

## Tracing the Footprints of Quality of Life and Tourism Research in the Scholarly Literature: A Bibliometric Analysis

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### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this investigation is to examine the current literature on the connection between tourism and quality of life in the Web of Science database. A total of 154 relevant studies were analyzed using predetermined criteria to identify primary areas for assessment and evaluation. The scientific articles were subsequently scrutinized via the VOSviewer software on 20 October 2023 to determine key parameters for analysis and interpretation. The research has revealed that in 2019, the highest number of studies on tourism and quality of life were conducted, with the most cited study being from 2022. Most of the studies on this topic comprise of articles in English publications, with frequently used keywords including “quality of life”, “tourism” and “tourism development”. Based on the findings, the following results were obtained. The highest number of publications and cooperation related to quality of life and tourism are contributed by the United States of America and the People’s Republic of China. “Tourism Management” journal has been the foremost contributor to the literature concerning quality of life and tourism. In this investigation, a neutral evaluation of worldwide research on tourism and its effects on quality of life was carried out. In this context, the research offers a thorough evaluation of quality of life and tourism, outlining opportunities for further investigation.

### KEYWORDS

Quality of Life, Bibliometric Analysis, VOSviewer.

### ARTICLE HISTORY

Received 20 November 2023 Accepted 16 March 2024

## 1. Introduction

The economic significance of tourism and its numerous international applications have sparked heightened academic interest and subsequently led to increased diversity in the field of tourism studies. Literature reviews demonstrate that researchers tend to analyze tourism from a multidimensional perspective. In this context, the objective of the bibliography is to enhance the potential for development in tourism research, particularly in the social sciences, by compiling tourism studies based on various parameters (Jafari, 1979). Additionally, evaluating the publications and citation data quantitatively to disclose the recent developments in related fields is a common practice utilized by numerous organizations in several countries (Özel & Kozak, 2012, p. 716).

The utilization of quantitative analysis techniques in the tourism industry is progressively increasing, particularly via bibliometric analysis. This method furnishes bibliometric data on scientific communication by means of comprehensive examination and analysis of written sources pertaining to tourism with specific parameters. In the field of tourism, a significant amount of knowledge is being accumulated over time through interdisciplinary research. Bibliometric studies have proven to be particularly helpful in enhancing researchers' perspectives and contributing to the overall advancement of the discipline. The subject of quality of life (QOL), on the other hand, is a topic that is examined from a variety of different angles across various fields of study. On the other hand, the increasing research into the concept of life quality in tourism from different perspectives continuously brings future research possibilities on the topic into discussion. Thus, topical distributions of the subject in the literature could be revealed and possible research directions could be mapped out for future researchers by conducting a bibliometric study on the quality of life and tourism. Therefore, this study aims to analyze the scientific research on quality of life and tourism using bibliometric data sourced from the Web of Science (WoS) between 1991 and 2023. The date ranges for studies on quality of life and tourism was determined based on the earliest and most recent publications on the topic.

As human life expectancy rises, individuals are exploring diverse strategies to enhance their lives, increase fulfilment, and achieve greater quality, rather than simply extending their lifespan. Quality of life has been a perennial concern throughout history and has garnered significant attention in a range of fields, including economic, cultural, political, social, and psychological aspects as it encompasses all facets of life. Quality of life and tourism are comprehensive concepts that can be evaluated from various perspectives. Recent scientific studies have examined the relationship between quality of life and tourism, typically from the viewpoint of both residents and tourists. Quality of life and tourism are comprehensive concepts that can be evaluated from various perspectives. Recent scientific studies have examined the relationship between quality of life and tourism, typically from the viewpoint of both residents and tourists. Recent scientific studies have examined the relationship between quality of life and tourism, typically from the viewpoint of both local residents (Perdue, Long, & Kang, 1999; Kim, 2002; Andereck, Valentine, Vogt & Knopf, 2007; Andereck & Nyaupane, 2011; Aref, 2011; Khizindar, 2012; Kim, Uysal, & Sirgy, 2013; Michalkó, Bakucz, & Rátz, 2013; Woo, Kim, & Uysal, 2015; Woo, Uysal, & Sirgy, 2018; Biagi, Ladu, Meleddu, & Royuela, 2019; Bandoi, Jianu, Enescu, Axinte, Sorin, & Firoiu, 2020; Nopiyani & Wiraman, 2021; Wang, Berbekova, & Uysal, 2022) and tourists (Kelly, 1978; Jeffres & Dobos, 1993; Kousha & Mohseni, 1997; Gilbert & Abdullah, 2004; Neal, Sirgy, & Uysal, 2007; McCabe, Joldersma, & Li, 2010; McCabe & Johnson, 2013; Woo et al., 2015; Eusébio, Carneiro, & Caldeira, 2016; Uysal, Sirgy, Woo, & Kim, 2016; Luo, Lanlung, Kim, Tang, & Song, 2018; Campon-Cerro, Di-Clemente, Hernandez-Mogollon, & Folgado-Fernandez, 2020; Kim, Sirgy, Uysal, & Kim, 2021; Huang, Chen, & Ramos, 2023). Previous researches have explored the quality of life from the viewpoints of both tourists and locals. These have involved examining competitiveness, wellness tourism philosophy, quality, sustainability, well-being, digitalization, motivation, destination marketing and management, loyalty and customer satisfaction and the psychology of both tourist and local stakeholders. There is a need to establish a more comprehensive research agenda for scholars specializing in quality of life and tourism studies. To this end, this study is a crucial milestone in determining past and present research profiles, providing guidance for future studies, and contributing to discipline enrichment.

## 2. Literature Review

The concept of quality of life profoundly impacts our daily lives, yet its evolution remains subject to changes in living conditions. Historical studies aimed at measuring the quality of life sought to uncover various social life indicators (Biderman, 1974; Parke & Sheldon, 1974). Veenhoven (2005) contends that we can measure quality of life by assessing the duration and intensity of an individual's happiness. Argyle and Lu (1990) assert that quality of life can be assessed based on measures of well-being, life satisfaction, happiness, and health (2015, p. 86).

Quality of life encompasses the overall well-being of individuals in a society evaluated using both objective and subjective measures. It includes emotional happiness, psychological stress reduction, physical health, and social connections with family and friends, in addition to objective evaluations of education and income levels (Luo et al., 2018). According to the World Health Organization, quality of life is the "perception of one's position in life in the context of the culture and value systems in which they live, and in relation to their goals, standards, and concerns" (World Health Organization, 2023). Michalkó et al. (2013, p. 156) define quality of life as a result of objective factors that shape human existence, and it is also subjectively reflected upon. Therefore, various disciplines address the concept of quality of life, each emphasizing different aspects and offering unique definitions. According to Marans (2012), what these definitions share is that quality of life is a multidimensional approach shaped by both objective variables of a person's life and the subjective variables affected by how these variables are perceived.

According to Keleş & Akmeşe (2022, p. 112), quality of life can be evaluated based on subjective and objective aspects. The subjective dimension involves evaluating certain elements as perceived by individuals, such as their level of happiness, perception of safety, family relationships, social solidarity criteria, and involvement in hobbies and clubs (Petrosillo, Costanza, Aretano, Zaccarelli, & Zurlini, 2013). On the other hand, quality of life should be assessed objectively using criteria such as life expectancy, access to health-care, crime rates, poverty levels, literacy rates, and gross national product. (Matatolu, 2019, p. 133). To objectively evaluate societal quality of life, consider factors such as individual income levels, availability of nearby parks for leisure, entertainment options, and environmental welfare in residential areas (Uysal et al., 2016). Essentially, QOL includes objectively measured factors, such as income, education, occupation, health, and housing status, as well as subjective responses, including an individual's level of satisfaction with these conditions.

Tourism, which affects the quality of life of individuals in a multidimensional way (Andereck & Nyau-pane, 2011), was evaluated based on the social, economic, and environmental factors it creates, but today it is seen as a determining factor to improve the quality of life of individuals. In this context, a significant correlation exists between the favourable or unfavourable effects of the tourism industry and the well-being of individuals who participate in creating or using tourism products and services (Uysal et al., 2016, p. 244). In tourism literature, two main perspectives delve into the perceived value of quality of life: the value evaluated by tourists during their travel experiences and the value appraised by local communities because of tourism development and changes in the destination. In this study, the aim is to collect necessary data for effective planning, marketing, and management of current and future tourism strategies by examining the quality-of-life levels for both tourists and residents (Woo et al., 2015, p. 86).

## 3. Method

Bibliometric analysis was used in this study, which aims to examine publications on tourism and quality of life. Bibliometric analysis is based on the process of analyzing the documents or publications obtained according to certain characteristics and revealing the findings (Ardıç Yetiş & Çokal, 2018). In this context, it enables the examination of studies specific to certain fields according to certain parameters and the presentation of findings according to these parameters (Temizkan, Çiçek, & Özdemir, 2015). Keywords, number of authors, number of publications, and number of citations are some of these findings. Bibliometric analysis, which is also described as text mining, generally provides the reader with information about the relevant field or a specific topic. As a matter of fact, Alan Pritchard defined bibliometrics as "the application of mathematical and statistical methods to books, articles, papers and other communication

media" (Pritchard, 1969, p. 349). Similarly, Diodato (2012, p. 8-9) defined bibliometrics as "a quantitative method preferred for mathematical and statistical analysis of all scientific publications published in print or electronic media."

Within the scope of the study, it is aimed to examine international publications that address tourism and quality of life issues together. Therefore, the study encompasses two variables: "tourism" and "quality of life." However, since the focus of the study is on studies that address tourism and quality of life together, the two variables were analyzed from a holistic perspective. In this context, publications on tourism and quality of life between 1975 and 2023 were analyzed in the Web of Science (WoS) database according to certain parameters required for bibliometric analysis. Since a selection could not be made for the years before 1975 and after 2023 in the relevant database, the years selected for the scan date were selected as allowed by the database. In this context, publications on tourism and quality of life between 1991 and 2023 were analyzed in the Web of Science (WoS) database according to certain parameters required for bibliometric analysis. The reason for choosing this period is that the first publication on tourism and quality of life was published in 1991. As a result of the analysis and examinations, the changes and development of the relevant field until today have been determined and answers to the following questions have been sought with this study:

- What is the distribution of international publications on tourism and quality of life by year?
- Who are the authors/writers who have published the most on tourism and quality of life?
- Which institutions and organizations publish the most on tourism and quality of life?
- Which journal(s) or publisher(s) have the most publications on tourism and quality of life?
- Who is the most cited author (s) on tourism and quality of life?
- What are the most preferred keywords for tourism and quality of life?

To identify international publications related to tourism and quality of life, the Web of Science database was searched on October 20, 2023. The main reason for using the Web of Science as a database is that it contains many publications accepted worldwide and published in the field of social sciences (Jasco, 2005). Furthermore, the inclusion of globally accepted major indices such as "Science Citation Index (SCI), Social Science Citation Index (SSCI), Arts and Humanities Citation Index (A&HCI), Conference Proceedings Citation Index- Science (CPCI-S), Conference Proceedings Citation Index- Social Science & Humanities (CPCI-SSH), Book Citation Index- Science (BKCI-S), Book Citation Index- Social Sciences & Humanities (BKCI-SSH), and Emerging Sources Citation Index (ESCI)" underscores the significance of this database (Goodman & Deis, 2005; Vieira & Gomes, 2009; Liu, Zhan, Hong, Niu, & Liu, 2013).

Studies that encompass both tourism and quality of life were searched in the Web of Science database using the "title" criterion in the document search section. The search was conducted using the keywords "tourism" and "quality of life." No specific limitations were imposed during the search, aiming to access all publications related to the topic available in the database. In this context, a total of 154 scholarly publications were retrieved, and these publications were tabulated based on parameters such as publication language, publication year, publication type, countries of publication, institutions, fields of publication, sources of publication, and citation counts. In addition, since the database is updated every day and new publications are added to the database every day in this context, searching using the same keywords in a different time period may lead to different results. Therefore, even if the same data collection technique is used, it is possible to obtain different data (Liu et al., 2013).

Findings from international publications related to tourism and quality of life have been visualized using graphical network maps. In this regard, the free and open-access software program, "VOSviewer", has been selected. VOSviewer is known as a "visual and scientific mapping tool primarily designed for the analysis of bibliometric networks" (Van Eck & Waltman, 2017, p. 1054). The bibliographic data necessary for the program's use was obtained from the Web of Science database and loaded into VOSviewer. As a result, international publications related to tourism and quality of life have been analyzed using the "Co-authorship, Co-occurrence, and Citation" sections in VOSviewer. Thus, the most preferred keywords, the most collaborating authors, the countries where the most publications were produced, the most cited authors and sources were revealed. Consequently, international studies on tourism and quality of life have been comprehensively examined from various perspectives. Nevertheless, the study has some

limitations. The most important of these limitations is that the research was conducted in only one international database. In addition, scientific publications up to the date of the scan were included in the scope of the study. Therefore, the studies that entered the database after that relevant date could not be examined within the scope of the study. In this context, it is possible that the results of the current study may differ from the results of the scan to be conducted on a different date. Furthermore, another limitation of the study is that the 154 studies on tourism and quality of life were searched in the Web of Science database based solely on the *title* criterion.

## 4. Findings

Within the scope of the study, scientific publications dealing with tourism and quality of life together were scanned in the Web of Science database, subjected to bibliometric analysis and visualized VOSviewer software program was used to visualize the analysis results. This software program uses elements such as rings, lines, colours, clusters, and links to visualize the data. These elements enable the interpretation of the resulting visuals. As can be seen in the figures below, each ring in the visuals represents an element. The number of repetitions of the elements is directly proportional to the size of the rings. In this context, it can be said that the largest ring represents the most repeated item. In addition, items with the same colour group together to form clusters. The common feature of the clusters is that they contain items that are related to each other. Furthermore, there are also lines that show the connection of each ring with the other. The thickness or thinness of these lines indicates the strength of the connection. Therefore, it can be said that thick lines represent strong connections and thin lines represent weak connections (Van Eck & Waltman, 2019).

First of all, the outputs obtained from the Web of Science database are included in the study. Some of these outputs are presented in various formats, including tables and figures. Subsequently, the visual elements provided by the VOSviewer software program are included in this part of the study within the scope of figures. The first output obtained for tourism and quality of life encompasses the distribution of scientific publications by year up to the date of the search, as depicted in Table 1.

**Table 1. Distribution of Scientific Publications by Year**

Year	Number of Publications	Year	Number of Publications
2023	9	2012	3
2022	15	2011	7
2021	13	2010	3
2020	13	2009	3
2019	23	2008	2
2018	13	2004	1
2017	8	1999	2
2016	16	1995	1
2015	7	1992	1
2014	6	1991	2
2013	6	-	-
Total Number of Publications: 154			

Source: Own Elaboration

When examining the distribution of international scientific publications dealing with tourism and quality of life together is analyzed according to years, it is seen that the first research was conducted in 1991 (Table 1). It is seen that the number of research studies on the subject varies over different periods, with some periods witnessing an increase in research output and others experiencing a decrease. However,

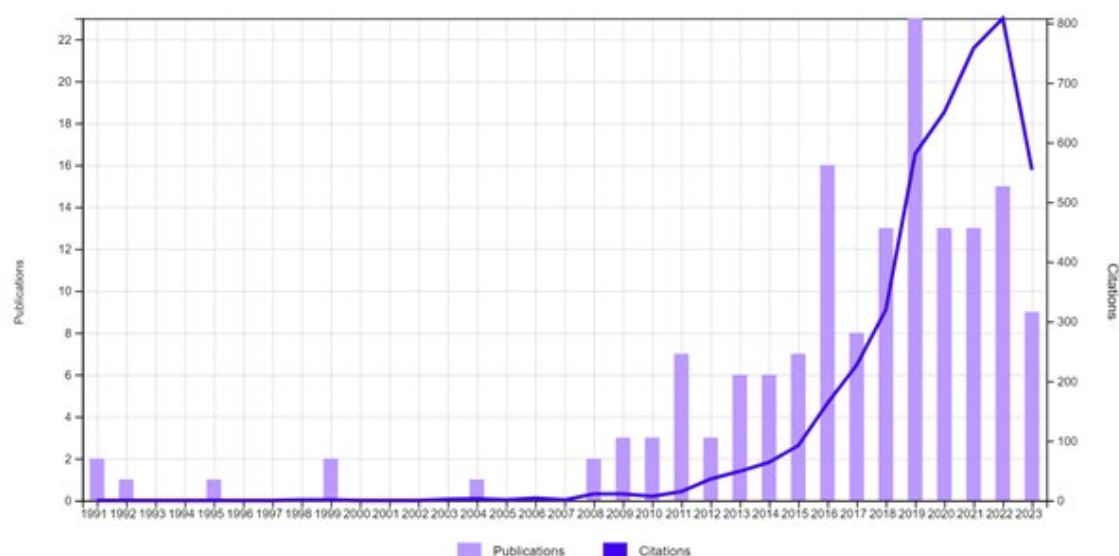
as can be seen in Table 1, 2019 was the year with the highest number of research studies on the topic. Additionally, Table 1 also indicates that no international scientific publications on tourism and quality of life were found in the Web of Science database before 1991.

**Table 2. Most Cited Publications**

Title of the Publication	Author	Source	Year of Publication	Number of Citation
Exploring the Nature of Tourism and Quality of Life Perceptions among Residents	Andereck, KL and Nyaupane, GP	Journal of Travel Research	2011	495
How does tourism in a community impact the quality of life of community residents?	Kim, K; Uysal, M and Sirgy, MJ	Tourism Management	2013	475
Quality of life (QOL) and well-being research in tourism	Uysal, M; Sirgy, MJ; Woo, E and Kim, H	Tourism Management	2016	455
Tourism experience and quality of life among elderly tourists	Kim, H; Woo, E and Uysal, M	Tourism Management	2015	232
Boomtown tourism and resident quality of life: The marketing of gaming to host community residents	Perdue, RR; Long, PT and Kang, YS	Journal of Business Research	1999	161
Impact of responsible tourism on destination sustainability and quality of life of community in tourism destinations	Mathew, PV and Sreejesh, S	Journal of Hospitality and Tourism Management	2017	143
Perceived social impacts of tourism and quality-of-life: a new conceptual model	Ramkissoon, H	Journal of Sustainable Tourism	2023	122
Residents' quality of life and attitudes toward tourism development in China	Liang, ZX and Hui, TK	Tourism Management	2016	121
Understanding the Benefits of Social Tourism: Linking Participation to Subjective Well-being and Quality of Life	McCabe, S; Joldersma, T and Li, CX	International Journal of Tourism Research	2010	120
Tourism and quality of life: Towards a more critical approach	Moscardo, G	Tourism and Hospitality Research	2009	103
Total Number of Citations: 4367				
Total Number of Citations (Without self-citations): 3820				

Source: Own Elaboration

The top ten most cited publications that address the concepts of tourism and quality of life under the same title are presented in Table 2. In this context, the article titled “Exploring the Nature of Tourism and Quality of Life Perceptions among Residents”, written by Andereck & Nyaupane in 2011 and published in the Journal of Travel Research has been the most cited article so far. This article is followed by “How does tourism impact the quality of life of community residents?” by Kim et al. (2013) with 475 citations. In addition, it is noteworthy that although the number of studies on tourism and quality of life is relatively low in terms of quantity, the total number of citations on this topic is 4367.

**Figure 1. Number of Publications and Citations by Year**

Source: Web of Science Database

Figure 1 displays the number of publications and citations associated with tourism and quality of life between 1991 and 2023. The graph demonstrates that the initial study concerning this topic was carried out in 1991, with the first citation appearing in 1999. The maximum number of publications was observed in 2019, while 2022 displayed the most significant number of citations, totalling 808 citations attributed to related works in that year, according to both the graph and Table 1. Moreover, it can be deduced from the graph that citation figures pertaining to the topic have consistently increased since 2010.

**Table 3. Types and Languages of Related Publications**

Publication Type	Number of Publications	Publication Language	Number of Publications
Article	122	English	149
Book Chapter	21	Hungarian	1
Proceeding Paper	20	Malay	1
Early Access	6	Polish	1
Editorial Material	6	Portuguese	1
Book	2	Spanish	1
Book Review	2	Polish	1
Review Article	2	-	-

Source: Own Elaboration

According to Table 3, which outlines the publication types within the relevant topic area, the article type has the highest number of publications, followed by book chapters and proceedings. It is worth mentioning that the total number of publications under each type exceeds the total number of existing studies. It is possible that this situation is due to researchers publishing their studies in multiple types of publications. Table 3 includes the languages in which the subject publications were published, revealing that English had the highest number of publications.



**Table 4. Publishers of the Related Publications**

<b>Publisher</b>	<b>Number of Publications</b>
Taylor & Francis	26
Springer Nature	19
Elsevier	18
Sage	15
Mdpi	23
Emerald Group Publishing	11
Varna Univ Management-Vum	6
Cabi Publishing-C A B Int	6
Wiley	5
Cognizant Communication Corp	4

Source: Own Elaboration

Table 4 presents the publishing houses that have published studies on tourism and quality of life. It is noted that *Taylor & Francis*, a publishing house that features academic publications globally, holds the top position with 26 scientific publications under the relevant criterion. It is followed by *Springer Nature* (19 publications) and *Elsevier* (18 publications). All three publishing houses host reputable journals and books within the field of tourism science. Furthermore, these publishing houses contain globally recognized indexed journals, which are deemed to be crucial in the field of social sciences.

**Table 5. Countries with the Most Publications**

<b>Countries</b>	<b>Number of Publications</b>
United States of America	45
Peoples Republic of China	17
Spain	15
Australia	11
Portugal	10
Shout Korea	10
Malaysia	7
South Africa	6
England	5
Taiwan	5

Source: Own Elaboration

Table 5 presents the top 10 countries with the most publications among the 53 nations that publish materials on tourism and quality of life. The country with the most publications is the United States of America with 45 scientific papers, followed by the People's Republic of China with 17 publications, Spain with 15 publications, and Australia with 11 publications.

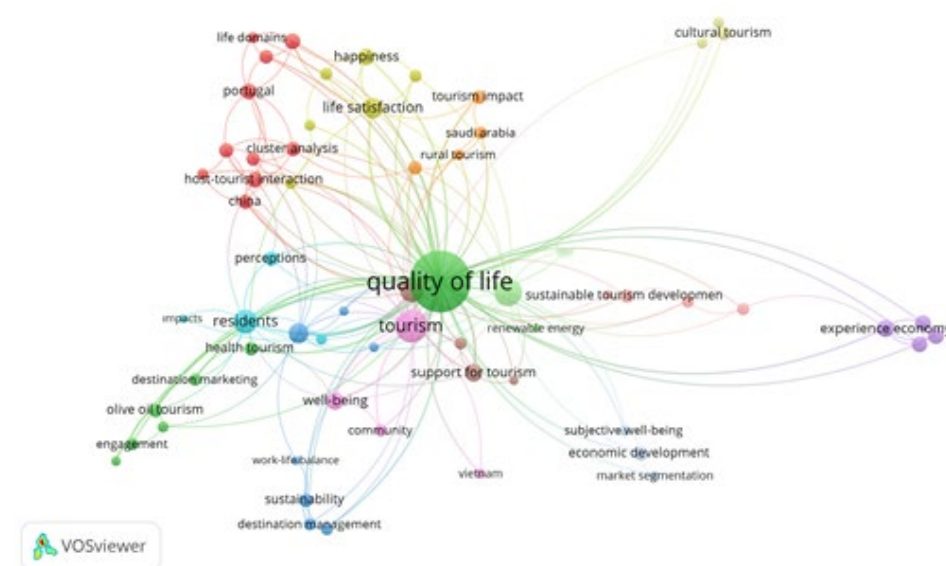


**Table 6. Institutions with the Most Publications**

Institutions	Country	Number of Publications
Virginia Polytechnic Institute State University	United States of America	10
Indiana University System	United States of America	8
State University System of Florida	United States of America	7
Universidad de Extremadura	Spain	6
University of Central Florida	United States of America	6
University of Massachusetts Amherst	United States of America	6
University of Massachusetts System	United States of America	6
Indiana University Bloomington	United States of America	5
Universidade de Aveiro	Portugal	5
University of Johannesburg	South Africa	5

Source: Own Elaboration

Table 6 displays the highest number of publications on tourism and quality of life by institutions. Virginia Polytechnic Institute State University ranks first with ten publications, followed by Indiana University System (8 publications), State University System of Florida (7 publications), Universidad De Extremadura (6 publications) and University of Central Florida (6 publications). It is supported by the fact that most of these institutions are in the United States of America that the country has the highest number of publications. Moreover, more than 200 institutions have published on the relevant subject according to the information retrieved from the Web of Science database.

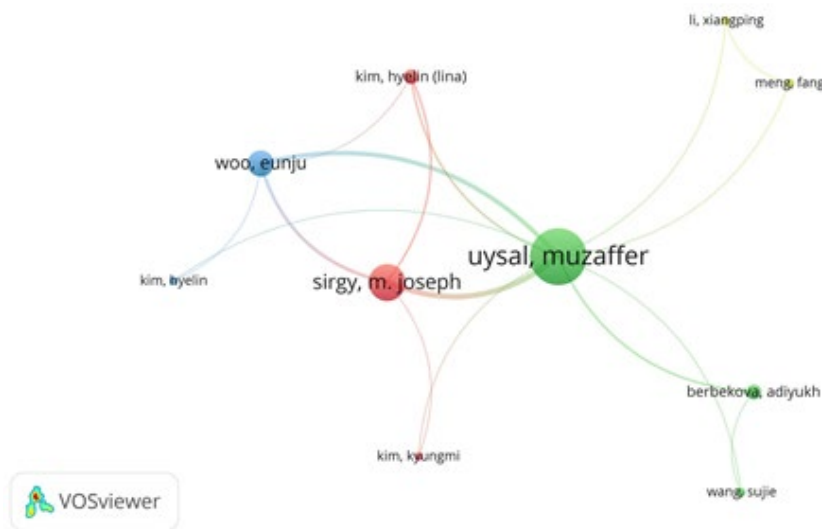
**Figure 2. Keywords Network**

Source: Output from the VOSviewer program

Figure 2 displays the visual network of the most used keywords in studies exploring the intersection of tourism and quality of life. According to data acquired from the VOSviewer software, a total of 443 keywords were identified in the analyzed studies. The program established a threshold value of at least two appearances by other authors, producing a selection of 63 words which are displayed in Figure 2. The authors' preferred keywords suggest that *quality of life* within the largest green ring at the center of the figure is of utmost importance. Subsequently, *tourism*, *tourism development*, *tourism impacts*, and *residents*

were the most frequently used keywords. It can be concluded that studies that investigate the correlation between tourism and quality of life are largely focused on tourism development, residents' lives, and tourism impacts.

**Figure 3. Most Collaborating Authors Network**



Source: Output from the VOSviewer program

Figure 3 shows the authors with the highest number of collaborations on tourism and quality of life. According to the program's outputs indicate that there are 384 studies on this topic. However, setting the minimum number of documents and citations to 1 result in 285 authors meeting the threshold value. In this context, it is seen that the most collaborative authors form 4 clusters. *Uysal, Muzaffer*, *Sirgy, M. Joseph*, and *Woo, Eunju* were identified as the authors who conducted the most studies within the pertinent subject and had the most connections with other authors, as shown in the largest green, red, and blue rings in Figure 3. Additionally, *Li Xiangping* and *Meng Fang*, who form the fourth cluster and are in the two yellow rings, have an equal number of documents and links.

**Table 7. Authors' Impact Factors**

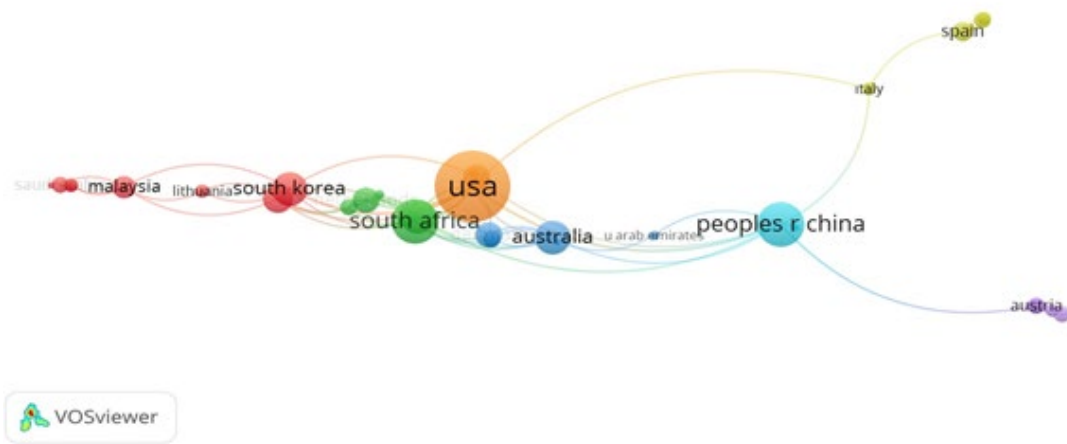
Rank	Author	h_index	Sum of Times Cited
1	M. Joseph Sirgy	49	11276
2	Muzaffer Uysal	37	7233
3	Eunju Woo	16	2289
4	Kim Hyelin (Lina)	19	2426
5	Kim Hyelin	-	-
6	Kim Kyungmi	3	176
7	Li Xiangping	12	592
8	Wang Suije	-	-
9	Adiyukh Berkova	8	324
10	Meng Fang	21	1416

Source: Own Elaboration

Table 7 presents a compilation of authors based on their H-index, spotlighting the top 10 contributors with the highest H-index scores. The H-index serves as a fundamental metric in the realm of scientific

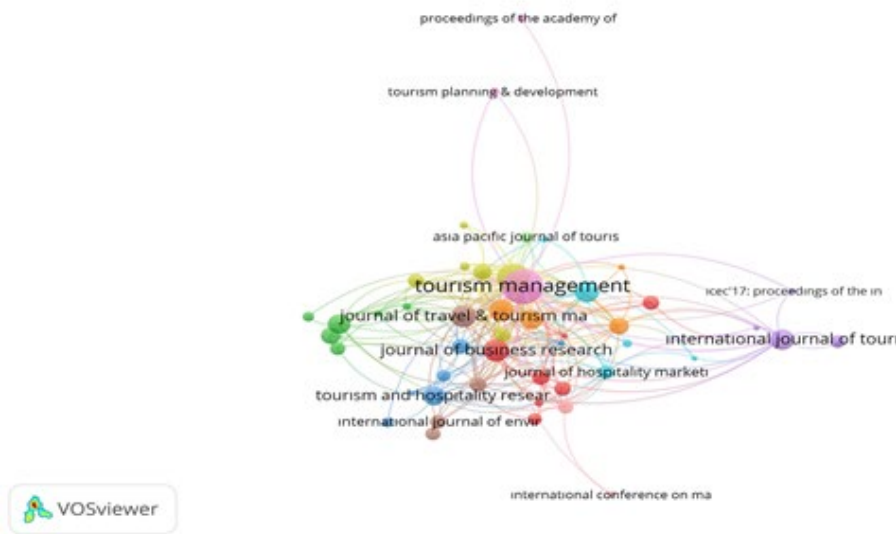
evaluation, establishing a quantitative relationship between the number of authored publications and the corresponding citation counts garnered by the authors. The H-index is a metric that gauges the scholarly output of authors by considering both their publication and citation records. Calculated from a list of publications arranged in descending order by Times Cited, the H-index is defined as the number of articles in the list with N or more citations, denoted as  $H = N$  (Clarivate, 2024). Some authors like Kim Hyelin and Wang Suije could not be included because they were not registered on the Web of Science. The author with the highest H index and total citations is Sirgy, M. J. and Sirgy, M. J. has 185 publications in Web of Science with 11276 sum of times citations between 1982-2024. Also, the other author with the highest H-index and total citations is Uysal, M. and Uysal, M. has 87 publications in Web of Science with 7233 sum of times citations between 1990-2024.

**Figure 4. Network of Most Cooperating Countries**



Source: Output from the VOSviewer program

When constructing the network of countries that exhibit the highest degree of cooperation on the pertinent subject, the minimum requirement for documents and citations was set at 1. In this regard, 46 out of the 53 countries included satisfied the threshold. On close examination of Figure 4, it becomes apparent that the foremost collaborative countries are constituted of 7 clusters. Based on the program's outputs, the United States of America is situated in the largest orange circle as it represents the country with the highest quantity of collaborations. The United States of America has 45 publications, 2746 citations, and connections with 25 different countries regarding the relevant subject. Figure 4 is consistent with the findings in Table 6. The number of publications on the relevant subject is higher in many institutions in the United States compared to other institutions. This fact contributes to the increase in studies on the subject in the United States. Additionally, the country's diverse states and regions also support its effectiveness in academic study areas. Meanwhile, the People's Republic of China ranked in second place with 17 publications, 450 citations, and connections with 14 different countries. In terms of the number of links, South Africa, Australia, and South Korea follow the People's Republic of China.

**Figure 5. Network Map of the Most Cited Sources**

Source: Output from the VOSviewer program

When constructing the network map of highly cited sources, a minimum threshold of 1 document and citation within the subject's scope was applied. In total, 61 out of 83 journals satisfied this criterion. As presented in Figure 5, *Tourism Management* was the most frequently cited journal with 1399 citations. This was followed by the *Journal of Travel Research* with 572 citations and the *Journal of Business Research* with 235 citations.

## 5. Conclusion

In tourism studies, quality of life is examined from two perspectives. The first perspective concentrates on the correlation between a destination's tourism activities and the quality of life of visitors. Participating in tourism activities and traveling can positively impact an individual's physical and mental well-being, ultimately enhancing their quality of life. The second perspective is to examine the impact of tourism on the quality of life of residents residing in tourist destinations. The local inhabitants are the ones who are mainly influenced by the optimistic or pessimistic impacts of tourism operations in destinations (Griffin & Stacey, 2011). Therefore, the impact of tourism on the quality of life and relevant research holds significant importance for sustainable tourism development in destinations. The main purpose of this study is to assess the current status of literature regarding the correlation between tourism and quality of life. Hence, a bibliometric analysis method was utilized in this research, investigating publications in the Web of Science database between 1991 to 2023, which feature the terms "tourism" and "quality of life" in their titles, adopting a systematic viewpoint.

Upon analysis of international scientific publications regarding tourism and quality of life, the article type was found to have the highest number of publications. It is noteworthy that the number of publications in book chapters and proceedings was lower and comparable to each other. The majority language used in the publications related to the topic was English. The study concluded that the United States of America had the largest contribution to the field of research as it ranked first in both the countries with the most publications and the countries with the most cooperation. Similarly, the People's Republic of China followed the United States of America in both rankings. Additionally, we examined the organizations that have published the highest number of works in the field of tourism and quality of life. Virginia Polytechnic Institute State University and Indiana University System took first place with consistently high publication numbers.

Based on the research findings, Taylor & Francis, Springer Nature, and Elsevier have published the most works related to tourism and quality of life. These publishing houses are widely respected for their significant contributions to the fields of social sciences and tourism (Vieira & Gomes, 2009). However, it is

noteworthy that despite the small number of publications on tourism and quality of life, there are several citations. The number of publications has fluctuated over time, with some periods showing an increase while others a decrease compared to the previous year. While 2019 saw the greatest number of publications, the highest number of citations occurred in 2022. The study, *Exploring the Nature of Tourism and Quality of Life Perceptions among Residents*, carried out by Andereck and Nyaupane in 2011 has to date accumulated the largest number of citations with 495. The most popular keywords in related research include *quality of life*, *tourism*, *tourism development*, *tourism impacts*, and *residents*. This article explores the correlation between tourism and quality of life in existing literature. The authors with the most publications and interaction with other scholars on this topic are *Uysal*, *Muzaffer*, *Sirgy*, *M. Joseph*, and *Woo, Eunju*. Similarly, the United States of America and the People's Republic of China are identified as having the highest volume of publications and the most interaction with other countries on the related topic. This is explained by both countries prioritizing the quality of life of their respective populations. Additionally, it has been determined that the journal, *Tourism Management*, has the most publications on the related topic.

International publications on the topics of tourism and quality of life have been assessed according to various criteria in this study. Previous developments and changes in these fields have been elucidated, and the obtained data contributes to a better understanding of the research area and the advances made in relevant literature. Tourism has significant socio-economic and cultural impacts on both tourists and destinations. Quality of life is therefore an essential aspect of tourist destinations. Studies conducted in this area gain importance and contributed to local people's awareness and proper tourism management. Consequently, it is believed that research on this topic will remain significant both currently and in the future. This study provides valuable insights for researchers on the evolution of the subject, its interdisciplinary linkages, and the identification of literature gaps. Consequently, it serves as a roadmap or guide for the respective scholars. The theoretical implications reveal that despite the rise in tourism research in recent years, the number of studies pertaining to this subject remains limited. Therefore, it is advised to conduct a more thorough investigation on the subject matter. In terms of practical applications, it is advisable for destinations to comprehend the correlation between tourism and quality of life by considering the outcomes of the pertinent study and arranging to unite visitors and local inhabitants on common ground.

Based on the results of the study, some recommendations were developed. Most studies included in the research used subjective indicators to measure the quality of life of tourists and locals. However, some studies used objective indicators such as income, physical health, or well-being, and standard of living. However, these studies do not represent a sufficiently large proportion of the total number of studies. The implementation of more of these studies would be helpful in the monitoring of structural and physical changes. For this reason, future studies should focus on objective indicators. In addition, in order to examine the relationship between quality of life and tourism in more depth and detail, mixed studies using subjective and objective indicators should be conducted. It is worth noting that the analyzed studies only explored the relationship between quality of life and tourism through tourism development. Therefore, future studies should examine the relationship between quality of life and tourism as different variables, such as individual, family, community, or country, to contribute to the development of the field (Uysal, Sirgy, Woo, & Kim, 2016). Thus, the literature will be supported by examining the relationship between quality of life and tourism not only as an individual as well-being, but also as a society or country. In future studies, it is recommended to evaluate not only the physical health but also the psychological well-being and satisfaction of both tourists and local residents in relation to the quality of life and tourism. This will provide a more comprehensive understanding of the topic.

The study has some limitations. First of all, it is a limitation that the research was conducted in a single database. For this reason, the subject can be evaluated from different databases in future studies. In addition, the language used in the study was determined as English only. In future studies, this situation can be preferred in different languages to provide a broader framework on the subject. In addition, VOSviewer program was used for analysis in the study. In future studies, it will be possible to reach different results visually by using the R-Studio program. In addition to bibliometric analysis, researchers can obtain more in-depth information on the subject by choosing methods such as Hybrid Metric, Systematic Review, Meta Analysis.

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