

Thematic Field Of Scientific Research Of Electoral Behavior In Russia And Abroad

By

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Abstract

Electoral behavior is an actual object of study of political science in almost all countries of the world, since political elections are held in countries with pronounced authoritarianism. At the same time, the subject of study related to electoral behavior is different in all countries. The article contains an analysis of the landscape of scientific research on electoral behavior in Russia and abroad. The main goal is to conduct a comparative study of Russian and foreign scientific materials in order to identify common trends in science and differences. The study is carried out on the basis of bibliometric scientific databases "Scopus" and "Elibrary". Scopus is one of the world's most popular bibliometric databases for indexing works, and the Elibrary platform is the leading library of Russian scientific articles. The first part of the article contains a study of the evaluation of the popularity of the study of electoral behavior at the Russian and world level. The second part of the study is devoted to a comparative analysis of thematic articles presented in these databases. As a result, it was revealed that Russian and foreign studies contain both the same aspects of study and different subjects of electoral behavior.

Keywords: political elections, electoral process, electoral behavior, electoral activity, bibliometric analysis.

introduction

The institution of elections is one of the main attributes of a democratic society. Despite the fact that most often elections are characterized as a political institution, they can be called a social institution to the same extent, since during the electoral process a certain set of social practices is formed, and the social attitude of society on various issues is formed. The key subject of study related to the electoral process in sociological science is the electoral behavior of the population.

At the same time, there is no single interpretation of the concept of "electoral behavior" in sociological science. Modern Russian and foreign scientists explain electoral behavior in different ways.

Currently, there are many studies on electoral behavior. It is necessary to consider the landscape of scientific research in which electoral behavior appears as an object of analysis from 2010 to 2022.

Methods

The Russian scientific electronic library "Elibrary", as well as the international bibliographic database "Scopus" will be used for the analysis. The study will be performed using automated queries that are carried out on the basis of the specified Internet resources. The peculiar use of Bigdata will help to most accurately determine the pool of research, where the object is precisely electoral behavior, and not all possible directions for studying the institution of elections. Формулы для поиска пула исследований представлены ниже:

– «Elibrary» (1)

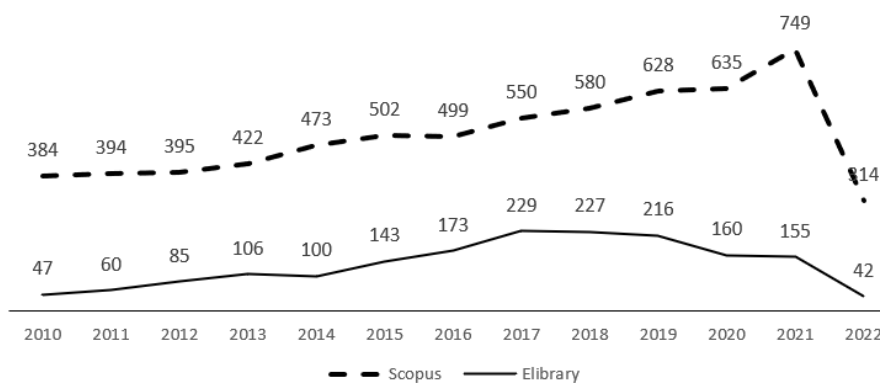
"электоральн* поведени*" or "избирательн* поведени*" (1).
or "электоральн* активност*" or "избират* активност*" or "электоральн* участи*"

– «Scopus» (2)

TITLE-ABS-KEY ("Vot* behavior*" OR "electoral* behavior*" (2).
OR "electoral* activity" OR "vot* activit*" OR "electoral participation*")

Results And Discussion

The search results yield 6,525 international studies on electoral behavior and 1,743 Russian studies. The dynamics of research can be seen in the chart below (picture 1). It should be noted that the dynamics of the study of electoral behavior in the international environment is positive, from year to year there is a constant increase in materials. A particularly high growth rate of 17% occurs in 2021 compared to 2020. The dynamics of Russian research in the field of electoral behavior has been declining since 2017. Domestic authors are much less likely to use electoral behavior as an object of study. In 2022, the decline is conditional, since the year is not over yet, and many articles published in the first half of the year have not yet been indexed.



Picture 1. Number of Russian and foreign articles in bibliographic databases (2010–2022).

Next, it is necessary to consider the geography of research. Below are the top 20 Russian higher education institutions that have published the largest number of materials on electoral behavior (Table 1).

Table 1: Geography of Research on Electoral Behavior (Elibrary, 2010–2022)

Affiliation	Cities	Number of articles (2010–2022)
Ros. academy of national economy and state. services at Prez. RF	Moscow	130
Financial University under the Government of the Russian Federation	Moscow	58
National Research University HSE	Moscow	41
Kuban State University	Krasnodar	38
Saint Petersburg State University	St. Petersburg	37
Moscow State University M.V. Lomonosov	Moscow	36
North Caucasian Federal University	Stavropol	25
Altai State University	Barnaul	23
Transbaikal State University	Chita	20
Moscow states. Institute of International Relations	Moscow	20
Bashkir State University	Ufa	19
Bryansk State University acad. I.G. Petrovsky	Bryansk	19
Russian Economic University. G.V. Plekhanov	Moscow	19
Federal scientific research. sociological center of the Russian Academy of Sciences	Moscow	19
Belgorod State National Research. university	Belgorod	18
Vologda Scientific Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences	Vologda	26
Moscow Pedagogical State University	Moscow	16
Russian State Social University	Moscow	16
Ural Federal University B.N. Yeltsin	Yekaterinburg	16
Kazan (Volga Region) Federal University	Kazan	15

Similarly, the Top 20 universities are presented by publications, the object of which is the behavior of the electorate (table 2).

Table 2: Geography of Research on Electoral Behavior (Scopus, 2010–2022)

Affiliation	Countries	Number of articles (2010–2022)
Universiteit van Amsterdam	Netherlands	93
University of Montreal	Canada	92
London School of Economics and PS	Great Britain	90
Universität Mannheim	Germany	85
University of Oxford	Great Britain	83
Harvard University	USA	81
Universität Zürich	Switzerland	67
University of Essex	Great Britain	62
University of Iowa	USA	60
The University of Texas at Austin	USA	57
New York University	USA	57
University of California, Berkeley	USA	57
Universität Wien	Austria	56
Columbia University	USA	55
Göteborgs Universitet	Sweden	54
University of California, San Diego	USA	51
The University of Manchester	Great Britain	48
The Australian National University	Australia	48
European University Institute, San Domenico di Fiesole	Italy	48
KU Leuven	Belgium	47

In Russia, electoral activity is studied mainly in the capital's universities in Moscow and St. Petersburg. Abroad, the leaders were mainly American and British universities, while the subject of electoral behavior is relevant in the states of Western Europe.

It is necessary to consider the subject of research by Russian and foreign authors. For this, the subject of the top 300 most cited studies was analyzed (Tables 3 and 4).

Table 3: Subject fields of research of electoral behavior (Elibrary, 2010–2022)

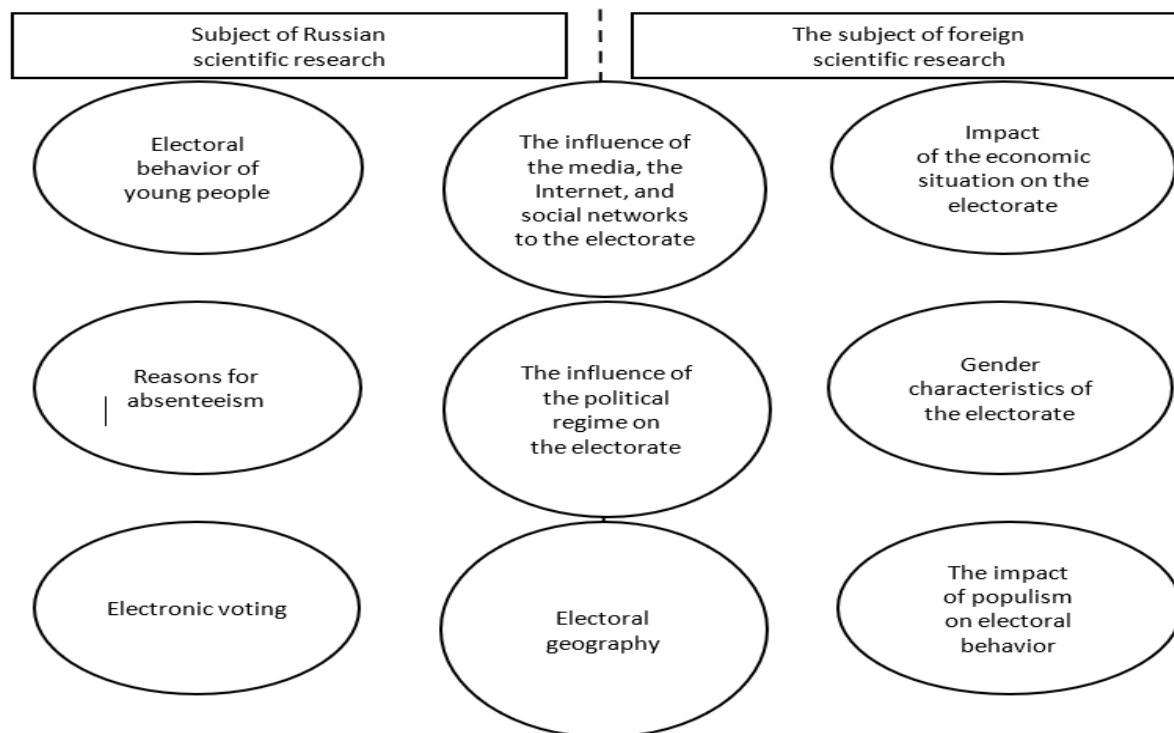
Subject Of Research	The Authors
Main Subject Of Research	
Electoral Behavior of Young People	Belikova E.A., Sadyrova M.Yu., Betekhtina A.V., Olukhov N.V., Dlugosh P., Merkulov P.A., Dorokhova Yu.V., Ignatova T.V., Prokazina N.V., Zinchenko G.P., Ezhov D.A., Pyrma R.V., Zakharkin R.A., Brodovskaya E.V., Dombrovskaya A.Yu., Pyrma R.V., Azarov A.A., Nazarenko S.V., Voronov K.A., Melnikov S.L., Moiseenko N.A., Zernov D.V., Lukonina E.S., Shumilov A.V., Arapova P.I., Nizamov R. R., Moiseenko N.A., Shilina S.A., Selezneva A.V., Zinenko V.E.
Reasons For Absenteeism	Baskakova Yu.M., Alekseev R.A., Abramov A.V., Fedorov V.V., Shabunova A.A., Guzhavina T.A., Kozhina T.P., Grishin N.V., Arinina K.I., Lupenkova E.Yu.
Electronic Voting	Alekseev R.A., Abramov A.V., Belokonev S.Yu., Vasiliev M.S., Titov V.V., Eliseev S.M., Zotov V.B., Kosarin S.P.
The Influence of The Media, The Internet and Social Networks on The Electorate	Gabdrakhmanova L.N., Kostyleva E.G., Davletshina Z.Z., Moiseenko N.A., Shilina S.A., Dergunova N.V., Zavgorodnyaya M.Yu., Glukhikh V.A., Eliseev S. M., Eliseev A.L., Bakaldina E.S., Fomina M.G., Dergunova N.V., Zavgorodnyaya M.Yu.
The Influence of The Political Regime on The Electorate	Artyukhin O.A., Shkel S.N., Golosov G.V., Shumilov A.V., Bicheva I.B., Kitov A.G., Tatarko A.N., Gerasimov V.M., Ivanenko K.A., Shumilov A.V.
Electoral Geography	Prokazina N.V., Balynin I.V., Soloviev A.A., Rozanova E.V., Narcissova S.Yu., Popadeikin V.V., Lineitseva K.S., Pashin L.A., Prokazina N.V., Polyakov L.V., Budaeva D.Ts., Cherkun E.Yu., Morozova O.S.
Other	
Administrative Resource	Akunchenko E.A., Mazilov V.A., Pyrma R.V., Ustinkina K.G., Karaev R.Sh., Karaev M.Sh., Polyakova E.I.
National Factor in Elections	Gaivoronsky Yu.O., Shults E.E., Popova L.E., Malashenko I.V., Shults E.E.
Political Technologies	Avtsinova G.I., Anokhin M.G., Belyaeva V.P., Grishin O.E., Tarasov E.N.
Impact of the Economic Situation on The Electorate	Evseev V.O., Abramova O.K., Kupriyanov A.I., Korotkova O.A., Ostrikova V.V., Alekseev R.A.
Electoral Behavior in The Context of Ethnic Groups	Shkel S.N., Kopaeva E.V., Kotova K.A., Lisova S.Yu., Slizovskiy D.E., Amiantov A.A., Groshev I.V.

Table 4: Subject fields of research of electoral behavior (Scopus, 2010–2022)

SUBJECT OF RESEARCH	THE AUTHORS
Main subject of research	
The influence of the media, the Internet and social networks on the electorate	Bond R.M., Jay F.S., Jay D.D., Kramer A.D.I., Marlow K., Settle J.E., Fowler J.H., Pryor M., Cao W., Duane W., Gan K., Snyder Jr. J.M., Strömberg D., Ladd J.M., Effing R., Van Hillegersberg J., Hubers T., Chang K.-F., Knight B.
The influence of the political regime on the electorate	Teague CC, Borak DJ, O'Connor JJM, Shandl K., Feinberg D.R., Birch S., Panagopoulos K.
Electoral geography	Johnston R., Patty C., Ichino N., Nathan N.L., Healy A., Malhotra N., Healy AJ, Malhotra N., Mo C.H., Colantone I., Stanig P., Cansela J, Geis B.
Impact of the economic situation on the electorate	Rodriguez-Pose A., Smetz K., Van Ham K., Kaplan B., Hobolt S. B., Tilly J., de Vries CE, Hobolt S. B., Goodwin M., Milazzo K., Chong A., De La O A. L., Karlan D., Wanchekon L., Funke M., Shularik M., Trebesh S., De La O A. L., Zucco S., Salt F., Baker A., Green K.F.
Gender characteristics of the electorate	Dolan C., Piston S., Enos R.D., Zagarry R., Walgrave S., Lefevre J., Tresh A., Adams J., Ridl R.B.
The impact of populism on electoral behavior	Rudwin M., Bakker B.N., Rudwein M., Schumacher G., Ramiro L., Gomez R., Johnston R., Jones K., Manley D., Getmansky A., Zeitzoff T.
Other	
National factor in elections	Abramovitz A.I., Webster S., Walter S., Orrioles L., Cordero G., Cole S., Healy A., Werker E.
Electoral behavior of young people	Diemer M., Lee C.-H., De Vries C.E., van der Brug W., van Egmond M.H., van der Eyck C., Levenduski M.S., Horowitz M.K., Gallego A.
Status and electoral behavior	Jiang W., Wang H., Zhao S., Benson L., Nebesai G., Pflugfelder R., Margalit Y.
Voter bribing	Vicente P.K., Grover P., Kar A.K., Dwivedi Yu.K., Janssen M., Golosov G.V.
Electoral behavior in the context of ethnic groups	Vicente P.K., Carlson E., Fry T., Reiter O.J., Zakony D., Bos L., van der Brug W., de Vries K.

Summary

Based on the analyzed materials, it is possible to visualize a diagram that reflects a comparative analysis of the subject of research of Russian and foreign works. The dividing line divides those areas that are common to the domestic and foreign science of electoral behavior (Picture 1.2.2).



Picture 1.2.2. Comparative analysis of electoral behavior in Russian and foreign studies

Conclusions

A common subject of study for Russian and foreign researchers are aspects of electoral geography, the influence of the political regime on the electorate, as well as the influence of the media on the behavior of voters. At the same time, in Russian science there are features of the analysis of electoral behavior, for example, special attention is paid to the reasons for the lack of interest in elections, and the aspect of attracting young people to elections is also popular. In recent years, articles exploring electronic voting have been gaining popularity in Russia. In foreign science, the topic of electronic voting is not so popular. For example, in Europe, the study of electoral behavior is approached from the point of view of rational factors. Many articles are devoted to the influence of economic factors on electoral behavior. Particular attention is paid to gender characteristics in electoral behavior.

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