

CHAPTER 6

BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF PUBLICATIONS ON FURNITURE INNOVATION

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INTRODUCTION

Innovation stands out as a decisive factor in businesses achieving sustainable competitiveness in today's knowledge-based economies. Since Schumpeter's (1934) theory of creative destruction, it has been recognized that innovation is not limited to technical inventions; it also manifests itself in product, process, marketing, and organizational areas. Accordingly, innovation is not limited to high-technology sectors but has also become a fundamental strategic element in traditional industries characterized by low technology, such as furniture, textiles, and footwear (Lindman et al., 2008; Ratnasingam et al., 2018; Kesdi, 2019).

The furniture industry has become one of the rapidly developing sectors of strategic importance, especially in Turkey and international markets, thanks to the integration of traditional cultural motifs with modern production techniques and the widespread use of information and technology (Korkmaz, 2019).

Innovation in the furniture sector often emerges through design-based product innovation, the digitalization of production processes, the implementation of flexible production systems, and customer-focused marketing strategies, rather than technological breakthroughs. In this context, the role of design is at the forefront and a decisive factor in creating competitive advantage for companies. For example, research conducted in the Turkish furniture sector reveals that industrial designers employed by large-scale companies play a key role in new product development processes (Kesdi, 2019).

Innovation also has an impact on sectoral development. For example, in Canada, the furniture sector has successfully pursued an innovation strategy focusing

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Analyses of collaborations between authors and countries show that A.P. Barcic is the author with the most collaborations and the England is the country with the most extensive international collaborations. Particularly close publishing collaboration has been observed between the US and China. Sydor et al. (2022) found similar results in the study on bilometric analysis of furniture design. The UK has produced the most research on furniture design, while China and the US have the most collaboration. However, in recent years, countries such as the Philippines, South Korea, Ireland, Egypt, and Palestine have become active in the field. This demonstrates the expansion of furniture innovation research into a global scope.

According to the keyword analysis, concepts such as “design,” “sustainability,” and “competitiveness” are used as frequently as “innovation” and “furniture.” This demonstrates that design, sustainability, and competitiveness are among the core themes in the furniture innovation literature. Among the prominent trends in recent years are entrepreneurial orientation, Industry 4.0, circular economy, sustainable design, the Kano model, and social innovation. These trends demonstrate that furniture innovation research is no longer limited to product development but rather sits within a broader systemic and social framework.

The increase in the number of publications, collaborations between authors, country-specific influences and thematic trends indicate that the field is developing. However, the fact that citation levels do not parallel productivity reveals the importance of conducting quality-oriented studies in the future.

Productive countries like China should be encouraged to publish in more influential journals to increase their citation levels. Collaborations should be particularly important with countries with high citation rates (e.g., Italy and Sweden). Focusing on emerging themes such as entrepreneurship, digitalization, and sustainability can increase both the visibility and impact of publications.

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