ALEXANDRU IOAN CUZA UNIVERSITY of IAŞI

FACULTY OF ECONOMICS AND BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

With the support of the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union

TOWARDS NEW PARADIGMS OF EU ECONOMICS: FINANCIAL AND MONETARY MILESTONES
Jean Monnet Module, project no. 620297-EPP-1-2020-1-RO-EPPJMO-MODULE

EUCONOMICS

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

"FINANCIAL AND MONETARY POLICIES FOR FOSTERING EUROPEAN INTEGRATION"

30th of March –1st of April 2023

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME AND ABSTRACT BOOK

IAŞI, ROMÂNIA

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE

On behalf of the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration from Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași (Romania), we are pleased to have you as participants in the **EUconomics International Conference "Financial and Monetary Policies for Fostering European Integration"** organized as a **hybrid event** within the Jean Monnet Module "Towards New Paradigms of EU Economics: Financial and Monetary Milestones" (EUconomics), on **March 30th - April 1st, 2023**, in **Iaşi.**

The conference brings into discussion the key role of EU financial and monetary policies for fostering European integration and provides the background for the development of constructive debates on this and other connected topics. Young and established academics, researchers, and practitioners from both Romania and other EU and non-EU countries will attend and bring their contribution to a better understanding of the European policy background, old and new challenges for policy making, and specific role of financial and monetary policies in supporting growth and stability in Europe and around the world.

CONFERENCE TOPICS

The conference adresses the following (non-restrictive) topics:

1. Emerging economic, societal, environmental, and technological challenges for European policy making
2. Fiscal policies and their impact on the European business environment
3. European monetary policies and financial stability
4. Banks, insurance, and financial markets in the European Union
5. Business management in a dynamic European policy environment
6. Legal issues and approaches to strengthening the European regulatory framework

Within the conference, a **Students' Roundtable** is organized on the 1st of April 2023. Bachelor and master's students will present full scientific papers or essays on the general topic of the conference (or in line with the specific topics) in front of their peers, as means of further exploring and expanding their understanding of European financial and monetary integration.

ABOUT THE PROJECT

The Jean Monnet Module "Towards New Paradigms of EU Economics: Financial and Monetary Milestones" (EUconomics), under whose patronage the conference is organized, seeks to enhance awareness regarding how the EU works and what it does, especially through its financial and monetary policies, for strengthening the European integration and promoting sustainable economic growth.

This project is funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the author(s) only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union. Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them. The support is provided under the ERASMUS+ Program of the European Union (Jean Monnet Module "Towards New Paradigms of EU Economics: Financial and Monetary Milestones", EUCONOMICS, grant decision number 620297 / 17.09.2020).

Scientific Committee

President

Mihaela Onofrei, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania

Members

Sorin-Gabriel Anton, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Constantin-Marius Apostoaie, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Aram Belhadj, University of Carthage, Tunisia
Ana-Maria Bercu, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Irina Bilan, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Sebastian-Bogdan Căpraru, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Luminita Chivu, National Institute for Economic Research, Romanian Academy, Romania
Andrea Cilloni, University of Parma, Italy
Ioana Maria Costea, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi, Romania
Elena Cigu, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Florin Dănescu, Romania Association of Banks, Romania
Adina Dornean, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Ondřej Dvouletý, Prague University of Economics and Business, Czech Republic
Marius-Dan Gavriletea, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
George Georgescu, National Institute for Economic Research, Romanian Academy, Romania
Denis Hyams-Ssekasi, University of Bolton, United Kingdom
Iulian Ihnatov, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Stanimir Ivanov Kabaivanov, University of Plovdiv "Paisii Hilendarski", Bulgaria
Salah Koubaa, University Hassan II of Casablanca, Morocco
Maroje Lang, Croatian National Bank, Croatia
Mostafa Lekhal, Mohamed First University, Oujda, Morocco
Dan Lupu, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Constantin Marin, National Institute for Economic Research, Romanian Academy, Romania
Alexandru Maxim, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Seyed Mehdian, University of Michigan-Flint, USA
Antonio Minguez Vera, University of Murcia, Spain
Francisco Flores Muñoz, Universidad de La Laguna, Spain
Mihai Mutaşcu, West University of Timişoara, Romania
Carmen Năstase, Ştefan cel Mare University of Suceava, Romania
Florian Neagu, National Bank of Romania, Romania
Bogdan Negrea, Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania
Alina-Cristina Nuţă, Danubius University, Galaţi, Romania
Florin Oprea, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Anastasios Pappas, Hellenic Fiscal Council, Greece
Mihai-Bogdan Petrişor, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Ada-Iuliana Popescu, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Maria Prats, University of Murcia, Spain
Adriana Prodan, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi, Romania
Angela Roman, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Cristina-Teodora Roman, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Liliana-Nicoleta Simionescu (Gherghina), Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania
Simona Nistor, Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
Nicoleta Sîrghi, West University of Timişoara, Romania
Cristi Marcel Spulbăr, University of Craiova, Romania
Ovidiu Stoica, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Alexandru Toader, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iasi, Romania
Mihaela Tofan, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Giovanni Verga, University of Parma, Italy
Andrii Verstiak, Yurii Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University, Ukraine
Bogdan-Gabriel Zugravu, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania

Organising Committee

Coordinator

Irina Bilan, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania

Members

Constantin-Marius Apostoaie, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Ana-Maria Bercu, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Sebastian-Bogdan Căpraru, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Nicuşor Cărăuşu, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Elena Cigu, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Adina Dornean, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Roxana Dicu, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Dan Lupu, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Alexandru Maxim, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Mihai-Bogdan Petrişor, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Angela Roman, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Nicu Sprincean, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Mihaela Tofan, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Olga-Andreea Urda, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania
Anca Vatamanu, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania

Conference Venues

Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi
Carol I Boulevard no. 11, Iaşi, Romania
Ferdinand Hall, 1st floor

Faculty of Economics and Business Administration
Carol I Boulevard no. 22, Iaşi, Romania
B413 & B417, 1st floor

CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Thursday, 30th of March 2023

09.00-10.00: **Registration** | UAIC Building A, main entrance (hallway)

10.00-10.15: **Opening Ceremony** (Link) | Ferdinand Hall (UAIC Building A, 1st floor)

Irina Bilan
EUconomics Project Manager, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași

Mihaela Onofrei
Vice-Rector, Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași

10.15-12.00: **Plenary Session I** (Link) | Ferdinand Hall (UAIC Building A, 1st floor)

Maroje Lang
Chief Advisor, Croatian National Bank and Deputy President, Fiscal Policy Commission
"Croatia's Experience with the Accession to the Eurozone"

Anastasios Pappas
Head of Research Department, Hellenic Fiscal Council
"Macroeconomic and Fiscal Developments in Greece: The Necessity of an Independent Fiscal Institution"

Florin Dănescu
CEO, Romanian Association of Banks
"Gaps in the European Banking System"

12.30-14.00: **Lunch** | Gaudeamus Restaurant (Copou Campus)

14.30-16.00: **Parallel Sessions** | B413 & B417 (UAIC Building B, 1st floor)

16.00-16.30: **Coffee Break** | B1 hallway (UAIC Building B, 1st floor)

16.30-18.00: **Parallel Sessions** | B413 & B417 (UAIC Building B, 1st floor)

19.00-21.00: **Gala Dinner** | Unirea Restaurant (5th Piața Unirii Street, Iasi)

Friday, 31st of March 2023

09.30-10.30: **Plenary Session II** (Link) | B417 (UAIC Building B, 1st floor)

Cosmin-Flavius Costaş
Associate Professor Ph.D., Babes Bolyai University, Cluj Napoca
"DeFi and Default. Actual and Virtual Threats"

Maria Prats
Professor Ph.D., University of Murcia and European Institute – LSE
"The ECB's Monetary Policy: The Path towards Progressive Normalization in Turbulent Times"

10.30-11.00: **Coffee Break** | B1 hallway (UAIC Building B, 1st floor)

11.00-12.30: **Parallel Sessions** | B413 & B417 (UAIC Building B, 1st floor)

13.00-14.00: **Lunch** | Gaudeamus Restaurant (Copou Campus)

14.30-16.00: **Parallel Sessions** | B413 & B417 (UAIC Building B, 1st floor)

17.00-18.30: **Highlights of Iasi City Centre - walking tour** | Departure from UAIC Building B

Saturday, 1st of April 2023

09.00-11.30: **Students' Roundtable** (Link) | B413 (UAIC Building B, 1st floor)

11.30-12.00: **Coffee Break** | B1 hallway (UAIC Building B, 1st floor)

CONFERENCE TRACKS

Track 1A: Emerging economic, societal, environmental, and technological challenges for European policy making
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Rodica Perciun, Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Alexandru Maxim

Track 1B: Emerging economic, societal, environmental, and technological challenges for European policy making
Chairs: Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Andreea Apetrei, Lect. Ph.D. Constantin-Marius Apostoaie

Track 2A: Fiscal policies and their impact on the European business environment
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Bogdan Căpraru, Lect. Ph.D. Nicu Sprincean

Track 2B: Fiscal policies and their impact on the European business environment
Chairs: Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Irina Bilan, Prof. Ph.D. Ana-Maria Bercu

Track 3: European monetary policies and financial stability
Chairs: Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Elana Cigu, Lect. Ph.D. Anca Vatamanu

Track 4A: Banks, insurance, and financial markets in the European Union
Chairs: Lect. Ph.D. Constantin-Marius Apostoaie, Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Iulian-Romeo Ihnatov

Track 4B: Banks, insurance, and financial markets in the European Union
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Adina Dornean, Prof. Ph.D. Viorica Chirilă

Track 4C: Banks, insurance, and financial markets in the European Union
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Angela Roman, Res. Ph.D. Valentina Diana Rusu

Track 5A: Business management in a dynamic European policy environment
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Stanimir Kabaivanov, Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Dan Lupu

Track 5B: Business management in a dynamic European policy environment
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Salah Koubaa, Prof. Ph.D. Adina Dornean

Track 6: Legal issues and approaches to strengthening the European regulatory framework
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Mihaela Tofan, Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Ada-Iuliana Popescu

* * *

Special Track: Students' Roundtable
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Angela Roman, Lecturer Ph.D. Nicuşor Cărăuşu

Detailed Programme and Abstracts

Thursday, 30th of March 2023

Track 1A: Emerging Economic, Societal, Environmental, and Technological Challenges for European Policy Making

Location: B413 and online (LINK)
Schedule: 30th of March 2023, 14.30 – 16.00
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Rodica Perciun (National Institute for Economic Research, ASEM, Republic of Moldova)
Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Alexandru Maxim (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)

* * *

CIRCULAR ECONOMY IN THE FOOD AND DRINKS SECTOR – A ROMANIAN OVERVIEW

MĂDĂLINA-IOANA PETREA
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
madalinapetrea@hotmail.com

Abstract: In recent years, the concept of circular economy has gained increasing traction around the world to create sustainable economic growth and reduce waste and environmental impact. Romania, like many other countries, has been working to adopt circular economy principles and practices in its own economy, with varying degrees of success. My research consists of a document analysis of the most recent Government Decision, no. 1172/2022 regarding the National Strategy for circular economy. I focused my research on the food and drinks sector, the main research objectives being to identify the problems and the solutions to the problems from the circular economy perspective in the sector mentioned. The main problems consist of low recycling rates, high food waste rates and the main solutions are found in education for a sustainable development to reduce the food waste and reducing the use of plastic in packaging and promoting the use of recycled materials.

Keywords: circular economy; sustainability; Romania; food sector.

JEL Classification: K32; M14; O44

SMART CITIES IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE – A CASE STUDY APPROACH

CONSTANTIN-MARIUS APOSTOAIE
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
marius.apostoaie@uaic.ro

FRANCISCO FLORES MUÑOZ
Universidad de La Laguna, Department of Constitutional Law, Political Science and Philosophy of Law, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain
ffloremu@ull.edu.es

IOANA-MARIA URSACHE
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
ioanamariaursache@gmail.com

Abstract: In Europe, 'smart cities' represent the new approach to urban development. In fact, the concept has emerged to better grasp the need for change in urban development practices that could increase the quality of life through the optimization of hard (e.g., transport, energy, resources) and soft (e.g., human capital, inclusion, participation) infrastructure. The 'smart' dimension is not only meant for rethinking the fundamental framework of a city, but also for making it more innovative and competitive. With regard to the existing literature on the topic, much attention has been given to studying the concept itself and to the various factors that enable the smart transition of cities. Nonetheless, the focus is rather on the more developed countries in Western Europe, neglecting the emerging markets and developing economies as those in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE). Here, the `smart city` concept cannot be analyzed without considering the historical determinants and development factors. Therefore, it is useful to determine which cities can be labelled as smart in CEE and whether urban areas in the post-socialist space can keep up with the implementation of such novelties. Using a case study approach, the paper seeks to identify the specific features of the five most smart cities in Central and Eastern Europe (Prague, Warsaw, Tallinn, Bratislava and Vilnius) and how these differ from the Western European models. The paper begins with a brief literature review of the concept and then highlights how its definition might differ in the context of CEE. Afterwards, the paper presents the research method and continues with the results of the analysis on the five CEE countries (revealing, in the process, common features as well as unique characteristics). Preliminary research suggests a slow adaptation processes accompanied by a lack of coordination across many sectors and numerous barriers (including financial ones) to an effective implementation of the concept in the CEE countries. This exploratory study is more than relevant for policy makers and urban planners to devise and properly implement tailored smart city policies that could, in the end, improve the citizens' quality of life. These policies are to address various urban dimensions such as citizen engagement, economic growth, environmental protection, social cohesion, public spaces accessibility and efficient public services.

Keywords: smart city; Central and Eastern Europe; particular features; smart governance.

JEL Classification: H70; O18; O52; R11; R58

Acknowledgements: Co-financed by the European Commission, European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), Jean Monnet Chair. EU Public Administration Integration and Resilience Studies -EU-PAIR, project no. ERASMUS-JMO-2021-HAI-TCH-RSCH-101047526, decision no. 1190440/17.02.2022. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of European Union or European Commission (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

ECONOMIC GROWTH AND INCOME INEQUALITY: IS THERE A KUZNETS CURVE IN THE CEE COUNTRIES?

TEODORA MĂDĂLINA POP
Babeş-Bolyai University Cluj-Napoca, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
Clermont-Auvergne University, LEO-UCA Laboratory, Clermont-Ferrand, France
teodora.pop@econ.ubbcluj.ro

Abstract: The connection between income inequality and economic growth has been well-studied over the past decades with papers reporting a range of contradictory results that could not lead to any convincing conclusion (Kuznets, 1955; Alesina and Perotti, 1996; Halter et. al, 2014; Aiyar and Ebeke, 2020). In the majority of OECD and European countries, the income gap between the rich and the poor has increasingly expanded over the past decades (Brueckner and Lederman, 2018; Darvas, 2019). According to Brzezinski and Salach (2022), this phenomenon is much more accentuated in Eastern European states due to the transition process to capitalism. Given these increases in the degree of inequality, studying its effect on economic growth in the Central and Eastern European (CEE) context remains a research question challenging to tackle. Besides, we must not neglect the fact that even though these countries are currently at different stages of development, they have both similarities and differences in terms of macroeconomic background and the process of European integration. Therefore, this paper explores the relationship between economic growth and income inequality by observing a set of 11 CEE countries during the period 1994 to 2020. We employ appropriate panel cointegrating techniques in order to capture the potential long-term dynamic of the CEE countries, while not imposing equality on the short-run coefficients. Our econometric model starts from Kuznets' inverted-U shape hypothesis, testing its validity in emerging and transition countries. Regarding the methodology, our study tests for the existence of a cointegrating relationship between economic growth and inequality in the CEE framework due to: a) the non-stationary properties of our variables, and b) the common past of these countries, being former members of the same closed system. Thus, we draw upon short- and long-term estimations using the Pooled Mean Group (PMG) estimator coined by Pesaran, Shin, and Smith (1997, 1999) in order to account for the specificities of the CEE group, and also, for potential heterogeneities at national level. In addition, based on the empirical evidence of a potential two-way relationship between economic growth and inequality (Acemoglu and Robinson, 2013; Cingano, 2014), we consider an appropriate approach through which we evaluate the issue of causality in our sample, in the case of cointegrated variables (i.e. VECM Granger causality tests). Generally, it is found that there exists a monotonically decreasing growth – inequality link in the long-term, contradicting Kuznets' theory. However, in the short-run, several heterogeneities concerning this nexus are found at cross-country level, inferring the diffuse pattern of this association: inverted U-shaped in 8 out of 11 countries, U-shaped in 2, and linear in the Czech Republic. Regarding potential causality issues, we find a two-way causal relationship between the GDP per capita and the Gini index in the long-run, while in the short-term only exists a unidirectional causality arising from economic growth to trade. As policy implications, we emphasize that, in emerging countries, future increases in income inequality for large GDP values are supported by the presence of poverty, higher corruption, and inefficient macroeconomic leverage, especially those related to fiscal-oriented policies.

Keywords: income inequality; economic growth; Central and Eastern European countries; Kuznets curve; Gini coefficient.

JEL Classification: O40; O47; D63; I32

POST-WAR RECOVERY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE REGIONS: EUROPEAN EXPERIENCE FOR UKRAINE

NATALIIA MEDLOVSKA
Odessa Polytechnic National University, Odessa, Ukraine
medlovskaya@ukr.net

Abstract: This article examines the post-war recovery of the regions of Ukraine. Unfortunately, hostilities on the territory of Ukraine more ongoing, final consequences and dimensions losses not yet counted. That's why the question post-war restoration regions of Ukraine is relevant at the moment and will be relevant for a long time Recovery is already underway de-occupied regions and is planned recovery in the future de-occupied regions. For Ukraine special the interest is European experience post-war restoration countries, because from this further recovery and development of each region depends and state in general Considered question activity advisory body under the President of Ukraine - the National Council for the Recovery of Ukraine from the Consequences of WWII. The question of financing the restoration process was considered. The question of the functioning of funds for the recovery of Ukraine, which were created by the Government, was analyzed. The post-war recovery experience of European countries: Georgia, France, and the Balkan countries is analyzed. The provisions of the Marshall Plan are considered. Recommendations were provided on the development of the Plan of measures for the post-war reconstruction and development of Ukraine. Recommendations have been made regarding additions to the Regulations on the National Council for the Recovery of Ukraine from the Consequences of the War.

Keywords: regions; post-war recovery and development; European experience; Marshall Plan.

JEL Classification: O018; O190; O520

THE IMPACT OF THE ENERGY TRANSITION ON THE LABOR MARKET

LUMINIȚA CHIVU
National Institute for Economic Research "Costin C. Kirițescu", Bucharest, Romania
chivu@ince.ro

GEORGE GEORGESCU
National Institute for Economic Research "Costin C. Kirițescu", Bucharest, Romania
georgescu@ince.ro

SORIN DINU
National Institute for Economic Research "Costin C. Kirițescu", Bucharest, Romania
sorin.dinu@eiaeg.eu

Abstract: Under the circumstances of a rapid energy transition, one need to pay due attention to the employment and labour market challenges that it poses. The energy transformation impacts the labour market on several levels.

Firstly, on the one hand, the sectors directly involved in this process such as the extraction and processing of fossil energy resources, and on the other hand, the producers and users of internal combustion engines and the entire value chain that depends on them. Secondly, the energy prices and its availability affect the competitiveness of energy-intensive sectors. Thirdly, the issue of the replacement rate of incomes from the affected sectors with the incomes brought by green jobs should be addressed. In this regard it should be emphasized that, until now, the impact was rather analysed in terms of the balance of jobs lost and created due to the energy transition without considering the impact on the employees' incomes in the sectors affected by the energy transition. In this study, the approach to the labour market is carried out under the quantitative dimension and the one regarding the replacement rate of higher incomes in the affected sectors. The analysis results find that the real impact is beyond the optimistic vision that show a positive balance of jobs created by the energy transition. Finally, it is observed that the impact is not positive in the short and medium term, but is only possible in the long-term, depending on the public policies implemented to support employment. This support is needed all the more as the energy transition also induces a moral wear of the existing human capital.

Keywords: energy transition; labour market; wages and income distribution.

JEL Classification: J21; J23; J24; L52; Q28; Q40

RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND CLIMATE CHANGE – IN THE CONTEXT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CIRCULAR ECONOMY MODEL

RODICA PERCIUN
National Institute for Economic Research, ASEM, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova
rodica21@gmail.com

VIORICA POPA
National Institute for Economic Research, ASEM, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova
violin_s@yahoo.com

SERGIU ŢIRIGAN
National Institute for Economic Research, ASEM, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova
sergiu.tirigan@gmail.com

NICOLAE POPA
National Institute for Economic Research, ASEM, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova
nicolae-popa@rambler.ru

Abstract: The challenges facing the EU in the field of energy include issues such as increasing dependence on imports, limited diversification, high and volatile energy prices, increasing global energy demand, security risks affecting producing and transit countries, growing threats represented by climate change, decarbonization, slow progress towards energy efficiency, the challenges arising from the growing share of renewable energy, as well as the need for greater transparency and better integration and interconnection in energy markets. The EU's energy policy is at its core a set of various measures, which aim to achieve an integrated energy market, ensure the security of the energy supply and sustainability of the energy sector, transition to renewable energy sources and reduction of primary and final energy consumption. Efficiency and impact of the circularity and energy efficiency policies of the Republic of Moldova are affected by gaps in the established policies, normative framework and practices. Energy efficiency projects, implemented on large scale by local public authorities, or by central public authorities are affected by practices that undermine regulatory norms. Important resources are invested in ineffective energy efficiency projects, without appropriate calculations of the investment efficiency, energy audit, energy profile of the buildings. Therefore, it is necessary to consolidate national policies for promotion of the circular energy efficiency. This article reflects the most important issues related to policies to combat climate change, and aspects regarding the implementation of the most effective circular models in the Republic of Moldova. At the same time, the authors propose to trace the most important problems related to the efficiency of resources in the Republic of Moldova by solving them. The research was conducted within the State Program 20.80009.0807.22 Developing the circular economy mechanism for the Republic of Moldova.

Keywords: circular economy; energy efficiency; waste management; recycling; climate change; resource efficiency.

JEL Classification: Q53; Q54

CLIMATE CHANGE AND FIRM PERFORMANCE IN THE EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

SORIN GABRIEL ANTON
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
sorin.anton@uaic.ro

Abstract: Agriculture represents one of the most sensitive sectors to the change in temperature and precipitations. However, little is known about how rising temperatures and changing levels of precipitation affect the activity and profitability of firms in the agricultural sector.

This paper aims to investigate the effect of rising temperature and precipitation change on operating profitability in the case of large firms from Europe. For this purpose, panel data for 96 public firms from for the time span 2009-2016 and several econometric techniques are employed. Firm-level data has been retrieved from the Orbis database. The results of the OLS estimation suggest that the rising temperature has a positive impact on operating profitability, while precipitation change has no impact. However, the quantile regression results highlight a parameter heterogeneity in the effect of rising temperature on operating performance. The highest magnitude is found for lower and higher quantiles.

Regarding the firm-level control variables, the empirical results show that firms with higher cash flows and larger firms in the agricultural sector earn higher profits. On the other hand, the efficiency of (total) assets harms operating profitability for higher quantiles (e.g., Q50 - Q90). Also, it has been found that leverage and market opportunities have a positive and significant effect on operating performance only at the highest quantile of the operating profitability distribution (Q90). The findings of this paper have implications for investors, policymakers, and academics alike.

Keywords: climate change; agricultural sector; firm performance; European Union.

JEL Classification: G32; L25; Q54

COMMODITY MARKETS AND INTERNATIONALIZATION OF COMPANIES IN THE NEW CIRCUMSTANCES

ANIS BENABED
Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Doctoral School of Economics and International Business, Bucharest, Romania
anis_anisse@yahoo.fr

Abstract: The internationalization of companies is a phenomenon that arises the chances and opportunities for companies to access new markets abroad by opening to them the possibility to have financial diversification without depending only on local markets that are exposed to a local competition. The geopolitical instability, conflicts of interest, the supply and demand, the pandemic, the appearance and impact of digitalization and international competition and promotion have been important challenging factor for companies and commodity markets. The research question is “How is Internationalization connected with companies and commodity markets in the new circumstances?” The methodology of research focused on a review of the existing literature, a descriptive qualitative way and data analysis. The results show that companies are exposed to face one of the key obstacles difficulty in identifying potential partners and opportunities for business in other countries. Potential buyers of the company's goods or services are very important in export, the rise and increase in prices of commodities in commodity markets affect companies and may lead to inflation, global economy and may lead to a recession or crisis that should be wisely treated. In conclusion, Commodities are keys for companies business, innovations, trade and internationalizations. The change and challenges in commodity markets lead companies directly to work on a new balance to survive under the shadows of Internationalization and new circumstances.

Keywords: companies; internationalization; business; commodities; market; circumstance

JEL Classification: Q02; G20; F60

Track 4A: Banks, Insurance and Financial Markets in the European Union

Location: online (LINK)
Schedule: 30th of March 2023, 14.30 – 16.00
Chairs: Lect. Ph.D. Constantin-Marius Apostoaie (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)
Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Iulian-Romeo Ihnatov (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)

* * *

TESTING VOLATILITY CHANGES USING GARCH CLASS MODELS IN NETHERLANDS STOCK MARKET

ANCA IOANA TROTO (IACOB)
University of Craiova, Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, Craiova, Romania
anca_ioana_iacob@yahoo.com

Abstract: This study examines changes in volatility clusters and volatility patterns using GARCH class models in the Dutch stock market in the context of the COVID 19 and global financial crisis. The movement pattern of the AEX stock market index during the sample period from January 3, 2000 to December 2, 2022 a daily closing adjusted prices considered for the empirical investigation. The global financial crisis and the COVID 19 pandemic's effects are both included in the sample period. GARCH (1,1), GJR (1,1), and EGARCH (1,1) models are part of the econometrics. By adding further empirical data on the long-term behavior of the Dutch stock market, this empirical study adds to the body of current literature. We find changes in volatility after the Covid – 19 period, sharp rise in the index levels and presence of leverage effect in returns.
For both symmetric and asymmetric GARCH class models, the first log difference is taken into account. Additionally, the data was examined for return normalcy using the Augmented Dickey Fuller test. The conditional mean equation yields insignificant results for both of our asymmetric models, according to the GARCH model results. For conditional variance equations, EGARCH and GJR offer findings at a 1% significant level. At a 1% level of significance, GARCH (1, 1) yields complete significant results. Only findings at a significance level of 1% are provided by the conditional variance equation for both asymmetric models, leaving out the conditional mean equation's inflated results in spite of alternative parameterization. The leverage impact was validated in the returns from the Netherlands stock market series for the sample period using the GJR (1, 1) and EGARCH or Exponential GARCH models. This indicates that the stock returns over the study period followed long memory and showed historical return patterns. The GARCH (1, 1) significance test shows that volatility persisted during the sample period (0.1145 + 0.8726). It implies that for upcoming trades, the return will have a greater impact on the unconditional variance.

Keywords: global financial crisis; international portfolio diversification; transmission patterns; stock market; financial asset prices; returns.

JEL Classification: C40; G110; G120; G170

PROSPECTS OF UKRAINE'S INVESTMENT POLICY

OLENA LYPYNSKA
Odessa Polytechnic National University, Ukraine, Odessa
lypynska.o.a@op.edu.ua

MARYNA SHEPEL
Odessa Polytechnic National University, Ukraine, Odessa
shepel.m.ie@op.edu.ua

Abstract: Unfortunately, in today's conditions, the Ukrainian economy is in a difficult situation, it continues to deteriorate as a result of the continuation of the Russian Federation's open military aggression.
Foreign investments play an important role in creating stable conditions for supporting the Ukrainian economy. Macro-financial support funds were provided to Ukraine in the form of long-term loans on favourable terms. This support contributes to Ukraine's macro-economic stability and its overall liveability in the context of Russia's military

aggression and the economic problems caused by it. As in the case of all previous loans of macro-financial support, the Commission borrows funds from international capital markets and transfers the proceeds to Ukraine on the same terms. This financial support complements the unprecedented assistance provided by the European Union to date, namely humanitarian assistance, development and defence assistance, the suspension of all import duties on Ukrainian exports for one year and other solidarity initiatives, such as removing bottlenecks in transportation to ensure exports, in particular grains. Today it so happened that for Ukraine receiving such funds is a matter of survival. But if we look at the post-war period, it also needs investments to rebuild and normalize life.
Returning to a peaceful life, it is necessary to remember that foreign investments attraction allows the recipient country to receive a number of benefits, the main of which are improving payment balance; transferring advanced technologies and know-how; complex utilization of resources; developing export potential and reducing dependence on imports; achieving socio-economic effect. The national legislation in the field of foreign investments regulation declares foreign investments protection and promotion, establishing. But for a full-fledged recovery, it will be necessary to adopt a number of programmes to attract targeted investments in the directions of the country's recovery.
In order to intensify work on the development and implementation of Ukraine's investment potential, increase the volume of foreign investments, support priority investment projects, improve the investment climate in the country, ensure the investors' rights protection, and promote the investors' effective interaction with state authorities. At the same time, in order to simplify the procedure for foreign investments attraction and to promote the country's economic recovery, it is necessary to bring the Ukrainian legislation to the European Union standards. In July 2022 Ukraine presented a powerful plan for the country's recovery at the conference in Lugano. This strategy implementation is designed for 10 years and it received favourable evaluations and support from international partners. Ukraine sets itself an ambitious, but quite realistic goal: by 2032 to make the leap from a transitional (transit) economy to a developing economy. In order to attract foreign investors to the Ukrainian economy, the Advantage Ukraine electronic platform has already been created, which collects more than 500 investment projects and opportunities in 10 sectors of the economy which provides extraordinary investment opportunities for Ukraine. Thus, it can be concluded that after the end of active hostilities, Ukraine will become one of the most invested countries in Europe.

Keywords: investment policy; financial support; livelihood conditions stabilization; economic development.

JEL Classification: H81

BANK SIZE AND EFFECTIVE TAX RATES. THE CASE OF US BANKS

SEBASTIAN LAZAR
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
slazar@uaic.ro

IULIAN IHNATOV
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
iulian.ihnatov@uaic.ro

NICU SPRINCEAN
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
sprincean.nicu@uaic.ro

ALIN MARIUS ANDRIES
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
alin.andries@uaic.ro

Abstract: The paper empirically investigates the bank size as a major determinant of bank-specific effective tax rates for US commercial and savings banks over 2011-2020 period. Moreover, exploiting the size-triggered difference in tax deductibility rules for credit losses for US banks, the paper looks upon the effects on the effective tax rates of the reserve method vs charge-off method with respect to loan loss provisions tax deduction. The results show that size positively affects the effective tax rates, which means that larger banks pay higher taxes in relation to their size, while the loan loss provisions negatively affects the effective tax rates irrespective of the tax deduction rules, and hence the size of the banks.

Keywords: effective tax rates; loan loss provisions; banking.

JEL Classification: G21; H21; H25; H32

CLIMATE CHANGE POLICY: ADDRESSING THE ISSUE BY CENTRAL BANK

ADINA CRISTE
Romanian Academy, "Victor Slăvescu" Centre for Financial and Monetary Research, Bucharest, Romania
criste.adina@gmail.com

IULIA LUPU
Romanian Academy, "Victor Slăvescu" Centre for Financial and Monetary Research, Bucharest, Romania
iulia_lupu@icfm.ro

Abstract: In recent years, the effects engendered by climate change on the financial system are increasingly being considered by political factors, financial authorities, and academic forums. Climate change policy aims to mitigate physical and transition risks by managing both the adverse effects that occur and the transition process to a low-carbon economy. Although the government is considered the main decision-maker in managing climate-related issues, the financial authorities, including central banks, are recognized as having a major role, given the climate change impact on the financial system. Based on the analysis of the specialized literature, it can be noted a lack of consensus regarding the extent to which climate change policy should be integrated into the operational mechanism of a central bank. A possible factor of those divergent opinions would be the institutional differences imprinted by cultural tradition and experience. However, regardless of views on central bank involvement in climate change policy, an increasing number of central banks have either already adopted measures/guidelines on green finance or have begun to include climate-related risk in the macroprudential framework. The research aims to identify how central banks are involved in climate change policy in this setting. The methodology consists of performing an up-to-date comparative analysis using scores given to relevant criteria that define a central bank's "green" profile. The empirical evaluation considers a sample of 21 central banks of selected countries from the G20, given their influence in the global economy, and from European countries (Romania, Poland, Hungary, Czechia, and Croatia). The criteria selected for evaluation are grouped into four categories related to: the governance framework; the direct operational framework, which includes monetary policy and prudential policy; the indirect operational framework, to improve the activity of the central bank in the direction of achieving the proposed objectives/targets, and which contains the research activity and promoting climate-related issues; the ecological behaviour of central bank, as "leading by example". The research results show that although there are significant differences regarding the involvement of central banks in climate-related policy, only five institutions are characterized by "green activism", having the best scores for each category of criteria. Accordingly, the central banks of France, United Kingdom, Italy, Hungary, and the European Central Bank are the most active, being strongly involved, both in the management of climate-related risks through monetary and prudential policy operations, as well as in activities to improve approaches related to the management of these risks, through research activities, but also to promote ecological issues. The significant gap between central banks on the overall score reflects the different views of the approach. Yet, regardless of direct activism and the overall scores obtained, all analysed central banks are involved "indirectly", paying more attention to research activities in the climate change field and developing their awareness. This would be a sustainable direction for the central banks' involvement in climate change policy, that does not undermine their independence and neutrality.

Keywords: green mandate; climate-related disclosures; developing awareness; criteria.

JEL Classification: E52; E58, Q58

BANKING PHISHING - PROPOSED SOLUTIONS IN ORDER TO REDUCE THE NUMBER OF CYBER ATTACKS VICTIMS

OANA BUZIANU
Wintech, Râmnicu Vâlcea, Romania
oana.buzianu@wintechconsulting.ro

ALEXANDRU CIPRIAN ANGHELUŞ
Prodefence, Paşcani, Romania
Constanţa Maritime University, Constanţa, Romania
contact@prodefence.ro, alex.anghelus@cmu-edu.eu

GABRIEL MĂRGĂRIT RAICU
Constanţa Maritime University, Constanţa, Romania
gabriel.raicu@cmu-edu.eu

HORAŢIUS NICOLAE GÂRBAN
Ministry of National Defense, Romanian Cyber Defence Command, Bucharest, Romania
Constanţa Maritime University, Constanţa, Romania
hgarban@mapn.ro, horatiu.garban@cmu-edu.eu

MIRCEA CONSTANTIN ŞCHEAU
Constanţa Maritime University, Constanţa, Romania
University of Craiova, Craiova, Romania
mircea.scheau@cmu-edu.eu, mircea.scheau@edu.ucv.ro

Abstract: The financial sector is one of the main targets of cybercriminals, who often use phishing attacks to avoid banks' security protocols in order to attract victims and convince them of the legitimacy of their actions. They use various social engineering tricks by creating some scenarios (like fake account updates, security upgrades, etc.) and specific techniques (like imitation of images, logos and the identity of banking institutions, etc.). This article aims to identify and evaluate these actions, then review existing techniques. Because phishing susceptibility depends on user's awareness, cyber criminals often exploit human nature instead of using sophisticated technologies. As a result, even if security protocols are embedded in banking sites and applications, the human element often fails to detect these fraud without the basic knowledge of digital ethics that would have made them more aware of potential risks so that intruders would not he steals their money and sensitive personal data. This article contains information quite close to the technical area and also relevant explanations on possible ways to reduce the victims of attacks number.

Keywords: cybercrime; impact; crisis; awareness; prevention; cybernetics analysis; incident response.

JEL Classification: D83; K22; I21

ARE YOU OPEN TO FORGIVENESS? INVESTIGATING SERVICE RECOVERY STRATEGIES IN THE BANKING SECTOR

ATTIA ABDELKADER ALI
University of Alicante, Faculty of Economics and Business Sciences, Alicante, Spain
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
attiaali@aun.edu.eg

Abstract: In the highly competitive banking sector, providing quality customer service is crucial for retaining customers and maintaining a positive reputation. However, despite the best efforts of banks to deliver flawless service, service failures can occur. Banks employ suitable strategies to recover from service errors and problems, encouraging customers to continue their transactions with the bank and expanding their tolerance zone level. Hence, this study explores the correlation between service recovery strategies (SRS) (compensation (CP), apology (AP), and Empathy (EM)), customer forgiveness (CF), and repurchase intentions (RI) in the banking sector. A quantitative-based administrative questionnaire was used to statistically test the relationships between SRS, CF, and RI. The data was obtained from 190 banking customers in Alicante City, Spain, who had experienced a service

failure and responded using a five-point Likert scale. Simple and multiple regression analyses were conducted to analyze the results. The findings indicate that SFS such as AP, CP, and EM positively impact CF and RI. Additionally, a positive relationship was found between CF and RI. Furthermore, the results concluded that CF mediates the relationship between two specific service recovery strategies, (CP, AP), and RI.
The findings from the research can aid bank managers in formulating focused recovery strategies and attaining a competitive advantage. This study provides concrete suggestions for banks to manage and operate banking services provided to their customers and effective service recovery strategies that enhance customer forgiveness behavior and repurchase intentions. The study highlights the significance of service recovery strategies in the banking industry and recommends investing in marketing strategies and campaigns to improve consumers' favorable attitudes toward the banks. It also highlights the relevance of customer forgiveness in the service recovery process. Consequently, it emphasizes the importance of addressing this issue in the banking service recovery process, as it enhances customer repurchase intentions.

Keywords: service recovery strategies; customer forgiveness; repurchase intentions; banking sector; Spain.

JEL Classification: M31; G21

ASSET CLASSES CORRELATION: A BI-VAR ANALYSIS

ANDREI-DRAGOS POPESCU
University of Craiova, Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, Craiova, Romania
andrei@scx.holdings

Abstract: This paper is proposing a new approach for identifying groups of assets that exhibit similar behaviour under various market conditions using a BI-VAR modelling. Our approach uses VAR models to capture the dynamic interdependence between different asset classes and applies a spectral clustering methodology to identify groups of assets that exhibit similar patterns of behaviour. The method is evaluated on a dataset of asset prices, and its performance is compared to existing methods using various metrics. Results show that our proposed method outperforms other existing methods. The proposed approach can help investors identify groups of asset classes that behave similarly under different market conditions, enabling them to make more informed investment decisions and manage their portfolios better. In this paper will try to assess the correlations between the traditional financial markets and the main drivers of the financial digital markets: Bitcoin and Ethereum. We will have a holistic view of the financial digital assets market and will try to understand the influence, along with the correlations and other contagion effects, which derive from the traditional financial markets. The purpose of this paper is to create a better understanding of how the markets interact with each other, in the context of a new asset class, which is in an emerging and evolving stage. The juvenile crypto assets market clearly responds in a more dynamic way to every impact that is generated from the traditional finance, and these shocks are usually translated in price movements and volatility.

Keywords: crypto assets; crypto market; financial markets; correlation; VAR modelling.

JEL Classification: F20; F21; G29

Track 5A: Business Management in a Dynamic European Policy Environment

Location: B417 and online (LINK)
Schedule: 30th of March 2023, 14.30 – 16.00
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Stanimir Kabaivanov (University of Plovdiv Paisii Hilendarski, Bulgaria)
Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Dan Lupu (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)

* * *

THE IMPACT OF SMALL AND MEDIUM ENTERPRISES ON ECONOMIC GROWTH: THE CASE OF ROMANIA

ERIKA-MARIA DOACĂ
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration , Iaşi, Romania
doaca.erika@yahoo.com

ADELINA-ANDREEA SIRITEANU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
siriteanuadelinaandreea@gmail.com

Abstract: The events that have taken place in the last two decades and that have affected the global economy (economic crisis, the COVID-19 pandemic, armed conflicts between countries, natural disasters) have left their mark significantly on both the population and the business environment. The sector of small and medium enterprises has a particularly important role in the development of the national economy, contributing to the formation of gross domestic product, to the creation of new jobs, thus stimulating competition. That is why small and medium enterprises, considered as the engine of economic growth, play a vital role in creating new jobs, reducing poverty, etc. The objective of this study is to identify the role of small and medium enterprises in the recovery of the Romanian economy, as a result of the events. Considering the fact that the sector of small and medium-sized enterprises is a vital one in an economy, but nevertheless, the pandemic crisis has demonstrated the vulnerability of this sector to uncertain events that affect both the population and the entrepreneurial environment, I believe that this topic is topical and of major interest. The dependent variable of this study is the added value generated by the small and medium enterprises sector and as independent variables we will use the growth rate of the gross domestic product per capita, the national income, the unemployment rate and the youth who do not work and do not follow a form. of education (percentage of total population). The collected data covers the period 2009-2021, the results being obtained with the help of the EViews software. The empirical results of this study demonstrate a significant impact of small and medium enterprises on economic growth. The conclusions of this study are relevant both for company managers and political decision-makers, thus demonstrating the importance of this sector for the country's economy and thus causing them to pay special attention to the problems faced by this sector.

Keywords: small and medium enterprises; economic growth; sustainable development.

JEL Classification: D92; O4; O11

STRATEGIC ELEMENTS OF DIVERSITY MANAGEMENT IN THE EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM - CASE STUDY: CLIM

ANA -ALINA ICHIM
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
analinaichim@gmail.com

Abstract: CLIM is the acronym for Cooperative Learning in Multicultural Groups, and proposes a certain organisation and structure of the teaching contents, regardless of the subject taught, based on the pedagogical principle of creative – cooperative learning (CCL). Besides its proper pedagogical purpose, this approach can be

also considered a strategic element of diversity management in a school, whenever in the classroom or the teachers' room one can meet different cultures, ethnics, native languages, political views or religions.
Using this method when teaching different subjects, mainly the counseling and orientation class, all the abilities of a person can be enhanced and involved, such as oral production skills (in a foreign language class), written production skills (reading, listening, spelling and literacy) and there will be build complex competences, integrating values and positive attitudes – cognitive flexibility, communication skills during teamwork, tolerance towards differences, critical approach to cultural stereotypes, raising interest in discovering socio-cultural and professional life-related aspects.
Regarding CLIM as a strategic element of the management of diversity in terms of adults involved in education (in a school), the hereby study created the premises for the analysis of efficacy of this method – does it really enhance group cohesion and an inclusive atmosphere, where all the participants feel themselves and appreciated for what they are?

Keywords: school diversity; diversity management strategy; education.

JEL Classification: I2

ECONOMIC POLICY ASSESSMENT IN POST-COVID WORLD

STANIMIR KABAIVANOV
University of Plovdiv Paisii Hilendarski, Faculty of Economics and Social Sciences, Plovdiv, Bulgaria
stanimir.kabaivanov@uni-plovdiv.bg

VENETA MARKOVSKA
University of Food Technology, Business Faculty, Plovdiv, Bulgaria
v_markovska@uft-plovdiv.bg

Abstract: Economic research is given the blessing and the curse of being all the time at the top of the news and our attention – simply because its successes and failures impact the daily life and wellbeing even for individuals, that are not related directly to the research. Also due to the fact, that economic policies and research often go in parallel, it is not unlikely to have the economics as science take all the blame for the misfunction of otherwise political decisions. Yet there are some objective reasons on why economic research results are often criticized: a) static nature of the results, which may take the form of studying only a specific time interval or a reduced set of inputs (like for example putting focus on a single area or country); b) applicability and practical use, which may vary across different studies; c) transparency (in terms of being able to reproduce quickly and confirm the findings) and adaptability of the research results (in terms of being able to easily modify the applied scientific methods in accordance with different needs and level of understanding of the target audience).
In this paper we suggest and demonstrate an approach how to use simulation and interactive data processing to overcome the aforementioned issues. For the last two years, SARS-CoV-2 pandemic offered us a unique opportunity to conduct studies on our economies put to a serious and unexpected stress test. Due to the fact, that countries had to react at the same time to the same threat, it was possible to compare in "laboratory conditions" the impact and short-term effects on different policies and counter measures. But it should not require a large scale epidemy or war to be able to carry out tests and estimate the effects of different policies. We develop and test a generic approach for assessment of economic policies impact, based on real time data processing, pluggable econometric models and Monte Carlo simulations with user-specified controllable scale and complexity. There are two important aspects of our study: 1) development of continuous and logically sound approach to combining different data sources, into a model that can be used to develop different scenarios and estimate the effects of a policy; 2) use of interactive (dashboard-oriented) models, that allow to adjust model parameters and re-use existing policy assessment methods with new data and under different assumptions/conditions.
In addition, to specifying common steps for the analysis, we conduct tests of the suggested approach by analysing the impact of COVID restrictions in different EU countries and demonstrate how policies for supporting economic development and recovery can be assessed with the help of Monte Carlo simulations.

Keywords: Monte Carlo; MLE estimation; policy impact simulation; pandemic effects

JEL Classification: G17; C58; C63

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS OF THE EFFECT OF PUBLIC SUBSIDIES ON START-UP SURVIVAL

CHRISTIANA BRIGITTE SANDU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
christiana.balan@uaic.ro

MIHAELA GRUIESCU
Romanian American University, Bucharest, Romania
gruiescu.mihaela@profesor.rau.ro

ELISABETA JABA
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
ejaba@uaic.ro

Abstract: The issue of firm entry and exit is very important in the modern economies. The ability of firms to survive and develop is mostly driven by technological progress, though firms are heterogeneous with respect to their turnover. Therefore, firms' survival and development also depend on institutional and regulatory settings.
In the last ten years, various programs and projects have been created across the EU to foster and assist entrepreneurs. The role of SMEs in economic development and convergence is especially important in emerging economies. By focusing on the mechanisms through which public funding benefits SMEs highlight the impact of institutional settings in such economies.
In this paper, we assess the effect of public support on the probability of start-ups to survive and to develop. The main objective of our research is to compare the performance of public funded start-ups with regular business start-ups in Romania.
We use a rich database of firms that were created in 2015 within the framework of the program Romania Start-up. We follow these firms year-by-year over the period 2015 – 2020. Furthermore, we consider data for Romanian business start-ups that were created in 2015 without any public support.
Applying econometric modeling approach, we study the start-up subsidies from a business perspective with respect to business outcomes.
The main findings show that survival probability is different between the subsidized start-ups and the non-subsidized firms after their first three and five years of existence. We distinguish different subgroups of firms, according to their economic performance path.
The results underline the importance of the creation and of the dynamics of start-ups. Moreover, the quantitative analysis of the economic performance of start-ups outlines the success of funding programs on the outcome of SMEs that benefited from them. The assessment of the impact of such financing programs is important for policymakers in supporting entrepreneurship.

Keywords: entrepreneurship; start-up; performance; subsidies.

JEL Classification: C14; L26; J68

BALANCING PROFITABILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY: THE CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR EUROPEAN BUSINESSES IN ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL POLICIES

SABINA-CRISTIANA NECULA
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
sabina.necula@uaic.ro

Abstract: This article provides a synthesis of various research papers, offering insights into the environmental and social policies that businesses in Europe are grappling with and the challenges and opportunities they face in balancing profitability and sustainability. The study found that complying with environmental regulations and implementing sustainable practices are significant challenges for businesses, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises. However, environmental and social policies may also have a positive effect on businesses, with properly designed policies playing a critical role in reducing social inequality. The article also highlights the need for businesses to move beyond traditional eco- and socio-efficiency measures and embrace a more

comprehensive approach to sustainability, and discusses effective policies for European businesses in relation to climate change, human rights, and social inequality. Overall, the findings suggest that while environmental and social policies can pose challenges for businesses, they can also create opportunities for sustainable and profitable growth.

Keywords: environmental policies; social policies; sustainability practices; renewable energy; financial barriers.

JEL Classification: Q5; Q56

CORRUPTION, PUBLIC PERFORMANCE AND TRUST IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES

SALAH KOUBAA
University Hassan II of Casablanca, Casablanca, Morocco
salah.koubaa@univh2c.ma

IRINA BILAN
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
irina.bilan@uaic.ro

Abstract: Countries in Africa are perceived as highly corrupt. They are struggling to achieve clear results against corruption. Unfortunately, no country has reached a significant improvement on the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) published by Transparency International in 2021. Seychelles continues to lead the region with a CPI score of 70, followed by Botswana and Cabo Verde, each with 60. Burundi (17), Equatorial Guinea (17), South Sudan (13), and Somalia (12) perform the lowest. The state-of-the-art impacts trust at the national level and the performance of public institutions as well.
This paper aims to study the relationship between corruption and trust, and its impact on public economic performance in African countries. It is based on the data provided by Afrobarometer, 2018-2019. Our sample includes 25 000 individuals located in 34 countries. To test all our hypotheses simultaneously, we have used the structural equation modelling method with SmartPLS software. All latent variables of the research model – corruption, fighting corruption, and economic performance of the government - are used as a reflective measurement. However, trust is included in the model as a formative measurement.
The findings show that trust in public institutions, measured on a formative scale, is negatively impacted by the level of corruption. It also depends on the efforts made by the state to fight corruption in public agencies and institutions. Trust is one of the most important components of social capital. The performance of public policies is highly correlated to the level of trust between public administration and individuals. The government's economic performance depends on the level of that trust, and the efforts made to fight corruption and public corruption.

Keywords: corruption; trust in public institutions; public performance, structural equation modelling.

JEL Classification: H11; H59; H89; D73; C53

Acknowledgements: This research was performed with the support of the ERASMUS+ Program of the European Union (Jean Monnet Module "Towards New Paradigms of EU Economics: Financial and Monetary Milestones", EUCONOMICS, grant decision number 620297/ 17.09.2020). This work reflects only the views of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

UNTIL WHERE, UNTIL WHEN?!?

CIPRIAN APOSTOL
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
ciprian.apostol@uaic.ro

MARIA GROSU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
maria.grosu@uaic.ro

CAMELIA CĂTĂLINA MIHALCIUC
Stefan cel Mare University of Suceava, Faculty of Economics, Business and Administration, Suceava, Romania
camelia.mihalciuc@usm.ro

Abstract: Starting from today's reality, in which we are all "slaves" of technology and social networks, but also from the fact that we are helplessly witnessing the new challenges generated by the New Economy, namely pollution, pandemics, wars, crises of all kinds, we naturally wonder how far and how long we can go in this direction of economic, financial and social development, whether it is a good direction or we will have to look for other solutions so that we can really enjoy progress in the development of human society. At a time when research has undergone tremendous development in recent times, and today we are the beneficiaries of such super technologies as, for example, artificial intelligence, and more and more scientists are warning of the disastrous effects of pollution of all kinds on life on earth, it is inconceivable that nowadays technology and research should not be used for people's wellbeing and not for their destruction. That is why, with this article, we would like to join all those who advocate sustainable development in harmony with the environment, but also those who warn us of the very serious consequences of unconscious activities undertaken by some only out of the desire to get rich, without taking into account the moral principles, but also the economic and financial principles that the current stage of development of the economy, both local and global.
Perhaps it wouldn't hurt to meditate a little on the words of Romanian philosopher and essayist Mihai Şova: "Don't give up! Your life is at stake!"
At a time when the current stage of economic and social development never ceases to surprise us, both pleasantly and, above all, unpleasantly, the aim of this article is to capture its main characteristics, but also to warn of the serious consequences that a number of actions accompanying the process of economic, financial and social development today can have. The research method is non-participatory observation, and the source of information is the literature, the media and the data provided by some of the competent institutions. The results of the research are intended to be a wake-up call and a mobilising signal for all, so that we can remove as much as possible the negative effects generated by the current economy before it is too late and enjoy its benefits as much as possible.

Keywords: economy; progress; artificial intelligence.

JEL Classification: F63; G01; I00; O30

Track 2A: Fiscal Policies and their Impact on the European Business Environment

Location: B417 and online (LINK)
Schedule: 30th of March 2023, 16.30 – 18.00
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Bogdan Căpraru (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)
Lect. Ph.D. Nicu Sprincean (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)

* * *

FISCAL RULES, INDEPENDENT FISCAL INSTITUTIONS, AND SOVEREIGN RISK. EVIDENCE FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

BOGDAN CĂPRARU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
Romanian Fiscal Council, Bucharest, Romania
National Institute for Economic Research, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania
csb@uaic.ro

GEORGE GEORGESCU
National Institute for Economic Research, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania
Romanian Fiscal Council, Bucharest, Romania
georgescu@ince.ro

NICU SPRINCEAN
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
National Institute for Economic Research, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania
sprincean.nicu@uaic.ro

Abstract: This paper explores the implications of fiscal rules (FRs) and independent fiscal institutions (IFIs) on sovereign risk. We employ a dynamic panel model for a sample composed of 24 countries members of the European Union over the period 2007-2019 and document that FRs contain sovereign default risk measured by the credit default swap (CDS) spreads on sovereign bonds. IFIs, through monitoring compliance with numerical FRs and raising transparency of the budgetary process, lead to a reduction in the likelihood of sovereign default, especially those that went through a process of institutional reform. Moreover, more developed financial markets accompanied by both FRs and IFIs contribute to a reduction in sovereign CDS premia.

Keywords: fiscal rules; independent fiscal institutions; sovereign CDS spreads; sovereign risk.

JEL Classification: E62; G15; H63

Acknowledgements: This work was co-funded by the European Social Fund, through Operational Programme Human Capital 2014-2020, project number POCU/993/6/13/153322, project title "Educational and training support for PhD students and young researchers in preparation for insertion into the labor market".

THE FISCAL DIMENSION OF THE ECONOMIC INTEGRATION

LIVIU ANDREI
National Scool of Administrative and Political Sciences, Bucharest, Romania
liviucandrei@yahoo.com

DALINA ANDREI
Institute of Economic Forecasting, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania
dalinaandrei@yahoo.com

Abstract: Taxation is as old as the State and older than money, that here came later on to give some help. Taxation might be the first ever State's economic function, be it on political power basis.From much later on the same State interested on taxation and money issued moved to Government sharing its fiscal-monetary function with the central bank on an equal footing. And then here comes the economic integration and it spreads in the world, but only the EU type one keeps equal interest today as at its start in mid 50'ies .

Then, the curious aspect is exactly the "old" fiscal dimension's come-back into debate in the today brand new economic integration circumstances. Taxation comes up as here called by the monetary union stage. New theorists say "no monetary union without fiscal union!", while "classics" of the economic integration stop viewing beyond the monetary union in place – i.e. today already proved as not enough for integration done. Moreover, the euro is the first experience of common currency for several States even in a monetary union.
Since the more the monetary union related to the common currency and its central bank (ECB), the more the pressure for the fiscal union to come, what does it mean this presumable fiscal union perspective today in the EU area? Not just a simple answer. Politicians don't even want to hear about such a thing – and many people do follow them. More centralism dragged in on the EU organisms' and bureaucracy's (EC's) side instead. Then, even in Europe and the EU region taxation is differently viewed and applied – e.g. according to the State's different weights in their afferent economies: higher taxation for larger State budget and its spending (e.g. for social purposes) and conversely, for more liberal governments. Then, a general taxes rising trend in the whole region, given the Union's basic and continuous ambitions to fight economic and social inequalities all over the large(EU) region. Then, the question asked about the presumable fiscal union for the whole EU area, versus for just the Euro-Zone, as "economic and monetary union" done (?). Then, the awareness of the EU new budget's construction about controlling the euro stability.
But concomitantly the fiscal union specific agenda might appear feasible, as similarly to the previous monetary union building experience that took a few decades of the past 20th Century and that was a success; so it might be for the fiscal union in this current 21st Century. Then, the fiscal union approach has really started already, e.g., some inter-member country agreements on VAT in the common market perspective in order to fight harmful consequences of the so called "fiscal competition".
Last, but not least, as long as no (not yet) fiscal union, the ECB is supposed to deal with every national government in part about managing the common currency. And this is due directly to not yet fully answering the basic conceptual question: to whom (i.e., the EU, versus its member States) does the euro-currency belong?

Keywords: monetary policy; central banks; fiscal policy; modern monetary theory; economic integration.

JEL Classification: E02; E52; E58; E62; F15

THE INFLUENCES OF TAXATION AND OF OTHER MACROECONOMIC INDICATORS ON THE ENTERPRISES AT EUROPEAN UNION LEVEL

ALINA GEORGETA AILINCĂ
"Victor Slăvescu" Centre for Financial and Monetary Research, NIER, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania
alinageorgetaailinca@gmail.com

Abstract: Enterprises represent the development engine of any economy, and the governments of the world want to support businesses by improving access to markets, promoting skills, reducing bureaucracy, strengthening the dialogue between employers and the state, last but not least, governments propose the adequacy of corporate taxation not only to cover budgetary needs but also for the development needs of companies. Thus, at the level of the European Union, although the large share of companies is small and medium-sized enterprises, all companies are seen as applicants and beneficiaries of a business environment that allows them to develop harmoniously over time. Taxation plays an important role, a problem that imposes increasing constraints on companies can lead them to avoid paying taxes and finally even exit from the market, while a low or relatively adequate level of corporate taxation can stimulate them to develop and maybe even attract new companies to that regional market. In this sense, the article tries to trace the connection between a series of indicators regarding the evolution of businesses such as: Net return on equity, after taxes, of non-financial corporations and Business demography survival rate after two years, in relation to indicators of the company's taxation, but also of the macroeconomic indicators such as economic growth, inflation, employment and the ability to connect and use the Internet by employees. The study is an econometric one with panel data for EU27 countries and covers the period 2010-2022. The results aim to reveal a series of strengths, but also shortcomings of the factors presented above, which influence the performance of companies at the EU27 level, also suggesting a series of proposals for political decision-makers, especially regarding taxation.

Keywords: corporate income tax; demography and performance of European Union companies; influencing factors.

JEL Classification: H25; H32; L2

INVESTIGATING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF MONETARY AND FISCAL POLICIES IN THE COVID-19 PERIOD

COSMIN – OCTAVIAN CEPOI
"Victor Slăvescu" Centre for Financial and Monetary Research, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania
cepoi.cosmin.ccfm@gmail.com

IONEL LEONIDA
"Victor Slăvescu" Centre for Financial and Monetary Research, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania
leonidaionel@yahoo.com

Abstract: The emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic has threatened the financial stability and accentuated some of the existing vulnerabilities in the Romanian economy. The most important vulnerabilities that were accentuated by the COVID-19 pandemic and which will continue to persist in the coming period are: (i) the high level of indebtedness, (ii) the solvency and liquidity of credit institutions (iii) lack of clear policies of promoting sustainable and inclusive economic growth.
It is clear that Covid-19 period had a major impact on the economic environment, which is why governments have searched for solutions to support the companies, and this has often meant the massive subsidy. Also, the government guarantees the credits for the SMEs or the subsidy from the state budget alongside the salary costs for the affected entities, things that affected and changed the fiscal policy of the states. All of this required quick funding so that countries began to attract capital through the issuance of government bonds with far higher costs compared to pre-pandemic period.
In this paper we investigate to what extend the monetary and fiscal policy alongside the economic and health measures influenced two key macroeconomic variables, namely the inflation and the interest rate in Romania. Using monthly data from 2007m01 to 2022m12 and several econometric techniques we show that monetary policy was less effective in the COVID-19 pandemic era compared to 2007 to 2019 period. Furthermore, using the Economic Support Index and Containment and Health Index proposed by Hale et al. (2020) we show that the inflation across the EU27 was linked by the intensity of the government response to COVID-19 pandemic.
Overall, the implication of our study is viable to policymakers and investors in their future investment decisions, but can also show that an economic shock where governments react through fiscal responses can directly impact both interest rates and the evolution of the inflation rate.

Keywords: monetary policy; COVID-19; loan interest rate; fiscal policy.

JEL Classification: C58; E4; E5

INDEPENDENT FISCAL INSTITUTIONS AND THE EFFICIENCY OF PUBLIC SPENDING IN EU

BOGDAN CĂPRARU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
csb@uaic.ro

DAN LUPU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
dan.lupu@uaic.ro

Abstract: This study analyzes the impact of the Independent Fiscal Institution (IFI) on the efficiency of public spending in the EU member states. In 2012, in order to ensure the compliance of the national arrangements with the fiscal rules of the EU, the member states proceeded to sign the European Fiscal Pact. An important role provided for national IFIs in the Fiscal Pact is to ensure the sustainability of public finances in the long term. Especially in EU countries with large government sectors, improving the efficiency of public spending is an important issue for national governments and implicitly for IFIs. The current study uses the non-parametric Data Envelopment Analysis (DEA) approach to investigate and evaluate the technical efficiency of 28 EU countries based on a single input (government expenditure per capita) and four macroeconomic outputs. The analysis period is 2000-2020, the series being annual. The results show that the efficiency of public spending for the EU countries is different over time, however with higher values for the older member countries compared to the new ones.

Later, after the calculation of DEA for each country, to study the impact of IFI on efficiency, different panel probit models. Within these models, in order to analyze the impact of IFI, we use a dummy variable that takes the value of 1 when IFI is in place, and 0 otherwise. The presence of IFI has a positive and significant impact on the three categories of countries; however, with a greater impact for old member countries compared to new member countries. Instead, the fiscal rules have a positive and significant influence only for the old EU countries and all countries; for the new EU member countries, their impact is insignificant and negative. Also, the interaction between IFIs and fiscal rules shows positive and significant characteristics only for old members. The robustness of our results was subsequently tested for a series of new models and variables, which show similar values.

Keywords: public spending efficiency, Independent Fiscal Institutions; IFI.

JEL Classification: C22; C32; E62; G18

Acknowledgements: This research was performed with the support of the ERASMUS+ Program of the European Union (Jean Monnet Module "Guiding Steps for the Next Generation of Smarter and More Engaged Citizens in a Sustainable European Union", NextStepEU, grant decision number 101085160 / 31.08.2022). This work reflects only the views of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

EFFECTS OF UNSUSTAINABLE FISCAL POLICIES

MARIA SIMONA ENE
University of Craiova, Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, Craiova, Romania
simona.ene97@gmail.com

Abstract: This article aims to analyse the effects of fiscal policies on the economy. Taxation is one of the areas that has undergone and is still undergoing more changes. These transformations have been either too slow or too sudden, so that the Romanian tax environment has been perceived as a factor of instability in the development of the economy. Fiscal policy refers to the financial strategies and fiscal tactics formulated by the government to achieve the envisaged economic and social development objectives. Fiscal policy is the sum of the fiscal measures adopted by a country to achieve its macro-control objectives. A country's good fiscal policy has a direct effect on economic development, political stability and improved living standards for the population. Conversely, a poor fiscal policy leads to polarisation of society. The effects of unsustainable fiscal policies are multiple. When taxes exceed certain limits of sustainability, phenomena occur that seriously damage the state's ability to collect them. Often, taxpayers' desire to secure revenue contributes to the development of the shadow economy. Tax policy is not only that part of the economic policy mix which provides the budgetary resources needed to deliver public goods and services, but also an important lever, if properly designed and implemented, for stimulating economic growth and ensuring its balanced distribution, in order to ensure the country's development, promote social inclusion and reduce poverty, without affecting financial stability. Efficiency and certainty of taxation, stability and predictability are essential principles that a tax system must fulfil in a sustainable economy. While tax policy always reduces inequality, the same is not true for poverty. For tax policy to be helpful in tackling poverty, it must be such that it induces higher levels of growth, creates conditions so that the poor can contribute significantly to growth, and also ensures that growth reaches the poor fairly.

Keywords: fiscal policy; fiscal pressure; taxes; sustainability.

JEL Classification: H20; H21; H26

INVESTIGATING THE IMPACT OF GOVERNMENT RESPONSE MEASURES ON INFLATION RATE DURING COVID-19 ERA. EVIDENCE FROM EUROPEAN UNION COUNTRIES

DANUT GEORGIAN MIHAI
The Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Doctoral School of Finance, Bucharest, Romania
daunt.mihai@fin.ase.ro

MIRCEA OVIDIU MITUCA
The Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Doctoral School of Economy, Bucharest, Romania
mircea.mituca@gmail.com

FLORIN BLAGA
The Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Doctoral School of Finance, Bucharest, Romania
blaga.florin@yahoo.com

COSMIN LUDOVIC TRIFU
The Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Doctoral School of Finance, Bucharest, Romania
treephoo@gmail.com

ANTONELA BICHIR
Valahia University of Targoviste, Doctoral School of Economy, Targoviste, Romania
antonela.bichir@yahoo.com

Abstract: The problem of inflation rate across the EU countries is a topic of major interest since the appearance of COVID-19 pandemic and more recently due to Ukrainian war. The increase in the inflation rate during 2022 in all EU member countries led to a decrease in purchasing power, and was countered by the central banks through increases in monetary policy interest rates. This led to an increase in interest rates on loans, which in turn leads to a slowdown in economic growth.
Against this background, it is of interest both for the decision-makers of monetary and fiscal policies, as well as for economic agents, to study the causes that accentuate these generalized price increases, and the extent to which the COVID-19 pandemic support measures led to an acceleration of growth prices.
In this paper we investigate the impact of COVID-19 measure on inflation rate in EU countries using quarterly data from 2020q1 to 2022q1. Bases on an unconditional quantile regression approach developed by Firpo et al. (2009) we show that inflation rate responded asymmetrically to a series of covariates such as public debt, government deficit, business confidence, building permits, interest rate spread, and labour cost index. Furthermore, using three measures developed by Hale et al. (2020), namely Containment and Health Index, Economic Support Index and Government response Index, we show that inflation rate was sensitive to the intensity of these measures. However, the overall impact is different across inferior quantiles compared to middle and superior quantile of the unconditional distribution of the inflation rate dependent variables.
The estimation results reported by the usage of the Unconditional Quantile Regression developed by Firpo et al (2009) remain robust to different specifications such as the Conditional Quantile Regression developed by Koenker (2004) and Panel Fixed effects. Furthermore, conclusions that we drown in this paper have strong policy implication, and might be helpful to policy makers in order to better supervise the evolution of inflation, especially I countries where the inflation targeting is the main monetary policy strategy.

Keywords: COVID-19; inflation; policy response measures; public debt; government deficit.

JEL Classification: C58; E4

THE IMPACT OF CYBERCRIME ON FISCAL POLICY IN THE CASE OF EMERGING COUNTRIES

PETRE VALERIU NINULESCU
University of Craiova, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Craiova, Romania
petre.pregi@yahoo.it

Abstract: The main aim of this research paper is to investigate the impact of cybercrime on fiscal policy in the case of emerging countries. The fast development of modern information and communication technologies determined certain disadvantages and vulnerabilities, beyond the inherent advantages and opportunities. The concept of cyberspace includes the entire virtual world, as well as the internet. Consequently, ensuring the security of the cyberspace should be a priority for the tax system in order to avoid potential risks that can significantly affect the process of revenue mobilisation and also distributing budgetary resources.

Keywords: cybercrime; fiscal policy; cyber attacks; communication technologies; taxation; risk; tax payer.

JEL classification: H32; O23

Track 5B: Fiscal Policies and their Impact on the European Business Environment

Location: online (LINK)
Schedule: 30th of March 2023, 16.30 – 18.00
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Salah Koubaa (Hassan II University of Casablanca, Morocco)
Prof. Ph.D. Adina Dornean (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)

* * *

ROLE OF WOMEN-DRIVEN BUSINESES IN THE POST-COVID ECONOMIC RECOVERY

ROBU MARIANA
Academy of Economic Studies from Moldova, Kishinev, The Republic of Moldova
mariana.robu@mail.ru

Abstract: The paper presents the challenge for companies of the Republic of Moldova in meeting the future post-COVID-19 economic activity with response to new demand of the market and society, with special attention to women-lead companies. The objective of the paper is to present policy recommendations for supporting local companies in recovery it's economic activity after the end of COVID-19 lockdown. The research method is a national survey for local small and medium companies, including those driven by women, in order to identify the impact of COVID-19, best practices to overcome the challenges, and demand for support in economic recovery. The result of national survey will be used to carry out a research for policy recommendation to support small and medium enterprises to recovery after the end of COVID-19 lockdown. The overall goal of the policy recommendations is to strengthen the capacity and resilience of small and medium enterprises of Moldova to mitigate the economic and social impact of the COVID-19 crisis. Role of women-driven SMEs can become crucial in the post-COVID-19 recovery phase if they are provided with necessary incentives. This can be one of the ways to restart small and medium-sized enterprises or even to create new ones when job opportunities are scarce. SMEs can benefit from clear guidelines on access to financing, access to markets, access to advanced technologies, and a favorable environment created by proper government policies and legislation.

Keywords: post-COVID economic recovery; women role in business development; women in business.

JEL Classification: G18; G38

UNDERSTANDING THE DYNAMICS OF INFORMAL ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEMS: A MIXED-METHODS ANALYSIS

GHITA NAAIMY
Hassan II University of Casablanca, Casablanca, Morocco
gnaaimy@gmail.com

SALAH KOUBAA
Hassan II University of Casablanca, Casablanca, Morocco
salah.koubaa@univh2c.ma

Abstract: The aim of the study is to produce a holistic and context-specific overview of the dynamics of informal entrepreneurial ecosystems in Morocco. Whereas informal entrepreneurship is a widespread and prominent pattern in many developing countries, informal entrepreneurial ecosystems research remains scarce, most notably in the Moroccan context. Consequently, this paper will undertake a mixed-methods approach to probe the ubiquity, features, and contextual factors shaping informal entrepreneurship in Morocco.
The quantitative component of the research draws on data from the Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM) database to analyze the prevalence and characteristics of informal entrepreneurship in Morocco. In parallel, the qualitative component will comprise in-depth interviews with informal entrepreneurs and other stakeholders in the informal entrepreneurial ecosystem to investigate the contextual factors.

The results of the study will underscore the importance of informal networks, support structures, and government policies in shaping the informal entrepreneurship ecosystem in Morocco, and will also contribute to the existing literature by delivering a substantive and specific analysis of the phenomenon. In addition, the study's mixed-methods design will enable a more comprehensive and detailed description of the latter than a solely quantitative or qualitative approach. The findings of the study have the potential to provide guidance and insights to policymakers and support organizations seeking to gain a better understanding of informal entrepreneurship in Morocco, as well as to serve as a basis for further research in this area.

Keywords: informal entrepreneurship; entrepreneurial ecosystem; mixed-methods analysis; Global Entrepreneurship Monitor (GEM); Morocco.

JEL Classification: J46; L26; M13; O12; O17; R11; Z13

EXPLORING NEW AVENUES FOR DIGITAL REPORTING IN EUROPE: RISK DISCLOSURE, NON-FINANCIAL REPORTING AND XBRL

MANUEL REJÓN-LÓPEZ
Universidad de Granada, Departamento de Economía Financiera y Contabilidad, Granada, Spain
manuelrejon@correo.ugr.es

DIEGO VALENTINETTI
Università degli studi "G. d'Annunzio" di Chieti-Pescara, Dipartimento di Economia, Chieti-Pescara, Italy
d.valentinetti@unich.it

FRANCISCO FLORES MUÑOZ
Universidad de La Laguna, Departamento de Derecho Constitucional, Ciencias Políticas y Filosofía del Derecho, Santa Cruz de Tenerife, Spain
ffloremu@ull.edu.es

Abstract: This work aims to explore the behaviour of European listed corporations in relation to their first attempt to comply with the new regulations regarding both non-financial reporting, risk disclosures and the use of the digital standard which is mandatory under the ESEF (European Single Electronic Format) regulation which uses XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language) as digital underlying format. The study sample is comprised by the companies listed at the EUROSTOXX 50. The new ESRS (European Sustainability Reporting Standards) are explored carefully to assess the extent to which companies are anticipating their entry into force under the new European directive for non-financial reporting. These emerging practices of annual reporting are also framed with respect to some other influential guidelines as the IFRS (International Financial Reporting Standards). Some technical features of the first set of annual reports in XBRL are carefully analysed.

Keywords: risk disclosures; non-financial reports; European Single Electronic Format.

JEL Classification: M41; M48; H83; Q56

INTEGRATED FINANCIAL REPORTING BETWEEN THE NEED FOR PERFORMANCE AND RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN MULTINATIONAL COMPANIES

MIHAIELA JOLY MIRCEA
West University of Timişoara, Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, Timişoara, Romania
mihaiela.mircea74@e-uvt.ro

Abstract: All organizations, regardless of their size and extent to which they operate in the public or private sector, draw up and use information in communicating important decisions related to their work. Organizations leaders use financial and non-financial information to manage and coordinate strategies and activities. Scientific research analyzes the role of integrated reporting within groups of companies in decision-making by the management of multinational companies.

Keywords: interest group; integrated reporting; related party transactions; financial statements

JEL Classification: F23; G32; M41; M48

CYBERSECURITY BREACHES AND FIRM PERFORMANCE: THE US CASE

GULMIRA ISSAYEVA
Mukhtar Auezov South Kazakhstan University, Higher School "Management and Business", Shymkent, Kazakhstan
gulmira_issaeva@mail.ru

IULIAN IHNATOV
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
iulian.ihnatov@uaic.ro

Abstract: This paper explores the effect of firm-specific and attack-specific characteristics of the cyberattacks on the firm performance for a sampe of US firms in the period from 2011 to 2020. Additionally, it examines how firms react to the breaches and change their investment decisions and financial policy. The results of this study show that cyberattacks negatively impact the market value of firms and that market reaction to the breach is more negative for small firms. Moreover, companies that experienced attacks tend to increase leverage ratio, sales growth, and research and development (R&D) expenditure in the post-attack period.

Keywords: cyberattack; cybersecurity breach; firm performance; firm value.

JEL Classification: D82; G14; G32; L25

DO TAX RATES MATTER FOR ENTREPRENEURIAL MOTIVATIONS? AN EMPIRICAL INVESTIGATION

ADINA DORNEAN
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
amartin@uaic.ro

VALENTINA DIANA RUSU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Institute of Interdisciplinary Research, Iaşi, Romania
valentinadiana.ig@gmail.com

Abstract: Academics and practitioners agree that entrepreneurship is an important key for sustainable development. Considering the substantial impact that new businesses have on the economy, not only at national level but also at a global level, it is important to understand what motivates entrepreneurs to initiate and to develop a business, both for researchers and policy makers. In this context, fostering entrepreneurship is an important priority of governments who are interested in implementing policies to stimulate entrepreneurship as a mean to create new employment opportunities, to reduce poverty and to contribute to economic growth. There are different factors that can hinder the entrepreneurship development and the literature highlighted the fact that taxes are one of the most important barriers for entrepreneurs.

The aim of this paper is to investigate the relationship between tax rates and entrepreneurship and to establish the impact of tax rates on entrepreneurs considering their motivations (necessity, opportunity or improvement-driven opportunity). The research focuses on a sample of 46 countries grouped according to their income level (of which, 18 countries are EU high-income countries), for a period of eleven years (2012-2022). For testing the hypotheses, we apply panel-data estimation techniques and we use as dependent variables, indicators that measure entrepreneurship and entrepreneurial motivations (early-stage entrepreneurial activity, necessity-driven entrepreneurs, opportunity-driven entrepreneurs, improvement-driven opportunity entrepreneurs and motivational index). As independent variables we use indicators that measure the tax rates suported by entrepreneurs (total tax and contribution rate, profit tax, labor tax and contributions and other taxes payable by businesses). The results show that tax rates play a key role in fostering the creation of new companies. Moreover, the impact is different, depending on the entrepreneurs' motivations. In this context, the policy makers, interested in supporting and encouraging entrepreneurship and especially entrepreneurs interested in innovation and development, could adapt tax rates in order to help these categories of entrepreneurs which might have positive effects on economies. Also, depending on entrepreneurial motivation, the policy makers can adopt different incentives considering the type of entrepreneurship they want to prioritize.

Keywords: tax rate; entrepreneurial motivations; necessity entrepreneurs; opportunity entrepreneurs; panel data analysis.

JEL Classification: C33; H25; L26

THE ROLE OF ENTREPRENEURIAL ECOSYSTEMS IN ENTREPRENEURIAL AMBIDEXTERITY AMONG ENTREPRENEURIAL VENTURES: EVIDENCE FROM THE MOROCCAN CONTEXT

OUMAYMA AMEGRISSI
Hassan II University of Casablanca, Casablanca, Morocco
oamegrissi@gmail.com

SALAH KOUBAA
Hassan II University of Casablanca, Casablanca, Morocco
salah.koubaa@etu.univh2c.ma

Abstract: Entrepreneurial ecosystems which refer to the network of individuals, organizations, and institutions that support entrepreneurship and innovation in a particular region or industry are increasingly recognized as an important driver of innovation and economic growth, providing entrepreneurs with the resources and networks necessary to start and grow successful businesses. At the same time, entrepreneurial ambidexterity which is defined as the ability to simultaneously explore new opportunities and exploit existing ones is becoming recognized as a key factor in the success of entrepreneurial ventures.
In fact, there is a growing body of literature on both concepts, however and to our knowledge no study has been interested in investigating the link between them. Therefore, the purpose of this research paper is to fill this gap by exploring how these two concepts namely entrepreneurial ecosystems and entrepreneurial ambidexterity are related, drawing on literature from entrepreneurship, ambidexterity, and ecosystem studies. Specifically, we examine how entrepreneurial ecosystems can support the development of entrepreneurial ambidexterity among entrepreneurial ventures?
We also discuss the implications of this relationship for policymakers, entrepreneurs, and other stakeholders who are interested in fostering innovation and entrepreneurship in their region or industry. Overall, our analysis suggests that building strong entrepreneurial ecosystems that support a more ambidextrous approach to entrepreneurship can help to drive economic growth and create more sustainable, resilient businesses.

Keywords: entrepreneurial ecosystems; entrepreneurial ambidexterity; entrepreneurial opportunities; entrepreneurship, innovation.

JEL Classification: L26; M13; R11; O31; O43

Track 6: Legal Issues and Approaches to Strengthening the European Regulatory Framework

Location: B413 and online (LINK)
Schedule: 30th of March 2023, 16.30 – 18.00
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Mihaela Tofan (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)
Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Ada-Iuliana Popescu (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)

* * *

FINANCING STRATEGIES FOR THE JUSTICE SECTOR: OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES IN THE EUROPEAN CONTEXT

LUDMILA GONCEARENCO
Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, Chisinau, Republic of Moldova
ludmilagoncearenco@gmail.com

Abstract: This conference paper explores financing strategies for the justice sector in Europe, focusing on the impact of technology and the COVID-19 pandemic. The paper examines the challenges facing justice sector entities, such as budget cuts and increased demand for services, and discusses how technology can be used to improve financing strategies. Case studies from the Netherlands, Sweden, and Estonia are presented, highlighting successful financing models and their potential for application in the European context. The paper also discusses how justice sector entities have adapted to the financial challenges posed by the pandemic, with a particular emphasis on the importance of technology and international cooperation. The paper concludes by emphasizing the need for innovative financing strategies that prioritize efficiency, effectiveness, and fairness, and that can adapt to the rapidly changing landscape of the justice sector in Europe.

Keywords: justice sector financing; COVID-19; technology in justice sector.

JEL Classification: H71; O43; O47; P48

FACTORS IMPACTING THE PUBLIC PROCUREMENT PROCESS

COSMIN ILIE UNGUREANU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
ungureanu.cosmin@gmail.com

Abstract: Public Procurement (PP) is a vast field, encountered on a daily basis and directly affecting all citizens of a country through the outcomes of the processes carried out within it.
The duration and quality of the outcome of a public procurement process are two indicators that measure the performance of the system.
There is very little research in this area, so the study aims to complement this knowledge. Its results will be of use to managers, those who directly carry out public procurement and other researchers who wish to analyse the system.
Internal factors that influence the outcome of this process such as staff, the level of recognition of the procurement function, the level of planning, internal bureaucracy in correlation with the organisational mode are under the control of the contracting authority. External factors and in particular deficient legislation also have an important influence on the outcome.
Knowing the factors that influence these indicators, measures can be proposed to improve them in order to increase system performance.

Keywords: procurement; KPIs; performance; time; quality.

JEL Classification: H57; H41

REMARKS ON PUBLIC PROCUREMNT CONTRACT PERFORMANCE IN DIRECTIVE 24/2014

DANIELA CIMPEAN
Babeş-Bolyai University, Faculty of Business, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
dana.cimpean@ubbcluj.ro

Abstract: Before the 2014 directives, there were no codified rules at EU level on contractual changes, subcontracting or on terminating public procurement contract. It is the first time that the EU legislation on public procurement includes explicit rules on contract performance. Prior to this moment, the execution phase of the contract was left to the procedural autonomy of the Member States and the legal framework and traditions differed heavily across them.
The intention of the European legislator is to create a general framework of principles concerning the public procurement area that should later on be transposed and adapted to national specificities of each Member State. The current 2014/24/EU Directive provides for simpler and more efficient public procurement rules, while respecting the principles of transparency and competition between suppliers. Regarding the performance phase of the procurement contract, it renders contracting authorities with more flexibility and opportunities to make choices, to negotiate with economic operators both at awarding stage and at the execution stage (renegotiation), it aims to reduce the administrative burden of the contracting authority and to promote innovative solutions.
The main aim of the Procurement directives is to achieve an open market through public procurement, while other purposes such as ensuring value for money or limiting corruption are matters belonging to the Member States. The way Member States understand to address these goals is different for every nation as each has to consider its own circumstances: such as different levels of corruption, different characteristics of the market, different skills of the public servants involved in the process.
The intention of the European legislator was to create a general framework of principles that become the basis of the entire procurement process. It is true that exactly here, where there are aspects not specifically explained by the legislation, most damage or good can be done. It is in these specific spaces where corrupt and fraudulent activities may appear, but also where cost-effective decisions may bring good or even great results.

Keywords: Directive 24/2014; public procurement contract performance; contractual changes; open market.

JEL Classification: K23

TAX AGGRESSIVE PLANNING AND DISCLOSURE OBLIGATION IN THE VIEW OF CJUE

MIHAELA TOFAN
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
mtofan@uaic.ro

Abstract: In the light of the European rules under the prevision of the DAC6 directive, in depth discussion about the antagonism professional conduct – public budget protection is generated. The legal framework in force establishes that the potential fraudulent nature of an aggressive tax planning operation engages the disclosure obligation. The paper analyses the applicability of the regulations regarding ethics and professional deontology and the respect of discretion in the hypothesis where a freelancer, more precisely the tax consultant, provides specialized assistance to taxpayers who are looking for a solution to reduce tax burdens. The regulation in force establishes the imperative obligation to inform about the main characteristics of the arrangement considered (the type of agreement, the amounts considered, the parties involved, the fiscal effects for the taxpayers involved, etc.), nevertheless the objective of subjective justification of such arrangements. This mandatory conduct included in the legal order of the EU dramatically changes the legal nature of the professional secrecy, affecting its scope and the purpose of the legal framework. It is the motivation of the additional research on the arguments of ranking the legal norms that protect the fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens, against the higher interest of protecting the legal framework for the development of legitimate fiscal operations. The research carried out derives from the analysis of this normative framework at the national and European level, both from theoretical point of view and from jurisprudential perspective. It is of interest the CEDO relevant jurisprudence, in the context when fundamental rights and freedoms seem to be threatened. The perspective of CJEU jurisprudence is additionally considered, in this line observing the judgment in case C694/20, resolved on December 8, 2022. The result of the analysis highlights situations of conflict of regulations when the obligation to disclose counterbalances the legal protection of the fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens through the generated effects, offering a practical perspective on the subject and proposing some directions to modify the normative framework in force.

Keywords: tax fraud; EU law; directive; disclosure obligation.

JEL Classification: K34; K38

Acknowledgements: Co-financed by the European Commission, European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), Jean Monnet Chair. EU Public Administration Integration and Resilience Studies -EU-PAIR, project no. ERASMUS-JMO-2021-HAI-TCH-RSCH-101047526, decision no. 1190440/17.02.2022. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of European Union or European Commission (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

LEGAL AND PRACTICAL CHALLENGES IN FIGHTING PRIVATE SECTOR CORRUPTION IN THE EU

ADA-IULIANA POPESCU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
ada.popescu@uaic.ro

Abstract: Private sector corruption is a serious threat to business, distorting competition, generating higher business costs and preventing economic growth on a long term. During the last twenty years, the European Union reshaped its anti-corruption policy and legislation according to the international anti-corruption standards. However, recent scandals have revealed weaknesses of the EU anti-corruption system. The paper presents an overview of EU legislation and practices targeting corruption in the private sector, making recommendations for improvement.

Keywords: private sector corruption; business corruption; European legislation

JEL Classification: D73; K42; M10

Acknowledgements: Co-financed by the European Commission, European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), Jean Monnet Chair. EU Public Administration Integration and Resilience Studies -EU-PAIR, project no. ERASMUS-JMO-2021-HAI-TCH-RSCH-101047526, decision no. 1190440/17.02.2022. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of European Union or European Commission (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONVERGENCE BETWEEN UKRAINE AND THE EU: PATTERNS AND TRENDS

ANDRII VERSTIAK
Yuriy Fedkovych Chernivtsi National University, Chernivtsi, Ukraine
a.verstyak@chnu.edu.ua

Abstract: Ukraine and the European Union are focusing their efforts on reducing the impact of human activity on the environment and ensuring sustainable development. Both sides agreed on cooperation in environmental protection, in particular, on protecting biodiversity, reducing carbon dioxide emissions, increasing energy efficiency, using renewable energy, and reducing the amount of waste. Thus, Ukraine joined the Paris Agreement on reducing emissions of gases that contribute to global warming and committed to reducing carbon dioxide emissions by 40% by 2030. In addition, Ukraine joined the EU Green Deal and committed to achieving climate neutrality by 2050.
However, Ukraine has problems with environmental protection, such as low energy efficiency, insufficient development of renewable energy, and air and water pollution. This research is devoted to the investigation of

environmental policies' convergence between Ukraine and EU. In this work, statistical methods for monitoring upward convergence have been implemented. Main findings show that convergence took place in environmental areas. Evidences of convergence/divergence within a broader set of indicators investigated over time, in order to identify important patterns and trends between the EU and at Ukraine.

Keywords: environmental policy; Ukraine-EU relations; convergence.

JEL Classification: C21; F15; O13

SUPERVISION OF THE REGULATORY FRAMEWORK ESTABLISHING CONSUMER RIGHTS FOR PAYMENT SERVICES

NATALIA TURCAN-MUNTEANU
Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, Economics, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova
natalia.turcan.st@gmail.com

VICTORIA COCIUG
Academy of Economic Studies of Moldova, Economics, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova
v_cociug@ase.md

Abstract: Supervision of the regulatory framework establishing consumer rights in payment services is the responsibility of financial regulators in each country or region. These authorities ensure that financial institutions providing payment services comply with consumer protection laws and regulations.

Taking into account that the Republic of Moldova does not have a clear mechanism of regulation and supervision of normative acts establishing certain rights and obligations in order to achieve the protection of the financial consumer, as well as the fact that in the Republic of Moldova out-of-court settlement of financial consumers' complaints does not exist, but also taking into account the low level of ethics/business conduct of local financial service providers, there is a risk that with the advancement and promotion of the development of financial services and the increase of the level of the local financial market (retail financial products and services) the cases of violation of consumers' rights will increase considerably.

Financial consumers in the Republic of Moldova do not have simple, efficient, fast, and inexpensive ways of settling disputes arising from violations of their rights under the legislation in force.

Financial consumer protection guidelines are unclear and there is no single supervisory approach based either on the financial services offered or on the entities offering them, and the legislation is inconsistently applied.

All these shortcomings in financial consumer protection may lead to stagnation in the development of the retail financial market and create risks generated by the lack of consumer confidence in the local financial market, which will direct them towards markets that offer such protection, unless adequate measures are taken to address the ways of protecting payment service consumers, so as not to affect market development and confidence in the local market, such as: clarification of the tasks of supervising compliance with the regulatory framework, settling disputes through out-of-court mechanisms, educating the consumer when agreeing contractual terms.

Keywords: financial services; consumers; protection; supervision.

JEL Classification: D18; G20; G23; G53

Friday, 31st of March 2023

Track 3: European Monetary Policies and Financial Stability

Location: B417 and online (LINK)
Schedule: 31st of March 2023, 11.00 – 12.30
Chairs: Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Elana Cigu (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)
Lect. Ph.D. Anca Florentina Vatamanu (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)

* * *

CHALLENGES OF EU MONETARY POLICY AND MONETARY CONVERGENCE

BRANKICA TODOROVIC
School of Economics, Uzice, Serbia
bdanica@neobee.net

Abstract: The conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic have affected the changes in the circumstances of people's lives and work around all the world. In addition to numerous measures to combat the pandemic, national economies used instruments within the framework of economic, fiscal, monetary and financial policy. The European Central Bank (ECB) has introduced collateral mitigation programs and measures for Euro system credit operations, banking supervision and new rules on capital composition. Candidate countries for EU accession continued with further monetary convergence. The Republic of Serbia, as a candidate country, harmonizes monetary policy by harmonizing the strategies, instruments and transmission mechanisms of the National Bank of Serbia (NBS) and the ECB, and aligns the national legislation with the primary and secondary legislation of the EU. The Report of the European Commission (EC) on the achieved progress in the EU accession process contains an analysis of the progress within the monetary policy in Chapter 17-Economic and monetary policy.
The objectives of the research in the paper are:
1. Review and analysis of monetary policy measures in EU countries in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic based on IMF Tracker indicators,
2. Monetary policy measures in the RS in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic and
3. Analysis of monetary convergence based on the Report EC from the aspect of legislative alignment, price stability and monetary financing.
The paper points to the development of monetary policy measures in the conditions of the COVID-19 pandemic and the effectiveness of the response to the resulting situation, the willingness of the ECB to change the appropriate operating conditions through the management of the stability of the banking system, with the aim of preserving the stability of the monetary system, as well as, Serbia's need for further convergence in the process of EU accession in accordance with EC recommendations.

Keywords: monetary policy; accession; EU; COVID-19.

JEL Classification: E52; E58; F00

FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN EU COUNTRIES: A PANEL DATA ANALYSIS

ANGELA ROMAN
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
aboariu@uaic.ro

VALENTINA DIANA RUSU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Institute of Interdisciplinary Research, Department of Social Sciences and Humanities, Iaşi, Romania
valentinadiana.ig@gmail.com

Abstract: The relationship between financial development and economic growth is a subject investigated for a long time and by an impressive number of studies, both theoretical and empirical. However, the conclusions of the researchers are quite unclear, so further research is necessary. Given the fact that in most European countries, the financial system focuses on banks, our paper aims to empirically investigate the possible impact of the development of the banking sector on economic growth in the member countries of the European Union. Furthermore, we aim to examine whether the influence of banking sector development on economic growth differs between the two groups of countries, namely euro area countries compared to non-euro area EU countries. Our research focuses on data provided by the World Bank's World Development Indicators database and covers a period of 21 years (2000-2020). Our econometric model includes GDP per capita growth rates as a dependent variable, while the key variables of interest are represented by several indicators that would reflect the development of the banking sector, among which, in particular, the share in GDP of domestic credit granted to the private sector by banks and the share of banking assets in GDP. In addition, we include in the analysis some macroeconomic indicators, which would affect economic growth and which are used as control variables. Our empirical results highlight a significant impact of the development of the banking sector on economic growth, both at the level of the EU countries and at the level of the other two groups of countries. However, some indicators used to express the development of the banking sector provide heterogeneous results on groups of countries. The main conclusion of our research is that the development of a sound and healthy banking sector is of crucial importance to enhance economic growth. The paper contributes to the development of specialized literature by providing new empirical evidence on the impact of banking sector development on economic growth in EU countries. In addition, our study could be of interest to policy makers in order to identify appropriate measures to promote economic growth and strengthen the banking sector.

Keywords: financial development; banking sector; credit; economic growth; EU countries.

JEL Classification: G21; O40; C33

Acknowledgements: This research was performed with the support of the ERASMUS+ Programme of the European Union (Jean Monnet Module "Towards New Paradigms of EU Economics: Financial and Monetary Milestones", EUCONOMICS, grant decision number 620297 / 17.09.2020). This work reflects only the views of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

THE IMPLICATIONS OF FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND STABILITY ON PROMOTING ECONOMIC GROWTH: EVIDENCE FROM EU COUNTRIES

ANCA FLORENTINA VATAMANU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
anca.vatamanu@uaic.ro

DANIELA BALUTEL
York University, Toronto, Canada
daniela.balutel@etu.univ-orleans.fr

ELENA CIGU (RUSU)
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
elena.chelaru@uaic.ro

Abstract: The financial system plays a critical role in the economy. It fulfills the crucial economic task of transferring money from net savers to net spenders and facilitates trading, hedging, and diversification, striking a balance between stability and financial progress. It is impossible to ensure that money is spent wisely to support the growth and expansion of the economy when the financial intermediation process is faced with substantial challenges and a climate of uncertainty driven by political instability and macroeconomic mismanagement. In this study, we explore whether and to what extent financial development and stability of the financial system can promote economic growth and development. The study uses panel data from EU countries during the period 2000–2020 and reveals that financial stability is paramount for economic growth. Furthermore, the empirical evidence indicates that a consolidation in all the components of financial stability (financial institution stability, financial markets stability infrastructure stability), can unravel financial imbalances arising from shocks and assure the healthy development of the economy.

Keywords: financial development; financial institution stability; financial imbalances; economic growth.

JEL Classification: G20; G28; O43

MONETARY POLICY IN A CONTINUOUS-TIME ADAPTIVE LEARNING HETEROGENEOUS-AGENT NEW KEYNESIAN ECONOMY

MATTEO BONDESAN
University of Turin and Collegio Carlo Alberto, Turin, Italy
matteo.bondesan@carloalberto.org

Abstract: This paper introduces adaptive learning (AL) dynamics into a New Keynesian model with heterogeneous agents in a continuous-time setting. I developed a set of adaptive learning MATLAB routines to model a recursive least-square approach to solving heterogeneous-agent continuous-time (HACT) models under both AL and RE using a diffusion process to model productivity. Learning dynamics are instilled into the model by extending recent advances in the representative-agent adaptive learning literature in continuous-time to a heterogeneous agent framework. The explicit usage of the Hamilton-Jacobi-Belmann (HJB) and Kolmogorov Forward equations (KF) as solution methods, creates a natural link to the Heterogeneous Agent New Keynesian (HANK) modelling environment. A continuous-time approach provides higher granularity regarding the distribution of key economic variables compared to discrete-time models. Results show important differences in the behaviours of optimal saving and consumption policy functions under AL and RE together with households' surface functions intertwining savings, wealth, and productivity. The initial state of the economy in terms of interest rate and borrowing constraint plays a material role in shaping consumption and savings patterns under AL.

Keywords: bounded rationality; HANK modelling; recursive adaptive learning; continuous-time; monetary policy.

JEL Classification: C63; D31; D83; E12; E21; E52

GLOBAL ECONOMIC RECESSION, INFLATION AND THE CHALLENGING OUTLOOK ON EUROPE AND THE WORLD

ANIS BENABED
Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Doctoral School of Economics and International Business, Bucharest, Romania
anis_anisse@yahoo.fr

Abstract: This paper presents Global economic recession and inflation and the challenging outlook on Europe and the world, with the economy that is marked continuously by geopolitical tensions and central banks the risk of the global recession is possible. Inflation is one of the major key to a recession, monetary policy that remains restrictive, high costs of living and challenges for the labour markets and energy prices. The research question is what is challenging outlook of the global possible recession and inflation on Europe and the world? The methodology of research focused on a literature review, a descriptive qualitative research and data analysis.

The results a healthy economy doesn't depend just on the ability to produce goods and services, but is also conditioned by what happens in geopolitical conflicts, health crises and ups and downs in markets, the recent events in Europe and world have led the global economy to the risk of recession. The things that need to rely on a new strategy in negotiations to avoid a permanent crisis. In conclusion, the economy of countries moves in cycles. Both interest rates and economic recessions are part of these cycles, as long as there is volatility.

Keywords: global; recession; economic; companies; Europe; world; countries.

JEL Classification: E31; F51; F63; F64; F66

THE CONDUCT OF MONETARY POLICY UNDER THE SUPPLY-GENERATED SHOCKS

VICTORIA COCIUG
Academy of Economic Studies from Moldova, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova
v_cociug@ase.md

IRINA IALAIA
National Bank of Moldova, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova
irina.ialaia@bnm.md

Abstract: In the wake of a sequence of supply socks and in persistence of nominal rigidities, central bankers across the European Union and candidate countries (case of Moldova) are concerned about the appropriate monetary policy reaction. In the current situation of high volatility of commodity and food prices, central banks are concerned about policy trade-offs that shall limit to the possible extent the second-round effects and will not undermine the main objective or hinder other government policies' implementation.

In an inflation targeting regime, for such socks there are more than one policy options: concentrate only on reaching the target, keep output close to the potential, limited reaction due to central banks' focus only on demand. Conventional theory, for supply shocks, prescribes tightening of monetary policy conditions which is always costly to the economy and society, and in most of cases triggers recession. Since the last times when economies where hit by such scale shocks, financial markets and economies became more complex and interconnected, but central banks have evolved and namely, they considerably enriched their policy frameworks and tools, improved institutional capacity but also supplemented their mandate, where beside the main objective there are secondary objectives, such as financial stability and supporting of general economic policy of the state.

In the unprecedented character of current supply shocks, policy makers require further research for the optimal policy decisions. The paper aims at analysing past and potential monetary policy reactions of some of the European Union countries and a candidate country - Moldova, on prolonged supply shocks, and draw conclusions about the effects and optimality of taken decisions. The methods of synthesis and analysis were used for fulfilling the purpose of this research paper. The results of research comprise of considerations that could be useful as contributions to policy-making frameworks.

Keywords: monetary policy; supply shocks; policy reaction; inflation targeting regime.

JEL Classification: E52; F33; E59

DO EUROPEAN GREEN BONDS IMPACT FINANCIAL STABILITY?

BOGDAN IONUȚ ANGHEL
Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Doctoral School of International Business and Economics, Bucharest, Romania
anghelbogdan17@stud.ase.ro

Abstract: In the context of migration from a brown to a green economy in connection with global events, the way that transition to a green economy can impact the financial systems is a topic of interest and also Green Bonds are one of the main tools to fund that transition. In this article, I aim to study the relation between financial stability and European Green Bonds. The goal of the research is to explore and explain the implication of the European Green Bonds in financial stability. To examine the financial stability, I use three systemic risk measures: CoVaR & Delta CoVaR (Conditional Value at Risk) and MES (Marginal Expected Shortfall). The data used to quantify the systemic risk is the mean of the processed returns of the banking sector (38 companies) listed on STOXX600. To allow to quantify the Green Bonds, I create a Green Bonds Index, which contains 13 most important Green Bonds indices for the European market. The study employed data starting from April 2017 until April 2022, a period with important global events: the implementation of the Paris Agreement began in 2015, the Covid-19 Pandemic at the beginning of 2020, the European Green Deal which was signed in 2020 and begging of the Ukrainian – Russian War on February 24th 2022. To examine, in a richer way the relation between variables, I use Quantile Regression. I estimate the quantile regression model for many quantiles between 0.05 and 0.95 and compare the best fit line from each of these models. Also, I use lead-lag effects to o arrange if the effects of the modification of the Green Bonds Index can affect the financial stability. I also measure the quantile dependence between variables, using the Cross-Quantilogram model. This flexible methodology facilitates me to analyse the directional quantile dependence between European Green Bonds and financial stability.

Keywords: green bonds; financial stability; systemic risk; quantile regression; cross-quantilogram.

JEL Classification: C5; G0; G1; Q5

EU27 FINANCIAL STABILITY ON THE BACKGROUND OF RECENT CONSECUTIVE GLOBAL CRISES

BOGDAN FLORIN FILIP
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
bogdan.filip@feaa.uaic.ro

Abstract: Mankind and all the countries in the world had to deal in the first two decades of the third millennium several and consecutive different crises, these ones affecting many important aspects of people lives, but also putting pressure directly or indirectly on the stability of the society and consequently on the economic and financial stability of the nations. This paper is meant to make an analysis and a scientific investigation on the impacts of the consecutive crises that affected our lives, either if we discuss the global financial crisis since 2007-2008 or the more recent pandemic or energetic crises and also the ongoing war between Russian Federation and Ukraine, that have marked and are still marking our destiny. By concentrating on the situation from EU27 countries the paper is intended to point out the main effects generated by these different but successive crises on the financial stability in these countries. In this regard, in our study we analyse basic and representative macroeconomic indicators reflecting the level of the financial stability in correlation with impact factors specific for each of the crises, aiming to find out how deep were affected especially the financial stability basic pillars, but also consequently the entire economies in the EU27 countries. Moreover, the paper proposes an in-depth analysis on the most significant measures taken by the governments and financial authorities from the European Union countries in order to overcome each of the mentioned crises and on how much and under what circumstances such measures proved to be more or less effective in counteracting the impacts of these crises on the financial stability. Finally, we consider and hope that the conclusions drawn from these study to be useful in times of future similar situations, especially for the governments and the internal or international authorities in order to prevent future crises or even to choose the proper actions for limiting the amplitude of the dangerous effects of similar crises.

Keywords: financial stability; crises; government.

JEL Classification: G01; C33; E63

Track 4B: Banks, Insurance and Financial Markets in the European Union

Location: B413 and online (LINK)
Schedule: 31st of March 2023, 11.00 – 12.30
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Adina Dornean (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)
Prof. Ph.D. Viorica Chirilă (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)

* * *

COST REDUCTION PERSPECTIVES THROUGH THE DIGITALIZATION PROCESS IN ROMANIAN BANKS

MARIUS GEORGE TAŞCĂ
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
marius.tasca@gmail.com

Abstract: The cost optimization process leads in most common perspectives as a cost reduction implementation, but the very first sense of it is the remodelling of an existing process through innovation, transformation and adopting the best methods for gaining continuos improvement, to do things in a new efficient and better way. Of course that this objective is a general one for most of the economic agents in any economy, but in the last years it became a desideradum for bank industry in particular.
Romania, as a member of the European Union involved in this process of reshaping the arhitecture of banking products and services and their channel delivery through digital perspective. Of course that this trend appeared even before the COVID 19 crisis, as banks all around Europe that are also present in Romania wanted to apply a digital transformation (some of the authors call it the fourth industrial revolution). When lockdowns began to appear, banks had to rethink their business strategies, channels of distribution and even the working methods for their employees. Romanian banks, most of them part of european financial groups will have to apply strict decisions regarding their business model in order to increase the rate of profitability and keep the financial indicators – especially ROE (Return on Equity) at a good level – over 10%, but no more based on universal bank model, but on a more digital model, client oriented and AI (artifficial intelligence).
Based on these pillars, the present study wants to analyse the impact that already is in place for the Romanian banks, based on their financial data and which proves that cost reduction is a key factor also for the years to come, based on digitalization but also other factors (human capital, bank's presence in the market, increasing operational costs).

Keywords: cost reduction; digitalization process; banks.

JEL Classification: G21; G23; O33

EMPIRICAL INVESTIGATION OF THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PUBLIC EXTERNAL DEBT SUSTAINABILITY, FOREIGN RESERVES AND FIXED EXCHANGE RATE

FATIMA-EZZAHRA RAFIE
Mohamed First University, Faculty of Law, Economics and Social Sciences, University Research Laboratory in Instrumentation and Organizational Management (LURIGOR), Oujda, Morocco
fatima-ezzahra.rafie@ump.ac.ma

MOSTAFA LEKHAL
Mohamed First University, Faculty of Law, Economics and Social Sciences, University Research Laboratory in Instrumentation and Organizational Management (LURIGOR), Oujda, Morocco
mostafa.lekhal@ump.ac.ma

Abstract: Lower middle-income countries (LMIC) rely on sovereign external debt denominated in foreign currency to meet their financial needs, and this reliance is more important in periods of crisis, which raises concerns about debt sustainability. The objective of this study is to assess the sustainability of the government debt taking into consideration the endogeneity and exogeneity of exchange rate and the level of foreign reserves. This study is based on the annual data, covering the period 2000-2021, of five African LMIC (namely: Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia which have fixed endogenous exchange rates besides Benin and Senegal, members of the Western African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)). To examine empirically the sustainability of debt of these countries we apply first the unit root tests on the following series: Public external debt/GDP, GDP growth, exports, and government expenditures, in addition to reserves and exchange rate for the first three countries, before utilizing Johansen cointegration tests. The empirical findings outline the non-stationarity of the series and the absence of long-run relationship between the variables at 5 percent of significance. These results imply that the public external debt is unsustainable in the five countries. In order to assess the reasons of the unsustainability of external debt, we study the causality relationships between external debt, reserves, exchange rate, GDP growth, exports, and government expenditures, employing Vector Autoregressive Model. The test of the impact of external debt on the other factors shows a positive impact on the first lags on the exports of Senegal and Egypt's government expenditures, and a negative effect on the same lags on the exports of Benin. The results demonstrate that the increase of foreign indebtedness led to a decrease in the level of foreign reserves in Morocco and Tunisia and an increase of reserves in Egypt, with a currency depreciation in the three economies, however this result is statistically significant only in the case of Tunisia. The accumulation of unsustainable levels of sovereign foreign borrowing is explained by the government expenditures and the depreciation of the currency in Benin, while only the expenditures cause the unsustainability of debt in Senegal. This result highlights the problem of the debt sustainability in a monetary union, since the members have different fiscal policies, and the accumulation of high external debt can weaken the currency and impacts all the union. To avoid this problem, governments of the WAEMU should improve the regional economic cooperation as to reduce the reliance on external debt denominated in foreign currency. Concerning Egypt, Morocco, and Tunisia the unsustainability is mainly caused by the preoccupation of the authorities to accumulate reserves and to stabilize the exchange rates. The results outline the necessity of adopting new reforms of public financial management by LMIC governments to promote sustainable development allowing an effective and beneficial transition to a flexible exchange rate.

Keywords: public external debt sustainability; foreign reserves; fixed exchange rates; Lower middle-income countries; Western African Economic and Monetary Union.

JEL Classification: F31; F34; O55

TAX DIGITALISATION AND VAT GAP REDUCTION

RUXANDRA-FLORINA BUDREALĂ
Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Faculty of Finance and Banking, Bucharest, Romania
ruxandra.budreala@gmail.com

Abstract: In Europe many jurisdictions are challenged by the tax collection process efficiency, to a greater or lesser extent, mostly in the field of Value-Added Tax ("VAT"), therefore, at the level of the European Commission a series of measures to digitalise and modernise the EU VAT system to be more efficient for businesses and governments and to be more resilient to fraud are currently subject to discussion and development.

The most recent VAT Gap report issued in December 2022 shows an estimated overall VAT gap in the EU in 2020 of 93 billion EUR, a drop of approximately 30 billion EUR compared to the revised 2019 figures. The same report also shows high disparities of the VAT gap level between EU jurisdictions, more specifically, in 2020 the estimated VAT gaps among Member States ranged from 1.3% in Finland, 1.8% in Estonia and 2% in Sweden, to 20.8% in Italy, 24.1% in Malta and 35.7% in Romania.

In order to combat tax evasion and fraud in general and more specifically to reduce the VAT gap, many EU jurisdictions have implemented certain digitalisation measures, among which the electronic invoicing is one of the measures already successfully implemented in countries such as Italy, France, Poland and Spain and as a consequence of the positive response since the implementation of the e-invoicing system, the EU Commission is currently making a move to real-time digital reporting based on e-invoicing for businesses that operate cross-border in the EU.

Romania being one of the countries that registers a low tax collection degree has recently implemented a Digital Strategy at the level of the National Agency of Fiscal Administration ("NAFA") and at the level of the Ministry of Finances, strategy by which the tax authorities aim to increase the tax collection level and to facilitate the interaction between tax authorities and taxpayers. Among the measures included in the Digital Strategy, the following measures are already in the process of being implemented and in the process of expanding to all types of taxpayers and economic processes: the Standard Audit File for Taxation (SAF-T) report, the electronic system regarding the

connection of electronic cash registers for data transmission between companies and NAFA and the electronic invoicing system ("RO e-factura").
My aim is to analyse how and to which extent the tax digitalisation measures and processes already implemented helped to increase the tax collection at the level of the EU jurisdictions and in antithesis to reduce the phenomenon of tax evasion by also reducing the bureaucracy at the level of taxpayers in EU countries that have already started this process since 2009 (e.g. Austria has implemented SAF-T in its national tax legislation since 2009) and to extrapolate the results to the situation of Romania, which started the implementation of the tax digitization strategy only recently in 2022, in order to compute an estimated indicator in connection with the increase of tax collection corelated with the decrease of the tax evasion in Romania for the following 3-5 years.

Keywords: tax evasion; tax digitalisation; VAT gap; electronic invoicing; SAF-T.

JEL Classification: K34; H26; H87

SPILLOVERS BETWEEN EXCHANGE RATE VOLATILITY AND STOCK MARKET SECTORS: THE CASE OF POLAND

CHIRILĂ VIORICA
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iași, Romania
vchirila@uaic.ro

Abstract: This study analyzes the transmission of foreign exchange market volatility from the stock market and vice versa, in the case of Poland. The research uses spillovers indices, the methodology initially proposed by Diebold and Yilmaz (2012), within the quantile vector auto regression as proposed by Ando et al. (2022). The methodology used offers the possibility of studying volatility spillovers in different market conditions: bear and bull market. The research considers the system determined by the EUR/PLN exchange rate, stock indices of the banks, basic materials, chemicals, construction, developers, energy, food, IT, media, oil and gas sectors and WIG 20, which expresses the overall trend of the evolution of the Polish stock market. The period considered for the analysis includes the sample from March 11, 2011, to March 10, 2023, the entire period of availability of the sectoral indices. The results obtained confirm the spillovers effect of volatility by confirming that volatility is transmitted from both the stock market to the foreign exchange market and from the foreign exchange market to the stock market. The obtained results also confirm the variation of volatility spillovers over time and significant differences in spillovers in different market conditions. In normal market conditions, the transmission of volatility is lower compared to the situation where the market is faced with new unexpected positive information but also with new unexpected negative information. The foreign exchange market, in Poland, is a net receiver of volatility while the stock market is a net transmitter of volatility. The results obtained are important for international investors in diversifying portfolios and for hedging investments.

Keywords: stock markets sectors; risk; spillovers volatility; QVAR; spillover index.

JEL Classification: C58; D53; G15; O57

WHY PEOPLE DECIDE TO INVEST IN PONZI SCHEMES: EVIDENCE FROM DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

ELDAD BAR LEV
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iași, Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, Iași, Romania
eldad2503@gmail.com

Abstract: In the last years, the economic frauds have grew and diversified, whereas economic difficulties, the emergence of new technologies and online communications, and economic uncertainty during crisis and pandemics have led to an increase in illegal acts, especially Ponzi schemes. The purpose of this article is to analyse the motives and circumstances of why people decide to invest in Ponzi schemes, taking into account various cases from developing countries. A reviewing method was used through which the main theoretical background and a

sample of developing countries are presented in order to understand the people decision of investing in Ponzi schemes.
One of the main findings is that the financial gain is the major determinant of performing Ponzi schemes, while the people decision to invest in such schemes that, in the end, turn to be illegal acts, is influenced by various factors. Despite financial circumstances, the investing decision is determined by victims' psychological characteristics, the desire to limit the risks in uncertainty times and the desire to feel or belong special within groups or community. These factors so strongly influence the behaviour of victims and their decision to invest in Ponzi schemes that, even if victims consult with professional people or institutions, family, relatives or friends, and check whether the business is legally registered, they eventually ignore the warning signs and decide to invest in Ponzi schemes. In the case of developing countries, the main motives and circumstances to invest in Ponzi schemes include the socio-economic and cultural context along with psychological impression of victims that they are investing in special or exclusive programs. People from Bolivia, China, Columbia, India and Nigeria decide to invest in Ponzi schemes due to the economic hardship and the need to solve many pressing daily issues. The successful experience in investing in Ponzi schemes recorded by relatives or friend is a motive of why people from Bolivia, China, Columbia and Malaysia decide to invest in these schemes. Moreover, for people from Jamaica and Malaysia the impression of the programs` exclusivity and the pressure to feel special are motives for investing in such schemes. These findings will help people and authorities to better understand how important is to get more serious information before investing in all kinds of programs that promise huge profits. By increasing the information and prevention actions through government programs, especially in developing countries, the number of victims may decrease.

Keywords: victim's behaviour; economic crimes; financial frauds; investment decision.

JEL Classification: D91; J17; K42

A LOOK AT MICROINSURANCE: AN OVERVIEW OF LOWER-MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES

AZIMOV RUSTAM
Uzbekinvest National Insurance Company, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
kalanova.a@uzbekinvest.uz

KALANOVA AZIZA
Uzbekinvest National Insurance Company, Tashkent, Uzbekistan
kalanova.a@uzbekinvest.uz

Abstract: This paper has an overview of the development of microinsurance in India and in African countries. The relevance of the development of the microstacking sector is considered, as one of the financial services that contributes to the eradication of poverty in countries with lower-middle incomes. According to the World Bank, the monetary measurement of poverty by SDG indicators includes the following indicators: the poverty rate at 2.15% per day, the poverty rate at the national poverty line, GDP per capita, GDP per employed, the proportion of people living below 50 percent of median income and the population living in slums (% of the urban population). The sample consists of 15 countries with a high proportion of the population living below the poverty line
The paper shows the difference between traditional insurance and microinsurance in customer orientation, in sales models, in premium calculations, in policies and claim processing. Also, the institutions that laid the foundation for the development of the microinsurance sector are presented. Within the paper, we provide information on microinsurance providers and products in lower-middle-income countries. For example, microinsurance companies such as Activist for Social Alternatives (ASA), Shepherd and Spandana in India, which have a 30–year history, began their activities as a socially oriented organization, later using microinsurance to protect against unforeseen risks, vulnerable segments of the population. According to the World Bank, in 2021, 65% of the population lives in rural areas and 82.7% of the working-age population is employed in the informal sector, which together is the target market for microinsurance. I.e., the majority of the Indian population belongs to low-income groups and microinsurance is a necessary tool to protect people from unforeseen risks.
According to the report, the Landscape of Microinsurance 2021 in 2020, from 17 to 37 million people, i.e. from 4% to 9%, were covered by microinsurance in 13 African countries. The average insurance premium per insured person in Africa in 2020 was US$ 11.6 and US$ 14.00 in 2019. According to the collected data, among the

population of Africa in 2020, according to the line of microinsurance products, the most preference is given to medical insurance products, while overtaking such products as funeral insurance, life insurance, credit life insurance, etc.

Keywords: SDG indicators; poverty coefficient; microinsurance; microinsurance products; microinsurance institutions.

JEL Classification: G22

THE INFLUENCE OF COVID-19 PANDEMY ON FINANCIAL FRAUD RISK ASSESSMENT

GEORGIANA BURLACU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
burlacu.georgiana@feaa.uaic.ro

IOAN-BOGDAN ROBU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
bogdan.robu@feaa.uaic.ro

Abstract: In today's economic environment, the many harms caused by financial fraud have attracted increased attention from academia, industry, and regulatory bodies alike. In the last two decades, marked by great crises, pandemics, wars, financial fraud has brought considerable losses to the global economy, being a threat in terms of the efficiency and stability of the capital markets. Moreover, the coronavirus pandemic (COVID-19), which caused a strong shock to the economic environment and not only, had the consequence of finding new solutions to carry out economic and financial activities under as normal conditions as possible, one of these being represented by the acceleration of the use of digital financial services, increasing the risk of being vulnerable to financial fraud, which has determined new challenges in their effective detection. The purpose of this study is to highlight the main aspects of the specialized literature on the subject of fraud risk, for its analysis and assessment. The objectives proposed in this study aim, on the one hand, to present the concepts of financial fraud and fraud risk, and on the other hand, to present the risk assessment methodology, respectively to record the role of the financial auditor in identifying fraudulent activities. This study aims at the following directions: the identification of the key aspects recorded by the financial auditor in his report on the financial statements, respectively to what extent his opinion confirms the presence of the use of the principle of continuity of activity by the management for the preparation of the annual financial statements; obtaining a financial profile of entities at risk of being subject to financial reporting fraud or asset misappropriation; finally, it is monitored to what extent the reported financial information has been subjected to manipulation, in order to obtain a reliable picture of the entity. The sample is represented by the entities listed on the BVB regulated market in the period 2020-2022, which culminates with the emergence of the Covid-19 pandemic, respectively the post-pandemic period. According to the object of activity, the analyzed entities are grouped as follows: chemical-pharmaceutical, tourism and services, fields that have undergone visible changes during the period of manifestation of the pandemic. Along with the identification of the major research directions addressed in the specialized literature regarding the issue of financial fraud, the option of analyzing and assessment of fraud risk is proposed using quantitative and qualitative methods.

Keywords: financial audit; risk of fraud; determined factors; the Covid-19 pandemic; BVB.

JEL Classification: C38; C58; M41; M42

Track 1B: Emerging Economic, Societal, Environmental, and Technological Challenges for European Policymaking

Location: B413
Schedule: 31st of March 2023, 14.30 – 16.00
Chairs: Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Andreea Apetrei (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)
Lect. Ph.D. Constantin-Marius Apostoaie (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)

* * *

DELIVER SMART, NOT MORE! BUILDING ECONOMICALLY SUSTAINABLE COMPETITIVENESS ON THE GROUND OF HIGH AGRI-FOOD TRADE SPECIALIZATION IN THE EU

ANDREEA APETREI
Catholic University of Valencia, Economics, Business and Marketing Department, Valencia, Spain
andreea.apetrei@ucv.es

MARIUS CONSTANTIN
Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Faculty of Agri-Food and Environmental Economics, Bucharest, Romania
marius.constantin@eam.ase.ro

JUAN SAPENA
Catholic University of Valencia, Economics, Business and Marketing Department, Valencia, Spain
juan.sapena@ucv.es

ROXANA PATARLAGEANU
Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Faculty of Agri-Food and Environmental Economics, Bucharest, Romania
rpatarlageanu@eam.ase.ro

Abstract: Competitiveness has always been a multifaceted illusive concept, which has made it a real challenge for scholars and practitioners to find the most suitable measurement tools to completely encapsulate all the complex nuances of competitiveness. This becomes even more of a challenge when approached in relation to particular economic sectors. The agri-food sector is no exception, especially when considering all its interconnections with the other sectors: water, energy, transport, waste. All of them impact the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Similarly, scholars have been debating the meaning of sustainability for decades, some even arguing that it is a political, subjective, and, in some cases, self-contradictory concept. As far as the sustainability of agricultural competitiveness is concerned, the literature is still developing. It is much more focused on fostering environmental competitiveness, and less attention was paid to the strategies designed to capitalize on sustainable economic competitiveness—a concept that has attracted divergent opinions in the literature, mainly due to ambiguity. Thus, instead of falling into the pitfall of vagueness, this paper was aimed at bringing its contribution to this field by undertaking the research objective of exploring a single facet of sustainable agricultural competitiveness: the economic facet. Hence, this paper proposes the construction of the sustainable economic competitiveness index (SECI) with direct application for agri-food value chains. It consists of three attributes: (a) factor endowments, resource independence; (b) agricultural chain performance; and (c) national agricultural chain strategies and policies. In this study, SECI was tested against the cereal chain for a selection of EU countries, based on the data taken over from FAOSTAT and INTRACEN Trade Map, in the case of the 2011–2020 period. Various statistical and econometric methods were used to test the robustness of SECI. Results stand as proof that building sustainable agricultural economic competitiveness relies on a mix of strategic actions. The key vector in this mix is that trade flow patterns and policies must be calibrated in accordance with national factor endowments in order to achieve high levels of SECI. To add more managerial implications, this paper argues for the smart delivery of agri-food products with high added value instead of focusing on exporting big volumes of raw agricultural materials with little added value.

Keywords: competitiveness; economic sustainability; agri-food value chains; agriculture; factor endowments; productivity; trade flows; revealed comparative advantage; strategic actions.

JEL Classification: F640; O520; Q170

UNLOCKING NEW OPPORTUNITIES: THE IMPACT OF OPEN INSURANCE ON TRADITIONAL BUSINESS MODELS

CARMEN TODERAȘCU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of IasI, Iași, Romania
carmentoderascu@gmail.com

VLAD GABRIEL NICOLAESCU
Valahia University Târgoviște, Târgoviște, Romania
vladgnicolaescu@gmail.com

Abstract: Open insurance refers to a new approach to insurance that leverages digital technology and data sharing to create more transparent, flexible, and personalized products and services. Current trends in open insurance include the use of APIs, partnerships with insurtech startups, and the adoption of new business models that prioritize customer engagement and experience. The impact of open insurance on traditional business models is significant, as it challenges the dominance of established players and requires them to adapt to new market conditions. Insurers must become more agile, innovative, and customer-centric to compete in an open insurance ecosystem, where customers have greater control over their data and demand more personalized and value-added products and services. They also need to collaborate more closely with technology partners, startups, and other stakeholders to leverage the benefits of open data and digital platforms. Open Insurance, as a new aproach, has the potential to impact the insurance industry in the short, medium, and long term.

In the short term, open insurance can disrupt the traditional insurance model by enabling new players to enter the market and offering customers more choices and innovative products. This can result in increased competition and pressure on traditional insurers to adapt to the changing market dynamics.

In the medium term, open insurance can lead to more efficient and transparent operations by leveraging digital platforms, data analytics, and automation. This can result in improved risk management, faster claims processing, and lower costs for both insurers and customers.

And in the long term, open insurance can transform the insurance industry by creating a more customer-centric, personalized, and value-driven ecosystem. This can result in new business models, revenue streams, and opportunities for growth and innovation.

Keywords: open insurance; traditional; innovation; insurance; technology.

JEL Classification: G22; G23; G52; I22; I25; M21

HOW DO EUROPEAN UNION POLICIES FOSTER GENDER DIVERSITY IN CORPORATE BOARDS? A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS

ADINA DORNEAN
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
amartin@uaic.ro

ANTONIO MINGUEZ VERA
University of Murcia, Faculty of Economics and Business, Murcia, Spain
minver@um.es

Abstract: Stronger regulations with binding quotas for minimum gender representations are in place in many of the markets with the highest percentage of female directors, while markets with soft regulations or no mandates tend to have fewer female directors. In the European Union (EU), the exceptions were Sweden and Finland as the countries with the highest number of females on boards, whereas they had no targets regarding gender diversity (d'Hoop-Azar, Martens, Papolis, & Sancho, 2017).

In the EU, gender perspective regarding board composition appeared as an important issue of the corporate governance in 2011 when the European Commission issued "Green paper – EU corporate governance framework", in which it emphasized economic rationales for fostering gender diversity.

According to the Gender Statistics Database (2023), the average share of women in boards of the largest listed companies registered in the EU was 8.5% in 2003, 11.9% in 2010, 23.9% in 2016, and it reached 32,2% on 2022. In this context, although the progress is evident, gender balance has still not been reached. The best results were

registered in France where women made up 45.2% of board members in the largest listed companies. Also, there are significant differences among member states (from 45.2% in France to 10.2% in Cyprus). Despite some progress in the recent years, according to the Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025, women's under-representation in corporate boards persists.
In this context, with the aim to reduce gender gap on corporate boards, on 22 November 2022, the European Parliament adopted a new Directive on gender balance on corporate boards of listed companies (the so called "Women on Boards" Directive) and on 7 December 2022, Directive (EU) 2022/2381 was published in the Official Journal. According to the Directive, at least 40% of non-executive board seats or 33% of all board seats for listed companies has to be occupied by the women by the end of June 2026. Meanwhile, until December 2024, member states have to adopt national rules implementing the Directive's measures.
Previously to the Directive, according to Deloitte (2022), in 2020 seven EU countries (Belgium, France, Italy, Germany, Austria, Portugal, and Greece) had mandatory national quotas for the underrepresented sex for listed companies (women), nine countries (Denmark, Ireland, Spain, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Slovenia, Finland, and Sweden) favored a softer approach, and the other 11 member states did not take any significant action (no mandates). Empirical studies about the influence of women directors on the company's performance presented mixed results, but on the other hand, it is recognized the fact that more diversity in boardrooms contributes to better decision-making and results.
The aim of the paper is to analyze comparatively the impact that the type of regulation has on the rate of women on boards for the EU largest listed companies. For this purpose, we divided the EU countries in three groups (no mandates, soft law and hard law). The results show that in the countries with hard and soft quotas it was registered an increase of women participation in boards, compared with countries without regulation in the field. Also, in those countries where binding quotas were introduced (in the last 10 years), considerably more women were appointed. Consequently, legislation should promote gender equality and the implemention of the "Women on Boards" Directive by EU countries is desirable.

Keywords: gender equality; gender quotas; hard law; soft law.

JEL Classification: G38; M14; K38

CORPORATE AND INSTITUTIONAL SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY IN THE CONTEXT OF A DYNAMIC EUROPEAN POLICY ENVIRONMENT

MARIAN JALENCU
State University of Moldova, Faculty of Economics, Chişinău, Republic of Moldova
jalencu_marian@yahoo.com

IRINA TEODORA MANOLESCU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economy and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
irina.manolescu@gmail.com

MIHAI TALMACIU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economy and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
mtalm@uaic.ro

Abstract: Business development in the current environment full of challenges is an area towards which European policies are directed, in an integrated approach. Intelligent specialization policies represent the spearhead of this orientation. Smart specialization policies are based on two key elements: prioritization and innovative entrepreneurship. Prioritization allows the regions to evaluate and identify the areas in which they have competitive advantages and thus to focus their investments and efforts in these directions, thus producing leaps in competitiveness that can be constituted as platforms for the development of other sectors. Innovative entrepreneurship involves the active participation of several actors from research, the business environment, the public sector and even from civil society, to discover opportunities at the international level and how regional initiatives can respond to these opportunities. The paper aims to identify to what extent the horizontal objectives of the EU policies, which are found at the organizational level through the orientation towards Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Institutional Social Responsibility (ISR), interfere with the smart specialization strategies. From a methodological point of view, the CSR and ISR initiatives of the organizations involved in the regional clusters, the representative entities in the implementation of smart specialization strategies, are analyzed in a comparative manner. The study was carried out in Romania and the Republic of Moldova, to illustrate the different levels of incorporation of smart specialization strategies, for a country that is a member of the European Union and for a country at an early stage of implementing these strategies. The conclusions of the study aim to identify the possibilities of harmonizing values within the collaborative systems that are the basis of the implementation of smart specialization strategies. The implications can be relevant at the level of the actors involved in the implementation of smart specialization strategies - universities, companies, public institutions - and can generate solutions to improve the collaboration potential between these entities.

Keywords: smart specialization; corporate social responsibility; institutional social responsibility.

JEL Classification: O35; O43

EXPLORING THE EFFICACY OF LITERATURE REVIEW TOOLS IN THE AREA OF ENERGY FINANCE RESEARCH

ALEXANDRU MAXIM
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
alexandrumaxim@outlook.com

Abstract: The process of conducting a literature review can be daunting, especially when trying to navigate vast amounts of literature. The first steps in the process of locating and identifying pertinent and reliable research materials can be particularly challenging given the growing number of publications across a constantly increasing number of academic journals indexed in separate databases.

The last few years have seen a surge in the availability and use of digital products and services across most economic sectors, including academia. Within this context, a wide variety of tools has become available, aiding in activities such as communication, collaboration and research. Some tools are more targeted towards assisting the literature review process, with features such as: summarizing multiple research papers, rephrasing content, illustrating concepts based on natural language input, identifying relevant papers based on research questions and identifying inter-related and relevant works in a field based on search or seed paper inputs. With the aid of literature review tools, researchers can make the entire process more efficient and effective.

In this paper, we aim to present and compare three literature review tools: VOSviewer, Litmaps, and Connected Papers. We will discuss the sources used, what we know about the algorithms behind the tools, and the features of each application. Subsequently, we will utilize these tools to conduct an initial literature review on the topic of energy finance. Specifically, we will use the tools to identify the most important papers and authors, visualize the relationships between papers, and identify research gaps in the field.

Through our comparison, we hope to shed light on the strengths and weaknesses of each tool and provide guidance to researchers on which tool may be best suited to their research needs. Furthermore, we aim to contribute to the ongoing discussion on the role of technology in streamlining research processes and increasing the quality of research output.

Keywords: energy finance; literature review; digital research tools.

JEL Classification: B41; G00; Q40

THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE NEUTRALITY OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS PREPARATION PROCESS

MIHAI-BOGDAN AFRĂSINEI
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
bogdan.afrasinei@feaa.uaic.ro

MIHAI CARP
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
mihai.carp@feaa.uaic.ro

Abstract: The quality of financial reporting is a determining factor for the correct and complete information of investors, with significant effects on the efficiency of portfolio investments, respectively on the balance of financial markets. The Covid-19 pandemic has disrupted not only social life all over the world but has generated numerous obstacles and transformations at the level of real economic and financial flows. In this context, the neutrality of the process of preparing the financial statements can contribute decisively to limiting or accentuating the uncertainties associated with the approach of allocating financial resources in the economy. By using the financial information published by the Romanian entities listed on the main market of the Bucharest Stock Exchange, the paper evaluates the extent to which, during the period of the Covid-19 pandemic, the level of earnings management, as an exponent of the neutrality of the process of preparing financial statements, reflects actions carried out in order to manipulate the results obtained by the companies. The study comparatively analyses (before, during and after the pandemic) the level of discretionary accruals, using as influencing factors variables such as: the field of activity, the size of the company, the number of years of listing, the degree of indebtedness, respectively the rate of sales growth. The results identify, during the pandemic, an increase in the size of discretionary accruals in the case of large companies, in the field of production, which register a decrease in sales. This fact can be interpreted as the manifestation of manipulative actions regarding published financial information, in order to present a favorable image regarding the activity carried out.

Keywords: earnings management; Covid-19 pandemic; Bucharest Stock Exchange; neutrality of financial statements.

JEL Classification: M41; G15

A BIBLIOMETRIC ANALYSIS REGARDING THE INFLUENCE OF CRISES ON ACCOUNTING

ALEXANDRA TANASĂ
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
alexandra.tanasa@feaa.uaic.ro

Abstract: Economic and financial stability represents an increasingly debated topic in recent years, in almost all corners of the world, in the context of the current crises, which generate a major concern for the political decision-makers. As time passed, states faced both common and different periods of economic boom or economic crisis, repeating themselves at certain intervals, a phenomenon which leads to the idea of cyclicity. There are multiple effects to these crises and, among other things, they were perceived by investments, financial markets, production, imports-exports, health, research and development. The bibliometric analysis aims to outline an overview of the main influences that the crises had (financial, sanitary, political, energy, etc.) on accounting. Thus, a review of the crises of the last 20 years is made, the causes that led to their occurrence are highlighted and the changes produced on accounting and the financial-accounting reports are analysed. For this purpose, the bibliometric analysis will be carried out through the VOSviewer software, based on the papers extracted from the Web of Science database that addressed the subject of the impact of crises on accounting. The sample consists of scientific articles published between 2002 and 2022. This study summaries and interprets the changes that occurred on accounting as a result of the occurrence of these crises. Both the economic crises and the big financial scandals, as well as the health crises caused by the recent political pandemic triggered by international conflicts, were taken into account. The results of the research show that there is a series of influences that the crises have on accounting and the financial-accounting reports in different aspects. These results are presented and interpreted within the present paper.

Keywords: crisis; economic crisis; accounting; financial statements; financial reporting.

JEL Classification: M41; G01

THE BIG PICTURE OF WORKING ONLINE, REMOTELY

ELENA-SABINA TURNEA
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
sabina.turnea@yahoo.com, sabina.turnea@uaic.ro

CĂTĂLIN-IOAN CLIPA
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
cata.clipa@gmail.com

ANCA MARIA CLIPA
Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, University Alexandru Ioan Cuza of Iaşi, Iaşi, Romania
anca.clipa@uaic.ro

Abstract: The global view of the way people work in different industries has changed over time. The orientation of potential employees on the labor market is now moving towards hybrid work. Telework, home work and hybrid work have become the new normal these days. This paper aims to analyze the transition from full remotely, online work, to the hybrid work, the factors that influence the achievement of the remote work and the strengths of hybrid work. Since the complexity of the remote work brings also negative consequences, we propose through this paper to delimit possible solutions to be able to mitigate them, so that employees to obtain satisfaction and performance in their work. The paper will present the new big picture regarding the hybrid work.

Keywords: hybrid work; satisfaction; employees; online; remote work.

JEL Classification: J10; J21; J50; O15

Track 2B: Fiscal Policies and their Impact on the European Business Environment

Location: B417
Schedule: 31st of March 2023, 14.30 – 16.00
Chairs: Assoc. Prof. Ph.D. Irina Bilan (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)
Prof. Ph.D. Ana-Maria Bercu (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)

* * *

FISCAL COUNCILS IN EUROPEAN UNION

GEORGE GEORGESCU
National Institute for Economic Research, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania
Romanian Fiscal Council, Bucharest, Romania
georgescu@ince.ro

BOGDAN CĂPRARU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
Romanian Fiscal Council, Bucharest, Romania
National Institute for Economic Research, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania
csb@uaic.ro

Abstract: The EU countries have set up independent fiscal institutions (IFIs), mainly following the global financial crisis of 2008-2009, with a mandate to objectively assess the fiscal policy and its performance. The paper focuses on reviewing the activity of EU IFIs, trying to highlight their typology, minimum operating standards, channels of influence, effectiveness assessments, and their current mission in the 2020 context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Given the differences in the mandates with which IFIs are invested between the EU countries, the European Commission has recommended a set of common principles, among these, sufficient human and financial resources, a high degree of flexibility in the resources allocation, the access to relevant information, the Comply or Explain procedure, the protection against political interferences. Formally, IFIs do not have the power to intervene on fiscal and budgetary policies, but they have a "soft" power of influence, exercised by increasing public attention to these policies, based on two pillars: credibility and communication. From this point of view, IFIs can be considered as an "accountability-multiplier". There is a consensus that one of the best practices of IFIs in the EU is to conclude MoUs with the budgetary authorities, as the main tool for operating according to the minimum standards. In the context of the current fight to mitigate the economic and social impact of the SARS-CoV-2 virus pandemic, the European Commission has, for the first time, activated the general escape clause of the SGP, enabling the national governments to take measures to support the economy in order to cope with the crisis. Under these conditions, the IFIs' mission is drastically reduced, at least during the period of activation of the clause, but they must continue to be active in the economic arena. In the exceptional circumstances of this situation it must bear in mind that, once the health crisis will be enough controlled to allow the normal resumption of economic activities, the need to monitor and apply the fiscal principles will return in force.

Keywords: fiscal responsibility; IFIs mandate; fiscal rules; MoU; COVID-19 pandemic.

JEL Classification: G28; H30; H60; H87; O23

Acknowledgements: This research was performed with the support of the ERASMUS+ Program of the European Union (Jean Monnet Module "Guiding Steps for the Next Generation of Smarter and More Engaged Citizens in a Sustainable European Union", NextStepEU, grant decision number 101085160 / 31.08.2022). This work reflects only the views of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

PUBLIC SPENDING AND OUTPUT GROWTH IN EASTERN EUROPE. A STRUCTURAL VAR APPROACH

DUMITRU-NICUŞOR CĂRĂUŞU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
nicusor.carausu@uaic.ro

DAN LUPU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
dan.lupu@uaic.ro

Abstract: The transmission of the impact of public spending on GDP growth is determined by different structural characteristics of economies. The realization of the economic and social objectives in Eastern European countries was significantly influenced by the fiscal policy, especially the expansionist one. In this article, we study the impact of public spending policies on GDP growth for six Eastern European economies: Bulgaria, Croatia, Hungary, Poland, Romania, and Slovakia, starting from the idea that their common communist past and the organization of the economy determine the effectiveness of fiscal policy. The methodology used in the analysis assumed Structural VAR, the analyzed period being 1999Q1-2022Q3, with quarterly data. The obtained results confirmed the fact that public expenditures significantly influence the level of output growth for all six countries, but with essential differences. The effectiveness of fiscal incentives is positive and significant for all analyzed countries, playing an important role. For Bulgaria, in the first quarter the fiscal shock is maximum (0.174), following which it may gradually decrease to reach 0.164 after 12 quarters. For Czech Republic, the impact of the fiscal shock is minor in the first 2 quarters (below 0.01), and then increases to 0.06 after 2 years. For Hungary, the initial fiscal shock has a low value of 0.01, to later increase to 0.039. For Poland, the impact of the fiscal policy is higher in the first quarters, reaching 0.174, to then decrease to 0.164 after 12 quarters. For Romania, the public spending policy has a lower impact in the first two quarters of 0.081, so that it subsequently improves to 0.082. But the biggest impact of public spending is manifested in Slovakia, where it starts for the first semester from 0.655 and subsequently decreases to 0.520 in 12 quarter. The subsequent discussions that will consider the effectiveness of the public spending policy in Eastern Europe can use the results of this study as a starting point in order to identify the determinants of the budgetary characteristics for the respective economies.

Keywords: public spending; output growth; Structural VAR; Eastern Europe countries.

JEL Classification: C22; C32; E62; G18

Acknowledgments: Co-financed by the European Commission, European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), Jean Monnet Chair. EU Public Administration Integration and Resilience Studies-EU-PAIR, project no. ERASMUS-JMO-2021-HAI-TCH-RSCH-101047526, decision no. 1190440/17.02.2022. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of European Union or European Commission (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

STRENGTHENING THE EMPLOYEE'S RESILIENCE IN PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. IMPLICATIONS FOR EUROPEAN POLICIES

ANA-MARIA BERCU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
bercu@uaic.ro

GABRIELA BOLDUREANU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
gabrivaleanu@yahoo.com

Abstract: Our paper is focus on employee's resilience in public administration as it was explored in the literature for defining the main characteristic that allow them to adapt to the changes, to learn from the experiences, to use the technologies and networks for accomplish the complex goals of public management framework. The pandemic times, the struggle with the insecurity at the international level, the uncertain social and economic environment continuously in changing demand strong capabilities of employees from public administration to learn, to adapt, to redefine the working tools for responding to the high demands. The European Commission had established the goals for better steer the change of public administrations in the EU and support better the effective, inclusive, and resilient public institutions. The main aim of our paper is to identify the main characteristics of the employees from public administration that explain resilience from different perspectives. The research methodology is based on the analysis of the literature in the field to establish the most important employees' characteristics that have the potential to strength the individual and organisational resilience. We will propose a set of characteristics based on qualitative and

quantitative indicators that will define the proposed model. The indicators will be grouped in a conceptual framework based on the findings from the research of the literature and will imply the creation of a characteristics model of employees from public administration. The factors that can have impact on resilience of employees from public administration are grouped as: individual factors (learning, adaptability, flexibility, strategic thinking, empathy) and organisational factors (organisational structures and procedures, decision-making process, performance management, organisational culture, social support, workplace climate, collaborative capacity).
The results of the study show that employee's resilience is described as very salient in these times and developing a capacity at individual level to innovate, to adapt to the change and to create change means for the organisations a new start in exploiting the internal procedures for creating the 'new organisational culture', to define new networking approaches for the decisional process and internal policies. Resilience cand be defined through the new values that occur from the new tools of working for become an active actor in society. The complexity of the problem is determined by the various factors that have impact at the level of employees from public administration and that require the adaptability and a rapid manner of action. The proposed theoretical model defines the characteristics of being resilient for employees from public administration.

Keywords: resilience; public administration; European policy.

JEL Classification: H83; H11

Acknowledgments: Co-financed by the European Commission, European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), Jean Monnet Chair. EU Public Administration Integration and Resilience Studies-EU-PAIR, project no. ERASMUS-JMO-2021-HAI-TCH-RSCH-101047526, decision no. 1190440/17.02.2022. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of European Union or European Commission (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

THE ANALYSIS OF PUBLIC HEALTH EXPENDITURES AND THEIR EFFICIENCY FROM THE POINT OF VIEW OF SELF REPORTED UNMET NEEDS FOR HEALTH CARE

MIHAI-BOGDAN PETRIŞOR
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
mihai.petrisor@uaic.ro

LAURA DIACONU (MAXIM)
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
lauradiaconu_07@yahoo.com

Abstract: The present article analyzes the dynamics of public expenditures for health in the EU member countries, during the period 2012-2021. The performance of the healthcare sector is also analyzed through the dynamics of the indicators regarding the number of medical doctors per hundred thousand inhabitants and the number of available beds in hospitals per hundred thousand inhabitants. By comparing the level of public spending for health and the performance indicators, we draw conclusions regarding the efficiency of public spending. The results indicate a general trend at the EU level of a decrease in the number of available beds in hospitals per hundred thousand inhabitants, but an important increase in the number of medical doctors per hundred thousand inhabitants. Romania follows the same trend as the other EU states. However, although it is among the countries that spends the lowest amount on the healthcare, Romania reports, surprisingly, an extremely low number of unmet needs for healthcare. Therefore, we are reserved in drawing any conclusions that might result from the analysis of this indicator since it is based on self-reports.

Keywords: health expenditures; public expenditures for health; efficiency; performance indicators.

JEL Classification: H51; I10; I18

Acknowledgements: Co-financed by the European Commission, European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), Jean Monnet Chair. EU Public Administration Integration and Resilience Studies -EU-PAIR, project no. ERASMUS-JMO-2021-HAI-TCH-RSCH-101047526, decision no. 1190440/17.02.2022. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of European Union or European Commission (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor the granting authority can be held responsible for them.

THE ACQUIRERS' DECISION TO INVEST IN M&AS. A STUDY ON THE TARGET COMPANIES LISTED ON BUCHAREST STOCK EXCHANGE

GEORGE-MARIAN AEVOAE
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
aevoae@gmail.com

Abstract: Research question: Which are the types of investors who decide to participate in M&As, in order to gain positive net present value from the external investments?
Idea: In this paper, characteristics of the target companies listed on the Bucharest Stock Exchange are of importance, and we consider financial information, to which we add the accounting practices, in the context of applying Pavitt's taxonomy for clustering the acquired companies. The influence of these factors on the acquisition decision, reflected in the deal value, is also analyzed, by comparing industry and services acquisition.
Data: We use a sample of 721 acquisitions, for 2010-2019 period of time.
Methodology: The methods used are multiple correspondences analysis, logistic multinomial regression, and generalized linear models.
Findings: The results show that undisclosed investors (in most cases, individuals) are interested in the size of the target companies, regardless of their sector. Unlisted companies consider investing in target companies that apply local GAAP. Profitability is a significant factor for undisclosed investors, in industry acquisitions. As for the price that these investors decide to pay in the transaction, it is positively influenced by all the factors mentioned above.
Contribution: The study provides an overview of the types of investors who acquire stakes on the BSE and of the factors that influence the paid price.

Keywords: acquisitions; Pavitt's taxonomy; Bucharest Stock Exchange; investors; unqualified opinion.

JEL Classification: E22; G32; M42; M48; O16

INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACHES TO PERSONAL RESILIENCE AND ENTREPRENEURIAL RESILIENCE

GABRIELA BOLDUREANU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
gabrivaleanu@yahoo.com

ANA-MARIA BERCU
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
bercu@uaic.ro

DANIEL-FLORIN BOLDUREANU
Grigore T. Popa University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iaşi, Faculty of Medical Bioengineering, Iaşi, Romania
boldureanu@yahoo.com

Abstract: The terms "personal resilience" and "entrepreneurial resilience" are two concepts that generally refer to the ability of systems to return to normal functioning after suffering a series of traumas. Personal resilience is defined as an individual's ability to maintain a stable level of psychological and emotional functioning despite exposure to a series of adverse or traumatic events. Also, many sciences, such as: psychology, psychiatry, genetics, epigenetics, endocrinology, and neuroscience, study this topic with the aim of discovering why some people are more able than others to react positively to challenges.
The American Psychological Association defines resilience as "the process of people's adaptation in the face of adversity, trauma, tragedy, threats, and even significant sources of stress—such as family problems, serious health problems, work stress, or financial problems." In the book Aging Well, Harvard Medical School, Professor George Vaillant compares resilient people to "a twig with a living, fresh, green core. When twisted, such a twig bends, but does not break; instead, it straightens up and continues to grow." Consequently, resilience generally indicates how well a person bounces back, recovers, and grows through exposure to setbacks and challenges. The positive response and rapid adaptation of the individual to the new situation measures his degree of resilience.
The concept of resilience can also be applied to entrepreneurs, as they frequently must face unexpected events that threaten the performance or even the survival of their firms. Failures occur because environmental disasters,

financial crisis, new competitors, or disruptive innovations affect the strategies and consequently the performance of firms The concept of entrepreneurial resilience arises from the combination of three different sources of literature. The first source is the contribution of economic researchers who have studied the role of entrepreneurs in the development of the economy. The second source is psychological research, which has investigated the typical traits and characteristics that distinguish entrepreneurs from others. The third and final source is social and behavioural research that emphasizes the importance of environmental influences on entrepreneurial attitudes.
Through an inductive and deductive analysis, investigation and critical interpretation of numerous studies, reports, documents developed at national and international level regarding the researched topic, we will research personal and entrepreneurial resilience from different perspectives: psychological, social, and behavioural as well as economic with the purpose of identifying the factors that influence resilient, personal, and entrepreneurial behaviours.

Keywords: personal resilience; entrepreneurial resilience; factors; psychology; economics; behaviours.

JEL Classification: M13; M21; M51

Acknowledgements: The authors acknowledge financial support from the European Commission- Erasmus Plus Program, Project ERASMUS-JMO-2022-HEI-TCH-RSCH EUFIRE-RE – 101085352, Jean Monnet Center of Excellence European Financial Resilience and Regulation EUFIRE-RE.

GAPS IN THE EUROPEAN BANKING SYSTEM

FLORIN DĂNESCU
Romanian Association of Banks, Bucharest, Romania
florin.danescu@arb.ro

Abstract: In this paper we investigate possible gaps in the European banking system in order to be useful in improvement of the efficiency of bank credit financing of the European economy. 79% is a financial intermediation (domestic credit to GDP) in the European Union in 2020. EU is 75% financed by banking credit and 25% by the capital market. 216% is financial intermediation in the US in 2020. The US finances itself from the capital market at a rate of 75% and 25% from the bank loan. The predominance of figures in the European case makes the European economy develop according to a so-called banking model. The banking criteria for financing companies, populations and states within the EU are dominant.
How can two such different systems compete and how can the European Banking System better finance economic growth? While the importance of financing economic growth is not in doubt, the positive correlation between them remains controversial. The conclusion is becoming increasingly shared that financial intermediation acts positively rather in developing countries, when in countries with over- credit financing the effect would be null, or even a harmful one. However, in the last 10 years, the US, the country with overfunding, has expanded its financial intermediation by 19% and the EU has followed the reverse path, of adjusting it by 19%. There is a debate more often about the ability of the U.S. to push the world into economic crises but also about its ability to recover first. "Despite its strength, the EU banking sector today is not earning its cost of capital, while US competitors have returned to pre-crisis profitability levels." says Oliver Wyman in the January 2023 reference study entitled "The EU banking regulatory framework and its impact on banks and the economy".
There are differences between the EU and the US that have an impact on the efficiency of banking systems such as business models, fragmentation, depth, sophistication of the financial markets, but also the way the banking system is perceived, as a crisis-provoking problem in the EU, or as a solution for economic growth and exit from the crisis in the US. The figures demonstrate that banking model is the driver of financing economic growth in the EU. Based on some series of data for classic indicators in the banking analysis.

Keywords: financial intermediation; capital accumulation; gaps; bank financing; single banking union.

JEL codes: G01; G21; G28

MONETARY POLICY AND NON-BANK FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION – A FOCUS ON CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

CONSTANTIN-MARIUS APOSTOAIE
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
marius.apostoaie@uaic.ro

IRINA BILAN
Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Iaşi, Romania
irina.bilan@uaic.ro

Abstract: As the most recent history already showed us, in periods of fast economic growth, traditional banking isn't able to cope with the growing financial needs and preferences of individuals and various institutions, although bank lending is still a very important source of funding (in European countries, at least). Hence, non-bank financial intermediation (the Financial Stability Board preferring this term, since 2018, to the more well-known 'shadow banking'), came into play to provide a valuable and viable alternative to the traditional forms of credit-based intermediation and to help support real economic activity. Albeit the form of intermediation, one must not neglect the pivotal role that monetary policy has to play in the background. However, while the relationship between monetary policy and incumbent banks is unhindered and has been intensively researched over in the last decades, this does not apply to the nexus between monetary policy and non-banks financial intermediaries. As an outcome of the Global Crisis, the monetary policy stance boosted growth in the non-bank financial sector mainly due to a search-for-yield motive (and weakened the relationship with traditional banks). In response to the COVID-19 crisis, an expansionary policy stance was assumed by central banks around the world. Have these decisions fuelled, even more the growth of non-bank financial intermediation, leaving far more behind the traditional banking sector? How was this phenomenon experienced in Central and Eastern European countries? While there are some studies on this nexus, conducted for the more developed countries, there are very few investigations that look into the impact of the monetary policy stance on non-banking financial institutions in emerging markets and developing economies (as those in Central and Eastern Europe). Our paper seeks to explore the connection(s) between this continuously evolving segment of the financial system (created by non-bank financial intermediaries) and central bank's monetary policy, with a focus on CEE (testing the search-for-yield motive). Also, the paper focuses on determining the nature of the relationship in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Keywords: shadow banking; non-bank financial intermediation; monetary policy; Central and Eastern Europe; search-for-yield motive.

JEL Classification: E44; E52; G21; G23

Acknowledgements: This research was performed with the support of the ERASMUS+ Program of the European Union (Jean Monnet Module "Towards New Paradigms of EU Economics: Financial and Monetary Milestones", EUCONOMICS, grant decision number 620297/ 17.09.2020). This work reflects only the views of the authors, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Track 4C: Banks, Insurance and Financial Markets in the European Union

Location: online (LINK)
Schedule: 31st of March 2023, 14.30 – 16.00
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Angela Roman (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)
Ph.D. Valentina Diana Rusu (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)

* * *

THE IMPACT OF BEHAVIORAL FINANCE PARADIGM ON THE BANKING SECTOR BASED ON CULTURAL FACTORS

ROBERT DORIN FILIP
University of Craiova, Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, Craiova, Romania
filiprobertdorin@gmail.com

Abstract: This research study is focused to analyze the impact of behavioral finance paradigm on the banking sector based on cultural factors. Cultural differentiation in the implementation and development of financial investments is significant. Moreover, cultural factors are represented by the following categories: culture, subculture and social class, while social-cultural factors include the following main categories: family, social status, social classes, reference groups and culture. For instance, religious groups also have their own investment preferences and opinions, while racial groups are based on distinct cultural styles and attitudes. Cultural factors are those that exert the strongest influence on consumer behavior, including in the case of financial products and services. Culture is the main concept that encompasses both the material values of an ethnic or national community and the immaterial ones that individuals, namely: perceptions, norms, values, attitudes, behaviors, traditions, preferences and more.

Keywords: cultural factors; banking sector; racial groups; religious groups; ethnic groups.

JEL Classification: D91; E50; Z19

INVESTIGATING VOLATILITY SPILLOVERS USING GARCH CLASS MODELS: A CASE STUDY ON ROMANIAN STOCK MARKET

ION FLORESCU
University of Craiova, Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, Craiova, Romania
ionut.florescu2021@yahoo.com

Abstract: The major aim of this empirical study is to investigate volatility spillovers and transmission of instability using GARCH models based on a case study on Romanian stock market. The sample time period covers the long time interval from December 2000 to January 2023 which also covers the global financial crisis of 2008, the COVID-19 pandemic and the war between Russia and Ukraine, and other severe events. The empirical analysis is based on the models from the GARCH family and other relevant statistical tests. The empirical results revealed significant aspects regarding the long-term behavior of an emerging stock market such as Romania.

Keywords: volatility patterns; GARCH models; emerging stock market; stock returns; investor.

JEL classification: E44; G15

RECENT CHANGES IN BANKS AND CONSUMERS' PERCEPTION OF CREDIT IN ROMANIA

SILVIA GHIŢĂ-MITRESCU
Ovidius University of Constanţa, Faculty of Economic Sciences, Constanţa, Romania
silvia.mitrescu@365.univ-ovidius.ro

CRISTINA DUHNEA
Ovidius University of Constanţa, Faculty of Economic Sciences, Constanţa, Romania
cristinadubnea@univ-ovidius.ro

Abstract: The article aims to determine how banks and consumers have perceived the changes in the lending process amid the Covid-19 pandemic, the war between Ukraine and Russia, which started in February 2022, and the turmoil in the European economies and the Romanian economy in particular. In order to achieve our objective, we have developed a quantitative and qualitative research, based on primary data (a questionnaire applied on a sample of banking services consumers) and secondary data (provided by the National Bank of Romania following a questionnaire applied on a representative sample of banks in the Romanian banking system). The part of the research that focused on banks' perception followed several aspects: demand for new loans, credit conditions, credit standards, factors influencing the change in credit standards, rejection rate of loan applications. On the other hand, the investigation of banking services consumers' perceptions was targeted on changes in lending standards, factors influencing lending standards and terms of credit contracts. In order to obtain a comprehensive view of the lending process in Romania, we compared the perception of banks with a series of macro-economic indicators that characterized the period under analysis. The research has led to several conclusions reflecting both similar and different opinions on the subjects investigated. Thus, a converging opinion of banks and consumers on the evolution of credit standards, perceived as relatively constant, was identified. Regarding the factors influencing the change in credit standards, in the opinion of consumers, the most important ones are the monetary policy decisions of the National Bank of Romania, expectations regarding the financial situation of borrowers, the risk associated with credit guarantees and competition in the banking sector. By comparison, in the banks' opinion, the factors that significantly influence the change in lending standards are expectations regarding the financial situation of the population, risks associated with the creditworthiness of customers and competition in the banking sector. The results of the research show that, although there were significant changes in the macro-economic indicators affecting the lending process the same significance is not to be found in banks and consumers' perception on the subject.

Keywords: banks; banking services consumers; lending perception; Romania.

JEL Classification: G21

THE EFFECT OF EXTREME EVENTS ON CORPORATE RISK MANAGEMENT: TRENDS AND PERSPECTIVES IN THE EUROPEAN UNION

DUMITRU CINCIULESCU
University of Craiova, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, Craiova, Romania
cinciulescudumitru@gmail.com

Abstract: The major objective of this research article is to examine the effect of extreme events on corporate risk management considering trends and perspectives in the European Union. For example, energy prices and security of supply have been significantly affected by the war between Russia and Ukraine, and the consequences are severe on corporate risk management. If the business environment is affected by uncertainty and significant risks due to potential loss, it is very difficult to provide a sustainable approach on the idea of maximizing the value of companies based on risk management practices. The strategic decision-making process plays a key role in achieving the company's goals in the context of extreme events.

Keywords: corporate finance; extreme events; financial crisis; risk management; business; strategic decision-making process.

JEL classification: G30; G32; M2

ROMANIAN BANKS AND FINANCIAL STABILITY IN THE CURRENT ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL CONTEXT

ROXANA DALIANA SCHIOP
West University of Timişoara, Doctoral School of Economics and Business Administration, Timişoara, Romania
roxana.schiop83@e-uvt.ro

Abstract: Restrictive financial conditions, economic and social instability across Europe, driven by Russia's aggression on Ukraine and the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as high inflation, have caused global economic prospects to deteriorate progressively. The present scientific approach makes an analysis of banking institutions in the current economic and social context and answers the research question why the banking system in Romania is less vulnerable.

Keywords: banking institutions; financial stability; prudential requirements; liquidity needs; risks banking.

JEL Classification: E42; G21; G28; M41

EXAMINING THE LONG-TERM CAUSAL RELATIONSHIPS AND VOLATILITY SPILLOVERS BETWEEN THE EMERGING STOCK MARKETS FROM INDIA, BRAZIL AND CHINA

MIRCEA LAURENTIU SIMION
University of Craiova, Doctoral School of Economic Sciences, Craiova, Romania
simionmircealaurentiu@gmail.com

Abstract: The major scope of this research paper is to examine the long-term causal relationships and volatility spillovers between the emerging stock markets from India, Brazil and China. The selected period includes a long time interval, such as from January 2000 to January 2023. In other words, the selected period covers a series of extreme events that affected the behavior of the selected stock markets. The econometric approach is based on Granger causality test and VAR models, but also certain statistical tools.

Keywords: Granger causality test; VAR models; volatility spillovers; emerging stock market; COVID-19 pandemic.

JEL classification: E44; G15

COVID CRISIS EFFECTS ON NON-PERFORMING LOANS IN THE ROMANIAN BANKING MARKET

ANDREEA MAURA BOBICEANU
Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
andreea.bobiceanu@econ.ubbcluj.ro

IOANA GEORGIANA FĂRCAŞ
Babeş-Bolyai University, Cluj-Napoca, Romania
ioana.farcas@econ.ubbcluj.ro

Abstract: The Non-performing loans ratio (NPLs) is an important indicator of the financial stability of a certain financial institution. Therefore, it is crucial to analyze the possible determinants of NPLs ratio. We aim to investigate this issue, by analyzing the NPLs ratio in Romania during 2000-2022. We find that Covid crisis impacts negatively significantly NPLs ratio due to the implementation of stringent measures to the banking sector, but also to the relief measures offered to borrowers. We bring evidence that the economic environment can impact significantly NPLs ratio. The higher level of employment implies an increase in NPLs ratio. Other macroeconomic determinants of NPLs ratio are GDP growth and inflation. Further, our results show that there are also bank determinants of NPLs ratio such us Return on Assets (ROA) and Loan to Deposit ratio. These results remain robust when we employ total NPLS 90 days and NPLs growth rate as dependent variables.

Keywords: non-performing loans; banking market; credit risk; emerging markets; COVID.

JEL Classification: G21; G28

Acknowledgements: This work was supported by a grant of the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitization, CNCS/CCCDI – UEFISCDI, project number PN-III-P1-1.1-TE-2019-1522, within PNCDI III

Special Track: Students' Roundtable

Location: B413 and online (LINK)
Schedule: 1st of April 2023, 09.00 – 12.00
Chairs: Prof. Ph.D. Angela Roman (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)
Lect. Ph.D. Nicuşor Cărăuşu (Alexandru Ioan Cuza University of Iaşi, Romania)

* * *

Looking forward seeing you in the EUconomics events!

AUTHORS' LIST

Notes