

# Human Rights Studies: A Systematic Literature Review (SLR)

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#### Abstract

This research aims to understand and analyse developments in the study of human rights. The research involves the collection and analysis of data from various sources and literature on human rights. And not limited to academic journals, research articles, reports of international organizations and legal documents. The research method applied to this research is systematic literature review using 145 scientific articles sourced from data scopus. The results of the research reveal that this research seeks to produce a comprehensive and in-depth picture of how human rights studies have evolved and changed over time. The limitation of this research is that the articles used are only sourced from scopus databases so the research findings cannot describe comprehensively about human rights in the world. Further research needs to use scientific articles that come from other reputable international databases, such as the Web of Science and Dimensionds Scholars.

Keywords: Human Rights, Freedom, Democracy



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## **INTRODUCTION**

Human rights are the rights of every human being acquired and carried away at birth or entering society. (Lile, 2022) argues that something of a nature or base is defined as something that is the foundation or foundation of everything. When the underlying thing doesn't exist, then it does not exist either. When referred to as "human rights", it means human rights underlying the existence of human rights or human beings regardless of race, religion or gender, because they are universal. Basically, all human rights are opportunities for people to develop according to their talents and ideals. Human rights are the rights to life, the right to equality and non-discrimination on the basis of gender, and the right not to be subjected to cruelty, torture, and inhuman or degrading treatment. There is another factor related to human rights is the problem of human rights violations. Human rights violations are humanitarian violations of a person's fundamental rights, either by an individual or by a state institution or other agency. Human rights are universal principles that recognize and protect the dignity. freedoms and rights of everyone. (Indrayanti & Saraswati, 2022). The concept of human rights implies the recognition that every human being is born with inherent rights, is inviolable, and must be respected by the country and its people. This concept emphasizes the importance of treating everyone fairly and equally before the law, regardless of their religion, gender, race or social background (Lynk, 2023). In addition, Human Rights calls for the elimination of discrimination and the protection of minority and vulnerable groups, as well as the abolition of all forms of diskrimination, everyone has an equal right to live, prosper and participate in social, political and economic life (Johnson, 2023).

The State and society have a responsibility to protect and promote individual rights. This concept emphasizes that states are responsible for creating policies, laws, and systems that protect individual rights, enforce the law, prosecute human rights violations, and provide



equitable access to basic services such as housing, health, and education (Livew, 2022). In addition, communities have an important role to play in raising awareness and appreciation of individual rights and engaging in efforts to protect them. Human rights also involve the active participation of the public in the promotion and protection of their rights (Andrássy, 2022). Everyone has a role and responsibility in building societies that respect and protect individual rights, and societies have an important role in expressing their needs and aspirations, as well as fighting for change that advances human rights (Wardono, 2023). On the other hand, Human Rights also emphasizes the key pillars in building a just and civilized society. In this context, Human Rights serves as a guardian of balance between individuals and states, as well as between people and States, and between individuals with other individuals. Thus, HAM is the foundation for the creation of a harmonious and civilized society. Human rights are regarded as universal and fundamental rights, derived from human dignity. (Hodge, 2022). The two main values referred to as "human dignity" and "equality" are the main principles within the framework of the human rights concept. Democratic states have a duty to protect human rights, human rights protection in the rule of law must be enshrined in the constitution or national law. Democracy is the way the state exercises power by ensuring the recognition of human rights. Therefore, in order to understand democracy comprehensively, it must also understand human rights. (Grey, 2023) in his research entitled "Legal restrictions on freedom of expression for personal communication in public life" interpreted that the right to free expression is embedded in international human rights law. The decision demonstrates the difficulty of protecting freedom of expression in terms of language choice because its semantic influence is ignored when assessing the rationality of the country that enforces the language choice and where the legitimate exception for the state is to restrict freedom by forcing language in its public interaction excessively. The case also demonstrates the vulnerability of a group of language speakers to linguistic discrimination that is dissocialized without treatment. Research from (Tüzemen et al., 2021)) reveals that developing countries also need to have a certain level of development in other areas such as democracy, fundamental rights and freedoms and the rule of law to take advantage of opportunities. (Bohler-Muller et al., 2021) states that each State is committed to respecting and guaranteeing the rights and freedoms of everyone in its territory or under its jurisdiction. These provisions indicate that treaty rights apply to everyone everywhere. However, there are some exceptions to "everywhere" that "all spades" although in fact they are exceptions for "everywhere" that they are actually different kinds of rights.

(Gronholm et al. 2023)in his research entitled "Assessing Human Rights and Mental Health Priorities: The PHRAME Approach" that it is important to protect human rights with mental health implications globally. However, in order to facilitate the practical implementation of rights, it is often necessary to decide which rights should be given priority, especially when they contradict each other. Research from (Song et al., 2022) that the right to the highest attainable standard of mental health remains a far-reaching goal worldwide. The United Nations special report on the right of everyone to enjoy the best attainable standards of physical and mental health encourages governments to adopt appropriate policies and laws. His research (Magliveras & Naldi, 2022) revealed that human beings have the freedom of movement of people within a country. However, widely, this freedom is also used in the process of continental economic integration, which is an important standard in the project of economical integration. Furthermore, it explains how human rights aspects of freedom of movement relate to economic characteristics. How important a wide-ranging ban on discrimination is to ensure that the mobility of people across the continent is uninterrupted. (Grami, 2022) interpreting the right to freedom of expression is one of the key areas that can express this gender-based discrimination and patriarchal attitude. Exercise of freedom of



expression has also given them new rights such as the right to possess, right to control their own organs, right of association and right to equality before the law and to participate in decision-making and accountability to the government. Other relevant research from (Zafirovski, 2022) on "The Importance of Human Rights in the State" shows how important human rights are in a state context. The study emphasizes that human rights are a set of rights that everyone has and must be respected and protected by the state. The State guarantees and grants freedom of opinion and aspirations, as well as space to contribute in constructive criticism and advice, ranging from persuasive approaches such as speaking, discussing, sympathizing, uniting up to more massive, such as demonstrations or demonstrations, that embrace the people and provide assistance. (Davis, 2021) Human rights are a manifestation of the will of just and civilized humanity. The values of Pancasila, especially the second, which upholds human rights and fosters an attitude of tolerance and mutual respect in Indonesian culture. Human rights, as a second embodiment, place every citizen in an equal position, especially in the field of law, because Indonesia is a country based on human rights. As mentioned earlier, as a state, human rights are highly respected and must be respected when running government.

Many of the previous researches on human rights have focused on a wide range of topics and issues. (Shah & Gher, 2023) argues that human rights cannot be separated and deprived. (Willis, 2023) reveals that human rights are only part of the most fundamental human right to life. (Adigun et al., 2022) argues that human rights are rights that have been established by national and international legal systems. (Natamiharja et al., 2022) an effort to maintain the security of human existence as a whole through actions that balance the interests of individuals with the common interest. (Sokolov et al., 2023) in his study in Makassar explains that human rights are legal rights created through the formation of society itself, both nationally and internationally. Other research carried out by (Taylor & Elphick, 2023) suggests that human rights are fundamental rights or fundamental rights carried by human beings from birth that are inherently inherent in every human being and cannot be claimed as a gift of the One God. Although previous research has explained a lot about human rights, not much earlier research has used a systematic literature review article approach with the Vosviewer application. Therefore, the research focuses on a review paper using the SLR Method that uses 145 scientific articles from scopus databases. SLR method is a scientific method that has the strength and advantage in understanding issues based on previous research. The focus of this research leads to an effort to answer the research question of "How is the development of human rights research".

The research method used was qualitative content with SLR approaches and article analysts using Vosviewer. This research has contributed to the development of science in particular governance science related to human rights that is a lot of happening in Indonesia. The study aims to investigate the implementation and protection of human rights in different countries. The review of the library will cover the definition of human rights, its history, and its underlying principles. In addition, international instruments governing human rights, such as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and international conventions on civil and political rights, will be analysed. The research method used is a qualitative approach. The data collected will be analyzed using content analysis techniques to identify trends and patterns in human rights implementation. The discussion will evaluate the research findings and link them to the relevant library survey. The implications of this research can be used as a basis to recommend policy improvements and more effective measures to protect human rights at the national and international levels.



### **RESEARCH METHODS**

This research uses qualitative research methods with content analysis. This research uses a systematic literature review approach and for the elaboration of articles using the Vosviewer application.Umber data article on this research is using scopus databases. The use of scopus databases is done because this method is best suited to the research this time. The research was conducted to analyse more in depth articles related to environmental conditions and human rights conditions. Articles that will be published in the form of such journals will be used as a source of data. Table 1. Indicates that this study began with the melting of articles using the keyword "HAM" in the scopus database for the period 2022-2023. This search identified 145 articles that were then reviewed by stage: search for articles, import articles into application software, and map discussion topics.



Figure 1. Flow Diagram Showning the different stanges of the method used is this review with PRISMA

Some of the articles that had strong links were obtained by the researchers according to the following procedure: First, the article identifier tries to organize and select various articles so that they are relevant to the topic used. This is done by entering the keyword "HAM" in the search column, with a restriction from 2022 to 2024. Based on the search process, 145 articles related to the topic were obtained. The second phase involves examining the various articles found to determine whether they are really needed and closely related to issues of democracy in the digital age. Verification is done by limiting the subject area (social science), type of document (article), stage of publication (end), and language (English). The verification process identifies 145 articles/journals that are relevant to digital democracy. This article is used as a reference to the study of "HAM"

### **RESULTS OF RESEARCH AND DISCUSSION Research Results**



Figure 2. Research trends based on years of scopus on human rights concepts in some countries



Figure 2. The article on the theme of Human Rights is one of the most popular types of study and continues to increase every year. Table 2 shows that from 2022 to 2023, generally, there is an increase despite stagnation in 2023. Besides, the year in which the most articles were published was 2022 which is 47 articles. On the contrary, there was a decrease in the number of articles published by 2023, with only 44 articles registered. Despite this, these numbers remain quite significant, indicating that human rights issues remain high and are a major concern in academic discussions



Figure 3. Research trends based on the author of the scopus on human rights

Figure 3. Furthermore, the 10 authors with the most number of publications related to human rights between 2022 and 2023 are shown in figure 3. Colchester, Grey, Gronholm, Hodge, Johnson, Taylor, Teo, Thomicroft, Van Hout published two articles. Finally, one Marais writer published one article



Figure 4. Research trends based on several countries of the scopus on human rights

Figure 4. It shows the intensity of the countries in discussing human rights. Based on this data, it can be seen that the united kingdom is higher in dealing with human rights by the



number 17 from 2022 to 2023. Then followed by the United States with the number 14 and in third place there is Australia that quite often discusses human rights with the figure 10. Based on the data in Figure 3. It can be seen that the distance between the United Kingdom and the country after it is not too far related to the intensity of discussing this topic.
Documents by subject area
Scopus



Figure 5. Level of human rights discussion based on the subject area

The discussion of human rights is most widely discussed in the field of social sciences (55.0%), which includes the study of society, politics, economics, and international relations. Then in the field of art and humanities (14.8%), this field involves the study of literature, history, philosophy and art. In this context, art is often used as a medium to convey messages about human rights and fight for social justice. In the field of medicine, 11.5 per cent, the language of the human race is also found in medicine. In this case, human rights relate to health issues, medical ethics, and the protection of patients' rights. The field of medicine plays an important role in ensuring that individual rights in the context of health are respected and protected. And the field of psychology (3.8%), in this case, human rights relate to issues such as individual rights in the context of mental health, fair and equal treatment, and the elimination of discrimination. The field of psychology plays a role in understanding and promoting an understanding of human rights in a psychological context.



Figure 6. Shows the named concept displayed with cluster density



The following description is a follow-up procedure derived from various articles/journals following the previous selection and verification process. The review results are processed using the VOSviewer application to categorize concepts by group. Figure 6 shows a variety of conceptual names shown with cluster density, with a total of 2593 links and a total link strength of 4323. The difference between cluster colors is an indication of the difference between one discussion group and the other focus group. This makes it easy for researchers to map data groups so that they can be studied and analyzed. Regarding the study of human rights, Figure 6 shows different colors for each existing cluster and refers to the grouping of the respective concepts. Figure 6 shows how these themes are grouped, and these groups are sorted for review with those who actually have correlations based on the themes discussed



Figure 7. Showing articles delivered during the period 2021 to 2022

When examined on the basis of thickness or color domination, studies related to human rights published between 2021-6 and 2021-8 are more dominant in discussing Fundamental Right, Dignity, and so on. This means that during the period 2021-6-2021.8, the focus or dominant study discusses how it can be used as a field for public participation in Human Rights. From 2021-8 to 2022.0, the dominant studies begin to change and try to examine the benefits of fundamental rights for the presentation of human rights in democratic countries. Studies in this period also dominate in addressing fundamental rights as a means of controlling and conveying aspirations and as a space for movements that can support human rights. Then, from 2022.0 to 2022.2 saw the emergence of non-discrimination, beliefs, and opportunities controlled by specific groups. This means that there is a very dynamic study of human rights. However, in general, studies on related topics always dominate related, or have implications for, "Human Rights".



Figure 8. shows some of the dominant concepts associated with the study of human rights



Based on the data analysis carried out, there are some dominant themes that have strong associations with the study of digital democracy. These categories or groups of dominant topics are intended to make the study more focused so that it can present relevant conclusions. In addition, the categories and classifications of the dominant topic are also used as they can make it easier for the author to map any topic that has a strong association with the topic being discussed. Reviewing studies on democracy requires verification or data cutting so that it really matches the research topic. It is done so that the discussion or the subject of research is not too general and extensive. Figure 8 shows some of the dominant concepts associated with the study of human rights. Looking at the group of words shown in Figure 8, it would appear that from the previous discussed most. The researchers in this study used an analytical tool called VOSviewer to process data and find themes or concepts that dominate human rights studies. The dominant concepts/themes frequently discussed by previous researchers include democracy, discrimination, movements, concepts, gender, knowledge, race, relations, treatment, restrictions, prohibitions, constitution, participation, citizenship, society, freedom.

The color thickness in Figure 8 shows how dominant each focus group is. The theme group with the thickest color is discussed most. Different groups of these dominant concepts have a strong symbiosis of mutualism that makes it easier for researchers to come to truly conical conclusions for studies related to human rights. A review of this dominant topic is required to provide a reference to a concept that is often discussed. Therefore, the results of the data processed are shown in Figure 8. Together with each other and can be used as a reference for studies related to digital democracy. When conducting a study relating to digital Democracy, it is necessary first to understand the dominant concepts that have been discussed in previous studies. This is important because it can make it easier for researchers to summarize and produce relevant conclusions in relation to the theme of human rights.

## Discussion

Human rights studies are a popular and growing topic every year, with the number of published articles tending to increase over time. Despite some stagnation in 2023, the topic remains high and a major focus in academic discussions. These studies show that human rights cover a wide range of aspects of human life, from fundamental rights such as the right to life and the right not to be tortured, to more complex rights, such as right to education, right to work, and right to participate in the cultural life of a community. Some countries like the United Kingdom, the United States and Australia are the most active in human rights discussions. And show their intensity and commitment to this issue. However, it is important to remember that human rights is a global issue that affects every individual in every country. From the social sciences that study how societies work and how individuals interact with each other, to the arts and the humanities which study how we express ourselves and understand the world around us. In fact, medical and psychological disciplines are also involved, as they help to understand how physical and mental health is affected by human rights. Not only that, a variety of dominant themes and concepts have been discussed in human rights studies, including democracy, discrimination, movements, gender, race, and more. It shows that human rights studies cover a wide range of different and interrelated issues, and there has been a shift in the focus of human rights research over time, with themes such as fundamental rights, non-discrimination, and opportunities emerging as the main focus in a particular period.

However, over time, other issues such as equal opportunities and gender rights have also become a major focus. It shows that human rights studies are an area that is constantly evolving and adapting to changes in our societies. Human rights studies are not only relevant in an



academic context, but also have a real impact on our daily lives. For example, research on discrimination can help us understand and overcome bias and prejudice in our societies. The study of democracy and human rights can also help us understand how our rights as citizens are protected and how we can participate in the democratic process. In an increasingly interconnected world, we are increasingly aware that actions and policies in one country can have a significant impact on human rights in another country. Therefore, understanding human rights from a global perspective is vital. Human rights studies also play an important role in helping us understand and address new challenges. And human rights studies help understand how to work together to create a more just and equal world. Through research and discussion, we can learn from past mistakes and work to ensure that the rights of everyone are respected and protected, no matter who they are or where they come from. In discussions about research results and data presentation, it is important to consider whether the data presented is supported by strong evidence and valid research methodologies.

Here are some research and data presentation questions: the question that comes up, how important is a widespread ban on discrimination to ensure that people's mobility across the continent is uninterrupted? A study conducted by (Magliveras & Naldi, 2022) concluded that a broad ban on discrimination was crucial in ensuring that people's mobility across the continent was uninterrupted. This research shows that gender-based discrimination and patriarchal attitudes can impede freedom of expression and individual rights. In the context of mobility, this study reveals the importance of protecting the rights of individuals to move freely without discrimination. By prohibiting discrimination widely, we can create an inclusive and equitable environment for everyone, regardless of gender, race, or social background. It ensures that everyone has equal opportunities to participate in social, political, and economic life across the continent. Second, how important are human rights in a state context? The research carried out by (Zafirovski, 2022) shows how important human rights are in a state context. This research emphasizes that human rights are a set of rights that each individual has and must be respected and protected by the state. As a country based on human rights, Indonesia is committed to protecting and promoting individual rights. Human rights give every citizen equal rights in the field of law and place them in an equal position. In this context, human rights play an important role inining a balance between the individual and the state, as well as between individuals and other individuals. By respecting and protecting human rights, the state can create a just and civilized society. Next question, how is the implementation and protection of human rights in different countries? Research carried out by (Tüzemen et al., 2021) and (Andrássy, 2022) shows that the implementation and protection of human rights vary from country to country. This research suggests that developing countries also need to have a certain level of development in the areas of democracy, fundamental rights and freedoms, as well as the rule of law in order to take advantage of opportunities in the implementation and protection of human rights. The implications of this research are the importance of cooperation between countries in building capacity and strengthening the implementation and protection of human rights worldwide.

Question four, how important are human rights in the context of mental health? Research carried out by (Gronholm 2023)and (Song et al., 2022) shows that human rights play an important role in the context of mental health. This study emphasizes the importance of protecting human rights in mental health conditions globally. Human rights give every individual the right to enjoy the highest attainable standard of mental health. In this context, it is important for governments to adopt appropriate policies and laws to protect the individual's rights in psychological health. The research also suggests that human rights should be a priority in the context of mental health, and efforts should be made to the highest possible standard of



psychological health for all. Next question, how is the participation of the public in protecting and promoting human rights? Research carried out by (Davis, 2021) shows that public participation plays an important role in protecting and promoting human rights. This research emphasizes that every individual has a role and responsibility in building a society that respects and protects individual rights. Societies have a role to play in expressing their needs and aspirations, as well as participating in decision-making and advocating for change that advances human rights. In this context, public participation in decision-making processes, monitoring of the implementation of rights, and advocacy are essential to ensure that the rights of individuals are respected and protected properly. Last question, how can this research provide valuable insight to governments, international organizations, and civil society? This research provides valuable insights for governments, international organizations, and civil society in their efforts to strengthen the protection of human rights. The implications of this research can be used as a basis to recommend policy improvements and more effective measures to protect human rights at the national and international levels. It also provides a better understanding of the implementation and protection of human rights in different countries, as well as the importance of public participation in protecting and promoting human rights. By leveraging these findings, governments, international organizations.

Research using good scientific methods and representative samples will yield more reliable results. In addition, it is also important to consider different perspectives and see if there are any contraindications from the data presented in previous research. In this context, previous data and research are considered pro for providing a rich and comprehensive understanding of human rights studies, including relevant aspects such as human rights definition, human rights implementation and protection in various countries, which have guarantees that every individual has inherent rights and must be respected by the state and society. This includes the right to life, freedom of opinion, religious freedom, and other rights that protect individual dignity and freedom. The State also has a duty to protect individuals from abuse of power. This includes protection against torture, inhuman treatment, and other violations of individual rights by authorities. And also helped in building the theoretical foundation, providing context, and supporting arguments related to human rights. Human Rights also stresses the importance of treating everyone fairly and equally before the law, regardless of religion, gender, race, or social background. It promotes equal rights and protection for all individuals, including minority and vulnerable groups. In addition, human rights also encourages the active participation of the public in the promotion and protection of their rights. Everyone has a role and responsibility in building a society that respects and protects individual rights. Public participation in decision-making, monitoring of the implementation of rights, and advocacy are key to ensuring that the rights of individuals are respected and protected properly. Human rights also create an enabling environment for social and economic development. By guaranteeing fundamental rights such as education, health, decent work, and freedom of expression, human rights encourage the active participation of individuals in society and their contribution to social and economic development.

## CONCLUSION

In the research carried out, Research shows that a broad ban on discrimination is crucial to ensuring that people's mobility across the continent is uninterrupted. Human rights play an important role in a country's context and their implementation varies from country to country. Public participation also plays an important role in protecting and promoting human rights. This research provides valuable insights for governments, international organizations, and civil society in their efforts to strengthen the protection of human rights. The implications of this



research are the importance of prohibiting discrimination widely in order to create an inclusive and equitable environment for all individuals. In addition, the protection of human rights in the context of mental health is also an important concern. In conclusion, the study provides a better understanding of the importance of the prohibition of discrimination, the implementation of the human rights, public participation, and human rights protection in different countries.

The research's contribution lies in the use of the systematic literature review (SLR) approach using scientific articles from the Scopus database. The SLR method allows researchers to understand the development of human rights research in a comprehensive way. To collect and analyze scientific articles relevant to research topics. In this study, the researchers used the Scopus database to search for scientific articles related to human rights. (HAM). Later, the articles were analyzed and synthesized to gain a better understanding of the development of human rights research. In conducting article analysis, researchers used the Vosviewer application to visualize relationships between relevant articles. It helps in identifying research trends, key concepts, and relationships between the articles. Thus, this research provides a more comprehensive understanding of human rights and a valuable contribution to the development of governance science related to human rights in Indonesia.

However, this research has some limitations to bear in mind. First, the research focuses only on review papers with SLR approaches using scientific articles that are sourced in the Scopus database. This may result in restrictions on the scope of the literature used. There is a possibility that there are other articles that are not covered in this study. Secondly, this research does not involve primary research, so it does not provide substantially new findings. The recommendation for further research is to involve primary research involving direct participation from the respondents or research subjects. It could provide a deeper understanding of the implementation and protection of human rights in Indonesia. In addition, further research may consider different approaches, such as case studies, surveys, or interviews, to gain a broader and deeper perspective on human rights. By involving the direct participation of individuals or groups involved, research can dig their experiences and insights deeper. In addition, further research may also consider involving a broader theoretical framework, including theories related to human rights, democracy, and the legal system.

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