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Editors

M. Veysel Kaya
Patrycja Chodnicka - Jaworska

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“Special thanks to keynote speaker and session chairs”
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Impact of Multilingualism in English Language Classrooms of Pakistan

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Abstract

This research aims to study the impact of multilingualism on the acquisition of English as a second language (L2) in Pakistan and studies the implications of the first language interference in acquiring L2 proficiency. Pakistan is a multilingual country with over 62 languages in use. This linguistic diversity leads to a complex language-learning environment, which furthers the situation, as acquiring language proficiency is necessary for landing high value jobs. The literature analyzes and compares the need for achieving L2 proficiency in a multilingual environment in Pakistan and other countries where L1 and L2 are coexisting. The qualitative data collected through video recording tool have been analyzed to derive conclusions. The results of the research signify revising the current language policy and the education policy at national and subnational levels. The study suggests that the development partners should provide realistic, relevant and effective technical and financial assistance for improving learning outcomes and opening doors for job creation by increasing the numbers of proficient English speakers who will be able to anchor high value jobs.

Keywords: L2 acquisition, linguistic diversity, first language interference, mixed methods approach, language policy
The Internet is the largest conglomerate of communication networks in the world, having several functions, among them the dissemination of cultures and knowledge on any subject, influencing the way of studying and also presenting the content of the discipline in the Universities. Today it can be considered the most important source of information. From the rise of the same, all the information before from books, monographs, dissertations, theses, among others, became available to people via a simple keyword search. The correct use of the network can facilitate the communication between student and teacher and the approximation between the most modern researches on the studied area, facilitating the educational and cultural exchange. The traditional classroom gains a new format from the insertion of new digital tools available to teachers and students. Not only for learning purposes, but as a tool to streamline the solution of a student teacher dialogue or to offer a methodology that is more adapted to the different profiles of students that are received in the University, given the vast complexity of training that require skills and abilities different. However, specifically in Brazil, there is still a lot of resistance in the use of the Internet for academic purposes, either to perform a simple academic research until the completion of a higher undergraduate degree course, post graduation or extension course. This work intends to show how the advent of the Internet has increased the use of digital tools in the world and how can be beneficial the use of this technology, as can be verified in developed countries where there is already from elementary school access to such technologies.

**Keywords:** E-Learning, Cost Benefit, Education
An Iceberg Tip Metaphor in the Evaluation of Faculty Activities in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Uganda

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Abstract

The article confronts the most heated debate regarding the assessment and evaluation of academics in higher education institutions (HEIs) in Uganda, and argues that, indisputably, Performance evaluation is critical to institutions and individuals - given its dual function: for institutional performance, as well as career development and growth of staff. Performance evaluation unravels the minutiae in the academics’ activities in the assessment and evaluation as they pursue their mandate of teaching, research and community service. Yet, this function has left many academics in total anguish because of the perceived unfairness and incompleteness. In order to interrogate the challenge at hand, two theories - Hemingway’s (1923) Theory of Omission, The Motivational theory of Life Span Development, by Heckhausen (1995) and The Social Exchange Theory by Gouldner (1960) were adopted. Using an ethnographic approach, that was augmented by an integrative synthesis, the author addressed two objectives; (1) analyzed reasons for the omitted activities in the assessment and evaluation of academics in HEIs, and (2) assessed the implication of omitting such activities in the evaluation of academic staff in HEIs. It was established that institutions lack effective, valid and comprehensive evaluation tools to capture critical measures of academics’ activities, which could lead to a disastrous situation if not well addressed. Hence, such omissions are likely not only to diminish academics’ enthusiasm and emotional engagement, but also harm institutional performance, productivity and quality of graduates, and become a fertile ground for intrigue and dysfunctional conflicts. Therefore, in measuring effective teaching, the assessment of teaching should be based on multiple pieces of evidence of effectiveness, which should be directly linked to organization and preparation, suitability of materials used, depth and level of engagement, and, learning activities, which should lead to learning outcomes.

Keywords: Evaluation scales, higher education mandate, iceberg metaphor, psychological contract
Mediating Role of Educational Motivation in the Relation of Metacognitive Awareness and Academic Performance of Students of Samangan Higher Education Institution

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Abstract

The human ability to learn and identify the associated factors is one of the unique attributes of each human being. Metacognitive awareness and educational motivation are related factors to academic performance in students. The purpose of this study was to investigate the effect of metacognitive awareness on educational motivation and academic performance of students. This research is applicable to the purpose of the research and the research is in terms of the possibility of controlling the quasi-experimental variables and the method of data collection is fieldwork. Descriptive statistics and inferential statistics (Pearson correlation coefficient and path analysis) were used to analyze the data. The statistical population of the study was all students of Samangan Institution of Higher Education in the academic year 2017-2018, which 270 students were selected by stratified random sampling method. The data gathering tool included the metacognitive awareness questionnaire of Shara and Denison (1994) and educational motivation questionnaire of Valrand et al. (1992). The reliability of the questionnaire was obtained at an acceptable level. The average of the total grade of their two courses was used to measure the academic performance of the students. The research findings indicated that the hypothetical model had a good fit and in sum, the variables of the research explained 61.1% of variance of academic performance of students. The results showed that metacognitive awareness has a direct effect on academic performance as well as indirect effect through educational motivation on students’ academic performance. That is, educational motivation can play a mediating role in the relationship between metacognitive awareness and academic performance.

Keywords: Metacognitive awareness, educational motivation, academic performance
University Supply Expansion and Inequality of Opportunity of access. The case of Uruguay

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Abstract

This paper examines whether opportunity of access to public university has improved over the period 2008 to 2013 in Uruguay; in which an important territorial expansion of the public university supply, historically located in Montevideo (the capital of Uruguay), to other regions of the country (named the Interior) took place. For this purpose, an opportunity index for access to university is elaborated; which combines in a single measure coverage to a certain opportunity (access to university), and the distribution of access between different groups of population conditional on their circumstances (a measure of inequality of opportunity). Results suggest that opportunities of access to University improved over the period; driven by an increase in the average coverage rate. However, inequality of opportunity of access worsens over the period, especially for the Interior, as new entries to university are relatively more from better-off socioeconomic family backgrounds than those from worse-off family backgrounds.

**JEL codes:** I23, I24.
**Keywords:** Inequality of opportunity, University, Shapley decomposition, Uruguay.
Innovative Behaviour in Teaching and Teachers’ Job Satisfaction

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Abstract

This paper presents the results of a research on the impact of perceived innovative work behaviour in teaching and perceived educational competency for innovative teaching on teachers’ job satisfaction. The participants were 160 teachers from 16 primary and secondary schools in Bucharest, Romania. Three separate instruments were used to collect data. The results indicate that the relationship between perceived innovative work behaviour in teaching and teachers’ job satisfaction (globally and with two of its dimensions) is moderated by perceived educational competency for innovative teaching. If teachers perceive themselves as innovative and competent in doing innovations, they will be more satisfied with the leadership and interpersonal relationships and with organization-communication at their workplace (but not with payment and promotion). Findings from this study may be incorporated into teacher training courses to help teachers develop their innovative work behaviour in teaching (PIWBT) and their educational competency for innovative teaching (PECIT).

Keywords: Teachers’ work satisfaction; perceived innovative work behaviour in teaching; perceived educational competency for innovative teaching; innovation-related pedagogy
Decolonising the Humanities and Social Sciences in South Africa

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Abstract

The paper critically discuss the need to decolonise the dominant western academic discourses and curriculum followed in the teaching and research in the Humanities and Social Sciences at universities in South Africa. The critical question discussed is: to what extend has the dominant western academic discourses at universities in South Africa contributed to the epistimicide and linguacide of the African ways of knowing and ways of expression through language other than western epistymologies? The contention of the paper is that this dismemberment of African society by the colonial project was no accident but deliberate and by design as made clear in a speech by Lord Macauly to the British Parliament on 2 February 1835 that the old and ancient African education system be replaced with a colonial system that will make Africans think that all that is foreign and English is good and greater than their own. The humanities and social sciences I content have been successful tools in the hands of the coloni

Keywords: Decoloniality; africanisation; epistimicide; rehumanise
Records of an Early Defibrillator in a Folk Ballad Research

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Abstract

This study introduces documents and an equipment in the history of physiology and physics discovered in a folklore ballad research. Methodology comprised of descriptive and historical comprehensive ethnography, field studies, resource research at archives and libraries, text analyses. The ballad originates in a true story of a 19th century robbery murder, the victims were two Western Hungarian (now Burgenland, Austria) women. The story has subsisted not only in oral history, but in pulp fiction and contemporary national and regional press as well. It is also a curiosity for the history of medicine, as a medical experiment was performed on the executed murderer in the hospital of Győr (Hungary), on 14th April, 1880, with an early defibrillator of Ányos Jedlik Benedictine monk, teacher of physicist and inventor. As the murderer was resuscitated after the hanging, the story had an international response. Two days later in Vienna Theodor Billroth, Austrian professor of medicine convened an extraordinary consultation of this ‘resurrection’ case. In this research, records have been found on electrical resuscitation trials in Hungary, before the invention of defibrillators. Jedlik’s resuscitation device is also presented in this study, as an important case in the medical history of defibrillation. The story can be used in the training and motivation enhancement of resuscitation and first aid.

Keywords: Research of Ballads, History of Medicine, Defibrillator
A Cross-border Railway Company Connecting Two World Orders, the GYSEV between 1945 and 1990: Gaps in the Iron Curtain

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Abstract

The World War II was not the beginning of a new and peaceful era. Until 1947 relations between the victorious powers became more and more intense. Both parties announced their own Cold War doctrine: on the American side this was the Truman principle and the Marshall plan, while by the Soviets it was the Zhdanov–Stalin’s “two camp” theory. Moreover, the war was not ruled out by the general peace treaty made with the consent of the victorious powers. The outcome of it was that distancing of the different values between the two great powers occurred in the German question, which resulted in the formation of two world order separated by the iron curtain: the Western Bloc and the Soviet Bloc. Hungary was important to the Soviet Union geopolitically as it was considered its Western military forefront and ultimately, with the Soviet defeat of the 1956 Revolution, it became apparent that it would remain within the Eastern Bloc. The Iron Curtain that physically appeared in 1949 separating two world orders also split up the Győr–Sopron–Ebenfurti Vasút [Railway] (GYSEV) that was established in 1876 and the Fertővidék Local Railway line that started its operation from 1897. Contrary to this, the private railway of the Monarchy and the vicinal it operated did not seize to exist. Moreover, it went on its own uniqueness not only in the two countries, but throughout the two world orders of West and East. The purpose of my presentation is to outline this paradoxical situation, which shows that the iron curtain did not shut the two camps hermetically apart, but there were gaps on it. In addition to this, I would like to show how the Austrian- and Hungarian-owned company was authorized or tolerated by the political power, why the nationalization did not take place. In addition to the sources of archives, research is based mainly on reports, news and articles written about the era in the Hungarian and international press. I am making it complete by using the oral history method through presenting the narratives of people working on the railroad, picturing the uniqueness of the situation and its effects on society. As a conclusion it can be claimed, that the railways crossing the two world order opened the way for smuggling and illegal migration. The company was responsible for its strategic significance in the past as well as in the present by bridging the divide between the blocks which had their own way of ideological, economic, cultural and political development.

Keywords: Iron Curtain, Railway, Two World Orders, GYSEV
Theoretical Frames of a Hungarian Empirical Historical Elite Research. Interpretation Opportunities of the Notion of the Elite, the Local Elite, the Nomenclature and the Cadre

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Abstract

There can be experienced a high range of interpretation variegation in connection with the notion of the elite in the sociological and politological specialized literature. By that, some mean the most outstanding members of society, a number of people apply this term to the group of people having the greatest power and influence, while others use the expression for those who occupy the highest institutional positions. With all this, the majority of the authors claim that people get into the group of the elite through some kind of democratic selection. The local elite is composed of those citizens of the settlement who have an influence through their fortune, power and/or positions to make decisions influencing the community’s destiny. The sharp distinction of the terms of nomenclature and cadre, which are different from the earlier practice, is reasoned by the "non-democratic" way of getting into. The latter two expressions raison have a 'raison d’etre’ particularly in the socialist, party-state regimes, where getting into leading positions broke away from individual abilities, qualities, and it was "faithfulness” that became the most important criterion.

Keywords: Elite, Local Elite, Nomenclature, Cadre
The Evaluation of Turkey’s Military Operations in Syria in Terms of International Law Rules

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Abstract

The Arab Spring process has spread to Syria in 2012 and the conflicts in this country have started between the regime forces and the opponents. With the inclusion of regional states and global powers, Syria has become a war zone and the state authority has been destroyed in this country. ISIS, PYD and other paramilitary structures which fledgling in this lack of authority has been a major security threat for Syria’s neighbors, especially for Turkey. As a result of Assad’s regime, coalition forces and the UN can not solve this security problem effectively, Turkey launched an operation under the name of Euphrates Shield in order to ensure their safety and so it has been carrying out a number of military operations in Syrian territories. In this context, the study is aimed that Turkey’s deploying troops in Syria will be discussed. This study which is prepared in order to analyze whether Turkey’s operations are legitimate in terms of international law, is also important because it will create a prediction on the sustainability of this policy and Turkey’s deploying troops in this country in the future. In the first part, use of force in international law will be studied, in the second part, Turkey’s operations and conditions requiring these operations will be analyzed, and finally, the legitimacy of these operations will be discussed.

Keywords: International Law, Use of Force, Turkey, Syria, Shah Euphrates
Defence Industrialization and Development of Turkish Domestic Arm Industry

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Abstract

The defense and aviation industry is a special sector among others in many respects. Capable national defense supported by a strong national defense industry is necessary for a country. Establishing an independent national defense requires a strong national defense industry. Developing and exporting defense systems may be an important source of GDP and balance of payments. This study examines the arguments for arms production in the context of the Turkish case and explores Turkey’s attempt to establish a domestic defense industry and reviews its accomplishment.

Jel Codes: H11, H23, H54, G18

Keywords: Economic Development, Defense Industrialization, Turkish Defense Industry
A Cultural Appraisal of Sacred Sites of the Eastern Free State adjunct to African Traditional Religion and Belief Systems

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Abstract

Sacred sites are the preferred space for ritual performances and identity construction from which the issue of sensitive structures, distinctive features, individual interpretations and symbol and meaning emanates. The importance of Motouleng, Mautse and Mantlilanga caves (Eastern Free State, SA) for different religious persuasions, indigenous knowledge and ancestral veneration of Africans and traditional healers will be investigated amongst the following: namely, how sacred sites are exemplifications of African indigenous religion; why they form locations of cultural and spiritual expression, and why they may be regarded as pertinent nodes of identity construction in a vibrant changing South African society. This paper will explore the way in which interpersonal experiences of the cave dwellers shape their sense of self and the conflict they encounter in the context of interaction, where identities are constructed and deconstructed in various ways. This paper will provide a detailed personal experience and examination of the participant’s life world on various issues pertaining to contestation and identity construction at the sacred space of the Eastern Free State. The existence of these sites poses a number of challenges to cave dwellers, land owners, heritage practitioners and to continued preservation, management and its restoration. Crucial to this debate is how these sites could be protected both physically and legally. The paper will use qualitative findings to discover new ideas on identity construction and adjunct belief systems and use thematic analysis to evaluate the research findings and make predictions on the effects on protest and contestation by cave dwellers around sacred spaces.

Keywords: Sacred space, cave, contestation, belief systems, identity construction and African religion
National Sovereignty and Airspace Borders

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Abstract

The article focuses on the juridical aspects of national airspace borders. In today’s technological era, the juridical issues of national airspace border play a very important role in guaranteeing the sovereignty of any country. The topicality of the article is related to quite frequent invasions and violations of national airspace borders. Territory of a state is usually delimited by land, sea and air borders. We usually understand the concept the territory of a state as ground or water surface, however in most countries definitions of national borders as well as in border agreements and national regulatory framework, the concept of national borders within its jurisdiction is defined as land and water depths within technical capabilities and the air space until the cosmos border (118 km above sea level, in the end of 20th century it was recognized as a result of scientific research). The sovereignty of Latvia since joining the EU and NATO has developed not only in maritime areas, airspace and border control, but even in space, as evidenced by the contract with the European Space Agency for space exploration and peaceful use in 2009. The article uses a comparative method, examining the opinions of many lawyers and the relevant normative regulation and analytical method, analyzing the content and interpretation of the regulatory framework.

Keywords: Territory, borders, countries, airspace, border agreements.

JEL Codes: K33
Relationship between Role Conflict and Job Satisfaction: Interacting Effect of Emotion of Flight Attendant

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Abstract

This study tests the hypotheses that flight attendants’ emotional labor aspects moderate the decreasing propensity of job satisfaction in the changing industrial climates, where the Role Conflict (RC) is likely perceived by the customer service employees. The questionnaire surveys were administered to a total of 414 flight attendants working for a European airline. A 5-point Likert-type scale was administered to assess the aspects of RC and emotional labor. The results indicate that, first, RC perceived by the customer service employees decreases job satisfaction. Second, an emotional labor aspect (affective delivery) moderates the decreasing propensity of job satisfaction. In the competitive industrial environment, emotional labor aspects practiced by the customer service employees moderate job satisfaction, when the role conflict is perceived not very high. Finally, emotionally competent employees might harmoniously work with people as well as the automated machines and IT in the stressful workplace, thus, contribute a long-term growth of the organization.

Keywords: Role Conflict, Emotional labor, Airline, Flight attendant, Growth of organization
Depression Level of Spanish Women Victims of Intimate Partner Violence: Does the Judicial System Hinder their Recovery and Well-being?

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**Abstract**

Women victims of intimate partner violence (IPV) go through a long and complex process until they leave the relationship. Many survivors decide to inform against their partner and initiate the legal path as one possible way to seek help. However, research on this topic has shown that women’s experiences may be different from what they expect from the legal system, the protection they get and the way they are treated by the professionals involved in the legal arena. In this sense, at which extent do legal proceedings hinder the recovery of women survivor of IPV? The aim of this study is to explore the variation of depression level between groups of women victims of IPV involved in the legal system within different moments of the procedure.

**Method:** 65 Spanish women answered two questionnaires/scales. One included sociodemographic questions and questions about their level of general satisfaction with the judicial system. The second one was a depression scale adapted and validated with Spanish women victims of IPV. ANOVA analysis were developed to study the relationship between the moment of the legal proceedings that women were at and depression scores.

**Results:** Results showed differences in depression scores depending on the moment of the legal proceeding. Higher scores in depression were found in women in the judicial investigation phase or in the oral trial, compared with women that had already finished the procedure. Descriptively, scores were also higher than women in their first 72 hours after the complaint or in the rapid trial phase. Furthermore, satisfaction with legal proceedings was lower within the group of women in the investigation/oral trial phase. It was also found that the lower the general satisfaction with the judicial system, the higher the scores in depression. All relationships were found statistically significant ($p < .05$) and reached at least a medium effect size ($R^2 > .06$).

**Conclusions:** Despite depression may be a consequence of violence and many other factors are possibly involved in scores, results would point not only that the legal system and interventions from its professionals could interfere in survivors’ recovery, but also that being involved in the judicial system could lead to deterioration of their psychological well-being in terms of depression. We suggest delving into this matter using a longitudinal methodology to know the evolution of mental health in women along the legal procedure. However, our findings could be showing the need for implementing good practices in the Spanish legal system and professionals involved to minimize secondary victimization, as well as to improve the judicial response to not interfere in women’s recovery process and well-being.

**Keywords:** Depression, survivors, intimate partner violence, legal system
“Gender-Sensitive Health Literacy” in Reducing Gender Inequalities at the Health in Turkey

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**Abstract**

**Problem:** According to the results of Global Gender Gap Report in 2017, Turkey ranks 131st in terms of women contributing to economy participation and opportunity, educational attainment, health and survival, political empowerment. This shows that women fall behind men in these fields. Such inequalities lead to differences between women and men in terms of health in Turkey, which lowers the level of health literacy; that is having access to, benefiting from, knowing about health services, and the use of their knowledge related to the health issues for women’s own and others’ lives. Particularly, positioning women’s place into houses hinders their access to health and social services. For example, illiterate women or lower educated have disadvantages than highly educated and wealthy women in understanding health-related problems, applying for health services, taking health-related preventive measures, and adjusting to treatment. Thus, women may hesitate about where to apply for health problems, and misuse drugs, not get necessary examinations.

**Aim and Theoretical Framework:** In this study, gender inequalities, faced by the women in Turkey in health, will be discussed. For reducing these gender inequalities, Neil Thompson's PCS analysis will be used in order to be strengthened by increasing the health literacy of the women.

**Procedure:** This study is planned as a review. Gender inequalities in the women's health will be debated in the light of the national literature in Turkey and the importance of personal, cultural and structural factors will be explained in order to be increased/enhanced the health literacy.

**Practical Implications:** Increasing the level of women's health literacy requires the efforts of intervention to empower women. Initiatives to increase the level of health literacy in these interventions should be gender-sensitive.

**Conclusion:** Women should be supported in the public sphere to ensure their access to health and social services by identifying personal, cultural and structural factors that prevent them from having control over their own lives.

**Key words:** Empowerment, gender, health literacy, inequality.
Are Free Riders Rational or Immoral?

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Abstract

This paper aims at answering the question whether free riders are rational actors or they are immoral persons. I begin by considering a couple of examples and next examine the arguments which defend that free riders are immoral persons because of social, environmental and governmental considerations. Then, I will give the opposite arguments which claim that free riders are not immoral or at least not all cases of free riding is an immoral act. Since the problem of free riding is multi-faceted, I will concentrate on whether we can accuse free riders of violating any moral value within the constraints of a specific moral theory, namely utilitarian ethics. I will conclude that there are cases in which there may not be a sharp contrast between the utility of a person as a free rider and the utility from the social and cultural perspective.

Keywords: Free riders, philosophy, rationality, game theory, morality.
Insurance Brands - in Terms of Financial and Marketing Approach

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Abstract

This paper presents issues linked to the key elements of finance and management, used at the level of 31 insurance companies registered in Romania at the end of 2016. We analyze the importance of the effects of financial and marketing factors on insurance companies. Our results highlight the valence of communication of corporate social responsibility in terms of financial performance on Romanian insurance market. This study has multiple implications on understanding the role of transparency in the insurance companies. The insurer should use more the web-sites and the social media platforms, for example Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, for a better communication with the potential insured.

Keywords: Brand, corporate social responsibility, insurance, profit, transparency
Contribution of Effective Tourism Policies to Urban Development and Economy: İZKA Case

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Abstract

Today tourism is one of the important tools for developments of countries, regions or cities. The states all over the World are trying to use this tool for their economic growth and urban development. Therefore, it is required that the states should be careful on their policy making processes to attract tourists to their destinations or cities. Enhancing tourist inbound in a country is based on making attractive tourism policies and implementing them efficiently. Nowadays together with technological developments and with the impact of globalisation, tourism activities can be performed easier than previous years. In this context, tourism policies have become more important for the states in the World. Particularly, the governments have begun to adopt bottom up policies rather than top down policies to reach their tourism targets in their countries. In this study, it has been aimed to reveal the contribution of tourism policies into urban or regional development. In this sense, İZKA’s tourism policies will be studied and rural-urban development targets will be determined by analyzing its 2014-23 Development Plan. Finally, some suggestions will be presented by evaluating these targets in the conclusion.

Keywords: Tourism, Tourism Policy, Urban and Regional Development, Development Agency
Network Effects at Retail Payments Market: Evidence from Russian Individuals

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Abstract
This research empirically evaluates the effect of network externalities for individuals behavior at Russian retail payments market. Specifically, the effects of direct and indirect network externalities for cardholding and usage probabilities are examined. Using the representative sample of 1500 individuals from all Russian regions this study finds significant robust evidence of positive association between the degree of both types of network externalities and individuals’ activity at the Russian retail payments market. Results are economically significant: a standard deviation increase in network effects leads to 2.5-4 percentage points increase in probability of cardholding and usage. Findings imply that one needs to account for network effects which play an important role for the payment behavior before implementing payment stimulating programs in Russia aimed at cardholders or users.

Keywords: Retail payments; payment cards; network effects; cardholders' behavior; financial services

JEL Codes: G21, D53, E42, L14
Network Effects at Retail Payments Market: Evidence from Russian Merchants

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Abstract

This research examines the role of network externalities in card acceptance by merchants on the retail payments market in Russia. The work empirically tests the effects of both direct and indirect network externalities for the merchants’ card acceptance probability based on the representative survey of 800 traditional (offline) merchants from all Russian regions. The main finding of this study is that the probability of cashless payments acceptance by merchants increases with the presence of direct and indirect or both types of network externalities, controlling for a large set of control variables, including merchants’ characteristics and location-specific differences between the retailers. The results are robust to the changes in measures of network externalities and inclusion of shadow economy controls. The findings are significant both statistically and economically.

Keywords: Retail payments; payment cards; network effects; merchants’ acceptance; financial services

JEL Codes: G21, D53, E42, L14
Territorial Approach of Cooperation between Small Companies Exporting Algerian Dates

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Abstract

This article discusses the weakness of inter-firm cooperation in the Algerian dates sector. Through an exploratory survey of several companies of producers and exporters of dates, we build a diagnosis of the state of inter-firm cooperation and we propose issues to enhance this cooperative process and its effects on export performance.

Keywords: Inter-firm cooperation, phoenicicole sector, Algeria
National Environment Management Authority Board of Directors’ Practices on Wetland Protection in Uganda: A Case of Kinawataka Wetland

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Abstract

This study aimed at establishing NEMA board of directors’ practices towards wetland protection in Uganda. It particularly sought to find out a) the contribution of NEMA directors’ policy formulation towards the protection of Kinawataka wetland, b) the contribution of NEMA directors’ supervision of enforcement of environmental law towards the protection of Kinawataka wetland, and c) to determine the contribution of NEMA board of directors’ monitoring and evaluation effect towards the protection of Kinawataka wetland. A cross-sectional study design guided the study for purposes of triangulation. Both quantitative and qualitative research approaches were used. The target population was 179 respondents and a representative sample of 122 respondents was selected for investigation basing on simple random and purposive sampling. The study employed interviews, observation and a questionnaire survey as methods of data collection. Narrative analysis was used to relate findings with the social context. Descriptive analysis and inferential statistics were used to generate frequencies and means. Correlations, regression analysis were used to summarize the results and determine relationships between the key variables. Correlation findings revealed the board’s policy formulation practices have a statistically significant strong positive contribution to wetland protection; a positive significant contribution of NEMA board of directors’ supervision of enforcement of environmental law to wetland protection; and NEMA board of directors’ monitoring and evaluation has a significant positive contribution towards the protection of Kinawataka wetland. Conclusively, it was noted that improvements in policy formulation, board of directors’ supervision of enforcement of environmental law and NEMA board of directors’ monitoring and evaluation will lead to improvements in protection of Kinawataka wetland. The study thus recommended NEMA board to endeavour improving its performance on policies of wetland management to ensure proper conservation; enhance the staff capacity to conduct support supervision; increase the resources needed to supervise wetland protection in Kinawataka; transparent feedback to all stakeholders; producing reports and disseminating information.

**Keywords:** Uganda, Environment, Management, Corporate Governance, Directors, Wetlands protection, NEMA
Financing of Political Parties in Kosovo

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Abstract

Financing of political parties is one of the most controversial issues in any democratic society. In Kosovo as a country in transition, financing of political parties and election campaigns is regulated by a special law on the financing of political parties. According to this law, political parties are obliged for financial transparency and to yearly publish the annual financial report, which includes all financial income and expenses. However, according to civil society, political parties are not transparent about the funding sources of their election campaigns and do not fairly report expenses from the funds that political parties receive from the state budget. The aim of this paper is to find measures to minimize risks from abusing with finances of political parties in the electoral process. The paper addresses in detail the legal framework for financing and auditing of political parties, European Commission and civil society opinion and the outcome of empirical public opinion polls on payments of party membership and various donations. The methodology used is legal analysis and analysis of data and information collected from the research process.

Keywords: Political parties, financing, audit, tenders, corruption
The Fourth Industrial Revolution and Turkey: A Study in the Framework of the National Innovation System

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Abstract

The technology, which has evolved quite slowly and in an evolutionarily way until the 18th century, has increased its momentum in the last 250 years and has caused changes called as industrial revolutions. With mobile technologies and intelligent algorithms, the process of industrialization is on the verge of a new revolution in countries that shaped national cultures with scientific enthusiasm and support of the technical inventions. In this study, the general-purpose technologies of the fourth industrial revolution and the Turkish national innovation system were explained. As a result of the study, it was emphasized that the national innovation system should be structured on the axis of general-purpose technologies of the new revolution.

Keywords: The Fourth Industrial Revolution, National Innovation System, Technology

Jel Codes: O14, Q16
The Role of Culture and Nature in Conflict-Resolution and Peace Building

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Abstract

Resolutions of conflicts through legal procedures and conventional methods often fail; even the winning party may have a feeling of loss: loss of a business partner caused by the destructive effects of a legal war, loss of money and the hope of being heard and understood!

Conflicts between people are caused by the following factors:
- A fragmented society of overspecialisation, lack of empathy or connection with the other, fast communication, social media with no time for a real conversation, loss of understanding of the whole picture.
- Even children have lost empathic skills following Dr. med. Brish from the childrens hospital in Munich: “There will be an avalanche of a generation without empathy!”
- Difference of culture and language: Every culture or language has its own social codes and reference frames; Misunderstandings are often caused by different interpretations of concepts and ideas, but also the lack of knowledge of accepted social behaviour in a certain circle or country.
- Our systemic background: Every person carries with him subconscious convictions and patterns, obtained during his childhood. This causes people to stay in certain patterns which may create blockages in communication and contact. Mediation is not only a communication process, a humane kind of conflict resolution, where both parties should come out as winners and active listening is being promoted, but it will also be a necessary tool in future for the prevention of conflicts in society.
- Within businesses and organisations; a lack of emotional intelligence among managers, protocols and insufficient humane contact within teams cause absences, bullying and burnout problems. Mediation can stimulate a better dialogue,
- Conflict coaching and systemic coaching with horses can show the hidden dynamics in a team, blockages of communication and offer solutions on a subconscious, emotional level.
- In society and politics in order to solve reactions of growing populism and lingering frustration among people. Mediation on this macro level, called public diplomacy, would involve direct contact between the electorate and the citizen and create more cooperation in the form of workgroups, as well as a better holistic approach in education and business, emphasizing the importance of human values, empathy development and sustainability in society.

Keywords: International mediation, cultural diplomacy, conflict resolution, business, empathy development, emotional intelligence, peace building, intercultural, systemic coaching, equine assisted coaching, education, sustainability
Is China’s Integration to the International Markets a Threat for Western Economies?

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Abstract

In People’s Republic of China (PRC), in which the communist regime was practically implemented from its establishment until 1978, gradually liberalization reforms were accomplished to keep pace with the changing world conjuncture. Before the reforms, the poverty of being a closed economy in the PRC, where GDP values are lower than those of the surrounding countries, has become unable to be explained to the whole world. Deng Xiaoping, who acceded after the death of President Mao Zedong, has carried out economic growth-based reforms. However, even many steps have been also taken to liberalize the system and to make it open, the government’s control over the economy has not remained. By carrying out together that the planned economy and the market economy, it has been obtained a considerable growth in a short run. In spite of the being the Chinese Communist Party at the country’s management, the new mixed economic model is called “socialist market economy” in the literature. In the market economy model that was in force under government’s supervision, while substantial growth values were acquired, the per capita GDP indicators remained low due to the large population. Due to the deflation in any years after the reform, it is possible to see some adverse impacts partly on consumption based growth. The macroeconomic values obtained by the PRC in a short period of time were closely followed by the western economies, privately in the USA. As a result of this following, many international relations theories and scenarios have been arisen. The most remarkable one of those is perception that China is a threat for global economies, both in the market and in the supply of raw materials.

Keywords: China, socialist market economy, decentralization, gradual reforms.
Transform from Developing Country Status to Developed Country Status

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Abstract

According to World Bank Classification, for 2019 fiscal year, upper middle-income economies are those with a GNI (Gross National Income) per capita between $3,896 and $12,055 while high-income economies are those with a GNI per capita of $12,056 or more. Graduating from the category of developing countries to the category of developed countries is not a smooth transition as 13 economies (Equatorial Guinea, Greece, Hong Kong SAR (China), Ireland, Israel, Japan, Mauritius, Portugal, Puerto Rico, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Spain, Taiwan) out of 101 middle-income economies in the second half of the 20th century had been able to become high-income economies by the first decade of the 21st century according to some official estimates. Developing or middle-income economies usually grow at higher rates in global monetary expansion periods by mostly borrowing in international financial markets while getting hit the most in the periods of global monetary contraction due to their well-known fragilities such as current account deficit, budget deficit, high public and private sector debt levels, etc. The countries transformed themselves from middle-income economies to high-income economies are the ones had overcome their before mentioned fragilities. In this study, those 13 economies are investigated and some recommendations are presented for developing countries. In conclusion, creating international brands along with an effective private equity and venture capital ecosystem, compensating major projects with partnership method instead of borrowing, developing projects to create stable cash flow not only in local currency but also in foreign currencies, removing bureaucratic obstacles, diversifying the financial markets with risk-sharing products besides the banks are the most notable factors for developing economies with middle-income trap in order to jump into the category of developed countries.

Keywords: Finance, Venture Capital, Banking, Private Equity, Venture Capital, Financial System, Risk, Middle Income Trap.
Optimization Approach to Customs Tariff Rates Formation Applicable to Customs Regulation in the Russian Federation

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Abstract

An optimization approach to the rationale for customs tariff rates is suggested in the article. The basic idea of this approach is the formal model for justification of the rational customs tariff rates in the form of corresponding liner programming problem.

Keywords: Foreign trade activity, customs regulation, Customs Tariff, Duty Rate
Firm Specific Characteristics Influencing Market Timing Abilities. A Study Using Own Stock Transactions

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Abstract

Which firms are more likely to time the market? Using a relative transaction price approach, this paper focus on 37997 own stock transactions from Euronext Lisbon listed firms, ranging from 2005 to 2015, to estimate the relationship between the market timing ability of firms and a set of firm specific characteristics. Results show that smaller, more efficient but less valuable companies are more likely to be successful to time the market.

Keywords: Repurchase, Resale, Own Stock, Opportunistic Behavior, Market Timing, Own Stock Transaction Performance, Firms Characteristics, Fundamentals

JEL Codes: G14, G15