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# A BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS ON ENTRE-PRENEURIAL INTENTION: AN EXAMPLE OF WEB OF SCIENCE

In this study, it is aimed to map the evolution of the concept and the studies conducted on the concept of entrepreneurial intention. In the study, using quantitative data, a systematic summary of the existing literature on entrepreneurial intention, which is one of the most important stages of the entrepreneurship process and an important part of this process, using bibliometric analysis and presenting it to the attention of those working in this field, is carried out with the aim of revealing how studies have been conducted on the concept and what gaps exist. The unit of analysis is based on the bibliometric data of different types of works scanned in the Web of Science database and published between 2006-2025 (until February 18).

**Keywords:** entrepreneurial intention, entrepreneurship, entrepreneurship education, entrepreneurship self-efficacy, self-efficacy, theory of planned behavior.

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# БИБЛИОМЕТРИЧЕСКИЙ АНАЛИЗ ПРЕД-ПРИНИМАТЕЛЬСКИХ НАМЕРЕНИЙ: ПРИМЕР WEB OF SCIENCE

Цель данного исследования – проследить эволюцию концепции и исследований, проведённых в отношении концепции предпринимательского намерения. В исследовании, используя количественные данные, проводится систематическое обобщение существующей литературы о предпринимательских намерениях, которая является одним из важнейших этапов предпринимательского процесса и важной частью этого процесса, с использованием библиометрического анализа и представления его вниманию тех, кто работает в этой области. Цель показать, как проводились исследования этой концепции и какие существуют пробелы. Единица анализа основана на библиометрических данных различных типов работ, отсканированных в базе данных Web of Science и опубликованных в период с 2006 по 2025 гг. (до 18 февраля).

**Ключевые слова:** предпринимательское намерение, предпринимательство, предпринимательское образование, предпринимательская самоэффективность, самоэффективность, теория планируемого поведения.

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### Introduction

In the literature, a set of purposive behaviors are defined as intentions. These intentional behaviors are team building, planning, research, planning, etc. Some questions underlying the field of entrepreneurship are important to understand entrepreneurial intention. Some important issues attract the attention of entrepreneurship students, policy makers or academics. We can list them as follows:

- Entrepreneurial intention can be important in the interpretation of the entrepreneurial process because it can explain how entrepreneurs behave in the entrepreneurial process, how they act when generating a new venture idea.
- Assuming that intentions are antecedents of entrepreneurial actions, it is necessary to understand the nature and scope of entrepreneurship in many contexts national, local and regional (O'Gorman, 2019).
  - Intention can explain why entrepreneurs show entrepreneurial behaviors.
  - Intention can also explain the decision to start entrepreneurship (Baron, 2004).

Bird (1988) considered entrepreneurial intention as the state of mind of entrepreneurs and as a factor that directs the actions, attention or experiences of individuals towards any business concept and determines the form and direction of organizations during the establishment phase. Organizational outcomes in the subsequent stages – development, growth, survival and change – are based on intentions. Entrepreneurs' ideas and intentions form the basic strategic schema and play a fundamental role in the development of the new venture. Although entrepreneurial ideas begin with entrepreneurial inspiration, sustained intention and attention are important in the emergence of these ideas (Bird, 1988).

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According to (Krueger Jr, 2000), it is not by chance that individuals start entrepreneurship. Entrepreneurship is the result of a conscious choice. This choice is shaped by the conditions around us. We think about the clues we perceive from our environment, perceive opportunities and start to transform them into a business proposal. Accordingly, he stated that entrepreneurial intentions are the closest predictor of entrepreneurial activities (Krueger Jr, 2000).

Organizational factors also have an impact on entrepreneurial intention. We can think of a work environment that supports innovation, emphasizes personal development, encourages creativity and vice versa. Can both of these contexts influence entrepreneurial intention? Supportive environments can make opportunities more accessible, facilitate self-development, and facilitate internal and external networking (Audia, 2005). Conversely, a business environment that does not support innovation may also affect entrepreneurial intentions. According to the results of a study conducted by Lee et al. (2011) among information technology specialists in Singapore, low job satisfaction and low self-development environments led to an increase in entrepreneurial intentions (Lee, 2011).

It has been suggested that organizational context plays an important role in turnover intentions (Klepper, 2001). From this point of view, it may be right to consider "strategic disagreement". "Strategic disagreement" can trigger entrepreneurship. When this happens, employees may have a disagreement or disagreement with the future of the firm. This may lead the employee to quit and start a new business in the same sector (Klepper, 2010).

According to the theory of planned behavior, it is conceptually assumed that there are three independent determinants of intention. These are attitudes towards behavior, subjective norms and perceived behavioral control. The degree to which an individual has a positive or negative evaluation towards a certain behavior constitutes his/her attitude towards the behavior. The second determinant, subjective norms, refers to the perceived social pressure to perform or not perform the behavior and is considered as a social factor. The other determinant, the degree of behavioral control, is assumed to reflect expected barriers and past experiences and refers to the perceived difficulty or ease in performing the behavior. As a rule, for the intention to perform the behavior to be strong, attitudes and subjective norms related to the behavior should be positive and perceived behavioral control should be as great. Perceived behavioral control, subjective norms and attitudes may differ from the prediction of intention. This difference may vary across behaviors and situations. Thus, it may be found that only one of these determinants has a greater influence in some applications, while in others all three contribute (Ajzen, 1991).

As we see above there are many researches about entrepreneurial intentions. It shows that there is a big attention on entrepreneurial intention. That's why it is really important to know new trends about entrepreneurial intentions, to find out who are the main authors on this field, universities or research centers that made the most studies on entrepreneurial intentions, which journals are the most productive ones about this topic and have contributions to this field and the main subject areas of entrepreneurial intentions that need more analysis and discover.

To answer all these questions, we use bibliometric analysis technique. Bibliometric analysis is about understanding research trends in a specific field, and we get these outputs of academic publications from the Web of Science of Scopus database. With a help of this type of approach we can differentiate the final results of a specific topic which is analyzed in two types of academic research (Alsharif, 2020).

#### Method

In this section of the study, the purpose of the research, the analysis and the findings are presented.

#### Purpose of the Study

As a result of the bibliometric analysis of the concept of entrepreneurial intention as a result of quantitative data and numerical measurement indicators, it is aimed to present the studies on the concept to the attention of researchers with a holistic perspective.

### **Data and Analysis**

In the present study, the Web of Science database owned by Clarivate Analytics was used to access metadata. The main motivation behind this choice is the level of trust and reliability of the research indexed in the Web of Science database by the international scientific community. The Web of Science database is a database that allows advanced searches through keywords, offers secure access to the metadata of studies, and systematically provides users with the big data required for advanced data analysis. It includes qualified, traceable and reliable studies in terms of publication ethics and impact factor. It provides access to a wide-ranging data collection from many different independent and interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary disciplines (Dirik, 2024).

### **Findings**

In this heading, the findings of the study are presented.

# Co-authorship of authors

While analyzing the co-authorship of the authors, the following visual was created by setting at least 1 citation and at least 1 publication criteria to determine which authors are more connected and collaborative. According to the findings obtained as a result of the analysis, a total of 285 people merged in 24 clusters and formed 648 links and the link strength was 741. The most cited authors are Francisco Linan (5645 citations), Alain Fayolle (2239 citations), Yi-wen Chen (1903 citations). These authors are not among the most connected authors. The authors with the most works are Cong Doanh Duong (24), Francisco Linan (21), Chaoyun Liang (17). These authors are also not among the most cited authors. Francisco Linan (5645 citations) is the most cited author and Cong Doanh Duong (24 works) is the most cited author.

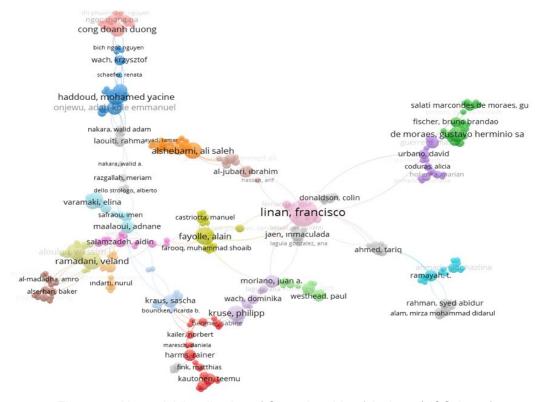


Figure 1 – Network Visualization of Co-authorship of Authors (VOSviewer)

### **Co-occurrence of Author Keywords**

When we analyze Co-occurrence of Author Keywords, of the 3609 keywords, 242 met the threshold and minimum number of occurrences of a keyword is five. When we look at the most used keywords, entrepreneurial intention is in the first place (1048). Most other used keywords are entrepreneurship (321), entrepreneurship education (274), entrepreneurship self-efficacy (129), self-efficacy (127) and theory of planned behavior (126). When we also look at the total link strengths these keywords are in the top six. At the end 14 clusters, 3091 links and 7122 total link strengths are found.

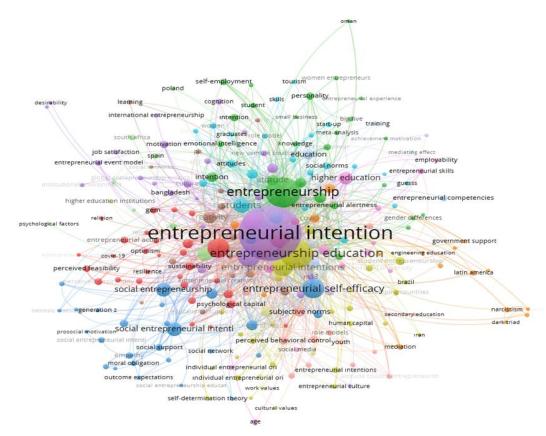


Figure 2 – Network Visualization of Co-occurrence of Author Keywords (VOSviewer)

# **Co-authorship of Organizations**

When we try to make a network map of co-authorship of organizations, the minimum number of documents of an organization is set at 2, and the minimum number of citations of an organization is set at 1. As a result, of the 2185 organizations, 718 met the thresholds. For the number of documents, the top four organizations are National Economics University (39), University of Seville (35), University of Beira Interior (33), Aligarh Muslim University (21). For the number of citations, the top three organizations are University of Seville (5327), National Chengchi University (1903), Johannes Kepler University Linz (1165). For the number of total link strengths, the top three organizations are University of Beira Interior (56), University of Seville (34), King Faisal University (28). At the end 34 clusters, 1112 links and 1420 total link strengths are found.

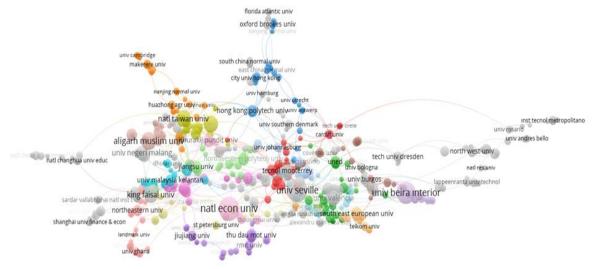


Figure 3 – Network Visualization of Co-authorship of Organizations (VOSviewer)

# Co-authorship of Countries

When we try to make a network map of co-authorship of organizations, the minimum number of documents of an organization is set at 1, and the minimum number of citations of an organization is set at 1. As a result, of the 118 organizations, 112 met the thresholds. For the number of documents, the top three countries are China (309), Spain (218), India (150). For the number of citations, the top three countries are Spain (11081), England (5608), China (5496). For the number of total link strengths, the top three countries are England (209), China (200), USA (133). At the end 14 clusters, 634 links and 1331 total link strengths are found.

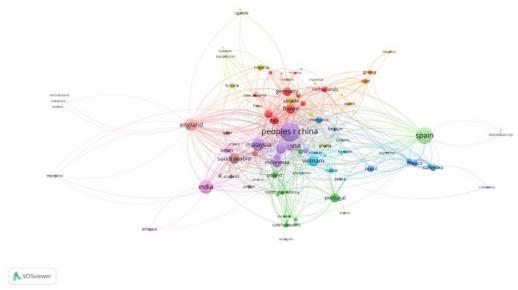


Figure 4 – Network Visualization of Co-authorship of Countries (VOSviewer)

# Results

The area of entrepreneurial intention research is increasing day by day. An increasing number of studies on this field shows that entrepreneurial intention can be a theoretical framework for many studies and provide insights for researchers who want to make some works on this area (Liñán, 2015). That's why it is really important to know the new trends and gaps on this topic. Our analysis provides researchers with information about most cited articles, the most cited authors, countries or organisations that the most researches have been done in, or which authors have the most works in this field and so on. All of these allow researchers to make detailed studies and try to fill the gaps in this area.

When we look at the years that articles were published, we can see some ups and downs according to years. The highest concentration on entrepreneurial intentions were in 2022 (312 works), 2024 (277 works) and 2021 (267 works). 2006 (3 works) is the less published year.

When we look at research areas, it has been determined that there are works in the fields of business economics (1146), education and educational research (333), psychology (215), science technology and other topics (145), environmental sciences: ecology (129). It is good to know that when researchers want to make some work in this field they should do their research in these areas. While literature about entrepreneurial intentions improves and develops day by day, some other fields also integrate into this field. Physcology and some theories related to this field is the example for that. This integration process and its speed is really noteworthy. Contributions from pshycology into this field and developments of the concept of entrepreneurial intentions almost happened at the same time period.(Fayolle, A., & Liñán, F. (2014). The future of research on entrepreneurial intentions. Journal of business research, 67(5), 663-666.) It is obvious that psychology (215 works) is the third most researched area for entrepreneurial intentions.

When we look at the distribution of publications by country, the leadership is in China (309), Spain (218), India (150). It means that many researchers from these countries are intended to make research in this field.

When the most frequently used keywords in the publications on entrepreneurial intention are examined, entrepreneurship (321), entrepreneurship education (274), entrepreneurship self-efficacy (129), self-efficacy (127) and theory of planned behavior (126). It is important for researchers to know these keywords to find the appropriate articles. It also gives them some chances that if they use most used keywords in their articles others can reach their works easily and get benefit of their work.

Analyzing all these databases gives us a huge variety of research areas to go deeper and find out new trends. With the help of this, they will be able to make some effective contributions and work efficiently and discover potential opportunities.

#### Limitations

There are some limitations of the study. One of the key limitations of the study is that we work with the datas which are from the Web of Science. Future studies can conclude the datas from Scopus, Google Scholar or from other databases. These studies can contribute to the current literature. Another limitation is that all of the articles that were analyzed are in English. Because articles written in English constitute the vast majority. Articles which are written in other languages also can be taken into account by some scholars. As another limitation, we can say that this study only analyzed the articles ESCI and SSCI indexes. Other articles which are out of these indexes can be analyzed.

### **Future Research**

As a direction for future studies, scholars can consider these limitations and they can add value to the literature.

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