VIRTUAL TIMTED 2021

INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC CONFERENCE

Current Economic Trends in Emerging and Developing Countries

JUNE 3-4, 2021

PROGRAMME AND CONFERENCE ABSTRACTS

Coordinator Prof. Ștefea Petru Ph.D

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE

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CURRENT ECONOMIC TRENDS
IN EMERGING AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES
Virtual TIMTED 2021

June 3-4, 2021

TIMIŞOARA, ROMANIA

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KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

PERVEZ GHAURI

Birmingham Business School,
University of Birmingham, United Kingdom

Pervez Ghauri completed his PhD at Uppsala University (Sweden) where he also taught for several years. Over the years he has worked as Associate Dean for Oslo Business School in Norway, Professor of International Business in Manchester Business School and King's College London in UK. Currently Pervez is Professor of International Business at University of Birmingham (UK). Pervez is the founding editor of the International Business Review (IBR) and Consulting Editor for Journal of International Business Studies (JIBS). He has also served as Editor (Europe) for Journal of World Business (JWB) during 2007 -2014.

Pervez is Fellow of Academy of International Business (AIB) and Fellow of European International Business Academy (EIBA). He served AIB as Vice President during the period 2008-2010. Pervez has published more than 30 books and numerous articles in top level journals such as; Journal of International Business Studies (JIBS), Journal of Organizational Behaviour (JOB), Journal of World Business (JWB), international Business Review (IBR), International Marketing Review (IMR), Long Range Planning (LRP) and Journal of Business Research (JBR). Pervez received Doctor of Business Studies (Honorary) awarded by University of Vaasa, Finland, and Doctor of Economics (Honorary) awarded at Turku School of Economics and Management, Finland. He has been doing training programmes and consulting with BP, Ericsson, Airbus Industries and Netherlands Foreign Investment Agency, Netherlands.

INVITED LECTURE

THE CHANGING LANDSCAPE OF INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS: THE NEW REALITIES

Pervez N. GHAURI, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom

Abstract

Past few years have been totally unpredictable for the global economy and have led to a different world order with new realities. This will have a long-lasting impact on international business research and company strategies all over the world. We need to have a closer look at the changing landscape of international business, the changing geo-political conditions, and possible responses by companies to tackle these new realities. Looking at the past five years, we highlight some of the major changes in the global business environment and draw attention to four new realities: populism and economic nationalism, sustainable development and climate change, new digital technologies and changing power relationships. We will discuss some interesting examples and explore the future of international business research and practice.

Keywords: Nationalism, sustainable development, digital technologies, power relationships, Covid 19, company strategies

JARKO FIDRMUC

Chair for International Economic Theory and

Policy, Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen,

Germany

Prof. Dr. Jarko Fidrmuc is a professor of international economics and chair for International Economics Theory and Policy, at the Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen, Germany.

He received his Ph.D. degree in economics at the University of Vienna in 1999. He is also affiliated as a research fellow at the CESifo Munich and the Institute of East and Southeast European Studies (IOS). He worked previously also for Austrian National Bank, University of Munich, and Institute of Advanced Studies in Vienna. He visited several universities in Europe and Asia.

His research concentrates on international macroeconomics and finance and globalization.

In 2010 Prof. Dr. Jarko Fidrmuc obtained the habilitation (venia legendi) at the Comenius University of Bratislava, Faculty of Mathematics, Physics and Informatics (2010). Jarko Fidrmuc is a member of the editorial boards: Czech Journal of Economics and Finance (Coeditor) and Empirica, Economic Systems (until 2015), Slovak Journal of Economics.

Prof. Dr. Jarko Fidrmuc received special awards: member of the Standing Committee on Economic Systems and Institutional Economics, member of the Research Committee of the German Economic Association (Verein für Socialpolitik), National Bank of Slovakia.

INVITED LECTURE

AUTOMATION, DIGITALIZATION, AND INCOME INEQUALITY IN EUROPE

Pauline FIEDLER*, Fabian RECK*, Jarko FIDRMUC**

*Zeppelin University of Friedrichshafen, Germany

** Zeppelin University of Friedrichshafen, Germany; Vilnius University, Lithuania; and Mendel University Brno, Czech Republic

Abstract

We analyze the impact of industrial robots and stock of equipment in digital technologies on income distributions, covering thirteen European economies from 2004-2017. We try to shed light on the underlying dynamics of technological advances on inequality. The results suggest that both robot density and to a lesser degree digitalization are associated positively with income inequality. In particular, income share of the bottom 50 percent decreases with automation and digitalization, while the income shares of the top ten and one percent increases, which supports the wage polarization hypothesis. This is especially important for policy formulations after the pandemic, because current rapid automation efforts can potentially have significant long-term implications for the labor market.

Keywords: Automation, Robots, Digitalization, Inequality, Polarization Hypothesis.

DETAILED CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

Thursday, 03 JUNE 2021		
11.00-12.00	**Opening ceremony TIMTED 2021:** *Speakers on behalf of* *West University of Timișoara, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, International Network for Economic Research (INFER), Institute of Economic Sciences (IES)*	
12.00-12.45	**Lecture:** *The Changing Landscape of International Business: The New Realities* **Keynote Speaker Pervez N. GHAURI** Professor, Birmingham Business School, University of Birmingham, UK	
12.45-13.00	*Break*	
13.00-13.45	**Lecture:** *Automation, Digitalization, and Income Inequality in Europe* **Keynote Speaker Jarko FIDRMUC** Professor, Chair for International Economic Theory and Policy, Zeppelin University Friedrichshafen, Germany	
13.45-15.00	*Break*	
15.00 -16.30	**Parallel Sessions**	
	Special session INFER-1 *Chairs* TURCU, Camelia & MINEA, Alexandr*u*	**Accounting and Audit** *Chairs* ŞTEFEA, Petru & HAŢEGAN, Camelia
	1. KAUR, Kirandeep & PAPARAS, Dimitrios **2.** ALBULESCU, Claudiu T. & AJMI, Ahdi N. **3.** BĂDĂRĂU, Cristina, CURMEI, Andreea & POPESCU, Alexandra **4.** DOVONOU, Vanessa & TURCU, Camelia	**1.** ISTRATE, Costel **2.** FĂGĂDAR (GHIŞA), Margareta & DEAC, Claudiu F. **3.** CRUCEAN, Andreea C. **4.** OPREA (BÎRLĂ), Daniela C. & VOICU, Cristina E. **5.** ARON, Maria P. **6.** PASC, Lioara V. **7.** BRĂNEŢ, Diana
16.30-16.45	*Break*	

Thursday, 03 JUNE 2021		
16.45-18.15	**Parallel Sessions**	
	Special session INFER-2 *Chairs* MUTAŞCU, Mihai & HORKY Florian	**Finance** *Chairs* BOŢOC, Claudiu & ANTON, Sorin G.
	1. BOUSSETTA, Asma, LAGHLAL, El Moctar & MARAKBI, Réda **2.** KOHRT, Leon, HORKY, Florian & FIDRMUC, Jarko **3.** MUTAŞCU, Mihai, LESSOUA, Albert & IANC, Nicolae B. **4.** LEITÃO, Nuno Carlos **5.** ALBULESCU, Claudiu T., AJMI, Ahdi N. & MICLEA, Şerban	**1.** IANC, Nicolae B. & IONESCU, Adrian-M. **2.** ARSOV, Sasho & NAUMOSKI, Aleksandar **3.** IONĂȘCUȚI, Anca-A. & DIMA, Bogdan **4.** CĂPRARU, Sebastian B., GEORGESCU, George & SPRINCEAN, Nicu **5.** ANTON, Sorin G. & BOŢOC, Claudiu
Friday, 04 JUNE 2021		
9.30 -11.00	**Parallel Sessions**	
	Economics 1 *Chairs* SÎRGHI, Nicoleta & VĂDĂSAN, Ioana	**International Business and Global Modern Economy** *Chairs* NOJA, Graţiela & MUNTEAN, Mihaela
	1. CLIPA, Raluca, SOCOLIUC (GURIȚĂ), Oana R., IFRIM, Mihaela & IACOBUȚĂ, Andreea **2.** PLATONA (ELENEŞ), Iulia **3.** CUCOŞ, Paula R. **4.** VESA, Loredana F., KASLIK, Eva & NEAMŢU, Mihaela **5.** CULDA, Loredana C., KASLIK, Eva & NEAMŢU, Mihaela **6.** SNUNU, Iyad **7.** SÎRGHI, Nicoleta & SOCOLIUC (GURIȚĂ), Oana R.	**1.** STOJKOSKI, Viktor, TOSHEVSKA-TRPCHEVSKA, Katerina, MAKREVSKA DISOSKA, Elena & TEVDOVSKI, Dragan **2.** TÚRY, Gábor **3.** ĐURIČIN, Sonja & BERAHA, Isidora **4.** MUNTEAN, Mihaela, DĂNĂIAŢĂ, Rodica-D. & HURBEAN, Luminiţa **5.** DOBRICAN, Ovidiu Alin
11.00-11.15	*Break*	

Friday, 04 JUNE 2021		
11.15-12.45	**Parallel Sessions**	
	IES-ECREB Joint Session: Contemporary economic issues in Europe *Chairs* DIMA, Ştefana M. & ĐUKIĆ, Mihajlo	**Management** *Chairs* SITNIKOV, Cătălina & MUNTEANU, Valentin
	1. EL-SHAGI, Makram & TOCHKOV, Kiril **2.** ANDRIEŞ, Alin M., HOMOCIANU, Daniel, PLOPEANU, Aurelian-P. & SPRINCEAN, Nicu **3.** ANDRIC, Vladimir & NENADOVIC, Sanja **4.** DJUKIC, Mihajlo & MARJANOVIC, Darko **5.** BURDEŢ, Florina **6.** DIMA, Ştefana M., DIMA, Bogdan & SÎRGHI, Nicoleta	**1.** CĂLIN, Bianca A. & MUNTEANU, Valentin P. **2.** BĂNDOI, Anca, DINCĂ, Aurel, MILITARU Costinel C. & RIZA, Ionuţ **3.** SITNIKOV, Cătălina, STANECI (DRINCEANU), Ionela, OLARU (STAICU), Mariana P., ILIE (TROI), Silvia M. & BELU, Alina M. **4.** PUTZ , Mihai V. & PETRISOR, Ioan I. **5.** BOROS, Amelia & MATEEVICI, Volodea **6.** ISLER, Etti, BIBU, Nicolae, DĂNĂIAŢĂ, Doina & SALA, Diana
12.45-13.00	*Break*	
13.00-14.30	**Parallel Sessions**	
	Economics 2 *Chairs* NOJA, Graţiela & SUCIU, Marta	**Economics 3** *Chairs* CISMAŞ, Laura & IMBRESCU, Ion
	1. SINOI, Elena **2.** SUCIU, Marta-C., STATIVĂ, Gheorghe-A. & MITUCĂ, Mircea-O. **3.** PODEAN, Vasile **4.** CRISTEA, Mirela, NOJA, Graţiela G., PONEA, Constantin Ş., DRĂGOI, Doina, GAINARU (OLAH), Teodora Andreea **5.** CUCOŞ, Paula R. **6.** GRECU, Irina **7.** STOICA, Adrian	**1.** CISMAŞ, Laura M. & BĂLAN, Emilia M. **2.** HATMANU, Mariana, CAUTISANU, Cristina & IACOBUŢĂ, Andreea O. **3.** ZSIBOK, Zsuzsanna **4.** DIACONU (MAXIM), Laura & POPESCU, Cristian C. **5.** CISMAŞ, Laura M., DUMITRU, Cornelia & NEGRUŢ, Teodor

BOOK OF ABSTRACTS

June 3, 2021 (Thursday)

15.00 - 16.30 *Parallel Sessions*

Special session INFER-1

Chairs: TURCU, Camelia & MINEA, Alexandru

1. DETERMINANTS OF PUBLIC EXPENDITURE IN RAJASTHAN STATE: A DISAGGREGATE ANALYSIS

Kirandeep KAUR*, Dimitris PAPARAS**
*Government of Rajasthan, India
** Harper Adams University, Newport, UK

Abstract

The paper analyses major determinants of the government expenditure in Rajasthan during the period 1970-71 to 2013-14. The paper is divided into two sections followed by a conclusion. Section I dovetails important determinants of government expenditure in Rajasthan while section 2 analyses causality between different components of government expenditure and its determinants for the period 1970-71 to 2013-14. The present study utilized the time series data analysis to examine the impact of different determinants of government expenditure on the economic growth of state and the long as well as short run causality analysis between different determinants of government expenditure in Rajasthan. The study found that Tax revenue is one of the major determinants of government expenditure in the state of Rajasthan while the association between government expenditure and the NSDP is found weak. There is a positive and significant association between government expenditure, tax revenue and public debt with the current level of government expenditure. It is indicative of the fact that a reduction in tax revenue which is not complemented with commensurate increase in public debt would leave direct impact

on government expenditure. If government expenditure is financed through borrowing, it might not manifest on first three years of government expenditure, but pull down the economy's financial maneuverability in the long run. It is suggestive of the fact that if government expenditure is financed through borrowing, in the next two following years, the accelerator and multiplier effect of the government spending would leave the government on a relatively better growth prospects, but it would drag the economy down in the long run as revealed by the Impulse Response Function. Broadly, the analysis indicated that government expenditure is the major indicator of the economic strength of the regional economy of Rajasthan and it is in conformity with the Keynesian theory of effective demand and public spending. If the government of Rajasthan wishes to give a tilt to its economic growth, the possible means is to spend more on capital and revenue expenditure.

Keywords: Government Expenditure, Economic Growth, Toda-Yamamoto Non-causality Analysis, Wagnerian and Keynesian hypothesis

2. OIL PRICE AND US DOLLAR EXCHANGE RATE: CHANGE DETECTION OF BI-DIRECTIONAL CAUSAL IMPACT

Claudiu Tiberiu ALBULESCU*, Ahdi Noomen AJMI**
*Management Department, Politehnica University of Timisoara Timisoara, Romania
**Department of Business Administration, College of Science and Humanities in Slayel, Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University, KSA; ESC de Tunis, Manouba University, Manouba, Tunisia.

Abstract
The purpose of the paper is to detect the changes in the causal relationship between international oil prices and the US dollar real effective exchange rate, using the Shi et al.'s (2018, 2020) approach. The proposed recursive evolving methods allow the identification of the causal change in the oil – exchange rate nexus – and of precise episodes of causality and instability in this relationship. Our main findings show that the oil prices Granger-cause the US dollar exchange rate starting with 2005, whereas the intensity of the causality increases in the aftermath of the 2008-2009 Global Financial Crisis. In addition, the strength of the causality fluctuates during crisis times. At the same time, we discover that the US dollar exchange rate Granger-causes the oil

prices during the 2008-2009 Global Financial Crisis. These findings are robust to the way the real effective exchange rate is computed, and are robust as to the use of an alternative oil price index or to the influence of economic policy uncertainty. The results provide important information to policymakers and international investors, showing the difficulty of predicting with accuracy the shock transmission between oil prices and the US dollar during high turbulence episodes. In addition, our findings reveal that that oil and commodity markets offer smaller and smaller risk-hedging opportunities.

Keywords: oil price; exchange rate; time-varying causality; causal change; recursive evolving; US dollar

3. THE OPPOSITE EFFECTS OF BANK TAX ON THE REAL ECONOMY

Cristina BĂDĂRĂU*, Andreea CURMEI – SEMENESCU**, Alexandra POPESCU***
*LAREFI, University of Bordeaux, France
**The Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Romania
***CRIEF, University of Poitiers, France

Abstract
This paper aims to study the real effects of a bank tax in an economy with imperfect banking market. In this sense, we propose an extension of the financial accelerator model with bank capital channel, by introducing a tax on the banks' benefits. We note two opposite influences of the "bank tax" on the cost of financing for banks: i) a direct one, which corresponds to the tax shield channel and translates the impact of the "fiscal saving" on the cost of external finance for banks, and (ii) an indirect one, which comes from the reaction of the banks' net worth to a fiscal change, corresponding to the bank capital channel manifestation. If the impact of the first one is easier to observe in the short-run, the second one is more powerful in the long-run. The external financing cost for banks then turns into higher financing cost for firms, reducing investment and output.
Keywords: bank tax, financial accelerator, bank capital channel, tax shield channel JEL Codes: E44, E62, G28, H25, H39, H62

4.   TRILEMMA REVISITED: NEW MEASURES & NONLINEARITIES

Vanessa Olakemi DOVONOU, Camelia TURCU
University of Orleans, CNRS, LEO, UMR CNRS 7322, France

Abstract

This paper proposes an in-depth analysis of the Trilemma perspective. Taking account of the recent changes in terms of global finance and of monetary regimes within national economies, in the aftermath of the Global Financial Crisis, we re-analyze the Trilemma hypothesis and its evolution. We develop new measures for the three components of the Trilemma hypothesis. The empirical contribution of this paper is constructed in a non-linear framework.

Keywords: Trilemma, new measures, nonlinearities

June 3, 2021 (Thursday)

15.00 - 16.30 *Parallel Sessions*

Session Accounting and Audit

Chairs: ŞTEFEA, Petru & HAŢEGAN, Camelia

1. **FINANCIAL DISTRESS BY NEGATIVE EQUITY FOR THE COMPANIES LISTED ON THE BUCHAREST STOCK EXCHANGE**

Costel ISTRATE

"Al. I. Cuza" University of Iaşi, Romania, istrate@uaic.ro

Abstract

Considering in the analysis the companies listed on the regulated market (1,301 observations, for the period 2002-2019), but also on the alternative market AeRo (2010-2019) of the Bucharest Stock Exchange, we calculated that in 11%, respectively 13%, of cases, equity, after removing revaluation reserves, is negative. We observe the importance of revaluation reserves which, if not eliminated, would bring the percentages to 7% and 3%, respectively. Firms having long period of financial distress are difficult to recover and the figures indicate that the difficulties will be maintained and lead, in some cases, to the delisting form the financial market. Instead, companies with shorter period of financial distress have the potential to recover, this hypothesis is also found in the opinions expressed by auditors in the reports accompanying the financial statements. The financial crisis of 2008 doubled the number of companies in difficulty in 2010 compared to 2009 and a tripling compared to 2008 (in the case of companies listed on the regulated market). Auditors are often less optimistic than managers of firms in financial distress and, as expected, they include in the audit reports observations about the going concern assumption.

Keywords: financial distress, Romanian listed companies, negative equity, going concern

2. THE CONTRIBUTION OF PUBLIC POLICIES TO GOOD GOVERNANCE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Margareta FĂGĂDAR (GHIŞA), Claudiu – Florin DEAC
"1st of December" University of Alba Iulia, Romania

Abstract

In Romania, the process of modernizing the public sector must respond to new changes in the economy as a result of the current crisis, but it must also take on new dimensions. Public administration reform requires a long-term vision at both central and local public administration level of the implementation of public policies and public spending management. The public administration must continuously strengthen its administrative capacity to improve results by continuously improving its working arrangements, applying previously defined rules and procedures can promote transparent and responsible fiscal policy behavior. EGovernment is a political tool to advance the modernization of public administrations across the European Union, contributing to the exchange of best practices and interoperability of solutions between Member States. The paper presents the contribution of public policies to ensuring the well-being of society, influencing sustainable development and social cohesion. One of the key points of this challenge is to strengthen the mechanisms for implementing and evaluating public policies.

Keywords: Public policies, public administration, transparency, accountability.

3. AUDIT INSPECTIONS - AN INSTRUMENT FOR ENHANCING THE QUALITY OF FINANCIAL AUDIT

Andreea Claudia CRUCEAN
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract

In order to assess as realistically as possible the quality of the work carried out by the financial auditors, the regulators and quality control entities do systematic inspections as to detect deficiencies in the application of audit standards. Thus, this paper aims to highlight the significance of the systematic inspections performed by

the Statutory Audit Public Oversight Authority (ASPAAS), as an essential tool in judging the quality of financial audit. The data was collected from the annual reports published by the ASPAAS for the period 2018-2020. The research showed that the main issues identified by ASPAAS' specialists are related to the: internal control system; compliance with the quality standards imposed at the level of financial audit, and characteristics of audit evidences. The main conclusion of the analysis is that inspections performed on financial audits represent an important instrument for enhancing the quality of the overall services provided by the financial auditors.

Keywords: audit, quality, quality control, inspections, Statutory Audit Public Oversight Authority

4.   MANAGERIAL ACCOUNTING AND ITS RELEVANCE IN ACHIEVING PERFORMANCE IN PRE-UNIVERSITY EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS IN ROMANIA

Daniela Corina OPREA (BÎRLĂ), Cristina Elena VOICU
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract
The education system is an area with major social and economic implications. The management of the resources necessary for pre-university educational establishments in the development of educational approaches is highlighted by managerial accounting. We set ourselves the task of answering the following question: is managerial accounting an important factor in ensuring the fairness of managers' decisions, considering the fact that the performance of these institutions depends on it? We have reviewed the specialized literature related to the perception of managerial accounting and its role in ensuring performance, the regulatory framework of public pre-university education institutions and the existing factual reality. Data were collected by investigating relevant research documents from a sample of 16 pre-university educational establishments, diverse in what concerns the form of education, the number of students and the urban/rural affiliation, over the period 2016- 2019. It results that, according to the documents that have been studied, few education establishments meet the conditions for funding based on the standard cost per pupil/pre-school and that there is a significant influence of the

environment (rural/urban), of the number of pupils and of the form of education on the costs generated by the educational activity. The main conclusion of our analysis shows that the underfunding of pre-university education institutions determines the need to organize managerial accounting in such a way as to adapt to their specificities and needs and through its tools to contribute to a fair, optimized management of limited resources and to the improvement of performance, providing managers with relevant information on costs for control, planning, improvement and decision-making.

Keywords: managerial accounting, performance, cost, preuniversity education

5. BILIOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF RESEARCH TRENDS OF THE ACCOUNTING INFORMATION SYSTEM IN AGRICULTURE

Maria Petronela ARON
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract
Bibliometric analysis of publications allows researchers to quantify research interests in a particular field, to determine the main research topics, discoveries and correlations in the global knowledge network. The purpose of this paper was to identify trends and research topics in the accounting information system in agriculture over the past 20 years. The analysis was performed using bibliometric materials downloaded from the Web of Science database and the Scopus database. The data were analyzed using the Vosviewer program. Maps of terms, journals and countries where there has been research interest in the established field have been created, in the "thermal maps" version. The associated networks of the main research topics were also followed, which allowed the establishment of further research directions. The main research topics were: system, information, gis, area, agriculture, accounting, study/case study, need, use/land use, soil, implementation, region, farmer, effect.

Keywords: bibliometric analysis, accounting information system, agriculture, research trends

6. THE IMPACT OF SIGNIFICANT TRANSACTIONS' DISCLOSURE IN THE CASE OF ENERGY COMPANIES LISTED ON BUCHAREST STOCK EXCHANGE

Lioara-Veronica PASC
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract

The objective of the paper is to analyse the nature of significant transactions that are subjected to the legislation specific to capital markets, the impact that their mandatory disclosure has on the economic and business environment and to establish if there is a match between the reported transactions and the information shown in the annual financial statements. The study also synthesises the evolution of specific Romanian regulations and centralises the information from the current reports published by companies between 2017 and 2019, in order to identify further aspects to be considered in the process of reporting and publishing. The sample consists of energy companies listed on the Bucharest Stock Exchange, where the state is the majority shareholder. The analysis reveals discrepancies between the ways in which different companies have chosen to report their significant transactions. In conclusion, there are additional factors involved in the reporting of significant transactions; they must be taken into account to ensure that the reports remain complete and accurate.

Keywords: significant transactions, related parties, auditor, reporting, transparency.

7. THEORETICAL APPROACH REGARDING THE ROLE OF PUBLIC SECTOR AUDIT IN COMBATING CORRUPTION

Diana Sabina BRĂNEȚ
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract

Auditing in the public sector is of particular importance in the efficient management of public funds and in combating possible frauds that may occur in the process of managing these funds. The methodology used is qualitative, being systematized the most relevant and current articles in which the role of public sector audit in combating corruption is debated in different countries of the world. Following the analysis, several indicators were identified that were used to detect and combat corruption in different countries, the most relevant factors being accounting reports and financial reports, audit opinions formulated following audit missions, IAS, country, the risk of corruption or the perception of corruption. The main conclusion is that the risk of corruption on public funds is due to several factors, but certainly unitary accounting and financial reporting, awareness of the role and importance of public sector audit in combating this phenomenon and each country's perception of corruption are key issues in reducing the emergence of corruption in every country.

Keywords: audit, public sector, accounting armonisation, corruption

June 3, 2021 (Thursday)

16.45 - 18.15 *Parallel Sessions*

Special session INFER-2

Chairs: MUTAŞCU, Mihai & HORKY Florian

1. MICROFINANCE, COMPETITION AND GROWTH

Asma BOUSSETTA* El Moctar LAGHLAl**, Réda MARAKBI***
* University of Orléans, CNRS, LEO, FRE 2014, Orléans, France and University of Tunis El Manar, Tunis, Tunisia.
** University of Orléans, CNRS, LEO, FRE 2014, Orléans, France.
*** University of Artois, CNRS, UMR 9221, Lille Economie Management, Arras, France

Abstract

This paper analyzes the relationship between microfinance, competition and growth in a sample of 119 countries over the period 1999-2018. Our results are fourfold. First, we show that microfinance increases economic growth. Second, we identify investment as the main channel explaining the positive effect of microfinance on growth. Third, our study highlights that the conventional financial sector and microfinance are substitutes and not complements in emerging and developing countries. Finally, we show that competitive microfinance markets allow increasing the positive effect of microfinance on growth.

Keywords: Microfinance, Economic Growth, Competition, Panel Data

2. EXCHANGE RATES IN EMERGING MARKETS IN THE FIRST WAVE OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Leon KOHRT*, Florian HORKY*, Jarko FIDRMUC**
* Zeppelin University of Friedrichshafen
** Zeppelin University of Friedrichshafen, Germany; Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, Vilnius University, Lithuania; and Mendel University Brno, Czech Republic.

Abstract

We analyze the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on emerging market real exchange rates using Behavioral Equilibrium Exchange Rate approach augmented by pandemic related variables. Using a data set containing monthly information on a wide set of macroeconomic variables as well as variables related to the first wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, we find that Covid-19 specific factors indeed played a significant role in explaining the behavior of emerging market real exchange rates during the first wave of the pandemic. Our results suggest that real exchange rate movements are driven by numbers of new Covid-19 casualties rather than by new Covid-19 infections. Hereby, the effect of an absolute increase in fatalities per million inhabitants is associated with significant depreciations of real exchange rates. Finally, we show that this first, panic-driven period was intensive, but rather short as the Covid-fatalities already stopped being a driving force of exchange rates somewhere between March and April 2020.

Keywords: Emerging markets, behavioral equilibrium exchange rates, pandemic effects, Covid-19.

3.   PUBLIC DEBT AND INEQUALITY IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA: THE CASE OF WAEMU AND ECCAS

Mihai MUTAŞCU*, Albert LESSOUA**, Nicolae Bogdan IANC***
* West University of Timisoara, Romania and LEO (Laboratoire d'Economie d'Orléans) UMR7322, University of Orléans, France
**ESCE International Business School, INSEEC U Research Center, France
***LEO (Laboratoire d'Economie d'Orléans) UMR7322, University of Orléans, France and ECREB, West University of Timisoara, Romania

Abstract

The income inequality arose a special interest during the last decades as the economic growth is not uniformly transferred in all situations in the welfare across the persons. In this case, an asymmetric effects is registered. At the international level, many Sub-Saharan African countries confronted with that inequality, depending especially by corruption, economic structure and characteristics, education or tax system.

On this ground, the paper explores the impact of public debt on income inequality in both WAEMU and ECCAS areas. The methodology follows the Bayesian Model Averaging (BMA) estimator. The sample includes 14 countries divided by two groups (i.e. WAEMU - 8 countries, and ECCAS - 6 countries) over the period 1997-2019.

The main results reveal very interesting aspects claiming that the public debt generates a huge inequality only in the WAEMU area, the effect being neutral in the ECCAS group. In the WAEMU group, a transfer of welfare from poor to rich people is registered, being additionally supported by economic growth, size of agriculture, urbanization and health expenditure. Trade openness also plays an significant role. Otherwise, in the ECCAS group, the public debt impact on inequality is rather neutral as in those countries the contracted public credit possibly 'migrated' outside country.

Keywords: public debt, inequality, effects, Sub-Saharan Africa

4. THE IMPACT OF ECONOMIC SUSTAINABILITY AND ECONOMIC SIZE ON FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT

Nuno Carlos LEITÃO

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Abstract

The paper evaluates the link between economic stability, fiscal policy, and foreign direct investment. In this research, we selected thirty countries with different developments for the period 1998-2018 to analyse the determinants of inward FDI and outward FDI. As an econometric strategy, this study uses panel data for a recent period. The data was collected from the IMF, World Bank, KOF Zurich Institute.

In the first step, we apply the panel unit root test recommended by Levin, Lin, and Chu ADF Fisher and Phillips–Perron. We found that the variables (inward and outward FDI, economic sentiment, economic stability, market size, and inflation, taxes) used in this study are cointegrated in the first difference I (1). In the second step, we apply the Pedroni cointegration test and Kao Residual cointegration test, and we observe that the variables are cointegrated in the long run. The panel fully modified least squares (FMOLS) estimator is considered in this research. The econometric results prove that economic stability, fiscal policy, and economic size are the main determinants of inward and outward FDI. Our econometric results have support in localization theories of FDI.

Keywords: Panel data, Cointegration, FMOLS, Inward FDI, Outward FDI.

5. TOTAL FACTOR PRODUCTIVITY AND FIRM SIZE IN THE GERMAN ENERGY INDUSTRY: EVIDENCE FROM SYMBOLIC TRANSFER ENTROPY PANEL CAUSALITY TEST

Claudiu Tiberiu ALBULESCU*, Ahdi Noomen AJMI**, Serban MICLEA***
*Politehnica University of Timisoara Timisoara, Romania and CRIEF, University of Poitiers, 2, Rue Jean Carbonnier, Bât. A1 (BP 623), 86022, Poitiers, France
** College of Science and Humanities in Slayel, Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University, KSA
*** Politehnica University of Timisoara Timisoara, Romania

Abstract
This paper applies the symbolic transfer entropy panel causality test recently advanced by Camacho et al. (2020) to investigate the non-parametric Granger-type causality between total factor productivity (TFP) and firm size for a set of 535 German electricity and gas firms, for the period 2007 to 2015. Different approaches are used to compute the TFP. To check the robustness of our findings, we resort to classic panel causality tests as benchmark. In general, we show that the symbolic transfer entropy test indicates a causality running from TFP to firm size, whereas the reverse causality is not significant. In addition, compared to the classic panel causality tests that indicates a bidirectional causal relationship between firm productivity and their size, the non-parametric test of Camacho et al. (2020) shows fewer causal relationships.

Keywords: total factor productivity; firm size; causal relationship; symbolic transfer entropy test

June 3, 2021 (Thursday)

16.45 - 18.15 *Parallel Sessions*

Session Finance

Chairs: BOȚOC, Claudiu & ANTON, Sorin G.

1. **DO CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES BENEFIT FROM ECB'S UNCONVENTIONAL MONETARY POLICIES? A G-VAR APPROACH**

Nicolae-Bogdan IANC*, Adrian-Marius IONESCU**
* LEO, University of Orléans and ECREB, West University of Timisoara
** Everience

Abstract

Zero lower bound remained for several years since the economic crisis of 2008, as well as a stagnating economic recovery and an ultra-low (even negative in 2014) inflation rate called for stronger monetary arms. The European Central Bank adopted unconventional monetary policies gradually. The Euro sphere profits from these policies, but do Central and Eastern European Countries (CEECs) benefit from cheap money as well? We use monthly data from the time period of 2008-2015 to investigate, using a GVAR model, the impact of ECB's unconventional monetary policies on six CEE candidates countries to the Eurozone. We examine the spillover effects of both the balance sheet extension of the ECB and the long-term refinancing operations (LTRO) on liquidity- and yield spread. The results show that on the one hand, the liquidity spread decreases in CEECs with both the ECB's balance-sheet extension and LTRO programs, mostly in Romania, due to a decrease in the interest rates. On the other hand, the yield spread is increasing to LTRO shocks in CEECs, mainly in Bulgaria, Czech Republic and Romania, by cause of substitution effects.

Keywords: CEECs, ECB, GVAR, unconventional monetary policy, balance sheet, LTRO, liquidity spread, yield spread

2. THE IMPACT OF BANK CONCENTRATION AND COMEPETIVENESS ON FINANCIAL SECTOR DEVELOPMENT IN THE POST-TRANSITION ECONOMIES OF EASTERN EUROPE

Sasho ARSOV, Aleksandar NAUMOSKI
 Ss.Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia

Abstract

The level of financial development is one of the basic determinants of a country's economic development. On the other hand, it is important to know what are the most significant drivers of the financial development itself. The goal of the paper was to determine if the concentration in the banking sector has had any impact on the level of financial development in the post-transition economies of Central and Eastern Europe and the former USSR. Using a sample of 22 CEE and CIS countries, we apply a panel regression using OLS. In addition, due to the possible endogeneity of the data, i.e. the possible reverse causality between the variables, we apply also the Generalized Method of Moments procedure.

Using a set of independent variables representing the level of concentration and competition, as well as a set of controlling variables, the results show that the higher concentration of assets among the five largest banks has a positive impact on the level of financial development. The same is true with the level of competition in the banking industry.

However, the results are less clear when creditors' protection is included as a control variable. The remaining variables show that the more developed economies have better developed financial sectors, higher fixed capital investments have positive impact on financial development, while the impact of inflation is generally negative.

The application of GMM resulted in similar outcomes, with the model being valid only with the five-bank concentration ratio as an independent variable.

Keywords: financial sector, financial development, banks, competition.

3.   CONTAGION EFFECTS ON FINANCIAL MARKETS RISK

Anca-Adriana IONĂȘCUȚI, Bogdan DIMA
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract

Financial contagion represents a very controversial concept in international finance being one of the most frequently referenced subject and yet least understood. The literature highlights that shocks and crises can spillover from one country to others through different channels. Although it is hard to determine exactly the cause and channel that lead to the transmission of the initial shock, it is more than clear that these events are encouraged only when economies are integrated or in the process of integration at the global level. This paper is meant to distinguish between contagion, independence and spillovers, and to exemplify how shocks are transmitted from one market to others through different transmission channels and by taking as examples certain real and financial variables such as the interest rate, the exchange rate and the actions of arbitrageurs. Based on a sample of data consisting of daily volatility returns from seven different market indices, for the period January 2010 – March 2021, we built a model in the frame of Bayesian neural networks (BNN) in order to deal with uncertainty related to data structure. The results show that an increase in volatility of FTSE 100 was impacting the volatility of DAX, S&P 500, Hang Seng, Nikkei 225, Merval and Bovespa, either directly or indirectly at a 95% level of impact.

Keywords: financial contagion, transmission channels, spillovers, financial markets.

4. AN EVALUATION OF IFIS IMPACT ON EU COUNTRIES BUDGET DEFICITS

Sebastian Bogdan CĂPRARU*, George GEORGESCU**, Nicu SPRINCEAN***
*"Al. I. Cuza" University of Iaşi and Romanian Fiscal Council, Romania
**Romanian Academy and Romanian Fiscal Council, Bucharest, Romania
*** "Al. I. Cuza" University of Iaşi, Romania

Abstract
This paper explores the impact of the independent fiscal institutions on public budget deficit in the European Union. We employ a dynamic panel model for the period 2000-2019 and find that these fiscal watchdogs have a positive and significant influence on general government balance for European Union Member States, resulting in smaller public budget deficits. The findings maintain their significance regardless of the year of accession to the European Union (old vs. new members) or euro area status (euro area vs. non-euro area members). However, we find that the independent fiscal institutions play a much important role for countries that established their fiscal institutions before 2013. Moreover, we document that during systemic and banking crises these independent fiscal councils can help reducing public budget deficits. Our results are robust to a variety of specifications and models, including alternative definitions of government balance and after controlling for a set of institutional characteristics.

5. VOLATILITY SPILLOVERS FOR EUROPEAN ENERGY PRICES: A MULTIVARIATE APPROACH

Sorin Gabriel ANTON*, Claudiu BOȚOC**
* "Al. I. Cuza" University of Iaşi, Romania
**West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract
This paper aims to analyze the multivariate volatility between energy, foreign exchange, and equities in European markets. Furthermore, usefull insights for other region (i.e. Asia) can be drawn from our results given the tide connections in the

energy sector. First, we use daily front-month futures prices of ICE Europe Brent Crude Electronic Energy Future (LCOc1) and Intercontinental Exchange UK NBP Natural Gas Electronic Monthly Energy Future (NGLNMc1) as proxies for energy prices (Brent oil and gas). Secondly, the EUR/USD exchange rate is employed as a proxy for the exchange rate and the EurosStoxx 600 Europe, FTSE100, and DAX respectively as proxies for the European stock markets. The sample period of our empirical analysis ranges from March 21st, 2001 to March 19th, 2021. Daily data have been collected from Refinitiv Eikon (former Datastream).

The estimates for CCC and DCC models highlights several remarks. First, for the Brent oil variable shocks to the conditional variance will be highly persistent, since the sum of the coefficients on the lagged squared error and lagged conditional variance is very close to unity. Second, the long-run persistence is rejected for the gas variable and produces GARCH volatilities with a high vol-of-vol. Third, except for the exchange rate, the asymmetric effect is significant for all remaining variables. Fourth, except for the pairs with the exchange rate, the correlation coefficients estimated under the CCC model are significantly positive and lower than the unconditional correlation. Finally, the log-likelihood value is slightly better in DCC model than in the CCC model. Therefore, we can notice a contagion effect between energy commodities and equities, i.e. a joint risk due to shifts of international capital could affect them similarly.

 The empirical results show that the market co-movements range between -0.15 and 0.20. Overall, the energy commodities are correlated with equities with an average of 0.03 and react significantly during the crisis period (maximum value 0.20 is registred on 29th May 2007). Thus, the energy commodities and equities from Europe could not be considered simultaneously for portfolio diversification.

The results are in line with the financial literature which asserts that the co-movements increase when international factors dominate the national ones, and influence stock markets.

Keywords: volatility, asymmetry, energy, stock markets, contagion, multivariate GARCH

June 4, 2021 (Friday)

9.30 - 11.00 *Parallel Sessions*

Session Economics 1

Chairs: SÎRGHI, Nicoleta & VĂDĂSAN, Ioana

1. HOW MUCH DO INFORMAL INSTITUTIONS INFLUENCE INFORMAL ECONOMY? AN EU 28 CASE STUDY

Raluca CLIPA, Oana-Ramona SOCOLIUC (GURIȚĂ), Mihaela IFRIM, Andreea-Oana IACOBUȚĂ
 "Al. I. Cuza" University of Iaşi, Romania

Abstract
In a world governed until recently by sustainable development objectives and strategies, a major problem was left outside the wealth agenda: the prevalence of informal economy and its toxic effects on the long-run GDP dynamics and social comfort. The existing literature in the field has not fully explored the fundamental contribution of the informal institutional background in fuelling this phenomenon, consequently, by using a mixed research design and a unique dataset consisting in variables applied to the EU-28 countries, which express the quality of informal rules of the games transposed in cultural dimensions and indicators reflecting the affinity of a society towards encouraging ethics and trust in public institutions or transparency, tax morale and compliance with existing laws and regulations, we intend to investigate the influence of informal norms on the phenomenon of shadow economy. As results have pointed out, the share of informal economy is strongly dependent on the quality of informal institutional background.

Keywords: informal economy, informal institutions, EU, cultural dimensions.

2. COUNTRY RISK AND FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENTS IN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Iulia (ELENEŞ) PLATONA
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract

The Determinants of Foreign direct investment FDI are market size (measured by GDP per capita), infrastructure development, labour market conditions and the level of openness of an economy measured by de export volume. The intertwining between the economic and the political sphere makes the clear delimitation between the political and the country risk difficult to achieve, in theory, the political risk is a component of the country risk, which has a much wider coverage including economic and financial characteristics. We employ regression analysis to measure the effect of country risk on foreign direct investments taking into consideration the GDP Gross Domestic Product and the quality of the institutions measured by the World Bank governance indicators and also taking into consideration the WR wage rate, the education expenditure and the total trade. We found that institutions quality have an semnificative impact on the influx of foreign direct investments in European Countries. Country risk has an important impact on foreign direct investments.

Keywords: country risk, foreign direct investments, indicators

3. THE IMPORTANT ROLE OF INNOVATION IN REDUCING INCOME INEQUALITIES

Paula-Roxana CUCOŞ,
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract

In this study we aimed to explain what are the mechanisms of operation in terms of the relationship between innovation and income inequality, more precisely how innovative activities influence the unequal distribution of income, respectively how the benefits of innovation are distributed in society. The analysis is performed at the level of European countries, and the considered time frame covers the first two decades of this century (2000-2019). In order to study this relationship, in the

developed econometric models we considered as dependent variable the Gini coefficient and the ratio S80/S20 and as explanatory variables of interest the innovation intensity and the number of patents. The intensity of innovation and the total number of patents are seen as a result of the innovation process and for this reason are considered to be a more appropriate measure of innovation, as opposed to R&D expenditure, which is rather a factor of production for activities carried out in the process of innovation. To determine the impact on income inequalities, econometric models include in the analysis not only a measure of innovation, but also a series of other control variables such as: domestic product per capita, population density, last cycle of graduated education etc.

Keywords: Income inequality, gini coefficient, interchintile ratio, innovation, patenting

4. STABILITY ANALYSIS OF A FIVE DIMENSIONAL UNEMPLOYMENT MODEL WITH TIME DELAYS

Loredana Flavia VESA, Eva KASLIK, Mihaela NEAMŢU
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract
A mathematical model with distributed time delays describing the labour market is built and analyzed. The aim of this paper is to investigate the interaction among the number of unemployed persons U(t), the number of immigrants M(t), the number of underemployed persons T(t), the number of regularly employed persons R(t) and the number of available vacancies V(t) at time t, respectively. In the modeling process, we consider a constant growth rate of unemployed persons which enter the labor market. The new vacancies are created proportionally to the number of regularly employed persons. The non-dimensional model is deduced and the positivity and boundedness of solutions are proved. The existence of two equilibrium points depends on the basic reproduction number which is found using the method of the next generation matrix. The local and global asymptotic stability properties of the equilibrium points are studied, with respect to time delays. Moreover, the occurrence of Hopf bifurcation phenomena is investigated. Numerical simulations are carried out confirming the theoretical results.
Keywords: unemployment, mathematical model, local stability, global stability, time delay

5.   STABILITY ANALYSIS OF THE COURNOT DISTRIBUTED SYSTEM

Loredana – Camelia CULDA, Eva KASLIK, Mihaela NEAMŢU
 West University of Timisoara, Romania

Abstract

The main goal of this paper is to investigate the stability of a nonlinear mathematical model with four distributed delays, describing a Cournot game that studies the behaviour of two interacting firms on the market. For each firm, a delay for its own production and one for the production of the competitor are introduced. The analysis of the stability of the four equilibrium points is accomplished. The three equilibria with at least one zero component are shown to be unstable, regardless of the choice of time delays. The positive equilibrium is asymptotically stable in the absence of the time delays. Furthermore, four cases are considered for the investigation of the influence of the time delays on the positive equilibrium: only competitor's delays for both player, equal delays for both players, no delays for one player and only own delays for both players. For the mentioned cases, some examples are considered: Dirac kernel for discrete time delay, weak gamma kernel and strong gamma kernel, which illustrate the qualitative behaviour of the system.

Numerical simulations are performed that exemplify the conclusions about the stability of the positive equilibrium, while allowing the visualization of the theoretical results.

Keywords: Cournot game, equilibrium, distributed time delay, mathematical model

6. LABOUR MARKET AND SELF – EMPLOYMENT. THE CASE OF ISRAEL

Iyad SNUNU
West University of Timişoara, Romania

The purpose of this paper is to analyse the labour market from a theoretical but also applied perspective, reflected by the empirical analysis of the variables that influence the choice of economic status, with emphasis on the differences between Arabs and Jews in Israel, in which the Arab population is the minority group and the Jewish population is the majority.

The paper was conducted using a qualitative and reliable database, namely Israeli census data. The variables that potentially influence the individual's choice to be self-employed or salaries employed are: nationality, sex, age, ownership of a home, marital status, number of children, education, occupation, industry, area of residence, year of immigration and country of birth. The results indicate that the effect of belonging to a minority group on choice to be self-employed is negative. That is, being an Arab in Israel reduces the chance of being self-employed. Furthermore, men - both Arab men and Jewish men - are more likely to be independent than women, and the chances of the married Arabs and the married Jews are the same but the separated and / or widows Jews have a greater chance of being independent than the Arab Separated and / or widows. The results also show a difference between the industries in which Jews and Arabs work in independent employment, there are areas of activity that are more typical of self-employed Jews and there are areas that characterize more independent Arabs. The main branch in which the proportion of Arab self-employed is higher than that of Jewish self-employed is the water and electricity industry.

Keywords: labour market, labour Demand, labour Supply, employment policy, flexicurity, Employment, self – employment, employer, unemployed, job vacancy

7. THE "KILLER APP" THAT DESIGNED SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT PROFILES IN POST COMMUNISM. POLAND VERSUS ROMANIA

Nicoleta SÎRGHI, Oana-Ramona SOCOLIUC (GURIȚĂ)

Abstract

When deciding what determined dissimilar development stages between the western countries and those from the east, civilization based on sound institutions provides the most comprehensive answer. Following the same prospects, the post-communist area captured the attention of numerous researches in terms of both: content of transition strategies adopted in order to create the institutional foundations of a new economic order. The purpose of this paper is to highlight that in the process of economic development institution do matter, and furthermore, that the "killer app" which determined the pace and rhythm of major social transformations in the post-communist space, was the institution of private property. On the basis of some relevant statistical indicators, we have employed a VEC Model, a variance decomposition and Granger causality analysis for Romania and Poland, as to emphasize that, their dissimilar development profiles can be explained in the light of dissimilar property reforms. Results have fully validated such hypothesis.

Keywords: Private property, transition, inclusive institutions, extractive institutions, development

June 4, 2021 (Friday)

9.30 - 11.00   *Parallel Sessions*

Session International Business and Global Modern Economy

Chairs: NOJA, Graţiela & MUNTEAN, Mihaela

1. **IDENTIFYING COMPLEMENTARY RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN DIFFERENT TYPES OF INNOVATION IN CERTAIN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AFTER THE CRISIS: EVIDENCE FROM CIS 2012**

Viktor STOJKOSKI, Katerina TOSHEVSKA-TRPCHEVSKA, Elena MAKREVSKA DISOSKA, Dragan TEVDOVSKI
Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia

Abstract
The main focus of this paper is to explore the relationship between four types of innovation: new to market innovation (product innovation), new to firm innovation (product innovation), process and organizational innovation. This paper is among the first to investigate simultaneously the complementarities between technological (product and process innovation) and organizational (process or product and organization) innovations on cross-sectional samples for two group of countries: Central and Eastern Europe (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia) and Western European countries (Germany, Spain, Norway and Portugal).The paper employs the methodology developed in Athey and Stern (1998) and utilized in Mohnen and Roller (2005) and Doran (2012) in order to estimate the relationship between different types of innovation in the productivity of a firm. The data is derived from the Community Innovation Survey - CIS2012. The results for the CEE group of countries have shown that for the companies operating on that market we cannot confirm any kind of complementarity among the different types of innovation analyzed. As for the situation of the companies operating on the Western European market we found complementary relationship among organizational and process innovation, but not for organizational and product innovation (new to market and new to firm innovation).
Keywords: innovation, complementarity, CDM model, Western Europe, Central and Eastern Europe.

2. AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY ON THE MOVE TO ELECTROMOBILITY. THE HUNGARIAN EXAMPLE

Gábor TÚRY

Institute of World Economics, Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Budapest, Hungary

Abstract

Technological change is on the way in the automotive industry, which is moving towards electromobility. This process raises several question. On the one hand the long term sustainability of current production capacities in the automotive-related export-based Central European economies. On the other hand the industrial upgrading of these economies in order to increase the value added within the global value chain. The economic and social costs of the transformation can be a shock, with layoffs as well as export decline, that threaten economic development of these countries.

The paper examines the automotive industry, taking into account the potential outcomes of changes in technology and changes in global production, especially in relation to European production. Firstly, we deal with the spread of electromobility, highlighting the structural changes of the automotive value chain. Secondly, in addition to technological developments, we also cover the consequences for Hungary. We summarize the latest technological development, how Hungary is moving toward to electromobility.

Keywords: electromobility, automotive industry, global value chain, Central Europe

3. BUSINESS FAILURE RISK ASSESSMENT AND MAPPING ACTIVITIES WITH THE GREATES POTENTIAL FOR DEVELOPMENT – SECTOR ANALYSIS

Sonja ĐURIČIN, Isidora BERAHA
Institute of Economic Sciences, Republic of Serbia

Abstract
The objective of the research is business failure risk assessment and mapping activities with the greatest potential for development in the Republic of Serbia. The subject of the research is the key financial performance of medium-sized enterprises in 2019. The data were obtained from the official financial statements publicly available on the website of the Business Registers Agency. The research objective was realized by applying the financial analysis method and Altman Z-score model. The purpose of the research is to identify activities that are attractive for investments and in which there are companies with significant potential for business innovation and networking. The results show that the companies from the wholesale and retail trade sector have the lowest financial failure risk. The largest number of activities that have significant potential for development are identified in the manufacturing sector. Also, the research determined which activities in the sectors of wholesale and retail trade, construction and agriculture have the greatest potential for development.

Keywords: financial failure, development potential, medium-sized enterprises, sector analysis, Altman Z-score.

4. APPLYING DESIGN SCIENCE RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPING BUSINESS ARTIFACTS

Mihaela MUNTEAN, Rodica-Doina DĂNĂIAŢĂ, Luminiţa HURBEAN
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract
The paper introduces a theoretical substantiation of applying the Design Science Research process in Business Analytics approaches. Nowadays, Business Analytics, as part of information systems science and closely related to the business environment, offer innovative support to various business analysis. The key issues of the Design

Science Research process are business artifacts. Our proposal is focused on data model and data visualizations, two main business artifacts in Business Analytics. Theoretical considerations are implemented in a sustainability analysis.

Keywords: Design Science Research, business artifact, Business Analytics

5. THE IMPACT OF CLOUD COMPUTING IN SUPPLY CHAIN AND IN KNOWLEDGE MANAGEMENT

Ovidiu Alin DOBRICAN
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract

Knowledge management (KM) and Cloud Computing (CC) have a very important role in today's evolving markets. Managers need to understand which organizational processes are necessary to trigger each of the stages in knowledge development. The KM and CC have, further, a direct impact on the performance of the Supply Chain (SC). The performance of the supply chain depends on several factors other than its length and the performance of its members. However, manage a SC comes back, among others, to manage and sharing knowledge between the actors involved in this process. Cloud-based platforms for SCM help organizations to identify more accurate demand forecasts for all the parties in the supply chain by coordinating all the involved parties, like manufacturers, suppliers, retailers, distributors in the supply chain network. Integrating all the parties allows them to realize a better KM on the real demand volatility.

Keywords: Cloud Computing, Supply Chain, Performance, Knowledge management

June 4, 2021 (Friday)

11.15 - 12.45 *Parallel Sessions*

IES-ECREB Joint Session:

Contemporary economic issues in Europe

Chairs: DIMA, Ştefana M. & ĐUKIĆ, Mihajlo

1. SHADOW OF THE COLOSSUS: EURO AREA SPILLOVERS AND MONETARY POLICY IN CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE

Makram EL-SHAGI* and Kiril TOCHKOV**
*Center for Financial Development and Stability, Henan University,
China
**Texas Christian University, USA

Abstract

Closer integration between Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and the EU has opened up channels facilitating the propagation of economic shocks from the core to the eastern periphery. This paper examines the effects of such shocks to economic activity and monetary conditions originating in the Euro Area (EA) on output, prices, money, and interest rates in 10 CEE countries over the period 2005-2018 using a bilateral restricted VAR framework. In contrast to previous studies, we use Divisia monetary aggregates and compare the effects of EA spillovers to domestic shocks. The results indicate that EA shocks explain the majority of variation across all macroeconomic indicators, with money supply shocks playing the most prominent role. Despite some heterogeneity, the impulse response of monetary aggregates to domestic and EA monetary shocks is almost identical across countries. The impact of the EA shock increases over time and persists, while the domestic shock dies out relatively quickly. Accordingly, we find no meaningful monetary independence in the majority of CEE countries. This is likely to prove detrimental to the effectiveness of monetary policies in CEE.

Keywords: Monetary policy, spillover, Divisia, Central and Eastern Europe

2. INSTITUTIONAL DETERMINANTS OF HOUSEHOLDS' FINANCIAL INVESTMENT BEHAVIOUR ACROSS EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Alin Marius ANDRIEŞ*, Daniel HOMOCIANU**, Aurelian-Petruş PLOPEANU***, Nicu SPRINCEAN**

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Abstract

This paper aims to analyze the influence exerted by formal and informal institutions on financial investment behaviour across households from 25 European countries.

Our results reveal that people from former communist countries are less likely to make such financial decisions, while the same relationship is true for those who have lived in those countries that have adopted shock-therapy policies on the transition to capitalism. We document that institutional factors are associated with investment propensity in financial instruments, more specifically our findings reveal that the longer the individuals had a period of exposure to a socialist system or a former Eastern imperial colonizer's institutional influence, the lesser their intensity to invest in the stock market in comparison with their capitalist counterparts. Moreover, weak institutional frameworks and low governance quality are linked with a lower probability of an individual making financial investments in shares or stocks. Besides, we find that households from Protestant countries are more inclined to have investments in financial instruments in comparison with their Orthodox and Catholic peers. Last but not least, while ethnic, linguistic, and religious fractionalization indexes play a negative role in investment behaviour, national cultural values and dimensions exert a significant role in households' investment mentality.

Keywords: households; investment behaviour; institutional framework; post-communism; capitalism.

3. A NOTE ON DARMA-CARMA EMBEDDABILITY MAPPING IN THE CASE OF (1) AND I (2) STOCHASTIC PROCESSES

Vladimir ANDRIC*, Sanja NENADOVIC**
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Abstract

We derive embeddability conditions in the case of integrated CARMA (2, 1) stochastic process for stock variables. We analyse the single and double unit root cases separately while simultaneously studying models that are observationally equivalent to the integrated CARMA (2, 1) model. The conditions outlined in this paper can enable discrete-time estimates as starting values in estimating continuous-time models via maximum likelihood, with a particular interest in I (2) processes that established its usefulness in climate econometrics and the analyses of hyperinflationary episodes. An extension of the results presented in this paper could concern the derivation of embeddability CARIMA conditions for flow variables.

Keywords: ARMA process, CARMA process, embeddability

4. TAX AS A POTENTIAL TOOL FOR REDUCING CONSUMPTION OF SUGAR-SWEETENED BEVERAGES IN SERBIA

Mihajlo DJUKIC, Darko MARJANOVIC
Institute of Economic Sciences, Belgrade, Republic of Serbia

Abstract

Using taxes for non-fiscal purposes is not a novel concept in the literature. The overall idea refers to stimulating certain behaviours (in the case of positive externalities) or discourage others (in the case of negative externalities). This paper explores potentials for applying indirect taxes on consumption of sugar-sweetened beverages in Serbia, the policy that many European countries apply aiming to deal with obesity issues. Obesity rates in Serbia increased by 60% over the last 20 years. We used recent estimates of elasticity of demand for sugar-sweetened beverages (SBB) conducted in countries that applied SBB tax and simulated three scenarios of

adopting this policy in Serbia using data from the Household Budget Survey for 2019. Depending on the imposed tax rate and applied elasticity of demand, we conclude that the adoption of SBB tax could result in significant health and fiscal benefits in Serbia.

Keywords: tax, sugar-sweetened beverages, Serbia, consumption, health

5. IS THERE A WEALTH EFFECT IN THE CEE EMERGING ECONOMIES?

Florina BURDEȚ
Babeș-Bolyai University, Cluj Napoca, Romania

Abstract
This paper provides new evidence on the relationship between consumption, housing wealth, and financial wealth and the impact of changes in wealth on the consumption of households in a panel of eleven emerging economies from Central and Eastern Europe, members of the European Union. We apply modern estimation techniques in conditions of heterogeneity in the sample (pooled mean group estimator) and include the effect of the global financial crisis in the initial model, as a robustness check of the results. The results indicate a positive and significant reaction of consumption to both types of wealth, its sensitivity being slightly lower in the case of changes in housing wealth than in the case of changes in financial wealth. The coefficient of short-term adjustment of consumption to changes in wage, stock prices and house prices is statistically significant. When including the crisis dummy variable (for the period 2008 - 2010), the results indicate higher sensitivity to potentially unfavourable developments in the real estate market. This outcome can be explained by the high share of real assets in total assets held by household in emerging economies.

Keywords: private consumption, housing wealth, financial wealth, panel co-integration analysis.

6. THE LINK BETWEEN THE QUALITY OF INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK AND ANTI-COVID 19 MEASURES' STRINGENCY. REMARKS ON THE EUROPEAN CASE

Ştefana Maria DIMA, Bogdan DIMA, Nicoleta SÎRGHI
East European Center for Research in Economics and Business (ECREB), West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract
The COVID-19 pandemic has a tremendous impact on individuals, economies and societies. Motivated by this context, the present article proposes a two-fold contribution. First, it contributes to the literature regarding the importance of the quality of public institutions and policies, by addressing a novel research question: does the overall quality of public institutions and policies matter in explaining cross-country differences, in terms of COVID 19-related policy measures? Second, it tests the explanatory powers of the proposed model for a dataset of 32 European developed and developing countries. Our research reveals that the overall quality of institutions and policies does indeed matter in explaining the restrictiveness of adopted measures for our dataset. While the considered variables are not directly capturing the measures effectiveness directly, they are important in order to better understand the reactions of governments to public health crises.

Keywords: COVID-19, Bayesian Model Averaging, Oxford Covid-19 Government Response Tracker

June 4, 2021 (Friday)

11.15 - 12.45 *Parallel Sessions*

Session Management

Chairs: SITNIKOV, Cătălina & MUNTEANU, Valentin

1. COMPETITIVITY, QUALITY OF LIFE AND CORRUPTION – ANALYSIS ON THE LEVEL OF THE EUROPEAN SPACE

Bianca Andreea CĂLIN, Valentin Partenie MUNTEANU
West University of Timisoara, Romania

Abstract

National competitiveness and citizens' happiness are undoubtedly important objectives for political leaders. Beside that, it is necessary to create systems and processes that could promote national happiness and competitiveness, that could make a considerable contribution to sustainable development. Globally, despite collective attempts around the world to achieve satisfactory results in improving living standards, optimizing the education system, technological advancement, etc., obstacles that could affect the purpose of the expected results are coming into play. This paper focuses on the influence of the most notable obstacle: corruption by examining its impact on competitiveness firstly, and how the effects generated by happiness levels contribute to the development of national competitiveness secondly. While over the years it has been shown that national competitiveness has been closely linked to economic factors, the present research includes analytical perspectives on the influence of policy and social factors described in the recent literature on democracy and good governance.

The research was based on an analysis of a statistical correlation of 150 data (30 countries from 2015 to 2019) applied at European level. The analysis examined the data provided by Transparency International, the UN Sustainable Development Network Solution Global Happiness Report and the Global Competitiveness Report. The type of research is exploratory, more precisely the confirmation of a dependence between the independent variable Corruption Perception Index and the Happiness Index with the dependent variable Competitiveness Index applied at the level of the four regions of Europe (Western, Central and Eastern, North, South). The results

suggest that is a strong arguments to consider that the level of corruption perceived by individuals in the society to which they belong is directly related to their quality of life. On the basis, the concepts of corruption and happiness should be taken into account when describing national competitiveness.

Keywords: Competitiveness, corruption, happiness index, quality of life

2. THE ROLE OF INFORMATION IN THE RISK MANAGEMENT

Anca BĂNDOI, Aurel DINCĂ, Costinel Cristian MILITARU, Ionuț RIZA
University of Craiova, Romania

Abstract

Present in human activities since the beginning of history, risk has influenced the results of actions, introducing into the contextual equation insufficiently known probabilistic elements that affect the predicted flow of events and affect the achievement of objectives. All economic entities, no matter how big or small, face internal and external factors that create uncertainties about their ability to achieve their own goals. The effect of this uncertainty is risk, which is inherent in all activities. When thinking about risk management, companies need to align their risk appetite with strategy by improving risk response decisions that are made by effectively reducing surprises and operating losses. The reduction of barriers and accelerated technical progress lead to major developments in terms of security and stability of systems. In addition, in such a dynamic world, where the degree of uncertainty is constantly increasing, managing the risks associated with the activities carried out by organizations requires a good knowledge of the context through timely and good quality information. The success of organizations operating in different areas of economic and social life depends on the ability of managers to know the environment in which they operate, but also anticipate future events, based on the analysis of present information. Information is the sector that is being given increasing importance. There is a tendency to move sources from the area of productive activities to the sphere of intelligence use. The main purpose of the article is to highlight the importance of substantiating the managerial act on risk based on information.

Keywords: information, risk, management, objectives evaluation

3. THE ROLE OF DECISION MANAGEMENT IN MODERN ORGANIZATIONS

Cătălina SITNIKOV, Ionela STANECI (DRINCEANU), Mariana Paraschiva OLARU (STAICU), Silvia Mioara ILIE (TROI), Alina Mădălina BELU
University of Craiova, Romania

Abstract
Decision management ensures that stakeholders' visions and uncertainties are used effectively to determine what needs to be done next, to make the best possible decisions in known conditions of satisfaction and risk. A decision problem can have several stakeholders - those who make the decision and those who can influence the decision. Each stakeholder has their own vision on the important details for solving the problem. Differences (ie what is important to stakeholders) are often overlooked, but are essential for developing a robust decision and the team's commitment to it. Stakeholder knowledge is often uncertain - contradictory, incomplete, unrefined and constantly changing. The purpose of decision management is to use the available information as efficiently as possible. A goal of decision management is to determine what needs to be done next. The general goal of decision management is to select the best possible alternative and to know what the consequences of this selection will be. However, as all decisions are based on uncertain information, the best thing to hope for is to have a perspective on the expected satisfaction of each alternative and the risks involved in selecting it. Decision management is the responsibility of several roles. Business, IT and analyst professionals all have a role to play in identifying, describing, modeling, reviewing and decision-making. The main objective of the article is to analyze the systematized decision-making process within organizations, to solve difficult or complex unscheduled problem situations.

Keywords: management, decisions, organizations, system

4.   NEXUS CLUSTER NANOTECH: TOWARDS ASTRALIZATION & ASTRALONS

Mihai V. PUTZ *, Ioan I. PETRISOR**

* West University of Timisoara & Laboratory of Structural and Computational Physical Chemistry for Nanosciences and QSAR; National Institute of Electrochemistry and Condensed Matter of Timişoara,

**West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract

Aiming to solve/respond the mist of the networking crisis by the present and foreseen global turbulences, either of economic, bionic, or ecologic nature, one may advance the next level approach to the cluster-to-metacluster of nano-technology mutagenesis: astralization. Viewed as the new openness, it surpasses the global limits of networking "contagion" by extending its boundaries in space, time and energy; actually, it extensively uses the quantum present and yet-to-come technology and challenges in order to design the information and substance synthesis at the distance as transmitted in nano-instances by activating specific potential of matter (industrial) and know-how (organizational): wave-functions and ordering degree combined in what it can be called as the strategic quantum management; it essentially describeshow the activation of a nano-potential of a waving-system propagates(processes) and transform (taking-observable-form)through quantum-pairing of metaclusters –into the astralons; first strategic projection and patterning is also given in terms of a proposed chart of astralization criteria and of associated composite index as applied on identified8-folded ways of glocal (global-local) nano-ecolo-management.

Keywords: clustering, nano-potentials, wave-functions, global indices, quantum management

5. HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT - OBJECTIVE STRATEGIC RATIONALE FOR SUCCESS ENTITY

Amelia BOROS*, Volodea MATEEVICI**
* Tehnical University of Cluj-Napoca, Romania
** Valahia University of Targoviste, Romania

Abstract

Romania's integration into the European Union and the development of the business environment in the current market economy, resulted in the reorientation of the economic entities management. Human resource practices play a vital role, because people are the main source of using the rest of the resources. Thus, starting from the role of human resources within the organization, we start this research which has as main objective the investigation of the efficiency and importance of human resources management for the success of the organization.

Keywords: strategic management, human resources, economic entities, sustainability, success.

6.   THE INFLUENCE OF THE LEADERSHIP STYLE OF CEOS OF ISRAELI COMMUNITY CENTERS ON THE PERFORMANCE OF THE COMMUNITY-CENTER

Etti ISLER, Nicolae BIBU, Doina DĂNĂIAŢĂ, Diana SALA
 West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract

The community center is a typical third sector NPO. This study tries to suggest ways to evaluate its performance.

Using a multi-level model, this study examined the direct relationships between Transformational, Transactional, Laissez-Faire, and Servant leadership styles, management skills and community skills as direct variables, and the performance of the Israeli community-center's CEO, in comparison to the center s/he runs.

Mediating variables were: seniority, education, experience and organizational integration. The dependent variable was the overall performance of the center.

The research was carried out through reports from four sources in 360-degree feedback: the CEO, a board member, a subordinate and a customer.

The analysis revealed a positive correlation between the CEO's leadership and the level of satisfaction in the community-center performance.

As presumed, a direct relationship was found between Transformational and Servant leadership styles to the CEO's performance, in that the more of these styles and less of Laissez-Faire style, the higher the center's performance.

The CEO's management skills, community skills and education, also positively predicted the center's performance. Contrary to the hypothesis, no connection was found between Transactional Leadership style and the center's performance.

In terms of background variables, a positive correlation was found between the level of education of the CEO and the performance of the center, such that the more educated CEO is the more successful the center is.

In regards to seniority, the results imply that Transformational Leadership can be a protective mechanism against the burnout of the veteran CEO.

Keywords: CEO, leadership style, community centers, third sector, NGOs performance

June 4, 2021 (Friday)

13.00 - 14.30 *Parallel Sessions*

Session Economics 2

Chairs: NOJA, Graţiela & SUCIU, Marta

1. IMPLICATIONS OF FOREIGN DOCTORATE STUDENTS ON INNOVATION IN 12 EU COUNTRIES

Elena-Alexandra SINOI
 West University of Timisoara, Romania

Abstract

In today's globalised world, international migration represents one of the most significant topics of the 21st century, with diverse effects on a country's economic, political, and social dimensions. Depending on how well government actors succeed to manage these flows, the positive effects can be further boosted, while the negative effects can be diminished (for both receiving and sending countries). Nowadays, more and more economies are trying to attract and maintain the most talented workers, as they represent meaningful factors in technology development, with deep positive spill-over on the country's productivity, competitiveness, and economic and social development. This research aims to evaluate the influence of foreign doctorate students along with R&D expenditures on the process of innovation in 12 European destination countries. The period considered is between 2012 and 2019. The econometric analysis of the data was performed using fixed-effects linear regression models, at the country level. The econometric results emphasise the positive effects of highly educated foreigners on different proxies of the innovation process. Apart from educated humans with different skills and expertise, investments in various fields spur innovation. In conclusion, educated and skilled human capital, and R&D investments make important contributions to innovation, being meaningful engines of economic growth.

Keywords: Highly educated migrants, Innovation, R&D expenditures, European countries.

2.   PLATFORMS OF VIRTUAL CO-OPERATION IN EDUCATION DURING COVID-19 PANDEMIC

Marta-Christina SUCIU, Gheorghe-Alexandru STATIVĂ, Mircea-Ovidiu MITUCĂ
 Bucharest University of Economic Studies, Bucharest, Romania

Abstract

The main goal of the paper is to illustrate the main challenges faced by the education systems in general, but especially during the global COVID-19 pandemic. The whole planet has faced since March 2020 an unprecedented crisis, the crisis generated by the amplified snow ball effects of COVID-19 pandemic. The crisis has rapidly spread in all economic sectors, including the education one. Due to the high rate of infection, the COVID-19 pandemic has led to the massive close-down of activities that took usually place "face to face", in order to prevent the spread of the virus and to mitigate the huge impact on all countries of the world. As a response of the suspension of "face-to-face" educational activities, educational institutions began training students through the online educational platform. We consider that, in order to increase distance learning capacity, educational institutions have to benefit of the advantages offered by of the asynchronous types of education, functioning better in the digital format.

Keywords: education, coronavirus pandemic, on line platforms

3.   DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION AND SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: AN INTEGRATIVE APPROACH AND NEW EMPIRICAL EVIDENCE FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION

Vasile PODEAN
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract

The digital economy is increasingly important globally in the development of the states and implicitly of the European Union Member States (EU MS). This study configures an ambitious theoretical and empirical research to understand what digitalization is and what impact it has on the EU economy in a sustainable integrative

approach. The methodological endeavor is based on network analysis through Gaussian Graphical Models and structural equation modelling, applied on a large dataset compiled for the EU-27 MS during 1990-2019. Main results highlight that the digital technologies are significantly shaping the EU economies and enhance the economic development in a sustainable framework. The level of digital transformation is in relation to economic development through competitiveness, innovation and entrepreneurship. Economic growth is more significant in EU countries with a higher degree of digitalization. In addition to the positive impact of digitalization on economic growth, it also has a positive influence on social developers.

Keywords: digital transformation, economic development, innovation, European Union, econometric modelling.

4. DIMENSIONS OF WELFARE: STANDARD OF LIVING AND QUALITY OF LIFE WITHIN THE EUROPEAN UNION

Mirela CRISTEA*, Graţiela Georgiana NOJA**, Constantin Ştefan PONEA***, Doina DRĂGOI*, Teodora Andreea GAINARU (OLAH)*
* University of Craiova, Romania
** West University of Timişoara, Romania
*** Spiru Haret University, Romania

Abstract
The multidimensional assessment of welfare represents a complex process, intensively debated in the literature. The interlinkages between the quality of life and the living standards are very heterogeneous, different from one country to another or by regions. In this perspective, the general objective of this paper is to assess the interconnection between the standard of living, quality of life, economic development and other social and economic variables, across the European Union (EU) Member States, and to propose policies and strategies to reduce welfare gaps between states. The methodology applied consisted of cluster analysis performed through the Ward method, based on selected variables, for the period 2008-2019. The results revealed four homogenous groups of EU countries, considering the economic and social characteristics, using specific indicators for each group. Main findings entail that in

order to enhance economic development of EU-27 countries and depletion of differences among MS, the policies and strategies proposed should be focused on the labour market, education system, monetary credentials, mitigation of social exclusion and poverty reduction, tailored to the specificities of each country.

Keywords: welfare, standard of living, quality of life, European Union, cluster analysis.

5. A NEGATIVE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN INCOME INEQUALITIES AND THE PERFORMANCE IN INNOVATION, IN THE EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

Paula – Roxana CUCOŞ
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract
In the real world, inequalities in income distribution are growing among the countries of the world, with a tendency to widen the gap between the very rich and the large mass of the population. A multitude of factors contribute to the deepening of income inequalities, which in turn have a major impact on the entire activity and human life. The aim of this research is to identify and estimate the potential effects of income inequalities, in combination with other potential influencing factors, on the results of the innovation process, at European level, in the timeframe 2000-2018. Our results reveal an unfavorable impact of the deepening of the unequal distribution of revenues on the innovation process.

Keywords: Income inequality, income distribution, innovation, patenting, knowledge spillovers

6. LABOR MARKET OUTCOMES OF ROMANIAN MIGRANTS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC AND POST-PANDEMIC TIMES

Irina-Maria GRECU
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract

The research conducted in this paper examines the labor market advancement of Romanian migrants in the present context of Covid-19 pandemic and beyond, considering both the shaping factors and modelers of the migration decision, including the return migration decision, as well as the labor market outcomes at the level of migrant receiving economies across the European Union. An ambitious empirical research based on spatial (lag and error methods), cluster (Ward method) and network (Gaussian Graphical Models) analyses is deployed to assess the labor market outcomes of Romanian migrants during 2000-2020. Main findings of the current research update and complement the specialized literature with new data on Romanian migration, on some known indicators regarding the labor market, but also by identifying new potential reasons that generated the departure of the Romanian labor force abroad, as well as by showing some of the most important effects generated by the Covid-19 pandemic in terms of labor market and international migration, with a keen focus on Romania.

Keywords: international migration, Covid-19 pandemic, employment, job creation, European Union.

7. SPECIFIC DETERMINANTS OF QUALITY AND ACCESS TO MEDICAL SERVICES

Adrian STOICA
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Abstract

The aim of our paper is to assess the importance of self-perceived health status in relation to a number of influential factors determining the health status, such as access to health services and the quality of these services, as well as demographic, social, cultural, economic, and other factors. The study was carried out at the level of the EU member countries, based on data obtained from the Eurofound's European Quality of Life Survey (EQLS) and statistical data provided by Eurostat, using the commissioned probit models. The self-perceived health status of the interviewed subjects was determined by reference to indicators reflecting a certain distress, in the form of a chronic disease or a certain degree of physical disability. The results of the study revealed the existence of statistical correlations between the self-perceived health status of the interviewed subjects and influencing factors such as age, marital status, the level of education, the professional expertise of the medical staff, the distance to be travelled to the doctor's office, or the average waiting time to get an appointment for a specialist medical examination.

Keywords: Healthcare quality, Access to health services, Self perceived Health status, Health determinants

June 4, 2021 (Friday)

13.00 - 14.30 *Parallel Sessions*

Session Economics 3

Chairs: CISMAŞ, Laura & IMBRESCU, Ion

1. AGRICULTURE'S CONTRIBUTION TO BIOECONOMY GROWTH IN ROMANIA – A REGIONAL APPROACH

Laura Mariana CISMAŞ, Emilia Mary BĂLAN
West University of Timişoara, Romania

Abstract

The article presents an analysis of Romania's regions' regarding the relevant indicators for bioeconomy (turnover, number of employees, added value at the cost of factors, apparent labour productivity and localisation coefficient. In order to determine the contribution of each region, the GDP of agriculture generated by each development region in Romania was included in the analysis. The research was developed to highlight the contribution of agriculture in Romania's developing regions to the national bioeconomy. The indicators used are from Eurostat's statistical and the National Institute's of Statistics from Romania (NIS) database. As research method, was chosen the cluster hierarchy generated by the SPSS software. The data were extracted according to the nomenclature of territorial administrative units for statistics (NUTS 2). The results revealed disparities between development regions, as none of the eight regions are noted by significant values of all indicators in the bioeconomy. In the context in which agricultural sectors (animal culture and production, hunting activities and related services, forestry and logging, fisheries and aquaculture) are dependent on natural conditions, it is necessary to extend regional investment policies to agriculture in order to develop the bioeconomy in Romania.

Keywords: bioeconomy, Romania, agriculture, regional

2. CO2 EMISSIONS, ECONOMIC GROWTH, ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND POPULATION DENSITY IN ROMANIA

Mariana HATMANU*, Cristina CAUTISANU**, Andreea Oana IACOBUŢĂ*
* "Al. I. Cuza" University of Iaşi, Romania
** CERNESIM Environmental Research Center, "Al. I. Cuza" University of Iaşi, Romania

Abstract
The environmental costs of economic development have received increasing attention in the specialized literature during the last decade. Therefore, this paper analyses the relationship between carbon dioxide (CO_2) emissions and influencing factors - gross domestic product, energy consumption, and population density - in Romania over the period 1980-2018. The relationship between gross domestic product and CO_2 emissions was modelled in the EKC framework using the quadratic and cubic functional forms. For this purpose, we performed the ARDL bounds test for cointegration and, for the robustness of the results, the variance decomposition. The results emphasized that, in Romania, the inverted U-shape of EKC is significant, alongside the influence of energy consumption on the CO_2 emissions. Also, there was identified a statistically significant model comprising the inverted N-shape of EKC and the other variables considered, but the coefficients of this form of EKC are not significant. This study may contribute to filling the gap in the specialized literature dedicated to EKC analysis in Romanian economic context.

Keywords: CO2 emissions, economic growth, energy consumption, econometric models, Romania.

3. THE PROGRESS OF FDI HOST REGIONS DURING THE LAST DECADE IN HUNGARY

Zsuzsanna ZSIBÓK
Centre for Economic and Regional Studies, Institute for Regional Studies, Hungary

Abstract
During the economic transition, the essential source of technological renewal was the FDI in the Central and Eastern European countries. These impacts manifested in the spectacular increase of labour productivity until the global financial and economic crisis. The main advantages of the strong FDI penetration are expected from their spillover effects on the local economies through knowledge, skills and technology

diffusion. However, the emerging structures are not spatially blind, they depend on localised productive legacies, networks and production factors, therefore, their distribution is uneven in space. During the decade of the 2010s most Central and Eastern European countries converged to the EU average in terms of per capita GDP which was mostly fuelled by the increase of employment. At the same time, labour productivity increased at a significantly slower pace, or it even decreased in some years or countries. The most successful regions were those that relied heavily on FDI inflow, which were not definitely the capital regions. The aim of our present research is to study the regional dynamics of the growth factors over the previous decades with a primary focus on the period after the global financial and economic crisis in Hungary; and to assess the importance of FDI in determining these growth trends.

Keywords: labour productivity, regional inequalities, long-term analysis

4.   HEALTHCARE CHALLENGES IN TIME OF CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

Laura DIACONU (MAXIM), Cristian C. POPESCU
 "Al. I. Cuza" University of Iaşi, Romania

Abstract
As the COVID-19 pandemic has been spreading out at the global level, the healthcare systems have been deeply challenged, highlighting their strengths and weaknesses. The healthcare expenditures tremendously augmented along with the increase in the intensity of this new virus. In this context, a major concern was related to the fact that low and middle income states would be much harder hit than advanced countries not only from the economic point of view, but also from the healthcare services' perspective. Considering all these aspects, the purpose of this study is to investigate the effects of Coronavirus pandemic on the developing countries' healthcare and underline the short-term economic impact. Our results suggest that the number of deaths per million was more reduced in developing states than in the developed countries and, moreover, it has been growing much more slowly over time. Meanwhile, the economic impact in the developing countries was more reduced than in the advanced ones.

Keywords: healthcare systems, COVID-19 pandemic, wellbeing.

5. LABOUR MARKET CHALLENGES: "DYSTOPIAN" RISKS?

Laura Mariana CISMAŞ*, Cornelia DUMITRU**, Teodor NEGRUŢ*
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** Institute of National Economy, Romanian Academy, Bucharest, Romania

Abstract

The current labour market is at crossroads: on one hand, challenges triggered by technological pressures and perks, aiming to a greener, more sustainable and resilient economic growth, and on the other hand, the changes and tensions generated by the current institutional frameworks, that show delays in mitigating the apparent "de-socialising" of this market.

The pandemic paradox of 2019-2021 has emphasized several vulnerabilities particularly of economic-institutional nature. Traditional theories seem unsatisfactory while unorthodox approaches are faced with hesitancy.

The present paper intends to present a brief analysis of labour market's challenges in the immediate future by proposing a mixed approach combining traditional statistical-data with a less employed institutional framework. The approach is substantiated and constructed by the structural and cognitive features that the new labour market will require. It suggests a possible way for considering the aims of the Green Deal, the vulnerabilities highlighted by the pandemic and, more importantly, the changes that work shows for several socio-economic categories. The split between "essential" and "non-essential" economic activities, platform work and the gig economy hints to increased relevance of the three types of intangible capital: human, social and intellectual and requiring an integrating perspective, if severe economic and social effects are to be avoided in the immediate future.
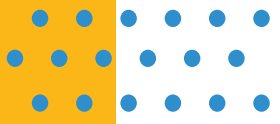
The model we propose aims to show how, by taking account of the human, social and intellectual capital, better policies can be developed as regards labour market efficiency and efficacy.

Keywords: labour market, "de-socialising", intangible capital, socio-economic categories, economic policies