

## Abstract

**Purpose** – This study aims to provide a literature review on the role of the government in handling COVID-19 in the scope of Asia. It is explicitly aimed to develop a suitable response to control the health pandemic. This study also tries to enrich the study on how government should deal with a long-lasting and massive health crisis.

**Design/methodology/approach** – By using a systematic literature review, this study identifies articles in the Scopus only in the year 2020 that includes the term "COVID-19", "Government", "Policy" "Asia" as well as typing each country in Asia for example "Indonesia" or "China" (in the article title, abstract or keywords search engine) and finds 58 articles related to the topic of study.

**Findings** – Four major research clusters in the role of government in handling COVID-19 are identified, including; *Government Action and Public Participation*, *Government's Limited Capacity in Handling COVID-19*, *Government Past Pandemic Action*, and *The Government's Success Action in Handling COVID-19*. In addition, this study shows that there are a significant research gaps through the review process, including the centralized location of study, lack of methodology as well as an absence of theory usage.

**Keywords** – Systematic Literature Review, COVID-19, Government, Policy, Asia

**Paper type** – literature review