Vosviewer Insights into BRICS

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Abstract

This study examines the pivotal role of BRICS in the global shift from a unipolar order to a multipolar framework, in which emerging powers such as China, India, and Russia are reshaping geopolitical and economic landscapes. Through its initiatives and collaborative projects such as the Belt and Road Initiative, BRICS exemplifies a collective effort to redefine traditional power structures and foster new forms of global interaction. To better understand these dynamics, this research incorporates a bibliometric analysis of academic contributions to multipolarity, employing VOSviewer software to map trends and thematic connections within the field. By analyzing co-citation networks and identifying high-frequency terms, this study highlights the central nodes of scholarly debate, illustrating the growing academic interest in the transformative impact of BRICS. This approach not only underscores the significance of BRICS as a driver of global change but also demonstrates how tools such as VOSviewer can provide a deeper, data-driven perspective on the complexities of the multipolar transition. The findings reveal how international cooperation and emerging alliances have redefined the contours of global governance and economic influence.

Keywords

new world order; BRICS; economic development; multipolarity

Introduction

This paper delves into a pivotal transformation in contemporary history that fundamentally reshapes global political and economic dynamics. In a rapidly evolving world marked by unprecedented complexity, the traditional dominance of Western powers, particularly the United States, is being replaced by a more fluid and multipolar framework. This shift is driven by the emergence and growing influence of new economic and political hubs such as China, India, and Russia, alongside other rising economies.

This study explores the factors underlying this transition by examining how globalization, technological innovation, and evolving governance models drive the redistribution of global power. Unlike the unipolar structure of the past, this new order is characterized by a decentralized distribution of influence, with multiple nations asserting their roles on the international stage, each guided by its unique priorities and agendas.

The key to this analysis is to explore the profound implications for global economic systems. Although the multipolar model offers opportunities for more diverse development pathways and equitable access to resources, it also introduces significant challenges. Intense competition among emerging economies, conflicting strategic interests, and difficulties in fostering international cooperation may exacerbate geopolitical tension.

In addition, this study investigates the changing role of global institutions, formation of strategic partnerships, and their impact on national economic policies. By adopting a critical lens, this research not only dissects the emergence of this complex new order, but also highlights its strategic opportunities and risks. Ultimately, this study provides a nuanced perspective on how these transformative changes are likely to influence the trajectory of economic development in an increasingly

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interconnected world.

Literature review

An overview of international relations and global governance

The evolution from a unipolar world order, led by the United States after the Cold War, to a multipolar structure involving emerging economies such as those of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS), has been shaped by significant economic and political transformations over the past decades. The foundation for this shift was established in the 1980s, a period during which scholars such as Wallerstein (1980) analyzed the dynamics of the global economic system and highlighted the growing potential of emerging economic centers. This decade also witnessed initial discussions on Asia's rising influence, with a particular focus on Japan's economic growth and China's reforms under Deng Xiaoping, which laid the groundwork for future development.

The 1990s signaled the beginning of a unipolar order following the collapse of the Soviet Union, when the United States assumed the role of the sole superpower. Fukuyama (1992) and Huntington (1996) explored the implications of this new global reality, addressing the dominance of liberalism and the challenges posed by nationalism and intercultural conflicts. Meanwhile, growing interest in the potential of developing economies, particularly in Asia, has led to discussions about the ability of countries such as China and India to reshape the global economic balance. Scholars such as Kennedy (1987) have highlighted the redistribution of power and the rise of new economic actors during this period.

The early 2000s marked a shift in academic attention towards the increasing influence of developing nations. The rapid economic expansion of China and India, alongside Russia's efforts to reassert its global presence, has catalyzed significant changes in the global order. O'Neill (2001) introduced the concept of BRIC as a grouping of economies expected to have a transformative impact on global markets. Scholarly focus on the redistribution of power intensified as emerging economies began to challenge traditional economic hierarchies, and researchers such as Zakaria (2008) emphasized the decentralization of global influence and the rising significance of non-Western actors.

By the 2010s, the literature increasingly reflected on the challenges and opportunities associated with a multipolar global system. Scholars such as Khanna (2019) have examined how emerging powers, particularly in Asia, began to contest existing global frameworks and influence economic development trajectories. The 2008 financial crisis further highlighted vulnerabilities within the global financial system, drawing attention to the growing role of BRICS countries in promoting alternative models of economic cooperation. Academic discussions during this period also underscored China's leadership in initiatives such as the Belt and Road initiative, reshaping global trade and regional collaboration.

Over the past four decades, academic perspectives have evolved to capture the shift from a world dominated by a few superpowers to a more decentralized, multipolar order. This transition, driven by the rise of economies, such as China and other BRICS nations, has fundamentally altered global relations. Researchers, such as Azevedo et al. (2024), underscore how these developments continue to reshape economic policies, global governance, and international cooperation in an increasingly interconnected world.

Realism and the rise of BRICS – the transition from unipolarity to multipolarity

According to the realist theory of international relations, states seek to maximize their power and influence in an international system characterized by anarchy and competition (Robert Gilpin (1988); Krasner (1989). Realism perceives the BRICS grouping (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) as a clear manifestation of the intention of these emerging states to challenge the international order dominated until recently by Western powers, mainly the United States. From a realistic perspective, BRICS represents the following.

- Direct challenge to the geopolitical status quo.
- Tendency towards the redistribution of global power and revision of strategic influence in different regions.
- A counterweight mechanism to the domination of the West and the current hegemon, the United States.

Thus, realism sees the emergence of BRICS as an inevitable evolution in a competitive geopolitical environment characterized by tensions, rivalries, and strategic alliances to balance global power.

The Hegemonic Stability Theory argues that a stable international order is guaranteed by the presence of a hegemonic state, capable of establishing global rules and institutions that reflect its

interests. Over the past few decades, the United States has played this hegemonic role through the Bretton Woods system, NATO, and the UN (Norrlof Carla, Wohlforth, William C., 2019). According to Robert Keohane, a hegemon possesses the following characteristics.

- Ability to create, implement, and maintain international norms.
- the will to do so;
- decisive dominance in the economic, technological, and military fields.

The emergence and consolidation of BRICS calls into question the sustainability of this hegemonic order. BRICS countries criticize and contest the exclusivist character and imbalances of the current system, promoting an alternative global order, with greater democratization of international institutions; the creation of new financial institutions (such as the New Development Bank or the BRICS Reserve Fund), which challenges the supremacy of the IMF and the World Bank, a discourse that emphasizes the importance of authentic multilateralism, as opposed to hegemonic multilateralism (dominant by the USA). In this sense, BRICS generates sociopolitical and economic pressure to modify or reconfigure the hegemonically established order and prepare the ground for a new multipolar geopolitical reality (Gilpin & Robert, 1988).

The Theory of Power Transition states that the international system becomes unstable when emerging powers openly challenge existing hegemons. Such a period can bring about tensions, conflicts, or even direct confrontations if the transition is not managed peacefully. In this context, BRICS clearly illustrates the dynamics of the transition of power, because

- China and India are players in rapidly rising economies that are trying to expand their global political and economic influence.
- Russia is attempting to reassert its geopolitical influence, especially in the context of deteriorating relations with the West.
- Brazil and South Africa claim relevant regional and global positions through diplomacy and soft power, challenging marginalization in the current system.

The theory of the transition of power suggests that the success or failure of the transition to a multipolar world will depend on how the hegemonic powers (the US and the West) and the emerging powers (BRICS) manage this strategic change.

Combining the three theoretical perspectives (Realism, Hegemonic Stability Theory and Power Transition Theory), BRICS can be interpreted as a complex phenomenon that reflects the emergence of multipolarity in the contemporary international system. Thus, the multipolarity generated by BRICS outlines a new geopolitical and socio-political context, characterized by complex interactions, strategic rivalries, and cooperation between the main actors, with profound implications for the long-term evolution of the world order. This theoretical integration allows for a coherent and scientifically grounded understanding of BRICS role in redefining current international balances.

Research methodology - VOSviewer analysis

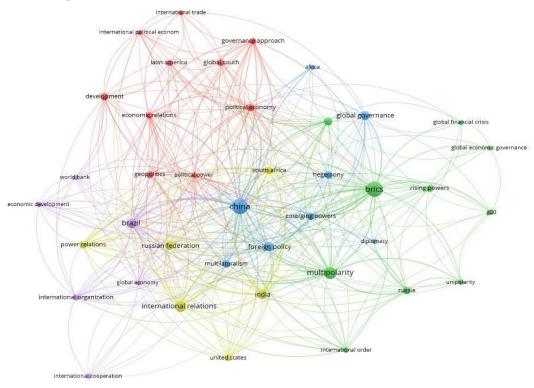
To gain a deeper understanding of the emergence of the new world order and the dynamics of economic development within the framework of global multipolarity, a comprehensive analysis of the specialized literature was conducted. Keyword analysis software, a method validated by Scott (1997), was used to uncover the core themes and details embedded within the texts. Additionally, the VOSviewer tool developed by van Eck and Waltman (2010) was employed to create detailed bibliographic maps, enabling the visualization of key relationships within the data. The relevance of using keywords as an analytical approach is supported by Chuang et al. (2012), who emphasized their value in offering precise and concise insights into research trends.

This bibliographic analysis aimed to evaluate and synthesize findings from existing research on the multipolar structure of emerging economies. This approach identifies key trends, influential scholars, collaborative networks, and research gaps within the field. The dataset for this analysis was derived from Scopus and covered the period 2007 to 2024, yielding a total of 346 articles. We chose the Scopus Database because it includes many scientific publications in various fields, including economic, political, social sciences, and international relations, which are necessary for the BRICS analysis. Unlike other bibliometric data platforms, the Scopus platform offers a series of advanced bibliometric analysis tools, such as the identification of influential authors and citation networks. In addition, the publications available on the platform are rigorously analyzed before publication, which gives credibility to the available bibliometric data, and the data provided by Scopus can be easily integrated into statistical programs, such as VOSviewer and bibliometrix. The primary keywords used for the search were "the new world order," "BRICS," "multipolarity," and "economic development." These keywords were chosen to highlight the main themes of this study. Other variants of these keywords were

used, such as "global powers" instead of "the new world order" or "emerging countries" instead of "economic development," but these variants did not provide results relevant to the study. The collected data were exported from Scopus in the CSV format and processed for further analysis. There may be certain limitations in the case of this bibliometric analysis, such as the Scopus data platform has a number of predominantly Western publications, which may reduce the significance of publications from the BRICS area; most of the published works are in English, which means that works published in other languages, and those from the BRICS group may be under-represented, and valuable papers from national or regional journals that are not included in Scopus are not taken into account in the analysis. Data preprocessing involved importing the dataset into the Bibliometrix R-package, a tool recognized for its ability to perform extensive bibliometric analyses (Aria and Cuccurullo, 2017). The analysis was conducted using Biblioshiny, the graphical interface of Bibliometrix, which facilitates the exploration of patterns and insights within the dataset extracted from the WOS. Finally, the results were interpreted and visualized using tables, graphs, and diagrams generated by Biblioshiny, providing a clear synthesis of trends and key findings in an accessible format.

Results and discussion

Using this software, we analyzed the relevance of the keywords initially used in the Scopus query, applying a minimum threshold of five occurrences to identify the keywords and develop their co-occurrence maps. Of the initial 818 keywords, only 40 met this criterion, allowing the identification of 5 clusters and 381 interdependent connections.



A VOSviewer

Figure 1 Visualization Map of the Network Based on Keywords Source: Conceptualization through VOSviewer

The visualization map positions "BRICS" (Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa) as a central element in the network, closely linked to terms like "multipolarity," "global governance," "China," and "India." This highlights the pivotal role of these countries in shaping the evolving multipolar world order and their increasing influence on the global political and economic spheres. Notably, "China" stands out as a dominant node, emphasizing its central role in redefining the global balance of power.

The relationship between "multipolarity" and terms such as "global governance" and "emerging powers" signals a shift from a unipolar system to a more intricate and fragmented global framework. This suggests that academic discourse not only explores the consolidation of emerging powers, but also examines how these shifts challenge existing governance models.

The map illustrates the strong connections between concepts such as BRICS, economic

development, and global governance, underscoring their interdependence in understanding the current geopolitical and economic transformations. This network further reflects the extensive impact of multipolarity and the rise of BRICS, highlighting their influence on both the distribution of power and structures of global governance.

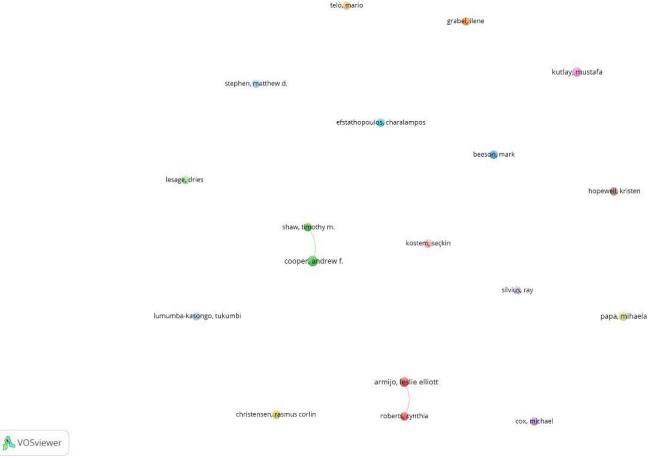


Figure 2 Visualization Map of Author Collaboration Source: Conceptualization through VOSviewer

This network map illustrates the connections and collaborations among the authors associated with BRICS research. The network suggests a relatively low level of cooperation between the authors, focusing on BRICS. Most author groups appear isolated, indicating that the research is likely to be fragmented or concentrated on specific subdomains, with minimal overlap. There are a few smaller groups of authors with stronger ties and collaboration. For example, the group including Timothy M. Shaw and Andrew F. Cooper stands out as one of the few connected nodes in the network, showing ongoing collaboration on BRICS-related issues.

Many authors, such as Mario Tello, Mark Beeson, and Leslie Elliot Armijo, appear isolated, working independently without extensive collaboration with other researchers in the field. The broad range of authors within the network suggests thematic and geographic diversity, with BRICS research covering various regions of the world and intersecting the political and economic sciences. These isolated groups of authors also point to the lack of collaboration between them and possible existing barriers, such as language barriers, different academic policies, or even situations of competition between Member States instead of collaboration. The network map indicates that the BRICS literature is characterized by a diversity of perspectives and methodologies, but researcher connections are limited.

This observation presents opportunities for future collaboration and highlights the need to build stronger networks to expand knowledge in this complex field. Out of 493 authors, with a minimum of three appearances, only 18 authors (representing 3.65% of the total) remained connected in the final map.

The network map highlights the extensive interconnections among institutions, showcasing a global framework for collaboration in BRICS-related research. This interconnectedness reflects contributions from various academic fields, including geography, political science, global development, and design, emphasizing the interdisciplinary nature of BRICS studies and global multipolarity. There

is limited collaboration between institutions in the member states, this may be due to the lack of a common research platform such as "Horizon Europe," countries such as India and China have different agendas, which may lead to a lack of motivation in joint projects, and publications from some BRICS countries are not indexed in international databases. The creation of dedicated BRICS research networks could solve the problem of collaboration between academic centers.

While specific institutional details remain unclear from the map, the widespread geographical distribution of collaborations suggests involvement from organizations worldwide. This underscores the global relevance of BRICS research in diverse contexts. In total, 531 institutions were analyzed, with the largest connected group comprising 15 organizations and 105 links. These findings demonstrate the significance of international academic cooperation in advancing knowledge of BRICS dynamics and their influence on the evolving world order and global economic development.

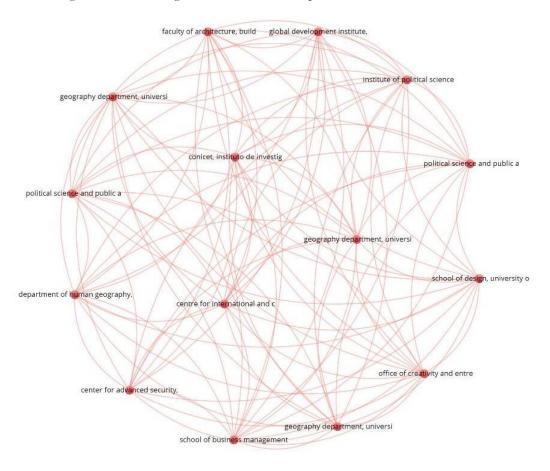


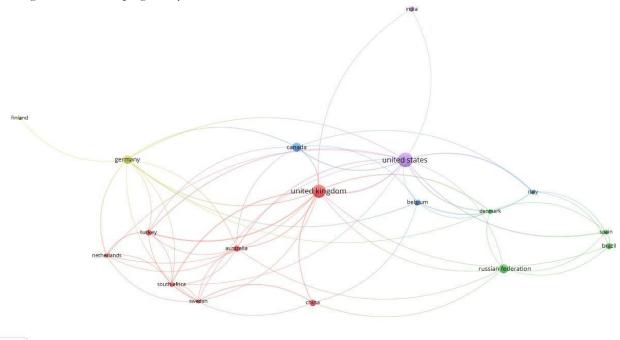


Figure 3 Co-Author Organization Links Source: Conceptualization through VOSviewer

The figure emphasizes the growing international collaboration that signals the shift towards a multipolar world order through co-authorship among various nations. In the context of economic development and global multipolarity, it depicts a web of interactions in which influence is no longer centralized but distributed across multiple power centers.

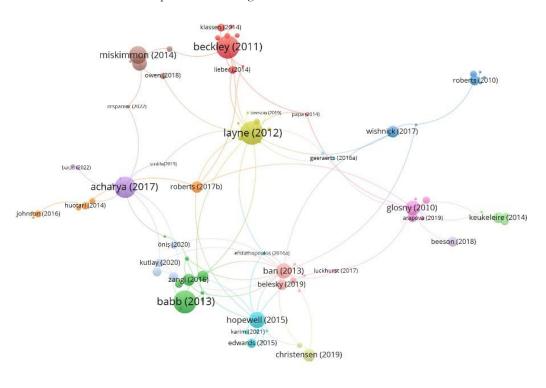
Key nations, such as the United Kingdom, the United States, Germany, and Russia, have emerged as prominent hubs, highlighting their continued relevance in shaping global dynamics. At the same time, the inclusion of countries such as India, China, and Brazil reflects the increasing role of emerging economies in this evolving structure. It can also be seen that Western countries dominate BRICS research, which may be because researchers from BRICS countries rarely publish in Western publications. Many BRICS studies use theoretical models from the West, and their citation is emphasized more than in the literature from member states. This influence may limit the creation of a genuine BRICS perspective of global multipolarities. These interactions underscore the balance between cooperation and competition, demonstrating the interconnected nature of economic and political influences in a multipolar world. The analysis identified 59 countries, 18 (30.5 %) of which formed clusters with at least five occurrences, revealing five distinct groups and 63 connections. This network highlights the changing global landscape, in which influence is shared among traditional powers and

rising economies, shaping the dynamics of the new world order.



& VOSviewer

Figure 4 Co-Author Countries Source: Conceptualization through VOSviewer



A VOSviewer

Figure 5 Document Citation Map Source: Conceptualization through VOSviewer

The figure presents a citation map that reveals a dense network of intellectual collaboration and influence in the study of new world order and global multipolarity. Key works, such as those by Layne (2012), Beckley (2011), and Acharya (2017), serve as central nodes, showcasing their significant impact on academic discourse in this area. These studies are intricately linked to others, illustrating active dialogue

and continuity in the research.

The diverse clusters of collaborating authors highlight various perspectives and methodologies, reflecting how multipolarity extends beyond politics and economics to influence global knowledge production. These connections emphasize the complexity and interdependence of academic efforts to understand emerging global dynamics.

The analysis identified 15 clusters and 123 connections, demonstrating the extensive scholarly communication and exchange of ideas that drives research on global multipolarity and economic development.

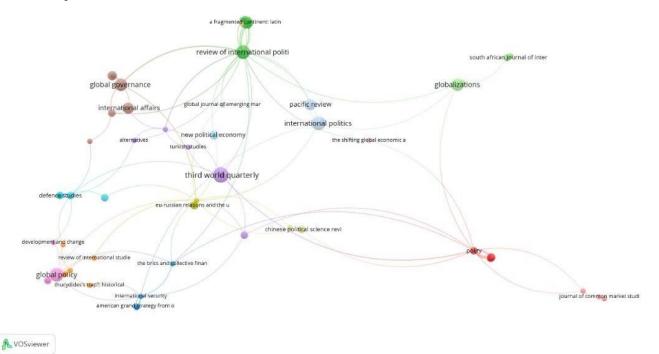


Figure 6 Source Citation Map Source: Conceptualization through VOSviewer

The figure illustrates the citation network among key sources, highlighting their interconnectedness and influence on research on the emerging world order and global multipolarity. Journals such as the Review of International Political Economy, Third World Quarterly, and Globalizations have emerged as central hubs, reflecting their pivotal role in academic discourse on global governance and political economy.

The clustering of sources revealed distinct yet interconnected approaches, demonstrating the collaborative and multidisciplinary nature of research in this field. This network underscores how studies on multipolarity draw from diverse perspectives and theoretical frameworks, contributing to a deeper understanding of the global economic and political dynamics.

The analysis identified 18 clusters and 112 connections, emphasizing the complex web of scholarly influence shaping discussions on the new world order. This highlights the critical role of interdisciplinary collaboration in addressing the challenges and opportunities of a rapidly changing global landscape.

This figure illustrates a network of author citations, highlighting how various groups of authors are closely interconnected and suggesting the presence of a well-defined research network. Such collaboration likely reflects shared interests among researchers from different parts of the world, emphasizing the importance of multipolarity and the diversity of perspectives when addressing the new world order.

Several authors occupy prominent positions in the center of the figure, indicating their significance in the global debate on multipolarity. These authors serve as key nodes, linking different sub-networks and facilitating the exchange of ideas, thus contributing to the consolidation of a global consensus on the topics under discussion. The differently colored clusters may indicate the presence of subthemes or specializations within the study of multipolarity and economic development, underscoring the fact that this subject has been approached from a variety of theoretical and methodological perspectives.

The connections within the network show both strong and weak ties among certain groups of

authors, potentially leading to both divergence and convergence of ideas in academic discussions. This reveals that despite differing opinions on the new world order and multipolarity, there is still active dialogue and knowledge exchange among the various schools of thought.

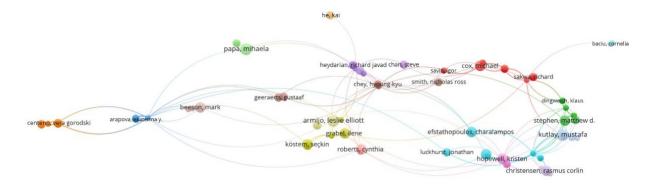




Figure 7 Author Citation Map Source: Conceptualization through VOSviewer

These findings provide a solid foundation for analyzing how different regions and schools of thought contribute to the understanding and shaping of a new world order in the context of global economic development and multipolarity. Author citation analysis resulted in the creation of 17 clusters and 252 links, reflecting the intricate and collaborative nature of research in this field.

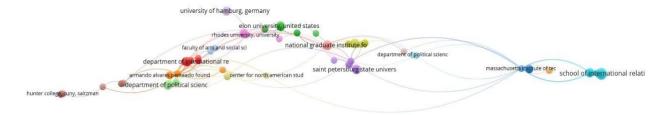




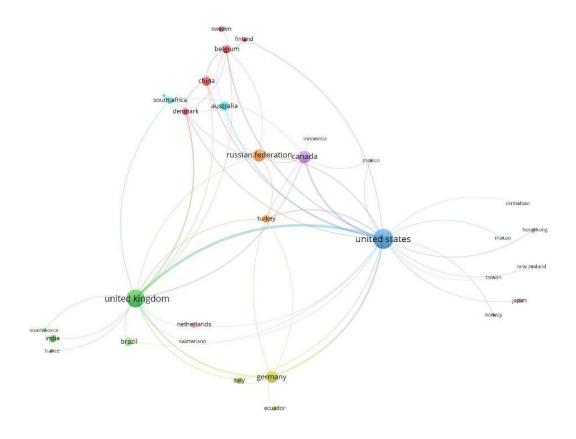
Figure 8 Citation of Organizations Source: Conceptualization through VosViewer

The network revealed strong global collaboration among institutions, with central roles held by entities such as MIT and the School of International Relations. This reflects the inclusion of both renowned and lesser-known universities, showcasing diverse perspectives in debates on the new world order.

Cross-border connections between institutions in the U.S., Europe, and Asia highlight the global nature of multipolarity research. This collaboration underscores the importance of academic networks in shaping a comprehensive understanding of evolving world order and economic development. Connection networks indicate both strong and weak links between certain groups of authors, which can lead to both the divergence and convergence of ideas in academic discussions. There

is still active dialogue and exchange of knowledge between different schools of thought. The citation analysis of organizations led to the creation of 17 clusters and 264 links.

Figure 9 highlights the central positions of the United States and United Kingdom. The citation network highlights the prominence of specific countries in discussions about the evolving world order, showcasing their ongoing influence on global geopolitics and the international economy. Their strong connections with other nations underline their interdependence and pivotal role, even as the global system shifts towards multipolarity.



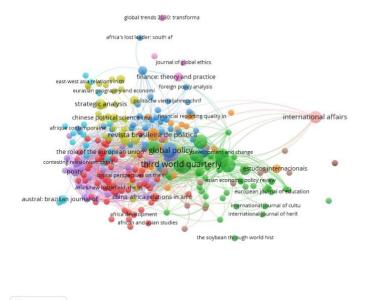
& VOSviewer

Figure 9 Citation of Countries Source: Conceptualization through VosViewer

The inclusion of countries, such as China, Russia, India, and Brazil, in the network reflects the diversification of global influence. It should be considered that of all the countries in the BRICS group, China occupies a central place in the bibliometric analysis by Western countries. China is the largest economy in the group and plays a dominant role in economic initiatives such as the "Belt and Road Initiative" and the "New Development Bank," China is also one of the largest investors in research and development, becoming one of the largest producers of scientific papers globally, and the Chinese government supports the publication and dissemination of research that strengthens its position globally. Their frequent citations suggest significant contributions to political and economic development debates in a multipolar context. Additionally, the network reveals strong regional ties, such as those among European nations, emphasizing the role of regional alliances such as the European Union in shaping the dynamics of a changing global order.

The presence of countries from Asia, Latin America, and Africa (such as Brazil, India, and South Africa) on the map suggests that new economic and political power poles are beginning to play a larger role in the world stage. Country citation analysis led to the creation of 14 clusters and 58 links.

In the context of economic development and the emergence of a new world order, Figure 10 highlights the close relationships between various scientific publications and their contribution to the understanding and study of global multipolarity. The multitude of publications shown in the image suggests growing interest in the analysis of international relations and economic policy, particularly in the context of the rise of emerging powers. Some research groups have focused on specific regional issues, such as China-Africa relations or the impact of the Union's economic policies.



VOSviewer

Figure 10 Bibliographic Linkage of Sources Source: Conceptualization through VosViewer

chinese journal of internation

Within this framework, the emergence of a new world order is not just a reconfiguration of global power, but also an opportunity to develop new forms of cooperation and economic interdependence between different regions of the world. Country citation analysis led to the creation of 10 clusters and 9,418 links.

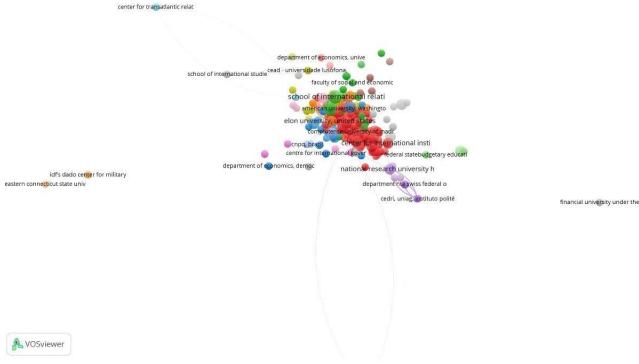


Figure 11 Bibliometric Linkage of Organizations Source: Conceptualization through VosViewer

Figure 11 highlights the presence of major research centers, such as universities and international research centers, which are responsible for developing relevant knowledge in the field of global multipolarity. The presence of isolated organizations, such as military research centers and regional institutions, which make smaller or more specific contributions to these networks, was also observed. This map emphasizes the importance of international cooperation and academic networks in studying and understanding the BRICS phenomenon and global multipolarisation.

Organizations and institutions at the center of these networks shape global perspectives on

new economic and political dynamics by fostering the exchange of ideas and promoting a better understanding of changes in the international arena. They play important roles in these processes. Citation analysis of countries led to the creation of 20 clusters and 15,616 links.

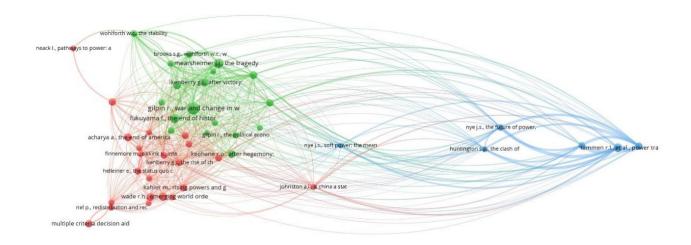




Figure 12 Co-Citation of Cited References Source: Conceptualization through VosViewer

This co-citation map highlights key works and groups of authors that are frequently cited together in the literature. The green cluster appears to be dominated by works focused on international relations by authors such as John Mearsheimer, Robert Gilpin, and Joseph Nye. Their work focused on the dynamics of power, hegemony, and related topics. The red cluster concentrates on issues related to the growth of emerging economies and changes in the global economy. The contributions of this group allow us to take a closer look at how emerging powers, including the BRICS, challenge the current order and influence international economic and political dynamics. The blue clusters are more concerned with global power and influence, including research that examines the traditional aspects of military and political power, as well as the effects of globalization and economic interdependence. This co-citation map shows that the literature on BRICS and multipolarity is deeply embedded in broader debates on international relations, shifts in power, and new forms of global governance. The network of authors and collaborators suggests that research on these topics is based on a solid theory and draws on a wide range of scientific perspectives. Citation analysis led to the creation of three clusters and 544 links. Figure 13 presents a map of co-occurring citations that reflect the interconnection of various academic journals and periodicals related to the study of world order and economic development in the context of global multipolarity. There were three main groups of publications. The green cluster focuses on international organizations and the global political economy, emphasizing the importance of global institutions and economic integration in a multipolar context. The red cluster focuses on international security and foreign policy, highlighting geopolitical tensions and realignments during the emergence of a new world order. The blue cluster explores aspects of global governance and area studies, suggesting a diversification of influence and a shift towards a world where multiple centers of power coexist and interact. Citation analysis led to the creation of five clusters and 11,891 links.

This map, shown in Figure 14, represents multiple groups of authors, each representing different but interconnected subdomains and schools of thought. For example, the green cluster includes international relations and theories of international relations, featuring authors such as John Mearsheimer, Robert Jervis, Joseph Nye, and Stephen Walt, known for their contributions to the study of international relations. They often examine power dynamics in a changing world, such as the emerging influence of the BRICS countries.

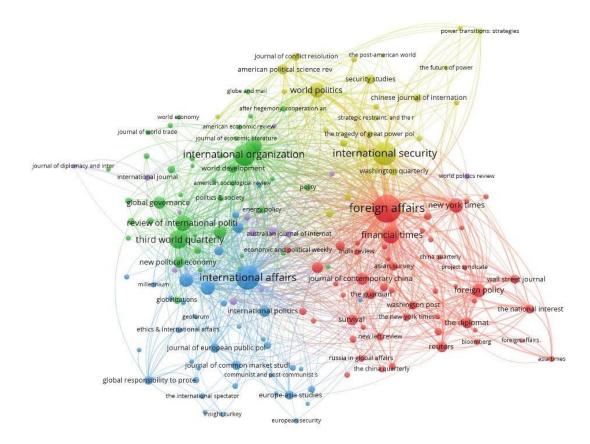




Figure 13 Co-Citation of Cited Sources Source: Conceptualization through VosViewer

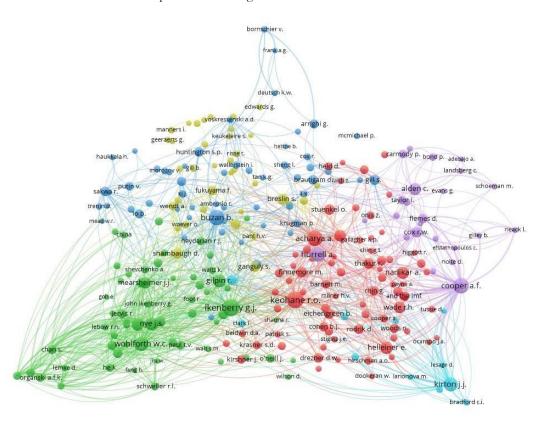




Figure 14 Co-Citation of Cited Authors Source: Conceptualization through VosViewer

In contrast, the red group includes Amitabh Acharya, Robert Keohane, Andrew Hurrell, and others who study global governance, world order, and the role of emerging powers. The blue cluster includes authors such as Alexander Dugin and Haukala H., who focus on Russia and geopolitical perspectives when analyzing global multipolarisation, indicating a more strategic and political focus. The yellow and purple clusters are from the perspective of economic development and area studies, where authors such as Fukuyama, Wallerstein, and Arrighi discuss world-systems theory and economic development. Citation analysis led to the creation of six clusters and 24,329 links.

Conclusions

This analysis confirms the ongoing transition from a world order historically dominated by the United States to a more decentralized and multipolar framework, and BRICS plays a key role in political and economic reorientations. This shift is marked by the rise of influential economic and political players, such as China, India, and Russia, along with other emerging powers, which collectively challenge the traditional dominance of Western nations. One can also see the discrepancy in the research on BRICS, where China dominates as a subject of study as well as a producer of research materials. This demonstrates the fragmentation in academic collaboration between BRICS states and points to the need for efficient academic research systems.

From a practical point of view, this paper provides a detailed picture of academic collaborations in the BRICS group and the existing gaps. The study also suggests the creation of a common institutional network for research and development.

Several recommendations for BRICS institutions include the creation of a joint BRICS research fund to finance interdisciplinary projects between universities in the member states, the creation of a multilingual publication for the publication of relevant research, and the organization of conferences for research and exchange of ideas. For governments, the recommendations aim to stimulate exchange programs between researchers by offering research grants and developing public-private partnerships to support innovation and strategic development. For the academic community, the creation of thematic research networks, such as international relations and economic development, together with the creation of a common archive of works to facilitate access to information for BRICS researchers.

Globalization and technological advancements have accelerated the redistribution of global power, enabling emerging economies to assert themselves at the global stage. Although this transition offers opportunities for innovation, economic diversification, and resource reallocation, it also introduces challenges, particularly in the realms of international collaboration and geopolitical stability.

In a multipolar context, the diversification of growth strategies and fairer global distribution of resources have the potential to drive positive change. However, heightened competition among emerging centers of influence complicates global cooperation and may contribute to tensions that necessitate adaptive governance mechanisms.

Addressing these challenges requires robust international and interdisciplinary collaboration. Global institutions and strategic alliances must evolve to reflect shifting dynamics, and academic research must continue to provide insights into the complexities of this transformation. By fostering cooperation and innovative solutions, nations can better navigate the challenges of multipolarity, and strive for sustainable and inclusive growth.

This study highlights the importance of understanding how multipolarity reshapes global structures and influences economic development. This underscores the urgency of reimagining governance systems and fostering partnerships to ensure that the emerging world order promotes stability and equitable progress for all.

To overcome the retrospective nature of the method employed and steer my research towards strategic development directions, I correlated the results of the bibliometric analysis with emerging global trends and the evolving needs of economies and governance structures. The findings offer a foundation for developing forward-looking models and identifying relevant research gaps. By integrating these conclusions with an analysis of the current economic and geopolitical challenges, I formulated practical perspectives that contribute to the design of sustainable, equitable solutions for a multipolar world.

Theoretical Implications

This study highlights trends and identifies gaps in the literature, providing a foundation for a deeper theoretical understanding of multipolarity and global economic dynamics. These findings challenge existing paradigms and suggest new directions for exploring global interdependencies.

Practical Implications

The results will guide future research towards emerging areas, facilitating the development of interdisciplinary strategies and solutions suited to current economic and geopolitical shifts. They also promote international collaboration, which is essential for better management and understanding of multipolarity in an evolving global context.

Future Research Directions

Future research will focus on delving deeper into the interdependencies among emerging economies, analyzing the impact of multipolarity on global governance structures, and developing models for international cooperation to address the economic and geopolitical challenges of a changing world. Econometric studies could assess the real impact of BRICS cooperation on investment and trade and compare BRICS with other economic groups such as the G7 and the EU to understand the advantages and disadvantages of this partnership.

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