

LISBON 2024

Book of Abstracts



**Masters International
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MIRDEC 2024

**MIRDEC 22nd
International Academic Conference
Economics, Business and Contemporary Discussions in Social Science**

**CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS
Lisbon 2024, Portugal**

Book of Abstracts

Editors

**Rosa María Velázquez Sánchez
Kemal Cebeci
Irina Ana Drobot**

15-16 May 2024

**Universidade Autonoma de Lisboa
Lisbon, Portugal**

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International Academic Conference on
Economics, Business and Contemporary Discussions in Social Science
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MIRDEC International Academic Conference

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Observare, Universidade Autònoma de Lisboa

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Universidade Autònoma de Lisboa
Lisbon, Portugal

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We are very pleased to introduce the **Conference Proceedings (Book of Abstracts)** of the **MIRDEC 22nd Lisbon, 2024 Conference International Academic Conference on Economics, Business and Contemporary Discussions in Social Science, 15-16 May 2024 Lisbon, Portugal.**

Thanks to all our participants for their academic and social contributions.

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

SANDRA RIBEIRO

ECONOMICS OF LANGUAGE AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE..... 4

ANA MARIA QUARESMA AND SANDRA RIBEIRO

GENDER DIVERSITY ON THE BOARDS: DOES THE ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS
MATTER 5

MANUEL FRONDEL AND STEFANIE SCHUBERT

CARBON PRICING IN GERMANY’S ROAD TRANSPORT AND HOUSING SECTOR:
OPTIONS FOR REIMBURSING CARBON REVENUES 6

JOAQUIM RAMOS SILVA

THE FUTURE OF GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD..... 7

SLADANA KRGOVIC

CAN MINIMUM WAGE MITIGATE DEMAND CONTRACTION? 8

PAULO JORGE REIS MOURAO

SOCIAL INNOVATION OR SOCIAL CONTINUITY? DISCUSSING THE
SOCIOECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF FUNDING FOR SOCIAL PROJECTS IN
PORTUGAL..... 9

JOANNA FELCZAK

COVID RULE BREAKERS AS PORTRAYED IN POLISH PANDEMIC DIARIES 10

JORGE HERNANDO CUÑADO

THE FAST FASHION MODEL..... 11

BRIGIDA BRITO

SOCIO-ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS CONCERTED WITH THE 2030 AGENDA:
COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PORTUGUESE SPEAKING AFRICAN COUNTRIES 12

SAMANTHA JOY CINCO

CLUSTERING THE IMPACT HOW ECONOMIC REALITIES AND POLITICAL
INSTITUTIONS SHAPED COVID 19 FISCAL RESPONSES IN AFRICA 13

IRINA ANA DROBOT

THE HOUSE OF THE SLEEPING BEAUTIES BY YASUNARI KAWABATHA: AN
ANALYSIS 14

TILLA IZSAK

FORECASTING COMMODITY FUTURES USING ML AND MULTIMODAL DATA ... 15

CARMEN LAZAR

COMPARISON BETWEEN REGULATION 343/2003/EU AND REGULATION 604/2013/EU CONCERNING THE MEMBER STATE RESPONSIBLE IN THE FIELD OF THE ASYLUM RIGHT IN THE EU 16

HANANE ZERWAL

WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT THE INTERNATIONALIZATION OF AFRICAN FIRMS? A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW 17

JOANA ZUKAUSKIENE

THE IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE ON EUROPE'S GREEN GROWTH 18

VALERIA COCCO

MILANO CORTINA: OLYMPIC GAME AND SUSTAINABILITY..... 19

HUDA ALHAJJAJ

THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL WORKERS ON SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN..... 20

MAHAMMAD KHEYIRKHABARLI

THE GRAVITY OF AID FOR TRADE: AN EXAMINATION OF ITS ROLE IN BOOSTING EXPORTS IN EMERGING ECONOMIES 21

OLAYINKA UGWU AND RAMANJIT K. SAHI

PREDICTING U.S. CRUDE OIL PRICES IN THE PRESENCE OF GEOPOLITICAL FACTORS..... 22

GULAY AKGUL YILMAZ AND GOZDE NALBANT EFE

WEALTH TAXATION IN TURKIYE..... 23

ABHINABA NASKAR AND KAUSHIK BHATTACHARYA

IMPACT OF SOCIAL NETWORK ON THE DYNAMICS OF POVERTY: A MARKOV CHAIN APPROACH..... 24

ROSA MARIA VELÁZQUEZ SÁNCHEZ, JESUS GÓMEZ VELÁZQUEZ SÁNCHEZ, ABEL RAMOS FLORES AND MISAEL SORIANO CHÁVEZ

DIAGNOSIS FOR THE AGRITOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN AN AGROECOLOGICAL COFFEE SYSTEM 25

MARINA CVETANOSKA

OTTOMAN CULTURAL HERITAGE IN BALKAN COUNTRIES 26

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SANDRA RIBEIRO¹

ECONOMICS OF LANGUAGE AND INTERNATIONAL TRADE

Abstract

In the increasingly globalized world, the role of language in shaping international trade dynamics has become a topic of growing interest among economists and policymakers alike. The ability to communicate effectively across linguistic barriers can have a profound impact on trade flows, foreign direct investment, and overall economic performance.

Language plays a pivotal role in the economics of international trade. It serves as a conduit for communication, facilitating the exchange of goods, services, information, and ideas across borders. The economic implications of language in international trade are multifaceted, influencing transaction costs, market accessibility, cultural exchange, and even economic policy. This essay explores the intricate relationship between language and international trade, highlighting the ways in which linguistic factors impact global economic interactions.

Recent research has shed light on the significant "language effect" in international trade. Studies have shown that a shared language between trading partners can boost bilateral trade by as much as 40%, as it facilitates the exchange of information, reduces transaction costs, and fosters greater trust and understanding between businesses and individuals. This effect is particularly pronounced for major global languages like English, which have emerged as "lingua francas" in many industries and international business settings (Ku & Zussman, 2010).

The economics of language and international trade is a complex and dynamic field that highlights the critical role of language in facilitating global economic interactions. By reducing transaction costs, enhancing market accessibility, fostering cultural exchange, and influencing economic policy, language significantly impacts the flow of goods, services, and ideas across borders. As globalization continues to deepen, the importance of linguistic proficiency and cultural understanding in international trade will only grow, underscoring the need for businesses and policymakers to invest in language education and cross-cultural competencies.

As globalization continues to drive international trade, businesses must recognize the value of language proficiency and invest in language training and translation services. Effective communication is not just a tool for overcoming language barriers; it is a strategic asset that enables businesses to navigate the complexities of international trade and build strong, lasting relationships in the global marketplace.

Keywords: International trade, language barriers, multilingualism, globalization

JEL Codes: F14, F62

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ANA MARIA QUARESMA¹ AND SANDRA RIBEIRO²

GENDER DIVERSITY ON THE BOARDS: DOES THE ACADEMIC QUALIFICATIONS MATTER

Abstract

The Good Corporate Governance practices contribute to the sustainability and the market value of listed companies. The filling of the gender quota on the Boards of Directors on listed companies, imposed by law in Portugal, along with the good practice regarding gender diversity, has increased the number of women who are part of the Boards of Directors in companies listed on the Stock Exchange.

The main objective of this study is to obtain an overview of this matter in the companies that are part of the PSI the Euronext Lisbon Index. The Corporate Governance Reports for the year 2023 were analyzed and it was possible to observe that the 16 companies that made up this stock market index, on December 31, 2023, complied with the gender quota. Women were mostly in non-executive and independent positions. For the analysis of gender diversity, the academic qualifications were studied, analyzed by the degree of licentiate, master, and PhD. It is concluded that although the percentage of women graduates and master's is lower than men, regarding the doctoral degree it is women who hold this degree in greater number than men. In response to the research question: Gender Diversity on the Boards – Does the Academic qualifications matter? it was not possible to verify this preposition because there is no lower level of academic qualifications for women than for men, which not explains why the positions held on the Boards by women are fewer than those held by men.

Keywords: Gender quota, gender diversity, PSI

JEL Codes: M160

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MANUEL FRONDEL¹ AND STEFANIE SCHUBERT²

**CARBON PRICING IN GERMANY'S ROAD TRANSPORT AND HOUSING SECTOR:
OPTIONS FOR REIMBURSING CARBON REVENUES**

Abstract

In 2021, Germany launched a national emissions trading system (ETS) in its road transport and housing sectors. This climate policy instrument aims at raising the cost burden of consumers of fossil fuels, the major source of carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions. A promising approach to secure public acceptance for such a carbon pricing would be to entirely reallocate the resulting "carbon" revenues to consumers. This article discusses three alternatives: a) a per-capita reallocation to private households, b) the reduction of electricity prices by, e.g., decreasing the electricity tax, as well as c) targeted financial aid for vulnerable consumers, such as increasing housing benefits. To estimate both the revenues originating from carbon pricing and the resulting emission savings, we employ a partial equilibrium approach that is based on price elasticity estimates on individual fossil fuel consumption from the empirical literature. Most effective with respect to alleviating the burden of poor households would be increasing housing benefits. While this measure would not require large monetary resources, we argue that the remaining revenues should be preferably employed to reduce Germany's electricity tax, which becomes more and more obsolete given the steadily increasing amount of electricity generated by renewable energy technologies.

Keywords: Electricity tax, housing benefits, distributional effects

JEL Codes: D12, Q21

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JOAQUIM RAMOS SILVA¹

THE FUTURE OF GLOBAL VALUE CHAINS IN A FRAGMENTED WORLD

Abstract

In the context of 2020s, the global value chains (GVCs) became a hot issue in international economics. During the prior worldwide financial crisis, which became known as the Great Recession of 2007-2009, the role of GVCs, tying different countries across the world through the segmentation of production in all its dimensions (among others, design, manufacturing and distribution) and concomitant trade and foreign investments, was mainly considered a positive factor insofar they slowed down the risks of the usual threatening protectionist and isolationist tendencies that arise after the breaking of crises. According to this view (van Bergeijk, 2010), one step forward in this last direction would be harmful for all trading partners, or at least for most of them, because it would increase the crisis and hinder the way out of it. However, when we approach the middle of the 2020s, the international situation is very different from that one. Major global developments of the last years such as the Pandemic Covid-19, started in the beginning of 2020; the Russian's invasion of Ukraine in the 24th February 2022; the terrorist attack of Hamas in the 7th of October 2023, and the Israel-Hamas war that followed, although not alone, strongly contributed to the change of views on GVCs, particularly in some critical goods and sectors or with some powers. Due to its high relevance for populations it is no surprise that concerns over health defense and health have been the most determinant factors in this change of views.

Keywords: Global value changes, great recession, global economics, Covid-19

JEL Codes: F00, F10, F60

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SLADANA KRGOVIC¹

CAN MINIMUM WAGE MITIGATE DEMAND CONTRACTION?

Abstract

Although increase in earnings inequality does not generally have a quantitative impact on aggregate consumption, it leads to a much larger and persistent contraction in consumption in the aftermath of economic downturns (Kohlscheen et al., 2021). The primary driver of widening earnings inequality in the bottom half of the male labor earnings distribution in the US has been the rising non-participation rate. The labor force participation declines heavily in recessions and does not recover in subsequent expansions. This paper explores the role of minimum wage in counteracting the fall in labor force participation and in mitigating the contraction in consumer demand. It provides empirical evidence that the increase in federal minimum wage in the U.S. during the Great Recession had a positive and substantial impact on labor force participation of prime-aged men. It also shows that the minimum wage increase helped raise consumer demand, mitigating the overall decline during the Great Recession, which is confirmed with a theoretical model as well.

Keywords: Minimum wage, recessions, demand contraction

JEL Codes: J08, J20

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PAULO JORGE REIS MOURAO¹

SOCIAL INNOVATION OR SOCIAL CONTINUITY? DISCUSSING THE SOCIOECONOMIC DETERMINANTS OF FUNDING FOR SOCIAL PROJECTS IN PORTUGAL

Abstract

This paper discusses the distribution of projects financed by the Portugal Inovação Social initiative in Portugal. We used two-part models and count models for analyzing several determinants suggested by the various schools of funding allocation. The conclusions showed that municipalities with stronger dynamics for the creation of small and medium-sized companies and with a greater proportion of young people and college graduates are Portuguese spaces with a larger number of funded projects and with greater funding from this initiative. There are also positive incentives for project financing arising from a greater proportion of college graduates in the municipality as well as from a business dynamic led by a greater number of small and medium-sized companies. The population density and the percentage of women allowed a more complex discussion about the estimated effects in the studied dimensions.

Keywords: Social innovation, funded projects, public funding, public competition

JEL Codes: A10, A14, B50, B55

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JOANNA FELCZAK¹

COVID RULE BREAKERS AS PORTRAYED IN POLISH PANDEMIC DIARIES

Abstract

The period of the pandemic was a test of the functioning of democracy and public institutions in many countries, including Poland. Individual assessment of the risk of infection meant that the introduction of restrictions was widely commented on by the public. Some considered the threat real and the restrictions justified. Others, on the contrary, criticized the decisions of the government, considering the pandemic rules exaggerated. Yet others violated the restrictions despite the legal consequences. In our "Daily Life in the Time of Coronavirus" competition, we collected the diaries written by the members of each of these groups. We learned about the ways of breaking the restrictions, the justifications for breaking them and for complying with them. We saw attitudes change as time went by and new waves of COVID-19 rolled in. Diarist went through three phases: chaos, adaptation and exhaustion, and public policy in Poland accelerated moving to the third phase. The diaries from the pandemic period portray individual motivations of the writers, their opinions on institutions and the perceived state of democracy in Poland in 2020 and 2021.

Keywords: COVID rules, breaking the restrictions, justifications, government decisions

JEL Codes: K42, K49

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JORGE HERNANDO CUÑADO¹

THE FAST FASHION MODEL

Abstract

This paper analyzes the Fast Fashion Model. This model was created by Zara and it has revolutionized the world of fashion. It is based on accelerating trends and accelerating consumption; the companies must be able to forecast trends and have a flexible and quick production system. This model has helped to the democratization of fashion, making high fashion articles affordable. There are also important factors involved such as meeting the demand in real time through data analysis with the idea of just producing what the company is going to sell (minimum inventory). The article reviews some companies of this business ecosystem and the impact on sustainability and society.

Keywords: Fast fashion model, production system, sustainability, business

JEL Codes: L20, M10, M11, M20, M21

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BRIGIDA BRITO¹

**SOCIO-ENVIRONMENTAL ACTIONS CONCERTED WITH THE 2030 AGENDA:
COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF PORTUGUESE SPEAKING AFRICAN COUNTRIES**

Abstract

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has been taken up by the governments of Portuguese-speaking African countries as a challenge to be met. Given the different contexts the challenge of sustainability has been differently understood, which shows the existence of different strategic and political models, forms of intervention and a wide range of actors. The aim of this communication is to present a comparative analysis of five Portuguese-speaking African countries - Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and São Tomé and Príncipe - with reference to three of these Goals: the 13th, Climate action, the 14th, Protect marine life, and the 15th, Protect terrestrial life. The mid-term review has shown that it is difficult to fully realise these Goals, and that there is a particular focus on certain areas of action depending on the cases. A number of factors have conditioned the positive evolution of these three SDGs in these five countries: geographical and environmental particularities; extreme climatic events and socio-environmental impacts; ancestral socio-cultural characteristics that condition the preservation and the conservation; diversity of political strategies. The methodology focuses on a comparative analysis, based on a survey of previously defined indicators, such socio-environmental, the actors namely national governments, local communities, the civil society organisations and the International Organisations.

Keywords: Sustainable development goals, public policies, achievements, environment, ancestral cultures, indicators

JEL Codes: F60, F64

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SAMANTHA JOY CINCO¹

CLUSTERING THE IMPACT HOW ECONOMIC REALITIES AND POLITICAL INSTITUTIONS SHAPED COVID 19 FISCAL RESPONSES IN AFRICA

Abstract

The COVID-19 pandemic brought about unparalleled global challenges. While these challenges were similar across countries, they triggered diverse fiscal responses from governments worldwide. The objective of this study is to analyze the fiscal response of African countries to the COVID-19 crisis with an emphasis on how their responses varied based on their economic situations and political institutions before the start of the pandemic.

This research leverages a dataset of political and economic indicators before the pandemic (2019) and the total amount of fiscal response during the pandemic (2020-2021) for all countries in Africa. As a preliminary step, OLS regressions were conducted to determine the most influential political and economic factors affecting fiscal response during the pandemic. These factors were then used in a K-means clustering approach to categorize African countries based on similar economic and political profiles. Upon the completion of the clustering, subsequent Kruskal Wallis and Dunn's tests were conducted to evaluate the significance of the clusters on their diverse fiscal response.

Country clusters were determined using estimates of current account balance, government effectiveness, and political stability, controlled for the total number of reported COVID-19 cases. Results indicate that countries within the same cluster exhibit commonalities in their fiscal response and their economic and political profiles. Moreover, subsequent test results highlight the significance of these clusters, showing that economic context and political institutions influenced a country's approach to COVID-19.

This study's outcome offers valuable insights for policymakers and other stakeholders about the implications of economic contexts and political institutions on the fiscal response to an external shock such as COVID-19. Moreover, the segmentation of the countries in Africa provides a nuanced understanding of the diverse needs within the continent and the need for targeted policy interventions when dealing with external shocks.

Keywords: COVID-19 crisis, fiscal response, Africa, multivariate regression, cluster analysis

JEL Codes: C21, C38, E62

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IRINA ANA DROBOT¹

THE HOUSE OF THE SLEEPING BEAUTIES BY YASUNARI KAWABATHA: AN ANALYSIS

Abstract

The purpose of the present paper is to analyse the novel *The House of the Sleeping Beauties* by Yasunari Kawabata based on it being a fantasy literary work. Reality and fantasy intertwine in this novel. From the perspectives of reader-response criticism, intertextuality, and dialogism, the author of the paper can notice similarities with the short story *At the Gypsies'* by Romanian author Mircea Eliade. Both stories present us with the main character of a man advancing in age, and who meets an old woman leading them to spend time in their place with young girls. These young girls and their interaction with them present the men with flashbacks from their lives, and especially from their youth, about their major relationships with women. Strange incidents happen in these places. The old woman could be considered to be a guide, and she reminds of the archetype of the wise old woman in Carl Jung's theories. The young girls could be assimilated with the archetype of the anima, or of the feminine side in every man. The encounter with these women and these places can be seen as an equivalent of the exploration of their own personalities for the men who are the main characters. We can see, as cultural specific elements, the primacy of the smells and paying attention to sensations here and now for the Japanese man, and of the need to think philosophically and symbolically of the Romanian man. Self-analysis is common to both men.

Keywords: Memory, fantasy, self-analysis

JEL Codes: Z00, Z10, Z19, Y90, Y92

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TILLA IZSAK¹

FORECASTING COMMODITY FUTURES USING ML AND MULTIMODAL DATA

Abstract

Stock price prediction is a challenging field, and this complexity is further increased when forecasting commodity futures. Many studies are employing machine learning techniques and using various datasets. However, there is a gap in the integration of market, weather, and remote sensing data utilized in future forecasting. In response to these challenges, we introduce a methodology for constructing predictive models for agricultural commodity futures such as corn, wheat, soybeans, soybeans, and soybean oil. Our models are trained on diverse multimodal datasets, such as historical price, weather, and remote sensing time series data. The Seasonal Autoregressive Integrated Moving Average (SARIMA) model was used as a benchmark model, and the features mentioned above were trained using the Long Short-Term Memory Neural Networks model and the Least Squares Boosting Ensemble method for predicting the prices of essential agricultural commodities over medium and long periods. The research includes comparing the multivariate models using integrated multimodal datasets with the benchmark model and ML models that do not utilize such data. The findings indicate that the combination of multimodal datasets can significantly enhance the accuracy of agricultural commodity futures price forecasting.

Keywords: Time series, machine learning, remote sensing, price prediction, agricultural commodity futures

JEL Codes: C32, G24, G17

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CARMEN LAZAR¹

COMPARISON BETWEEN REGULATION 343/2003/EU AND REGULATION 604/2013/EU CONCERNING THE MEMBER STATE RESPONSIBLE IN THE FIELD OF THE ASYLUM RIGHT IN THE EU

Abstract

The present article wants to compare the two Regulations adopted in the field of the right to asylum for third-countries nationals, called Regulation Dublin I and Regulation Dublin II because they have replaced the Dublin Convention of 1990, which established the principle of the single State for the examination of an application for asylum and set out the criteria serving of basis for the determination of the competent State. This Convention was related to the Schengen Agreements, which it completed, although the parties to it were not only the Member States of the - then - European Community, but also third States (Switzerland, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway) which have become parties to the Schengen Agreements. Following the inclusion of the Schengen Agreements into the European law, effected by the Treaty of Amsterdam of 1997, it was normal that the Dublin Convention be replaced with European law acts. The Regulation Dublin II has replaced on its turn the Regulation Dublin I, being more complex and more detailed on certain aspects.

We do not intend to make a detailed analysis of the two Regulations, but only to compare them, in order to see if the adoption of the Regulation Dublin II was justified in lieu of the amendment of the Regulation Dublin I, and to underline their possible deficiencies.

Keywords: European Union, Schengen Agreement, asylum right, Dublin Convention, Regulation Dublin I, Regulation Dublin II

JEL Codes: K37

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HANANE ZERWAL¹

WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT THE INTERNATIONALIZATION OF AFRICAN FIRMS? A SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

Abstract

The internationalization of African firms has garnered increased scholarly attention in recent years due to the continent's growing significance in the global economy. This has led to the creation of a stream of literature investigating the expansion behavior of these firms. This paper aims to synthesize existing research on the internationalization drivers, strategies, challenges, and outcomes of African firms, consequently contributing to a greater understanding of the complexities and dynamics of this phenomenon. In addition to highlighting gaps in this new stream of literature and offering directions for future research. To achieve these goals, a rigorous search and screening process took place, resulting in this review encompassing a wide range of peer-reviewed academic articles published in various renowned academic journals. Following, key thematic areas were identified within the literature. Lastly, findings from diverse disciplinary perspectives will be synthesized. Preliminary findings highlight the predominance of South-South outward foreign direct investments, notably towards neighboring markets, during the early stages of internationalization amongst African firms. In addition to institutional voids, and high transactional and transportation costs as major challenges faced by these enterprises throughout their expansion endeavors. Moreover, networks arise as key elements for facilitating African firms' internationalization.

Keywords: Multinational companies, Africa, internationalization, FDI

JEL Codes: F21, F23

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JOANA ZUKAUSKIENE¹

THE IMPACT OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE ON EUROPE'S GREEN GROWTH

Abstract

The impact of international trade on the growth of Europe's green economy is a multifaceted process. A wide variety of factors are involved. The green economy is based on the principles of sustainability, which aim to use natural resources efficiently and minimize environmental impacts. International trade can harm Europe's green economy. International trade can stimulate the growth of the green economy through innovation, and investment in innovative technologies that reduce carbon emissions. Companies can develop environmentally friendly technologies. High transport costs and high costs of production goods can increase carbon emissions. Encouraging green-oriented investment in logistics, sustainable production of goods, and renewable energy production can help reduce the negative impact on the growth of Europe's green economy. The paper aims to the processes involved and to present proposals that will ensure sustainable and stable economic growth. Objectives of the study: to analyse international trade trends from the green economy growth point. Analyse the impact of sustainable investments on international trade. Research problem: How to assess the impact of international trade on the growth of the European green economy.

Keywords: International trade, green economy, economic growth of green economy

JEL Codes: Q54, Q57, F64

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VALERIA COCCO¹

MILANO CORTINA: OLYMPIC GAME AND SUSTAINABILITY

Abstract

Milano Cortina 2026 winter Olympic games aim to be the first edition of the Winter Games entirely planned following the sustainability program and the recommendations of 2030 World Agenda for sustainable development, integrating practices that respect the environment, the circular economy, sustainable mobility and social well-being. The ambitious goals include: increase of environmental awareness, renewable energy and recycling (75%), increase of public transportation, reduction of food waste (100%), reuse of permanent venues (100%). Focusing on monitoring Games-related projects and initiatives it is possible to notice that in the planning of Olympic villages and venues is tend to be referred the temporary and transferable structures with the future aim to reuse of these structures after the Games, as residential modules that could be relocated throughout Italy, for example in the event of earthquakes, floods or other natural disasters. Initiatives such as the use of recycled materials, the adoption of ethical and inclusive working practices and the promotion of sustainable transport will help create a positive legacy for the territory and its inhabitants after the conclusion of the Games. However, for this to be happened it is necessary collaboration between local authorities, business partners and local communities to maximize long-term economic and social benefits and, at the same time, minimizing negative environmental impacts.

Keywords: Olympic games, sustainability, sport economics, environment

JEL Codes: Z20, Z28, Z29, Z30, Z32, L83

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HUDA ALHAJJAJ¹

THE IMPACT OF SOCIAL WORKERS ON SCHOOL AGE CHILDREN

Abstract

Education has played a major role in the attempt to solve social problems in our society. Social workers have made a significant contribution to developing education systems and student behavior.

While school social workers exist in many countries across the globe, many countries such as Jordan remain without school social workers. The primary aim of this qualitative study is to explore the impact of social workers on school-age children. A secondary purpose is to explore the social and behavioral challenges that face students as identified by parents. Lastly, this study explores the factors and systems contributing to student challenges and the lack of school social workers in Jordan.

This qualitative study utilized a case study design to explore the need for school social workers in Jordan. Data were collected using a semi-structured discussion guide with a purposive sample of (17) parents in Jordan. Data was tape-recorded and transcribed. Open coding was utilized with NVivo software. Thematic analysis was conducted to derive three key themes: (1) the role of the school social worker, (2) challenges and barriers for school social workers, and (3) student problems in schools. The findings of this study indicate that there is an impact for school social workers to address numerous challenges among students in Jordanian schools. Moreover, findings suggest several key socioeconomic challenges in developing school social workers in Jordan. The finding of this study demonstrated to be significant to the field of social work and to the school system in Jordan.

Keywords: Social workers, school age children, education and students' challenges

JEL Codes: I20, I21, I29

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MAHAMMAD KHEYIRKHABARLI¹

THE GRAVITY OF AID FOR TRADE: AN EXAMINATION OF ITS ROLE IN BOOSTING EXPORTS IN EMERGING ECONOMIES

Abstract

This study delves into the impact of Aid for Trade disbursements, examining both their aggregate influence and their effects when considered as distinct subcategories, on the export activities of emerging economies. Additionally, it seeks to ascertain whether this impact differs based on whether these exports are directed towards countries that provide aid (29 donor countries) or those that do not (157 non-donor countries). The research hones in on a selected group of 24 emerging economies, spanning the period from 2002 to 2019. The analysis employs gravity models with OLS fixed effects and PPML fixed effects methods. The findings reveal that not only does Aid for Trade as a whole have a positive and significant impact on the exports of emerging economies to both donor and non-donor countries, but its subcategories, Aid for Economic Infrastructure and Aid for Building Productive Capacity, also exhibit similarly positive effects. Furthermore, it becomes evident that Aid for Trade and Aid for Economic Infrastructure exert a more pronounced influence on exports to donor countries when compared to non-donor countries. In the case of Aid for Building Productive Capacity, differences in the results between OLS and PPML estimations suggest potential variations in its impact depending on the importing country. While the influence of Aid for Trade Policies and Regulations was generally deemed insignificant, the PPML model unveiled a negative and significant impact on exports to donor countries.

Keywords: Aid for trade, exports, emerging economies, gravity model, PPML method

JEL Codes: F14, F35

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OLAYINKA UGWU¹ AND RAMANJIT K. SAHI²

PREDICTING U.S. CRUDE OIL PRICES IN THE PRESENCE OF GEOPOLITICAL FACTORS

Abstract

Probing complexities in the global oil market, this research offers an innovative lens to understand U.S. crude oil prices, factoring in the unpredictable undercurrents of geopolitical shifts. The thrust of our research is to elevate the accuracy of oil price predictions, employing leading-edge Artificial Intelligence methodologies such as regression, and thereby transforming the forecasting landscape. This study explores the impact of geopolitical factors and economic indicators on U.S. Crude Oil Prices, focusing on the West Texas Intermediate (WTI) Spot Price. Challenging the conventional view that geopolitical risks are the primary drivers, we hypothesize that a combination of both geopolitical and economic variables like U.S. Oil Production, Gross Domestic Product, and the Dollar Index have a stronger impact on Oil pricing. The investigation utilizes linear regression models to examine the impact of economic variables and geopolitical factors on WTI prices from the '90s to the present. By applying time series and regression models, we depict a detailed picture of the undercurrents that drive the oil prices we see today. The data indicates that economic indicators overshadow geopolitical drama in steering oil prices. Our findings suggest a stronger-than-expected role of these economic factors, urging those who watch the markets to turn their gaze to a greater extent of influence. This research offers a valuable insight for policymakers, market players, and scholars, for future strategic planning and research in energy economics and market dynamics.

Keywords: Regression models, time series, financial econometrics, large data sets, US crude oil prices, geopolitical factors

JEL Codes: C22, C25, C32, C35, C55, C58

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GULAY AKGUL YILMAZ¹ AND GOZDE NALBANT EFE²

WEALTH TAXATION IN TURKIYE

Abstract

In this study, the understanding adopted in wealth taxation in Türkiye, the wealth taxation system created in this direction, and the types of wealth taxes applied are discussed within the framework of legislation and practice. In addition, the shares of taxes collected on wealth subjects in local and central government tax revenues are analyzed. These taxes are evaluated within the framework of the principles of efficiency and equity in taxation. It has been revealed that wealth taxation is insufficient both to generate tax revenue and to improve income and wealth distribution, and that there is a need for reform in the field of wealth taxation in Türkiye.

Keywords: Wealth taxes, real estate tax, motor vehicle tax, inheritance and gift tax, valuable house tax

JEL Codes: H20, H27, H71, K34

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ABHINABA NASKAR¹ AND KAUSHIK BHATTACHARYA²

IMPACT OF SOCIAL NETWORK ON THE DYNAMICS OF POVERTY: A MARKOV CHAIN APPROACH

Abstract

We examine the impact of social networks on the dynamics of poverty. We specify a 2×2 Markov chain with states “Poor” and “Non-Poor” and study the movements of households between these two states. Empirical analysis of IHDS data using Probit models on the rows of the Markov transition matrix reveals the significance of networking on the probabilities of movement. Well-networked households are found to move from ‘Poor’ to ‘Non-Poor’ state at a faster rate. We also find that these households are more likely to remain in that state than not so well-networked households. Our results, therefore, suggest that network support would play a decisive role in any poverty alleviation program by not just in helping a household to be upwardly mobile, but also in keeping the household in the non-poor state once it escapes poverty.

Keywords: Markov Chain, network, poverty, probit model, transition matrix

JEL Codes: D85, I32, C44

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ROSA MARIA VELÁZQUEZ SÁNCHEZ¹, JESUS GÓMEZ VELÁZQUEZ SÁNCHEZ², ABEL RAMOS FLORES³ AND MISAEL SORIANO CHÁVEZ⁴

DIAGNOSIS FOR THE AGRITOURISM DEVELOPMENT IN AN AGROECOLOGICAL COFFEE SYSTEM

Abstract

The coffee-growing region located in the coastal region of Oaxaca, Mexico, has stood out worldwide because of the quality of the high-altitude coffee beans. Oaxaca has a coffee-growing history and has taken international recognition. However, the presence of the rust plague among other pests, the erroneous government programs that favored the corn-growing in coffee-growing areas, as well as the climate change effects caused the coffee production to be in risk of being lost. With the determined participation of a group of coffee growers, the cooperative Union San Pedro for Sustainable Agriculture (USPAS) was formed, which after 20 years of work, managed to recover coffee production and is currently producing quality coffee. The interest in coffee and the nature that surrounds the coffee plantations has caused local and foreign people interest to visit them, opening an opportunity for the development of tourism in the form of agritourism. In this study, we carry out a diagnosis using a qualitative methodology in which key informants are used to know their perception of tourism and the arrival of visitors. With the use of the Atlas Ti software 22, the categories were obtained to define the agritourism project suitable for a coffee agroecological system and which were the foundations for integrating a project with the participation of cooperative members and inhabitants of the coffee-growing towns of the region.

Keywords: Tourism, agritourism, coffee, agroecology

JEL Codes: L11, L13, L51

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MARINA CVETANOSKA¹

OTTOMAN CULTURAL HERITAGE IN BALKAN COUNTRIES

Abstract

Cultural heritage - represents what has been inherited from previous generations or results from the present, and has a specific value for people (through symbolic reflection in consciousness) and should be preserved for future generations. Cultural heritage (both tangible and intangible) affects the identity of a certain place, region or country, objects of the world cultural heritage and additional values for all humanity and are subject to special regimes of protection.

This paper is aimed at researching the cultural heritage of the Balkans, where the Ottoman Empire ruled for five hundred years. The relationship between culture and memory for this significant period of the Balkan countries in the paper will be considered interdisciplinary, including various fields such as the application of history, sociology, art, literature, philosophy, theology, psychology, etc. Based on specific examples from architecture, language and tradition, the most representative points of tangible and intangible Ottoman cultural heritage will be marked.

The research will also analyze the concept of a multi-ethnic, multicultural, multi-confessional state community as represented by the Ottoman Empire and will be rounded off with the cultural and economic benefits of globalization, but also the impact of a new phenomenon, Neo-Ottomanism.

Keywords: Ottoman Empire, cultural heritage, cultural memory, Balkan, Neo - Ottomans

JEL Codes: Y80, Y90, Z00, Z10

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