



ANALYSIS OF PUBLISHED MANUSCRIPTS ON NAPOLEON BONAPARTE

Oğuz Kağan ÖNDER^{1*}


¹Ankara University, Department of History, 06100, Ankara, Türkiye

Abstract: Napoleon Bonaparte stands out as one of the most important characters of the 19th century. This study was conducted to evaluate the manuscripts written for Napoleon Bonaparte. The number of publications, document types, the most attractive journals, the most chosen keywords, the most productive authors, the most cited articles, collaborative information about the studies, co-citation report, and the conceptual structure map for keywords used together were examined in this study. As a conclusion of this bibliometric study, it can be understood that the number of studies about Napoleon Bonaparte will increase. The results showed that overwhelming majority of the works on Bonaparte are single country publications. It can be suggested that multiple country publications can bring new scientific interpretations and reveal historical findings with the help of cooperation among researchers with different perspectives on the Napoleon Bonaparte who is one of the most influential character of the 19th century.

Keywords: Napoleon Bonaparte, Bibliometric study, History

*Corresponding author: Ankara University, Department of History, 06100, Ankara, Türkiye

E mail: kgnonder@gmail.com (O. K. ÖNDER)

Oğuz Kağan ÖNDER  <https://orcid.org/0009-0003-1757-676X>

Received: September 01, 2024

Accepted: November 07, 2024

Published: January 15, 2025

Cite as: Önder OK. 2025. Analysis of published manuscripts on Napoleon Bonaparte. BSJ Pub Soc Sci, 8(1): 1-6.

1. Introduction

Napoleon Bonaparte was the representative man of the epoch which ushered in the nineteenth century. Though an aristocrat by descent, he was in life, in training, and in quality neither that nor a plebeian; he was the typical plain man of his time, exhibiting the common sense of a generation which thought in terms made current by the philosophy of the eighteenth century. His period was the most tumultuous and yet the most fruitful in the world's history. But the progress made in it was not altogether direct; rather was it like the advance of a traveler whirled through the spiral tunnels of the St. Gotthard. Flying from the inclemency of the north, he is carried by the ponderous train due southward into the opening. After a time of darkness he emerges into the open air. But at first sight the goal is no nearer; the direction is perhaps reversed, the skies are more forbidding, the chill is more intense. Only after successive ventures of the same kind is the climax reached, the summit passed, and the vision of sunny plains opened to view. Such experiences are more common to the race than to the individual; the muse of history must note and record them with equanimity, with a buoyancy and hopefulness born of larger knowledge. The movement of civilization in Europe during the latter portion of the eighteenth century was onward and upward, but it was at times not only devious, slow and laborious, but fruitless in immediate results (Sloane, 2017). Napoleon Bonaparte died on the island of St. Helena on 5 May 1821, aged fifty-one years, from carcinoma of the stomach, probably

complicated by hematemesis (Hindmarsh and Corso, 1998). There are many historical studies made to understand the life and effect of Napoleon Bonaparte. This study was conducted to evaluate the manuscripts written for Napoleon Bonaparte.

2. Materials and Methods

In this study, studies related to Napoleon Bonaparte between the years 1975-2024 were taken into account. In this context, the "Napoleon Bonaparte" expression was used for searching on the Web of Science (WoS) database. In addition, the WoS categories were refined for the "History". The bibliographic information under the heading "Napoleon Bonaparte" of 2923 studies within the history section from 1975 to 2024 was used as material.

The bibliometric analysis method is a computer-assisted scientific analysis method that determines all published researches, authors and the relationships between them (Han et al., 2020; Önder and Tırink, 2022). In addition, bibliometric analysis can afford an all-inclusive network of visualizations and associative information about the chosen topic to understand the overall picture. Initially, the bibliometric analysis method was used when examining the most effective publications primarily by author or citation information. Recently, it has adopted using bibliometric analysis, sociometric analysis and network analysis methods based on data such as keywords, titles and abstracts. The main step to perform bibliometric analysis is the data collection process. In this



context, the process started to search for the issue with the essential keywords in WoS. In this study, the bibliometric analysis for Napoleon Bonaparte term in historical studies was performed with R software (R Core Team, 2020). For this aim, the bibliometrix package were used (Aria and Cuccurullo, 2017). The bibliographic data were obtained from the WoS system in Plain text format. Further, the data was changed as the data frame by using "convert2pdf" function. The biblioAnalysis function was used for performing the bibliometric analysis.

3. Results and Discussion

The researchers published a total of 2923 studies from 23 sources such as journals, books, etc., about "Napoleon Bonaparte" by 2973 authors. 2817 studies has been single authored documents within 2923 documents of aforementioned topic. The Napoleon Bonaparte in historical science examined within the scope of authors' collaboration that there were 1.06 co-authors per document. The annual percent growth rate for scientific production is approximately 1.32. The graphic of the number of publications in terms of yearly scientific

output is given in Figure 1. According to Figure 1, while the number of studies on Napoleon Bonaparte was 10 in 1975, the highest document number reached to 149 in 2015. In general, until 2015 the number of studies on Napoleon Bonaparte was in increasing trend (Figure 1).

A total of 2923 studies were utilized about the Napoleon Bonaparte. According to Table 1, the most common form of publication related to Napoleon Bonaparte is the book review. In addition, there are 942 articles, 258 book chapters, and 100 proceeding papers about Napoleon Bonaparte in historical science.

Table 2 provides information about which journals published the articles about Napoleon Bonaparte in historical science. In this context, the top 10 journals of the list were shared. According to Table 2, the researchers published 383 articles in the Journal "Historia" as the first chosen journal. The second journal was "Annales Historiques De La Revolution Francaise" with the number of 145 articles. The least selected journal within the top ten journals was "History" with 62 articles.

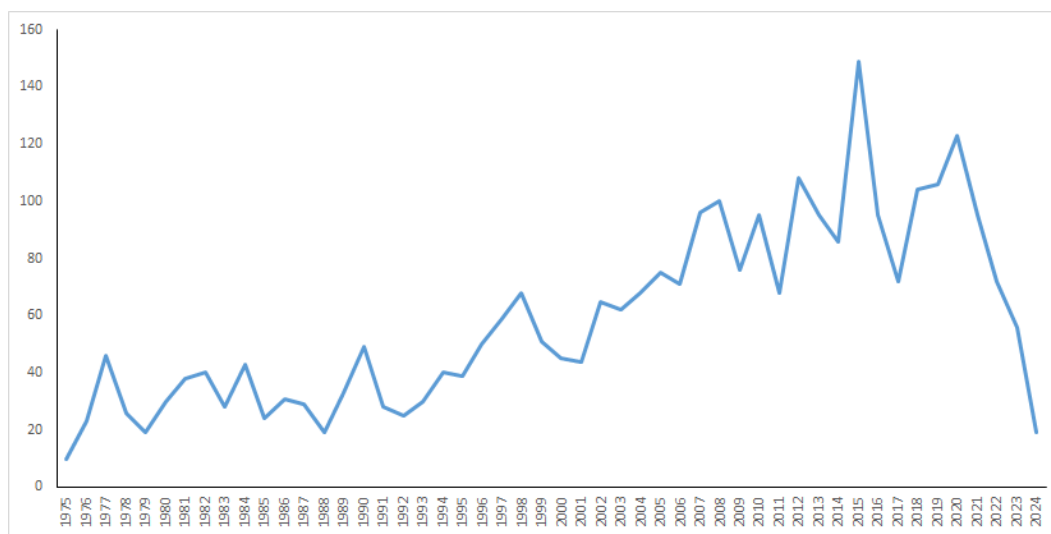


Figure 1. Annual scientific production about Napoleon Bonaparte in historical science.

Table 1. Document types for Napoleon Bonaparte in historical science

Document Types	Number
Art exhibit review	33
Article	942
Article book chapter	258
Article early access	1
Article proceedings paper	9
Bibliography	2
Biographical-item	3
Book	14
Book review	1389
Correction	1
Editorial material	57
Editorial material book chapter	34
Excerpt	2

Table 1. Document types for Napoleon Bonaparte in historical science (continuing)

Document Types	Number
Film review	4
Letter	L
Meeting abstract	1
News item	11
Note	18
Poetry	1
Proceedings paper	100
Review	16
Software review	2
TV review, Radio review	3

Table 2. The top ten journals which published articles about Napoleon Bonaparte

Journal	Number of Articles
Historia	383
Annales Historiques De La Revolution Francaise	145
Journal of Military History	114
Frantsuzskii Ezhegodnik-Annuaire D Etudes Francaises	72
History today	71
Historische Zeitschrift	70
Histoire	69
American Historical Review	65
Historian	62
History	62

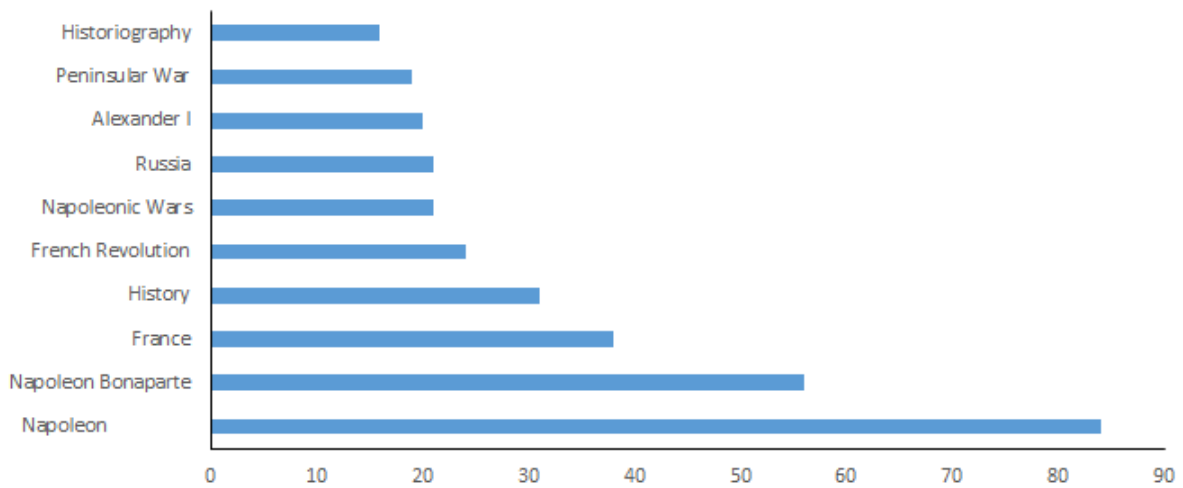


Figure 2. The most chosen keywords in the studies about Napoleon Bonaparte.

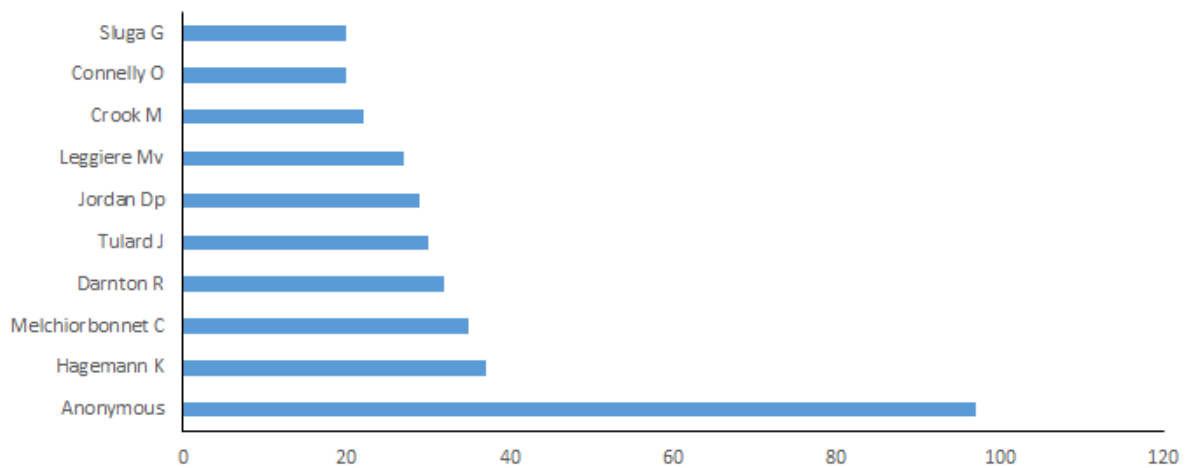


Figure 3. The most productive authors in the studies about Napoleon Bonaparte.

The most preferred keywords in publications about Napoleon Bonaparte was observed as “Napoleon”, “Napoleon Bonaparte”, “France”, and “History” (Figure 2). Figure 3 shows the most leading authors for the Napoleon Bonaparte researches. According to Figure 3, the most leading author was Hagemann K with 37 articles about Napoleon Bonaparte, Melchiorbonnet C

with 35 articles, and Darnton R with 32 articles, respectively. In addition, Sluga G is the author with the least number of publications in the top 10 today, with 20 articles.

Figure 4 provides information on the most cited articles on Napoleon Bonaparte. As a result of the bibliometric analysis made in this context, it was determined that the

most citations were made to the article written by Blaufarb R. Published in the journal The American Historical Review in 2007, this article receives 4.44 citations per year. In this context, the second most cited article is published by Darnton R in 2010 in the University of Pennsylvania Press. This article receives an average of 5.0 citations per year.

The collaborative evaluation of studies on Napoleon Bonaparte by country is given in Figure 5. Figure 5 shows that the USA is the most productive country by number of single country publication (SCP) while United Kingdom and Russia are the most productive country by the number of multiple country publication (MCP). United Kingdom is the country that follows the USA in terms of SCP.

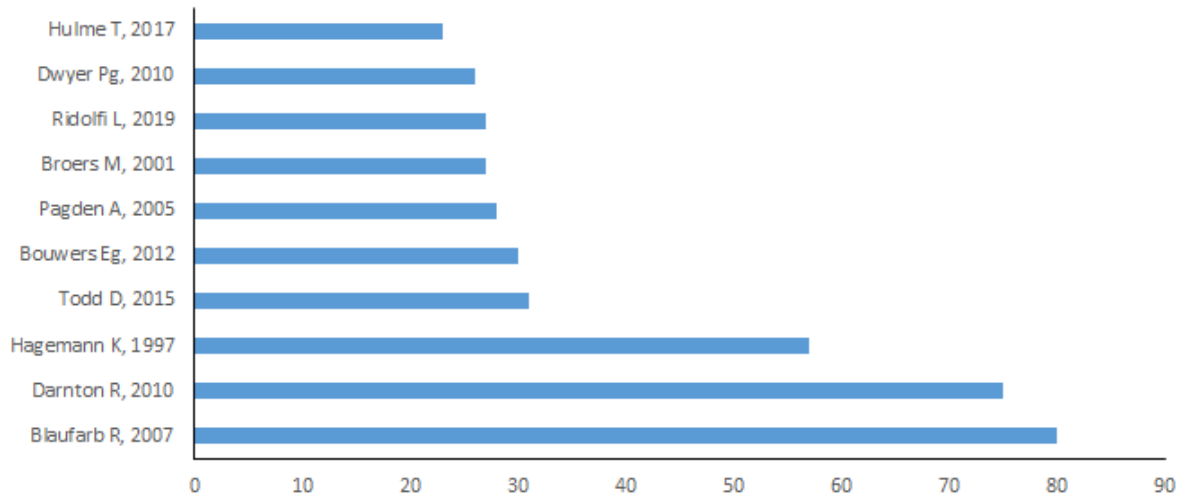


Figure 4. The most cited articles.

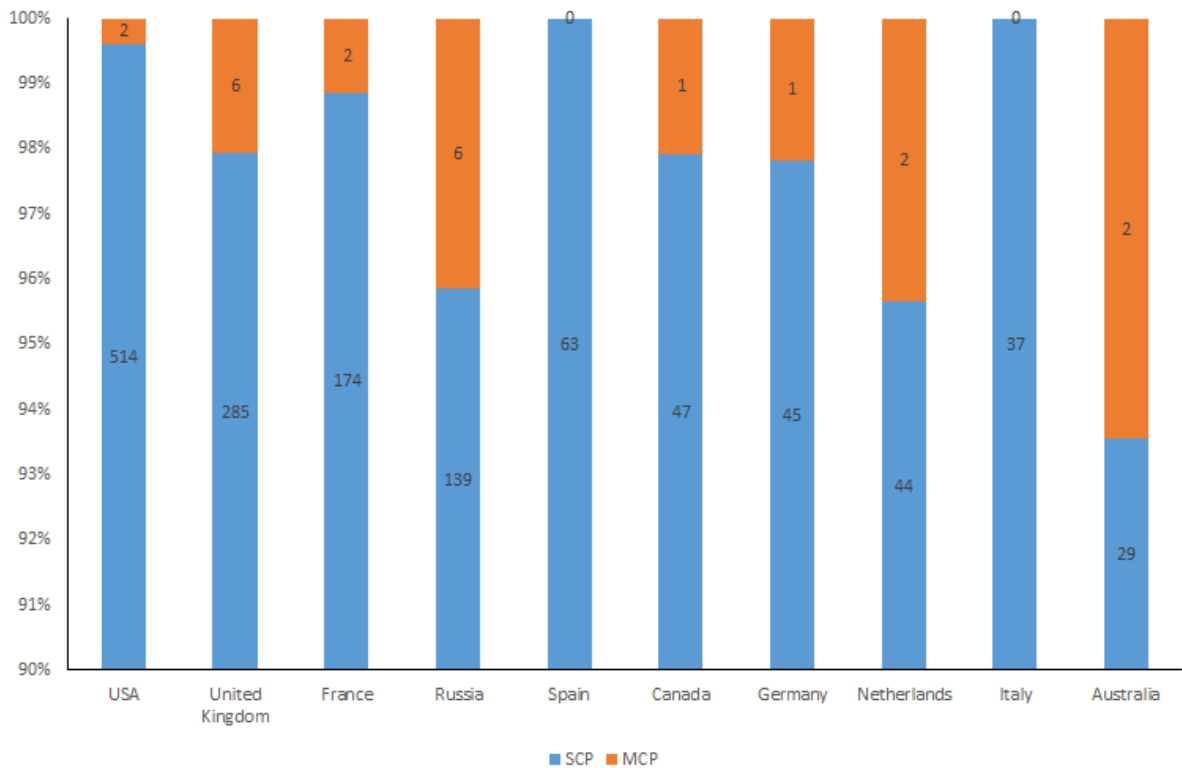


Figure 5. Collaborative information about studies on Napoleon Bonaparte.

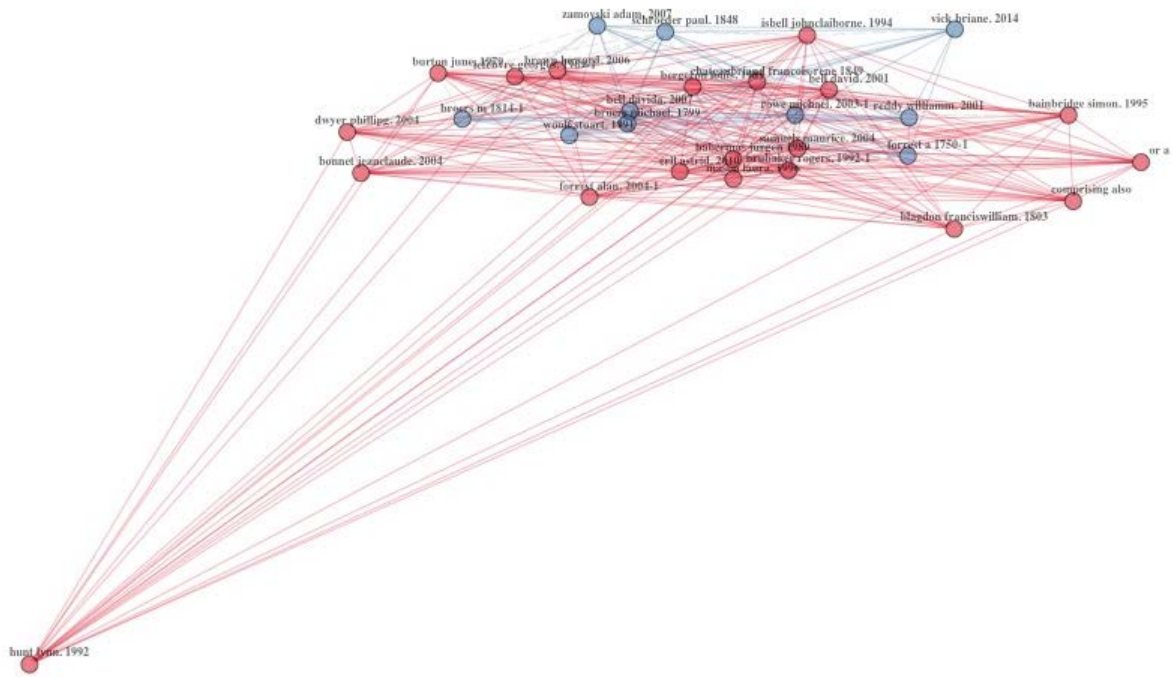


Figure 6. Co-citation report about studies on Napoleon Bonaparte.

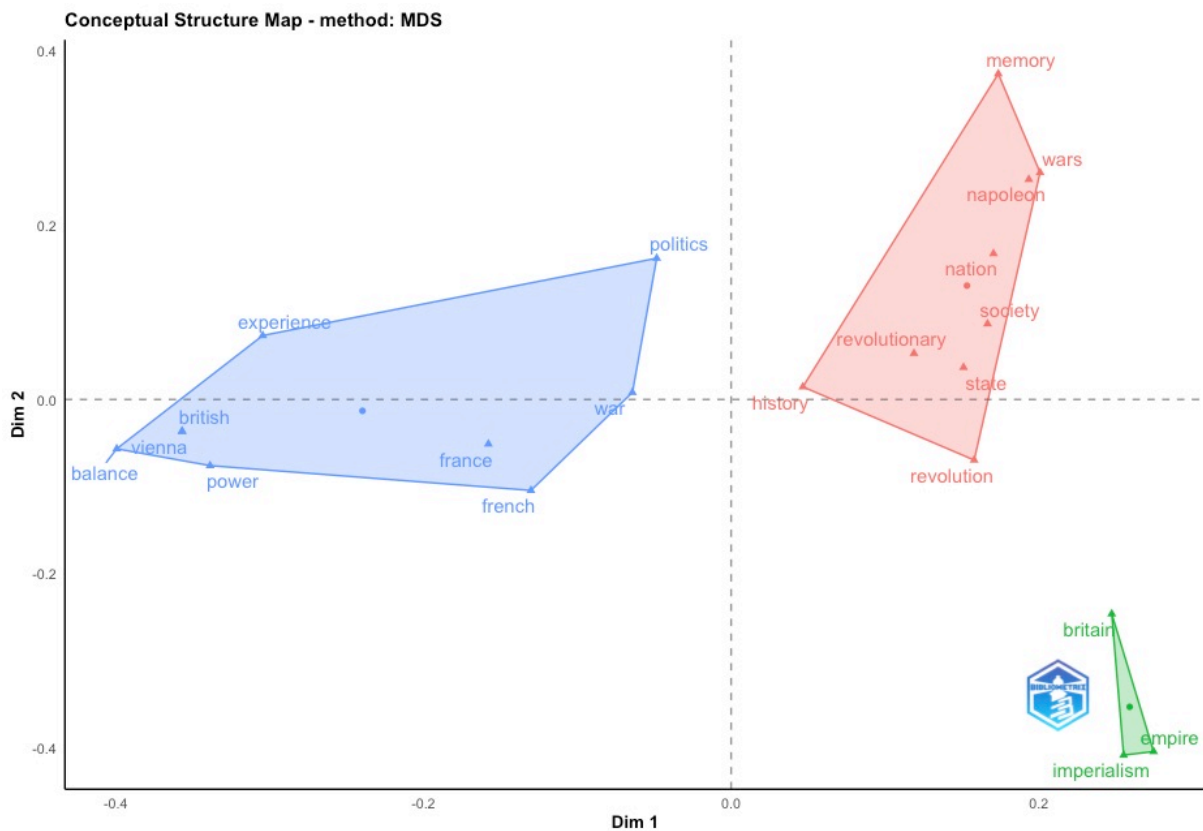


Figure 7. The conceptual structure map for keywords used together in the articles about Napoleon Bonaparte.

Figure 6 shows the common citation network of studies on Napoleon Bonaparte. The article written by Hunt Lynn "Modelos de história cultural" published by Martins Fontes in 1992 was recognized as the most co-cited manuscript on Napoleon Bonaparte.

In the Figure 7, three clusters were formed according to the keywords used together in the articles. The first

cluster consist of the key words "experience", "politics", "France", "French", "war", "power", "Vienna", "balance", and "British", the second cluster consist of the key words "memory", "wars", "Napoleon", "nation", "society", "state", "history", "revolution", and "revolutionary", third cluster consist of the key words "Britain", "empire", and "imperialism".

4. Conclusion

According to the results of this bibliometric study, it can be understood that the number of studies about Napoleon Bonaparte will increase. The results showed that overwhelming majority of the works on Bonaparte are single country publications. It can be suggested that multiple country publications can bring new scientific interpretations and reveal historical findings with the help of cooperation among researchers with different perspectives on the Napoleon Bonaparte who is one of the most influential character of the 19th century.

Author Contributions

The percentage of the author contributions is presented below. The author reviewed and approved the final version of the manuscript.

	O.K.Ö.
C	100
D	100
S	100
DCP	100
DAI	100
L	100
W	100
CR	100
SR	100

C=Concept, D= design, S= supervision, DCP= data collection and/or processing, DAI= data analysis and/or interpretation, L= literature search, W= writing, CR= critical review, SR= submission and revision.

Conflict of Interest

The author declare that there is no conflict of interest.

Ethical Consideration

Ethics committee approval was not required for this study because of there was no study on animals or humans.

References

- Aria M, Cuccurullo C. 2017. bibliometrix: An R-tool for comprehensive science mapping analysis. *J Informetrics*, 11(4): 959-975.
- Han J, Kang HJ, Kim M, Kwon GH. 2020. Mapping the intellectual structure of research on surgery with mixed reality: Bibliometric network analysis (2000–2019). *J Biomed Informatics*, 109: 103516.
- Hindmarsh JT, Corso PF. 1998. The death of Napoleon Bonaparte: A critical review of the cause. *J History Medic Allied Sci*, 53(3): 201-218. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jhmas/53.3.201>
- Önder H, Tırınk C. 2022. Bibliometric analysis for genomic selection studies in animal science. *J Instit Sci Technol*, 12(3): 1849-1856
- R Core Team. 2020. R: A language and environment for statistical computing. R Foundation for Statistical Computing, Vienna, Austria.
- Sloane WM. 2017. The life of Napoleon Bonaparte, Vol I. Hansebooks, Berlin, Germany, pp: 358.