literature on public space in Indonesia. This research challenge may also be approached by analysing research data, specifically by investigating worldwide research trends to get insights into the current and future areas of study regarding public space in Indonesia.

The purpose of knowing the clusters of research on public space in Indonesia identified through the VOSviewer analysis is to provide a comprehensive understanding of the key trends and issues that are the focus of global attention in this study. This study groups 30 research documents into five clusters, each focusing on specific topics such as travel behaviour, social

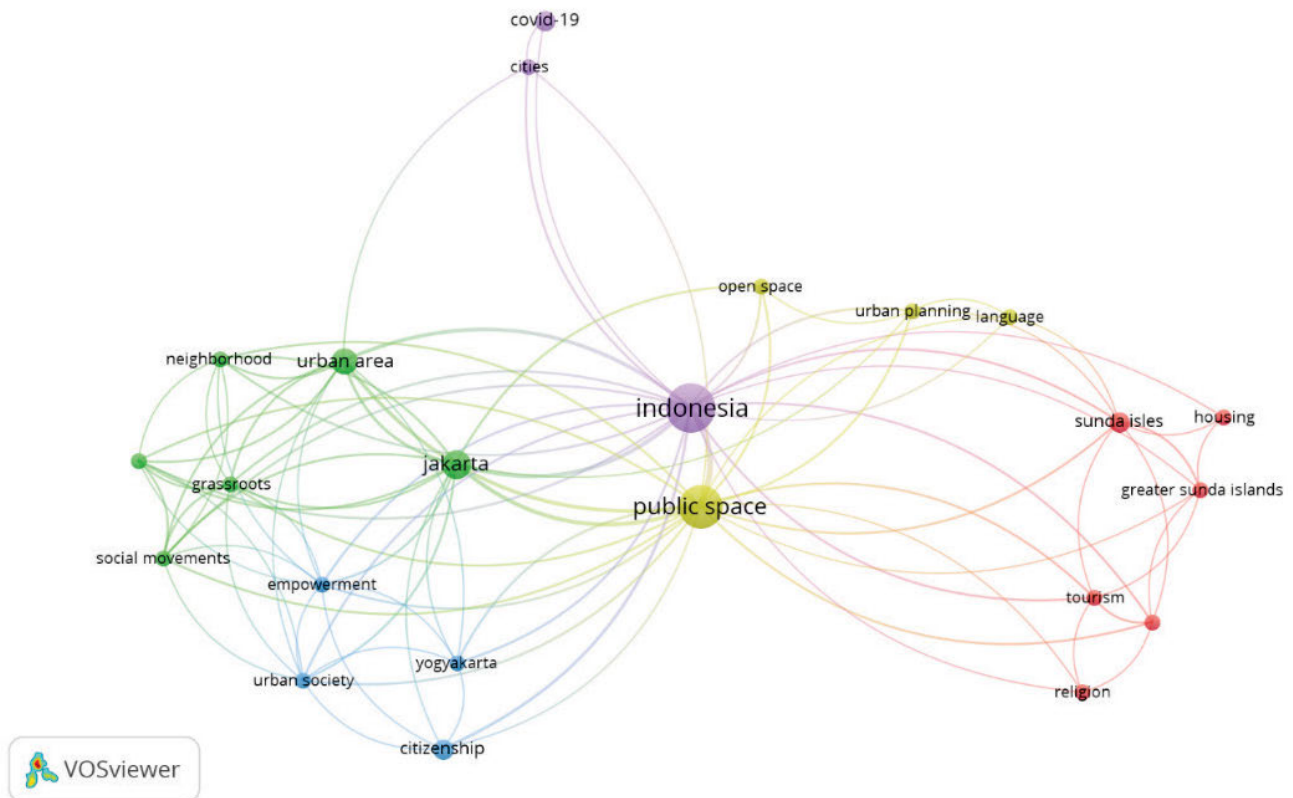


Fig. 8. The analysis conducted using VOSviewer, specifically focusing on co-occurrence of all keywords (2024); source: own elaboration using VOSviewer software

movements, citizenship, urban planning, and the impact of COVID-19. This approach aids other researchers in identifying areas with extensive research and those with less attention. This is crucial for guiding future research endeavours, enabling researchers to delve into previously unexplored aspects and cultivate a more varied body of literature on public space in Indonesia. As a result, this research not only provides a practical contribution to understanding the dynamics of public space but also a theoretical contribution to expanding the horizon of thought in this field, as well as a basis for future research to explore the challenges and opportunities that exist.

The overlay visualisation findings, similar to Figure 9, indicate several patterns in recent research. The picture with the strongest hue (yellow) represents the period from 2014 to 2022. These tendencies are a matter of grave concern and have been examined by international experts specialising in public space concerns in Indonesia. Several research concerns include: (1) there is enough room for further exploration and analysis about the uses, advantages, and development policies of public space in Indonesia; (2) public space in Indonesia continues to be a significant concern due to its roles and consumption; (3) public space, including regeneration and development initiatives, is well-developed in Indonesia; (4) the study of urban public space remains a crucial topic during and after the COVID-19 epidemic.

The author’s overlay visualisation of public space research in Indonesia from 2014 to 2022 aims to provide an in-depth overview of research trends and key issues that are the focus of global researchers’ attention. By marking the most current periods and topics in yellow, the authors aim to show how research on public space has evolved and changed over time,

reflecting responses to existing social and policy dynamics. First, the author highlights the importance of understanding the functions and benefits of public spaces. In this context, the researcher seeks to explore how public spaces can serve as tools to improve community well-being, provide a place for social interaction, and support sustainable urban development policies. This discussion is crucial as it guides the design and management of public spaces to enhance inclusivity and benefit various societal levels.

Second, the authors highlight the evolving strategies for utilising public space. The authors study the optimal use of public spaces, considering the needs of local communities and the challenges in planning and managing them. These strategies may include revitalising existing public areas or developing new spaces that address the changing needs of communities. Third, we cannot ignore the strategic issue of the COVID-19 pandemic’s impact on urban public spaces. Research in this area includes how the pandemic has changed the way people interact with public spaces, as well as how public health policies can influence the use of these spaces. This reflects the importance of flexibility and adaptability in the design of public spaces to respond to crisis situations.

Having presented these trends and issues, the authors would like to emphasise that research on public space in Indonesia is not only locally important but also has global relevance. These issues reflect the challenges and opportunities facing cities around the world, showing that research on public space can provide valuable insights for better urban planning in the future. The authors hope that focusing on these topics will encourage further research and

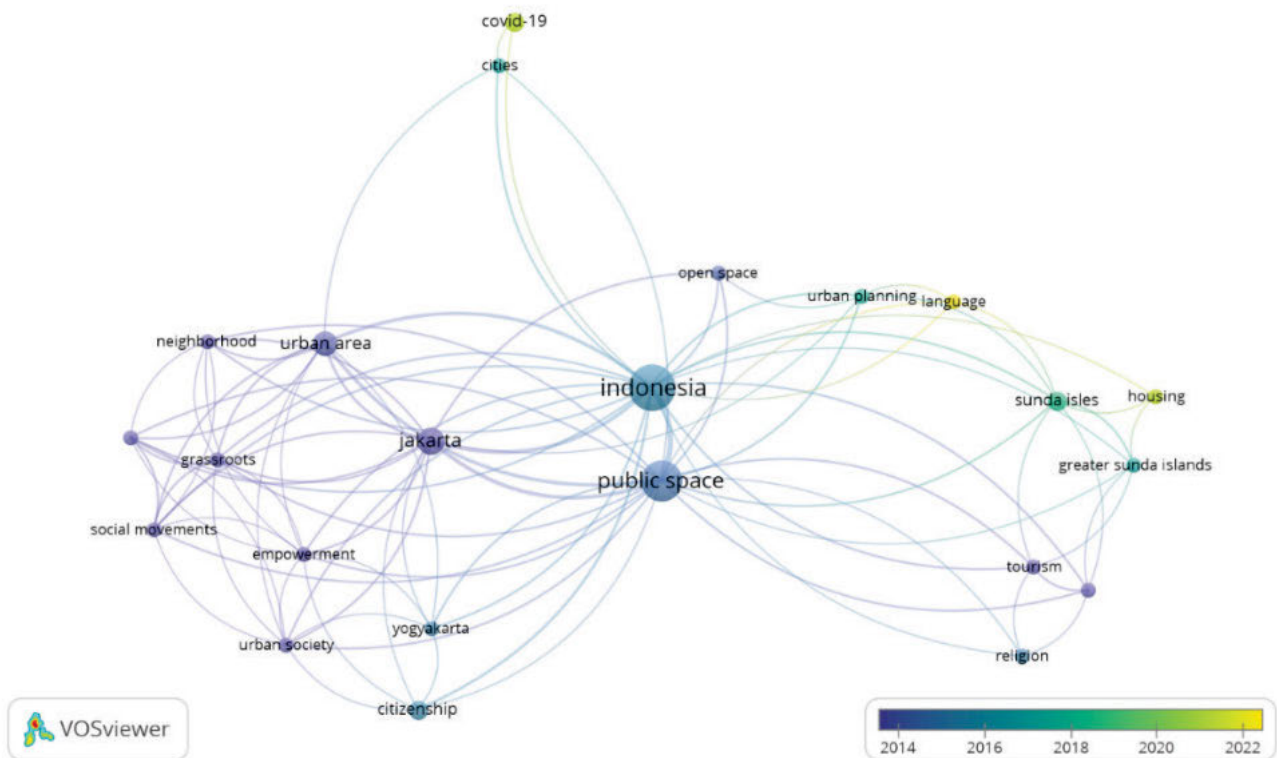


Fig. 9. The analysis conducted using VOSviewer, specifically using the co-occurrence (all keywords) analysis type (2024); source: own elaboration using VOSviewer software

inspire policymakers to take appropriate action for the development of more sustainable and inclusive public spaces.

The research examines several trends in public space and its usage in Indonesia, which appears to be limited. The purpose of this identification and analysis is to provide support for current research and promote more study on public space, with the ultimate objective of achieving a democratic society and state founded on the principles of freedom. The authors assert that scholars in Indonesia possess a significant chance to advance study topics related to public space, with the aim of fostering a democratic society that experiences enhanced freedom in the coming years.

TOPIC: RESEARCH IDENTIFICATION DISCUSSION – THE CONSEQUENCES OF REINVIGORATING THE ROLE OF PUBLIC SPACES IN INDONESIA

Within this part, the author examines the usage of public space in Indonesia, as determined by the articles included in our sample. The identification findings have unveiled several obstacles, which we have classified into four separate domains: (1) public space is primarily seen as an economic commodity for tourism purposes; (2) the use of public space is mainly restricted to parks and areas designated for children's play; (3) the attention given to public space is broad and not tailored to meet the specific needs of communities; (4) the study of public space is often limited to specific communities, such as urban villages.

A more in-depth study and analysis of the 30 research articles reveals that these studies offer critical insights into how public spaces can optimally support government policies. For instance, if we solely perceive public spaces as tourism commodities, our public space development policies might concentrate solely on commercial aspects, neglecting their potential to promote social welfare and enhance the overall quality of life for the community. Given these findings, the government may consider a more comprehensive approach to public space management. Previous studies have shown that the utilisation of public spaces is still very limited, often focusing only on parks and children's play areas. This implies that we have not fully maximised the potential of public spaces to transform into dynamic spaces for social interaction, education, and cultural

development. The importance of this research is to help redefine the role of public spaces to better suit the needs of modern society, especially in big cities that require more complex spaces for interaction. Mapping research trends reveals that the focus on public spaces has not aligned with the specific needs of the community. This research is significant as it contributes to the creation of more inclusive and relevant policies and designs for public spaces. Therefore, public spaces can become more representative of the diversity of people's needs, for example, based on demographics, lifestyles, or socio-economic activities.

These studies show that the results of their research provide important findings on public spaces in Indonesia as tourism assets, as identified by Weiss (2014) and Mulyawan (2021). Ponting and McDonald (2013) and Damayanti, Scott and Ruhanen (2018) also demonstrated that the management of public spaces primarily focuses on generating economic benefits, rather than serving as spaces for social interaction or community development. This conclusion underscores the importance of broadening the perspective of public space utilisation.

On the other hand, studies by Padawangi (2014), Simone (2014), and Baldwin and King (2018) reveal that public spaces in Indonesia still tend to be used only as parks and children's playgrounds, as also found by Koerniawan and Gao (2015) and Aini, Marlinab and Nikmatullah (2019). This conclusion highlights the importance of developing other functions that are more relevant to the needs of urban communities, such as spaces for creative activities, sports, and education. Subadyo, Tutuko and Cahyani (2018) and Gibbings (2016) emphasise that attention to public spaces is still general and does not take into account the specific needs of the community. The conclusion of these findings emphasises the need for a public space design approach that is more based on the needs of specific communities, both in terms of demographics and social functions desired by the community.

Furthermore, studies by Cywiński (2015), Amal (2020), and Benu *et al.* (2023) reveal that the study of public space in Indonesia typically focuses on specific communities, like urban villages. We conclude that expanding this research to encompass more diverse communities is necessary to ensure the implementation of public space is inclusive and not restricted to specific groups (Tab. 1).

Table 1. Indonesian public space point of view

| Point perspective on public area | The primary issue | Contribution provided | Lessons learned (for agenda research) |
|---|---|---|--|
| Public areas serve as key sources of identification and give spatial orientation | visitors' "sense of place" is influenced by the style of shopping centre atrium design | the retail centre's design takes into account the following factors: social image, social interaction, event environment, atrium decorating, and atrium readability | shopping malls should have a design that reflects their cultural character because they are public areas |
| Street art transforms space into a representation of shifting civic norms, urban aesthetics, and individual liberties | Indonesian street art production and distribution via media and technology | with an element of media and technology, art may be created and distributed to foster urban aesthetics | street art is a civic practice in public space that represents urban symbols and aesthetics |
| Informal sector public space can be understood as a shared resource, common good, or semi-private good | determine the official and unofficial "rules of use" that direct actors' actions about the use of space | these locations can be managed by informal economic players to enhance their standard of living | the significance of how economic players manage and make use of official and informal sector spatial functions |

| Point perspective on public area | The primary issue | Contribution provided | Lessons learned (for agenda research) |
|---|---|--|---|
| Urban space extends the reach of social movement agendas since it is a live system within the city | examining the locations of public demonstrations as “megaphones,” taking into account the themes and organisations that are represented, as well as the connections and routes that these groups create | locations of rallies with symbolic and historical significance and the connection between media and space | the utilisation of urban areas as demonstration spaces with symbolic and meaningful historical contexts |
| In the framework of urban development, inclusive public spaces serve as “social bonds” and “urban lungs” in addition to being meaningful, democratic, and responsive representations of space | based on the quality and significance of the space – which encompasses historical, artistic, and functional values – the integrity of the space is analysed and evaluated | to maintain their significance for the community, historic sites that are utilised as inclusive public areas must be evaluated | historic public places as a means of fostering community and preserving aesthetic and practical values |

Source: own study.

The study's findings indicate that public space is very important for urban populations, especially when it comes to using open spaces like municipal parks for amusement and recreation and its usage as an economic commodity for tourists. Public area is designed to be used in metropolitan areas to satisfy the community's demand for a fun and leisurely environment, but in practice, its usage is not optimised and it is instead used as an economic resource for tourists. It is recommended that the government give planning and design for urban development first priority, with an emphasis on creating representative public spaces across Indonesia's many regions. In certain cities, the government ought to give priority to the use and renovation of already existing public areas.

The research results can be used to develop a more comprehensive public space management policy. Given the results indicating a greater emphasis on tourism and commercialisation in public spaces, the government could be encouraged to implement policies that better balance the commercial and social functions of public spaces. Furthermore, the research findings can serve as a guide for designing public spaces that are inclusive. The results of his research emphasise the importance of paying attention to the specific needs of the community when planning and designing public spaces. This research can result in a more diverse design of public spaces, including facilities for various groups of people, from children to the elderly, as well as attention to differences in needs based on economic, social, or cultural activities.

CONCLUSIONS

Research-related trends have been observed since 2013 and have been growing ever since. Publications in the Scopus database indicate that in 2022, 30 documents matching the subjects of this study were acquired. Studies on public space in Indonesia have been conducted using a variety of approaches, scientific disciplines, and viewpoints. The Scopus database contains a variety of research publications on Indonesian public space (at least six disciplines of study have been recognised). Aulia, D.N. (2020) with 4 citations, Sir, M.M. (2022) with 1 citation, Adianto, J. (2020) with 4 citations, Fuad, A.H. (2018) with 1 citation, Martini (2018) with 16; Padawangi, R. (2014)

with 16; Radja, A.M. (2023) with 0; Riyanto, I. (2018) with 16; Widjajanti, R. (2019) with 3 citations, and (10) Asyari, S. (2017) with 3 citations are the top 10 authors who published their papers.

Research on Indonesian public space can aid in the understanding of the country's public space usage and function by future scholars. This study makes a theoretical and practical contribution to the growth of a varied body of literature on public space concerns in Indonesia. This study problem can also provide information on international research trends that have been, are, and will be investigated with regard to Indonesian public space. Future studies should concentrate on the following areas, according to the research: (1) Indonesian public space consumption and function, (2) strategies to restore urban public space functionality; and (3) public space kinds that may be produced in Indonesia. The study's mapping of public spaces – both in terms of kind and function – offers a significant lesson. This is a helpful resource for developing plans and regulations related to the growth of the urban sector, especially with regard to the kinds of public areas that may be created.

This research has significant implications for both the development of science and public policy regarding public space in Indonesia. First, this research enriches the existing literature on public space in Indonesia by providing an in-depth analysis of the functions, utilisation, and challenges facing public space. As such, it serves as an important reference for academics and other researchers interested in this field, and helps to create a more comprehensive knowledge base. Second, the findings from this study can provide valuable insights for policymakers and urban planners in designing and implementing policies that focus on the development of public spaces. Understanding the function and utilisation of existing public spaces enables the development of policies that enhance their quality and more effectively meet community needs. Third, this research provides clear recommendations regarding the importance of revitalisation policies. These implications encourage the government and stakeholders to consider more planned and strategic actions for revitalising existing public spaces, taking into account the needs of local communities and environmental factors.

The fourth point is that this research, through mapping public spaces based on their type and function, can pinpoint areas that require further attention and those that hold potential for

development. This mapping is also useful in making more informed and data-driven decisions, enabling more effective resource allocation in urban infrastructure development. This study lays the groundwork for future investigations that could delve into previously unexplored facets of public spaces, including their social and economic effects, community involvement in public space management, and cross-national comparisons. This has the potential to generate new insights and better recommendations for future public space development. Overall, the implications of this research suggest that the sustainable development of public spaces depends not only on appropriate policies but also on a deep understanding of the existing functions, needs, and social dynamics. This research can serve as a foundation for more effective action in developing public spaces in Indonesia or around the world.

There are several aspects that are still lacking in this paper, including analysis of the socio-economic impact of public space utilisation for urban communities, forms of public space utilisation in urban communities, especially comparisons with other countries, and forms of community participation in the public space management process. In addition, the study of public space is still specifically limited to urban areas, while the public space of rural communities has not been discussed, including the use of green open space in relation to health.

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CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

All authors declare that they have no conflict of interests.

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