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# Intellectual Landscape of Entrepreneurship and Democracy: Insights from Bibliometric Analysis

**Jabbar Ul-Haq**
Department of Economics, Institute of Business Management, Karachi, Pakistan
Department of Economics, University of Sargodha, Sargodha, Pakistan
Email: jabbar.haq@iobm.edu.pk, jabbar.ulhaq@uos.edu.pk
**Amina Rauf**
Department of Economics, University of Sargodha, Sargodha, Pakistan
Email: amina.rauf144@gmail.com
**Madiha Kanwal**
College of Management Sciences, Ziauddin University, Karachi, Pakistan
Email: madyauok@gmail.com
**Kashif Imran**
Department of Economics, Institute of Business Management, Karachi, Pakistan
Email: kashif.imran@iobm.edu.pk

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**Corresponding Author:**
**Jabbar Ul-Haq**
**Email:** jabbar.haq@iobm.edu.pk

**ABSTRACT**

The interplay between democracy and entrepreneurship has long attracted scholarly interest. However, the literature has produced contradictory results, and the field remains disorganized and conflicting, making it challenging to take stock of the literature systematically. Utilizing metadata of 340 articles from the Scopus database for the time span 1980 to 2025, the analysis was initiated. Bibliometric networks were established with Biblioshiny and VOSviewer, leading to the findings. Results highlighted spikes in literature since the 21st century. USA and European countries appeared to be the major contributors, receiving considerable attention devoted to studying this nexus. This paper is one of the first attempts to undertake a bibliometric analysis of the nexus between entrepreneurship and democracy and also highlight less explored areas for future research.

## Introduction

The interplay between democracy and entrepreneurship has long been a subject of scholarly interest (Farè, Audretsch, & Dejardin, 2023; Rehan, Zandi, Amrievich, Adnan Hye, & Ul-Haq, 2026). Democracy, characterized by freedom of choice, liberal organizations, media freedom, and accountable governance (Audretsch & Moog, 2022) is widely believed to shape economic dynamism and entrepreneurial activities (Farè et al., 2023).

Entrepreneurship and democracy are interlinked because they both embody the same fundamental idea: the freedom to think, choose, and act (Audretsch & Moog, 2022). Democratic freedoms allow people to express their opinions and will, and they also

encourage entrepreneurship by giving people the opportunity to seek and seize business possibilities (Brieger, Hechavarría, & Newman, 2024). Price liberalization and the creation of market institutions are not the only two aspects of the transition to democratic economies; the intentional and organized growth of a thriving private sector is also required. The privatization of state-owned businesses and the creation of new business endeavours are the two main drivers of this change (Smallbone & Welter, 2006).

Yet, the nexus between democracy and entrepreneurship is neither linear nor universally consistent. Some studies suggest a positive association. According to Hayek and Friedman, economic freedom provides people the freedom and ability to cooperate voluntarily through entrepreneurship, which in turn distributes power throughout society. In this way, entrepreneurship enhances resistance to centralized control or political pressure by enabling people to establish networks (Diou, Issani, Mahar, & Ul Mustafa, 2021), acquire resources, and seek independent lives. Consequently, economic freedom fosters democracy via democracy (Friedman, 1962; Hayek, 1944). Brieger argued that the connection between democracy and entrepreneurship is not just confined to small businesses and individual entrepreneurs. It also encompasses corporate entrepreneurship within established firms. Because democracies generally establish a more supportive environment for business growth and innovation, entrepreneurship is likely to emerge within larger companies as well, reinforcing the positive association between democracy and entrepreneurial activity at the corporate level (Brieger et al., 2024).

However, some studies neglect this positive association between democracy and entrepreneurship, suggesting that weak democracies indicate “limited access order” characterized by weak rule of law, lack of property rights, corruption and lack of judicial independence (Reckendrees, 2015). All these characteristics, when combined with political instability and restricted trade, investment and market access, abolish the favourable environment for business and new ventures (Yasar, Paul, & Ward, 2011). On the other hand, in strong democracies, formal employment is easily accessible and accompanied by significant benefits, including high and stable salaries with health coverage and pensions; this restricts individuals from small-scale manufacturing and self-employment and encourages them toward salaried positions (Blanchflower, 2004). Hence, global diversity of political and economic factors complicates any effort to draw general conclusions.

The growing complexity and academic interest in this topic demand a timely, systematic synthesis of the existing literature. Hence, Bibliometric analysis provides an opportunity to achieve this goal. By introducing quantitative techniques to analyse publication trends, citation patterns, influential authors, core journals, and thematic clusters, bibliometric analysis facilitates a comprehensive understanding of intellectual development, evolving research trends, and knowledge structure through systematic mapping of scholarly contributions within a particular field. Unlike conventional literature reviews, bibliometric analysis offers greater analytical objectivity, methodological transparency, and scalability for analyzing large volumes of scholarly data by minimizing potential selection bias.

Consequently, we employed bibliometric techniques to investigate the nexus between democracy and entrepreneurship. Particularly, it seeks to explore the evolution of academic discourse on this research domain in previous years, identify the leading economies, institutions and researchers, and uncover dominant themes and knowledge gaps. By systematically examining the literature, the study aims to provide a more comprehensive understanding of the theoretical and empirical association between democracy and entrepreneurship. Moreover, it provides a platform for more nuanced, interdisciplinary future research.

## Methodology

Factors such as the formation of entrepreneurial activity in a democratic regime have led to a rise in academic discourse in this domain. Researchers utilize literature review method to interpret and organize previous outcomes. One such method is bibliometric analysis, which allows statistical evaluation of scientific activity (Kodalak, Erdirençelebi, & Akman, 2024). This paper employs bibliometric analysis to examine the impact of entrepreneurship on democracy. Bibliometric analysis refers to the application of mathematical and statistical tools to investigate books, publications and other forms of communication media. It provides us with quantitative analysis of trends and patterns within the academic literature (Sharma, 2025). Bibliometrics originates in library and information sciences (Sharma, 2025) and has gained immense popularity in business research in recent years (Donthu, Kumar, Mukherjee, Pandey, & Lim, 2021). Its popularity can be attributed to the availability and advancement of bibliometric software such as VOSviewer, Gephi, and Leximancer, as well as scientific databases such as Scopus and Web of Science (Donthu et al., 2021). Beyond mapping key research themes, bibliometrics guides and informs prospective research directions (Sharma, 2025). Moreover, it handles large amounts of data and produces research beneficial to society as a whole (Donthu et al., 2021). This study utilizes biblioshiny software for bibliometric analysis.

This study draws on the Scopus database to retrieve articles related to the impact of entrepreneurship on democracy. Scopus, with 60% broader coverage compared to Web of Science, is considered one of the largest databases for peer-reviewed research. Over recent years, Scopus has gained significant popularity due to its extensive coverage of peer-reviewed research work

(Sharma, 2025). The literature was reviewed in order to explore several keywords relevant to the nexus between entrepreneurship and democracy. The keywords employed were entrepreneurship, entrepreneurial, democracy and freedom of voice. These keywords were scrutinized within "Title of article, abstract and keywords" in the Scopus database. In order to maintain disciplinary relevance, the research was confined to three core areas: "economics, econometrics and finance", "business, management and accounting" and "social sciences", and only peer-reviewed articles published in English were considered. This restriction aimed to capture literature on the nexus between entrepreneurship and democracy through economic and social lenses. This study yielded 594 articles relevant to the nexus between entrepreneurship and democracy for the period spanning 1980 to 2025. The following search string was used to extract the articles: TITLE-ABS-KEY ((“entrepreneurship” OR “entrepreneurial”) AND (“democracy” OR “freedom of voice”)). As the data research was finalized in the last week of June 2015, the dataset represents publications available in Scopus up to that date. Table 1 presents the data information.

**Table 1: Main Information of Data**

| Description | Results |
|---|---|
| *Main information about data* | |
| Timespan | 1980:2025 |
| Sources (Journals, Books, etc) | 514 |
| Documents | 594 |
| Annual Growth Rate % | 5 |
| Document Average Age | 9.91 |
| Average citations per doc | 18.54 |
| References | 35017 |
| *Document contents* | |
| Keywords Plus (ID) | 843 |
| Author's Keywords (DE) | 1608 |
| *Authors* | |
| Authors | 942 |
| Authors of single-authored docs | 319 |
| *Authors collaboration* | |
| Single-authored docs | 339 |
| Co-Authors per Doc | 1.72 |
| International co-authorships % | 12.96 |
| *Document types* | |
| Article | 370 |
| Book | 50 |
| Book Chapter | 118 |
| Conference Paper | 22 |
| Editorial | 4 |
| Erratum | 1 |
| Letter | 1 |
| Note | 2 |
| Review | 25 |
| Short Survey | 1 |

**Note:** Author's own presentation

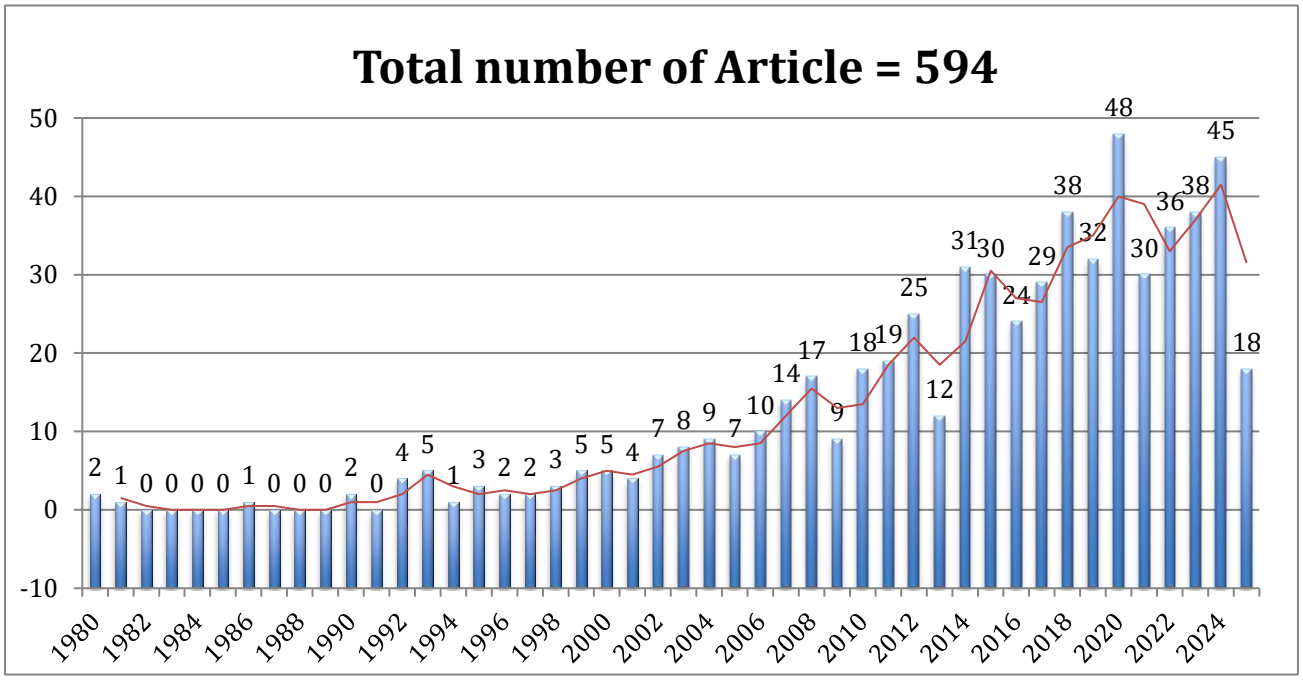



**Figure 1: Evolution of Nexus between ET and DC on the Basis of Publications**

**Note:** Author's Own Presentation

Figure 1 illustrates the number of publications on the nexus between ET and DC from 1980 to 2025. A marked expansion in research on the nexus between ET and DC is evident from 21st century onward, with more substantial growth in the past decade. This period can be segmented into two phases for analytical clarity: (1) 1980-2000 and (2) 2000-2025. In the first phase, scholarly engagement with the nexus between ET and DC was minimal, with publications accounting for only 6% of the total. The number of publications was very minimal, and the field was still in its formative stage. The next stage highlights a discernible upward trend and is characterized by accelerated growth in scholarly output. About 94% of all identified articles were published during this period, with annual publications rising from 7 in 2002 to 48 in 2020 and reaching 18 in 2025. Overall, the trajectory shows steep, sustained growth in the literature, with minor fluctuations during the second phase.

## Results

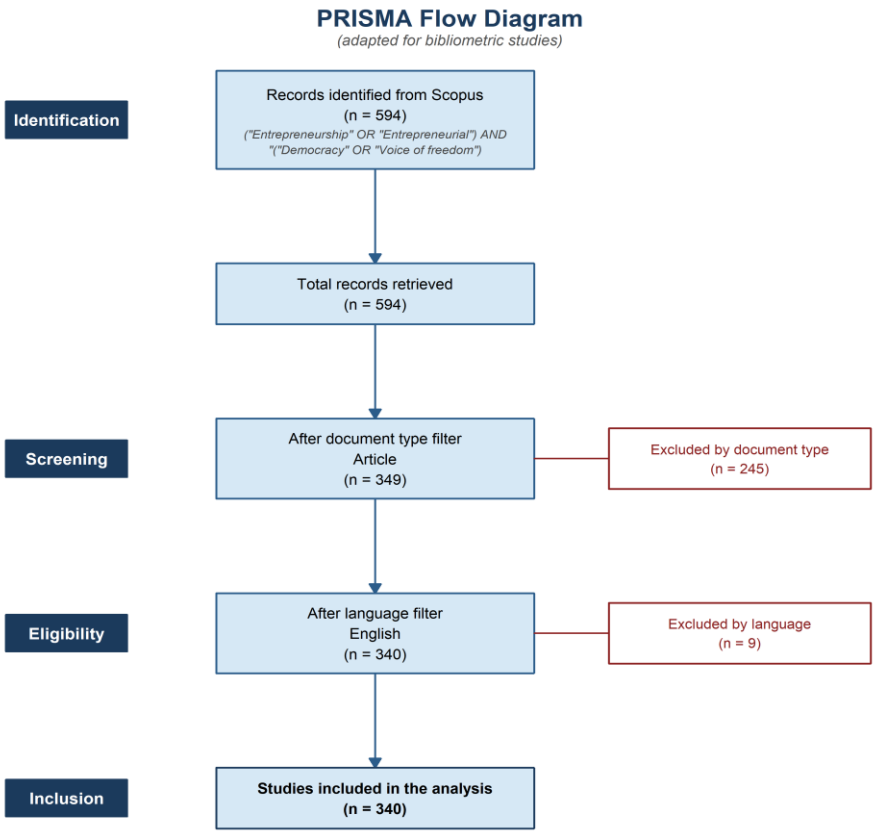



**Figure 2: PRISMA Flowchart of Publication Screening and Inclusion**

Figure 2 shows that we selected the literature through a systematic identification and screening process based on the PRISMA framework. Utilizing combinations of keywords related to entrepreneurship and democracy, we retrieved data from the Scopus database, comprising 594 records**.** After applying a document-type filter, we retained 340 journal articles for further consideration and excluded 254 records. Next, we applied a language filter and excluded no articles because all were published in English. Finally, we retained 340 articles for bibliometric analysis.

**The Developmental Trajectory of Nexus Between ET and DC Derived From Publication Output and Citations Impact:**

Based on the number of articles and average citations per year recorded from 1980 to 2025, as shown in Figure 3, clear patterns have emerged in the literature on the nexus between ET and DC. The year 2020 marks the peak of scholarly output with 48 publications. However, citations remain low in this year, with a mean of 1.71 total citations per year, and 2004 marks the peak year with the highest citations, at 5.65. The period from 2000 to 2008 shows more citations per year, and publications increased from 5 in 2000 to 17 in 2008, after which the trend continued to rise. The growth in publications from year to year highlights the dynamic and evolving nature of this research field.

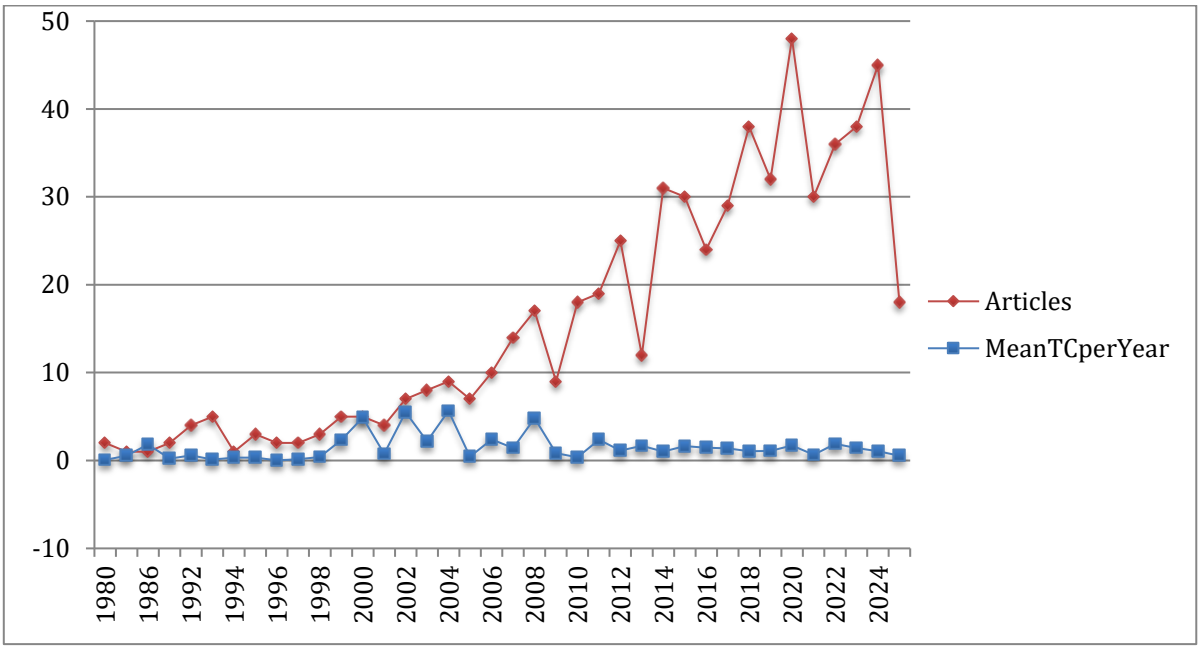



**Figure 3: Evolutions in Nexus between ET and DC via Publications and Citations Impact**

**Note.** Author's Own Presentation

More crucially, the upward trajectory highlights the growing recognition of the nexus between ET and DC as a vital field of inquiry with strong interdisciplinary appeal. Moreover, research has surged from 2000 to date, and these years have been the most fruitful for research on the nexus between ET and DC.

**Major Contributing Economies**

USA is the top contributor with the highest number of publications (70, followed by the United Kingdom with 36 publications, as presented in Figure 4. In the USA, the highest cited article is written by Huang (2008) titled "Capitalism with Chinese Characteristics: Entrepreneurship and the State". This article offers a persuasive reinterpretation of economic transformation in China and emphasized that China's initial growth was driven less by top-down state planning and more by entrepreneurship and private initiatives. The article distinguished between two phases of reform: the 1980s, which involved rural liberalisation, promoting entrepreneurship in towns and villages, and decentralised policies that boosted entrepreneurial activity, income growth, and poverty reduction. The other was the 1990s, when urban areas focused on heavy industrialization, state-owned enterprises, and foreign investment. These reforms produced an impressive rise in GDP but also led to rural stagnation, inequality, and a shift away from entrepreneurship. This article challenged the dominant narrative that China's economic success resulted from state capitalism. Instead, he argued that the most vibrant growth occurred when the state facilitated market forces by securing property rights and encouraging local experiments and institutional autonomy. By establishing the relationship between the state and the private sector, this article reveals how subsequent policy reversals constrained entrepreneurial dynamism. This article reframes China's success story as one of grassroots entrepreneurship rather than state predominance.

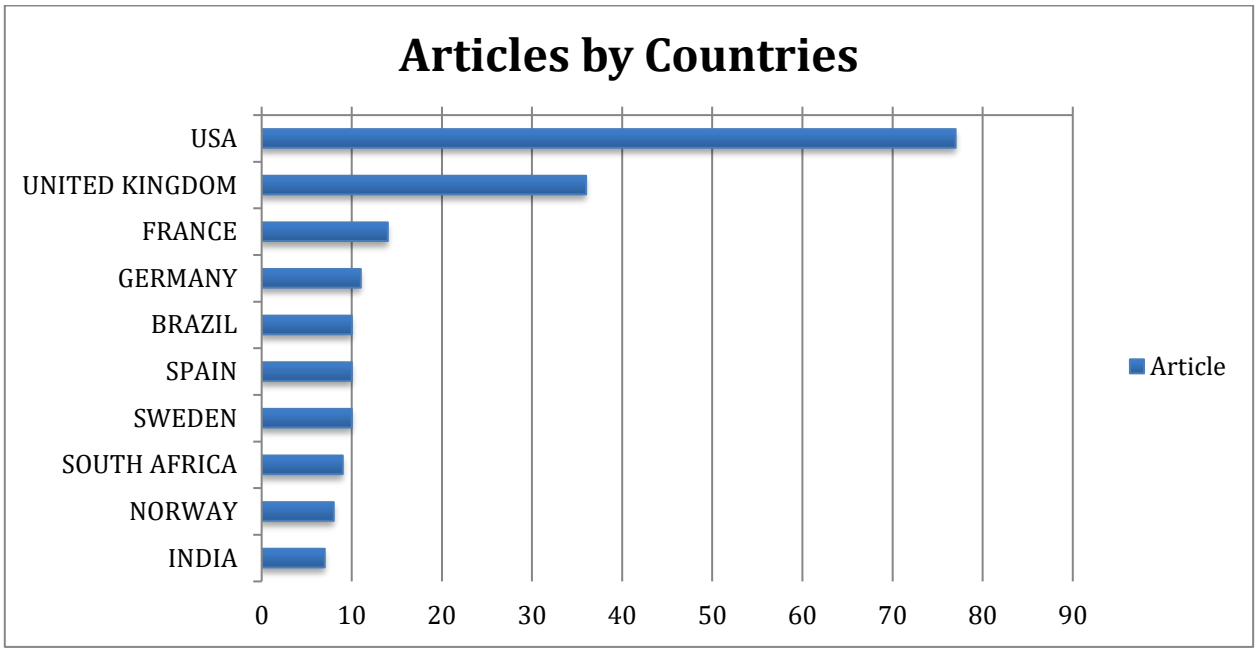



**Figure 4: Articles by Countries**

Figure 5 depicts an overlay visualization of bibliometric coupling by economies, highlighting temporal and geographical trends in research output. The United States, the United Kingdom, and Australia made the major contributions in 2014. Spain, France, Italy, Norway and India emerged as significant contributors in the study of the nexus between ET and DC by 2018. By 2024, we expect a rise in publications in economies such as Ecuador, Kyrgyzstan and Israel.

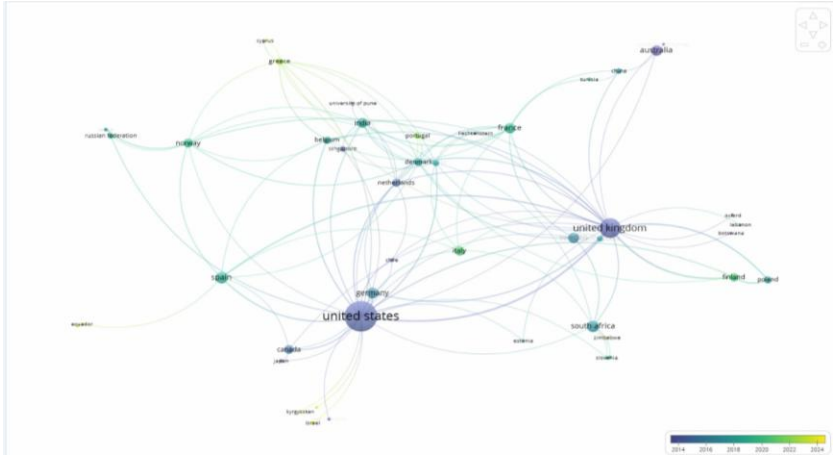



**Figure 5 Bibliometric Overview of Top Contributing Economies**

**Sources**

Figure 6 shows the most relevant sources contributing to the literature. Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing, Entrepreneurship: Theory and Practice, and Journal of Evolutionary Economics emerged as the leading publication outlets, each with 5 articles. This is followed by Democratization, Journal of the Knowledge Economy and Public Choice, with 4 documents in each. Ciriec-Espana Revista De Economia Publica, Social Y Cooprativa contributed 3 documents to the body of literature.

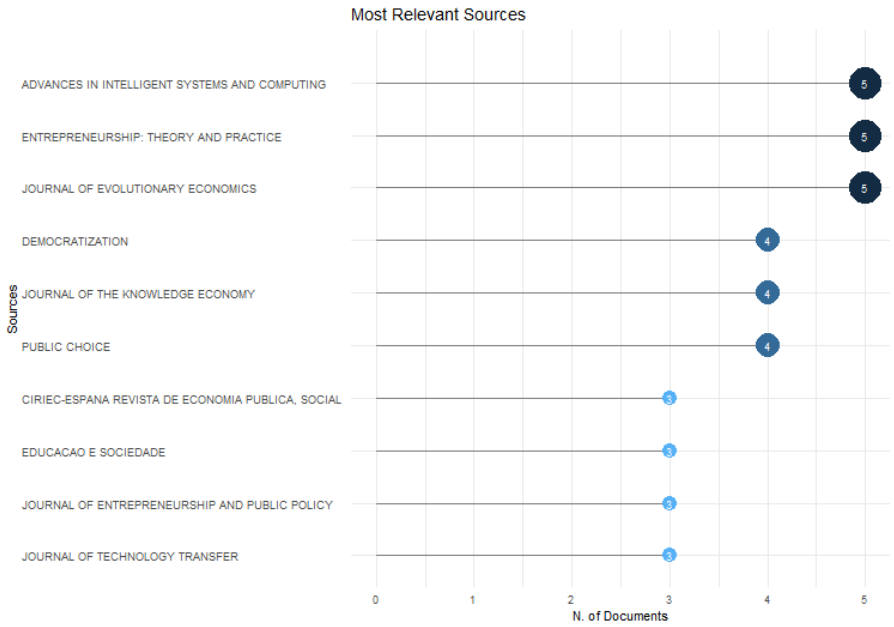



**Figure 6: Most Relevant Sources**

Figure 7 highlights the H-index. The index is used to assess both the productivity of authors and the impact of their publications on citations. Figure 7 shows that Journal of Evolutionary Economics has the highest H-index (5), indicating its strong influence in the field. It is followed by Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing and Entrepreneurship: Theory and Practice, with an H-index of 4. Ciriec-Espana Revista De Economia Publica, Social Y Cooperativa and Journal of Technology Transfer have an H-index of 3, as presented in Figure 7

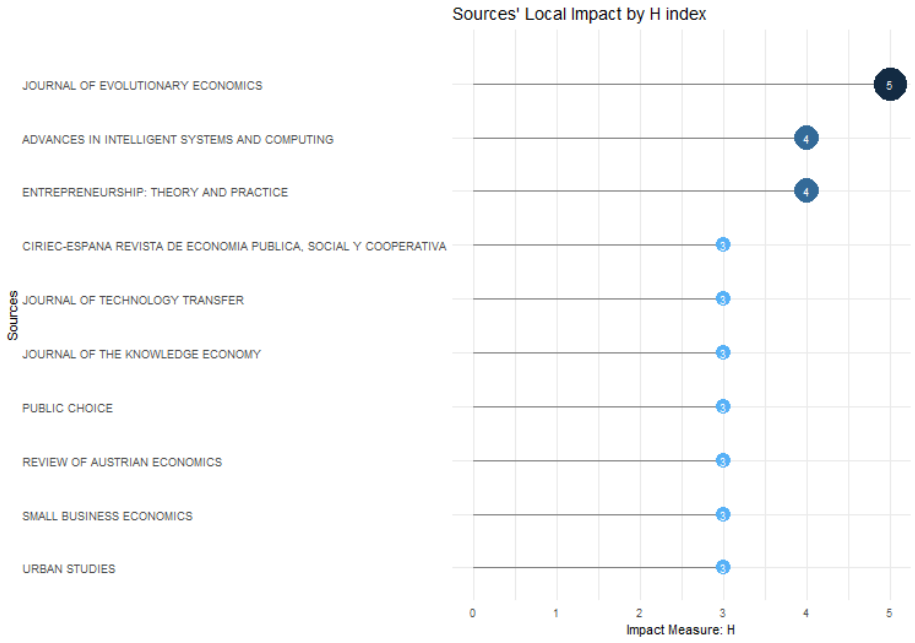



**Figure 7: Sources Local Impact by H-index**

**Three Field Plot**

Figure 8 presents the three-field plot as a Sankey diagram, highlighting the interrelationships among key components such as authors, keywords, and sources. The three components interlink to form a three-field plot, and this visualization clearly depicts publication patterns through grey flow. The first element comprises sources (journals), followed by the authors contributing to them, and finally the subjects frequently addressed in their research on the nexus between ET and DC.

The relative size of the rectangle demonstrates the volume of publications associated with that component. According to the diagram, there are 9 journals which constitute the source field for nexus between ET and DC publications, with "entrepreneurship" emerging as the most prominent keyword node, followed by "innovation", "democracy" and "leadership. Among authors, Markopoulos E is the most prominent contributor and engages with key themes. His work predominantly appears in Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing, where he notably investigated some crucial concepts such as entrepreneurship, innovation, democracy and leadership.

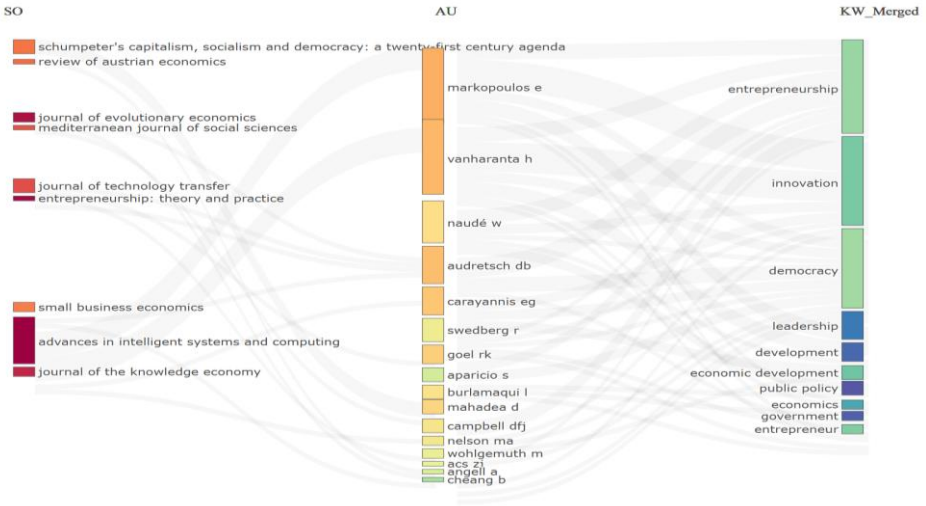



**Figure 8: Three Field Plot of Research on Nexus Between Entrepreneurship and Democracy**

**Most Relevant Authors**

Figure 9 presents the most relevant authors in the field of the nexus between ET and DC. The figure shows that Markopoulos E and Vanharanta H make the largest contribution, with 7 publications each in this field. This trend is followed by Audretch DB and Carayannis EG with 5 publications each. The highest-cited article of both Markopoulos E and Vanharanta H is the article titled "Democratization of Entrepreneurship and Corporate Entrepreneurship within McKinsey's Three Horizons Innovation Space" with 15 citations.

The paper investigates how democratic governance can unlock innovation and entrepreneurial transformation within business. In order to coordinate innovation across current, emerging and long-term opportunities, it integrates the Company Democracy Model with McKinsey's Three Horizons, serving as a framework for establishing entrepreneurship through organised stages and conditions. This combination results in a multidimensional strategy where the vertical axis captures organizational maturity in democratizing innovation while the horizontal axis reflects business strength. Hence, the study contributes significantly by providing such a holistic framework that coordinates cultural democratization with strategic foresight, empowering organizations to promote corporate entrepreneurship (Markopoulos, Aggarwal, & Vanharanta, 2020).

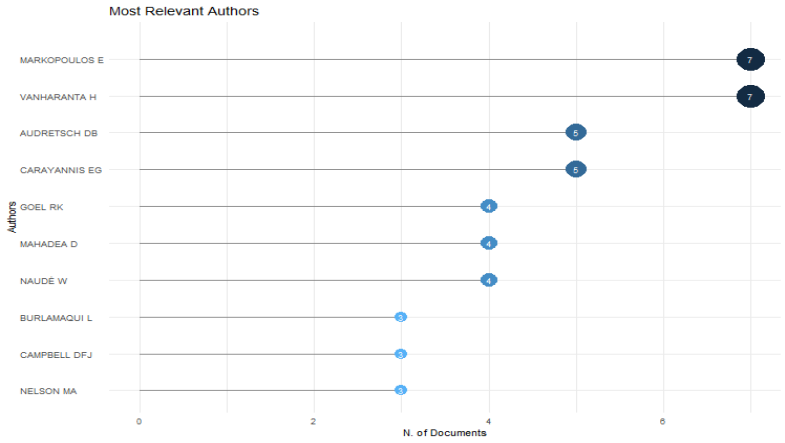



**Figure 9: Most Relevant Authors**

## Documents

Figure 10 illustrates trend topics analysis. This analysis shows a clear intellectual evolution, moving from initial concerns about post-communism, political systems, and health care policy from the 1980s to the 1990s, then shifting to education, democratization, civil society, and economic growth in the 2000s. Since 2010, the literature has increasingly focused on the terms entrepreneurship, innovation, democracy, sustainable development, *and* political entrepreneurship. Overall, the trend topics analysis reflects a transition from political-economic restructuring toward innovation-driven and sustainability-oriented development, emphasising the field's alignment with current global challenges and policy priorities.

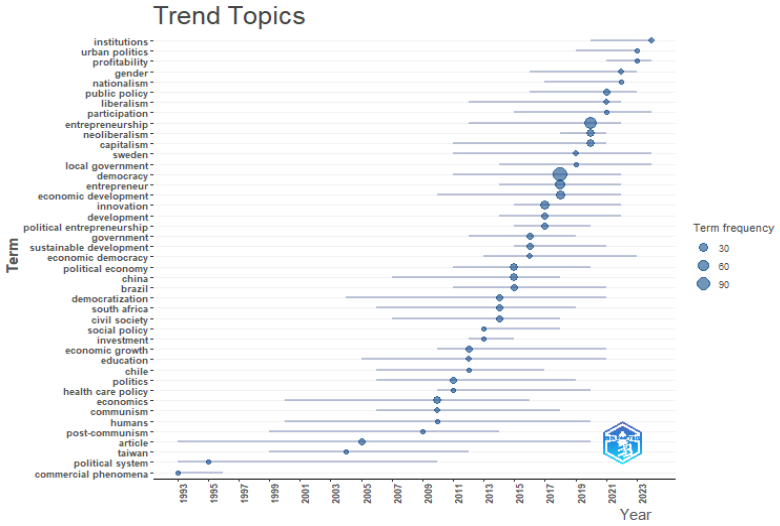



**Figure 10: Trend Topics**

### Conceptual Structure

Figure 11 highlights the keyword co-occurrence network, divided into six clusters. Node size in each cluster reflects term frequency, and line thickness highlights the strength of co-occurrence in the literature.

In the figure, Democracy appears as the most central and dominant node, underscoring its pivotal role in the field's structure. The term is closely associated with keywords such as innovation, sustainable development, economic growth, and education, highlighting that, beyond political setup, democracy also catalyses entrepreneurial output. The term is grouped into different colour-coded clusters, further elaborating the discourse's intellectual sub-communities and subject diversity.

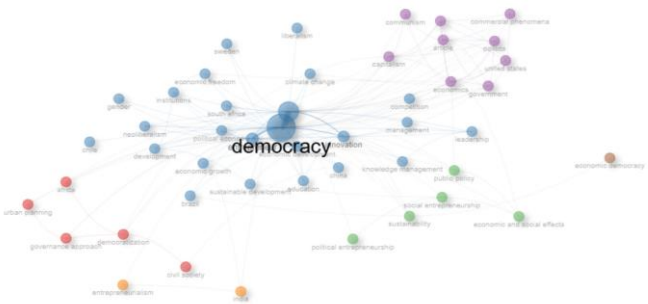



**Figure 11: Keyword Co-occurrences**




**Figure 12: Keyword Word Cloud**

Figure 12 highlights the keyword word cloud. It depicts that entrepreneurship and democracy constitute the central focus of the selected articles. Other prominent keywords include innovation, neoliberalism, economic development, institutions, and economic freedom, which reflect the multidisciplinary nature of this research domain. Terms such as political economy, governance, gender, leadership, and social entrepreneurship highlight the intersection of entrepreneurship and the political system. Consequently, the keyword distribution shows that existing literature explores entrepreneurship not only as an economic activity but also in relation to democracy, innovation, and economic development.

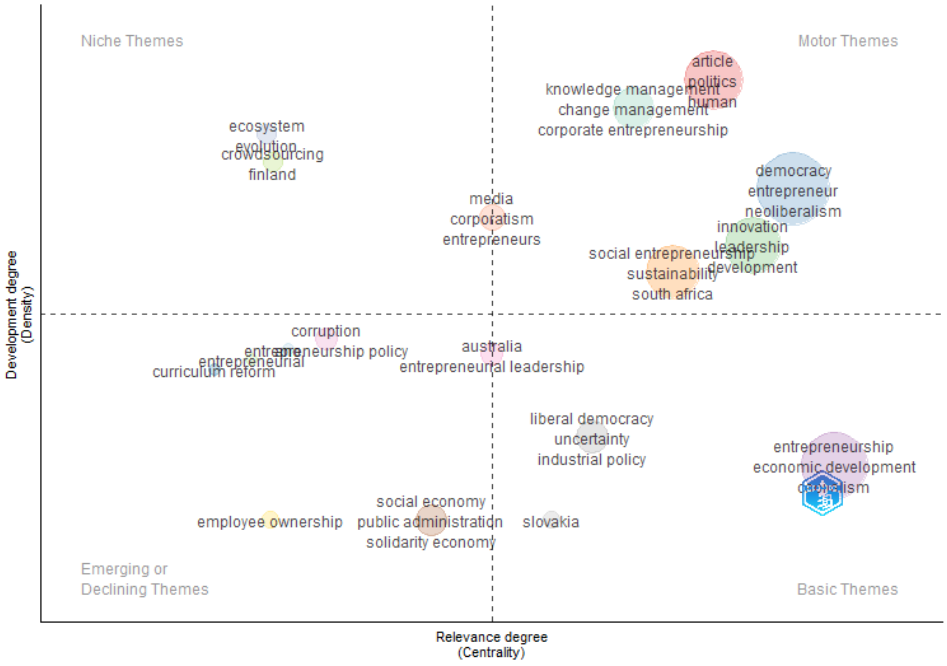



**Figure 13:Thematic Map**

Figure 13 highlights the thematic map, which helps visualise the strategic position of themes in research on the nexus between democracy and entrepreneurship. The horizontal axis depicts a theme's importance in connecting with others, while the vertical axis depicts its maturity and extent to development. In this paper, we divided the thematic map's density and centrality into four quadrants. An automated system produced these findings by examining the titles of all references to the research object and adding relevant keywords beyond the author's keywords, allowing the results to reflect deeper variance.

The upper-right quadrant highlights themes that are well developed, highly dense, and highly central. This quadrant shows the driving forces of current research that shape the field's intellectual core. It indicates that the association between democracy, entrepreneurship and governance is a central and evolving research domain. The upper-left quadrant is well developed but less central. It highlights context-specific areas of research. In this quadrant, ecosystem and crowdsourcing are associated with the

entrepreneurial and innovation ecosystem. These themes are central to be researched further. The lower-left quadrant indicates emerging or declining themes, as themes show low density and low centrality, meaning that the themes in the lower-left quadrant are either new and not yet developed. The lower-right quadrant includes basic themes such as entrepreneurship, economic development, liberal democracy, uncertainty, industrial policy, Slovakia, corporatism, media, and entrepreneurs. The themes in this quadrant are fundamental building blocks of the field but remain conceptually underdeveloped.

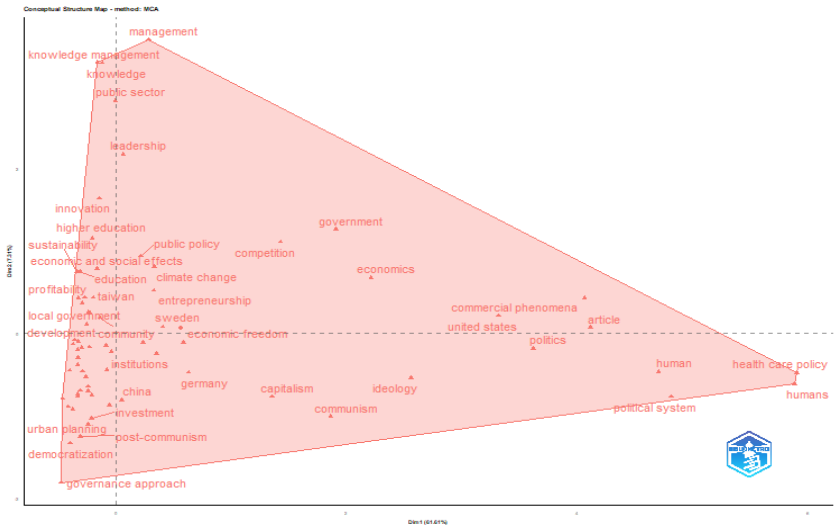



**Figure 14: Conceptual Structure Map**

The above Figure 14 highlights the conceptual structure map generated through correspondence analysis. This map shows the field's intellectual organization and the literature's thematic diversity. The red polygon represents a convex hull. The spatial distribution of keywords within this polygon indicates the domain's multidimensional nature and includes concepts such as management, economics, political science, and public policy. The upper-left cluster highlights an institutional and managerial viewpoint, focusing on management, leadership, and governance. Closely related, the lower-left section highlights the importance of institutions, local government, and community development by depicting topics such as governance, democracy, sustainability, and urban planning. The thematic map identifies that broader research discourse is structured around a central intellectual hub based on the intersection of government, economics, entrepreneurship and economic freedom. Several specialized themes originate around this core. On the right side of the polygon, research connecting healthcare policy, political systems, and human outcomes reflects the literature's applied, policy-oriented dimension. Meanwhile, the lower central region encompasses themes related to capitalism, communism, post-communism, and ideology, accentuating the influence of political economy and institutional structures on scholarly discussions.

The broad thematic distribution indicates a multidisciplinary research domain that enhances intellectual diversity and analytical richness. This configuration highlights the literature's strong interdisciplinary nature and underscores the importance of economics, governance, and entrepreneurship as main thematic pillars. Meanwhile, new developments in health care policy and political ideology suggest further research avenues.

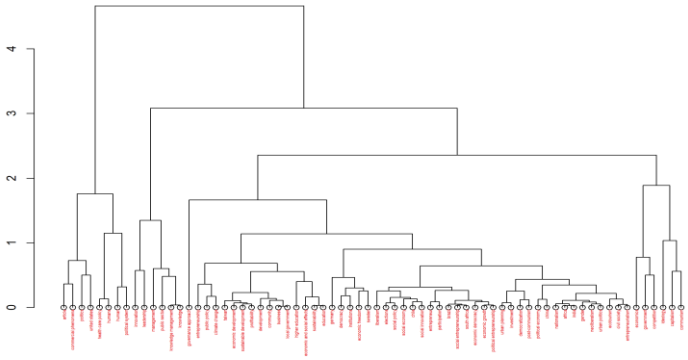



**Figure 15: Topic Dendrogram**

The hierarchical cluster dendrogram in Figure 15 visually presents the literature's core concepts as distinct thematic structures based on keyword co-occurrence. Individual keywords are highlighted by nodes at the bottom. Keywords with strong thematic association join at lower levels of the dendrogram, indicating closely related study niches, while clusters that combine at higher levels depict broader theme domains spanning several sub-topics. Entrepreneurship, entrepreneur, innovation, and social entrepreneurship form a coherent group, reflecting a strong intellectual focus on entrepreneurial activity and its social and innovative dimensions. Similarly, democracy, democratization, political system, political entrepreneurship, and governance approach cluster together, demonstrating a vibrant stream of research exploring the institutional and governance aspects of democratic development. This hierarchical arrangement reveals not only the micro-level associations within specialized niches but also the macro-level connections that tie together the larger intellectual landscape of the field. Overall, the figure shows the literature's layered thematic organisation, highlighting how specific research domains evolve into broader conceptual domains. This diagram facilitates understanding by providing valuable insights into the intellectual foundations and interconnections of the field

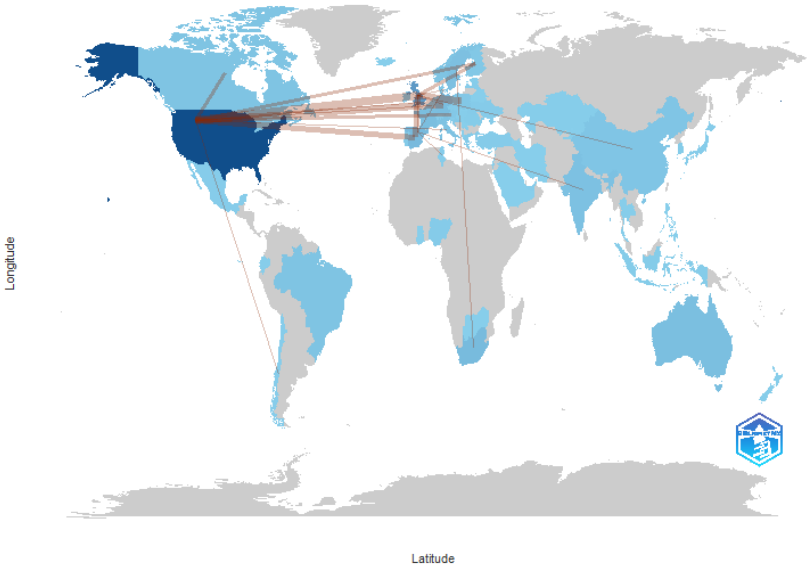



**Figure 16: Global Collaboration Map**

The figure visually demonstrates the globalization of research collaboration and depicts that knowledge production is shared through cross-border partnerships and is no longer isolated. In the given figure, the United States and Europe are the dominant contributors in the literature, shaping research directions and also contributing to capacity building in other regions. The map also shows collaboration links with developing regions such as Africa and South Asia, reflecting knowledge transfer and inclusivity. This map also helps researchers identify active potential research partnerships and supports to strategic development of future collaborations.

## Discussion

Based on articles in the Scopus database, this paper examined the development of scientific research on the nexus between entrepreneurship and democracy from 1980 to 2025. The analysis shows a growing trend in research on the nexus between ET and DC from 2000 to date. This trend highlights growing scholarly interest in the interaction between entrepreneurial activity and democratisation and governance. It demonstrates global recognition of this nexus.

USA is the top contributor with 70 publications, followed by the UK with 36 publications. Markopolous E and Vanharanta H are the most relevant authors in this field, each contributing 7 publications. The highest number of publications is in Advances in Intelligent Systems and Computing, Entrepreneurship: Theory and Practice and Journal of Evolutionary. "Given the growing relevance of the nexus between ET and DC, further research is necessary. This article adds meaningful insights to the existing body of literature in this area. The authors also established a co-occurrence network and divided it into six clusters. The major theme in the co-occurrence network centred on democracy. It reflects a governance- and development-oriented viewpoint, emphasising democracy's influence on institutional strength, transparency, and global debates on climate change and sustainability. The second revolves around innovation, sustainability, and economic growth, emphasizing the role of entrepreneurial education in fostering human capital and long-term development. The thematic structure highlights that while the field has matured in some respects, it continues to diversify into new interdisciplinary directions.

Analysis of highly recognised journals and sources shows that publications are concentrated in the Journal of Evolutionary Economics. It serves as an intellectual hub, propagating both conceptual and academic perspectives. However, publication in a limited set of journals also points to the need for broader interdisciplinary dissemination to capture the multifaceted nature of entrepreneurship–democracy research.

Patterns of country and institutional collaboration show that the United States, China, and European countries dominate knowledge production. Strong academic infrastructure and a focus on entrepreneurial education in policy position these nations well. However, the relatively limited research contributions from South America and Africa point to regional imbalance in knowledge generation. Establishing global collaboration networks could broaden perspectives by incorporating diverse socio-political contexts where entrepreneurship is deeply intertwined with institutional development.

Taken together, the analysis shows that the field continues to evolve despite significant progress. First, the field calls for broader regional representation, as existing research is dominated by the United States and Europe, with relatively limited contributions from Africa, South America, and South Asia. By examining these underrepresented contexts, we can gain valuable insights into how varying political and institutional environments shape the entrepreneurship–democracy relationship. Second, the growing influence of artificial intelligence and digital transformation encourages research into how technological advancement affects democratic engagement and entrepreneurial ecosystems.

In order to develop more solid theoretical frameworks, future research should also incorporate multidisciplinary viewpoints and draw from political science, economics, sociology, and management studies. Furthermore, research should go beyond descriptive mapping to capture the practical impacts of entrepreneurship on democratic outcomes, including inclusive development, institutional trust, and civic participation. Lastly, greater attention to information flow and collaboration networks can help reveal how international research collaborations shape the discourse and expand understanding of this nexus. By addressing these domains, future research can deepen theoretical debates while offering practical insights into how entrepreneurship and democracy interact in diverse contexts.

## Conclusion

This bibliometric analysis aimed to map the growth of research on the nexus between entrepreneurship and democracy from 1980 to 2025. The bibliometric analysis of 594 documents emphasised the growing scholarly attention to this subject, reflecting the rising recognition of democracy as a driver of entrepreneurial activity. Prominent contributors, including scholars such as Markopoulos E and Vanharanta H, have played a significant role in shaping the field during this period.

The findings from this bibliometric analysis demonstrate that the entrepreneurship–democracy nexus remains a vibrant and evolving research domain with significant unexplored potential. While significant progress has been made in outlining its main features, further research is needed to understand how democratic values such as civic engagement, institutional trust, and inclusive governance shape entrepreneurship. At the same time, cross-national comparisons are crucial to uncover how entrepreneurship interacts with diverse political systems, from established democracies to hybrid and authoritarian regimes. Accordingly, a consensus on conceptual frameworks and methodological approaches is needed to deepen our understanding of the mechanisms linking entrepreneurship and democracy.

Eventually, this study contributes by clarifying the intellectual structure and developmental trajectory of the nexus between entrepreneurship and democracy while highlighting gaps that remain open for future research. By advancing knowledge, scholars can enrich research on both entrepreneurship and democracy, providing insights that are not only academically significant but also socially and politically relevant in shaping more resilient and participatory societies.

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