

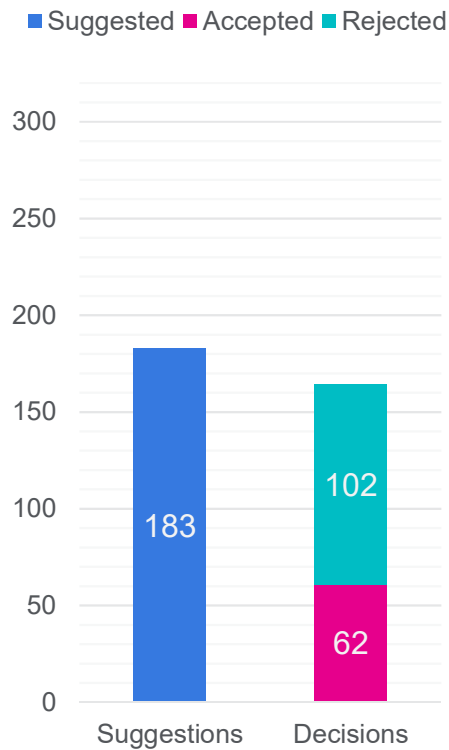
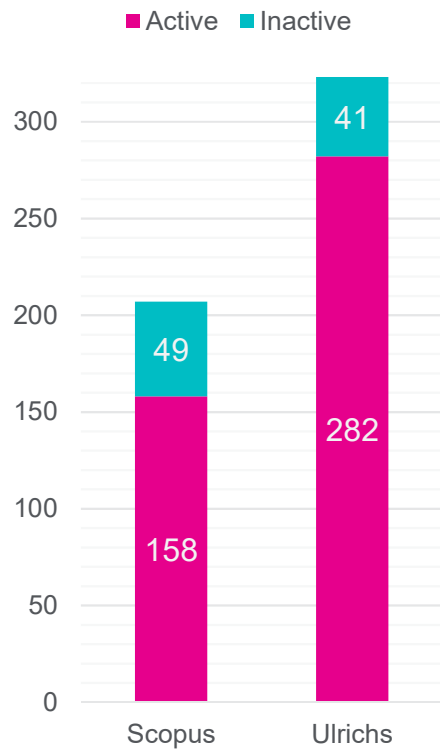


Scopus content coverage Zooming in on Croatia

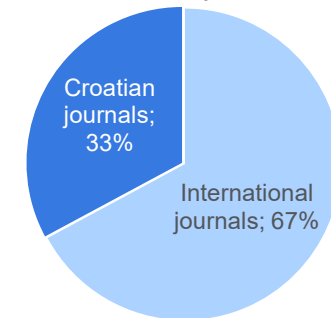
Scopus Only Day Workshop

24 October 2023
Wim Meester

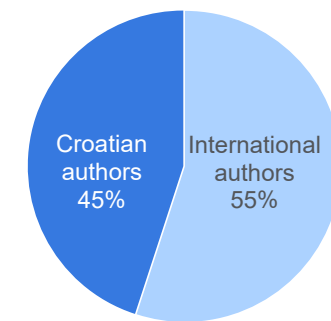
Breadth of Croatian journal coverage



Where do Croatian researchers publish?



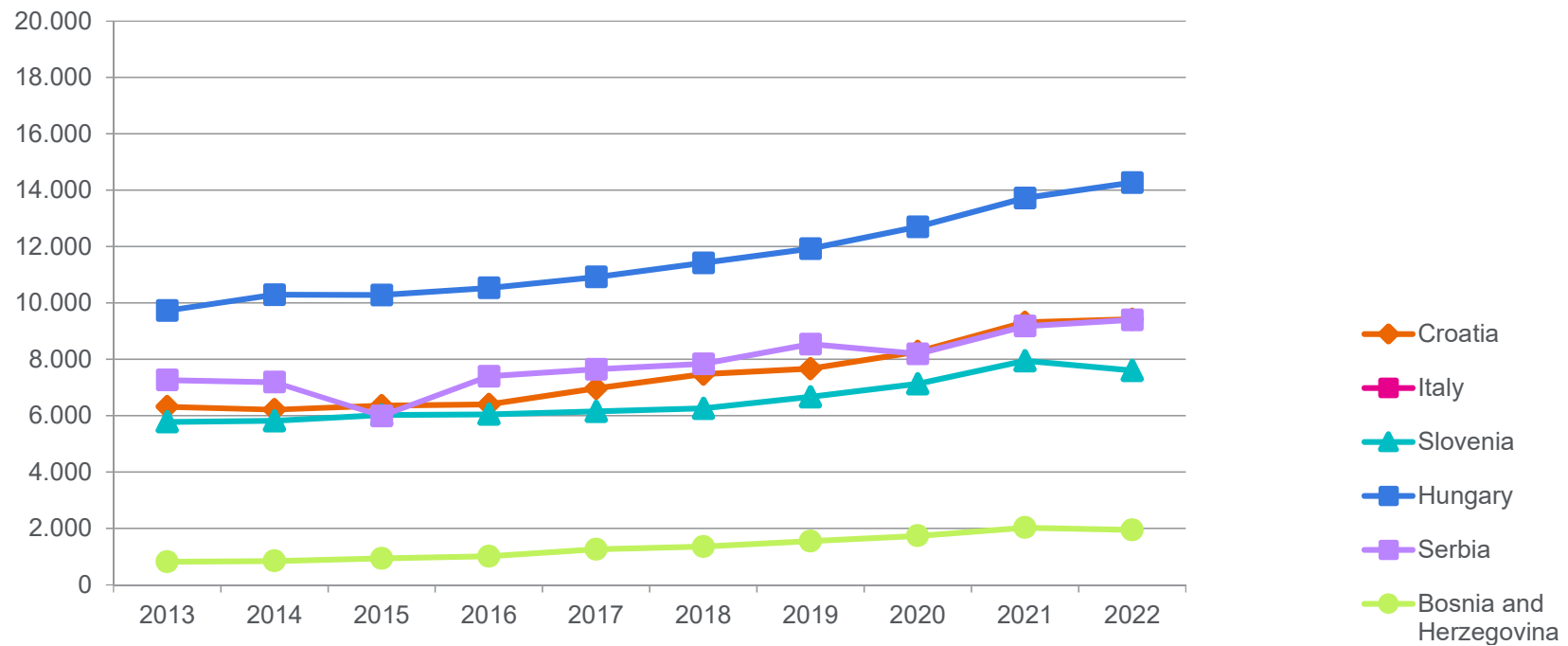
Author distribution in Croatian journals





Scholarly output for Croatia and comparing countries

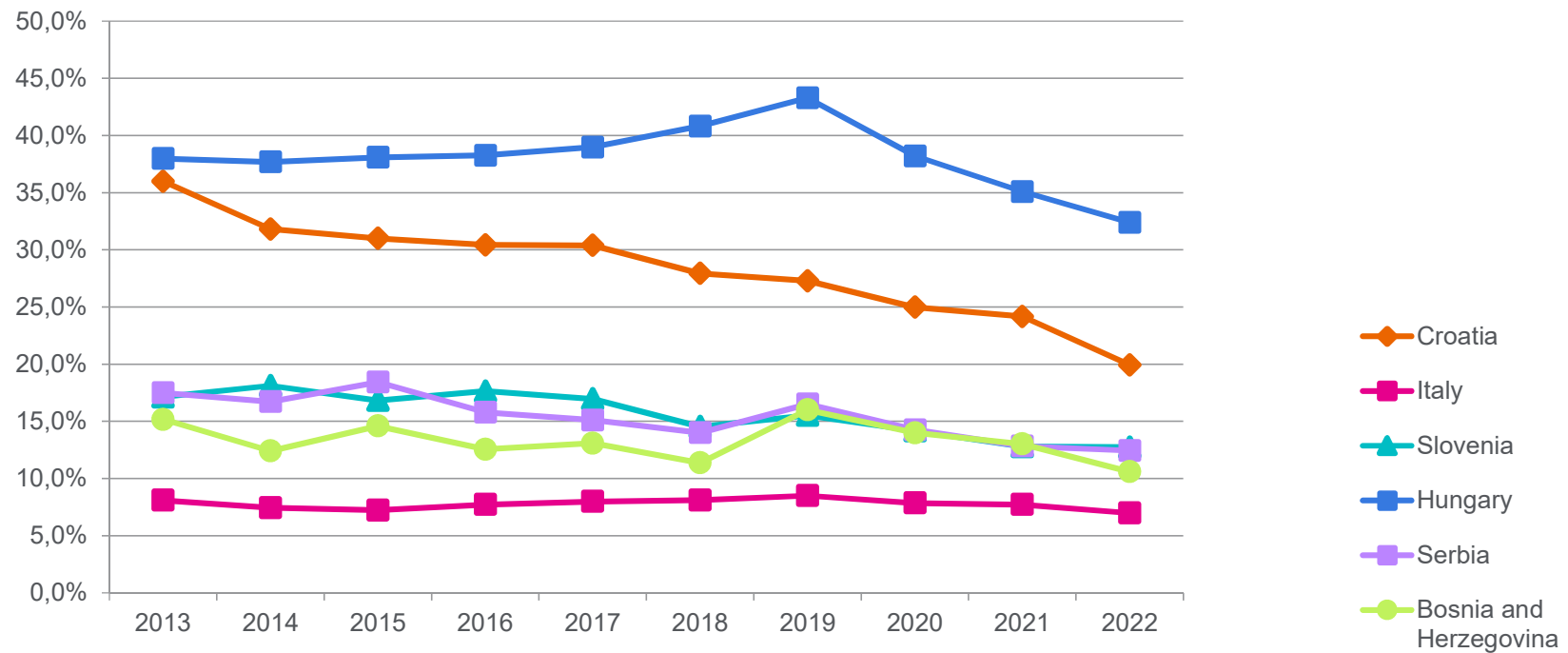
Scholarly output from Croatian authors has increased from 6,317 to 9,419 documents per year, which after Bosnia and Herzegovina is the highest growth rate (CAGR 4.5%). Italy is not shown with >130k articles per year.



Source: **Scopus** data, Article, Review, Conference Papers only (October 2023)

Ratio of output in local journals for Croatia and comparing countries

The percentage is declining but after Hungary, Croatia has the highest percentage of output in local (Croatian) journals. Therefore, local journals are a relatively important publication vehicle for Croatia

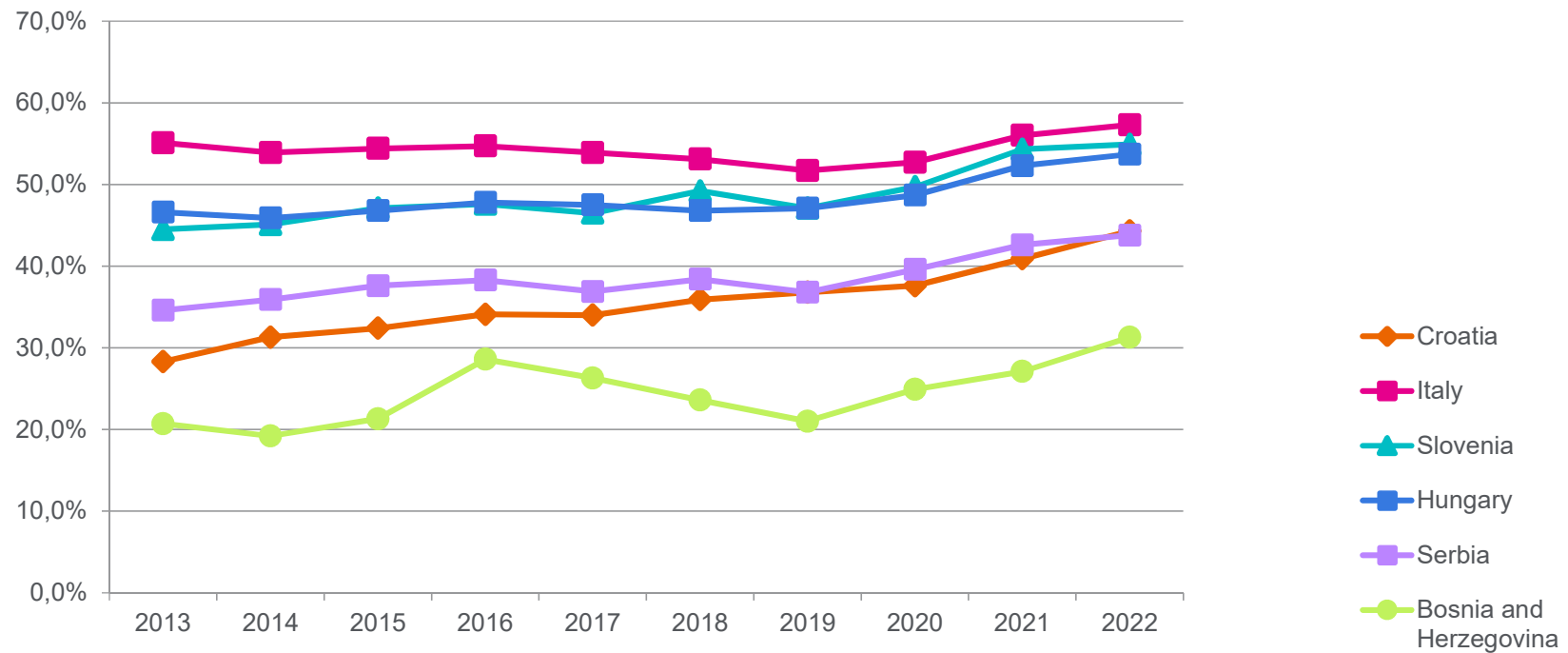


Source: **Scopus & SciVal** data, Article, Review, Conference Papers only (October 2023)

Output in Q1 Journal quartile by CiteScore (%) for Croatia and comparing countries

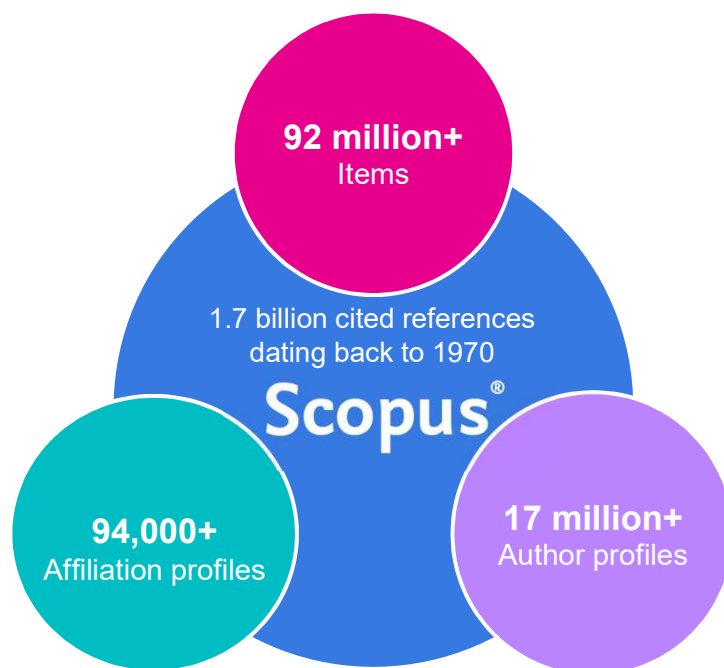


The percentage of Croatian authors publishing in Q1 journals has grown with some 15 percent point to almost 45%, which is the highest increase of comparing countries.



Source: Scopus & SciVal data, Article, Review, Conference Papers only (October 2023)

Scopus uniquely combines curated content with enriched, linked data



Quickly find relevant and trusted research, identify experts, and access reliable data, metrics and analytical tools to support confident decisions around research strategy

Help the world of research make high value decisions with confidence



Content Selection & Advisory Board (CSAB)

Scopus is vetted by independent experts

- Independent board of subject experts from all over the world
- Comprised of 17 Subject Chairs
- Chosen for their expertise in specific subject areas; most have (journal) Editor experience.
- Rigorous and transparent quality and ethics selection criteria used to evaluate potential titles
- Regularly reevaluates Scopus content and discontinues titles no longer meeting the guidelines



Scopus and CSAB mandate and authority



Scopus is committed to creating a representative, curated dataset of scholarly content:

- Overall journal selection based on journal-level data and performance
- Monitoring and deselection of journals that are predatory or below standards



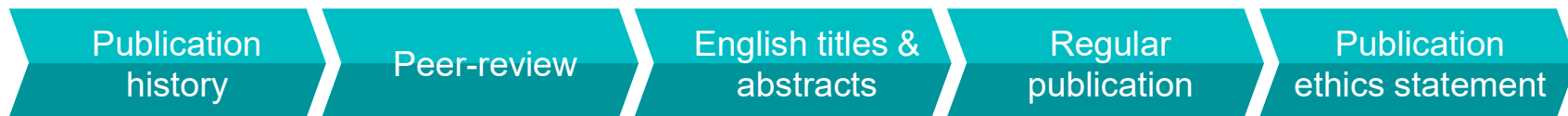
Scopus cannot interfere with editorial autonomy of journals:

- Editorial decisions on quality of individual articles and conferences
- (Scientific) content of the articles and abstracts included in the database
- Plagiarism and other publication malpractice of individual articles
- Authorship of the paper

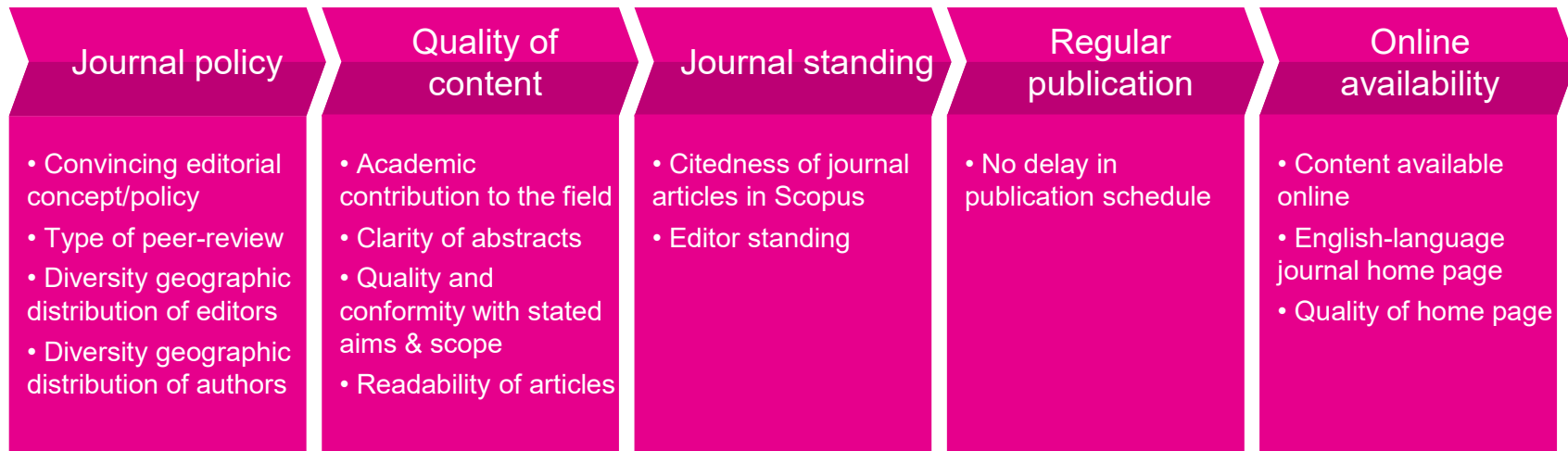


Transparent Scopus selection criteria

All titles should meet all minimum criteria to be considered for Scopus review:



Eligible titles are reviewed by the CSAB according to a combination of 14 quantitative and qualitative selection criteria:

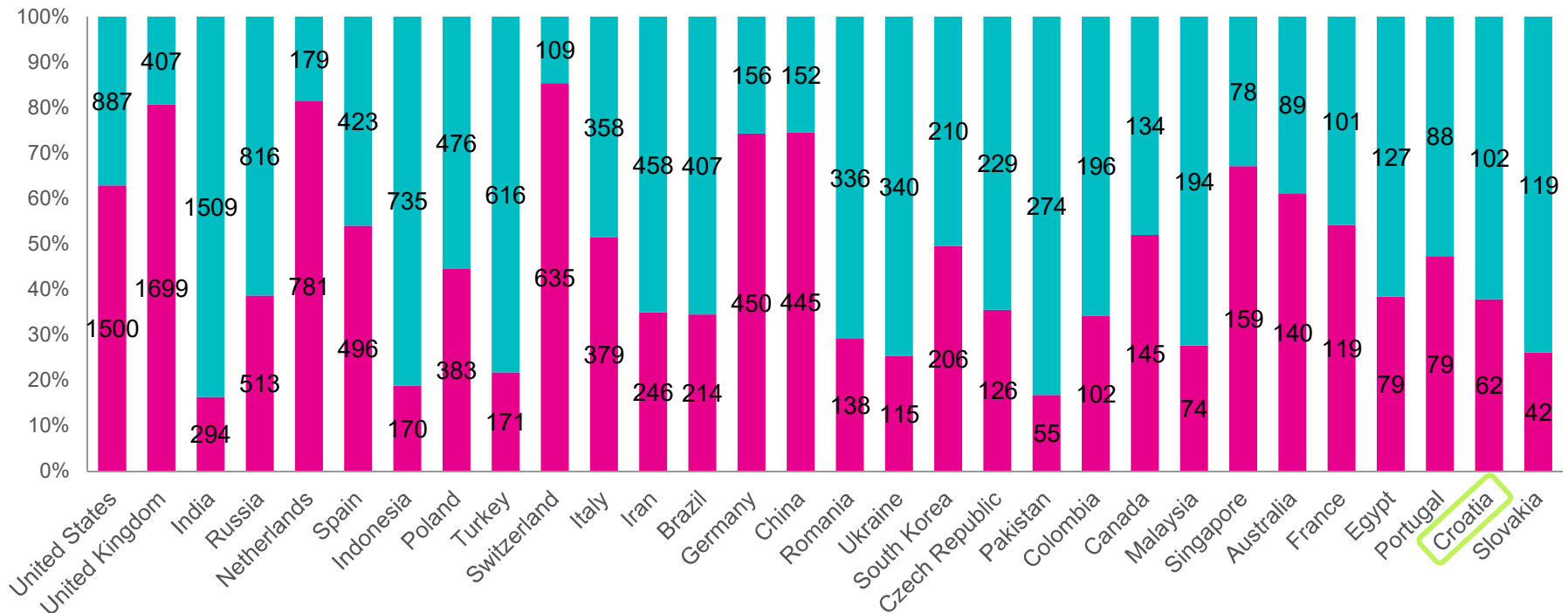




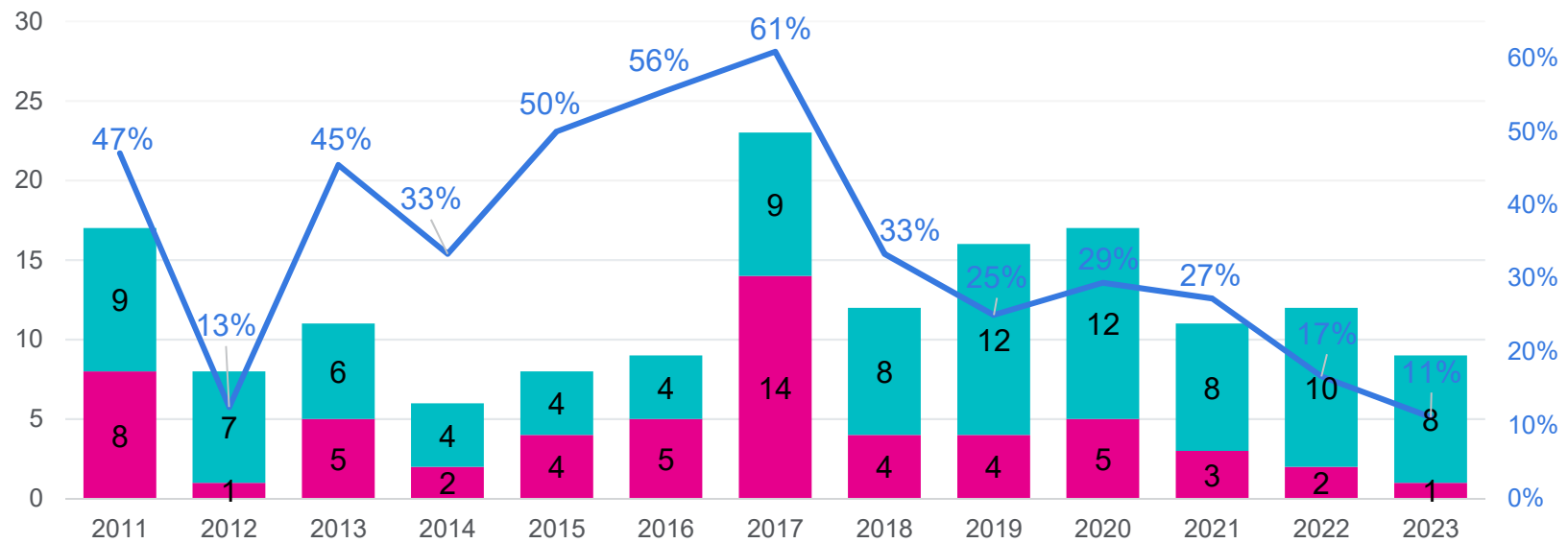
Less than 50% of reviewed titles are also accepted for Scopus

Title review results from top 30 countries/regions with most titles reviewed (2011 – Sep 2023)
In total, **23,967** titles were reviewed by the CSAB of which **11,450 (48%)** accepted.

Accepted
Rejected



Title review results for Croatia (2011 – Sep 2023)



Comparison: **Croatia: 62/164 (38%) accepted**
 Italy: 379/737 (51%) accepted
 Slovenia: 49/102 (48%) accepted
 Hungary: 28/83 (34%) accepted
 Serbia: 62/143 (43%) accepted
 Bosnia & Herzegovina: 17/61 (28%) accepted

Accepted
 Rejected
 Acceptance rate

It does not stop once titles are selected for Scopus coverage



Usually, journals that are included in Scopus benefit from wider global visibility and resulting increase of impact and quality. However, sometimes this does not happen, and the journal may become predatory.

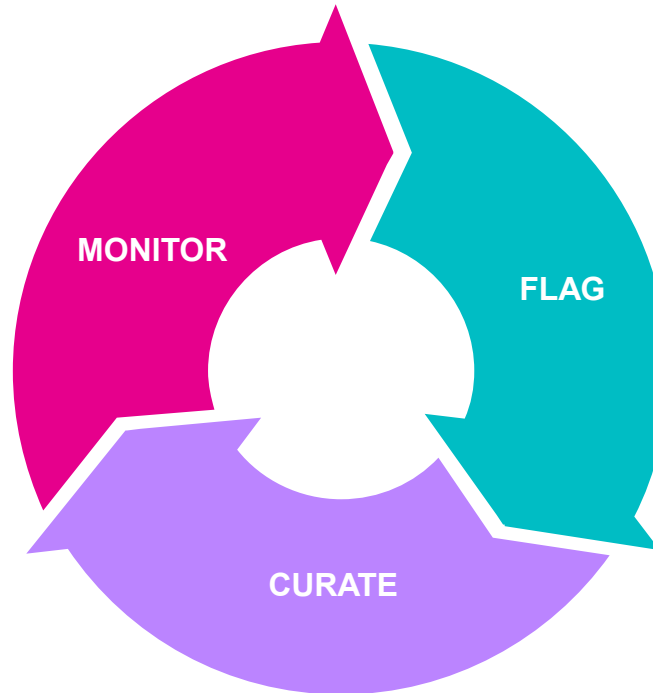
When making decisions about research, it is essential that these decisions are based on data that you can trust. Predatory journals cannot be trusted and need to be excluded.

Because predatory publishing is not binary and subject to personal interpretation, independent review of individual journals by experts is essential.

Content curation and re-evaluation in Scopus

MONITOR:

- Titles are monitored for outlier behaviour (e.g., using data science)
- Concerns from the community about titles are received
- Validation if there is evidence for research integrity violations



FLAG:

- Titles are flagged for re-evaluation by CSAB
- Coverage of titles flagged for re-evaluation is put on-hold

CURATE:

- CSAB reviews and decides to continue or discontinue
- For discontinued journals coverage will be stopped
- Content already indexed remains

Overall (2016 – 2023): **798** discontinued titles at **58%** discontinue rate

This year results (Jan – Sep): **40** out of **55 (73%)** discontinued

For more details on the re-evaluation process see: [The importance of high-quality content: curation and reevaluation in Scopus](#)

Do not participate in predatory practices and beware of paper mills!
You can only publish your research once, make sure it is genuine



Recognise predatory practices via these red flags:

(1) False or misleading information, (2) Deviation from best practices, (3) Lack of transparency, (4) Aggressive, indiscriminate solicitation, (5) Topic and authorship drifts



Do not become a target of journal hijacks

- Genuine journals that undergo change are potential targets for hijacks.
- These clones use a different URL and are managed by an unrelated party.
- In Scopus always the authentic, originally selected journal is covered.



NEVER work with intermediate parties

- Always go through the original, authentic journal.
- Promises by intermediate parties should not be believed.
- Good peer-review takes time, and always goes through the original journal.



No third party can guarantee publication or indexing

- Editorial decisions and indexing decisions are made by the Editor of the original journal or the indexing service, never by intermediate parties.
- No authorship is for sale and buying an authorship is unethical.



Hvala

