

Leaks, Attribution, and Academic Research*

The Role of Precedence and Normalization in Publication Trends

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With online platforms like Wikileaks digitally releasing millions of classified documents, researchers face both ethical and professional questions surrounding the use of these materials. This paper examines publication trends in top-rated international relations journals that cite or make reference to documents released by Wikileaks. This paper finds both a lack of professional consistency and an increase in the use of these documents in publications by peer-reviewed journals between 2010 and 2020. This finding suggests the need for clear professional consensus within the research community surrounding these ethically questionable materials.

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*Code and data are available at: https://github.com/ThomasWilliamFox/leaks_attribution_research.git; Replication on Social Science Reproduction Platform can be found at: <https://www.socialsciencereproduction.org/reproductions/302459e5-ae78-49cf-82d1-265bfe0ad5f1/index>

1 Introduction

First Paragraph. (Why it matters)

Second Paragraph. (What it does)

Third Paragraph. (What is found)

Fourth Paragraph. (Paper layout)

You can and should Cross-reference sections and sub-sections. We use R Core Team (2023) as well as packages such as Wickham et al. (2019), Xie (2023), Müller (2020), Wickham et al. (2023), Firke (2023). We replicate Darnton (2022) using Darnton (2021) and Maliniak, Peterson, and Tierney (2012).

The remainder of this paper is structured as follows. Section 2....

2 Data

2.1 TRIP-20 Political Science and Foreign Policy Publications

Some of our data is about journals (Table 1).

Table 1: Names, Shortform, and TRIP-20 ratings of the 20 journals

Journal Name	Short Form	TRIP-20 Rating
International Organization	IO	1
International Studies Quarterly	ISQ	2
International Security	IS	3
Foreign Affairs	FA	4
American Political Science Review	APSR	5
World Politics	WP	6
European Journal of International Relations	EJIR	7
Journal of Conflict Resolution	JCR	8
Foreign Policy	FP	9
Review of International Studies	RIS	10
Millennium: Journal of International Studies	MIL	11
American Journal of Political Science	AJPS	12
International Affairs	IA	13
Security Studies	SS	14

Table 1: Names, Shortform, and TRIP-20 ratings of the 20 journals

Journal Name	Short Form	TRIP-20 Rating
Review of International Political Economy	RIPE	15
Journal of Peace Research	JPR	16
International Studies Review	ISR	17
International Relations	IR	18
Comparative Politics	CP	19
Global Governance	GG	20

2.2 Articles Citing WikiLeaks Documents (2010-2020)

Some of our data is about publication data (Table 2).

Table 2: Sample of Cleaned Academic Publication Data

Code	Journal	Year	Mentions ‘Classified’	No Source	No U.S.G.	Mentions ‘Leak’	Uses euphamism
3	APSR	2020	n	n	y	n	n
3	IA	2020	n	n	n	n	n
3	IA	2020	n	n	n	n	n
3	IS	2020	y	n	y	n	n
3	ISR	2020	n	n	n	n	n
3	SS	2020	y	n	y	y	n

‘Wikileaks’ cable’	To-From- Found	Peer Reviewed	Leak in Body	Cable Discussed	Cable(s) Cited
n	y	y	n	y	0
y	n	y	n	y	4
n	n	y	n	n	0
n	n	y	n	y	8
n	n	y	n	y	4
n	n	y	y	y	11

Some of our data is about articles (Figure 1).

Some of our data is about articles (Figure 2).

Some of our data is about articles (?@fig-fafpalarticles).

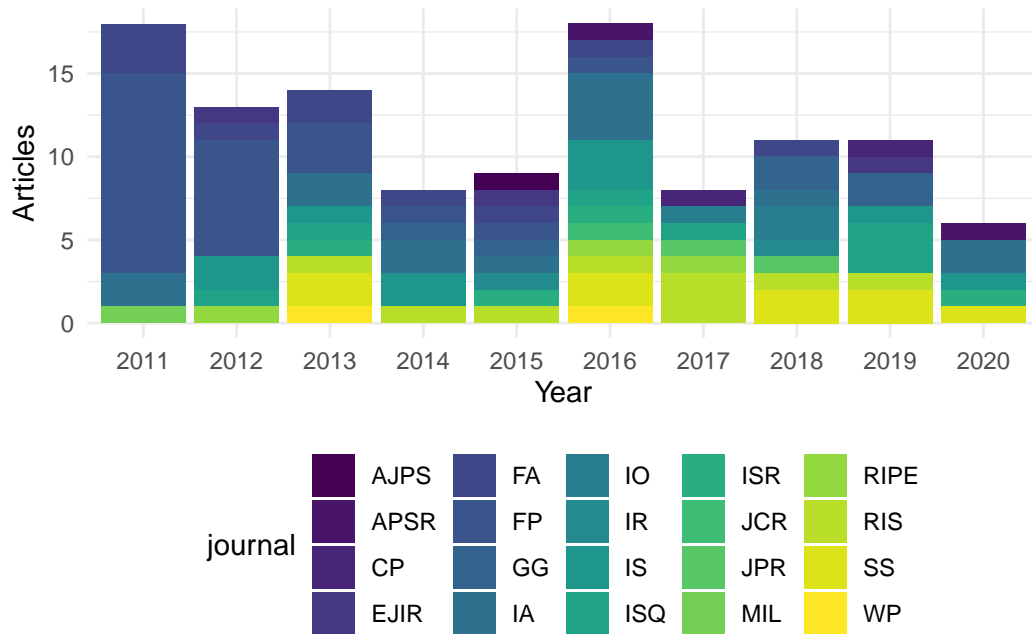


Figure 1: Articles in TRIP-20 rated journals apparently citing documents from WikiLeaks by year

Talk more about it.

And also planes. (You can change the height and width, but don't worry about doing that until you have finished every other aspect of the paper - Quarto will try to make it look nice and the defaults usually work well once you have enough text.)

3 Results

Our results are summarized in...

4 Discussion

4.1 First discussion point

If my paper were 10 pages, then should be be at least 2.5 pages. The discussion is a chance to show off what you know and what you learnt from all this.

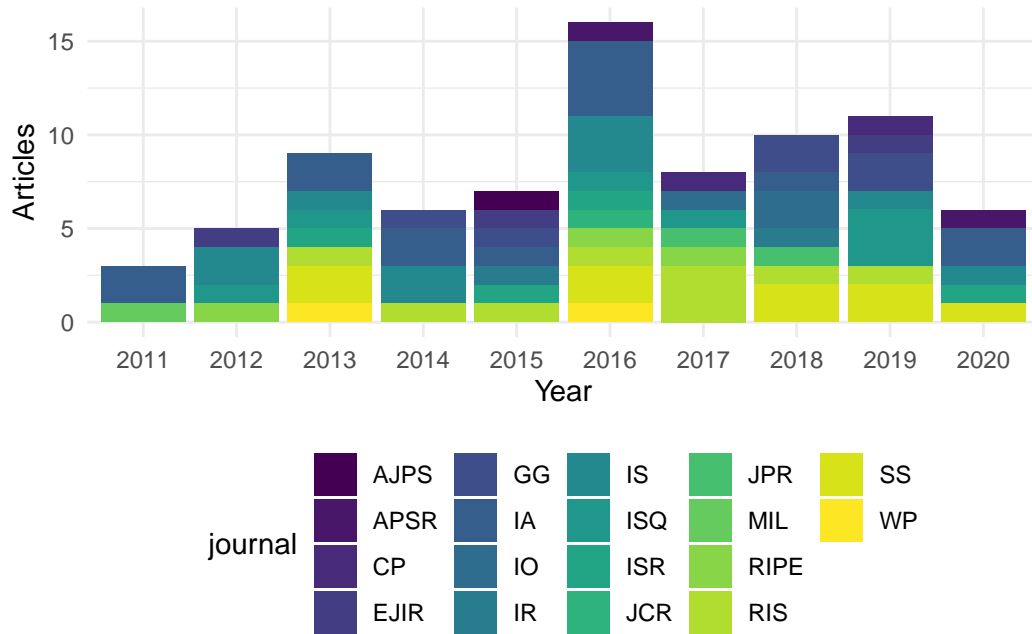


Figure 2: Articles in TRIP-20 rated journals apparently citing documents from WikiLeaks by year

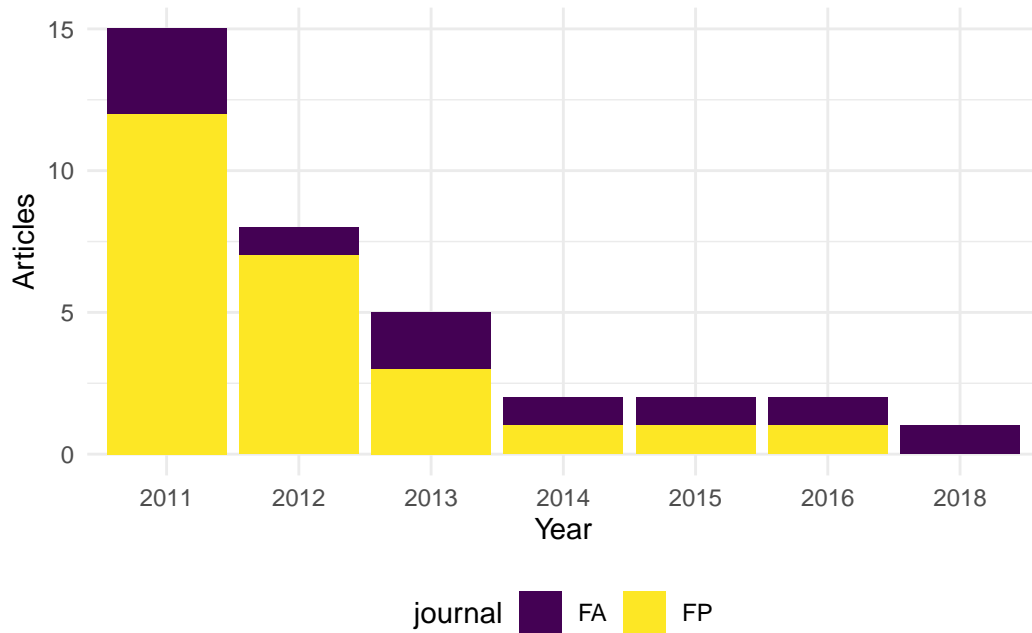


Figure 3: Articles in FA and FP apparently citing documents from WikiLeaks by year

4.2 Second discussion point

4.3 Third discussion point

4.4 Weaknesses and next steps

Weaknesses and next steps should also be included.

Appendix

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