

EDITORIAL

-----TRANSFORMATIONS IN -----
BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

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JEL classification: Y20.

The Contents Review

Under the changes imposed by the new technologies, businesses and people alike reorient and reinvent themselves. From theory to practice, from small endeavors to big businesses, from traditional markets to modern sectors, “the body parts” of the economy struggle to grab opportunities and strengthen themselves in front of vulnerabilities, uncertainties and risks.

This issue brings together research on some of these complex aspects that businesses are facing. From secondary data analysis to direct research, the approaches presented in this special issue present interesting perspectives on decision modelling, problem solving, business flexibility in the political context or micro and macro analyses on specific sectors. The four parts of the issue present the results of the analyses conducted in 16 studies.

The first part, Economic evaluation based on analytical decisions modelling, groups research papers that employ different econometric analyses: from the cluster analysis of the European retail activity to the econometric analysis of leadership styles in modern organizations; from the system dynamics model in the case of a medical device producer, to the Gradient Boosting Decision Tree Modell in analyzing the socio-economic aspects of the opioids crisis or the risk assessment of financial reporting nonconformity and corporate internal control.

The second part presents four papers on a very interesting and critical topic: Problem solving from a human resources perspective. The first paper analyzes the influence of task–technology on consumer perceived value from the perspectives of man–machine interaction and interpersonal interaction. Another paper approaches a very concerning aspect that looks at the work–family balance in human resource practice and in the creative performance of an employee. The third paper deals with gender differences in rationality and financial literacy. The last paper tackles the consumer protection in Romania based on the European Consumer Conditions Index.

The third part includes four papers that deal with a complex issue i.e., the analysis of how public policies contribute to the development and flexibility of economic activities. The influences of sustainability policies in the healthcare industry, export expansion policies as well as local development policies are addressed in this section, together with the way in which they influence the local and regional ecosystem.

The last part of this issue presents papers on a selected sector of the economy, namely agriculture, which is under scrutiny in the literature due to its essential role in building sustainability worldwide. Three papers offer different perspectives on this

sector: from risk management and the competitiveness of agricultural holdings, to the impact of financial subsidies on ecological agriculture benefits and the contribution of ecommerce to increasing the profitability of agricultural cooperatives.

We hope that this issue will keep the readers interested and will open new avenues for further interesting research.

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