Learning by Wikipedia's NPOV principle
- an online dynamic experience

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What is this paper about?

Exploratory study of the learning opportunities created by the Wikipedia community of editors in the context of adhering to the Neutral Point of View – one of the core principle of the Wikipedia project.

Wikipedia context

"Both the largest and most widely used encyclopaedia in history" (McDowell & Vetter, 2021).

Wikipedia project is available in 329 languages

Developed continuously by a community of volunteer contributors (over 44 millions until now)

Wikipedia and learning

Wikimedia Education is promoting Wikipedia as a learning tool.

Abilities and knowledge recognized as being enhanced by contributing to Wikipedia are: reading, writing, critical thinking, information literacy, literature review, collaboration, community of practice, citation, copyright, coding, online etiquette, and online citizenship. (Education/Reasons to Use Wikipedia - Outreach Wiki, n.d.)

- Brailas et al., 2015; Johansson & Lindberg, 2019; Vetter & Moroz, 2019

Romanian language Wikipedia and User Group

Wikipedia in Romanian started almost 20 years ago

Wikimedians of Romania and Moldova User Group (WMROMD) is an affiliated group of the Wikimedia Foundation

Activities to engage new editors and provide support for learning.

- Core group of public librarians
- Learning circles methodology

Neutral Point of View

"Representing fairly, proportionately, and, as far as possible, without editorial bias, all the significant views that have been published by reliable sources on a topic."

Articles

- general description and improving of NPOV (Pavalanathan et al., 2018)
- analyse different biases (Kackie Koerner, 2019; Koerner, 2019; Hube & Fetahu, 2018)
- analyse linguistic differences between Wikipedia editions (Góngora-Goloubintseff, 2020)
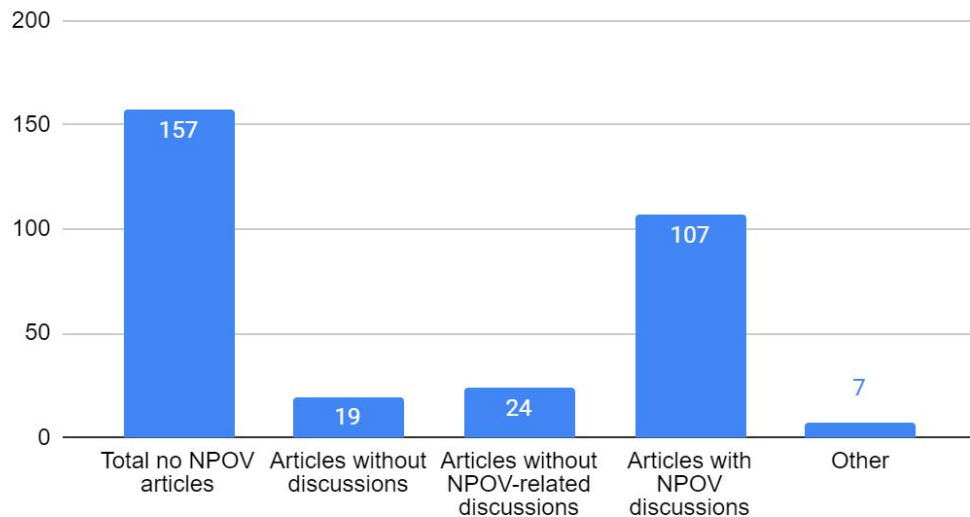
Dynamics within the system

- between factual information and ambiguous solutions accompanying the NPOV discussions on Wikipedia. (Matei & Dobrescu 2011, p. 41)

- within the community of editors while evaluating the content of pages from NPOV perspective
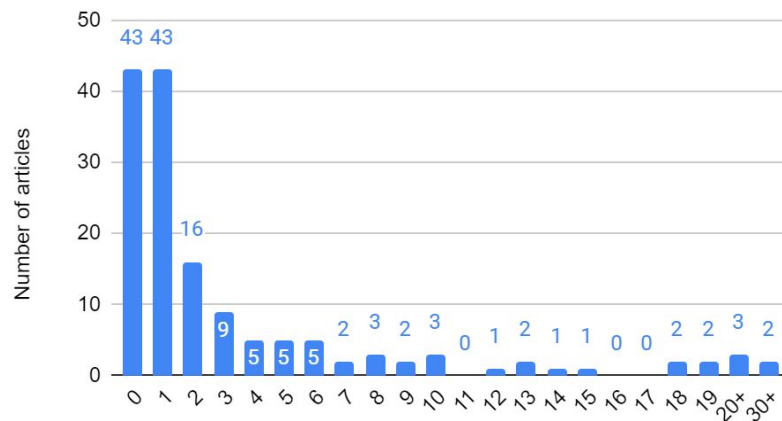
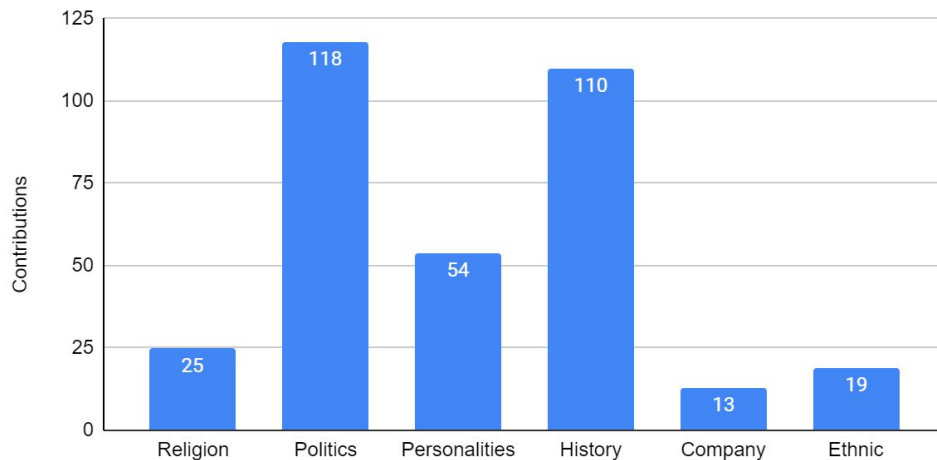# Community of editors and NPOV

NPOV - marked articles

Contributions per article

Community of editors and NPOV

Contributions per topic - most discussed articles

Adhering to NPOV

- is a co-learning process
- participants need to be open to learning from peers
- size of the community limits the availability of peer to peer learning opportunities.

Thank you!

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